FROM SOD TO SOLAR

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Lilac
Maymont
Ruddell

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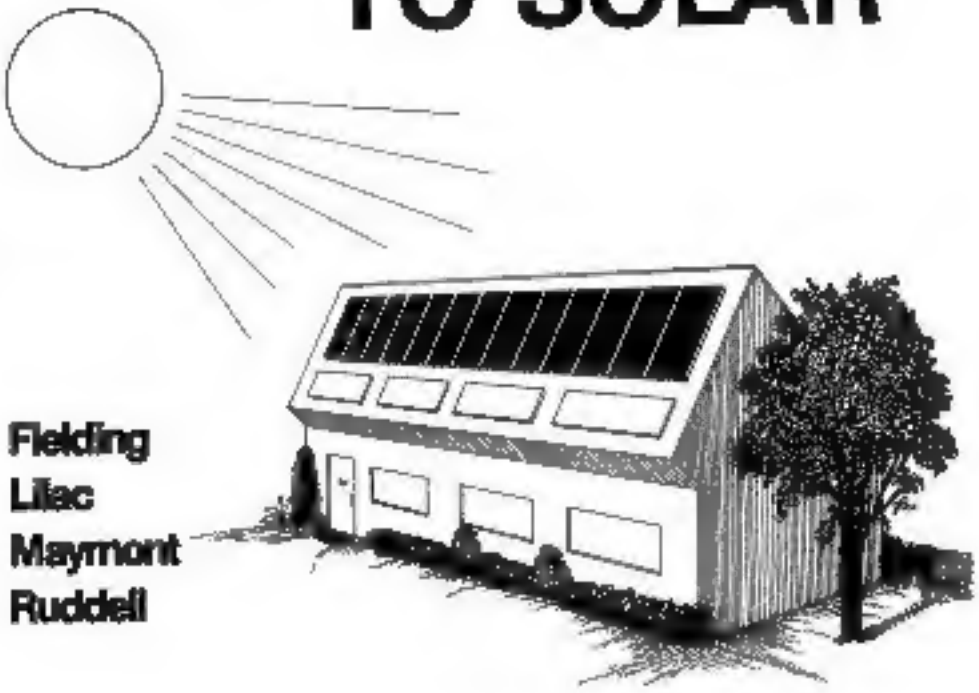

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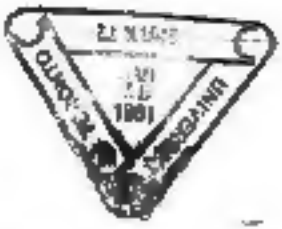

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THE MAYMONT LIBRARY BOARD

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Gladys Brehon

"That which was" history of Lilac

Sincere thanks to Mrs. Elaine (Baierle) Dearborn and Mr. Brian E. Welford, B.S.P., for excerpts from their 1967 Centennial histories of Lilac. Also for their help in the research of the Lilac history thanks to Mrs. Muriel Johnsson, Mrs. Mary Moffat, Mrs. Norah Soule and Jack, Ted, and Bill Welford.

Some of the information was received from the Public Relation department of Canada Post Office, Canadian National Railways, and the office of the North Battleford School Unit No. 46.

It is regretable that some of the history is lost forever.

To all past and present Lilac families who submitted family histories, I thank you for your interest and participation.

Charlotte Gillatt

I wish to thank Mrs. Betty Ferris of Fielding for her help in contacting the many folk in the Fielding and surrounding area for their family histories. I also thank all the people who sent in histories and pictures from the Neepawa, Fielding, Beckwith, and Calais districts. Thanks also for the use of minute books and scrapbooks. We sincerely hope you enjoy your book, and treasure its memories. We enjoyed working on it. I for one consider it a privilege to have helped in a small way with this book.

Gertrude Sherman

I would like to say "Thank You" to those people who helped with this account. Russ McNeil, Charlie and Margaret White, Bill and May Buttery, John Birse and many others. Without their help this could never have been written.

Doreen E. Schmidt

MEMORIES

Be often my memory still carries me back
And visions I see of the past
When round us the country unsettled and wild
With hills and wide prairies so vast.

'Twas covered with cress in places now bare
And deep ruts of buffalo track
All dotted with lakes bright gleaming in sun
And covered with game that we lack.

The prairies rolled on till earth met the sky
And land for the richest and best
A beautiful vision of forest and plain
Extending from east to the west.

For many long years we worked with our might
Through heat and through winter's cold chill
We started with nothing, almost we can say
And we have got most of it still.

Hard times for some years, the crops looking fine
After then some night came a frost
And then when to town you brought in your grain
You found that your profit was lost.

And sometimes in summer, when nature was fair
High hopes in our hearts once again
With marvellous crop, o'er hill and through dale
A wonderful promise of grain

A sudden cold darkness spreads over the land
And bravest of hearts will quail
With lightnings fierce blaze and thunder's deep roll
And down come the torrents of hail.

It's surely a wonderful thing this hope
Without it, we're sorely bereft
For Faith is the anchor, and Hope is the chain
Without these there's nothing then left.

The swift flying years have silvered our hair
And still we are climbing the slope
We never can reach the summit without
This wonderful thing called Hope.

written by Thomas Parker,
brother of William Gibson Parker of Maymont.

Rural Municipality of Mayfield

Rural Municipality of Mayfield No. 406

submitted by Louis Karpan

Incorporation:

With the coming of the settlers some form of local government was necessary and on May 6, 1905 a committee met and formed the first council of the Local Improvement District No. 21-J-3. The members were Oliver Andrews, David Mitchell, A. E. Pester, James Lillie and Goldsborough Stockwell. Mr. Stockwell was named chairman and David Mitchell was secretary-treasurer. The Local Improvement District Administered the affairs until January 1, 1910. On January 1, 1910, the Rural Municipality of Mayfield No. 406 was formed with M. G. Turnbull as reeve, J. J Reid, C. Dunhurd, W. G. Shanks, A. Brehm and G. A Gates as council, with Percy Knowles as secretary-treasurer.

Administration:

It may be interesting to mention the secretary-treasurers and reeves who were responsible for the administration of the affairs of the municipality. Percy Knowles was secretary-treasurer from 1910 to 1916 with M. G Turnbull as reeve. Harry Corrith assumed the duties as secretary-treasurer in 1917 to 1924 under the chairmanship of reeves M. G. Turnbull, Richie Johnston, Thomas Turner and J. B. Brecht. Sidney Holden took over the duties under the direction of reeves J. B. Brecht, S. R. Miller and Edwin Nelson from 1925 to 1950. Ivor J. Westerberg assumed the duties of secretary-treasurer in 1950 to 1957 under the direction of reeves Edwin Nelson, Louis Karpan, Martin McGrath, V. J. Schmidt and Richard Voegeli. Louis Karpan assumed the duties of secretary-treasurer in 1957 under the stewardship of Richard Voegeli and later under Victor Prescesky retiring in June, 1978. Don R. McLeod assumed the duties of secretary-treasurer in 1978 under the direction of Victor Prescesky and his council.

In the early years the municipal council were faced with organization. Herd laws had to be passed, pounds provided for their enforcement. Dog control laws to protect the sheep herds. Stone and rubbish control laws to prohibit of depositing stone and rubbish on road allowances.

Later the farmers were faced with noxious weeds and rats. The municipal council passed laws for their control, inspectors were appointed to enforce them. Grasshoppers created quite a problem. municipal council had to provide poison bait, bait stations, and distribution of poison bait to farmers and spray outfits to spread it on road allowances and submarginal land.

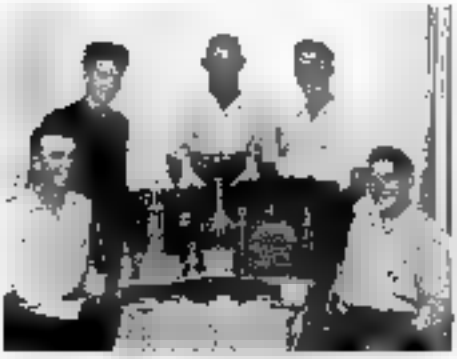
The dirty thirties brought on drought, depression and unemployment. The farmers had no crops, no feed and no money. There were no social welfare or health care programs. Your municipal council was faced with making arrangements with provincial government and providing assistance in relief form to all in need.

War years brought many changes in social welfare, health care and education. Today your municipal council is faced with better systems of roads, zoning and urban sprawl, equitable assessment, parks and recreation, libraries, lodges for senior citizens, hospital care, mobile control ambulance, and fire protection.

The first office of the R.M. of Mayfield No. 406 was located on Lot 12, Block 3 in the Village of Maymont, the present Harvey Johnston residence location. In 1950 the municipality purchased the John Deere building from Mr. Jensen located on lot 14, Block 8, the present Pensioners and Pioneers building. This was the home of municipal administration until 1973. In 1973 under the Winter Works Program the municipal council under the leadership of Richard Voegeli built the present spacious municipal office and bank premises on Lots 15 and 16 in Block 8.

Farm Boys Camp

Farm Boys camp was a vital part of the Maymont activities of the district. The teams were sponsored by Mayfield and Douglas Agricultural Societies. Boys from both Municipalities go back to the 1926's attending camp at North Battleford, Saskatoon and Regina.



Farm Boys' Camp — Top Team Regina, 1963. Supervisor Charles I. White. L. to r. — Roy Krake, Jim Beaudoin, Charles White, Tom Gray, Dale Beaudoin.

Two of the outstanding leaders were J. Blacklock, Maymont and Mr. Jupp, Speers.

There is a period that the writer has no records of the boys from this district I am sure would have attended camp at all three places.

In 1956 Charles White supervised five boys at Saskatoon: Ken Meens, Gerald Acaster, Dean Rogers, Murray Gray and Ron Schmidt. They won top team trophy and individual gifts for judging. In 1961 the same team and supervisor went to Regina. There they came home with top team and individual prizes.

Teams were reduced to four boys at Saskatoon and three boys in North Battleford. Then to four the following year in Regina.

1957 — Gordon Gray, Dick Clayton, Alvin and Earl Nettleton went to Saskatoon bringing trophies and the top team honor. The same team plus Grant Peden went to Regina. They were successful in bringing trophies and top team honors home.

1958 — Norman Gray, Grant Peden, Glen Meens and Eugene Krake. Supervised by Frank Miller won many prizes and top team in Regina.

1962 — We sent Roy Krake, Tom Gray, Jim and Dale Beaudoin with Charlie White as supervisor. They brought home prizes from every competition also top team score.

1964 — Bruce White, Ken Prechtl, Warren Ballerud and Dale Keeper — supervised by Charlie White. These boys went to Regina and won every competition. Top boy — Warren Ballerud and top team.

1967 — was the last year for farm boys camp both in Saskatoon and Regina. Robert Caldwell, Dan Spence, Russell Beaudoin, Wayne Acaster went to Regina. These boys did the honors with top boys in many competitions and they were the top team supervised by Charlie White.

Along with Charlie White, Ken Meens and Gordon Gray helped train the boys before going to these camps.

All three boys attended North Battleford at least twice and did very well there also.

Maymont Homecraft Club

submitted by Mary (Steele) Peden

I was a member of the Maymont Primrose Homecraft Club from 1937 to 1938. The club was organized before I joined.

Homecraft Club. L. to r. Back row — Mrs. R. F. Johnston, Cora Johnston, Joyce Coleman, Laura Johnston, Winnie Doidge, Joyce Turner, Marguerite Mahler. Front row — Evelyn Turner, Mary Dawson, Mary Steele, Edna Dennehy, Beatrice Knight, Eileen Smith, Ellen Reid.

Mrs. R. F. Johnston was the Supervisor and Miss Ellen Reid was leader for the recreational part of our meetings. Our project for the summer months was the growing of a vitarom garden in which we grew yellow beans, carrots and cabbage. We studied the culture, insect pest control, cooking, uses and storage of the vegetables.

Required for the Achievement day were
one pint canned beans;
one pint bean salad;
one pint cabbage pickle;
cabbage casserole;
cabbage salad.

The 1938 winter project was Home Decoration No. 3, in which we made
a dressing table;
bedroom picture,
lamp shade;
hat box.

Meetings were held in the members homes and followed the pattern of the Homemakers Club which was the sponsor of the Homecraft Club.

Gene Andrew, Mildred Crozier, Clara Fowlston, Dolly Porter, Isobel Saunders were also members not in the picture.

The picture was taken by Ed Bahr.

Mayfield 4-H Beef Club

In the following paragraphs we will attempt to bring back a few memories of the Mayfield 4-H Beef Club.

The Club originated in 1932 under the Name of Mayfield—Douglas. The Saskatoon Board of Trade and Kiwanis Club sent calves out through the country for feeding and they went back to Saskatoon in the spring to be slaughtered. The first leader of the club was Douglas Japp. He was interested in young people so he also led the Farm Boys Camp at that time. The first Champion Calf was a Shorthorn calf shown by Joe Stoffan of Lilac. Mr. Japp led the club from 1932 until 1935.

In 1936 Bruce Butterfield took over the leadership of the club. The Achievement Day was held at the livery barn in Maymont. At that time it was known as the Sowden farm. First prize calf was shown by Jack Blacklock. From 1937 to 1942 the club disbanded because of shortage of feed.

In 1942 Jim Ryan took the leadership of the club consisting of Schmidts, McIvors, Hinds and Spences. Ron Schmidt had the prize calf in 1942, and Bernard Spence won in 1943.

From 1944 to 1960 the club was led by J. D. Blacklock, a local hardware business man of Maymont. The Achievement Day was held at the Maymont Park, near the sports grounds and the calves were housed in the livery barn.

In 1961 the Mayfield Douglas Club broke up into two separate clubs. The new Mayfield 4-H Baby Beef Club was now led by Earl Curry. Members consisted of Hinds, Spences, Grays, Schmidts and Martynes. The top calf that year went to Don Schmidt with an Aberdeen Angus steer. In 1962 and 1963 the club was led by Earl Curry with 10 members. Calves were taken to North Battleford Fat Stock Show and sold after the show. In these two years a calf club rally was held at Mr. Iverson's and Mr. Miller Craig's farms respectively. Both years the judging competitions were won by Gordon Gray of Maymont. In 1964 Earl Curry once again led the club. During this year three members out of the North Battleford area won the right to go to Saskatoon Interprovincial Competitions as a result of the club rally in North Battleford. Gordon Gray won first prize in judging the class of four head steers. In 1965, Earl Curry still leading the club, Ken Zaleschak won the Champion calf when he showed a Red Angus steer. Gordon Gray won first, judging a class of steers at North Battleford Calf Club Rally and also first judging three classes of steers at Saskatoon Interprovincial Competitions.

From 1966 to 1968 there was no club because the leader moved away and no leader was available.

In 1969 the Club reorganized under the leadership of Gordon Gray. It began with 14 members. Achievement Day was held jointly with Speers as the town of Speers. Bruce Whare won the aggregate prize and Harvey Penn had champion calf. The calves were shipped to Saskatoon by McIvor Bros. to be sold. In 1967 the Achievement Day was held at the skating rink in Maymont.

In 1968 four members from Maymont attended Selections in North Battleford. Don Spence and Wally Sadowsky won there and went on to Selections in Saskatoon. At the local Achievement Day Wally Sadowsky had champion calf and Carol Schoch was first in showmanship. Once again in 1969 Don Spence and Wally Sadowsky won at North Battleford Selections and went on to Saskatoon. This time they won the privilege of going to the Western Seminar held at Camp Rayner. Wally Sadowsky also was chosen to be on the Saskatchewan 4-H Council. After our local Achievement Day our Club attended the Fat Stock

One of the Mayfield 4-H Beef Club Achievement days.

Show in North Battleford where we won first prize for Barn Display, third in best group of five steers and third in the group of eight steers.

In 1970, the Club still led by Gordon Gray, was very busy selling road signs and toured the Vet. College in Saskatoon. That year Don Spence, Brian Spence and Wally Sadowsky went to Selections in North Battleford. Brian Spence was able to go on to Saskatoon Selections and while there won a trip to Ottawa for a week. The Club once again took part in North Battleford Fat Stock Show taking first in class of eight steers and third in barn display. In 1971 Greg Ferris won Champion Steer and David Gillatt had the Reserve Champion. The year of 1972 began with an enrollment of 18 members. Diane Pain was selected to go to Saskatoon Selections. In 1973 Brian Rogers was chosen to go to Saskatoon Selections. Mr. Carl Ramsay was judge for our local Achievement Day which was held in the Dr. Scratch Memorial Curling Rink. Darrell Spence had Champion Steer. In 1974 we toured the Roy Bleasch Charolais Ranch at Marsden, the Hutterite Colony at Baldwinton and the Carl Ramsay Ranch at Cutknife. The leader Gordon Gray was assisted by Don and Laura Spence. Mr. Bill Small of Regina was our Achievement Day Judge. The Club went on to the Regional Livestock Show in Saskatoon. Audrey Voegeli received the gold watch in Saskatoon for Grand Aggregate in Livestock Judging. In 1975, Gordon Gray assisted by Don Spence and Norman Voegeli arranged a tour of Inter-Continental Packers. The Achievement Day was held at the Voegeli farm with Lynn Biggart as judge. Debbie Voegeli won Champion steer. In 1976 the club catered to the opening of the Maymont Bridge with a pit barbeque at which approximately 1500 people attended. David Rogers had Grand Champion Steer at the Achievement Day. Laurie Morgan had Champion Heifer. Audrey Voegeli once again won first in the Grand Aggregate in Saskatoon. The enrollment for 1977 was 31 members. Roger Harris had the Grand Champion Steer, this animal went on to be the 4-H Grand Champion Steer at the Saskatoon show. The Club also won first in Barn Display and several other group prizes at Saskatoon that year. The 1978 Achievement Day was held at the Voegeli farm with Dale Nocheim as judge. Grand Champion steer was shown by Kent Roberts with Lissa Voegeli winning reserve. Debbie Voegeli showed the Champion Heifer and Kerri Clayton had Reserve Champion. Audrey Voegeli took part in the judging at Agribition and placed second on the competition. Jake and Judi Willms of Dundurn were the judges for the 1979 Achievement Day. Champion Steer was shown by Kent Roberts with a Limousin — Angus cross animal. Ellis Clayton showed the Champion Heifer which was a Simmental. There were only two of the various classes which were members judging, showmanship, grooming, record books, breed classes and individual weight classes. In Saskatoon the club did well again this year with a first and third in the class of six steers, also first and fifth prize in the group of five heifers. The club also took first prize in the barn display. Gordon Gray led the club again this year with the help of Delores Hawkins, Don Spence, Norm Voegeli and David Rogers.

Our Mayfield members also did very well in the member judging sweepstakes. They judged beef cattle, horses, swine, sheep and dairy cattle. Many of the members received individual prizes. Maxine Chantrey brought home the top aggregate honors and a gold watch. Tracy Clayton took third prize. Both Maxine and Tracy now go to Agribition in Regina this fall to compete in judging classes with members from other provinces. These members judge five classes of different livestock giving their placings and reasons written and orally. Good luck to both of you!

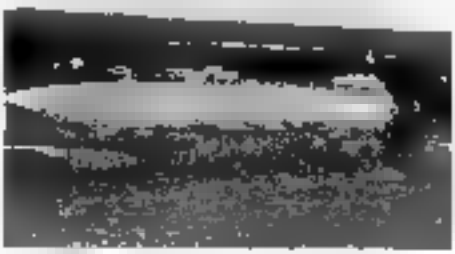
With the help and support of the many parents our Mayfield Beef Club has enjoyed many successful years.

Glenburn Regional Park

Back in May 1962, a group of interested people gathered in Maymont to discuss the proposed park south of Maymont along the river. At that time Mr. George Rathwell Supervisor of Regional Parks of Regina outlined the way the park could be started, the possibilities in this location and the financial assistance to be received from the Government. An organizational meeting was held on May 25, 1962. Officers elected at this meeting were as follows:

M. P. Vanderhagen ..... President
Ken Delong ..... Vice-President
Darby Reid ..... Secretary-Treasurer
DIRECTORS: Myles McDonald
Chester Nuding
Fred Irwin
Gordon Leach
Wes Gillant
Ray Pashinski
AUDITOR: Lawrence Schmidt

As the months progressed the committee nominated locked who starting such a park, and would meet later to let everyone know its findings.



Glenburn Park.

At a meeting in February 1963, Mr. Rathwell presented a rough plan of what the park should include. Also at that time a name was chosen for the park. After a lengthy discussion the majority voted in favour of Glenburn Regional Park. The "Glen" meaning a narrow secluded valley — also it is half of Glenside, the R.M. of Glenside who joined at that meeting, and "Burn" was after Mike Burns the original owner of the land where the park is situated. By June 1963 the R.M.'s of Eagle Creek, Great Bend, Maryfield, Douglas and Glenside along with towns of Maymont, Richard, Borden, Matheson, and village of Fielding had joined the Glenburn Regional Park Authority.

In June 1963, a meeting was called to draw up the Park Constitution. Soon canvassers were appointed for each facility, playground, ball diamonds, and golf course.

In the spring of 1964 committees discussed the need for a swimming pool and it was decided that a saucer-shaped pool be built with the work being done by Schmidt Construction. Fresh spring water was and is still supplied by damming the creek to the pool. Evergreens were brought from Meeting Lake and each year an additional number of trees are added to the park from the nursery at Indian Head.

In 1965 a change house was built and a building to serve as a concession booth was moved to the park from north of Maymont. Four ball diamonds and a 9-hole golf course were set up at this time.

Ed Brown was the first caretaker-manager of the park and held this position for several years. The Harold Greenslades operated the concession booth for several years.

In 1966 swimming lessons began and have continued each year since then for a period of two weeks in July or August. Children attending range in age from 5-15 years and come from the surrounding areas.

It was a happy day in 1967 when the grand opening was held. Official ribbon cuttings and flag raisings took place.

Over the years from then many new additions were made — picnic tables, B.B.Q.'s benches at the pool, shuffle board, registration booth at the park entrance, horse shoe pitch, 2 kitchens, power, and playground equipment.

In 1971 the beaches from Riddell was purchased and moved to the park for a caretaker's residence. Later they electrified the campsites.

Glenburn Regional Park continues to be a busy place each summer with a variety of activities, ball tournaments, golf tournaments, family re-unions, church services, school picnics, visits from campers in groups, dozens of campers who spend long weekends. Numerous organizations have held "pot barbecues" at the park.

In 1976 we had the official ceremonies for the bridge opening held at Glenburn Regional Park. All committees worked together to make this a successful and rewarding event.

The golf course has been enjoyed by many old and young. A golf club was also formed and has sponsored many tournaments.

During the entertainment of the Summer Games of 1978 the park was the central point for many events and the presentation of awards. During the Regional Winter Games the skiing event was held at the park. Each winter skiers and snow tobogganers make good use of the hills.

In this year of 1979 the present officers are:

Chairman . . Dmegn Radchenko, Semmingdale, Sask.
Vice-Chairman . . Ron Schmidt — Maymont, Sask.
Secretary-Treasurer Bryant Fleacher — Riddell, Sask.

DIRECTORS

Jack Bates . . . . . Maymont, Sask.
Harvey Johnston . . . . . Maymont, Sask.
Dale Reardon . . . . . Maymont, Sask.
Ken McDonald . . . . . Richard, Sask.
Ernie Curtis . . . . . Semmingdale, Sask.
Ed Buss . . . . . Semmingdale, Sask.
Murray Gray . . . . . Maymont, Sask.

Many favourable comments come from visitors who enjoy the scenery and facilities available at the park and hopefully there are many more to come.

Fielding Community Pasture

The Provincial Government community pasture program in the Fielding area came into being as a result of cattle herds in the area becoming larger and a demand from the farmers for more pasture land. Thus the Fielding Community Pasture was started.

The Provincial Government owned some of the land and were able to purchase more in the same vicinity. The first cattle went into the pasture in 1964. The pasture manager was Mr. Charles Large, who still holds that position.

An Advisory Board was set up to assist the manager if necessary.

Cecil Ferris of Fielding was the first chairman.

The 1979 board members are: John Moore, Chairman, Henry Presowsky, Secretary, James Tobay, Cliff Gillatt, Crawford Baker, Bernard Spence.

Since the pasture opened it has almost doubled in size. There are now 68 quarter sections — 10,880 acres included in it's boundaries, with 1400 to 2000 cows and 1100 to 1200 calves now grazing. The pasture has all been fenced and cross fenced, much of it has been broken and seeded to grass. There are extensive corrals, a manager's office and living quarters. Cattle are moved from one grassed area to another when conditions necessitate. The season is from early May to the first week in October.

There are 72 patrons from Prince North Battleford, Denholm, Ruddell, Fielding, Radisson, Sperry, Richard, Lilac and Maymont, using the pasture facilities at present.

There are 8 deep wells from which the water is pumped using electric power. When the pasture first opened windmills were used. This method proved unsatisfactory as there was not enough wind at times to maintain an adequate supply of water.

There is an A. I. breeding and a natural breeding program in the pasture. The first A. I. Technician was Walter (Sonny) Beaudoin. His son Dale, followed and is still doing the A. I. work.

Charlie has had a number of assistant riders. The first year the pasture opened he was assisted by three young ladies — his daughter Charlotte, Florence Long, and Susan Reid.

Other riders have been: Sid Fowlston, Russell Beaudoin, Jim Funk, and the present rider is Bert Rudyck.

Charlie's family all help at the pasture if needed — his daughter Charlotte (Mrs. Dale Beaudoin), his young son Rodney, and last but not least his wife Myrtle. As Charlie puts it "it's a family affair, even Ma gets into the act"

The Community College

The Saskatchewan Provincial Government passed the Community Colleges Act (1973). Twelve community colleges were founded. Mistawa Community College is the one in the area with head office in North Battleford.

A branch of Mistawa Community College was formed in late 1974 with Maymont as its centre. One representative from each of the thirty-five or more organizations in the Maymont, Ruddell, Richard, Lilac, and Fielding areas are the committee

From this over-all committee a board of ten members (Maymont — 3; Ruddell — 2; Lilac — 1; and Fielding — 2) are chosen. The first members were: Denis Dube, Judy Kjargaard, Sandie Long, Betty Mohler, Art Reiky, Doreen Schmidt, Rita Schmidt, and Gertie Sherman. Mrs. Cheryl Pulko was the first local co-ordinator followed by Mrs. Wendy Sherlock. Denis Dube was the first chairperson.

Community College is a new approach to adult education. If you are looking for a new building to house this college, you won't find it. It may be held in your home, garage, garden, your community centre, hall, church, school, or park. The students are people wishing to take a course in academic up-grading, arts and crafts, farm skills, recreation, general interest, community development, homemaking, and handy man skills.

The first programs held were bobbin lace, re-upholstery, art classes, and many more. The ceramics, art and sewing have brought out talents people didn't know they had and it is something others enjoy viewing at shows.

As often as possible the instructors are local people or brought from nearby towns or cities. In all thirty-eight different courses have been held. The present chairperson is Mrs. Doreen Schmidt from Ruddell

The Village of Fielding

Fielding came into being when a homesteader called Peter Shack lived on SE¼ of Section 8, Tp. 11, W 3rd. The Canadian National Railway eventually reached this area in 1905 and a siding was built on Mr. Shack's land. The first name given to this young town was "Shack Town", but it wasn't for long as it was soon changed to Fielding, probably in honor of a politician of note at the time, namely William Fielding who was Minister of Finance in the Laurier Government.

The young town grew like a mushroom and in a matter of three or four years boasted all the necessary business places for a thriving farm community. The Main Street boasted of a blacksmith shop, two general stores, Chinese laundry, a large hotel, a poolroom and barber shop, as well as a shoe repair and harness shop. The other business street, Railway Avenue, had a lumber yard, livery barn, and several machine agencies. There was also a stockyards and the railway station. A school was built, plus a bank and three

L. W. Stolt's General store taken in 1927

'Mac' on the dray at Fielding.

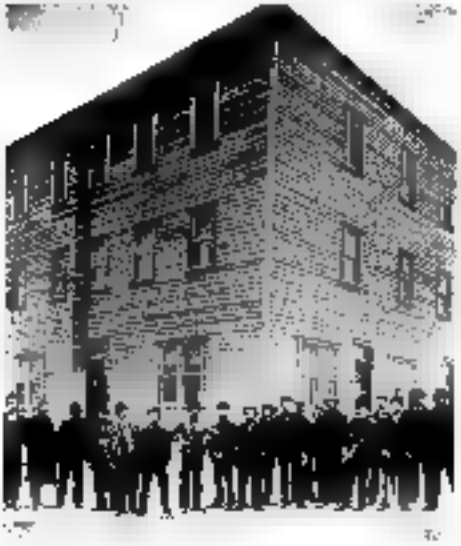
churches to look after the learning and spiritual needs of the community.

The two business streets were always a hive of activity while many teams stood at the hitching posts as Fielding took in a large farming area in the early years.

Picture taken July 13, 1927 of J. M. McNaughton garage in Fielding.

A ferry south of Fielding and a road up over the hills to the elevators for farmers north of the river to dispose of their grain gave many opportunities for the town's business people to maintain a growing trade.

Of course there was the "Town Hall" where much entertainment was available. People made their own entertainment with plays and concerts, charivaris, bell ringers and small circuses.

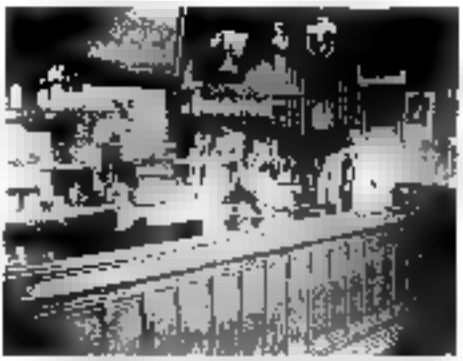


Fielding Hotel burnt in fire of 1922.

Two disastrous fires, the first in 1922 levelled almost the entire business section of the town destroying eleven of the town's business places, including the hotel which was never re-built. The second fire also took a few more buildings thus starting a decline in population.

Fielding continued in spite of it all and after the First World War a garage and implement business was established. There were many things happening in town — a three-room school was built, the three churches were well attended, the Ladies Aids of the churches and the Women's Missionary Society provided local ladies with opportunities to get

Alex and Frances Garratt long time residents of Fielding who were married in Meymont in 1907.



Inside Fielding Hotel.

Keeler's Livery Stable at Fielding. Phil Keeler holding dray team, Don Woods, Rev. J. C. Magill.

together, often called by scoffing men as "do-gooders". These same ladies put on fabulous chicken suppers, bean suppers, bazaars, and this kept their churches in repair and provided many hours of friendship that to this day still remain.

Fielding Picnic Sign, 1979, in Queen's Park, New Westminster, B.C.

Fielding's Scottish band.

The Fielding Roman Catholic Church now has been taken to the Western Development Museum in North Battleford where it continues to be visited by former members and the general public. The Anglican Church was taken to Borden, Saskatchewan as an addition to their church. The United Church stands lonely in its grassy plot in town, still cleaned and painted by loving

The Livery Barn at Fielding, 1926.

Fielding Station and Railroad. 1912 (No. 2 on Brochure).

Bande, although no services have been held there for several years. Two of the young ladies of the community were recently happy to take their marriage vows in this church — namely Karen Clark (Mrs. Les Schmidt) and Melanie Kieper (Mrs. Allan Karpati).

The school which had a short span of large attendance now rests out of town — a shed, on the William Brown farm.

Fielding today still has one elevator, the post office, a small gas station and grocery outlet on the edge of town, a town hall where the people strive to maintain the spirit of Christmas with a happy gathering and "Santa Claus". The girls' showers that were held and still continue are almost the best in entertainment around.

The post office continues to give service by the Chester Ferris's. Chester received his twenty-five year pin for service with the post office.

There was a telephone exchange for years in Fielding. The building was bought and used as a home and antique collection by Mrs. Edna Wagar who still lives in town in the former Walt Evans home. Mrs. Wagar has an antique collection worth anyone's visit.

The years rolled by, slowly filling up the cemetery located north of Fielding with — early pioneers. The gravestones give such names as Duckhayne, Englishee, Shaw, Cassidy, Green, Carman, Curtis, McGrath, Prechtl, Kieper, Harms, and oh, so many more.

Many people have celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary. Some remembered are; Mr. and Mrs Jim Scott and the Harold Bakers. The Alex Garnetts of Surrey, B.C., formerly of Fielding, have celebrated their seventy odd anniversary. The Torrence Frees now of Radisson, and the William Ferris, now of Maymont have all been married more than fifty years. Also last but not least Mr. and Mrs. Archie Spence.

The former Stott Store was purchased by the H. C. Baker's, Canada's and Fielding's "honey bing" and it has been converted into a honey house where Mr. Baker continues to add trophies and ribbons from Toronto's Royal Winter Fair to its walls.

Though Fielding has felt the crunch of modern schools in other towns, the paved highway running through and easier access to cities, it continues to have a spirit of friendship and goodwill.

It would be remiss not to mention the Fielding picnic held as a yearly reunion in New Westminster's Queen's Park in B.C. This picnic has been held for ten years, started by Mrs. Eric Erikson (Freda Garnett) and the Earl Lewis's of Maymont-Fielding Area. Many people come to re-unite for a brief time and reminisce about "the good old days" when they were on the prairies in and around a good old town, Fielding.

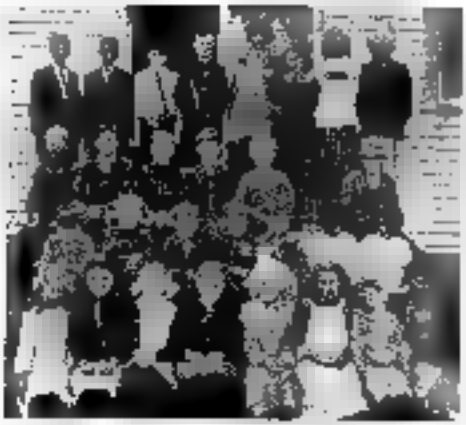
The Fielding School No. 1462

During the very early years Fielding residents and district homesteaders became concerned for the education of their children. A public meeting was called at which first trustees of the proposed school were chosen, these being — James Garnett, R. W. Ferris, and W. J. Smith. The year was 1906. A site was chosen on the east side of the village. The contractor who contracted to do the building was George Sutraw at a low sum of $260.00 for himself and he was told not to exceed more than $1150.00 for material. Also the building was to be completed in one month.

The first teacher recorded was a Mr. W. R. Marsh at a salary of $600.00 per year, his duties to commence December 1, 1906.

In 1917 the school was divided into two rooms and a room also was built on the north side. In 1918 no more

Fielding School, 1926, year picture taken.



This picture was taken in 1915, Fielding one-room school. Top row, l. to r. — ?, ?, ?, Burt Summers, Miss Fraser — teacher, ?, ?, ?, 2nd row — ?, B. Hodge, Bert Summers, Cliff Carman, ?, ?, 3rd row — ?, Noah Summers, Joshua Green, Arthur Green, Alex Green, ?, ?, Bottom row — Verna Ferris, Vivian Ferris, Pauline Summers, Alberta Trouse, Muriel Harris, Gladys Ferris, Gladys Thompson, Leota Ferris.

Fielding School No. 1462 Class of 1949, teacher Betty Darling (Mrs. Cecil Ferris). Back row — Jean Cuthbert, Beverly Weger, Maxine Peat, Lila Scott, Shirley Free, Jim Garnett, Angus Addley, Larry Nutbrown, Donna Marshall. Middle row — Marlene Roberts, Eileen Miller, Evelyn Woods, Edith Brown, Joan Baer, Sylvia Roberts, Inez Miller, David Roberts. First row — Melvin Harris, Clifford 'Lorne' Marshall, Marvin Marshall, Bob Fair, John Roberts.

Fielding School class of 1960. Miss Helen Unrah, teacher. Back row — Don Spence, Ann Neymeyer, Susan Ferris, Barbara Ryan, Lee Ferris, Wendy Kieper. Middle row — Greg Ferris, Allen Scott, Brian Spence, Margaret Mokenhaupt, Edwin Neymeyer, Johnny Gobrysh, Lucille Mokenhaupt, Linda Scott. Bottom row — Melanie Kieper, Jackie Ryan, Karen Clark, Helen Sherman, Mary Moldenhauer.

pupils could be accommodated, so the demand for more pupil-room was so great that remodelling was again considered. Additions were again carried out so that in 1936 the school was remodelled to provide room for the district's children.

For many years Urban Ryan was the caretaker. The grounds showed his constant care for trees, lilacs and flowers flourished and were a show place and model for school grounds. A picture of Fielding School was used in a text book as an ideal situation.

Some of the early teachers were W. R. Marsh, Mabel E. Bishop, Benson Sommers, George Williams, Miss E. Haines and more recent and fondly remembered by pupils were Kathleen Robertson (Mrs. Malcolm McNaughton) Annie Blakely (Mrs. Charles Roberts) Betty Darling (Mrs. Cecil Ferris) and Fielding's own Florence Phillips. One of the last teachers was Mrs. Ryerslye of Fielding who is still teaching in Maymont. The school gave good instruction as many are the children who graduated to take their place in their own community and gone farther afield. There are nurses, doctor, lawyer, teachers, R.C.M.P., Ag grad's, and other professions. One thing of note was the "Reach for the Top", popular television show on which Fielding's Audrey Ferris and Brian Spence along with Leslie Brehon and Linda Voegeli from Maymont did so well. The pupils from Fielding were athletic, also, so ball teams, skaters, and swimmers have done well providing much entertainment to parents and other spectators.

As in all small communities the school was closed when it was no longer feasible to pay teachers. The enrollment was small and all Grade Seven and up were being bussed to Maymont anyway, so its doors were closed. The school was then sold to William Brown, Jr. who moved it one mile west to use for his hog business and later made it into a machine shed. Fielding has happy memories of the field days, concerts and picnics that generated from the school all through the years.

Fielding's Flaming History

From newspaper clippings by Harold Baker

With the coming of the railroad Peter Hunt's homestead became the scene of a mushroom town growth in quick succession up went Mr and Mrs Bert Storey's three storey hotel, Smith and Sons's general store (later McGregor's then Cairns'), Murray's blacksmith shop (later Fry's then George Leeman's) Tupper's West Elevator (later Sask elevator), A. B. Harris' general store, Dickinson's general store, Joe Wright's drug store, Dr. Mueller's office, Kelly and Hunt's I.H.C. warehouse and agency, Brickwell's Massey Harris agency, Tom Graveson's livery barn, Joe Cassidy's butcher shop, J. W. Stott's harness shop, Florence's general store, Alex Garnett's pool room and barber shop, the workshops of carpenters Walt Evans and Harold Warren, Quan Nam's restaurant, a Chinese laundry, the Imperial Bank, the Co-op elevator (later the Pool), the B.A. elevator (later the Searle), the National elevator, three churches — Anglican, Roman Catholic and United Church, Post Office, Community Hall, Imperial Oil Depot, C.N.R. station and section house, telephone exchange, a school and many residences.

In many ways up until 1927 Fielding businesspeople served the Semmingdale district southwest of the river. The Fielding ferry provided passage in summer and the frozen river in winter. During the winter as many as thirty teamsters with their sleighloads of grain would glide over the Gerous hills to the Fielding elevators some of them having travelled seventeen miles from the Eagle Hills. During the winter hauling season some of these teamsters seldom saw home in daylight except on Sundays. They loaded up after reaching home at night and left home before daylight next morning. This area of business for Fielding ended in 1928 when the C.P.R. branchline passed through Semmingdale, and the ferry of three scows was dismantled and removed.

The new town of Fielding soon received the baptism of fire. The Saskatchewan elevator erected in 1908, burned to the ground in 1913.

The town received a respite from destructive fires until 1920 when the Harris-Richardson store went up in flames. Mr. Gordon rescued down his wagon and sleigh business, moved away and soon his warehouse was also destroyed.

From then on our fire seemed to be the beacon signal for the next. Careless sparx smokers were blamed for the bonfire which started on Graveson's livery barn and took not only the barn but Shank's warehouse and the post office. In 1922 came Fielding's spectacular conflagration. Its beginning was blamed on children playing with matches in a small building near the hotel. Fanned by a strong west wind, it quickly enveloped the hotel, Gem's store in which was housed the General telephone board, Dickenson's store, the post office and Joe Cassidy's butcher shop. The hotel landlord, and Mr. Gem managed to escape with their business records in their arms. Archie Spence and helpers on the roof of the hall soaked the shingles with water supplied by a bucket brigade. Later the buildings reverberating walls showed how close it had come to going skyward with the rest. In 1928 Brickwall's garage and Dr. Mueller's office were the next building to meet a fiery fate. Of three automobiles in the garage at that time for repairs only Charlie Kasper's, which had the key in, was saved. Lee Shaw's and Ernest Garnett's burned with the garage and shop equipment. Later Grandpa Spence's dairy barn burned.

Having cleaned up most of the business buildings the fires next turned their attention to private dwellings. Bill Hunt's house was burned by arsonists on Aug. 28, 1928.

George McIlvor's next livery barn, no longer needed to service the Semmingdale teams in winter and there being fewer horses the year round because of the inroads of the Model T Ford and Model A Fords, was moved to the J. M. McNaughton farm.

The Imperial Bank building was sold and dismantled, other houses were moved to the country.

The hill in burnings was short. One night in the spring of 1944 George Wandin's house caught fire. Neighbors were unaware of the fire until the roof was about to fall in.

Demolition then took its turn. The Monarch Lumber Co. buildings were sold and moved away, the Searle (B.A.) elevator was dismantled and taken away. In the 60's the Anglican Church was taken to Riordon, the C.N.R. station and section house were sold and moved away. The Catholic Church was taken to the Western Development Museum in North Battleford.

During the passes between town from the farmhouse of O. T. Woodin, Viola Clark, Ray Cameron, and Wes Summers. Percy Harris and Jack Thompson's barn went up in flames. H. C. Baker's hut started by the river were burned by a neighbor's travelling Fordson. Thistle fire. Sam Miller's hay stacks west of his house burned and Mrs. Ernest Garnett's stacks west of her home also. The farm buildings of Ernest Garnett's were saved from a prairie fire by neighbor's help.

Once again fire lighted up the town in 1946 Charlie Mastatyer and family were forced from their home by flames — this was the former J. M. McNaughton home. Burning shingles from the roof were flying as far as Main Street and worrying residents there. Charnie's luck has on all time low in 1946 when the well equipped garage he had purchased from J. M. McNaughton (the garage J.M. had built on the site of the old hotel) followed the flaming course taken by his house, ruined several cars and most of his valuable tools.

Lee Gelman farm home was the last to remain skyward. Fortunately although a few people were

stopped, no lives were ever lost in these destructive fires. The houses of Frank Glynn, George McIvor, Leo Gehman and Joe Circuit have been moved to the country. Cuba's store was sold and dismantled. Stott's store moved to Mr. Harold Baker's farm, the school was also moved away.

Truly if fire is a purifying agent, Fielding must be the purest village of the plains.

By way of diversion, three twisters made their contribution. The first wrecked Ireland and Williams' cattle shed, the second ruined one of Hal McNaughton's barns, the third really played havoc. It began by twisting Charlie Sherman's barn ashew on its foundation. As it continued north eastward it ripped the wooden pump from Dick Williams' pasture well, twisted the willows into ropes and enjoyed a frolic in Tommy Thompson's barnyard.

Truly nature and fire can control our destiny!

Fielding Rural Telephone Company

Browsing through the old minute books of the Fielding rural telephone company shows that a meeting on April 29th, 1916 was called for the purpose of organizing a telephone system. The first president was R. W. Farris, secretary was Robert Ireland and directors were Charles Kieper, Ed Bodie and Joe Prechtl. Through the years of telephone operations many people were involved. The operators on the switchboard were:

A. Gunn (in Gunn's store); 1918 — F. G. Meeker; 1919 — George Trimble; 1919 — Miss M. L. Eby; 1921 — Mrs. F. Hancock; 1922 — Mr. Gregory; 1923 — George Smith; 1925 — E. J. Carefoot; 1925 — K. M. Johnson; 1928 — Mrs. H. McCawley; 1929 — Mr. H. Candler; 1932 — Miss Meg Roberts; 1937 — Mrs. Jack McMillan (nee Meg Roberts); 1943 — Mrs. Green; 1944 — Edna Wager; 1945 — Esther Fast; 1953 — Stanley and Edna Wager were hired. Mary Mennell was the last operator.

The linemen played a vital part in the telephone history. They came and went regularly — Bert Iverson, Nelson Eby, W. B. Shanks, K. M. Johnson, H. Candler, Mr. T. Roberts, Jack McMillan, A. Brunt, Bill Snell, Fred Reinhardt, Les Allan, Charles Neumeyer and Brook Pinker.

The meetings for the most part were concerned with unpaid fees for service. Two generations of some families were directors — the Farris, Prechtl, and Spence families and many more served, both father and son.

Chairmen were: Charlie Roberts, Archie Spence, J. M. McNaughton, Earl Kieper, Charlie Kieper, Earl Kieper being the final one.

The telephone company was dissolved and the change was made to dial phones in 1978. Sask-Tel collected long distance fees and monthly rent.

Mrs. Edna Wager bought the telephone building in 1980.

Girls' Ball Club From Fielding

Play ball!! If this command were issued around some of the "old" gals around Fielding, there would be some who would pick up their gloves, right and left-handed, leave their pickles, jams, husbands and head for the field, not to hay but to play ball.

Fielding Girls' Ball team, 1954, coach Kevin McGrath. Back row — Jean Williams, Ruby Marsing, Irene Ferbuck, Louise Clark. Front row — Dorothy Roberts, Mary Warkentine, Elaine Kieper, Maxine Fast, Marjorie Kieper.

Fielding Girls' Ball team, 1967. Back row, L to R. — Linda Scott (Wetford), Wendy Kieper (Axe), Leslie Farris (Morgan), Elaine Harris (Reid), Diane Farris (Quick), Cheryl Kieper (Paul). Front row — Audrey Farris (Miller), Helen Sherman (Fields), Marjorie Kieper (Kerpan), Karen Clark (Schmidt), Pat Brown.

There was an active girls' ball team for over twenty years at Fielding. Always they had wine uniforms with white piping. These uniforms and jackets were earned through years after, not donated or sponsored.

Some of the early coaches were Kevin McGrath and also Cecil Ferris, when he "wasn't courting" the young teacher, Betty Darling.

Some of the early players had daughters who took mom's place so Fielding always had a good team, one the community was proud of.

Later coaches were David Roberts and Chester Ferris. The girls could be counted on to be at the ball tournaments at Maymont, Maple Grove, Perdue, Asquith, Scrumgeour, Prairie and any tournament in between.

Many parents were happy to spend the summer going from town to town to see the girls play. In the end, the girls grew up and left Fielding. One more link with their community was gone, but the memories and friendships made will always linger.

Fielding Canadian Girls in Training

Through many years Canadian Girls in Training was a very active organization in Fielding. The first meetings were organized in 1914 and continued through the ensuing years. Not all leaders were remembered – some of them were Florence Phillips, Ruby Martens, Audrey DeLong. Ethel Roberts was the leader until 1967 or 1968. Betty Ferris and Bernice Snell were also leaders. Mrs. Roberts was presented with an engraved plate for being the leader for so many years. There were Bible studies conducted by

Fielding Canadian Girls in Training. Leader, Ethel Roberts. L. to R., back row – Lydia Ferris, Cheryl Kleper, Jessie Kunitz, Eileen Bell. Front row – Pat Sherman, Wendy Kleper, Audrey Ferris, Linda Scott, Ruth Clark.

Canadian Girls in Training – dressed in costumes of many lands. L. to R. – Lucille Sherman, Marl Kleper, Shirley Free, Shirley Brown, Inez Miller, Diana Stott, Phyllis Kleper, Dorothy Roberts, and Maxine Fast.

Rev. Myers and mission studies conducted by Kathleen Kleper which gave the girls a better understanding of the contribution of the Church to the development of Canada and overseas missions. The girls held bake sales, coffee houses, and other things to raise funds for their Dedication to Mission money and for their fun times.

The fun times were camping out with lots of food, outdoor games and worship services. They had pyjama parties and Valentine parties to which the Maymont girls were invited. They had Hallowe'en parties and Carolled around town at Christmas time. The crafts they learned gave them and their parents pleasure.

The vesper service was always well prepared and looked forward to by parents and friends. The purpose of C.G.I.T. is: "As a Canadian Girl in Training under the leadership of Jesus, it is my purpose to seek Truth, know God, and serve others and thus with his help become the girl God would have me be." These girls who grew up in C.G.I.T. have shown in their lives that they are growing in wisdom and service to others.

Fielding C.G.I.T. ended in 1974 when there were only 3 girls of that age group left in the district. They now belong to the Maymont C.G.I.T. group and continue the same purpose.

History of Fielding United Church

The Robertson Presbyterian Church was built in Fielding in 1908 and dedicated with Reverend J. C. Medill as the first minister. Among the pioneers who planned and organized for the building of the church were two stewards of the Presbyterian congregation, S. R. McRae and R. W. Ferris. Mr. Ferris was later inducted as the first Elder in the new church. That same year the Battleford Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church established the pastoral charge which included Fielding, Maymont, and Rabbit. However two years later Fielding was separated from this charge, and

Fielding Messengers group: kneeling, Ron Ferris, Allan Williams, Ron Garnett, Leland Miller, Barry Williams, behind Dale Kleper, Ross McNaughton; standing, Cheryl Kleper, Janice Kurtz, Leslie Ferris.

Christening Day at Fielding Church, L. to R. — Betty Ferris (holding Leslie), Irene Garnett (holding Gail), Kay Garnett (holding Ron). Ron is dressed in Grandpa Garnett's christening dress. Betty Scott (holding Leonard).

with surrounding settlements formed into a mission field. It was served as such for several years. Prior to the building of the church, both Methodist and Presbyterian congregations were holding services in a wide variety of places. Reverend R. N. Matheson a Presbyterian student minister held services in the C.N.R. camps between Radisson and Fielding while this portion of the C.N.R. was under construction. He also visited the new settlements as far north as New Ottawa. The very first church services were held in the home of Mr. George First Sr. by a student of the Methodist faith. Later the services were held in the homes of pioneer settlers, in C. W. Dickinson's store

Fielding United Church.

in the tent restaurant owned by W. Clyne and in a church owned by G. E. Fraser, blacksmith.

The early settlers came for miles on foot, or by wagon or buggy, to meet in the Christian fellowship of these services.

After the building of the Presbyterian church the Methodist congregation met in the school. In 1913 by agreement of the local church boards, the Methodists held afternoon services in the church on a rental basis. In 1918, joint meetings of the boards of the Methodist and Presbyterian congregations at Fielding, met to consider the possibilities of a union under an arrangement laid down by the governing bodies of the two churches permitting such a union. The result was a union and the church became known as the Fielding

Fielding United Church Women. Members. Back row — Elaine Kleper, Joan Ferris, Olive Miller, Olga Pree. 2nd row — Ethel Roberts, Gertie Sharman, Muriel Stolt, Mrs. W. Evans, Mary Bennett, Annie Roberts, Kay McNaughton, seated — Helen Spence, Grandma Pree, Al Pree.

Union Church Rev. Chilton was called as minister of the united congregations. Members of the Board of Session of the Union Church were R. W. Ferris, J. Robertson, E. E. Garnett and F. Summers. Reverend J. McKinnon succeeded Reverend Chilton, and he was followed by Mr. Cuddeford, a student minister. E. E. Garnett was the organist and choir leader for many years. Vacancies in the pastorate caused by Mr. Robertson leaving the district, and the resignations of Mr. Summers were filled by C. E. Fraser and C. E. Klapper. At that time there were 54 names on the membership roll.

When organic union of the churches was inaugurated in 1925, the church became known as Fielding United Church. Reverend Siddall was the minister and he was followed shortly by Rev. R. Hardy.

The organizing of the Women's Missionary Society in June, 1927, was no doubt the culmination of Rev. Hardy's devotion, sincerity and untiring efforts to promote the missionary spirit and the gospel of Goodwill. Mrs. H. B. Harris was the first president. Dr. E. H. Oliver was the guest speaker on the memorable 23rd anniversary service October 27, 1929, when the mortgage was burned, clearing the church building of debt. Those mentioned in the records as participating in the event were R. W. Ferris, Elder; Mrs. E. E. Garnett, Ladies Aid President, and Chester Buell representing the Young People.

During the difficult years of the 1930's a time of financial stress in the church and community, the congregation was indebted to the splendid leadership of Reverend Hill Hamilton, Reverend L. Schnell, and Reverend F. Myers, who, by their perseverance and self-sacrifice encouraged and maintained the life of the church. Often the minister was given farm and garden produce as part of his meagre salary.

Reverend F. L. Myers came to the Maymont — Fielding — Earlhourne charge in July 1937. During the anxieties and sorrows of the war years, he brought comfort and strength to many Fielding families, and saw returning prosperity ease some of the difficulties through which the church had been going. Through the years Mr. Myers assumed increased responsibilities in the wider outreach of the United Church, and in 1964, was honored by being elected President of the Saskatchewan Conference of the United Church.

Tribute should be paid to the part women have played in the history of the church. Always they have stood by the church leaders with encouragement and help. During the depression years, the Ladies Aid under the cheerful and efficient leadership of Mrs. B. Miller, president for twenty years, helped and sustained the finances of the church. Women have also played an important part in the Christian education of the children and young people, giving leadership and guidance in the Sunday School and youth groups.

By 1955 the church was again facing a difficult situation in this area. Rural population was declining rapidly, and ordained ministers were hard to get. Three rural charges Maymont (which included Fielding) Radisson and Speers were united into one larger parish, and named the Maymont Larger Parish. Of the eight preaching points, only four were maintained, which means the closing of four small churches. One of these was Fielding United Church. This was a very difficult time for the members of the congregation. Although the church is officially closed, the Fielding people retained their C.G.I.T. and U.C.W. organizations, and the church is still kept clean and painted by the U.C.W. members each year.

This church stands as a reminder of the courage, wisdom and faith which pioneers of our district had in establishing a centre for the worship and Glory of God.

Fielding Ladies' Curling

The ladies of the Fielding district soon followed the men to the curling rink located on the south of main street, next to an outdoor skating rink. It must be assumed the rink was built in 1950-51 as the minutes from the ladies book state their first meeting was on Feb. 21 1951.

Mrs. Walter Miller was the first president. Ollie Fraser — vice-president and Betty Pair — secretary-treasurer. The fee for the first bonspiel was set at fifty cents. First skips were: Ollie Fraser, Verna Hinchliff, Elaine Kasper, Jean Williams, Ollie Miller, Esther Fair, Florence Phillips, and Ruby Marsden.

What good times the ladies had curling together — another lady sat other's lots and watched the play. The curling behind the glass was always fun to listen to. The booth was also a going thing. While there was only one sheet of ice, it seemed to be always busy. There were many high school games, ladies' games and regular draws.

One money-making project was a local supper — prices were set at adults — 75¢; under 14 — 50¢; and pre-school — 25¢.

There was an inter-town curling amongst the ladies from Borden to Dunblain — two rinks from each town. Fielding brought the trophy home a few times — excitement ran high! It was a nice way to get to know your neighbours.

There are no rink in Fielding anymore. Leslie Buell purchased the building for a machine shed. Curlers go now to Maymont and Radisson to play in bonspiels. Nettie Hinchliff is still an ardent curler, still a skip and thanks to her for the minute book.

History of Lilac, Saskatchewan

"That Which Was,"
written by Charlene Gillan

Lilac was a hamlet about 22 miles east of North Battleford, was about 4 miles from both No. 5 and No. 40 highways on the Correction Line between the Rural

Homesteaders in Lilac Area — Township 43-13.

Municipalities of Mayfield No. 409 and Douglas No. 436: on the rail line between Denholm and Prince Albert via Shellbrook, midway between Denholm and Richard, and 45 miles north and 14 miles west of Radisell. "GREEN BLUFF" was the name originally planned for this district, but was changed to "LILAC" when one of the railway men noticed a lilac bush in full bloom on the farm of the late Mr. W. J. Dow near the railroad right-of-way.

First Settlers

Much contradictory material was received in regards as to who were our first settlers. The earliest resident in the area seems to have been a Métis named Peechee. Mr. Charles Noble, who squatted on land in the Goose Lake area and lived somewhere in the vicinity of the Reisinger farm (Sec. 20-43-13-W3). He was the Member of Parliament for the area when it was called The Northwest Territories.

In 1908, some members of the Barr Colonists' group came here to take up homesteads. These people were the Semple brothers (Jim and Sam), the Harper brothers (W.C. and Mont), and Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Bolmer and family. The Bolmer family were the first family to settle here and their daughter, Hilda, was the first white baby born in the district. She was born in the fall of 1908. Being unprepared for cold prairie winters, the family were taken to the N.W.M.P. barracks at Battleford and spent two winters there until adequate provisions could be made on the farm.

Later in 1908, many other settlers arrived, some of which were the Dow brothers, (W. J. and Charles). Mr. W. J. Dow and family, Mr. John Evans, Mr. J. Swan and Mr. C. Sykes. Most of the homesteaders drove from Saskatoon with the exception of Mr. Evans and Sykes. Mr. Evans walked all the way from Rosthern to Lilac and Mr. Sykes who had neither oxen nor horses, pushed a wheelbarrow containing a 100 lb. bag of flour, etc., from Prince Albert.

In the following two years, 1904-05, many well-remembered settlers came. There were Mr. and Mrs. Agar and their two children, Mr. Tom Agar, Mr. and Mrs. George Mabey and their four children, Mr. Harry E. Welford, Mr. Charles Wood, Mr. Alfred Tyson and Mr. Henry P. Vohs. They lived in tents until sod shacks could be built. Gradually the sod shacks were replaced by log or lumber houses. Drinking water was a big problem in this area and it often had to be hauled or carried long distances.

There were very few women in those early days and those that were here were kept busy six days a week baking bread for the bachelor neighbors. Prairie fires were a constant threat in the hot, dry summers, and a blizzard could strike without warning in the winter. Many a homesteader relied on his horse to bring him home safely from the Whitewood Lake area or with mail and supplies from Battleford. In 1905, this area became part of the Province of Saskatchewan. Mrs. John Evans was the first woman in the district to vote (Dec. 1908) in a municipal election for councillor and she drove several miles in 40 degrees below Fahrenheit weather with a team of oxen and a stoneboat to do so. Mr. Hugh Gibson thought oxen were too slow — so he bought a motorcycle, then in 1912 he bought a Maxwell car, the first car in the area.

About 1907, Mr. W. J. Davis bought a threshing machine, and with about 20 other men, did much of the custom work around the community.

About 1910 the Semple brothers brought the first gas tractor, an International, to the district.

In 1927, Mr. Grover Reid purchased a combine and other settlers were soon to follow his example.

They came by land, and by water, they tilled the soil by oxen; they lived in primitive shacks; they suffered hardships including the rigors of winter -- but they survived and prospered.

The main food of the pioneers was salted meat or any game they could shoot or trap in the wild. If they happened across a prairie chicken or duck nest, they would take the eggs home and hope that they were fresh enough to eat. Oranges and other citrus fruits were scarce and high-priced. Some meats, like pork, were salted or cured, and much was canned. The BEEF RING was organized in 1916 or 1917 and in this group every farmer took his turn donating an animal for slaughter. The animal would be butchered at Tom Sawyer's farm (Mr. Jim Tetley's present farm) and then distributed among the farmers who wished to participate.

The extension of the Reddell Rural Telephone system to Lilac in 1949 was greeted with pleasure. Mr. and Mrs. Agar's radio, purchased in 1952, provided a real thrill to friends and neighbors as it brought news and music from afar.

That which brought tremendous changes in the way of life of the settlers here was the arrival of electrical power in 1952. The country side was able to be lit up as never before and soon appliances of all kinds were in use to lessen the work load of both men and women.

The School

The one-room school in this area has perhaps the most unique history of any country school in the province or perhaps even the Dominion of Canada: —

Bathgate School where Nora Agar taught in 1924-25. Front row — Weir Klassen, Muriel Swan, Mary Welford, Eunice Klassen, Agnes Agar, Vivian and Lucille Parent, Bob Hawkins. 2nd row — Mary Trupish, Jeff Schrum, John Hawkins, Ethel Lee, Helen Demchuk, Mabel Agar, Marie Parent, Ted and Jack Welford, Mike Yakuchuk. 3rd row — Lily Hawkins, Mabel P., Dora Trupish, Leslie Little, Nora Agar, Johnny Bulmer, John Yakuchuk, Guy Parent, Ernie Hawkins.

Burnley S.D. No. 4712 about 1938 (L-r): Back — Brian Firth, Wesley Gillett, Tommy Caldwell, Albert McIntrye, George and Elizabeth Patterson, Laura Caldwell, Marie McIntyre, Annie L. Lewis (teacher). Front — Howard Bulmer, Robert Patterson, Bill Caldwell, Clifton Gillett, Helen and Marjorie Reid, Elaine Mabey, June Firth, Audrey Reid.

It was situated on two different pieces of property, had three different names, and it had two School District numbers.

When there were 12 children in the area, in 1908, I.W. J. Davis, 2; James Little, 4; Wm. Agar, 2; Bulmer 4) permission was granted for a school district. Mr. Agar donated ¼ acre of S.W. 2-42-13-W2, just west of the present Arthur Bailey farm site for the school which was built in 1908, and opened in February, 1907 with an enrollment of 8. In order to have the required number of students two four year olds were included. The school years started in February and ended with a Christmas Concert and promotions in December. The school was named BATHGATE for an English town of that name by the carpenters building the school and given the School District number 1644. The first trustees were W. J. Davis (secretary) Mr. J. Allen, and Mr. J. Little. In 1925, the school term, with Miss Leask as teacher, extended from Feb 1925 to June 1926, to convert to fall opening and end of June closing.

In 1927, with much controversy, the school was moved to N.E. 33-42-13-W2, close to the Hamlet of Lilac. Four tractors and high-wheeled wooden wagons were used. It was requested that the name be changed to LILAC, but since there already was a school district by that name, the Department of Education suggested the name of Burnley No. 4712. About 20 years later the Department notified the Lilac School Board the name of Lilac was now available and it was felt this name would be less confusing; so LILAC was adopted but the School District number remained No. 4712. About the same time, the North Battleford School Unit No. 58 came into being and Lilac School became part of the Unit. Mr. Herb Mabey was trustee for 19 years 1954-1973. The enrollment has been as high as 30 students and as low as 4. Grades I-VIII were taught as well as Gr. IX and X using Correspondence Courses with teacher supervision.

In 1953 power was installed in the school. In 1956 a new school was built in the same yard but on the east side with a gas-type thermostatically controlled oil furnace and indoor toilets. Mrs. Ida Gillett, substitute teaching for Miss K. Acaster, was the first to teach in the new school. In 1958 a teacherage was moved from Langham and placed on a foundation; also included was a small basement and a cistern. After the school was closed in 1971, Dr. Mary McPhail bought the teacherage and moved it away. The school barn was bought by Pete Wood and moved to his farm part to be used as a garage and part as a cattle shed. The Lilac Community Club took over the school building for a district recreational centre.

In September, 1966, Grades VII and VIII were bussed to Maymont Central and on June 30, 1971, Lilac School doors closed and since then all Grades I-XII students have been bussed to Maymont. For several of the later years the Kindergarten children also are transported on the bus.

Lilac School No. 4712 — Sept. 1945. (l-r) Back — Bylinda Skelly (teacher), Joann Pipp, Iris Reid, Bert Caldwell, Elaine Abbey, Howard Bulmer, Dick Warren, Lloyd Bulmer. Front — Myrna Reid, David Wright, Sid Poulston, George Pipp.

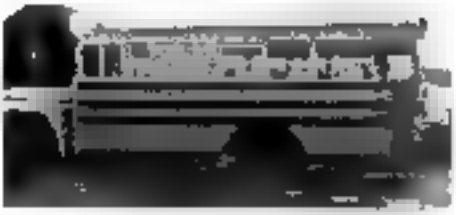
The new Lilac school (built 1954).

Bellgate S.D. No. 1541 Teaching Staff

1907 — Miss Mashamalo
— Miss Horseman
1908 — Miss Josephine M. Daw
1909 — Miss E. M. Waters
1910 — Miss Lucy Merry
1911 — Miss Tweedie
1912 — Miss Redmund
1913 — Mrs. Dunsford
school closed 1914-15 due to small enrollment.
1916 — Miss Marion H. Dewdney
1917 — Miss Marion H. Dewdney
1918 — Miss Marion H. Dewdney
1919 — Florence M. Thomas (Miss Taylor) (sub-teacher)
1920 — Florence M. Thomas
1921 — Miss Gormley
— Miss Florence Adler
1923 — Miss Doris Moore
1925 — Miss Nora Agar
1934 — Miss Nora Agar
1935-1936 Miss Lenk (Mrs. Demers) school term 1½ years to change to fall opening.

1936-1937 — Miss Stenna O. Sarsway
1937-1938 Miss Stenna O. Sarsway — Miss Charlotte Johnston (May and June) school changed to Bursary S.D. No 4713, moved to NE 23-42-12-W5.
1938-1939 — Miss Christine Toews
1939-1940 — Miss Verna Greenslade
1940-1941 — Miss Jean M. Mawhinney
1941-1942 — Miss Jean M. Mawhinney (Mrs. Bruley)
1942-1943 — Miss Annie L. Lewis
1943-1944 — Miss Annie L. Lewis
1944-1945 — Miss Annie L. Lewis
1945-1946 — Miss Annie L. Lewis
1946-1947 — Miss Annie L. Lewis
1947-1948 — Miss Annie L. Lewis
1948-1949 — Miss Annie L. Lewis
1949-1940 — Miss Annie L. Lewis
1940-1941 — Miss Margaret H. Kerr
1941-1942 — Miss Margaret H. Kerr
1942-1943 — Miss Nellie Anderson
1943-1944 — Miss Anne R. Nickel
1944-1945 — Miss Anne R. Nickel
Mrs. A. Blanche Refuse
Mrs. L. A. Workington
1945-1946 — Miss Dorothy Reeves
Miss Eleanor Bailey
1946-1947 — Frank Gregory Weist (Sept. — Oct. 11)
Miss Jean Floyd
name changed to LILAC S.D. No 4712, part of N. Battleford S.U. No. 58.
1947-1948 — Miss Joyce Mary Grice
Robert Morin (May 5 — June 30)
1948-1949 — Edward Sylvanio Royko
1949-1950 — Miss Marjorie I. Reid
1950-1951 — Alvin M. Colwell
1951-1952 — Miss Cecile Langton (Sept. — Dec.)
Mrs. Mary D. Moffat (Jan. — June)
1952-1953 — Mrs. Mary D. Moffat
1953-1954 — Mrs. Mary D. Moffat
1954-1955 — Mrs. Charlotte Gillett
1955-1956 — Miss Esther Sudermann
1956-1957 — Miss Hazel Aeagrey
1957-1958 — Miss B. Jean Wright
1958-1959 — Miss B. Jean Wright
1959-1960 — Miss B. Jean Wright
1960-1961 — Mrs. Mary D. Moffat
1961-1962 — Mrs. Mary D. Moffat
1962-1963 — Mrs. Mary D. Moffat
1963-1964 — Mrs. Mary D. Moffat
1964-1965 — Mrs. Mary D. Moffat
1965-1966 — Mrs. Signe Marie Toews
1966-1967 — Mr. Martin P. Horne
1967-1968 — Mr. Martin P. Horne
1968-1969 — Mr. Martin P. Horne
1969-1970 — Mrs. Thoma Hoganson
1970-1971 — Mrs. Thoma Hoganson

Since the school closed June 30, 1971, each December the ladies of the district have arranged a Christmas program complete with Santa Claus and



Lilac School Bus Route started Aug., 1966

lunch with Lilac, Wayne Bank, and Ruddell young and old participating.

Many of the Lilac students have gone on to do well outside of school. We have had several service personnel, a dentist, a draftsman, a druggist, electricians, nurses (R.N. and R.P.N.), nurses aides, stenographers, teachers, etc.

In the early 1960's, after St. Mary's church was closed, Rev. and Mrs. Belshaha, Bob and Sharon Foreman, and Charlotte Sloan, Jean and Cathie Reid held Forequare Sunday School classes in Lilac School.

Not only did the school provide "Book Learning" but it was the social centre for recreation. The following is a description of a dance in Bathgate school, but it could have been in any country school in the 1920's.

Bathgate School Dance

written by Bill Weibord

On Friday night a dance was to be held in the school and arrangements had been made for a committee to take care of the details. Bill Parnell was to bring his fiddle and Johnny Walker to play the piano. Tom Patterson was to come after school to put the teacher's desk in the corner, place the pupils' desks around the wall for the people to sit on, fill the lamps with coal oil and make sure there was coal oil in the pallon can, etc. Dave Alexander and Jimmy Little would take care of the collection at lunch time and clean up the floor after everyone had eaten. They were also to put all the school supplies back in place after cleaning up at the end of the dance. Walter Skinner would be floor manager, calling out the name of each dance and starting most of the dances off. The Skinners were good dancers and knew all the steps having come to the country with the Barr Colonists. Walter's three sisters, Dora, Hilda and Ethel were the ones who taught anyone who needed help with any of the steps. Walter and Hilda were large people and if any of the crowd that were standing at the back of the school got out too close to the centre, rolling down on the dancing surface, Walter and Hilda would dance across in front of that line ever so close and nimbly a person would back off graciously.

There was always a rush to get to the dance early because the early bird got a premium, a chance to get their horses in the school barn. The first comers could tie up to the manger. The later ones converted in to the alley. When the barn was full they opened the door and pushed a sleigh box against the open door. This kept the horses in and yet allowed for some air. The horses had to be checked periodically because the other fellow's horse might kick or bite, leading to chaos under such crowded conditions. A man's own horse, of course, would never do anything wrong unless provoked. The remaining horses would be tied to the sides of sleigh boxes and covered with a horse blanket if they had one and the rest used a robe or patch-work blanket carried along in the sleighbox.

The first people into the school opened the door on the pot-bellied heater and placed a few sticks on the embers which produced a light in the dark school and initial heat. Then they started the lamps. The people greeted each other with a friendly smile and a cheery hello as they gathered close around the pot-bellied heater to soak up the warmth. A once few were there when Johnny Walker walked in, a cheer went up from all present. Johnny went straight from the door to the piano taking off his coat and cap as he went, happy to hear the people greeting him so warmly. He tossed his coat and cap in the corner beside the piano, slid on to the piano stool, rubbed his hands a couple of times to stimulate the circulation. He tried the keys and then cut loose with music to start the dancing.

A young woman with a baby in her arms, walked in and placed her baby on the teacher's desk along with her coat. Some one asked her to dance and away she went. Soon the desk was piled high with coats. A couple of short dances later in came Bill Parnell with his violin. A quick warm up by the heater — more like a couple of quick pushes with everyone egging him on — and he turned up his violin. Then the young woman let out a scream, "Oh my baby!" She burried to the teacher's desk tossing coats on the floor until she found the baby who was none the worse for the episode, but the rest of the ladies didn't like their best coats being tossed on the floor. It looked like tempers might rise but the musicians saved the day by bursting forth with an old waltz. Husbands and boyfriends got their partners and filled the floor. By the end of that dance the ladies were apologizing for their behaviour and all was forgiven. They even enquired as to the good health of the baby. "Warm but nana the worse."

An array of dances followed, the likes of which you couldn't explain on paper. Then it was time to check the horses. Stepping out-of-doors was a sight all of its own. There were open cutters, some drawn by one horse, some by a team. Sleigh boxes, no two alike and they were parked all over the yard, every which way. There was Russell Reid's cutter with the fancy curved front and the high back. We all knew his cutter because he had a robe made of coyote skins (the pelt of the skins of which he had plenty,) and those tails hung down over the back in a very distinctive manner. These vehicles were parked where ever there was

plenty of space to get around them. The best way to explain it is that after turning in the gate, the driver would holler "Whoa" and where ever the horses stopped they were unhooked. Having reached the barn, we would place our axe against the wall of the barn and all was quiet so that meant all was well inside.

Back in the school Walter Bulmer certainly didn't need any amplifier. Everyone heard his call of "Places all" as he started a square dance. His voice penetrated every corner as he called, "Ladies cross your lily white hands and Gents your black and tanned" so everyone knew what to do. It is doubtful if the built-in amplifier that runs today, will ever be duplicated.

When it was nearly midnight a couple of the men went out and hitched up a team and drove to the home of one of the neighbors where the coffee was made in a boiler and transported to the school in cream cans as there was no stove in the school where the coffee could be made. Sometimes the cream and sugar would be added to the coffee before it was taken to the school. As quickly as possible the cans of coffee were taken to the school so it would cool off as little as possible.

A standing rule was "Ladies, please bring Lunch." Some brought sandwiches and others brought cake. The proportion of each was left to chance and you'd never believe how well this arrangement worked out. The ladies passed the lunch around and any bachelor who hadn't had much cake at home during the week was a good candidate for several rounds. The proper a lady's cake pan was empty gave her a feeling of being a good cook so there was quite the country.

After lunch the floor was swept, the fiddle tuned up again and before the broom had any more than found its corner the dance was playing. Starting off with a slow waltz to settle the lunch and then gaining momentum until nearing two o'clock it would about reach its peak. Bill Parent looked around for someone to loan his fiddle to so he could dance. Not finding a taker he put his fiddle under his chin and played and danced with his fiddle for a partner going around the room not missing a beat. The dancers kept calling for more and more so the musicians obliged with a fast one-step, closely followed by a fox trot and finishing off with "Home Sweet Home" and "Good Night Ladies." Fun was fun but here was a group of people who would be getting up at six or six thirty ready to do chores. The school emptied quickly leaving Dave Alexander and Jimmy Little to clean up. The teams rushed out the school gate turning left or right in the direction of home. The cheery good nights could be heard in the cold, crisp night air above the sound of sleighbells, sleigh-runners, and horses' hooves. Each and everyone vowed they would be at the next Rathgate School dance!

St. Mary's Anglican Church, Lilac

Church services were first held when Mr. Good would come from Ruddell and hold church services in Mr. Charles Davis's home (1906). In 1907 Mr. Davis donated one-half acre of land (SW 4-43-13-W3) and a church was built by volunteer labour under the direction of Ruddell contractor George Anderson with funds from mother church in England. It had measurements of 18 x 30' not including the vestry. When finished it was christened "St. Mary's Anglican Church". A sod barn was built but it was later replaced by a wooden one. Then a manse was built in the churchyard for the resident Anglican ministers. Tom Patterson bought and moved the barn from the churchyard and it still stands in the George Patterson yard. The manse was rented out in later years to the Leduc family and later moved to just south of the old garage when the Jim McIntyre family lived in it for awhile. Later it was dismantled.

St. Mary's Church, Lilac about 1927. Note barn at the left of picture.

St. Mary's Church manse — Lilac. Dr. McLean of Toronto (father of Mrs. J. E. McLarty of Denholm), Eleanor McLarty, and Mr. Lute (student minister).

The minister's warden was Mr. H. E. Welford who served for 10 years; the People's warden was Mr. George Mabey who held that position for 30 years. Mrs. G. Mabey was organist and played the organ for 32 years.

Some of the ministers, student ministers, and lay people who served St. Mary's were, Mr. Good, Mr. Walker, Mr. Black, Mr. Bunting, Mr. Jordan, Mr. West, Mr. Hinsley, Mr. Olson, Mr. Flaherty, Mr. Coffee, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Lake, Mr. Jones, Mr. Wood,

Cairn at Lilac church yard erected in 1968. Lilac Curling Rink can be seen at left of picture

Plaque Lilac Church yard erected 1976 by Lilac Ladies' Guild.

Mr. Priest, Mr. Joe Martens, Mr. Richardson, Mr. Atkinson, Mr. Greenhalgh, Mr. Frank Deakin.

Miss Jessie Welbeed (now Mrs. Levi Walden) was the first baby baptized in the church.

In May, 1955, Miss Nancy Johnston and Miss Dianne Pain (now Mrs. Patrick Bacotte) were the last babies to be baptized there.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Christie, October 30, 1911, were one of the first couples married in the church while Mr. and Mrs. Earl Carty (nee Marjorie Reid) were the last couple to be married in St. Mary's (May 1961).

St. Mary's closed in 1960 and in 1965 the church was moved to its present location at the Western Development Museum. A Cairn, arrangements for which were made by Lilac Ladies Guild, was erected in 1968 as a belated Centennial project paid for by voluntary contributions by former and local residents. It gives particular recognition to Rev. J. B. Bunting and Canon P. Jordan as well as all the faithful workers throughout the years.

In the fall of 1976, some trees (2 Evergreens) from the Sask. Wheat Pool snowyard, and donated by the Henry Oreel family, and some Lilac bushes from the Lilac store site) were moved into the churchyard completing the outline of the former church foundation. The moving was done by Sgt. Bob Young of North Battleford R.C.M.P. detachment and was funded by a $50 grant from the Dept. of Youth and Culture, and $25 from Lilac Community Club. The Lilac Ladies Guild had a sign erected in 1976 to designate where the trees came from. Hopefully the Lilacs are an off shoot of the Lilac bush for which the district was named and will be a permanent reminder of "that which was".

Lilac Ladies Guild

In 1911, six pioneer women, Mrs. Evans, Mrs. G. Mabay, Mrs. Ralph, Mrs. J. Sunn, Mrs. Tyson, and Mrs. H. E. Welbeed walked to a meeting to organize ST. MARY'S ANGLICAN GUILD, to assist the church financially. During the first Great War the ladies switched to Red Cross work, but otherwise the Guild has carried on. After the church closed (1960) and moved (1965) to North Battleford Western Development Museum, the Ladies of the district felt there was still a need for an organization in the district so the name was changed to LILAC LADIES GUILD.

In 1964 they undertook to foster a needy child through the Christian Children's Fund paying $120.00 per annum, then $150.00 in 1974 and since 1978 they send $180.00 per year to support their adoptee. To date over $2000 has been given to foster children. They make donations to various Charitable organizations, make visits to senior citizens homes and canvas the district annually for CNIB.

The Guild has been a cohesive force in keeping the district together. At the monthly meetings the wheels are set in motion for community activities such as cleaning the school, showers, farewells, picnics, funeral memorials, and even Christmas Concerts.

The Railroad, Lilac Loading Platform and Station

In 1911, the rail line from Denholm, through Lilac to Blaine Lake was started by the Canadian Northern

Railway. It was first opened to traffic on December 15, 1913. The original site of the loading platform (about 5-6 miles east from Denholm) was on NE 35-42-12-W3. It was an earth loading platform. In 1916 the site was moved 2 miles east of the Lilac site thus making it more midway between Denholm and Richard. Mr. Henry P. Vale hauled the earth for the platform.

A 10' x 32' freight and passenger shelter (station) was built by Canadian Northern in 1913 as well as a 140-car 68' x 86' loading platform. A spur line to accommodate the elevators was built later. The loading platform was removed in 1961, and the freight and passenger shelter was sold to Alwyn Ehach and removed from the property in 1967. In 1970 the spur line was removed. In April, 1978, the two parts of the shelter were sold as grain bins at the auction sale of Mac Ehach.

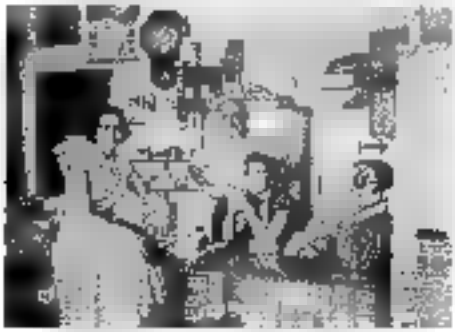
Lilac Store

The Lilac store began when Mr. J. Warden of Biddell took a gamble and set up a store in the struggling Lilac community. He operated the store for many years but finally sold to Mr. and Mrs. Smith and son, Archie. Mr. Smith had problems trying to run the business and finally left hurriedly in 1932. The store was closed until 1933 when Mr. Reddick took over and ran it for 3 years. In 1936 he sold to Herb and Mary Mabey who operated the store until May of 1965 when Mr. and Mrs. Ken Robertson bought the business. In November, 1966, they closed out with a Public Auction Sale. The building was purchased by Harold Pain and Bill Welford, dismantled and removed. When tractors had become more popular, Herb Mabey became an agent for *White Rose* (later bought by Shell) and had a Bulk Service depot at Lilac. For years Herb delivered gas, oil, and diesel to neighbouring farms.

Lilac Store.

The Mail and Lilac Post Office

During the first settlement years of the Lilac area, mail was obtained from Battleford or Radisson, later at Richard's Ranch, and then at Biddell after the main rail line went through from Saskatoon to North Battleford. The Lilac Post Office was opened March 15, 1913, in the Battlefords Electoral District as a Group 4 Office with the supervisory Postmaster's Office in Radisson. Each office had an authorized reserve. Lilac's reserve was $50.00. The approximate salary range was from $300.00 to $850.00 per annum.



Interior of Lilac store (1956). Elaine, Herb and Mary Mabey.

Lilac Postmasters 1913-1966

Date Oath taken
John Warden, March 3, 1913
David A. Klassen, April 4, 1923
Mrs. Agatha Klassen, March 3, 1935 *office moved 120 yds. on 1-10-1940.
Mrs. Vera Beth Warren, Sept 9, 1948 *office moved 100 yds. east at transfer.
Arthur Lee, June 9, 1949 *office moved 30 yds. west at transfer.
Mrs. Vera Beth Warren, Aug. 1, 1951
Mrs. Mary Louise Mabey, July 7, 1960
Ken Robertson, date unknown closed Feb. 15, 1967.

Assistant Postmasters

Date Oath Taken
Vera Beth Warren, April 29, 1943
Rhoda M. Milne, July 10, 1943
Herbert L. Warren, Sept. 21, 1946
Elizabeth Jane Patterson, May 31, 1947
Flora Edith Lee, unknown
E. Warren, July 22, 1950
Herbert Mabey, Aug. 4, 1950
Frank Schaefer, unknown
W. Doyle Mabey, unknown
Mrs. (H. K.) Pain, unknown
Mrs. Margaret Robertson, May, 1966

Line up of trucks at Lilac's two elevators in the late 30's. Background, Mabery's store, St. Mary's Anglican Church, the National elevator house to the left and curling rink to the right.

Miss Gwendolyn Joyce Robertson, 1965
Arthur H. Bailey, Dec. 2, 1952

With the closing of the store in Oct./Nov. 1966, Lilac area residents picked up their mail at Rudisill Post Office. A proposal to provide patrons concerned with Rural Mail Delivery Service via Maymont R.R. No. 1, made in October, 1966, was started in February, 1967 with Alex Baierle delivering the mail every Wednesday and Saturday mornings. This route is still being serviced by Alex' widow, Mrs. Elsie Roberts McIvor.

Lilac Elevators

The National Grain Company built an elevator at Lilac in 1917. Then in 1920 a house for the agent and family was constructed. In 1971 or 1972 the National was closed and about a year later the elevator was taken down with some of the lumber hauled to North Battleford and used in the construction of a larger National elevator there.

Agents 1917-1971/72

Mr. McMillan, Mr. David Klassen, Mr. Jack Wright, Mr. Herbert (Bert) Warren, Mr. Jack Stocker, Mr. Harvey Parent, Mr. Alex Baierle, Mr. Tom McGrath, Mr. Bernard Spence, Mr. Harold Weir.

A Co-operative Grain elevator was built at Lilac in 1924. A man who worked hard at selling shares in this elevator was a local homesteader, J. Swan, who travelled by horse and buggy selling $10.00 shares. In the late 1930's it was transferred to Saskatchewan Wheat Pool and the Lilac Elevator was No. 588. The Pool elevator was closed July 31, 1975 and in 1979 the

Sask. Wheat Pool elevator at Lilac being taken down (1979).

building was sold to Dennis Bertsch and Michael Yakiwchuk who are now dismantling the building. The house which was built in 1928 by B. McMurphy — a one-storey building, 22' x 28' — was sold to Jim Prescesky of the Waise Bath district in 1975 and moved to Denholm.

Agents 1924-1975

Walter Hamar, August 1, 1929 to July 31, 1933
Ronald Firth, August 1, 1933 to July 31, 1941
Frank Schaefer, August 1, 1941 to July 31, 1942
C. W. Thompson, August 1, 1942 to January 5, 1943
F. W. Goodfellow, January 6, 1943 to December 30, 1943
Elwood W. Hinton, December 30, 1943 to August 8, 1947, Lilac Elevator Closed
G. McTavish, August 9, 1948 to October 15, 1948
F. Schaefer, October 15, 1948 to December 15, 1948, Lilac Elevator Closed
F. Schaefer, April 19, 1949 to July 30, 1949, Lilac Elevator Closed
G. R. (Curly) Hollingshead, August 1, 1949 to April 21, 1953
Walter E. Millard, April 21, 1953 to March 2, 1956
Lorne C. Rauch, March 2, 1956 to June 26, 1959
Barry R. Creel, June 15, 1959 to October 11, 1973
Harvey Wood, October 12, 1973 to August 1, 1974
Edward Anthony Bellman, August 1, 1974 to July 1, 1975
John Heilman, July 1, 1975 to July 31, 1975, Lilac Elevator Closed

Lilac Wheat Pool Committee

Like other Pool elevators, Lilac Wheat Pool had a Wheat Pool Committee. The committee helped to determine Pool policies as well as supporting some Co-

The last Lilac Wheat Pool Committee (1957). (L-r) Bill Jess, Wes Gillett, Art Reiley, Howard Bulmer, Jack Welford, Joe Mohal, Harold Pain, Walter Bujak, Ted Welford, Alwyn Ebach (missing Cliff Underwood).

operating events such as sending young people to the CO-OP Schools. They also gave financial help to the Maybrook 4-H. Due to the closure of the Lilac Wheat Pool elevator No. 533, the committee was officially disbanded in 1979.

Lilac Curling Rink

In 1945, a one-sheet curling rink was built at Lilac with National elevator agent, Bud Warren, as engineer. The labour was provided by local residents. The rink was opened December 28, 1945 when the first game was rocked. Nine individuals bought their own pair of curling rocks and let them be used by other curlers until some years later when the Curling Club bought matched rocks. In 1964, the men laid a foundation and papered the rink. Later a waiting room with kitchen facilities and a water storage cistern were built. Regular draws were held afternoon and evening and each year the Club had an Open Bonspiel. The last Bonspiel was held in 1968 with Ray Warren of Speers winner of the first event and the Tom Wade Memorial Trophy. There was lots of good curling both on the ice and behind the glass. The building was sold to Ted Welford who later sold sections to Bracy Welford, Art Reiley, Tom Caldwell and David Johnston who used them to make garages on their farms. Maple Curling Club bought the rocks.

Lilac Softball Team

In 1949, Lilac organized a softball team which took part in local Sports Days at Ruddell, Dewdney, Speers, Richard, Weyburn, etc. Some of those who played on the team in the first years were: Harvey and Guy Parent (brothers), Kenneth and Grant Reid (cousins), Wes and Cliff Gillett (brothers), Robert and George Patterson (brothers), Bill and Ted Welford (brothers), Art Poulston, Les Ebach, Stuart Reiley, Lloyd and Johnny Bulmer (father and son).

Lilac Softball Team (L-r) Back — Ted Welford, Art Poulston, Guy Parent, Lawrence Balerie, Bill Welford, Wes Gillett, Front — Ken Reid, Harvey Parent, Robert Patterson.

Other Lilac Organizations
Eastside and Westside Snowplow Clubs

As cars and trucks became more prevalent and people wished to travel all year round the need was greater for open roads in the winter. This was before the roads were built to the standards of today. Also at that time the R.M.'s were not involved in plowing snow. Therefore the Snowplow clubs were born. A few families grouped together, purchased a snowplow and the man who operated the plow received some wages. The Eastside Club attempted to keep the roads east of Lilac open while the Westside Club worked on the West roads. Occasionally the Schmidt Family Plow was hired. These clubs gradually fell into disuse especially when school bus routes were started and the Municipalities took on the responsibility of plowing the roads.

Lilac U.C.W.

To aid and financially support the Ruddell United Church, the Lilac U.C.W. was organized on August 9, 1952, and disbanded at the end of 1966 when the Ruddell church was closed. Some of the members of the group were: Mary Mabey, Nellie Welford, Enid Read, Charlotte Gillett, Ida Gillett, Olive Gillett, Mary Moffat, Elsie Bejacic, Thelma Nedowin.

Lilac Social Club

No history of the Lilac area would be complete without some mention of the Social Club. We were unable to secure any factual information as the members were no longer able to be contacted. However we do know the Club members (wives and husbands) took turns meeting at the various homes for an evening of fun and relaxation. This was during the early and depression years. No doubt it helped to pass the long winters as well as helped to prevent loneliness.

Reminiscences, and a Tribute to the Thirties in Lilac, Saskatchewan

Edie Wright

I have always been intrigued by Oliver Goldsmith's Deserted Village, which has a touch of wistfulness and the coloring of hindsight. Two years ago I stood on the spot where St. Mary's church had been, and I felt again the welling of the respect I have always felt for these good people.

(Left) Back row — O. S. Harper, Dave Arnold, J. Voigt, Geo. Hague, Chas. Murison. 2nd row — Mr. and Mrs. J. Bowden, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Mabey, H. Welford. Front row — G. Whitlaw, J. Arnold, J. White.

Since living in the Peace River country, three years service in the Canadian Army in World War II, and 32 years living, and serving parishes, in the U.S.A. the pleasant thoughts of, and the respect for these fine people has not diminished.

It was early May, 1928 when I first took charge of the Anglican churches of Dunholm, Lilac and Bellevale. These were "the depression years", but the human spirit was far from depressed. I was to have the pleasure of meeting, and in many cases staying in the homes, of many of the finest of the human race. The Harry Turner's, Jack Dow's, George Mabey's, Harry Welford's, Bill Agar's, Will Baker's, Judges, Reisengers, Dan Scott's, J. Swann, and Miss Lewis the teacher, names of families which had some connection with the church.

I recall visiting in the Tom Caldwell home a few days after a new baby was born and it was very important to Mrs. Caldwell that I hold her baby. I recall Weir Klassen riding horseback to Rudsell, to get to High School — discussion of merits of the "one way" disk as contrasted with the plow — and the importance of "the cream cheque". The church was tiny but since most families came regularly the little church was crowded. In the winter I returned once per month for Service taking the train from Saskatoon to Rudsell.

Although then was not the affluence of these latter days, then was the indomitable spirit of the human race, to keep their church and not be overwhelmed by the affairs of this life.

For these statements I pray often "Rest eternal grant them O Lord . . . May they rest in peace". For those who are still here, and for those still to come, I pray that the example of fortitude and certainty may inspire all in the issues which are eternal.

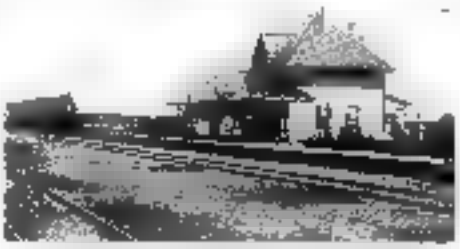
The Village of Maymont

submitted by Dorothy Crawley

The village of Maymont is located five miles north of the North Saskatchewan River between the cities of North Battleford to west and Saskatoon to the east. It has the distinction of being situated at the highest point above sea level on the Canadian National Railway line between Winnipeg and North Battleford, elevation 1,941 feet.

Maymont was named after May Montgomery, niece of Mr. McKenzie of McKenzie and Mann, contractors who built the Canadian National Railway through this area in 1905. From the village the landscape slopes gently to the river and its valley. The river, which in the early days proved both a boon and an obstacle — depending on the season — is now spanned by a bridge and the valley cradles Glenburn Regional Park. The recently constructed No. 378 highway running north and south, passes through the village and crosses highway No. 16 as it continues north. The latter highway which by-passes the village was the old No. 5 and is now part of the Yellowhead Route.

Early View of Maymont.



Maymont Station with passenger train coming in.

Incorporated into a village of twenty-one householders in 1967, Maymont has never reached the stature of a town — population being two hundred at present — but on the whole it is a progressive and community-minded native. There are three churches, a twelve-room school with gym and resource centre, two general stores, two halls, hotel, post-office, a new municipal building which houses the office of the Rural Municipality of Mayfield No. 406 and the branch of the Canadian-Imperial Bank of Commerce, a Sports Centre, a branch of the Lakeland Regional Library, a Pool elevator complex, a Senior Citizen's Recreation Centre, a Ceramic building, and the newest acquisition, a ten-unit Senior Citizen's Housing Project.

Wheat coming into Maymont somewhere between 1905 and 1910

Within the last few years numerous modern homes have been built in the village and thirteen mobile homes brought in. The entire village is serviced by a sewer and water system, besides a soft water system for gardens, piped in from nearby dugouts.

Religious, social, educational and sports activities are all prominent in the village and surrounding area. If it can be said that Maymont leans a little more toward one activity than another, it would probably be in sports. Down through the years horse-racing, football, broomball, tennis, hockey, curling, baseball, golf, track and field events, have all played their part in the development of the community.

In 1980 Maymont will celebrate its seventy-fifth consecutive annual Sports Day. Though now it is mostly a ball tournament, it still draws a large crowd, being the first one of the season each year.

The years have produced many good ball and hockey teams and curling foursomes. In 1976 a team from Maymont won the Provincial Junior Fastball Championship. In 1979 Maymont hosted the Regional Winter Games — three days of exciting competition.

We are justly proud of any and all community effort — one for example is the cemetery clean-up. Four or five times a year during the summer months a crowd gathers to cut, rake, trim, dig and level — to make the cemetery a spot to be proud of. Then you know what the song writer meant when he wrote 'Everything is Beautiful in it's own Way'.

There's an old cliche that says "A man is known by the company he keeps". Perhaps we could say that a village or town can be judged by the number of folks who have chosen to live and work for years within its boundaries — a doctor who chose to carry on his practice and live out his life here, a minister who continued his ministry here for thirty-seven years, a claims agent who had many years of seniority but who preferred to remain in Maymont, a teacher who taught and lived here for twenty-five years, another for twenty years, a telephone operator who worked at the switchboard for thirty-one years, a store manager who made the village his home for most of his life, nine couples who have celebrated golden wedding anniversaries here.

We hope many more folk will continue to think of Maymont as a good place to live and will work to keep it so.

Banks

The first bank in Maymont was the Northern Crown Bank, opened in 1910 in the hotel. Later another building was erected on Lots 6 and 8, Block 4, north of the hotel. In 1914 the Northern Crown amalgamated with Crown Bank. The latter sold to the Royal Bank of Canada.

The first bank manager was Mr. Trotter followed respectively by Messrs. Hales, Regan, Moffatt and Grolin.

In 1925 the business was purchased by the Imperial Bank and Maymont was operating as a sub-branch to Fielding, Saskatchewan. The manager was A. MacMillan. It was established as an independent branch in 1929.

Inside the bank when it was in the hotel. Richard Brohan and Tom Arnett.

The following were the bank managers from that time to the present.

1929-1941 — H. B. McLeish
1941-1943 — A. J. Ritchie
1943-1961 — L. J. Bergman
1961-1965 — L. Schmidt
1965-1967 — R. J. Wedel
1967-1973 — D. J. A. Wouters
1973 to present — W. E. Sherlock

On December 2, 1970 the bank business was moved kitty-corner across the street into part of the new R.M. Complex. The facilities are bright and roomy with all the modern conveniences. People do their banking business now in an air-conditioned, carpeted building, a great change from the days when the Northern Crown Bank was situated in the hotel.

Black Smith Shops

In 1908 Mr. Rob Davidson built the first blacksmith shop with Mr. J. McKenzie as his partner. A year later Mr. Davidson bought Mr. McKenzie's interest. In 1912 he sold his business and the year following the business was sold to Mr. F. Anderson who shortly after sold it to Mr. Harkness. The following year he sold out to Mr. McEntosh and his son. In 1919 the business was sold to Mr. Hugh Harkness, who continued until 1931 when Mr. Rasmussen became the owner. The business was again sold to Mr. J. Hutchison who operated it until 1960.

L. to r. — Mrs. Hutchison, Mabel, Mr. Jim Hutchison, Howard. Mr. Hutchison was the blacksmith in Maymont for many years. Picture taken about 1940.

In 1908 Mr. A. Verschoth operated another shop but was in business for only a year.

Beauty Parlors

Mrs. Anger operated a beauty parlor in connection with her husband's barber shop. Mrs. Ida Hickman and Mrs. Ed Prysalit both had beauty shops for short periods in Merrell's Drug Store and Maymont Hotel respectively. Mrs. Prysalit and Mrs. Evelyn Bates did hairdressing in their homes for many years.

In 1962 Mrs. Evelyn Bates opened a Hairdressing Shop in her home and still operates it.

Barber Shops and Poolrooms

Mr. Jim Patterson built the first barber shop and poolroom in 1907 (the building which is now the Foursquare Church). He was succeeded by his son Gordon and later followed by Mr. A. Anger, Mr. Knight, and Mrs. Anger. Mr. Broom operated a poolroom and barber shop in the premises once called the 'Tea Cup Inn', and also across the street in the old cafe. Mr. Badowsky ran a poolroom in this building also. Mr. Frank Feeley owned the building at one time and made it into two residences, one in the front of the building and one in the back.

The old cafe was demolished in 1973.

Stump Brothers operated a poolroom in Mr. Ward's restaurant for a time.

Mr. Bill Sowden also operated a poolroom in the hotel.

Mr. Harold Greenslade operated a poolroom for a time where his M&M store now is. A barber came once a week.

The only pool tables in Maymont are now in the Senior Citizen's Centre, and a barber still comes one night a week, also one in the hotel.

Business Places

The first store in Maymont District was operated by Mr. F. T. McCorkle at his farm home north of Maymont. Supplies were hauled from Saskatoon.

In 1905 the first general store in the village was operated by Mr. Digman and Mr. McLean in a shack south of the present Maymont C.N.R. station.

The same year Mr. E. W. Bean had lumber hauled from Radisson and built the first store on the north side of the track. The store was built before the railroad came through, and was opened for business early in 1905. The first Post Office conducted its business in this store and Mr. Bean was the assistant postmaster.

Mr. Bean was killed in an accident in 1907 and the business was operated by his wife Mrs. Alice Bean, with the assistance of the following managers: Mr. G. B. Marjis, Mr. H. McDougal, Mr. W. Philpot and her son Alan Bean. The latter had acted as manager since 1925. Mrs. Bean died in 1948 and Alan carried on the business in the original store until Jan., 1958, was purchased by Mr. Maurice VanDerHaegen and dismantled.

The store was operated by Mr. Rodney Mann was built in 1908 by Mr. John Reid and Mr. John McLaren, operating until approximately 1917 when Mr. Patterson bought the business.

Mr. John Reid had the original butcher shop in the basement of this store. There were other butcher shops in the village from time to time. Managers were Mr. Russell, Mr. A. Demmer, Mr. Folsom, Mr. R. Anger, Mr. Weeb, Mr. Lane, Messrs. Merkley and Lane, Mr. Friedman, Mr. Johnson, and Mr. Ted Saunders.

Mr. Ken DeLong built and opened the first locker plant in Maymont during the fall of 1948. It was in operation until 1973.

A third general store was opened in the early years in the hotel by Mr. Werth. He sold the business to Mr. J. Margolin. The latter sold it to Mr. Newberger. Mr. Weeb rebought the business and sold it again to Mr. Merkely. Mr. Merkely took Mr. Lane into partnership and moved the business across the street and bought Mr. J. Patterson's business. Later Mr. Weeb bought out Merkley and Lane. Mr. H. Friedman then bought the business and later sold it to Mr. N. Friedman. He sold it to Mr. I. Harpan. Mr. Harpan sold to Mr. Ted Saunders in 1958. Ted retired because of ill health and in Jan./73 sold the store to Mr. Rodney Mann who now operates it as the Lucky Dollar Store.

Bridal Showers

There have been bridal showers in Maymont for more years than a lot of us care to remember, and they've always been a great help for any girl starting in to keep house. In this community, showers have grown from a small gathering at a friend's house to a town shower held in the Legion Hall — and now to a community affair held in the Memorial Hall to accomodate the crowd that attends.

Friends of the bride-to-be usually form a committee, usually numbering ten or twelve, have a meeting, arrange programs and lunch and give out lists of names to each committee member to be phoned re: date of shower, etc. Though some people prefer to give individual gifts, most leave a donation of money at one of the two stores and the buying committee chooses suitable gifts from those stores.

Though it is optional whether one gives or attends, there is more often than not, a fine response — everyone giving to every bride.

Looking through the records we note that since 1948 there hasn't been a year without a bride or brides. In 1948, '52 and '56 there was only one bride, but in 1966 there were nine and in 1973 and in 1974 there were eight.

Real showery years!

Bridge at Maymont

For many years people of the farming areas south of the Saskatchewan River had to wait on the river to freeze over to take their produce to the elevators in Maymont and Radisson. Many of the winter tales were told of the oxen slipping off the built-up roads and the result often a broken wagon tongue or other troubles. The farmers often had to stay at someone's place over night as the freezing temperatures and long hauls were hard on man and beast. How they must often have longed for a bridge or more permanent way of getting to their market as there were no elevators at Springdale or Baljennie.

Long before the ferry service was in use at Maymont there were ferries at Baljennie or Denholm, Spanner Hall and Fielding. These were in use for many years. It wasn't until 1936 that the Maymont Crossing was first put into operation.

The River was a gathering place for so many occasions. There were picnics, church services, just swimming, and good times. The children's picking parties along the River were always fun and profitable — so area people have always enjoyed the North Saskatchewan River.

The ferry service was very good, when conditions were right for crossing, but still the pioneers on both sides of the river must have had many a meeting to try and get a bridge built for an all-weather road to their land, their markets, church and sporting events.

The Maymont Crossing has a lively and colourful history. The river often tested the resourcefulness and determination of the residents of the area. Even when the survey crews came to try and find the right place for the bridge, it was hard to find the best crossing.

Actual planning for the bridge began in Regina in 1973 and 1974. Construction crews moved onto the bridge site in August, 1974.

There was much excitement among residents on both sides who watched the bridge progress through the two years of construction. Case Engineering of Calgary were the major construction outfit with various other contractors handling the approach work, sub-grade construction, and oil treating, paving the approach roads and bridge deck. The final cost of the project was approximately $3.3 million.

The bridge over the North Saskatchewan was completed on October 8, 1975 and the ferry was pulled from the river on October 30, 1975.

The official opening was on June 20, 1976 with government officials Honorable Allen Blakeney, Premier of Saskatchewan, and Honorable Elling Kramer, M.L.A. for the Battlefords, and Minister of Highways and Transportation in attendance along with other officials. A beef barbeque was enjoyed by a large crowd.

The bridge has already become a fast and easy means of crossing the river and one only wishes our fathers, mothers and all could have had it so easy.

The Bridge Builder
An old man, going a lone highway,
Came at the evening, cold and gray,

To a chasm, vast and deep and wide.
Through which was flowing a sullen tide
The old man crossed in the twilight dim; The sullen
stream had no fears for him,
But he turned when safe on the other side
And built a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim near,
"You are wasting strength with building here:
Your journey will end with the ending day,
You never again must pass this way;
You have crossed the chasm, deep and wide,
Why build you at the eventide?"

The builder lifted his old gray head,
"Good friend, in the path I have come," he said
"There followeth after me today
A youth whose feet must pass this way.
This chasm that has been naught to me
To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim;
Good friend, I am building the bridge for him."
Will Allen Dromgoole.

Dentist

(from previous history)

At one time Maymont even boasted a dentist. In 1905 Dr. J. M. Fry opened an office and practised dentistry for a year or two in the building which later became the first Municipal Office.

Drug Store

(from previous history)

Dr. J. R. Scratch had the first drug store. It was later purchased by Mr. Hawthorney, who sold it to Mr. Rob Morrell. Mr. Mauldhney rebought the business and sold it again to Mr. Hope, who finally closed the business. The building was purchased by Mr. Frank Langley and made into a residence.

Garages and Gasoline Bowsers

The first garage was owned and operated by Mr. Norman Buckly, which was complete with gasoline bowser, was located on the east side of Main Street. This site was occupied with a garage and bowsers until 1958. Mr. Buckly took Robert Downing into partnership with him in 1918. After operating for sometime Mr. Buckly sold his share of the business to Mr. John Thrower and moved to Vancouver, B.C. Mr. Downing and Mr. Thrower continued with their garage and oil business until Mr. Thrower sold out to Mr. R. Morrow. Mr. Morrow sold out to his partner Mr. R. Downing and moved to Cloverdale, B.C.

Mr. Downing now expanded his business to include a lighting plant and supplied light to the business section and several homes in the village. Mr. R. Downing decided to move to Chilliwack, B.C. and he sold his business to Mr. F. T. McCorkle, who operated the garage and lighting plant until he sold out to Johnson Bros. in 1941, who in turn sold to Mr. Jack Cash. Around this time the Saskatchewan Power Corporation bought the power plant and brought their power lines into the village.

Mr. J. Cash sold his garage to Mr. Louis Karpan who completely rebuilt it into a first class garage in 1948. Mr. Karpan ran the business there until 1959, and the building was then torn down.

Mr. Karpan built a first class Esso station on the north side of the highway with modern living quarters, restrooms and lunch counter, surrounded with neatly landscaped grounds. He ran the business until 1958 then sold to Imperial Oil. Gordon Leach purchased it from Imperial Oil and ran it until he sold to Mr. Ray Jordan. Ray Jordan sold to Ray and Randall Garner in 1979 and they are now operating the business.

On the west side of Main Street Mr. J. D. Blacklock operated a bowser for many years in connection with his hardware store and J.H.C. implement agency. Another bowser was operated on the west side of Main Street by Mr. N. Connick for some time (the spot where the Locker Plaza stood).

On 1st Avenue West of Main Street in 1951, Mr. Ed Bahr built a garage and did garage work and oil sales. Also on 1st Avenue West Mr. Fred Foster and some Sheridan and Freddy operated a bowser and oil sales in connection with their John Deere Agency. They sold to Mr. Sam Keeler, who then sold to Mr. James Rogers, who was the agent for all Imperial Oil products. Jimmy Rogers operated the business until his death in 1970.

On the corner of Main St. and 1st Avenue East, Mr. Tom Woods built a service station and garage in 1936. Mr. Woods was agent for all North Star Oil products, and ran it until he sold it to Mr. Lloyd Parker who ran it for a time.

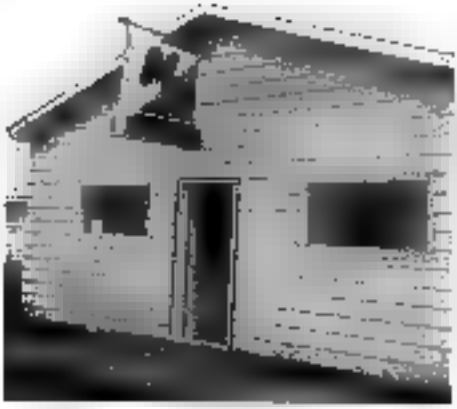
Mr. Louis Karpan built another service station on the south side of the highway in 1960. This was run as White Rose but was later changed to Shell. Mr. Karpan sold to Lloyd Parker in 1965. Lloyd operated it until he moved to Surrey, B.C. It is quite surprising the number of Maymont garage operators who moved to British Columbia! Mr. Everett Sherman rented the garage for a time.

A new highway was going through slightly further south and the service station had to be moved. It was sold by tender to Mr. George Strahan who moved the building to his farm in 1977, to be used as a workshop.

Hardware and Grocery Store

Mr. Cooath and Mr. Stepler opened a hardware business in the present site of Greenshade's M & M store. The business closed for a period and for a short time Mr. Worden operated a confectionary store in the same building.

In 1918 the hardware store was reopened by Mr. J. D. Blacklock. In 1945 Maurice Van Der Hoegen bought



Greenslade M and M store, 1979

ont Mr. J. D. Blacklock and started International Harvester machinery business along with a hardware store. Mr. Blacklock continued to work in the store until his retirement. Other employees were Brian Coleman, Brenton Neilbrown, Hubert Brumbaugh and Harold Greenslade.

In 1958 Mr. Van Der Haegan bought out the Alex Bean General store and moved it all into one store. Eventually the Bean store was torn down.

The late Chester Buell was hired as manager of the store (grocery department), a position he held until 1968 when he moved to North Battleford.

In the fall of 1968 Mr. Van Der Haegan retired from business. Part of the store was moved to the Van Der Haegan farm — the other part torn down and the remaining building sold to Harold Greenslade who operated a FOOD BOOM for 4½ years. The winter of 1974-75 Harold and Gordon Johansen both built furniture for family and friends. In July 17, 1975 Mr. and Mrs. Harold Greenslade opened a grocery, meat and Hardware store under the name of Greenslade's M & M family store and it still is in operation. June, 1979 the Saskatchewan Pool has made the store their depot.

Imperial Hotel

In the summer and fall of 1908, Mr. Mike Tynan built the hotel. In 1907 Duncan Gillespie operated the hotel for about one year. In May 1908, Tynan sold to Mr. Bill Sowden. In June 1909 Mr. Claud Sowden purchased an interest and the hotel was run as Sowden Bros. In 1911 Sowden Bros. sold to Brush and Parnell. Shortly after this Mr. W. B. Sowden took over the interest of Mr. Brush and the hotel was run as Sowden and Parnell.

In the spring of 1913 the hotel was sold to Mr. A. D. M. Home. In the spring of 1914 he sold to a Mr.

Bill Sowden in 'Beer Parlor' of Maymont hotel.

Beauchesne. In the fall of 1914 Sowden and Parnell took over the hotel and started a poolroom. In the fall of 1915 Mr. W. B. Sowden took over Mr. Stan Parnell's interest and ran the hotel for many years, except for eight months when it was rented to Roby Hunt, and one month it was rented to Mr. Harry Cornish.

In 1948 Mr. Frank Feeley purchased the hotel.

Hotel managers since 1948 have been:
Bill Lekstrom and Myles McDonald
Bill Kane and Dennis Remoshylo
John Zimmer
Lee Burnett

In January 1978 Glen Boyd purchased the hotel. Mr. Boyd rented the restaurant to Peter Kwan for one year. It is presently rented to Mr. Raymond Guy.

The bar in the hotel was redecorated in July 1979 giving it a more modern appearance.

Livery and Feed Barns

The first livery and feed stable was built in Maymont by Mr. Asa Noakes in the early spring of 1908.

August, 1908, Rev. J. C. Madill built a livery and feed barn where the home of Mr. Louis Karpan now stands.

In the spring of 1907 Melrose Bros. built another just east of Mr. Frances Duckhurmas present residence. They bought the other barn from Rev. J. C. Madill and took Andrew Reid into partnership.

In 1912 Melrose Bros. and Reid sold the barns to A. D. Melrose and J. M. Verney. The barn built by Rev. J. C. Madill was burned in Oct. 1913, with the loss of 14 head of horses (one team was valued at $1,200.00), also all harness and feed.

In the spring of 1914 J. M. Verney bought the interest of A. D. Melrose and in the spring of 1915 sold the barn to Mr. Frank Gillatt. In 1920 Frank Gillatt sold the barn to Christofield and Martin. In the spring of 1923 the barn was burned. They built another one just east of where the burned one stood.

In 1925 Mr. J. M. Martin purchased the interest of

Mr. H. Christfield and in the spring of 1927 Mr. J. M. Martin sold to Mr. Mastoway. In 1928 Mr. Mastoway sold to Mr. E. Sykes. Mr. Sykes sold to Mr. E. Broom in 1956. The time was almost over for the need of a livery barn by then. Mr. Broom used it some the first winter he had it. He then dismantled it and used the material for other purposes.

Lumber Yards

(from previous history)

Mr. S. W. Bean had the first stock of lumber in Maymont. He sold out to Mr. F. T. McCockle who operated the lumber yard for many years. Rev. J. C. Medill and Mr. John Nugent owned lumber yards. By 1908 Mr. McCockle had the only lumber business. He continued until 1942 when the stock was sold to Wenig Lumber Co. of Saskatoon, and the yard was closed.

Later, Mr. Antoonenko built a lumber yard on the site of Mr. Wes Robbs house now the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Dykstra. Later he moved the business to the corner lot south of the Foursquare Church. He also built a grocery store here which closed at the end of the year.

The Maymont Beef Ring

submitted by Margaret Strautman

In 1914 a group of farmers formed a "Beef Ring" to provide themselves with fresh meat each week during the summer months — May through October. It included families in the areas south to Maymont, west to Islac, north to Richard and east to Speers.

A slaughterhouse was built on the farm of Tom Sawyer — a butcher from the old country (England). Each week, for twenty-four weeks, a two year old steer weighing from 450-600 pounds was taken on a Thursday to the Sawyer farm to be slaughtered, cut and divided into twenty-four shares. Each shareholder delivered an animal on his specified week, and by the end of the season would have received all the cuts from the whole animal. Some took half shares with a neighbor and would be responsible for delivery of an animal every other year.

Meat shares were packed unwrapped in clearly marked flour sacks. Each Saturday morning, before the heat of the day, members took turns delivering meat in their respective areas. Housewives would then be busy putting larger cuts in the ice-house, poorer cuts were pickled and put in crocks in the basement, extra was canned in sealers for use at a later date.

The last four years the "Beef Ring" operated, Billy Andrew took over the butchering as Tom Sawyer had retired to the village of Maymont. Families were now growing up and moving away, fewer men were hired on the family farm, and electricity was now available for refrigeration. The "Beef Ring" was disbanded in 1949 — recorded as being the oldest organization of its kind in the province — having been in operation for 34 years.

Maymont Cemetery and Cemetery Clean-Up Day

submitted by Dorothy Crawley

Maymont Cemetery and Clean-up day have been mentioned elsewhere in this book, but perhaps we may be permitted to add to the story for the sake of history. There are very few folk left with any memory of the beginnings, but we were pleased when Mr. Stanley Bohn now in his 83rd year was able to contribute some information.

Maymont Cemetery.

The first cemetery was located on the late Agnes J. Reid homestead N. E. 20, 41, 12, now owned by M. Becton. As the village grew, so did the need for a permanent location for the cemetery, so in 1908 two acres of land were acquired from the late Alfred Hawkins — one acre donated and one purchased. A number of years later another acre was bought from his son, John. The two acres were surveyed in 1908, a Cemetery Board named and eight graves moved from the first cemetery. Frank Bohn, Stanley's father was the first person to be buried in the new cemetery in 1908.

For a number of years little was done in the way of up-keep and improvement of the cemetery. Then in 1922 Maymont Homemakers' Club was organized and in the same year the club named a committee to work with the Cemetery Board in planning a program of beautifying the grounds. The next year much work was accomplished and it was then that it was decided to have a Cemetery Clean-up Day as an annual event.

A quick scan through the Homemakers' record books show that through the years the club assisted many times and many ways in the way of improvements (e.g. plumbing and care of trees, erecting of a building to house tools, etc., sharing in the cost of

hauling cinders and later gravel for roadways and walks, and on the installing of permanent gates.

In the early days of scythe and just plain hand work clean-up day, usually held in July, was a long strenuous day. Sometimes it began in the morning and went on into the afternoon at which times everyone brought a picnic lunch and tea and coffee were provided by the Homemakers and Committee. After the work was done the annual meeting was held on the grounds everyone attending and taking part in the discussions and decisions.

In 1946 the Cemetery Board ceased to be when the Village Council took over the management of the cemetery, appointing a committee to deal with any problems encountered.

Now thirty-nine years later — from scythes to gas and tractor mowers, there is still a cemetery clean-up day and the council is still responsible for appointing a committee, this year's being, Chester Miller, Stanley Bohn and Franklin Mohler.

This year 1979 as arranged by the Woman's Institute there were four days, — the last Tuesday in each month — May, June, July and August.

Willing hands of dedicated and community minded people, both men and women, make short work of the task and days and in an hour or so they leave the cemetery a place to be proud of.

Maymont Ferry Crossing

The Maymont Ferry Crossing served the public for fifty years. It was established in 1906 with Jack Patterson and Ole White as operators. They ran the service for one year.

Reuben Johnson who had worked on the ferry crew, took over in 1907 and continued until the fall of 1930. He and his wife moved to Borden where he continued to operate the ferry at that point until the Borden Bridge was finished in 1936.

During the six years that Reuben was in Borden, William Maxwell, Stanley Bright and also Bill Johnson of Langham operated the ferry. The ferry families lived in homes down by the river. While Rube was on the Borden Ferry he got caught in a winding gear and injured his arm. He was in the hospital off and on for a long time until he finally was sent to Winnipeg, Manitoba where a doctor grafted a bone from his leg to his arm. He was able to return to Maymont Ferry where he and Elden Barr worked as a team for many years.

Raymond (Bud) Ward started working in 1956. He, Gerald Padgett, and John Dahl worked with Rube at various times until Rube retired.

Bob Bell and Bud became ferrymen in 1963.

Rube was a popular, obliging fellow and when he retired in 1962 the community showed their appreciation by holding a celebration and presented Rube with a reclining chair and Mrs. Johnson with a pole lamp. They had a house in the river hills and have their family made their home. Their family was Gladys (Mrs. L. Mahnus of Richards), Bernice (Mrs. Adolph Ducharme of Maymont) Shirley (Mrs. Henry Wood of Redditt) Phyllis (Mrs. Wakelin of N. Battleford) and one son, Albert, who with wife Zena, four sons, and one daughter still makes his home in Maymont.

In the early days a ferryman's life was not an easy one. His home was poorly made of planks, tar paper and lathe. The ferry was handcranked with a winding cable. The hours were long, no set time for meals, no shifts because it took two men to operate the ferry.

Sometimes the ferry would get stuck on a sandbar and it would take hours to free it. The salary was just $2.50 a day and after midnight the ferryman charged twenty-five cents a car and driver, and ten cents per person for crossing. These fees went to the operator.

Ice jams and spring floods would wash out the approaches and loads of stone were needed for repairs to the damage.

Sometimes two ferries were necessary for a crossing. One conveyed passengers to the sandbar in mid-river, you crossed this to board a second ferry that took you to the other side. Eventually the water got so low that even this wasn't feasible. The ferry was disconnected from the cable entirely and propelled across the river by two outboard motors fastened to the edge of the ferry apron. This was fairly satisfactory except that only one end of the ferry could be used for loading and unloading: hence a vehicle had to either drive on and back off or back on and drive off.

Arnold Agassiz joined "Bud" in 1966 and they operated on eight hour shift. Webb Hanlon and Chris Newhook also substituted when necessary. Many conveniences have been added throughout the years to improve working conditions. A gas engine replaced hand-cranking, then the diesel engine and now the hydraulic lift, which made operating the ferry far easier. Ferrymen's homes became modern and the salary improved to the extent it provided a comfortable livelihood. Fees for crossing after midnight increased to $3.00.

"Bud" served as ferryman for fourteen years and Arnold for nine. Bud and Alice Ward and two daughters, Marlene and Janice, as well as Arnold took

First ferry at Maymont

an active part in their community. Alice made the grounds around the ferry home a beautiful place to see, with lovely flowers.

When the ferry closed the Wards were transferred to Cecil Ferry, twelve miles or so east of Prince Albert.

A great convenience to Maymont and Sorensgeldis area, the ferry operated during the spring, summer and fall; except when winds were high and crossing was hazardous. In winter people crossed the river on the ice, at their own risk — usually a path was staked out on either side of a road when the ice was thick enough.

When freezing ice or ice break up during fall and spring prevented the crossing, a box pulled across on the hand operated cable from one tower to the other across the river was used. This was often how Doc Scratch visited his patients on the south side. He would then drive Rube's car, or be met by someone and taken to the patient's home — Mrs. Bill Mansell often went with him as she was a local midwife.

The Maymont Ferry made its last crossing October 17th, 1979 and it was pulled from the icy waters on the North Saskatchewan on October 18. The ferry was eventually loaded on a truck and transported to Wingard.

Maymont Library

On October 28, 1970 the village of Maymont passed a by-law to establish a library in a small building on lot 31, block 1, west of the United Church.

Mrs. Sharon Boyd was elected as the first librarian with volunteer assistants.

Books came from the Provincial Library in Regina. In August, 1972 the Maymont Library joined the Regional Library System and became branch No. 4 of the Lakeland Library Region.

Mrs. Catherine Karpan became head librarian with Mrs. Nellie Curry and Mrs. Gladys Brehon as assistants. The first board members were Rev. F. Myers, Mr. Don Woomss, Mr. Harvey Johnston, Mrs. Gladys Brebeo, Mrs. Catherine Karpan and Mrs. Betty Mahler.

In January, 1975 it was decided the small building was inadequate so plans were made for a larger space. The old locker plant building was renovated and room was left in the front for new library facilities.

This was an exciting time for the librarians and board members, visiting the new facilities, measuring for curtains, planning spaces for the furniture and places for book boxes and storage.

Books and other library materials were moved to the new location in March, 1976.

The library was officially opened on Nov. 1976 with Mr. Dennis Banda, M.L.A. cutting the ribbon.

The library is used for craft displays, community college classes, meetings and story hours. The story hour is held for children from 3 to 5 years. Story hour leaders have been Sharon Hattle, Eva Greenslade and the present leader is Mrs. Cathie McLeod. There are usually from five to fifteen children in attendance.

Each summer holidays a summer reading program is held for children fourteen years and under. Each year there is a different theme. In 1979, 21 children took part in the program.

The library makes use of the "Talking Books" service provided by the Provincial Library and the C.N.I.B. These are stories in cassette form and are available to people who are unable to read printed books because of poor eyesight.

There are always Large Print Books in the branch for those who cannot read the finer print.

The Maymont Branch has two books in its collection written by local residents.

To First the Daily Bread — by Gerhard A. and Jacob H. Fast and Homestead Hardships — by Norman Andrew.

The Maymont Branch actively participates each year in different activities during Saskatchewan Library Week. Last year there were over 70 entries in the photography contest.

On June 1, 1977 Mrs. Catherine Karpan resigned as librarian and the position was filled by Mrs. Gladys Brehon. In Jan. 1978 Eva Greenslade became the assistant.

In 1978 there were 271 registered borrowers and 6,300 books and other materials were circulated.

Present board members are Gertie Sharman, Chairman, Mrs. Gladys Brehon, Secretary, Mrs. Charlotte Gallait, Mrs. Betty Ferns, Mrs. Doreen Schmidt, Mrs. Cathie McLeod, and Mr. Harvey Johnston.

The board members undertook the task of compiling this book as a project to celebrate Saskatchewan's Diamond Jubilee in 1980.

We wish you pleasant and enjoyable reading.

Maymont Memorial Hall

The rehabilitation committee composed of twenty-two citizens called a public meeting on April 23, 1948, in the Orange Hall, to decide on a suitable war memorial. Of the many projects suggested at this meeting, the majority of citizens favoured the building of a hall which would be known as the Maymont Memorial Hall Co-operative Association Limited. Shares were sold at five dollars each and three lots were bought west of main street on Second Avenue where the hall still stands to this day.

The first officers for the Maymont Memorial Hall were president — Charles Randall, vice-president — George Holler, secretary-treasurer — Ken DeLong, and the directors were Lollie Brehon, Thomas Turner, Herbert Johnston, Andrew Melrose, Tom Sawyer, and Clarence Reid.

Western Construction Co. were hired to dig the basement which they did free of charge. A bee was

Maymont Memorial Hall, 1979

held, and local truckers hauled a considerable amount of gravel from a pit south of Flaxley in return for which some ratepayers received gas and oil for their trucks. Gilbert and Wilson, Architects, of Saskatoon, were employed, and when plans were received, the directors and ladies met to study and discuss the plans and made what changes they felt should be made. After many trips between the architects' and the local committee, a plan for a building 60 ft. by 78 ft., with a full-sized basement, was agreed upon.

A real crew of men turned out in June, 1946, with trucks and a tractor to haul more gravel from a pit on the concession line south of Flaxley. A ramp was built so the trucks could be loaded using a tractor and slip, making it possible to haul a lot of gravel in short order.

A car of lumber had been ordered through the local lumberyard, owned at the time by Walter Antonenko, and iron rods for reinforcing the cement foundation were procured from people who had bought elevator annexes. Nails were procured wherever possible as they were in short supply at that time. A small barn was bought on the west side of town to store supplies which included a car load of cement. The barn was later sold when there was no longer any need of it.

Buildings were being dismantled at the North Battleford Airport so a local committee bought doors, windows and a large quantity of tongue and groove 2" by 4". While there, they were told by an official that there was a possibility of an H hut being for sale. The H hut consisted of two wings 34 ft. by 120 ft. long and a connecting section between the two measuring 34 ft. by 60 ft. long. The committee immediately applied for the building. Meanwhile during the next few months, the committee concentrated on raising funds through teas, bake sales, concerts, a white elephant sale and raffles. Various organizations donated money as did several individuals.

Finally word came from the Saskatchewan Reconstruction Corporation in Regina that the committee could purchase the hut. Immediately the committee held a meeting and decided to buy the hut with money loaned by private individuals. This money was later paid back in full or in part and some left as a donation, as the lenders wished.

Ken DeLong was appointed to take charge of the dismantling of the H hut, look after the sale of surplus materials and manage the construction of the Memorial Hall. The dismantling of the H hut began in August, 1947, with from two to seventeen men traveling to the North Battleford Airport every day to help. Each one took their own dinner, and tea was made there on a camp stove. The shingles were saved and bundled in a shingle press, made locally, and there were very few wasted. Work at the airport stopped the end of September for the winter and, at that time, all of one of the 120 ft. wings and all but one ply of lumber of the 60 ft. section had been dismantled.

A carpenter, Conway Bahr, of Langham, Sask. was hired with his son as a helper and, with additional volunteer labour, the forms for the foundation were set up. Then a tea was organized and the cement was poured in two days. When work stopped for the winter on November 30, the floor had been poured, the ground floor layed and the walls of the building were up with one ply of lumber on.

The ladies of the community were right there doing their part as well and saw that the men had coffee and lunch every day, which was always greatly appreciated.

By the end of 1947, funds had dwindled considerably, but there was a lot of material for sale.

Dismantling of the H hut began again the end of April, 1948, with plenty of volunteer labour as always. The roads were really terrible that spring, and since large portions of Hwy. 5 were under water, the men travelled to the airport via Hwy. 40. Work continued there until June, then the carpenter returned to Maymont and work began again on the Hall with Clarence Reed as manager. Help came teeming in, as always, with hammers and saws; and many who could not leave their own jobs hired some one to take their place.

Ed Buhr allowed the men to use his garage and tools and lent a hand to make bolts which were needed in quantity in the trestle work. Harold Curry, the local electrician, did the wiring of the hall, labour free, and Tom Sawyer supplied lighting fixtures.

Several ladies from various organizations discussed the plan for the kitchen. By November, 1948, the hall was far enough completed so that meetings could be held in it. At the time, three of our local citizens, Louis Karpen, Marcus Van Der Hooghen and Tom Sawyer bought a motion picture machine, complete, and sold it to the hall directors at cost, interest free, to be paid for from profits of shows. This arrangement proved very satisfactory.

Two used stoker furnaces provided heat for several years. A local citizen supplied the paint and a painting

[illegible] was organized with both men and women working to paint the interior of the hall. A stage was built and one of the ladies' organizations supplied curtains for it and for the windows. Benches were built for seats for the auditorium and banquet room, and stoves and dishes were donated for the kitchen.

By the end of 1948 after $6,700.00 had been spent, we had a hall not entirely completed but well enough finished so that it could be used, and there was the whole sum of $200.00 in the bank.

A piano was needed and, as usual, a few individuals put up the money that were paid back as funds became available.

The eaves troughs and rain coat of stucco were put on in the fall of 1949, and the next year the decorating was finished and a flag pole put up.

One of the ladies' organizations donated four tables and another person paid for having the auditorium floor sanded. Former residents of Maymont now living in Manitoba donated an electric clock.

By 1951, there were several committees working for the hall in different ways – the Ladies Work Committee, the Entertainment Committee and the Ladies Improvement Committee. With the various purposes and each of these committees bringing in a little money, it amounted to a lot at the end of the year. The older organizations in the community donated to the hall as well for which the directors were always most grateful.

During 1954 the directors and committees devoted most of their time and efforts towards furnishing the kitchen and paying off accumulated debts.

Early in 1955, an automatic electric oil furnace with a forced-air fan was installed at a sizeable amount of money. Due thanks to an individual back the coal was taken care of and the loan paid back as money became available.

From then home on, the directors and hall committees have continued to add improvements and conveniences to make the hall function even further.

In the basement, sanitary toilets were installed as the ladies' rest room and were used for many years until the sewer and water were put in and flush toilets were installed.

More extra kitchen space was needed, so an extra foot of space was taken off the end of the banquet room to enlarge the kitchen during the winter of 1956-57. A counter was built along a good portion of this wall, shelves were put up to set plates, etc., as well as three extra cupboards were built for the stoves. A wooden floor covered with linoleum was laid and in 1958 when the sewer and water were completed, two double sinks were installed. That was indeed a great day with no more need of carrying in water which had to be heated in boilers on the stoves and then the dirty water carried out again after the event was over. The plumbing was done by Earl Nethercott, the local plumber at that time. New doors and locks were installed, the main doors having been built and hung in 1952, and, in 1958, regulations specified that panic bars were needed on the doors, so they were put on.

In 1958, a local store keeper supplied a good record player at wholesale price for area dances but at the last minute he was offered what they wanted and never knew the record player disappeared from the hall.

By 1963 a new floor was needed in the auditorium, so a quantity of used hardwood flooring was purchased from a contractor in Saskatoon. The floor was layed by Holsworth and Sons of North Battleford, along with volunteer help. It was then sanded and painted with raw oil. Ten years later it was again sanded and given another coating of linseed oil.

The tar and gravel roofing on the flat portion of the roof gave a great deal of trouble for many years. Everytime there was a thaw or it rained the roof would leak, and although many methods of "patching" were tried, some were really successful for very long. So, in 1971, the directors bought a portion of the old curling rink, dismantled it, then used the lumber to build a low pitch roof over the flat portion of the hall roof, then shingled it with asphalt shingles. Mahonor Nemeth was the carpenter assisted by volunteers.

Now that the roof was repaired, it was decided to do the ceiling of the auditorium. Then in 1973 the stage was redecorated with panel board and in turn, the main walls of the auditorium were repainted.

A large coffee percolator was donated to the hall kitchen. A ladies' group bought a second and soon there was a need for even a third largest percolator the hall committee purchased a hundred cup size percolator. Some folks say you can't beat the flavour of coffee made in a boiler, but the perks sure simplify the making of a large quantity of coffee.

A great deal of catering is done by the various organizations for banquets, suppers, wedding receptions, etc. which requires a lot of table space. In 1974, the men built fourteen new tables with folding metal legs to replace the rather cumbersome table tops that were set up on three trestles each, an energy and time consuming task. As the new tables were in use it was decided to buy stacking chairs to replace the old benches. Many folks debated the price of one or two chairs or more to keep costs in pennies to buy a hundred and ten chairs and then, in 1975 two groups donated enough money to buy another hundred chairs to fill the need in the banquet room and replace benches in the auditorium.

A used two burner propane cook stove was bought and installed in the kitchen in 1976 to replace the two old battered wood stoves. The gas stove had at one time been used at the Farm Camps and Co-op Schools at North Battleford.

In 1978, the hall was given a real spruce-up when the entire exterior was painted for the first time since it was built. What a wonderful improvement!

With the price of fuel getting so high, the directors, in an attempt to conserve heat, insulated the basement ceiling and some of the walls that had not been in-

sulated previously and covered them with plaster board. Since wood is no longer used, the partition was taken out so the wood room could be used for more kitchen space. The fuel tank was moved outside as well. Immediate plans are to insulate and line the furnace room to meet fire regulations.

This is the basic story of our Memorial Hall. No other centre in the community, however important or necessary, can serve as adequately as the hall. The continued support through donations and volunteer labour when needed proves how proud the people are of their hall and that they want to see it continue to operate.

The present directors of the hall are president — Harvey Johnston, secretary-treasurer — Cellet Brahon (has served 24 years as a director), and the directors are Dale Beaudoin, George Breboe, Don Spence, Bill Melrose, George Tabay, Wilbur Peden, Roy Rogers and Ron Millman.

Maymont Rural Telephone Company

The organizational meeting of the Maymont Rural Telephone Company was held in Ebenia School April 22nd, 1913. H. Christifield, B. Smith, H. C. Langley and Percy Knowles were appointed provisional directors with P. Knowles being secretary-treasurer. At the directors meeting which followed the organizational meeting, a motion was passed to employ A. E. Potter to canvas the district for telephone subscribers. He used his own horse and rig and was paid five dollars a day for two weeks.

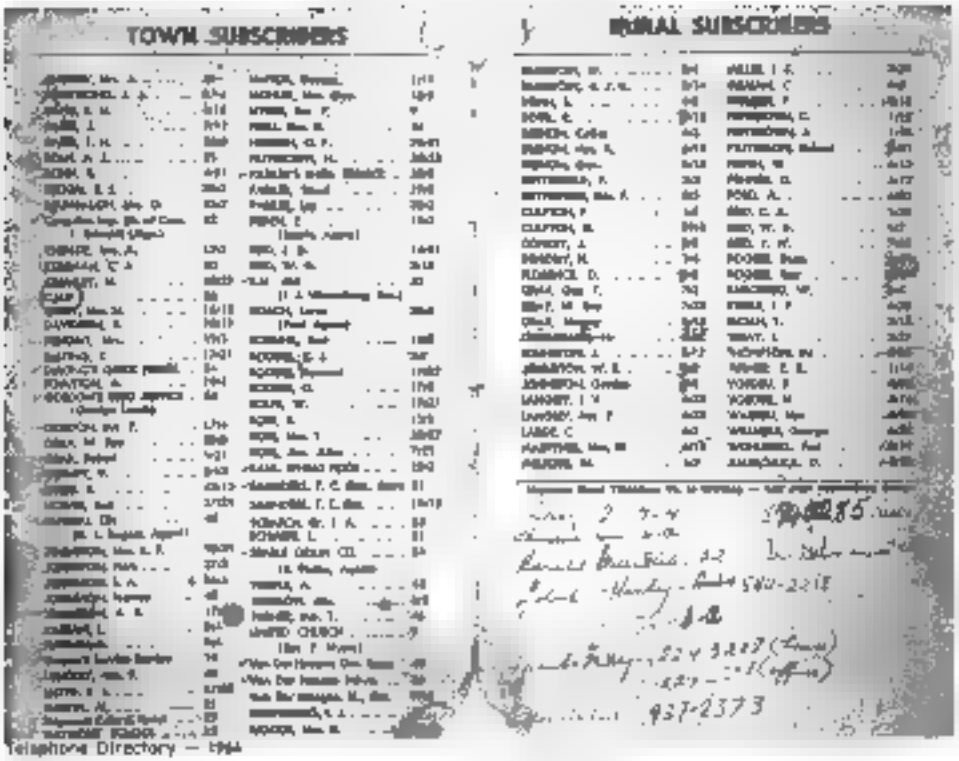
The area of the telephone company had to be cut down to meet the requirements of the Department of Telephone which meant township 42 was cut off and those who had paid their shares had their money refunded.

Money was raised through the sale of debentures, then Murphy and Richardson were hired to build a complete telephone system, with a ten line switchboard according to the approved government plan. The work was to be completed by Sept. 15, 1914 at a cost of $8,500.

Debra Davis was hired as the first operator and was paid thirty dollars a month. The hours were from 7 A.M. to 8 P.M. during the week and 8 A.M. to 11 P.M. on Sundays.

SOUTH MAYMONT SUBSCRIBERS

[illegible]	1403	[illegible]	1013
[illegible]	1403	[illegible]	
[illegible]	1403	[illegible]	1013
[illegible]	1403	[illegible]	1013
[illegible]	1403	[illegible]	1013



Telephone Directory — 1964

The upkeep in 1918 was twelve dollars a year for the rural subscribers. The Village of Maymont paid nothing toward the use of the operator for the first three years.

In Feb. 1918 the board of directors were increased to ten with the following being elected. Tom Sawyer, George Holler, Tom Bates, Will Langley, Alec Brehon, T. Nethrows, Tom Turner, Will Barrett, J. Davis and W. J. Mawhinney. George Banting was appointed secretary and Frank Gilbert line repairman. J. Moffatt audited the books from the time the company was organized.

At the directors meeting which followed, A. C. Brehon was elected president replacing W. G. Porter who had served since the beginning of the Maymont Rural Telephone Company. The secretary's salary was set at one dollar per phone while Frank Gilbert was paid at the rate of fifty cents per hour and fifteen cents per mile.

The first central office was in a small building directly south of the former Bank of Commerce, on Main Street, then in 1919 a lot was procured just north, near the Orange Hall. A house was built on the lot by Art Martin, the local carpenter at that time, and a room in the front corner of the house was set up as the first Central Office.

Robert Downing took over as telephone operator in 1918.

That same year the telephone system was extended to include the Spruce Hill area and it was known as the South Maymont Telephone System. The Maymont Rural Telephone Company paid one quarter, the Maymont Town Council paid one quarter and the South Maymont Rural Telephone Company paid the remaining half of the cost of the new poles laid down in Maymont to build the extension of the system. The office hours were changed to run from 8:30 A.M. to 10 P.M. on weekdays 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. on Sundays, and the office was closed on public holidays. A caller was charged 25¢ for any call made out of regular hours, the money for same went to the operator. He also collected the long distance fees for the Telephone Company. The operator now received a salary of ninety dollars per month.

In 1919, Robert Downing took over as telephone repairman at the rate of $1.50 per phone. The upkeep

was raised to twenty dollars a year payable in advance. The secretary was paid two dollars a phone for keeping books.

The South Maymont Telephone Company rent the telephone office in Maymont and paid for the operator's salary and the cost of maintaining the office on a pro rata basis. They also paid for half the tools used by the linemen.

Every year the directors were faced with the problem of collecting arrears and were forced to disconnect some phones when warnings of such action did not bring results.

By 1921, the switchboard was giving problems and the South Maymont Company complained of getting poor service. Buying a new switchboard was discussed but a representative from the Northern Electric Company advised the directors that the present switchboard could be repaired to give first class service, as it was repaired.

Early in 1921, the C.N.R. connected their pumphouse phone to line seven of the Maymont Telephone Company system and paid the same rental as other subscribers.

Occasionally when an important event was to take place in the community or if an emergency came up the telephone operator would put out a general ring on all lines and give the message to everyone in a very short time. This is a service that is lacking in our modern day telephone system.

In 1925 a telephone was installed at the Maymont Ferry by means of a temporary wire attached to extra posts along the fence. The directors advertised a reward of twenty-five dollars to be paid to anyone giving information leading to the conviction of anyone damaging the property of the Telephone Company.

A new switchboard was bought in the fall of 1927 for which the Maymont Telephone Company paid the cost of the installation less the cost of the Government man's work and the F.U.B.

Consideration was given to amalgamating with Pleistig and Ruddell but this did not come about.

To help the company as well as subscribers in arrears, the directors decided to allow seventy-five cents a pole for re-setting poles, with no person being allowed more than two arrears. This was done in the summer of 1930, and again in 1935 with Robert Downing in charge of the re-setting. He was paid 35¢ per hour.

J. Miller was elected President in 1931, replacing Alec Brehon and in 1934, Frank Butterfield Jr. was elected President. Several secretaries served the company over the years, namely P. Knowles, George Hastings, S. J. Thorntenson, J. D. Blackbeck, R. B. Dyson, D. Philpott, Ed Dobbins and C. A. Coleman.

Robert Downing decided to leave Maymont in 1933, and at the telephone directors meeting on Feb. 10, 1934, the tender of A. J. Cassidy for the position of operator and lineman was accepted.

Rental rates for 1933 were eighty cents a month for each phone in use. Mr. Cassidy did the collecting charging sixty-five cents and paying the remaining fifteen cents into the company account. Any person not paying by the seventh of each month received no service through Central. The operator also collected the long distance fees, retaining a portion and paid the remainder to Government Telephones.

In 1942, Mr. Cassidy was granted a leave-of-absence to serve in the war effort. Mrs. Cassidy carried on as operator with the help of her daughters Eileen and Lena. Mrs. Cassidy also became secretary-treasurer for the Maymont Rural Telephone Co., a position she held for many years.

Frank Butterfield Jr. was appointed in Nov. 1943, to go over all the telephone lines to cut brush, re-set poles and put on insulators where needed.

In July 1947 the directors asked Mr. Cassidy to see about having the Central Office and the residence rewired. This work was done by Harold Curry. A new volt meter was purchased that year.

Calbet Brehon was elected vice-president in Dec. 1946 after having served as director of line five for five years, and was elected president in Dec. 1948. The operator's salary was increased to one dollar and ten cents a phone per month in 1948 and the rentals were $18.00 per year for a regular phone and $21.20 a year for a business phone.

A ringing machine was connected to the switchboard in 1951 which made the work of the operator easier and the rings more distinct.

The telephone office residence was insulated by a professional crew who blew the insulation into the walls and ceiling. A porch for the office was built at the same time by volunteer help, this was built in sections so it could be removed in the summer time. This work was all done in 1953.

Water seeping into the basement became such a problem in 1956 an automatic sump pump was installed in the basement thus eliminating the necessity of carrying out as many as seventy pails of water a day from the basement.

Lots 18 and 19 in Block 7 were purchased from Herbert Brumbaugh for the sum of $100.00. A small building on one of the lots was used as a storage shed for repair material and poles were stored on the lots also.

The roof over the kitchen of the Telephone Co. dwelling began leaking and Laurie Curry was hired to do a major repair job on the roof. New lumber was put on and asphalt shingles applied and new plaster board was put on the ceiling of the kitchen in 1964.

That same year, the Rural Municipality paid for the setting back from the road of the telephone line in preparation for the building of the grid road north from Maymont.

The secretary's salary was $50.00 per year until 1960, when it was raised to $75.00 per year. The upkeep was raised to $18.00 for regular phones and $21.00 for business phones per year.

A new coat of white paint and green trim was applied by Neil Gelineault in 1981, giving the telephone house a real face lift. Two new combination outside entrance doors were hung as well.

John Lanier of Marcelin was hired in 1900 to rebuild all the Maymont Rural telephone lines. Ten year term debentures were sold to raise the necessary funds. A stronger steel wire was strung, so that twenty-two poles were required per mile rather than the previous thirty-two poles. At this time seven subscribers from Fielding were connected into the Maymont telephone system.

Early in Feb. 1907, the telephone company suffered a tremendous loss with the sudden death of A. J. Cassidy. He had been a very dedicated operator and lineman for thirty-one years, giving of himself much beyond the call of duty for the community he served. Right behind him all the way was his wife, Grace, who spent many, many hours at the switchboard and served as secretary-treasurer of the Maymont Rural Telephone Co. for twenty-five years. The Cassidy's daughters, Eileen and Lois, also often helped out at the switchboard when at home.

Mrs. Cassidy's health was not good at the time of Art's death, so two operators, Mary Foster of Spears and Dale Schmidt of Ruddell were hired to carry on at the Central office.

The telephone directors turned to Government Telephones in Regina for help in hiring and paying a new operator. Myles McDonald, owner of the Imperial Hotel at that time, was hired as operator, secretary-treasurer and lineman. The switchboard was moved to the waiting room of the hotel which was set up as the Central office. The directors remained responsible for the upkeep of the rural lines. A community social evening was held to honor and pay tribute to Mrs. Cassidy and her late husband for their many years of faithful service and an engraved tray was presented to Mrs. Cassidy by the directors.

In 1908, Mrs. Robert Johnston became the operator and the Central office was moved to her home, the former Lloyd Parker residence, just south of the hotel. Jim Foster of Spears built a few miles of line and did some repair work until Charlie Baker of Richard was hired as lineman, a position he held until the company dissolved in 1977.

Dennis Kennedyke was secretary-treasurer from June 1908 to July 1910, then Merle Johnston took over the position which she held until the system was turned over to Sask.-Tel.

Dial phones were installed and on Nov. 25, 1910 at 2 P.M. the dial system went into operation with 24 hour service. A telephone 'school' was held the previous day in the Memorial Hall where instructors from Sask.-Tel explained how to use the new dial phones. However, many a call to the neighbors became a very frustrating operation until one remembered to dial the number, then hang up when it started ringing, until the other party answered, then lift the receiver, push the earpiece to make the necessary connection. If you forgot to push the receiver, only the caller could hear the other party. At such times fond memories of the local telephone operators were often recalled.

With the change over to dials, the districts of Bellerose, Lilac, Ruddell and Spinney Hill were connected into the system. A few years later Bellerose and Spinney Hill were dropped from this system and connected to other Centrals. Since it was no longer necessary to use the switchboard, it was donated to the Western Development Museum at North Battleford.

In 1974, the Ruddell, Richard, Speers and Maymont Telephone Companies bought a cable plow on equal shares. Mainly due to depleted funds little use of the plow was made by the Maymont Company.

At a social function in Nov. 1975, the directors paid tribute to Colles Brehon for his many years of service to the company as director and president. Colles remained as president until the company ceased to exist.

At a public meeting the majority were in favor of turning the entire operation and assets of the Maymont Rural Telephone Company over to Sask.-Tel. Not long after that, Sask.-Tel had buried cable throughout the entire system, and the lines were divided so that there are no more than four subscribers on one line. Several private phones were installed as well. Sask.-Tel officially took over on Oct. 1st, 1977 and the Maymont Company ceased to exist.

Our twenty-four hour dial telephone service is paid for on a monthly basis, and there are no longer any telephone land lines.

Maymont School District No. 1565

submitted by Elizabeth Clayton

The Maymont School District was organized in the winter of 1906 and 1907 with Harry Dawson as secretary.

One acre of land was purchased from J. J. Reed and a school was built in April, 1907. H. D. Eby was the contractor.

Miss Ina Melrose was first teacher and John Reed was first caretaker. In the spring of 1908, Percy H. Knowles was appointed as secretary. In the spring of

Maymont School — 1929.

Maymont High School — Teacher, Mr. Morgenroth.

1912 a second room was built by F. Wilkin as contractor.

A third room was opened in the United Church basement in August, 1919. The juniors went to school there until the fall of 1922.

In the spring of 1925 between three and four acres of land was purchased from the Town Site for a school site. A contract was let to Warwick and Evans to make a full-sized basement, move the present two rooms to the new site, and build another room. All this was done at a cost of approximately ten thousand dollars. The junior room was then moved from the church basement to the new school.

In May, 1930 P. E. Knowles left for Vancouver and P. T. McCorkle was appointed as secretary.

At this time the school owed three hundred dollars as an overdraft and a debenture indebtedness of eighteen hundred dollars. The tax mill rate at this time stood at 13.5 for the village and 13.4 for the rural area. By 1950 the overdraft, debenture indebtedness, and cost of the new school had been paid.

In the summer of 1936 a new chemistry room was added to the school at a cost of one thousand dollars.

In January, 1942, this had been paid, and there is a credit balance to the district of three thousand dollars. The mill rate has been reduced to 7.75 mills for the village and 5.9 mills for the rural area.

In January, 1942 Mrs. J. D. Blacklock was appointed secretary. Mrs. Blacklock held that position until 1956. Mrs. Nellie Curry took over the duties of secretary and held that position until 1963.

Miss Audrey Page was hired in 1942 at a salary of one thousand dollars per annum. Miss Page taught school in Maymont until 1962. In September of 1963 Mr. J. Armstrong took over as principal and continued in this position until June of 1967. During Mr. Armstrong's tenure at the Annual Meeting in April, 1964 a resolution was put forth stating the need for a new Central School to be built preferably in Maymont as the enrollment necessitated this move. The following year a school was moved into the yard to take the overflow students. Finally in February, 1966 the local board went as a delegation to the Unit Board to press for a new school. It was a successful trip as a new school was to be started and built for the following year 1967. It was to be a six-room school.

An additional four acres of land had been purchased to the south of the school yard two years previously in 1956 for more playground area. The old school was bought by Howard Rogers before construction of the new school and was moved just behind the school yard to his present farm site.

In April of 1963 Mrs. Vera Gray took over duties as secretary from Mrs. Nellie Curry and continued this position until 1967. At an Annual Meeting in March of 1966 it was decided to dissolve the present three member school board and make it into the larger Central School Board consisting of nine members, with five members from Maymont School District and the other four from the surrounding area divided in four divisions equally — Fielding, Calais and Beckwith; Paddell, Lilac and Wayne Bank; Richard, Prolific, Bromley and Ebonia, Gray, Neepawa and Keystone.

As Mr. J. Armstrong retired in 1967, Mrs. Wolmbyn was hired as principal. She served from 1967-1968 when Mr. Byrd took over in 1968-1971. Mr. B. Mutkiskas was

hired in 1973 till 1974. Our present principal, Mr. Denis Dube took over in 1974

It has been noted through the years that some of our local students have made a name for themselves. Four of our students namely — Audrey Ferris, Brian Spence, Linda Voegeli and Leslie Hrdlon appeared on television on "Reach for the Top" to play off for the Provincial Finals. The school really benefitted from their endeavors as numerous valuable books were added to the library as their prizes.

Over-crowding was again a factor in the early seventies so in the fall of 1971 two portable rooms were attached to the present school. As our attendance hasn't fluctuated that much over the years, the need for them is still there and they are presently still part of our school.

As it was felt that small communities should have the same advantage as larger centres a delegation of the local board made a trip to Regina to meet the Minister of Education to see about the possibilities of obtaining an Auditorium-Gymnasium and Resource Centre for the school. The trip was quite successful for in the summer of 1972 the new gym was started and the Official Opening took place March 15, 1973. Over the years it has been proven that it was a real necessity.

In June of 1977, Mrs. Vera Gray resigned as secretary and Mrs. Elizabeth Clayton has taken over her duties. It has been noted that since records began only seven secretaries have held that position.

This history of the Maymont School just covers the highlights as many interesting activities such as "Drama Night", Sporting Events, Student Sponsored Parent-Student Suppers, Tours, etc. have taken over the years. To mention all things that have happened in this most important institution of learning would be a book in itself.

Maymont Wheat Pool

The original Pool elevator at this point was the old Maymont 'A' elevator. It was built in 1917 by the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company and acquired by the Pool in the late 20's (probably between 1928 and 1929 when most of these Co-op elevators were turned over to the fledgling Pool). It was an elevator with a 30,000 bushel storage capacity and later, in 1934, had a crib annex built onto it for an additional 20,000 bushels of storage capacity.

The 'A' elevator was rebuilt by a Pool crew in 1959 and the old elevator turned into a crib annex to the new elevator. The new elevator had a capacity of 50,000 bushels (1 403 tonnes) and the old elevator, by then, only 35,000 bushels.

Saskatchewan Pool then acquired two more elevators the 'B' and 'C' elevators in a package deal (along with an old coal shed) in 1960 from Federal Grain. The Maymont 'B' was built in 1915 and had a storage capacity of 24,000 bushels. The Maymont 'C' was also built in 1915 and had a storage capacity of 20,000 bushels. It also had a 12,000 bushel crib annex at the time of the Pool purchase, but when that was built as well as who built these two elevators, was unable to be determined.

All three old elevators, the old 'A' the 'B' and 'C', at Maymont were dismantled and their salvaged materials used in the construction of a 100,000 bushel crib annex to the new 'A' elevator (2 803 tonnes). It also received major renovations and was upgraded to high throughput standards in 1976. Total capacity at the point is now 150,000 bushels (4 202 tonnes).

The Maymont Pool dwelling, a one-storey 26 by 42-foot house, was built in 1967 by a Pool crew. The old dwelling, a 22 by 32 foot, two bedroom home, was sold the year the new one was built.

The following is a list of some of the original shareholders in 1928. Mr. A. J. McFhail was President of the Wheat Pool at that time.

Andrew, A. J. 406-202
Ashley, Jas. 406-015
Bates T. R 406-016
Beckton, Mac 406-018
Brebon A. C. 406-029
Bates, James 406-036
Bowskill, Chas. 406-027
Collins, F. 406-045
Cooksy J. A. 406-053
Cook W. E. 406-046
Coombs H. 406-296
Courtier J. W. 406-044
Demomy H. 406-061
Ducharme J. 406-060
Edge W. A. F. 406-058
Fiet J. A. 406-220
Fry P. E. 406-076
Gilliard F. 406-077
Gray W. G. 406-080
Haller G. W. 406-091
Holmes Wm. H. 406-088
Johnston R. 406-102
Johnston A. E. 406-097
Johnston H. 406-101
James E. 406-098
Johnson L. E. 406-238
Johnston S. F. 406-202
Long Fred C. 406-215
MacKay D 406-120
Melrose A. A. 406-129
Melrose W. N. 406-128
Miller J. 406-131
Milnish Chas. 406-132
Mohler G. 406-133
Morse Robert 406-142
Nethrown H. 406-148
Nethrown T. G. 406-149
Nethrown S. 406-144
Osborne J. E. 406-146
Patterson J. A. 406-196
Perkin J. H. 406-150

Parker P. 406-224
Ramsey E. W. 406-134
Reid Andrew 406-157
Reid Lymon 406-205
Roble W. H. 406-161
Ralfs John 406-163
Ross Henry 406-162
Schmidt Wm. 406-170
Sloan J. A. L. 406-175
Sloan G. H. 406-174
Sowden Wm. B. 406-178
Taylor Jas. A. 406-186
Turner T. E. 406-194
Wohlberg P. 406-199

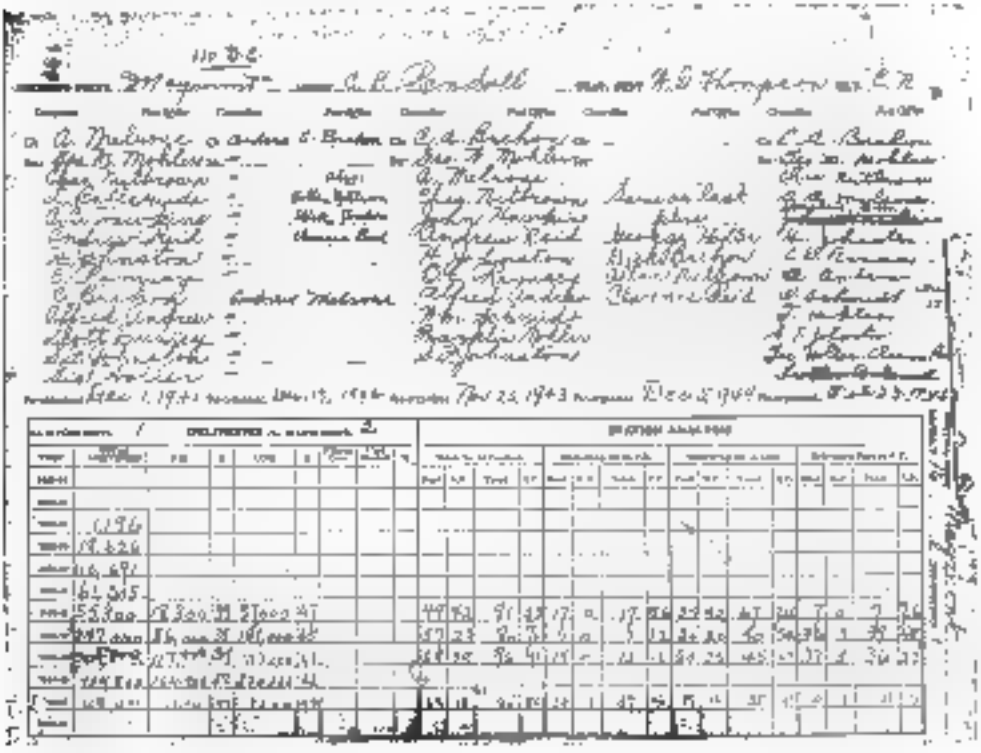
Names of the agents in the Pool elevators are:
J. B. Kerr — August 1, 1929 to June 11, 1934
H. N. Nye — June 11, 1935 to December 19, 1935
J. B. Kerr — December 19, 1935 to January 6, 1936
H. N. Nye — January 6, 1936 to November 1, 1938
W. H. Love — November 1, 1938 to May 22, 1941
C. B. Randall — May 22, 1941 to August 18, 1947
A. J. Despres — August 18, 1947 to July 26, 1948
R. B. Stein — July 26, 1948 to March 31, 1949
Frank Rogers — March 31, 1949 to October 17, 1951
W. D. Johnston — October 17, 1951 to June 30, 1958
L. C. Rauch — June 30, 1958 to present date.

Present members of the Maymont Wheat Pool Committee are: Chairman Ron Milman, vice-chairman Norman Voegeli, secretary Donald A. Spence, and members Dean Rogers, Allan Rogers, Dale Beaudoin, David Voegeli, Ken Zalevchuk, Andy Pelo, Russell Bapaduin, Chas Miller, and George Tetay, all of Maymont; and Victor, Henry and Paul Prescesky, all of Rudddell.

Photographers

Mr. Percy Barrett was the local photographer in the early years. He has left a splendid history in pictures of the early days.

He was followed by Miss Patterson and Mr. Nick Harvey.



The above is an interesting page from Pool records. In contrast, in the 1977-1978 crop year, there was a handling of 830,000 bushels of grain.

Pictures taken by Mr. Barnett and Mr. Harvey have been used in compiling this book.

Pioneers and Pensioners Association

Senior Citizens Recreation Centres have been started in almost every town in Sask. They are found in brand new buildings or older buildings that have been renovated, painted inside and out — largely through local donations, volunteer labor and federal and provincial funding.

Senior Citizens hour, 1978 - Bob Boyd and Wanda Peden in foreground.

Maymont also has its Senior Centre, one to be very proud of; this is located on Maymont's main street, formerly the municipal office. The first organizers called it The Pioneer and Pensioners Association, but it is more lovingly called the Senior Citizen's Centre and Lounge.

The first president in 1971 was Mr. William McCready with Mr. Louis Karpan the secretary-treasurer along with several directors. The building has two parts to it. The main front room is carpeted with a piano, kitchen area, shuffleboard and many items that have been donated or purchased, like tables, chairs, drapes, dishes, mirrors etc. — a picture of the "Bridge Opening" graces one wall.

The ladies do quilting in here, shuffleboard and carpet bowling, whist parties, parties and anniversaries are enjoyed.

The back room has a pool table, barber chair, and tables for card playing. The men usually consider this their domain where lively games of snooker, golf, pool, crib and sneer are played throughout the winter months. Some funny names given this area are "The Bear's Nest", "The Bear Pit" and others.

At present there are ninety-five members.

The Battleford Winter Games were held in Maymont in 1978, many seniors took part in the organizing and many more curled — played carpet bowling — shuffleboard and crib.

Maymont's team of Robert Gray, Ken Doolittle, Lily Reid and Emily Hawkins took a gold medal in Carpet Bowling .. Lucy Harris and Gordon Johnston the gold in Shuffleboard and Derby Reid and Jack Pates the gold in Crib.

One of the projects started in Maymont by the seniors is newspaper collecting, for the Battleford's Shelter Workshop.

Post Offices at Maymont

Mr. William Andrew was the first postmaster at Maymont and the post office was in Mr. Bean's store, with Mr. Bean as the assistant.

Then followed Mr. McLaren, who furnished his own office and was postmaster until 1908. He was followed by Mr. Alan Thorpe(spon until 1920, then Mr. Philpot until 1935.

For many years Chan and Min. Coleman ran the office in their home across from the station — where Mrs. Coleman still resides.

Harvey Johnston took over the Post Office in 1958 and retired in 1977. He had his office on Main Street close to the present Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce.

Bill and Darlene Malcolm followed him and now have the Post Office in their own home near the Memorial Hall.

Restaurants and Cafes

Mr. Ebey operated the first eating place, and Mr. Ben Carey had the first restaurant (just south of Mr. McCockle's garage). The business was sold to Mr. Ward. He sold it to Mr. Charley Wing, who was the first Oriental restaurant operator in Maymont. Later the business had the following managers: Messrs. Cockburn, Jack Suong, Ed Brown, Wes Holte, Dick Greenslade, L. Hegland, N. Crowley, Ted Raw, Carlton and Mike Raw.

Mrs. McNally, Mrs Price, and Mr. Hayman each respectively operated a restaurant across the street called the 'Tea Cup Inn'

An item of interest in connection with restaurants was that Mr. Patterson operated an ice-cream parlor in connection with his store, and made his own ice-cream.

Senior Citizens Low Rental Housing

submitted by Louis Karpan

Our senior citizen population had increased and accomodation in the village was unavailable. In 1974 a survey revealed that low rental accomodation was urgently needed, a caucus was made and a waiting list

prepared, and the village council made application to Saskatchewan Housing Corporation for assistance and guidance. A meeting was held in the Village of Maymont at 1 P.M. on July 15, 1975 to investigate the need and possibilities for housing for Senior Citizens in the village. Those present were Mayor William McCready, councillors Harvey Johnson, N. R. Bates and secretary-treasurer Louis Karpan together with Mr. S. Wood and Mr. G. Walderman representing Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation and Mr. C. L. Herriot representing Saskatchewan Housing Corporation.

The need was established and the project agreed upon was to consist of ten units of semi-detached duplex type with C.M.H.C. calling for tender. The village picked an excellent site Lots 4 to 14 in Block 11 and lots 8 and 9 in Block 12 for the project which is close to all services and close to recreation facilities which will be used by senior citizens. In 1976 plans presented by C.M.H.C. and Saskatchewan Housing Corporation were studied, discussed and approved and C.M.H.C. calling for contract, awarded the same to Lorman Construction (1965) Ltd. for the sum of $196,-365.00. The project to be financed by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation seventy-five percent, the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation twenty percent and the Village of Maymont five percent. The project was completed by December 15, 1977, a Housing Authority was set up and tenants were moving in.

Maymont Housing Authority is composed of five members — Mrs. Loyola VanDerHeegen Colles Brehon, Wilfred Johnston, Franklin Mohler who is also secretary and Louis Karpan who is chairman. The board appoints an administrator who is Louis Karpan.

The first tenants moved in December 15, 1977. The following are tenants.

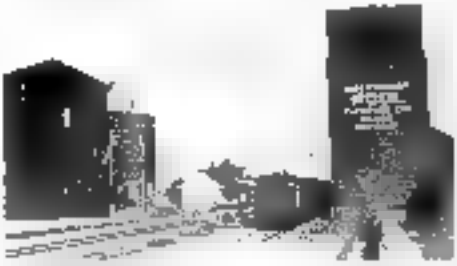
Mrs. Ethel Neill, Mr. Nick Sawyshyn, Mr. Stanley J. Long, Mrs. Constance Dallow, Mrs. Winnifred Corris, Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Webb, Mrs. Mary Rogers, Mrs. Merle Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. Mac Eachine and Helen Taylor.

We are proud of our Senior Citizens Low Rental Homes, it's a fine location, the homes are attractive and well landscaped. We are also proud of the way the tenants look after the property. The Housing Authority is grateful to tenants neighbors and the village council for their fine co-operation.

Sports

Maymont has always been a great community for sports. For years the annual ball tournament on May 24th has attracted crowds from far distant points. Hockey, football, curling, basketball, tennis and golf have all been a part of community life. To add to the list, the fun of cross-country skiing has become very popular in the area in the last couple of years. Probably the reason why sports have always been so

The ladies' 'ball team'. Back row — Abel Bean, Art Cassidy, Cupid Friedman, Will Reid, Front — Rev. F. Myers, Jack Blacklock, Mr. Morgenroth.



The old and the new water tower.

popular here is that the district was settled by a collection of sports minded pioneers.

The first organized sporting event was held as early as 1904, in the form of a basket picnic on land north-east of the town which later became the farm of Mr. Percy Bouskill. Settlers came from as far as 20 miles on foot, horseback, ox and horse-drawn wagons and even a few top buggies with snappy drivers to take in the big day. Little time was lost in getting the competitions under way, highlights being an impromptu football match and a baseball game featuring the New Quawa settlement from east of Spiritwood versus the local talent. Foot races, tug-of-war and a host of other competitions were indulged in, everyone capable of self-propulsion taking part. For the women, they enjoyed not only participating in the athletic events but also the rare opportunity to chat with others of their own age and exchange experiences and recipes until time to go home to their evening chores. The annual picnic was for many years the chief social event.

The first skating rink was made in 1907, and was a very worthy achievement considering all the water had to be hauled the five miles up from the river, all by volunteer labor. Those donating their time and teams were given free meals at the hotel and their teams were given free livery at the livery barn operated by Melrose and Reid. There was a lot of hockey talent

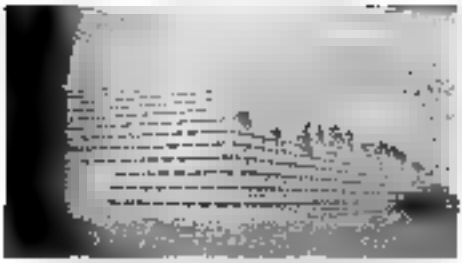
Ladies' baseball team. L. to r. — Mrs. Jean Martin, Mrs. Hickman, Mrs. Knight, Mrs. B. Dolden, Mrs. Lil Andrew, Mrs. E. Neill. Front — Olive Andrew.

among the first pioneers. The first team organized that year took the measure of every team between and including Leighton to Battleford. Candidates for the hockey hall of fame are Dr. Scratch, Bill Oliver and Lew Andrew, Walter Mawhinney, Fred Corveth, Archie Robertson, Harold Bride and Herb Fallow.

A good many of the settlers had played baseball before coming to this district so there was plenty of savvy to the first team which was formed the following summer. They seldom met their equal. Some of the original players were Doc Scratch, George Florence, Charles Wright, Walter Mawhinney, Charlie Bride, Earl Lockridge and Harold Bride. Football was a very popular game in the early days, one reason being that the only equipment needed was a ball, a pair of boots with their toes still intact, and a good set of lungs. It was not uncommon for a homesteader to walk behind the plow all day, then drive eight or ten miles in a wagon to have a game of football in the long summer evenings.

In 1908 a half mile race track was made on Section 29, just south of where the village now stands. Ploughs, disks and harrows were donated for the construction and as with the skating rink, all labor was voluntary, the Fields Melrose and Andrew brothers being particularly active in this project. Both harness and running races were very popular, and competition with horse owners from the neighbouring settlements had enthusiastic racers who owned a good horse or two. R. B. Harris of Fielding had "St. Alma", driven by Bill Shanks. Oldtimers will remember Bill on the cart with the inevitable half-smoked cigar in his mouth. Stan Miller also of Fielding owned Harry B." and for many years kept a stable of good blood horses. Charlie Johnston of Haddell had a very fine horse known as "Lord Roberts", and Joe Zimmerman of Madison always provided good competition. From across the river Spaney Hill was always represented by entries from Ben Lehner's stable. The most outstanding horse of the bunch was "Old Frank" owned by Bill

Maymont Polecats late 1930's. L. to r. — Doug Coleman, coach; Roy Gray, Shorty Porter, Harvey Johnston, Everett Downing, Gordon Johnston, Wendell Reid, Clarence Reid, Archie Reid, Donald McCorkle, Will Reid, Nathan Friedman, Manager; kneeling is Ray Walton. Standing at back is Noel Crawley, caretaker



150 men had the rink sheeted in in one day.

Sowden of the hotel in Maymont. Not renowned for beauty, Old Frank more than made up for this major defect by the manner in which he could cover the ground.

In addition to harness racing every sports day, there was always at least three heats of running races which attracted competitors from more distant points.

Besides the horse racing the early sports days featured other competitions such as ball games, foot races, pole vaulting and other track and field events.

Nearly everyone took part in some form of competition or other. This year Maymont held it's 76th annual Sports Day. Now however it takes the form of a ball tournament, with only a few participants and most of the people only spectators.

The winter months did not put an end to the recreational pursuits of the pioneers. The skating rink was always well patronized and parties and dances were always on the go in the school houses or in homes.

The open air skating rink was moved around from time to time. Jack Foster was one of the caretakers and shovelled snow many times to have the ice clean for the skaters.

Plans got underway in 1953 to build a new covered skating rink with a waiting room, dressing rooms for the hockey players and space for a concession. By April of 1954 the rafters were cut and the foundation was finished. The new Sports Centre emerged from foundation to completion in twelve working days.

Approximately 150 volunteer workmen turned out to complete the sheeting of the building in one day. At one time or another virtually every lady in the community took her turn at keeping lunch ready for the men. The community spirit was just as evident in 1954 as it was in 1936 when the first curling rink was built by volunteer labor.

From here submitted by C. S. Miller

In the fall of 1952, after taking off a poor crop, a group of interested citizens gathered in the Legion Hall to discuss the building of a skating rink. Moneywise, the task looked hopeless but a motion was made to build the rink if at all possible.

A committee was formed with Chester Miller as chairman and Lloyd Parker as secretary-treasurer.

The first task was to contact the contractor (Diener and Son of Watrous), as they built a new style, cheaper building.

Diener signed a contract to supervise the building of the rink for $1200.00 in the spring of 1953. A lot of miles were travelled that fall, looking at other rinks and ordering supplies. The total lumber bill was $10,000.00. Bolts, nails were etc. about $700.00.

For the next two years many functions in Maymont went toward financing the new rink. One first canvas netted less than $3000.00; walkathons, auction sales, a Purebred heifer raffle netted $875.00., the winter works program was a great help. The rink was completely paid for in two years.

In the spring of 1953, the rafters had to be cut and bolted together and put in place. The big day came on April 27th, when, with everyone's help, at 4:30 P.M. 150 men came face to face at the top of the building. The rink had been completely sheeted in in one day! All the boards for sheeting were cut with hand saws.

The Community Sports Centre is the hub of all activities in town from November thru March each year. We have Senior Hockey, Minor Hockey for all ages, and a very active Figure Skating Club of which the highlight is the Carnival in the spring. For many years the Queen contest raised money for the rink. The new curling rink was built beside the skating rink and now our winter sports activities were all in one area.

About 1965, the Youth and Recreation Board was organized, to help organize all sports and cultural activities and is still functioning at the present time.

Maymont Girl's Ball Team

Shirley Miller

When Harold Smith came to teach school in Maymont, about 1942, he started up a girl's ball team. We played at many sports days and won a lot of games.

Those who played during this time were: Lois

One of the Maymont girls' ball teams. Back row — Phyllis Johnston, Faye Huziak, Mel Turner, Cosy Cline, Florence Barchalk, Terry Rash, Lois Slynsky, Shirley Miller, Audrey DeLong.

Cassidy, Mary McDonald, Phyllis and Dorothy Gray, Velma Melrose, Lonnie Ross, Cory Johnston, Shirley and Melville Bright, Audrey DeLong, Fay Woods Florence Barchuk, Terry Rush, Iris Neill, Joyce Coleman, Maude and Myrtle Andrew, Vi McKay, Binky Saunders , Ev Turner, Gene Andrew, Dulcie Gray, Margaret Miller, Lou Bobs

After Mr. Smith left, other coaches were Roy Gray, Gordon Johnston and Muriel Brohm There could be more players that I have forgotten.

We joined in the North Battleford League, playing our games at the North Battleford Airport, and our home games at the sports grounds in Maymont. I believe we played twice a week.

Dr. Scratch Memorial Curling Rink

In 1969 the first sod was turned by Rev. Frank Myers to commence the construction of a new curling rink Mr. Ed Brown was president.

The rink which has two sheets of ice, was completed in 1971.

Opening of new curling rink. L. to r. — Ches Miller, Harvey Johnston, Ron Scratch, Franklin Mohler, Rev P. Myers, Aerial F. Sallows, Ed Brown.

As many as sixty-two volunteers worked on the rink in one day. The rink was supported not only by local people, but also by donations received from keener residents from coast to coast. "It was built by one hundred percent participation". A book remains in the rink, with all the names of the donors and also has a picture of Dr. Scratch and his two sons. The eldest Ron came for the official opening and threw the first rock.

Curling Rinks

In 1935 the first curling rink was built under the leadership of Rev. L. W. Schnell. Rev. Schnell is credited with being the person who had the most influence in its origin.

The cost was approximately 1,200. which was considered a small fortune in those years. Twenty-nine shareholders bought shares worth $350.00 and $50.00 was borrowed from Mr. George Holler. The lumber was purchased from McCorkle Lumber Yard and on a note which was paid in 1934. The rink was built entirely by volunteer labor.

The first curling season of 1936-37 had 16 pairs of rocks. The first bonspiel in 1937 had 24 rinks competing. Leith Ballerad skipped and won the first bonspiel. He was assisted by Mr and Mrs. Roy Gray, and Miss Freda Stockleburg (now Mrs. George Gray).

The first year ended with $355.00 owing and 132 active members. The rink was wired in 1937 but did not pass inspection. However, it was re-inspected in 1938 and approved.

The first president of the curling club was Rev L. W. Schnell with Mr. N. Whitaker as first secretary. Mr. N. Crowley was the first caretaker.

By the end of 1938 Mr. McCorkle had been paid in 1942 Mr. Holler had also been paid his loan of $350.00 (another $200.00 had been borrowed in 1938). General mixed bonspiels were held every year from 1936 on. The names of Cairns, C. Freedman, John Hope, Sid Golden and N. Whitaker will be remembered by the older generation of curlers

A new brick siding was put on the rink in 1952 by volunteer labor. In 1954 sixteen pairs of matched rocks were purchased from the Queen City Curling Stone Co. at a cost of $1,100. These rocks were paid for during the same year.

The rink was used until 1970 when plans got underway for a new covered curling rink. The old building was dismantled in 1971-72. Some of the material was purchased by the R.M. of Mayfield to build a shed, some was used to renovate the roof of the Memorial Hall and some of the material was purchased by a local farmer.

All Saints Church, Maymont

told by Evelyn Bates

The first Anglican Services in Maymont were held at the home of Mr. C. Milnan, Sr. In 1904 by student ministers who officiated until Reverend D. G. Schofield came in 1906. The Right Reverend Newnham, Bishop of Saskatchewan held a service in Grey School in 1906. This gave the ladies of the district the incentive to form a Guild and by parties on bazaars, etc., raised money to help build a "church" for Reverend Schofield. Then the work of the church was begun and with the help of a four hundred dollar gift from the Old Country and local subscriptions, the one thousand dollar church was opened and dedicated "All Saints" at an Easter service on April 11, 1909. One week later the W.A. was formed by Miss Newnham of Prince Albert, the sister of the Bishop. It has been going on ever since, with a name change to A.C.W.

The first couple to be married in the church were

All Saints' Parish Leaflet

Vol. 2 MAY, 1918 No. 18

"Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today, and forever."

SEND IN YOUR ORDER NOW FOR EAVESTROUGH, TANKS & FURNACE

You will need them next Summer or Fall. Make sure of getting them, because help is hard to get and every order accepted early, I can save time on, by making it up in the winter or Spring.

Special attention given to Steam, Hot Water and Hot Air Heating

HENRY TADEI Plumber & Tinsmith RADISSON Phone 24

BUTTER WRAPPERS

With your name and name of your farm printed, per 1000 lbs., $4.00; per 500 lbs., $2.00.

THE BATTLEFORD PRESS BATTLEFORD, SASK.

Front and back page from an Anglican Parish leaflet, 1918.

The Parsonage, Magnesia.
Tuesday, April 25th, 1916

My Dear Friends and Parishioners,

It is just a year ago today since I wrote the first letter in the Parish Leaflet. I then outlined it was with considerable misgivings that we launched the new venture. But the general response accorded to the leaflet each month has more than justified the initial step.

The main object in the issue of a Parish Leaflet was to keep our scattered people in touch with the life and activities of the Church, and also to further augment their interest by sending them a message from the Incumbent each month. One hundred have vanished to find that this object has been more than realised. That many who on account of advancing years or ill-health can only obtain relative the appeal of the Leaflet each month, testify daily to their gratitude for the Church and its services there.

Of necessity, such a small-sized Magazine pursues only very limited activities chiefly parochial & Personal nature, recording each Friday throughout the Parish as monthly example. Owing to the shortage of paper it has been found necessary to increase the Ordinary Number in the Parish. In order to accomplish the work entailed fully, an effort will be made [illegible] to visit personally with the whole field. A engagement of work for the month has been printed in this issue and I trust it will serve a double purpose, first, to remind the men of the whole Parish and the other that such Census is taken & becoming equal Pastoral Visitation. I would indeed be grateful if parishioners would notify me of any cases of sickness: this would avoid delay in visitation, and also help to keep me in sympathetic touch with all.

Already in the enlarged Parish, it has been found necessary to arrange the Leaflet in order to have additional space to cover both the services of the Parish. In order to meet the extra expense we will send [illegible] remembering all who are interested to subscribe 2/- each per year. This will cover postage and also help towards the cost of printing. I prefer the subscription to be voluntary as then I can still be saved from [illegible] of charge.

Commencing the first Wednesday in May, arrangements are being made to hold Confirmation classes in the Parish Church, Magnesia, at 8 p.m., immediately after the Intercession Service. Any candidates desirous to attend Confirmation will be there very glad to welcome [illegible] Confirmed, and also those who are interested in the [illegible] Confirmation. Those classes [illegible] Incumbent hopes that every candidate for Confirmation will be present at regular Confirmation Classes and the Classes designed so that the candidates may eventually fulfill the necessary conditions to be "Ready" and therefore Determined" to be Confirmed.

Before closing, I would add a word about Church attendances. Now that the days are more [illegible] and warmer the temptation no doubt comes to many to make use of the time and get out while the days are good. I suppose it is natural & [illegible] but particularly if Sunday is the only day we have for rest and recreation. Unfortunately the only too often interferes with Church attendance and if we can other people's pleasure than should [illegible] the Lord's House.

No matter what time of the day we keep our Services the same hour of daylight should help us in this respect. There will still be both time and daylight after Church to spend recreation.

Sunday we still have "Days of Rest and Gladness" in their best and [illegible] especially [illegible] "Sunday Night Bell". Shall we encourage to do the each Sunday, making the first business of the day attendance at God's House?

Commending these matters to your earnest consideration,

Yours sincerely,
BASIL GARLICK.

The Incumbent's Visiting Appointments for May

7th - 9th. Newmoor and Dunker
10th - 12th. Bishop's and Offerby
14th - 17th. Skegness.
19th - 22nd. Fieldale and Darrel
23rd - 25th. Rickard and Oldbury
29th - 31st. Magnesia and District.

Hymns for May

Magnesia - 9th - 10, 172, 173, 241
12th. 178, 182, 441, 78
14th. 180, 410, 574, 596, Whitsunday
20th. 168, 611, 26, Trinity Sunday

Fieldale - 3rd. 208, 210, 415, 97.
19th. 184, 443, 539, 211. Whitsunday

Oldbury - 23rd. 202, 208, 601, 97.
28th. 168, 611, 26. Trinity Sunday

Newmoor (Mission Services).
7th. 212, 201, 474, 601
14th. 180, 182, 178, 287

N.B. - Rickard Hymns will be printed as soon as the services have become well established.

Church Calendar for May

1st. SS. Philip and St. James, Apostles and Martyrs.
7th. 5th Sunday after Easter.
10th. 7th and 8th. Rogation Days
11th. Ascension Day.
14th. Sunday after Ascension Day.
19th. Whitsunday
20th. Trinity Sunday.

Services for the Month

Magnesia. Services each Sunday: evening at 7.15. Holy Communion 1st Sunday in each month, after the morning Service. Wednesday, May 3rd, Intercession Service, 7.15 p.m. Thursday, May 4th, Ascension Day Holy Communion 8 a.m. Sunday, May 14th, Whitsunday Holy Communion 11 a.m.

Fieldale. Services on alternate Sunday afternoons at 3 o'clock, May 7th and 14th. Holy Communion 14th Whitsuntide.

Newmoor. Services on alternate Sunday morning at 11 a.m., May 7th and 14th.

Oldbury (Mission School). Services on alternate Sunday evenings at 6.30 p.m. Holy Communion 1st Sunday in each month, after the morning Service. Wednesday, May 3rd, Intercession Service, 7.15 p.m. Thursday, May 4th, Ascension Day Holy Communion 8 a.m. Sunday, May 14th, Whitsunday Holy Communion 11 a.m.

Fieldale. Services on alternate Sunday afternoons at 3 o'clock, May 7th and 14th. Holy Communion 14th Whitsuntide.

Newmoor. Services on alternate Sunday morning at 11 a.m., May 7th and 14th.

Oldbury (Mission School). Services on alternate Sunday evenings at 6.30 p.m. Holy Communion 1st Sunday in each month, after the morning Service. Wednesday, May 3rd, Intercession Service, 7.15 p.m. Thursday, May 4th, Ascension Day Holy Communion 8 a.m. Sunday, May 14th, Whitsunday Holy Communion 11 a.m.

Rickard. Services on alternate Sunday evenings in the Municipal Hall at 3 o'clock. Baptisms on the 13th and 28th.

Registers

In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

Sunday, April 30. - Rick Cowslip Garlick, born March 4th, 1916, daughter of Basil and Eva Lee Garlick.

Muriel Alice Beresford, born March 3rd, 1913; daughter of Frank and Margaret Beresford.

Rogation Days

The Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday preceding Ascension Day are called Rogation Days from the fact that Mamertus, Bishop of Vienne in A.D. 452 ordained special Litanies and appointed that these days should be observed as days of fasting to God for deliverance from an earthquake which occurred during the feast of Easter in Vienne. Although there is no special service for these days, special prayers are read on the Sunday preceding, using Gen. 8th verse as Initial sentence and to petition the work of our Lords.

Parish News

Sunday, May 5th, being the nearest to the Rogation Days the Services at Maymont and Fairbairn will be appropriate to Rogationtide.

The Concert and Social Evening that should have taken place last month in the Orange Hall, Maymont, has been arranged for May 24th, Victoria Day. Proceeds will be in aid of the Missionary Outfit.

Arrangements are being made for a picnic to be held in connection with St. Andrew's Church, Fairbairn, at Mr. Elliott's Grove, Lorne, Com. for the race. Further particulars will appear in the next issue. The picnic is arranged for June 3rd (the King's Birthday).

Arrangements for the second "Old Time Dance" will be held on Dominion Day, July 1st, to commence with 20 Seats Church Maymont.

For sale: Lawn-mower, leather water spout in excellent condition, would make a good trough for stock. Price $10.00, proceeds to be devoted towards Church Issues. Can be seen on the Parsonage, Maymont.

Maymont W.A. will meet on A.C. Saints' Parsonage on Thursday, May 9th, at 3 p.m.

On May 20th (Sunday after Ascension Day) the plate collections will be done other than as usual will be devoted to the Canadian work of the W.A.C.C.

A Thought for the Month

OVER AND OVER

"Over and over again,
No matter what my Lord,
I always find in the Book of Life
Some lesson I have to learn.

I must take my turn at the mill,
I must stand on the golden sands,
I must work at my task with a resolute will,
Over and over again.

We cannot forecast the need
Of even the hours before,
Nor check the flow of the golden sands
That run through a single hour.

But the morning does not fail,
And the sun and the summer rain
Melt the snow and perhaps it all.
Over and over again.

Over and over again
The brook through the meadow flows,
And year and year again
The goldenrod will wheel gold.

Over doing will not suffice,
Though doing be not in vain,
And a backward look or step or sever
May come in the by-again.

The path that has once been trod
Is never so easy to tread,
And a failure, whatever have learned
It never is hard as never.

Though sorrowful tears may fall,
And the heart to its depths be riven
With many and reapers, we need them all
To sanctify us meet for Heaven."

Let Us Measure You For a New Suit. Fit Guaranteed.

PAINTS PAINTS PAINTS

Martin Seymour's 100 per cent. Paint will cover more surface than any Paint on the market

Varnishes Stains Brushes

Next week we expect a shipment of

Smoked and Pickled Fish

Not a Luxury, but a Necessity.

BEAN'S DEPARTMENTAL STORE

MAYMONT

GILLATT BROS.
AUTO LIVERY
LIVERY AND FEED STABLES
Maymont - Sask.

J. D. BLACKLOCK, Maymont

I.H.C., Case and Rumley Implements.

John Reid - Maymont
Dealer in General Merchandise
The public will please note I am selling a large percentage of my goods at pre-war prices which means they are fully 30% less than present cost values

Arthur H. Martin
MAYMONT
Builder and Contractor
Estimates Furnished on Request.

H. CHRISTFIELD, MAYMONT, Sask.
AUTO EXCHANGE
British Crown Hail Insurance
Chevrolet Automobiles
New Williams' Sewing Machines
Massey-Harris Farm Implements

MAYMONT RESTAURANT
And Ice Cream Parlors
Meals Served at All Hours.
Charlie Wing - Proprietor

(Formerly)
G. H. MARTIN
LICENSED
Undertaker and Embalmer
MAYMONT

IF you are in the market for Lumber or building material, either car lots or small quantities, it will pay you to see
F. T. McCORKLE & Co. - MAYMONT
BEFORE BUYING

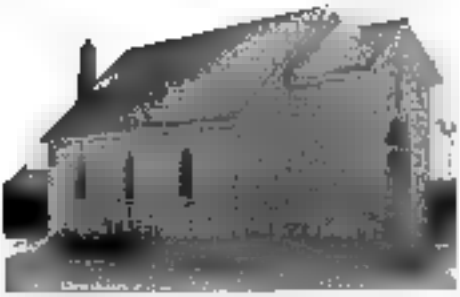
Dr. J. A. Scratch
PHYSICIAN & SURGEON
Maymont, - Sask.

W. J. MAWHINNEY
DRUGS, STATIONERY AND FANCY GOODS
Agent for "Victor" Talking Machines
MAYMONT, SASK.

T. McBRATNEY
GENERAL BLACKSMITH
Maymont, - Sask.

J. G. CASSIDY
PURVEYOR OF SPECIALTIES
Family Butcher
Dealer in Fresh and Cured Meats
POULTRY AND SAUSAGES
Will Shortly Open Wilcox and Schmidt

HARNESSS HARNESS HARNESS
SEE MAIL ORDER HOUSE PRICES ON HARNESS
SEE MARTIN'S PRICES ON HARNESS
COMPARE QUALITY
G. H. MARTIN, MAYMONT



All Saints Anglican Church

Miss Lily Marsh and Semper Wheeler in September 1908. A few weeks later Mr George Fiennes and Miss Margaret Bouskill were married.

Reverend Schofield later moved to Moose Jaw and students Gosden, Walker, and Hosking came until Reverend R. C. Garlick came in 1914. He died of the 'flu in 1919, as his wife and family moved away. Student ministers Mr Gray, Mr. Ashley, and Mr Waite were there until 1921, when after ordination Reverend Ashley was asked to return as resident minister. He was moved to another parish in 1923.

Mr. Bradshaw came in 1923 as a student and was ordained while at Maymont and stayed until 1928. Reverend Jokes came from Wales in 1928 until 1930. Then Reverend Cozens until 1937. Mr. Simpson and Mr Greenhalch, students took the services until Reverend Basil Saunders came in 1938. In 1941 he was moved to a different locality and Reverend B. Crowder came until 1944.

Due to the depression after the war years, it was impossible to support a resident minister so a succession of students followed. They came from the East and Emmanuel College in Saskatoon. In 1956, a student from Nova Scotia, Randy Wood arrived for the summer months and under his leadership and a generous bequest the church was renovated and a chancel added. Reverend Blakely came next for two years. Then in April of 1959, Reverend Harry Fairbridge, took charge and under his direction the congregation were inspired to use the pledge system. The church was redecorated and in 1959 celebrated its Fiftieth Anniversary. Thanks to another legacy, a new furnace was added. Reverend D. Waddington came in 1961 and stayed until he was transferred in 1966.

Our present minister, Reverend P. Comerford arrived then. A new parsonage was built at Radisson, as our larger parish took in Radisson, Borden, and Hallcyonia, so we have no resident minister. Reverend and Mrs. Comerford have twins, a boy, Henry, and a girl, Valerie. Henry is studying to be a minister and Valerie is a nurse.

In 1973, the bell tower of the church was removed, the bell stored in a safe place, new roof added and the exterior painted. Arch Deacon Blackwell and eight of his parishioners from North Battleford arrived one Saturday to help with the painting. Reverend Comerford and Henry, Ron and Dick Mahman, Jim Gray, and, Bob Bates, all wielded brushes, even though it turned out to be the hottest day of the year, ninety-six degrees above Fahrenheit. The ladies provided lunches in the shade of the trees.

Reverend Comerford made and erected a wooden cross over the front door.

Mr. E. Wilmot left a legacy of beautiful hand carvings in the church. In 1949 he made the lectern; 1952 the pulpit and font, then the hymn board, book cabinet and chair stalls, up to 1958. The Communion Table or Altar in 1960, a missal (small reading desk) in 1966, a prayer desk in 1967 and six text boards, with the commandments carved on them, to hang between the windows.

Some of the pioneer names in connection with the church are: Mahmen, Dawson, Beeh, Whitehouse, Butterfield, Bouskill, Wilmot, Martin, Patterson, Sheuldice, Chambers, MacPherson. There are so many more we would like to mention who came later and were very staunch Christians.

The Catholic Church, Maymont

First Mass was celebrated in the spring, possibly 1930, in the Orange Hall in Maymont. During the same summer, a second Mass was celebrated in Mr. and Mrs. F. Porter's home and a meeting followed. At said meeting it was decided to build a church.

It was financed through the Bishop, the Bank of Maymont, and donations from local members.

The foundation was dug and built by all the people of Maymont who donated their time, etc. Material was bought from Maymont lumber yard.

The date of construction was 1936. The church was built by Mr. Ted Wilmot.

The church vestments were donated by some church in Ontario, through Mr. Fred Peever.

The following were the first trustees: Mr. Fred

Catholic Church in early years.

Porter, Mr. Joe Duckarme, Mr. E. Andrew, Mr. Darrel Fouby, and Mr. Art Becker.

Mr. Neumeyer of Fielding was the first organist. The first choir consisted of three Neumeyer children and two Becker children.

The first funeral was Dorothy Fouby in 1928.

The first wedding was Gwendolyn Fouby and Albert McGaffin in 1932.

The church was in use until 1969 when the congregation from Spinney Hill built their own church which left few to attend Mass at Maymont so the Maymont church was moved away.

Maymont Catholics now attend Mass in Richard, Kadoma, and North Battleford.

Maymont Foursquare Church

The Foursquare Church was started in September, 1936 when Rev. Arthur Bergman held a couple of meetings in the Colais School, south of Maymont. Considerable interest was shown by the people of the Neepawa S. D. north of Colais.

Rev. Ruby Rice and Rev. Gladys Nelson were the first pastors. Under their leadership services were moved to the home of Mr. J. L. Sloan in the Neepawa District. Additional services were also held in the home of N. W. and W. E. Andrew in the Keystone District and also in the home of Mrs. S. Holmes of the Grey School District.

In August, 1940, owing to the illness of Mrs. J. L. Sloan, the Sunday services were moved to the home of Mrs. K. Holmes in the village of Maymont.

In March of 1943 the Foursquare congregation purchased the old pool hall and barber shop, which was one of the pioneer buildings of the town. It was remodelled into a church and was dedicated on July 4, 1943.

Many alterations have been made from time to time including the lowering of the church from two-storeys to one-storey; taking out six feet of wall — this material was thus utilized by the making of a five-room parsonage at the rear of the church.

The Pulpit has been occupied by various Pastors including the Reverends Wilbur Curtis, Russell and Mrs. Andrew, Joe Galbraith, Floyd and Mrs. Sloan, Ralph Cook, William Bell, M. Bebobabo, Reg Gillat, Arnold Hemmerling, Valerie Young, Brian Bonell, Jim Nesbitt, Allan Brown, Evelyn Tead, and Alvin Larson.

One Maymont couple who were married there were Walter Wiley and Norma Bahn. Some funerals were also held from this church. It will be remembered by many how the Ted and Evelyn Sloan children were so well versed in Bible verses that they won many contests here and in the U.S.A.

History of Maymont Shaarai United Church from Previous Histories

The history of Maymont United Church dates back prior to union when in 1908 Mr. R. N. Matheson, under the direction of then Prince Albert Presbytery, began work in the district, visiting homes and new settlements in the sparsely settled area. He worked from Cross Bend (now Radisson) until 1904 when he worked in the area from Fielding to Denbeigh.

In 1905 Rev. J. C. Madill was appointed by the Home Mission Board to carry on the work of the Presbyterian Church and it was in 1906 that the first Presbyterian Church was built. This church was built on what is now the parking lot for the Memorial Hall.

It was in 1906 the congregations of Fielding, Maypoint and Ruddell were organized as a pastoral charge and Rev. Madill inducted as pastor. Mr. Madill moved to British Columbia in November and the charge was vacant until 1908, when Rev. J. M. Fisher accepted a call.

The first annual meeting was held on Jan. 20, 1909. The following are the minutes of that meeting: "The Congregational meeting was held at the residence of Rev. J. M. Fisher at 8 o'clock in the evening, as per announcement from the pulpit on the two preceding Sundays. Rev. Fisher presided and H. Elliott acted as Secretary. Minutes of a previous meeting were read by secretary and were on the motion adopted. The Treasurer then presented the financial statement of the year which showed the obligations of the congregation had been duly met. Moved, seconded and passed that the report be adopted. The Ladies Aid presented a report which showed the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars to their credit in the bank. This report was also on motion adopted. The Congregation then proceeded to elect officers for the year. It was moved by H. Elliott, seconded by Wm. Parker and agreed that the board of managers hereafter be composed of six members, two of whom shall be elected to this office. For three years Wm. Andrew, Sr. and F. T. McCorkle, for two years A. O. Hawkins and W. H. Carey. For one

Maymont United Church.

Presbyterian Church being built - 1911.

year Andrew Reed and A. A. Melrose. On motion it was agreed to leave the appointment of Sec. Treasurer to the board of managers

Mr. A. O. Hawkins was appointed pew steward for the year

Some discussion took place regarding the matter of a new church building, but as the hour was late it was agreed not to take up this matter until a later date. On motion it was agreed to adjourn, to meet on Feb. 23rd. The meeting closed with benediction

The February meeting of the congregation instructed the board to consider plans for a new church capable of seating 200 to 250 persons at a cost of from $1000.00 to $2000.00. Mr. P. T. McCuttle was elected treasurer of the Building Fund. The board of managers were authorized to make application for a loan for the building of the new church. In Sept. the building committee, W. E. Cook, John Reed and Rev. Fisher were elected, with Mr. Wm. Borrows engaged as carpenter. In March 1911 the first congregational meeting was held in the newly constructed basement.

During Rev. Fisher's four years of ministry he promoted, encouraged and assisted in the building of First Presbyterian Church at Maymont. The new church was completed and officially dedicated November 10, 1911, by Professor E. H. Oliver of Saskatoon, who later became Principal of St. Andrew's College and was the second Moderator of the United Church of Canada. When officially opened there were 36 families and 49 communicants under pastoral care.

On Jan. 23, 1913, the first annual meeting in the new church tendered a vote of thanks to R. P. Blake of Winnipeg for a gift of a Pulpit Bible.

In 1913 Rev. Fisher resigned and as no ordained minister was available, a student minister, Norman Wright took services for a time. Financial arrangements for a salary were: Maymont and Rabbit to pay five dollars each per Sunday and five dollars a week came from Home Missions.

Rev. Morgan came in 1914 and served until going overseas — then students filled in again until Rev. McFadzean came in 1918. The following year the basement was finished and rented to the Public School Board for a primary class.

The church was now free from debt so improvements could be carried on. The furnace was put in by contributions from the Ladies Aid. The new steps were built, church painted inside and out and pews were installed. The improvements meant heavy expenditures but the congregation felt they had a church second to none in any rural area.

In 1920 the minister's salary was raised from $720 to $900 per annum. Rev. Grant was the minister. He formed a Trail Ranger's Group.

Rev. Sibbald arrived in 1923. Twenty-seven members were present when Rev. Sibbald took up the matter of how the deed of the church property would be affected when Church Union took place. After considerable discussion the Board of Managers were instructed to "take proper steps to retain possession of the title of church property".

At this time the fields were re-arranged with Brada, Dunholm and Reddell together and Fielding, Eastbourne and Maymont.

In 1924 the house and lots of W. J. MacWhinney were purchased for $2000.00 for a manse. The first meeting of the Church Board after Church Union was held Aug. 10, 1925. In the autumn of 1927 Rev. Hardy came. Both church and manse were paid for in full.

The Annual Meeting in 1930 reported 49 people braved the cold weather of 30 degrees below zero to attend. The Young People's Society was formed and that year the first supper meeting.

Rev. Hamilton came in 1931. The financial statement showed a surplus of $300.00 making it possible to have the church wired for electric lights in 1932.

Rev. Schnell came in 1936 with his special appeal to children and young people.

Rev. F. Myers came in 1937 on recommendation of Rev. Schnell.

Donations of paint were received and the church was repainted in 1938.

A Young Women's Service Club was organized in 1941 and the United Church and Anglican joined to form a Maymont Young People's.

Mr. McCuttle donated material for the coat rack and it was constructed by L. Curry. (Men to bring their own coat hangers). In 1946 the choir was elected to act as a committee to make inquiries regarding an organ.

The next year a front was started and in 1948 a new Minshall organ was dedicated in memory of those who lost their lives in World War II.

Over the years improvements continued with building of new steps and the interior of the church being re-decorated. An automatic oil-burning furnace was installed and additional wiring done. The walls and ceiling of the church were insulated and covered with donnacomma. A new sink, drain and cesspool were added to the manse.

In 1964 the United Church Conference of Saskatchewan Honoured Rev. Myers by electing him President of Conference for one year. The three charges and people from a wide area gathered to especially honor Myers.

In 1967 a fund was started for the building of a new manse. Lots were purchased across the road south of the church and the new manse was officially opened Nov. 8, 1968.

The Maymont pastoral charge has changed boundaries on several occasions over the years and now Maymont congregation, since July 1967 has been part of the Maymont Larger Parish made up of three former pastoral charges of Maymont, Redmore and Speers with two ordained ministers.

During thirty-eight years of ministry under Rev. Frank Myers, several events are worthy of mention. At the 50th Anniversary of the United Church, forty new members were received into the Maymont congregation. The 50th anniversary of the opening of the Sharon United Church was observed Oct. 29 1961. The Ladies Aid celebrated their 50th year in 1960. The 50th anniversary of the congregation took place on January 1963, and every organization prepared a history for the occasion. Special recognition was accorded three pioneers, namely Mrs. George Stubbs, who came to the district in 1903, Mr. Percy Parker in 1904 and Mr. Herbert Johnston in 1905.

A Life Membership was given to Mrs. R. F. Johnson who was a Charter Member of the Women's Missionary Society.

From a Memorial Fund set up by the congregation to receive Memorial donations rather than flowers, chimes were purchased and dedicated in 1959. They were first heard at Christmas of that year and since have been used as a call to worship on Sunday Mornings.

Sunday June 29, 1975 was an unhappy day for the congregation as Rev. Dr. F. L. Myers took his last official church services in the Maymont Church. Earlier in the month both he and Mrs. Myers had been honored by the Battleford Presbytery and the local community with farewell teas and other events and presentations. They moved to Saskatoon where he has continued to serve the United Church as a part time chaplain at two of the hospitals and at Oliver Lodge.

In August 1975 the Rev. R. Sadler, his wife Ruth and their three children arrived in Maymont. His first service was Aug. 31. Mr. Sadler was born and raised in Almonte, Ontario. He taught school for a time, spent two years in Hong Kong where he was the principal of a large school and helped to organize two other schools. He returned to Canada from Hong Kong and completed his theology studies in Ontario before coming to Maymont after ordination. He served the Maymont Larger Parish until June 1978 when he moved to the Battleford charge.

In 1976 a garage was built at the manse and a family room was completed in the basement of the manse.

It has been a team ministry in the larger parish and this year, 1978, they hope to carry on with the help of Rev. Bill Richards of Speers until the Rev. Allan Porter of Leask arrives in November.

Maymont Pastoral Charge

July 1, 1936 to June 30, 1937

Rev. Leonard W. Schnell, B.A., B.D.

My association with the Maymont Pastoral Charge was of long-standing but of short duration. It began with an invitation to be your minister in a letter written by Mr. Andrew A. Melrose early in 1936. Previously we had met at a meeting of the Battleford Presbytery. Since Mrs. Schnell and I had been at St. Walburg for only two years, we felt we could not accept the invitation at that time. Andrew replied, "If not now, then sometime later."

We received a second invitation on March 16, 1936 — also written by Andrew. This was followed by an Official Call dated April 28, signed by forty-seven members and officers of the three congregations, Earlhouse, Fielding and Maymont.

We arrived on the Charge for the Conference year beginning July 1, 1936 hoping to serve for at least seven years. But at the end of June 1937, we said "farewell" to accept an offer from the Canadian Bible Society to be District Secretary for North Saskatchewan. It was an unexpected short pastorate, but nevertheless a most eventful one. We briefly outline the highlights under three headings:

I. THE PASTORAL CHARGE.

July was holiday month. Preaching on Thursday the 30th, I was well in here for my first services on Sunday August 2. Will Melrose accompanied me. Attendances. Earlhouse 40; Fielding 35. Maymont 75. I felt I was off to a good start.

(a) Pastoral Visitation — During August and September I made calls on one or more families on each of 29 days. On August 18 after making six calls, I wrote in my diary, "It will be grand when I have met all my people in their own homes."

(b) Preaching — In addition to messages for special church days, Anniversaries, Christmas, Easter and Thanksgiving, I concentrated on two sermon series:

1. Our Statement of Purpose based on Article XI, Basis of Union, United Church of Canada.

II. The Old Testament Prophets.

(c) The Bible Class — A terrific blizzard on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 1 and 2 closed the roads to Eastbourne until spring. Consequently on Sunday December 6, we started our winter schedule. i.e. no service at Eastbourne; a combined Sunday School and Church service with the minister responsible for the Bible Class at Maymont at 10:30 a.m.; and afternoon services at Fielding.

The Bible Class proved to be a most rewarding experience. We studied the Book of Revelation. It was difficult to interpret but the Class participated freely, and judging by the large and regular attendance found the study stimulating.

(d) Young People — There were active Y.P.U's at Maymont and Fielding. Reorganization meetings were held on October 2 and 6 respectively. On October 8 a Presbytery Rally was held at North Battleford. The total attendance was well over one hundred, of which more than one third was from the Maymont Charge including a small group from Eastbourne. They were so enthused with the Rally experience that they requested the organization of a local Y.P.U. This was held on October 25 in the Scottville School. Three carloads of young people representing the three preaching points attended the Saskatchewan Y.P. Convention held in Regina the weekend of November 22. "Enthusiasm" was the key word of the young people on the Charge throughout the season.

(e) Church Membership Class — Classes were held in Maymont and Fielding. At the first meeting in Fielding the attendance was 22 young people; in Maymont 8.

(f) The Sacraments.

i. Holy Communion — There were three celebrations of the Lord's Supper: November 1, 1936; January 3, 1937; Good Friday, March 26, 1937. At the last there was also a reception service when the following were added to our Membership Roll.

FIELDING —
Chester, Jean, Keith, Norma and Ruth Ferris;
George and Malcolm Garnett;
Lawrence Iverson,
Jean and Rose MacNaughton;
Alex Spence;
Robert Thomson,
Lila Thompson;
Donald and Elain Watt.

MAYMONT —
Winnie Dolden;
Muriel Foulston;
Horace Knight;
Emma MacDonald;
Lillian Martin;
Donald McCordic;
Marguerite Mohler;
Lily Spence.

ii. Baptism — This rite was observed in each congregation when the following children were presented:

EASTBOURNE — Lorne Leslie Anger
Edith Adele Scott
FIELDING — Marlene Gertrude Roberts
John Charles Roberts
Dorothy Noreen Roberts
MAYMONT — James Henry Bright
Ellen Dunn Rogers

(g) Weddings. There were seven. At one of them the groom was 17, the bride 17. Just as soon as I pronounced them "husband and wife", I heard the groom whisper quite audibly, "Now you are mine!" The Couples:

10/9/36 — Earl L. Brown and Evelyn Viola MacLeod
4/10/36 — John McMillan and Margaret E. Roberts
16/10/36 — Will C. Scriven and Mildred H. Mohler
27/10/36 — Edwin V. Sloan and Evelyn V. M. Andrew
24/11/36 — Norman W. Melrose and Grace E. Harkness
7/4/37 — Thomas H. H. Bates and Ada Pearl Rogers
25/5/37 — Will H. Griffin and Beulah O. Bromhaugh

(h) Funerals; Only two during my twelve months.
1. October 10, 1936 at Fielding for Paddy Spence.
2. March 1, 1937 at Maymont for Will N. Melrose — only 50, a premature death caused by Infantile Paralysis.

III. THE PRESBYTERY

I had been Secretary of the Battleford Presbytery while at St. Walburg. I continued in this Office when I moved to Maymont. The regular duties were simple enough, but now there was a big extra. The future of the Radford Hospital was a red hot issue at the time. It required much correspondence, and many meetings of a special committee. When Presbytery could not settle the issue, it was referred to the Saskatchewan Conference to be considered at the annual meeting in June 1937. The final entry in my diary on this knotty problem is on June 8, 1937. "The Special Radford Hospital Committee presented a resolution which after a long discussion was accepted by Conference."

III. THE COMMUNITY

(a) The Curling Rink.

Even though 1936 was the driest year in the "dirty thirties", it was my privilege to enlist the co-operation of the local citizens to build a Curling Rink by voluntary labor. The initial meeting to consider the project was held on October 5, 1936. The organization meeting was held on October 15 with construction beginning the following day. The rink opened for play on Thursday December 10 with twenty-four local rinks participating in a knockout draw. Each rink curled two ends. We finished at 2:00 a.m. It was a fun night. The Homemakers served lunch, coffee five cents, doughnuts five cents. Proceeds $13.80 which were presented to the Rink Committee.

(b) The orchestra.

Early in 1937 a local orchestra was formed with the following members: Leader — William Love (trumpet), Miss Ellen Reid (piano), Rev. Walter Connor (cello), Tom Wood (mandolin), Wendell Reid

(violin), Wilfred Reid (violin), and Rev. Leonard Schaal (violin). The Orchestra's first public appearance was at the Curling Social in the Orange Hall on Monday March 28 when the Hospital prizes were presented. Between then and June 30, the orchestra played numbers at six other community events.

It was a pastorate of only twelve months, but one filled with excitement and wonder. Sharing it with me was my wife, Nellie, and our two year old daughter, Grace, born in St. Walburg on May 1, 1934. Our son Bruce was born in Maymont on May 1, 1937.

Women's Missionary Society

from previous history

The W.M.S. was organized in 1915 and the first report was given that year by Miss Flora Bohn. Members at that time were Mrs. F. McCorkle, Mrs. Wm Parker, Mrs. A. Reid, Mrs. J. J. Reid, Mrs. D. McLennan, Miss Flora Bohn, Mrs A. Melrose, Mrs. A. Martin, and Mrs. R. F. Johnston.

A group of W.M.S. ladies

Mrs. O. Butler, Mrs Wm Reid and Mrs. W. M. Melrose joined shortly after that. In 1926 there were fifteen members, J. Brady, Mrs. Sibbald, Mrs. J. Taylor and Mrs. Herb Johnston having joined. In February, 1930 the W.M.S. ladies held a bake sale to raise some funds. The sale brought in twenty dollars. In 1932 Mrs. R. Hardy and Mrs. Christfield joined and in April of that year Mrs. Wm. Parker was presented with a life membership certificate.

In 1938 Mrs. Hardy invited the W.M.S. and the Anglican W.A. to her home for the World Day of Prayer Service. Mrs. F. McCorkle was presented with a life membership that year.

In 1939 there were four new members — Mrs. G. Mohler, Mrs. Jas. Rogers, Mrs. J. D. Blackbock and Mrs. H. Hamilton. In 1938 there were eighteen members. Officers in 1934 were Mrs. Herb Johnston, President (remaining in office until 1945) and Mrs. G. Mohler, Secretary-Treasurer (until 1941). Members helped with Red Cross Work during the war years.

Mrs. W. H. Reid and Mrs. Conley joined in 1946. Mrs A. Reid, Mrs. A. Melrose, Mrs. Wm. Reid became life members in 1949.

Mrs. F. Myers was presented with a life membership certificate in 1954 and Mrs. J. D. Blackbock in 1956 prior to her departure from Maymont. In 1957 Mrs. Herb Johnston was given a life membership by the Auxiliary and Baby Band Members. In 1959-60 Mrs. A. R. Johnston was President. Mrs Myers was Secretary-Treasurer. There were fourteen regular members and twenty-two associate members.

Through the years the W.M.S. looked after the leadership of the younger groups. The Mission Band was organized in 1916. Miss Flora Bohn and Miss Frances Bohn were two of the early leaders.

The C.G.I.T. was organized in 1925 with Mrs. Christfield as leader.

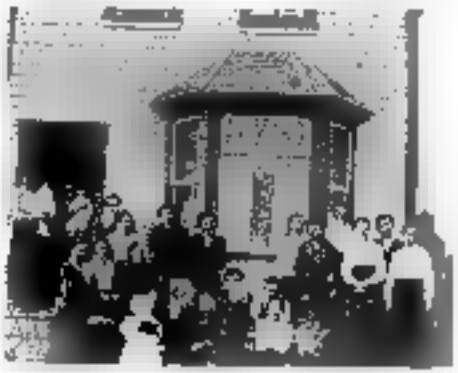
The W.M.S. carried on faithfully through the years always doing a commendable share in the larger work of the church.

The United Church Ladies Aid

The Ladies Aid was organized in 1908. The constitution that was drawn up for the Ladies Aid Society said "the object shall be to raise funds for the support and improvement of the local church". The Ladies Aid was a local group who raised money for the local church and were not organized beyond the local level.

The constitution was drawn up in 1909, but there are no records of any minutes until Sept. 1910. Members who paid fees in 1910 were:

Mrs. Fisher	Mrs. Kerr
Mrs. Melrose	Mrs. Patterson
Mrs. Cook	Mrs. J. J. Reid



Early Ladies' Aid members in front of the first manse.

Mrs. McEwanle
Mrs. McCorkle
Mrs. Keogh
Mrs. Knowles
Mrs. Long
Mrs. Peden
Mrs. John Reid
Mrs. McLennan
Mrs. Carey
Mrs. Hawkins
Mrs. Loveless
Mrs. Parker
Mrs. A. Reid

The fees were 25c for joining and 10c each month.

Mrs. D. McLennan was President and Mrs. Wm. Cook was Secretary. The first banquet was held on December 18, 1919; the first Sports Day supper on June 21st, 1912, the first Anniversary Supper in October 1913.

Proceeds of Ladies Aid activities throughout the years have been given generously to the maintenance of the Manse and the Church. They have also contributed to other local causes such as the Memorial Hall. They have supported the wider appeals of the Church as it's Social Welfare, it's Missionary Enterprises, the British and Foreign Bible Society, Religious Broadcasting, Church Camps for boys and girls and special appeals for the world's refugees.

For many years the Ladies Aid held three annual suppers — the Sports Day supper, the annual Fowl (later changed to turkey) supper, held in October; and the Bean Supper held in December, and although the Ladies Aid became a part of the United Church Women's organization in 1968, these three suppers are still held each year.

Mission Band

The first leader of the Mission Band was Miss Flora Bohn but it was taken over by Miss Frances Bohn in 1909. Mrs. Richardson and Miss Hadie Johnston took over for two years, then Miss Frances Bohn again took the leadership until 1918.

Membership in 1921 was twenty. In the following years the membership varied from twelve to twenty, with ages ranging from six to twelve years.

Leaders after 1946 were Mrs. Wes Britton and Mrs. Norman Melrose. For a two-year period each Mrs. Myers took over the leadership in 1948 for a ten-year period. She was assisted by Mrs. E. Peden for six years and Mrs. E. Broom for one year.

In 1968 the age groups were divided, with six- to eight-year-olds staying in Mission Band and ages nine to twelve becoming Explorers. Membership of the Mission Band in 1961 was twenty-eight members.

Mrs. Norman Johnston became leader in 1959, assisted by Mrs. E. Broom, until 1960, when Mrs. Anita McIvor took over and the Mission Band ended in 1965 and the group became known as the Messengers.

Maymoor was the only Band that had carried on continuously since its beginning — a period of forty-four years.

All givings were voluntary until they began selling United Church calendars.

Young Women's Service Club

The Service Club was organized in 1941. The first President was Mrs. Simmons; The Vice-President was Mrs. N. Friedman; Secretary-Treasurer was Mrs. C. A. Reid. It was an interdenominational group with a membership of thirty. This club took in the younger women in the district, married or single. They put on plays, bought drapes for the Memorial Hall, planted trees around the Church, canvassed for the Cancer Fund, and the March of Dimes. They donated money for church improvements, painted the church steps, bought new Hymn books, kitchenware for the church kitchen, also purchased curtains for the Memorial Hall dining room and Kemtone to re-decorate the stage.

The Club assisted the Ladies Aid with the annual suppers.

In 1958 the Young Women's Service Club became a part of the United Church Women's organization.

Sunday School

(From previous history)

The history of the early Sunday School started in the spring of 1907 when it was organized by the Presbyterian Church. Frank Bohn was appointed Superintendent and teachers were Herb Elliott, Mrs. Herb Johnston, Ruth and Pearl Madill with Ruth Madill as organist. Sunday School was held at 2.00 P.M. in the summer of 1908, Miss Eva Smith, daughter of a Presbyterian minister in Ontario, taught at Grey School and was a part-time Sunday School teacher.

Mr. Madill left in the fall and the Sunday School was closed for a few months, but re-organized by Mr. Fisher with a new slate of officers and teachers. Mr. Fisher began a Cradle Roll Class — three years to five years. The attendance increased until the church was too small to hold everyone. For the next year or so services were held in the upstairs of the Pool Room until the new church basement was ready.

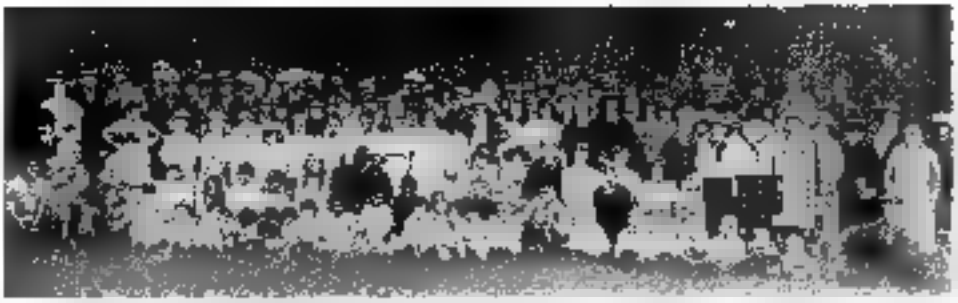
Percy Parker was secretary of the Sunday School.

In the early years of the First World War, Mr. Meegan the minister, asked the Sunday School to sacrifice the Christmas tree and give the money they would spend for gifts and treats to the Belgian Relief Fund. Forty-two dollars was raised.

The first mention of Sunday School in church records was at the annual meeting of March 9, 1911. In the report, average collection was $1.05 each week making a total of $54.05. Reverend J. M. Fisher was superintendent.

In the annual meeting of January 25, 1913 the minutes report the primary class contributed $27.00 towards a lighting plant for the church. The report of January 1, 1914 showed a prosperous year of $61.00, $17.00 given to Missions with another $8.00 being paid on the lighting plant which paid off the indebtedness. Miss Frances Bohn gave the annual report in 1914.

In the report of 1913 it showed four teachers and



Sunday School picnic at Grey School – 1925 or 26.

twenty-two pupils, also A. O. Hawkins was appointed Sunday School Superintendent.

In 1930 Mrs. A. Martin was appointed Superintendent. A picture lesson was bought by the Sunday School in 1935. At the 1939 meeting Mrs Herb Johnston was appointed superintendent.

The names of the Sunday School Superintendents since 1929 and who took office January are:

1929-1930 G. Geets
1931-1933 Don Campbell
1933-1934 Andrew Melrose
1934-1935 Mr. Glover
1936-1938 Franklin Mohler
1938-1939 Andrew Melrose
1941-1946 Franklin Mohler
1947-1951 Will Read
1953-1966 Edwin Peden
1966-1967 Mrs. Phyllis Johnston

Mrs. Phyllis Johnston was superintendent until the Christian Education Committee took charge of the Sunday School.

United Church Women

In the spring of 1961, a provisional committee made up of four members from each United Church women's organization, met at the manse to set up the new organization — the U.C.W. With Rev. F. Myers as chairman, plans were made for a meeting of all ladies of the congregation to be held June 6, to gain further information about same.

Thirty-six ladies attended this meeting, discussing and reviewing plans for the new U.C.W. A committee of four was elected to meet later with Mr. Myers to draw up a questionnaire to be filled out by all women of the congregation, with a view to finding out what kind of an organization was best suited to this area. This committee consisted of Mrs. C. Miller, Mrs. A. R. Johnston, Mrs. W. E. Johnston and Mrs. F. Myers.

The inaugural service was held January 9, 1962, in the church, with Rev. F. Myers leading the service.

Mrs. E. J. Peden was named head of the Central Committee of the new U.C.W.; 1st vice president — Mrs. W. Hamblin, 2nd vice president — Mrs. C. Miller; secretary — Mrs. E. E. Turner; treasurer — Mrs. Robert Gray. Heading the various committees were Mrs. G. Mohler, Christian Citizenship; Mrs. D. Christie, Community Friendship; Mrs. R. Thomas, Co-operation and Christian Education; Mrs. F. Myers, Finance; Mrs. A. Bean, Flowers; Mrs. A. R. Johnston, Literature and Communication; Mrs. C. A. Reid, Manse; Mrs. W. H. Reid Membership; Mrs. W. Sadowsky, Nominations; Mrs. G. Brebon, Program; Mrs. E. Brown, Periodicals; Mrs. H. Rogers, Social Functions; Mrs. C. McIvor, Stewardship and Recruiting; Mrs. J. Rogers, Supply and Social Assistance; Mrs. N. Crawley, Press.

Five Life Memberships were given in 1962, to Mrs. G. Mohler, Mrs. R. Gray, Mrs. A. R. Johnston, Mrs. J. Rogers, and Mrs. A. Bean.

The money for the Life Memberships was raised by sale of birthday calendars.

There were and still are three units. The Eventide Unit meet in the evening — they convene the annual bean and casserole supper held in December.

The Friendship Unit consists mostly of the former Ladies Aid members — they convene the Sports Day supper. The Rebekah Unit are the former Young Women's Service Club, later the Sharon Group. They convene the annual Turkey Supper in October. The money raised from the Turkey Supper goes directly to the Church Board. In addition to the suppers the U.C.W. caters to wedding receptions and other dinners. The units have taken turns being responsible for convening these but all members and other ladies of the congregation help. The Friendship Unit no longer convene receptions or dinners.

The Social Functions committee plan the food lists for the suppers. They also prepare a list of ladies names who take turns sweeping the church.

In general the United Church Women continue the work and study of the former Ladies Aid and the Women's Missionary Society, raising money for a number of projects, studying various topics and visiting the sick-ins.

Explorers

The Maymont Explorers group came into being due to the Mission Band having such a large enrolment at that time, that it was difficult to handle them in one group. It involved an age group of six to eleven year olds, both boys and girls.

It was largely due to Mrs. Myers that the group was formed. Through Mrs. Myers, Mrs. Cunningham of Speers, who was leading an Explorer group there, was invited to come to Maymont to speak to the mid-week group leaders. As a result Explorers was formed.

The first meetings were held in 1958-59 with Mrs. Sarah Beaudoin as leader. Mrs. Beaudoin led the group for twelve years with the help of various assistants.

To raise money for Missions they held bake sales, sold popcorn and candy and crafts at the ham suppers.

When the TYROS were formed the boys in this age group went into TYROS and the Explorers became a group for girls only.

There has been an Explorer group in Maymont every year since. The present leader is Mrs. Mary Ann Broom.

Tyro

Tyro is a program for junior boys aged 9, 10, and 11. The letters in the name stand for "Try Your Reach Out". The basic purpose of Tyro is to help junior boys grow in Christian experience, democratic living, and physical skills and knowledge.

The first Tyro group formed in Maymont was in 1961 with Ken Britton as leader. In 1965 Dick Clayton shared the duties of leader with Ken Britton. George Brehon was an assistant leader for a time.

The following is a list of boys who took part in Tyro: Russel Beaudoin, Lyle Wood, Edwin Parker, Brian Johnston, Larry Roach, Harvey Rogers, Don McIvor, Ralph Johnston, Don Hawkins, Doug Britton, Kim Sherman, Dale McDonald, Jimmy Sanderson, Darryl Parker, Don Estes, Bill McIrvin, Barry Brinton, Kelly Gray, Carmen Smith, Brian Rogers, Ted Leach, George Langley, Doug Brehon, Calvin Parker, Blair Racha, Wally Sadowsky, Tom Pedeo, Chris Sharman, Garth Brehon, Victor Tobay.

The Tyro group had bottle drives to raise money. They enjoyed many good camp-outs.

For a time the program was dropped but it was re-organized again in 1976-77 with Mr. Doug Sevick as leader. Doug arranged an excellent outdoor program for the boys.

The members for that year were: Clifford Copenlade, Neil Clayton, Elias Clayton, Glen Mikiyan, Brent Belerle, Myron Prasensky, Kevin Brehon.

Messengers

The Messengers, formerly the Mission Band, started in the fall of 1958 with Mrs. Lyle McIvor and Mrs. George Brehon as leaders. Attendance was 25 members ranging in age from 4 to 8 years.

Meetings are held once a month from Sept. until the end of June, when graduation is held. The girls graduate into Explorers and the boys into Tyros.

The Messengers sell the United Church calendar every year to raise funds.

Maymont C.G.I.T.

C.G.I.T. — meaning Canadian Girls in Training is a mid-week group of teenage girls, from 12 to 18 years, associated with the Sharon United Church.

It's aim is to make a girl true to all the relationships of her life, her home, her school, her personal friendships, her church and her community. It very definitely aimed to link up her interests in the mid-week with her Sunday School and Church life. At one time attendance at Sunday School was very important and if all did not attend the chances of winning a chevron were forfeited — a chevron being the symbol to wear on the sleeve of the uniform, much like the stripe of an army officer.

C.G.I.T. girls at Roy Gray farm, Oct., 1964. — Pat Prysaili, Eileen Bean, Alice Rogers, Thelma Rogers, Leader — Helen Armstrong, Lillian Nutbrown, Audrey DeLong, Debbie Gray, Gladys Harris, Eleanor Blaschock, Joan (Mrs. Richie Hagel), Terry Roffe.

The uniform was quite simple consisting of a white middy with navy blue collar and cuffs with C.G.I.T. monogram embroidered on left sleeve. A black tie with friendship knot pinned at the waist and a white lanyard. This blouse was worn with a navy skirt. The uniforms and pins were introduced into the program in 1918.

Materials for the programming of C.G.I.T. came from the Conference Office in Regina. There is a Mission Study and Bible Study. They have their own Hymn, their purpose and a magazine called the Torch.

Our C.G.I.T. groups over the years have held Sunrise Services at Easter; sleep-outs during Easter holidays; Mother and Daughter banquets and Graduation Services for those leaving C.G.I.T.; Initiation ser-

were at the beginning of each year. The year runs from September to May.

As this group is not a money making concern, they try to hold two teas a year in order to make enough money to fund their projects, also selling greeting cards and novelties.

The meetings are held usually every two weeks and last for one and a half hours, ending by singing 'Taps', giving their own hand clap and saying 'thanks for the evening Comrades'

The meeting is conducted by the girls, having nominated their own executive, with the guidance of two leaders. If the group is large it is divided into a junior and senior group thus having a leader for each. Usually a Superintendent is named from the community, to help the leaders with guidance and encouragement over any difficulties that may arise.

During the summer Camp Counsil is held, at Candle Lake, to which a girl may be sent by her group. Her expenses are paid and she has the opportunity to meet, share and work with other girls from all over the province. This camp lasts for ten days and is a worthwhile experience.

Some of the community activities they take part in are canvassing for the Blind, decorating the church for Thanksgiving, taking part in World Day of Prayer assisting with annual Church Meeting and have served at banquets.

The routine they are committed to giving include:
buying their Mission Pack;
buying the lanyards for girls going into the senior group when they are fifteen;
paying for their Torch magazine
paying for pins and insignias for new members as well as graduating members;
the girls usually donate thirty dollars each year to the Mission fund

C.G.I.T. celebrated it's 50th year in 1975. There are 24,000 girls across Canada in the organization, all united by a common purpose:

"Christ Health, Seek Truth, Know God, Serve Others and they become the girl God would have us be".

At present there are fourteen girls on the Maymont group. The leader is Mrs. Cheryl Gray.

Ceramic Club

Geraldine Dube

In January, 1976, the Maymont and District Community College began a ceramic class. The interest was so great that the group who registered had to be divided into two. These classes lasted for twelve weeks. A kiln was purchased by the Maymont and District Youth and Recreation Board for community use.

On April 29, 1976, an organizational meeting was held at the school to form a Ceramic Club. There were 18 ladies and one man Mr. Ted Saunders, in attendance. Nominations were held with Gerry Dube elected as chairperson, Shirley Miller as secretary and Ted Saunders as treasurer. A membership fee of five dollars was charged. There were 34 members joined the club. For a time the kiln was kept at the Community Hall but it was later moved to the old library building which the village had turned over to the Recreation Board.

In March, 1977 a vice-chairman was added to the executive. Karen Schmidt was elected. On April 2, 1977, a ceramic show and sale was held in the basement of the United Church. Even though it was a snowy, stormy day, many came to the show to admire the beautiful articles the members had made. Coffee, tea, and punch were served for a nominal sum of 25¢

During that year many of the members proceed to North Battleford to take advanced classes. On Jan 29, 1978, the club displayed their works of art at the school during the Regional Winter Games.

In Sept 1978 nominations were opened for a new executive. Betty Prescesky was elected chairperson, Gail Voegeli as vice-chairperson, Gerry Dube as secretary and Jeanine Pauls as treasurer.

On Oct. 31 and Dec. 1, 1978, two day long seminars were held with an excellent turnout.

Ceramics has allowed many people to express themselves and develop their talent. It has also been a very good social outing for many.

The History Of The Purple Star L.O.L. No. 1869 And The Orange Hall

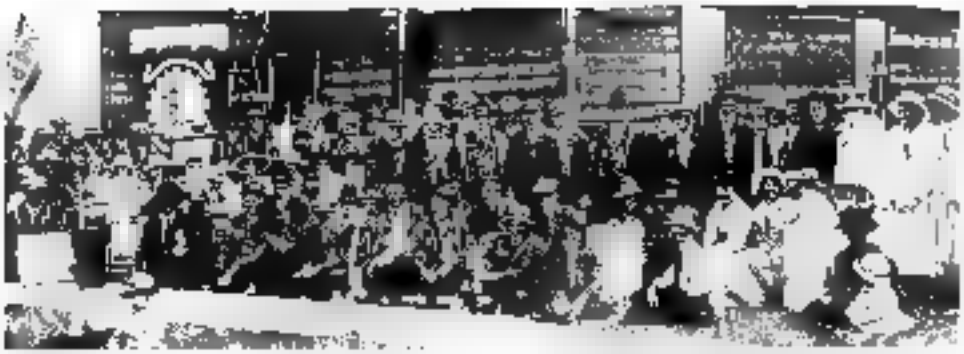
The Purple Star L.O.L. or more commonly known as the Maymont Orange Lodge was organized on April 27, 1909. It was one of the largest rural Orange Lodges in Saskatchewan, with members coming from across the river and from a large area on this side of the river.

One of the notable events the Orange Lodge sponsored each year was a parade and a picnic on the Twelfth of July. The Orangemen paraded in lodge regalia, sometimes led by one of the members riding a white horse. They carried their banner and marched to the music of the fife and drum. Mr. Ernie Fitzel to quote a member of the lodge was "a great old drummer" and Mr. George Lowery played the fife.

Large crowds attended these picnics and for years it was the highlight of the summer in this area.

One of the projects the Orange Lodge helped to sponsor was a Children's Orphanage at Indian Head, Saskatchewan. Each year money was raised and forwarded to the children's home.

The Lodge met in various places with varying degrees of success. Some of the meeting places were the first Presbyterian Church, which stood near the site of the present Community Hall, Grey School, and the basement of the United Church. Owing to lack of a



Early Orangeman's gathering — Photo taken beside the Orange Hall

suitable meeting place, they decided to build a hall, this being in June, 1914.

During the First World War, 1914-1918 it was used very extensively by the Red Cross for various entertainments, as well as being used for travelling vaudeville and picture shows. During October, 1918 a stage was built onto the east end of the hall and a new piano was purchased. Then in late February and early March of 1919 the side-rooms to the west were added, and it was at this time that the members of the I.O.O.F. started to use the hall for their meetings and continued to use it for many years.

Until 1921 the hall was lighted by the use of gas lamps, but during that year Robert Downing, the garage owner of that time, installed a Delco lighting plant in the garage and the hall was wired for electric lights and connected to his plant. In 1928 a welcome change was made when 250 new chairs were purchased, replacing the home-made benches in use until that time. In 1935 a projection room was added to comply with the then existing cinematographic regulations, and from that time on for many years weekly picture shows were held. As well as being used for picture shows and dances, it was also used for all types of public meetings, and many fine concerts and plays of local talent were held in the hall. It continued to be used as a public hall until the new Community Hall was opened, when the old hall was sold to Mr. Tom Tuttner as a residence in 1968.

Maymont Figure Skating Club

The Figure Skating Club was first formed on December 16, 1965 with Stanley Miller as president and June Rogers as secretary-treasurer. We had a membership of fifty-six skaters and our teacher was Mr. Dick Krilow of North Battleford.

Our first carnival was held on March 13 that year with an estimated nine hundred people attending and total intake neared the $1450 mark. Miss Irene Free of Fielding was crowned Queen and was sponsored by Fielding Board of Trade. The colorful evening program consisted of solos, duets, drills, dances and animal capers. Numbers were announced by Ken Britton and music was directed by Mrs. Krilow.

During 1967-69, Phyllis Johnson was president and June Rogers remained as secretary-treasurer.

In 1970-72, Gladys Strebon was president and Doreen Parker was secretary-treasurer. During this time the figure skating teacher was Miss Jeanne Starks of Saskatoon.

All through the first years of our club we always had the help of Fred Hawryluk of Fielding, who went on to make a career of figure skating.

In 1973, Doreen Parker became president for the following two years with the secretary-treasurer being Bonnie Millman.

Sandra Long took over in 1975 for one year and Inez Harris took the position for one year in 1976. Secretary was Pat Brown and the treasurer was Bobby Ross of Spinney Hill.

Kick Line in one of the Figure Skating Carnivals. L. to r. — Marlene Gray, Marlene Spence, Virginia Rogers, Margaret Rogers, Leslie Strebon, Sandra Gabriel, Glenda Miller.

For 1977, the president was Bonnie Milburn, the secretary, Isobel Tobey, treasurer, Bobby Sims.

Our present president, Charlotte Beaudoin began in 1978 with secretary Pat Brown of Fielding. The treasurer is Myrna Roberts also of Fielding. The club still has over thirty members who are mostly beginners now and a few juniors. Although queens are not part of the entertainment here there used to be one every year.

Three trophies are given each year to members of the club who have won some special achievement.

The Wendy McIvor Trophy, presented each year since 1973 by the Lyle McIvor family, is presented to the most improved skater twelve years and under.

The Margaret Rogers Trophy presented annually since 1972 is presented by Margaret (Rogers) Thompson for the most improved skater thirteen years and over.

The Yvonne Rogers Trophy presented annually since 1976 by Yvonne (Rogers) Gray is presented to the most enthusiastic skater nine years and under.

Maymont Homemakers' Club

1923-1969 by Mrs. A. Mohler
1969-1979 by Mrs. Esther Tobey

The Maymont Homemakers' Club was formed February 8, 1923 in the basement of the Presbyterian Church. Miss Esther Thompson of the Extension Department of the University of Saskatchewan was responsible for the formation of our club. Many women felt the need of a community effort to improve home as well as the community.

The original officers were as follows: President — Mrs. F. Dudley, First Vice-President — Mrs. Rice. Secretary-Treasurer — Mrs. G. Mohler.

Thirty-nine members were on the roll in 1923-24. The smallest membership was in 1944 — 14 members. The average membership has been 28.5

The names of our Life Members are as follows: Mesdames R. F. Johnston, F. Butterfield, Mrs. Foster G. Mohler. Those members holding the office of District President were: Mrs. G. Mohler in 1936, Mrs. R. F. Johnston in 1938, Mrs. T. Turner in 1948, Mrs. J. D. Blacklock in 1965.

No member has held a provincial office. Every provincial convention was attended except one. No member attended the F.W.I.C. or A.C.W.W. meetings. Most rallies were attended. Our Club had host of four conventions — 1928, 1933, 1942 and 1954.

What were the highlights and frustrations? The highlight of the 1928 convention was an account of South Africa by a Mrs. Murray, whose home is in South Africa.

1933 — No report. Project afghan

WAR EFFORTS

Red Cross — Parcels of clothing, quilts, hospital gowns, pyjamas, quilts, swabbers, etc., were sent to Britain.

1939 — 104 knitted garments, 42 quilts, 22 pieces of sewing had been sent to headquarters.

1941 — 93 garments sent. Utility bags made and sent to women of bombed-out areas 23 parcels sent to most everyone.

1945 — 275 garments and $1300 sent to headquarters. Money and other donations were sent previous years to the Navy League, Disabled Civilians, Milk for Britain, Mobile Kitchen, C.N.I.C.E.F.

Other donations such as: T.B. Fund, March of Dimes, Crippled Children, Films on Cancer and T.B., Tag Days for the Blind, F.W.I.C., National Emergency Fund.

Our Club contributed to the war effort as follows: Clothing was collected for destitute people of Europe. Rehabilitations — eight community socials held, ninety certificates presented to Service Personnel, six presented to next of kin. Adopted a family in Britain for a few years. Dyetuck sold for Crippled Children's Workshop.

Community Fairs were not organized by the Homemakers' Club, but we did serve cocoa and coffee on Field Days at different times, and gave prizes for different sports. One of our members was represented on the Fair Board for a number of years.

Trees were planted at the cemetery many years ago, road gravelled and a thorough Clean-up Day once a year has been held for many years. A large gate sign was placed at the entrance as well. The community cares for our cemetery. We have given a donation to the Skating Rink.

Our Charities - made layettes and gave them and bundles of clothing to the needy. Shower for a war bride, installed a telephone for one family, sent flowers to sick in hospital, made quilts, had a shower, twenty-five dollar gift to a family whose home had burned.

Community Projects — Our Club contributed a donation to two Music Festivals held in North Battleford.

Our Youth Work -- The first Homecraft Club was formed in 1937. First project was tomato growing. 1938 — came second with poster at Regina, and honorable mention in Regina. The Maymont Homecraft Girls were one of forty-two teams attending the North Battleford Fair. One of the girls received honorable mention, an honor among so many. 1951 — Homecraft work was taken up once more and has continued until this year. Homemakers' Club offered prizes for their Achievement Day.

Fifty-four girls have been sent to Farm Girls' Camps since 1936. Forty-two girls have attended the North Battleford Camp. Nine girls have attended Farm Week in Saskatoon. Three girls have attended the Youth Training Course held in North Battleford. In 1946 one girl won the wrist watch and a book for first award in Homecraft work, she winning the second award. In 1948 two girls went to Saskatoon, one fourth

place for judging gingerbread. Also in 1949 the Homecraft Girls won first in Record Books in inter-club competition in Saskatoon. In 1950, three girls went to Saskatoon, one girl won second in skirt making. One came second in menu selection.

One Club sponsored two girls to the United Nations Seminar in '56-'57.

Community Projects — The Homemakers' Club has presented awards for Drayton from Grades Eight to Twelve since 1931 until last year when it was given to the lower grades. The average value was about $15.00. The first year photos of the winners were placed in the schoolrooms. Sponsored a trip for school children to Art Exhibit held in Richard.

District Projects — Wire-flower making, reed basketry, spinning wool were some of the early handicraft projects. An afghan, toddler's outfit, a cushion and C.A.C. poster were made for district competition. A kitchen improvement or re-modelling competition won a prize of fifteen dollars sponsored by the T. Eaton Company, Saskatoon. The Salada Tea competition consisted of articles made for a hope chest.

The Tweedsmuir Competition was a quilt block book which was awarded first prize at the District Convention. For the A.C.W.W. gifts to women of other countries were snapshot albums.

Several Distinction Awards were given to our Club for sending all reports. We did not enter the District or Provincial Artistic Competitions.

Projects and Awards

Club Projects — Our special club projects undertaken — raising money to purchase stage curtains for Orange Hall and Memorial Hall, window curtains for Legion Hall and Memorial Hall dining room. Sanitary toilets in both Orange and Memorial Hall. Beautification of cemetery, Potato seed contest. Farm markers — boards with farmer's names on them, lettering on board made of Scotchlite paper.

A weaving class was organized by one member and in 1943 a membership of twelve. Class worked for five years. Two or three are still weaving. Two were taught how to weave by members after finishing the course.

A Jubilee Cake was made which weighed thirty-six pounds.

Miss May from the Extension Department gives different years giving demonstrations of dressmaking and machinery. Sold one hundred eleven cookbooks. They cost $174.15 and sold for $213.40. More than once Mrs. H. Doyle came and gave a course in sewing.

Community Projects — Pre-school clinics were held in 1936, 1939-1943, continuously since 1953 to the present time. In 1938 a Health Centre was held with one hundred ten children passing through the Clinic. In 1939 one hundred twenty-five children were examined at the clinic. In 1942, thirty-two children were taken to Redmon for dental work. In 1946, a T.B. Clinic was held with one thousand three hundred seventy-six persons examined. In 1957 a Polio Clinic was held. Members of the Homemakers' Club assisting. Gifts of clothing for children in Shelters, and knitting and in 1943 a monthly donation of eggs.

We did not build a Community Hall but have given donations to the Memorial Hall, toward a piano, cutlery, four tea wagons, and enlarging the kitchen, etc.

Finances — The money from our receipts for thirty-seven years show approximately the sum of $12,230.19. The amount we sent away was $2,140.89. To earn some of the money we catered to the Agricultural Society luncheon tables, the Pool Committee twice and a few weddings.

Our highest financial venture was in 1954. We catered to two weddings, two banquets and sold many cookbooks that year.

Memories

They are mostly about muddy roads or snow. In the early years money was raised by putting on plays. Travelling by sleigh in winter time, having to stay overnight on a hall across the river, until daylight on account of a snowstorm.

Travelling home in wagons, in early spring when the ground was frozen, taking stage properly along when the temperature dropped to forty below that early morning.

Another time two delegates coming home from Meota were caught in a rain storm and forced to spend the night in North Battleford. The storm damaged the power plant. Other times, it always seemed to rain when Richard had a convention. More than once on the muddy roads between Richard and Maymont the cars had to be pushed up the hill over the little bridge.

And now we come to the last eighteen years of the club as reported by Esther Tebay:

1941 — Maymont Homemakers' Club had a membership of nineteen with Mrs. Vera Gray as president and Mrs. Mary Nutbrown as secretary. Mrs. M. Martin has been treasurer for many years. There were many concerns, even then there was interest in car drivers obeying all traffic laws.

Homecraft Club was started by one of the members. Baby clinics were always helped by members.

There were many community concerns and interests. At this time donations were given to the River Heights Lodge, also repairs and help with additions to Memorial Hall.

Co-op School was another project. Members supplied pies. Materials were bought for the pies and each member made seven pies.

Hospitals have always been our interest. Articles collected this year for Notre Dame Hospital in North Battleford.

1962 — Saw Maymont celebrating their fortieth annual meeting of Homemakers. This was held in the Legion Hall.

Competitions in floral arrangements, designing, book markers were interesting projects.

1964 – August 28, proved to be a very sad meeting when Maymont bid farewell to Mrs. R. F. Johnson, as she was leaving to live in Edmonton.

Carpet bowling was one of the pastimes that was enjoyed.

A sewing machine was purchased by the club for homecraft project. The Memorial Hall was always one of the places looked after well. At this time tea towels were donated, also the hall floor was painted, and coat lights installed. Making quilts for the Unitarian Service Commission, also collecting used clothing was another project. Equipment for farm camp supplied.

The highlight of every year was the convention and fall rally. Casseroles and plan supplied by the club.

1965 — August – Eighty-one members attend Co-op School. Four Maymont girls attend farm camp. Letter barrel placed at Dakota board. Helped supply candy for Christmas tree.

Unit member was teaching sewing lessons in 1966. Many courses have been taught since. Help was always given at Achievement Day by setting tables, making tea and coffee. The girls always did the serving.

The District Convention of 1966 was held in Maymont with U.C.W. catering to the dinner. The price was $1.25 per plate.

1970 - Physical fitness classes were started. The programs are voiced: Arts and Literature, Agriculture Education, Public Health, International Relations, Legislation, Home Economics.

Each year we do a complete canvas for cancer.

1971 — On June 10 the Homemakers Club was given a new name. It became known as Saskatchewan Women's Institute. Also instead of club we were known as a branch. In North Battleford District of Women's Institute there are eleven branches.

This was Homecoming Year. Many activities were planned. Two of our members took part in the quilting bee at the Development Museum. They were dressed in period gowns and looked lovely.

Members entertained former members at a tea in the park. Each guest was given a Saskatchewan Lily corsage, made by our own branch.

1973 — Our September meeting program was chaired by a Maymont girl, Clare Beckton who was studying law. She delighted her listeners with her enthusiasm about her work. She was on a project "Opportunity for Youth" that summer. She worked in remote areas out of Duck Lake. She now is a professor of law.

We have had Merit Award Nights when seven members received pins and certificates for over thirty years of service.

There have been hobby-craft collection shows which have been well attended. The first one had fifty-seven entries and over three hundred guests. The second one had fifty-three entries and two hundred eighty in attendance. Real enthusiastic people! So many varied hobbies and crafts!

1978 — Maymont hosted District Convention when one hundred four guests and members signed the book. The Memorial Hall Committee catered a hot turkey meal at four dollars a plate. It was an exciting day. The theme was INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. Each club represented a different country. The delegates were dressed in the costumes of their chosen country.

1979 — Federated Women's Institutes of Canada held their convention in Saskatoon. Saskatchewan Women's Institute played a busy part in it. June 27 was declared Saskatchewan Day. Bus loads of delegates toured areas of Saskatchewan within a radius of one hundred miles of Saskatoon. Maymont was one area where a bus load of fifty-three delegates stopped. They toured the elevator and lunch was served by Maymont Branch. There was a display of handmade quilts, afghans and paintings.

Our W.I. Branch keeps active in community work. We have helped young people. We plan to honor all children of the community born this year — this being the "International Year of the Child."

We have catered to several weddings this year. We also cater the Wheat Pool banquet once a year.

There are four life members in our branch. Mrs. A. Mahler, now residing in River Heights Lodge in North Battleford, Mrs. Mary Rogers of Maymont, Mrs. M. Martin of Maymont, and Mrs. Mary Mathewson of Saskatoon.

There are eight members who have merit award certificates and service pins. Seven with thirty years of service and one with twenty years of service.

We have thirteen active members at the present time — August 31, 1979.

Maymont Quilters

In the year of 1976 we have a quilting club in our village. There is nothing unique about having a quilting club -- Saskatchewan is probably full of quilters. The unique thing about that one is that it had its beginning during the last war when ladies of the community met to make quilts for the Red Cross war effort. They met in the Legion Hall once a week and at times there were enough ladies there to have two quilts on the go at once. Some of these first quilts were used in air-raid shelters and were made of dark materials such as the best parts of worn trousers, coats, shirts etc., lining being flannelette or dyed flour bags.

Materials were often donated by Eatons and Simpsons — money donations to buy supplies often came from the Red Cross Society. Many boxes of print patches were donated by individuals — ones in particular even the completed quilt tops. Some of these print patchwork quilts were raffled and the money spent to buy batts, thread or broadcloth.

In 1944 one of the quilters left the community and

A group of Maymont quilters.

she was presented with a quilt on which the members had embroidered their name. From that quilt the following list of names is taken and hereby recorded as being the first group of Red Cross quilters.

Members: Wm. Gray, Ellen Melrose, Nellie Curry, Dorothy Andrew, Celia Rolfe, Mary Britton, Janet Harris, Mary Rogers, S. Dolden, Eva Holler, Annie McIrose, Winnifred Abblett, Annie Hawkins, Letitia Blacklock, Ella Robbins, Dorothy Crawley, Dora Foster, Grace DeLong, Ethel Neill, Dorothy Sykes, Rose Bird, Miss Ellen Reid, Miss Francis Bohn.

At the end of the War, the group seemed loath to give up quilting so they began making and quilting for each other and from there to custom quilting.

In 1946 Maymont had its first War Bride (the late Mrs. Howard Rogers) and as a welcome to the community she was given a shower. Among the gifts she received was a quilt from the quilters. From that day to the present, each bride from the community has been given a quilt at her bridal shower and to date, one hundred and forty-four such quilts have been presented to brides. It is interesting to note here that since 1946 there hasn't been a year without a bride in our community — one year in particular there were as many as nine.

Obviously 144 names are to many to record here but perhaps we may be permitted to mention a few milestones along the way. Our 25th bride to receive a quilt was Gladys Brebon (nee Parker), 50th was Annina Post (nee Dahl), 75th Margaret Walker (nee Bohn), and the 80th was Gail Palivoda (nee Reid).

After the war years a Memorial Hall was built and the quilters decided to donate money from quilt sales etc to this project. Thirty-one years and many, many quilts later they are still donating to the Hall to assist in its upkeep and in purchase of necessary equipment as the need arises.

Before the Hall was completed in 1949 the quilters met in private homes but today they meet at the Hall once a week. The group isn't so large as the original one and only two of that first gathering still belong. The members have changed through the years — faces have changed but there are at present 17 active members.

It's a congenial group — we have no president, secretary or treasurer as such, though money and ordering are handled by one member and records are kept of expenses and receipts. A glance back in early records show quilt batts purchased at $1.00 each, broadcloth at 49¢ per yard and thread 12¢ per spool.

There have been errors and omissions at times but these are always settled in a good-natured way over a cup of tea at lunch break.

The Maymont Rifle Club — Early 1900's

I remember that as school boys, we hunted for rifle bullets on a hill East of town. Stanley Bohn recalls that his brother Alfred (who later was killed in the First World War) belonged to the Rifle Club, also his brother Jim, Charles Brebon, George Walton, and Alfred and Sally Andrew. Fred Carveth, W. J. Mewhinney, Percy Rosehill, Bobby Jack Andrew, Tom Bates and Wm. Dawson. We are sure there were others. They met on Saturday afternoons to shoot. They had shoot-offs with a group from New Ottawa. Tom Ayres was one of their leading promoters.

There was also a Trap Shooting or Skeet Club. As far as we can find out this club was formed after the Rifle Club with most of the same people belonging to it. Circa 1908 as they met on the "Fair Grounds" where the present Maymont Central School is.

F. F. Mahler

School Districts

Beckwith School

Beckwith School, No. 935, was located across the road from the Beckwith property, for which it was named. It was on the N.W. corner of 19-49-11, west of the 3rd meridian. It apparently opened in 1901. Records of the early years are hard to obtain, but one of the first pupils, Lucy Clark, now Mrs. L. C. Draper speaks of attending the school until they moved away in 1911. Her letter says, "Not many modern persons know of pioneer life and hardships, when we thirsted so for a school and knowledge, and studied hard. Beckwith School supplied a desperate need." She mentioned living in a tiny sod house, where her little sister Alice was born with a neighbor Mrs. P. Spence in attendance. Among the pleasant memories of that time noted by another former pupil, Mrs. Ora (Clark) Holmgsbead, were the July 1st picnics held on the plateau above the North Saskatchewan river, which ran some two miles south of the school. She also mentioned the Indians camped by the river in the spring.

Beckwith School about 1925. Boys, L. to R. starting at top. Albert Sherman, Leo Wilcox, Bill Roberts, Hans Prechtl, Ken McLeod, Richard Prechtl, Alex Spence, George Garnett, Clayton Cure, teacher, (Miss V. Laidlaw (behind Bill Roberts). Girls, L. to R., starting at top. Lily Spence, Annie Prechtl, Kathaleen McCarthy, Emma Sherman, Lillian Sherman, Anna Spence, Anna Sherman, Evelyn McLeod, Dorothy Clark, Esther Spence, Irene Sherman, Joan Woods.

A 1912 school register shows 8 pupils under teacher J. Dunning. At that time the school remained open during July and August, but was closed during the cold winter months. Of these first pupils there were five Clark children, two Beckwith children, and Dale Kiefer. By 1913 William and Hugh Spence were enrolled, and later in the year Clifford and Muriel Elliott also. By 1917 the enrollment had increased to 23 pupils, with the Prechtl, Kleper, Spence and McClintock children on the roll. That year school opened on March 26th, and closed for two weeks holidays in July.

Many teachers came and went over the years, some only staying a matter of months. Among these, one teacher made a lasting impression on her pupils, and influenced them greatly. She was Violet Laidlaw, who is now Mrs. W. Foat, and who retired to Maymont to live eventually. There were 26 pupils enrolled under Miss Laidlaw in 1925. At that time the School Board consisted of J. Prechtl (Chairman), E. E. Garnett (Secretary) and C. S. Clark. The school library was increased to 102 books, and the children were encouraged to read. Playground equipment consisted of a baseball, bat and glove, a football, and swings for the smaller children. Drinking water was brought from a farm each morning and kept in a covered pail, and the children brought their cups from home. A pump organ, a globe, a case of maps, a hand bell, coal oil lamps, old style double desks were part of the equipment supplied. Pictures of the king and queen and a Union Jack decorated the kalsomined walls. The school itself was typical of that era, a 20' by 24' wooden structure heated by a Waterbury heater, cold and draughty in the winter.

During the years church services and Sunday Schools were held at Beckwith from time to time, and it also served as a community centre.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DAILY REGISTER

FOR

RECORDING THE ATTENDANCE

OF

PUPILS

IN

[illegible] S.D. No. 3607

OF THE

Province of Saskatchewan

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1916

ISSUED TO SCHOOL 1916 BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

THIS REGISTER IS A RECORD OF THE SCHOOL CAREER OF THE CHILDREN OF THE DISTRICT
[illegible] AND PREPARES IT

ATTENDANCE FOR THE MONTH OF November 1916

Teacher

Day of the Month

	NAMES OF PUPILS	1st WEEK	2nd WEEK	3rd WEEK	4th WEEK	5th WEEK	TOTAL
1	10. E. Quail Allyson						
2	1. E. Quail William						
3	9. Forbes, Alex						
4	15. E. Quail, Allan						
5	10. E. Quail, Marjorie						
9	12. E. Quail, Quail						
	TOTAL DAILY ATTENDANCE						
	NUMBER OF CASES						

Number of pupils in attendance during the week ____

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct statement in accordance with and does not exclude any record of teaching in the register or other books.

Teacher.

No. of teaching days school was open during the month ____

Average daily attendance for the month ____

Average attendance for the month ____

Percentage of attendance for the month ____

NOTE—

As the years passed farming methods changed, families moved away, the number of pupils gradually declined, until it was no longer feasible to keep the school open. In 1963 the school was closed, and Roy Kleper bought the building, later selling it to Lyle McIvor.

In some cases a second generation attended Beckwith, the four children of William Spence, and the two daughters of Roy Kleper. The children who attended this rural school were fortunate in many ways. Because the teacher was busy with many grades the pupils learned to work by themselves, and in many cases helped the younger children. They played with children of all ages, of necessity, and learned to co-operate with the teacher and pupils in games and projects. There was a good school spirit, and the children seemed to be proud of their school. Real highlights of the years were the Christmas concerts in which the children took part, and the summer picnics.

Calais School

"Not for school but for life we learn"

Calais School District, No. 3554 was established April 26, 1915 and was opened in 1916 with Miss Vera Mary Cooper as teacher. Miss V. Cooper is now Mrs. Vera Petty of Paynton

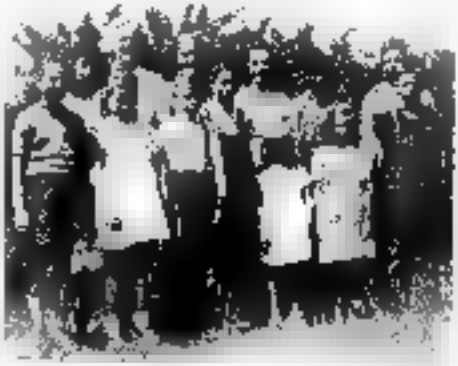
Calais School was situated on quarter section SW 11, 41, 12, West Third — a pretty location with native poplars in the background and caragana hedges around front and sides. There were always fireguards plowed each spring inside the fences, where children were encouraged to plant seeds of vegetables and flowers.

It was named "Calais" by Mr. Ernest Tyburus after Calais, France — This was during World War I when Calais was much in the news.

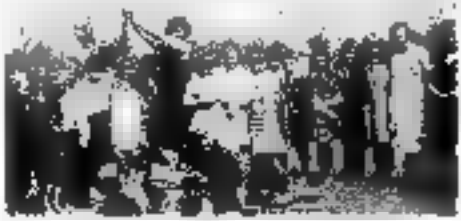
The school officials in 1916 were M. Kennedy, Ed Buell, M. Davis. The chairman was M. Kennedy and the secretary-treasurer was Frank Collins. Pupils registered were Allyrus and William Buell, Alexander Collins, Jessie, Jasper, and Henry Wilmot, Allan Nutbrown, Muriel and Marjorie Long.

Calais School No. 3554.

Vera (Cooper) Petty first Calais schoolteacher in 1916.



Calais Pupils — 1947. Back row — Muriel Nutbrown, teacher Hazel McPherson, June Clayton, Phyllis Buell, Marvil Nutbrown, Walter Buell. Front row — Marmie Buell, Lucille Sherman, Dick Clayton, Les Buell, Edna Sherman, Dorothy Long, and Clarence Buell.



Calais School No. 3554 — Paul Reinhardt, Lloyd Hodge, George Holt, Annie Sherman, Hazel Hodge, Lucy Nutbrown, Delmar Ducharme, Emma Sherman, Stella Ducharme, Mabel Ducharme, Anne Hodge, Clarence Free, Jack Gollan, Edna Collins, Lillian Sherman, Edith Nutbrown, Maisel Hodge, Alice Gollan, Cecil Hodge, Albert Sherman, Tom Gollan, Jack Buell.

The building and an addition added on in later years.

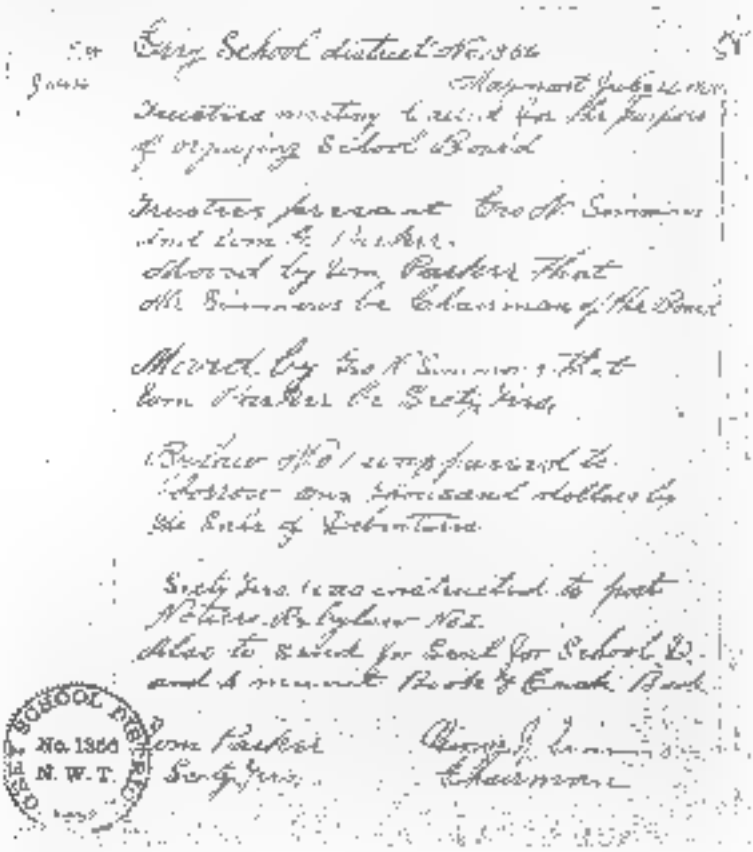
Some of the teachers through the years were: Clarence Upchall, Mary Miller (Matheson), Margaret Nelling, Doris Plaskett, Grace Saunders, Jean Bourne, Margaret Megaffin (Long), Amy Heather, Hazel McPherson, Walter Boldt. The school closed when seven pupils were left. The pupils then were Dorothy, Bill and Clint Long, Edna Sherman, Alvin, Earl and Gary Nethercott. The pupils took lessons by correspondence one year under Alvin Hoop's direction — a Grade Twelve pupil from Radisson.

Through the years Charles and Allan Nethercott, Charles Sherman, Fred Long, Stanley and Philip Long, Albert Sherman, William Buehl and Frank Clayton were trustees and secretary — among many others whose names are lost through the years.

Eventually the North Battleford School Unit was established March 14, 1946. Schools of Maymont and District became part of the Unit, so local trustees didn't have as much voice in policies. Improved library facilities, music festivals, better field days were introduced thus enriching courses of study. Children went on from "Calais" to Maymont and Fielding Schools to further their education.

The school will be fondly remembered as the convenient meeting place for church services, card parties, picnics and dances. The school concerts were always a highlight.

The hall eventually sold Calais School to Maymont Town, where it was used as the rink house for the outdoor rink. After the new rink was built, and the old one no longer in use, Calais School was again sold and taken to the Tom Bates farm where it is still in use as a granary, across from the Dean Rogers farm. Mrs. Dean Rogers was June Clayton of "Calais District, No. 3554."


For Long School district No. 3554 Sask
Maymont Sask
Secretary's minutes of meeting held for the purpose of opening School Board
Trustees present Geo. A. Sherman and Tom E. Parker.
Moved by Tom Parker that Geo. A. Sherman be Chairman of the Board
Moved by Geo. A. Sherman that Tom Parker be Secty Treas.
Further that a complete set of Public and Secondary Readers be ordered from the Dept of Education.
Secty Treas. is also instructed to get Notice of Opening No. 1. Also to order Log Book for School No. and a minute Book & Cash Book.
SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 3554 N. W. T.
Tom Parker Secty Treas.
Geo. A. Sherman Chairman

Grey School No. 1356

Submitted by Gladys Brehon

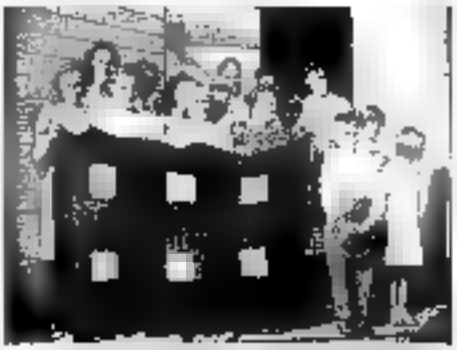
On July 28, 1906 a meeting was called to organize a school board and build a school so the children of the new community on the prairies would have a chance to get an education. Thus did Grey School No. 1356 come into being. The first Secretary-Treasurer was William Parker and the first Chairman was George N. Simmons.

Crepe paper dresses worn in school Christmas concert 'drill' about 1917 L. to r. — Elsie Bohn, Thelma Rogers, Gladys Parker, Dorothy Gillett, Mary Parker, Violet Foulston, Grace Johnston, Gladys Foulston.

Grey School, 1913. Teacher — Miss Annie Arkley with some of the pupils.

Tenders were invited for the erection of a building 30 feet by 20 feet with a 12-foot studding and a stone foundation. Tenders were received from Mr. W. C. Edgerton for $215.00 and from Mr. Chambers for $170.00. Mr. Chambers was awarded the contract. The lumber was bought from Mr. McCorkle and the heater and small hardware came from Eaton's Store. The people of the district did some of the work such as hauling the lumber, shingles and gravel to the site.

The four hundred bricks for the chimney cost $5.00, ten thousand shingles were $35.00, one hundred feet of



Grey School — 1941-42. Teacher, Miss Kathleen Spence. This afghan was made by the teacher and pupils for the Red Cross during the war.

shiplap was $2.00 and shingle nails were five cents per pound.

On October 27, 1905 a meeting was called for the purpose of hiring a teacher. Miss Annie A. Arkley was hired at a salary of $450.00, and on November 6, 1906 Grey School opened with 21 pupils. The first pupils were: Oliver Rogers, Elmer Rogers, Ruth Medill, Olive Parker, Eva Parker, Laura Parker, Percy Parker, Myron Little, Hugh Little, Jim Little, Billy Johnston, Morris Johnston, Lawrence Johnston, Grace Johnston, Arthur Loveless, Nellie Loveless, Ethel Loveless, Bernice Beadle, Harold Simmons, Hattie Simmons, Ethel Campbell.

Miss Arkley taught until the end of 1906. Here is a list of the teachers who followed:

1907 — A. Elliott
1908 — Eva Smith
1909 — Annie Martin
1910 — Miss Connor, Miss E. M. Waters
1911 — G. E. Barker, A. T. Burgess
1912 — Jean M. McLaren
1913 — G. L. Crowley
1914 — Grace L. Ridley
1915 — Jennie B. Erskine, with the exception of the month of August when Mr. J. A. Henderson taught.
1916 — Annie C. M. Weber .. On March 23, 1916, there is a notation in the register which read "School closed because of snow and terrible wind". The last week in April 1916, and the first week in May another notation reads "School completely closed for measles epidemic".
1917 — M. J. Fletcher
1918 — Stella M. Nutting — In 1918 school was closed for the last two weeks of October and all of November and the teacher had written in large letters "School closed for Spanish influenza epidemic".

1918 — Helen C. Wood — first term
Oliver M. Peterson — second term
1920 — G. J. O'Brien — Jan. to March
Percy V. Parker — April
Margaret Gee — May and June
Mary O Gillatt — September
1921 — W. Elkerton — first term
Helen M. Clare — second term
1922 — Bertie A. Bunton — first two weeks
Miss Dorothy Chisolm to end of first term
F. E. Whitworth — second term
1923 — F E Whitworth
1924 — C. Hutton

Apparently at this time the school year changed from from August to June.

Jean M. Martin — August 1925 to June 1926
Lillian Young — August 1926 to February 1927
Ruth B. Reid — March 1927 to December 1927
Leila Smith — January 1928 to June 1930
Mary Lundy — August 1930 to December 1934
Harriet Bullerud — January 1935 to June 1937
Margaret Kerr — August 1937 to June 1939
Muriel M. Brehm — August 1939 to June 1941
Laura K. Spence — August 1941 to June 1942
Anne Funk — August 1942 to March 1943
Irene Hickman — April 1943
Marion McKerchar — May 1943 to June 1944
Betty Gurney — August 1944 to June 1946
Margaret Scott — August 1946 to December 1946

School was closed for the month of January 1947 until a teacher could be found.

Alice Langley — February 1947 to June 1947
Donald M. Stynsky — August 1947 to June 1948
Colleen Combs — August 1948 to April 1950
May Bourne — April 1950 to June 1950
Betty McPherson — August 1950 to April 1952
Jane Miller — May and June 1952
Audrey Broadfoot — September 1952 to June 1954
Connie Bugbee — August 1953 to June 1954
Doreen Webb — August 1956 to June 1960
John Roberts — August 1954 to June 1957

Trustees and Board Members over the years were:

William Andrew
George Walton
H Elliott
Frank Bohn
J. Taylor
F. Hutchinson
James Bohn
Herbert Johnston
William Dawson
William Holmes
Gordon Johnston
Harvey Johnston
George Simmons
Rev. J. C. Madill
Jack Parker
Frank Butterfield
G. Mahler
David Mitchell
James Taylor
Tom Sawyer
E. Ramsay
Oliver Rogers
Roy Rogers
Mrs. Bob Boyd (Hazel)
William Parker
A. Elliott
Mr. Gilliard
A. Bonskill
William Schmidt
F. McCorkle
O. M. Peterson
Ransom Rogers
S. F. Johnston
Percy Parker
Tommy Bates

Many young feet 'trod the halls of learning' in Grey School, some with great enthusiasm, some reluctantly, some for a few weeks or months only. Some began in Grade One and continued to finish their Grade Two. Most of them left their initials carved either on the top of their desk or on the walls of the school barn. Some left with happy memories of teachers who were fair and dedicated to teaching the children with patience and kindness. Some left with unhappy memories of teachers too strict and unable to understand their problems, or school mates who were 'bullies'.

I might mention here that the school strap in the teacher's desk drawer was a very important part of school discipline in early days.

The largest number of pupils attending Grey School was 32 pupils in 1920. The least was seven pupils in 1957.

The following is a list of the pupils who attended.

Adeline Bohn
Etta Bohn
Flora Bohn
Mac Davis
Percy Parker
Stephen Bonskill
Olive Parker
Arthur Lovelace
Ethel Lovelace
Norma Taylor
Nellie Taylor
Delma Davis
Grace Johnston
Harold Simmons
Stanley Bohn
Eva Parker
Alex Bonskill
Stewart Bonskill
Elmer Rogers
Oliver Rogers
Laura Parker
Henry Bohn
Frances Bohn
Gladys Carey
Bernice Beadle
Fred Bohn
Ethel Gilliard
Cecil Campbell
Marjorie Gilliard
Gerald Walton
Katie Simmons
Gordon Campbell
Johnny Campbell
Roberta Walton
Frank Butterfield
Bruce Butterfield
Edna Brumbaugh
Robert Brumbaugh
Lucille Gallard
Leta Walton
Edward Schmidt
Hazel Walton
Emerson Rogers
Clara Schmidt
Nellie Schmidt
Minda Western
Esther Rogers
Kenneth Taylor
Laurence Johnston
Ernest Johnston
James Johnston
Leo Keeler
Adelaide Baker
Alex Baker
Fred Baker
Melvin Campbell
Dolly Campbell
Beatrice Walton
Howard Rogers
Kathaleen Wright
Alma Bonskill
Hubert Wright
Hazel Gilliard
Olive Bonskill
Raymond Walton
Walter Dawson
Gayle Rogers
Myrtle Johnston
Stanley Barratt
Walter Carson
Dale Keeler
Roy Rogers
Emil Pipes
Marjorie Keeler
Jane Walton
Frank Collin
Freddie Nelson
George Cubbit
Gladys Rogers
Jack Cubbit
Anne Dawson
Russell Johnston
Robert Bates
Thomas Bates
Everett Nelson
Malcolm Taylor
Donald Gordon
William Potter
Edgar Gordon
Frank Potter

Hazel Johnston
Dorothy Johnston
Harvey Johnston
Sidney Partington
Sam Partington
John Bates
Robert Dawson
Oscar Holmes
Edith Brumbaugh
Orvil Brumbaugh
Arthur Johnson
Nellie Johnson
Roy Rogers
Perry Brumbaugh
Gertrude Brumbaugh
Sadie Johnston
Alice Dawson
Ada Rogers
Lilly Tobey
Alma Johnston
Hilda Keeler
Harold Keefer
James Greenwood
Florence Greenwood
Earle Greenwood
Hilda Johnston
Cecil Johnston
Sarah Gillatt
Gordon Johnston
Bursil Conley
Gertrude Blanchard
Kenneth Johnston
Mary Dawson
Reginald Gillatt
Carl Johnston
Cora Johnston
James Dawson
Wilfred Johnston
Mildred Crozier
Howard Butler
Laurie Butler
Betty Schmidt
Mary Green
Elsie Green
Mary Parker
Elfreda Sumner
James Crozier
Clara Poulton
Helmer Dahlerlde
Gladys Poulton
Gordon Poulton
Gladys Parker
Mamie Poulton
Lewis Johnston
Norman Johnston
Clifton Johnston
Lloyd Parker

Jean Steele
Grace Johnston
Arthur Poulton
Della Nutbrown
Eddy Nutbrown
Norma Nutbrown
William Parker
Violet Poulton
Thelma Rogers
Norma Bohn
Helen Nutbrown
John Parker
Verna Faulkner
Elsie Bohn
Dorothy Gillatt
Inez Thompson
Leslie Parker
Lois Bohn
Edgar Poulton
Mabel Bohn
Dean Rogers
Betty Thompson
Shirley Parker
Ronald Bohn
Ralph Wiley
Walter Wiley
Margaret Bohn
Reta Parker
Wynifred Thompson
Ivy Greenslade
Beverly Bates
Elaine Rogers
Kenneth Thompson
Helen Warren
Barry Bates
Glen Boyd
Henry Bernard Holmes
Allan Johnston
Christine Rogers
Dennis Ramsay
Patricia Ramsay
Sybil Ramsey
Carol Rogers
Gregory Johnston
Robert Johnston
Verna Bohn
Twila Bates
Joan Bates
Stella Bohn
Yvonne Bates
Lillian Thompson
Russ Johnston
Dana Johnston
Betty Wiley
Carmen Florence
Helena Johnston
Brian Johnston

Once a year a school inspector (later called superintendent) visited the school to see how the pupils were progressing. This visit was always announced. The inspector gave a little tap on the door and there he was. The pupils were asked to answer some oral questions. Of course, our brains all turned to water as soon as he stepped in the door and I'm sure he thought we were a pretty hopeless bunch. We all heaved a sigh of relief as soon as he departed, knowing it would be a full year before we went through that ordeal again.

Some of the inspectors were:

Mr. Magee	Mr. Bill Brentnall
Mr. C. Isard	Mr. W. J. Dalrymple
Mr. W. M. Veasey	Mr. R. Brokey

The early Grey School students were taught their geography from the huge map case which hung on the wall. The maps were on rollers. When a certain one was needed you pulled it down as you would a window blind and when the lesson was finished you rolled it back up. A favorite trick of the big boys was to let the map up with a real snap and scare the wits out of everybody.

A gramophone was purchased in 1922 at a cost of $25.15. It was a floor model with a beautiful wood cabinet about thirty inches wide and sixty inches long. It had a spring in it which had to be wound by hand. This was done by a crank which stuck out one side of the machine. The records were all 78 R.P.M.'s. They were mostly rousing marches or opera. There was one Will Carter record — he was very popular about that time. Unfortunately the records all disappeared after the school closed.

The school was often used as a polling division during elections. It was also the entertainment centre of the district for many years. During the war years, there was a very active Junior Red Cross Association which sponsored many dances, card parties, and coffee and doughnut sales. The pupils took turns being chairman, secretary and treasurer. Unfortunately, I was not able to locate any of the minute books of those meetings. They would have made interesting reading now.

There was always a picnic at the end of the school year. The Herb Johnston family brought a freezer of homemade ice-cream and a big crock of lemonade made with real lemons!

In later years, Keystone, Grey and Eatonia combined to have their picnics at Grey School. There was great rivalry between the three schools as to who would have the best ball team! A booth was set up on the school grounds. It was a time of fun and visiting for old and young alike. I don't recall that the picnic was ever rained out.

It is hard to believe that the school operated for forty-six years before indoor toilets were ever installed. It wasn't until 1951 that an addition, ten feet by twenty feet, was built onto the school for cloakrooms, storage cupboards and indoor pail-type toilets. A new oil space heater was installed also.

In 1954 the power was installed, however, attendance was dwindling because of fewer people remaining on the farms and in 1957 Grey School closed. For one year Mrs. Phyllis Johnston conveyed the seven

remaining pupils to Maymont by car. After that a bus route was started.

In 1961 the school building was donated to the Western Development Museum in North Battleford and moved to the museum site in 1965.

We, of the Grey School District, hope it brings much pleasure and enjoyment to the many tourists who view it each year. We hope, too, it will bring back a few nostalgic memories to any of those who attended a one-room country school.

Three cheers for the school which served the area well for fifty-two years and for the pupils who were proud to yell the Grey School Cheer at ball games and other events.

Chug a lacka chug
Chug a lacka chug
Chug a lacka chug chug
Chow! Chow! Chow!
Razzle, dazzle, hobble, gobble
Zis, boom, bah.
Grey School, Grey School!
Rah! Rah! Rah!

Keystone School District No. 1146

The very name brings memories of bygone days, of folks of our district who are gone, of teachers long gone and even the old school building is gone, but the district remains and a bond still exists among the ones who were once a part of it. Its roots go back to 1906 when the district was formed. A meeting was held at Ben Martin's residence in 1905 to erect a building on N.E. 13-42-12 to educate the sons and daughters of the first settlers. There were twelve pupils who attended in May of 1906 when school opened. With gratitude we remember the names of Ben Martin, Jim Smythe and Jack McKeen who served on that first board. Jim Smythe was secretary-treasurer and Ben Martin chairman. Albert Elliott was the first teacher at a salary of fifty dollars a month, raised to six hundred

Keystone School.

Keystone School. 1921 — Miss Gerry, Teacher, next to her is Joe Chesney, Tom Means, Mabel McKeen, Tommy Bates, Gladys Fast, Jack Bates, Ruth Barrett, Colles Brehon, Cory Holler, Russell Andrew, Edna Cameron. Front — Winnie Chesney, Allan Miller, John Andrew, Earl Andrew, Dick Brehon.

dollars a year in 1906. It is very interesting to read the minutes of those days and realize how scarce money was, but how all obstacles were conquered to bring our Keystone School into existence. It was the second school north of the river in the North West Territories. The building was 26 feet by 16 feet with a small porch over the door. It was contracted for $125 to C. Tompkins (or Tompson) — some records differ as to the spelling. He received $20 for building the porch. The lumber for the school cost $680. J. R. Smythe received $6.50 for expenses for himself and team to take Ben Martin to Saskatoon. The purpose of the trip was to sign legal papers and bring back a load of lumber. Ben Martin received five dollars for the trip, a rather meager amount for the distance involved. Sam Chambers built the barn for $78. He also built an addition to the school (16 feet by about 10 feet) where the old porch had been. In 1907 Ben Martin was instructed to purchase what lumber was necessary to build extra seats and to submit his bill when the seats were finished. On December 16, 1906 the board accepted Alex Brehon's tender for twenty cords of wood at $4.00 per cord. They also accepted A. Hartwell's tender for ten cords of green wood at the same price. The first organ was bought in 1907. Ben Martin gave an address at the meeting on the benefits of pupils obtaining some musical training. The old school clock that ticked off the minutes and made recess so short was bought for less than five dollars.

Country schools were always used for social functions. Grace Smythe and Jack Benton were the first couple married in the district. Grace Schmidt and Lloyd Parker's wedding supper and dance was held there and many concerts, parties and meetings. I remember a grade eight graduation banquet, when Cooper Brown was the teacher. The Mennonite folk held Daily Vacation Bible School in summer holidays, also they had some services in the school. The United Church for many years had a service every second

Sunday and one afternoon every week was Sunday School. Reverend Hardy and Reverend Archibald were the ministers. Reverend Saunders from Weymouth Anglican Church also held services at Keppoch. When drivers, motors and persons were the exciting of schools here then.

About 1915 there was a vote of the ratepayers on whether to move the school one mile west. It was lost by nine in favor of not moving it. The minutes of that meeting show R. Peck was chairman and Alex Graham secretary. The ratepayers who voted were Howard Chambers, Geo. Smith, Chas. Graham, Tom Hales, Geo. Robertson, Fred Anderson, Wm. McKeen, Gibb Miller, Hector Cowan, John Ford, Tom Young, Percy Bartlett, Wm. Miller, S. Chambers, Mr. Hancock, James Ansley, Tom Chambers, Geo. Elliott and Jack McKeen. Keppoch closed in 1916 due to a low enrollment. The pupils attended other schools. Della and John Young and Hughes Ford went to Newports. Lamarsh went to Hubbards. Stan and Ruth Barrett went to Newports. The road before Ruth started. Stan learned at S. Ramsays and attended Lyons School. Tom Hales children were going to Fleming at the time of Mrs. Hales' and was teaching there. Keppoch opened again for classes the first month of 16th and continued upon till 1939. In 1948 to 1950 Newports was closed and Keppoch took some of the pupils for those thirteen years.

The old registers before 1900 were burned by a teacher who loved mushrooms wrote that he kept records as it keep it here easy to find teachers names but with many thanks to the Graham family in presenting the minute books and cancelled cheques I believe some, if not all are a chat list — A. Elliott, Janet Winn, Annie Ansley, Matilda Downing, Eighteen Walter Clara Ewing, Greta James, Tena McRae, Annie Hollis Wallace E. M. Gould, Melinda Messenger, Rena M. Crocker, Hawkeye Ryan, Laura Jupp, Flora Grace, Lena Dales, Annie Lewis, Walter Langhorn, Gladys Lundgren, Mrs. Henry Christfield, Phoebe Perley, Margaret Mackenzie, Annie M. Harvey, Hyman King, Wm. S. Langley, Muriel Butterfield, Lizzie Brydon, Helen Harbor, Ruby Mathews, Jas. Hallethorn, George Browne, Pat Flynn, Catherine Moore, Donald Draeger, Paul Van, Anna Leslie, Velma Peters, Mrs. Lapshanoff and Mrs. Eleanor McCready.

When Jim Smythe moved out of the district Alex Graham became secretary and served until 1902 then Mrs. Graham held the office till Dallas was started. When he moved from the district Dick Graham was secretary till the school was closed permanently. Some of the ratepayers who acted as trustees for many years are as follows: A. J. Graham, Tom Moore, Mrs. Graham, George Graham, Hector Cowan, Wm. Andrew, Dick Vowell, Ernest Hamilton, C. Egg, Dave Fraser, George Heller, Roy Schmidt, Geo. McIver, James Ansley. I see in the record that a trustee was compelled to visit the school at least twice a year. John Ford moved the motion. It was seconded by Mr. Wm. Hancock and all in favor. I wonder how many lived up to it."

Keppoch was a cold school. It was not insulated till 1939 then only in the ceiling, and years later in the walls. There were many complaints on an ever annual reporting it was suggested the windows be fixed as the crepe paper curtains were blowing in the wind but our resourceful trustees who loved saving money were there having a warm school spot to take down the curtains and no one would know if the wind came through or not.

Throughout the years the teacher's salary at the lowest was $450 in 1917 and rose to $1800 in 1948.

Some families were better than others in helping with school matters. I believe if a vote were taken we'd all say the Alex Graham family served our district better than most of us. Any fixing to be done and they were first on deck.

Our trusted officers were paid five dollars per month. Mrs. T. Hales served for many years at this capacity and I don't think she was too severe in punishment or we kids would have been hung by now. We were three and a half miles from school and if we attended every one hundred days we figured we earned a medal. Dad was not too embarrassingly reminded as I read in the minutes of a meeting of 1922. Moved by Wm. Andrew, seconded by Tom Hales that the compulsory education act be amended that all males from 8 to ten years and that the matter should be made in the hands of the trustees of each school.

The janitor work was often done by the teacher as the recorded cheques show the pay they received. We did have a few caretakers though. Some were Della Moore, Tom Moore, Carey Herbert, Stan Barrett, Katie Herbert. In 1947 Ray Schmidt was to sweep and scrub and Pennars were to clean the back, supply water, and light fires. In June 1948 a meeting was held regarding the caretaking and it stated — "Moved by Geo. Heller that Della Moore receive five dollars a month for lighting fires at twenty five cents for each fire lit. One dollar to thoroughly sweep school before starting to scrub stairs and two dollars every month for scrubbing the school. I wonder what a caretaker now wants most of those wages."

It is interesting to note that twelve of our teachers were local - women fifteen years of the school. Sure it was a great old school. After serving as it was moved to Badger Bluff for a teacherage. Many of us presumed we hated going to school, but we wouldn't have traded Keppoch for any other in the world!

I will list most of the pupils who attended. The names of the first ones are not available. Jim Smythe's children and Hartwells attended one Hartwell girl was Laura and one Bertha. Gladys Ford, Elsie Rush, Hales and Ethel Barrett, Everett, John, Jean, Della and Tom Moore, Dallas Clark, Muriel, Lilah, and George Graham, Mabel McKeen, Cary Heller and Rose Heller, Rose, John, Karl, Evelyn, Hector, Elmer, Lew and Daisy Andrew, Jim, Wilmalie,

Thelma, Ernest and Hazel Chestney; Chris and Dorothy Arkley; Katie and Peter Redekopp; Cornelius, Katie, Bernard, Helen, George and Jack Herbert; Peter G., Nettie, Annie and David Redekopp; Roy Howell; Bob, Tom, Jack and Genevieve Bates; Allan Miller, Gordon, Stanley, Ina and Edna Cameron; Gertrude Oysel, Paul Max, Allan and Norman Voegeli; Inez Thompson, Helen Warren; Bill Sloan; Ronald Tarchuk; Erika, Hilda and Henry Penner; Fred, John, Walter, Helen, Donald and Clarence Penk; Trudy, Sharon, Charlotte, Elinor and Leroy Bean, Jim and Wayne Beaudoin; Darlene and Elaine Wood; Margaret and Rena Andrew, Clair, Lois, Norma, Murray, Mona, Gail, and Doreen McIvor; Grace, Harold, Carl, Bernice and Wayne Schmidt; Mandy and Jenny Epp; Cecil Mercer; Florence, Bernecce, and Lorne Hodge; Alvin, John, Enos and Edith Braun; Irene and Jean Peters; Albert Beaudoin; Anna Marie Risner; Pat and Garry Lapsansky. These pupils went out from Keystone's walls of learning to become teachers, farmers, chartered accountants, music teachers, truckers, artists, nurses, jockeys, preachers, lab technicians, authors, orderlies in hospitals, store keepers, hairdressers, aviators, mechanics, bank tellers, dressmakers, secretaries thus making a living memorial to a one-roomed school.

I wish all these old voices of the past could come from the four corners of the earth and we'd send up a mighty shout as we remember our old school yell —

Rip Saw, Rip Saw, Rip Saw, Bang!
We belong to the Keystone gang.
Do we study? Well I guess —!
Keystone, Keystone, Yes, Yes, Yes.
Hooper out, shouter out, EVERYBODY roar!
Keystone, Keystone — loyal to the core!

Anecdotes of Keystone School

Miss Geary was a well liked teacher at Keystone Mrs. Bates decided to invite her home for supper after school. Although Jack and Tom liked her, mother could be seen by the other school kids riding out of the schoolyard sitting by the teacher. Tom hurriedly jumped into the back of the buggy. Jack, not to be outdone jumped onto the horse's back. Miss Geary laughed like everything as she rode on the seat. They found a strawberry patch on the road home, stopped to pick it, having a good feed. Then safely out of sight of the school all got into the buggy and rode home together.

Monitor School

In 1917 Monitor School District was formed. This school was located on N.W. Quarter 35-41-13-West. William Gray was one of the first trustees — Mary Rogers one of the first pupils. There were about eighteen pupils the first fall school opened. Some teachers remembered are: Marysabelle Gifford, Phyllis Adamson, Hilda Feather, Gertrude Thibeault, Dorothy Chisholm, Mary Keeble, Mary Patterson and Olga Isaac.

Monitor School.

Some of the early pupils were: Dorothy Wagner (Crawley), Roby Reid, Cloie Rolfe (Purdy), Nellie Rose, Frank Abbot, Emma Gray (Johnston), Alma Rose, Jack Foster, May Gray (Rogers), Minnie Webb, Frank Foster, Eileen Abbot, Viola Abbot.

Neepawa School

Neepawa School District No. 1517 was established on April 11, 1916 and the school was completed and opened the same year with Thomas A. Amoss as teacher and seven pupils were enrolled, these being: Alfreda Skinner (late Mrs. Rolly Smith) her two brothers, Harry and Walter Skinner, Clarence and Walter Northcott, and their sister Florence Northcott.

Neepawa School Bell, mounted by John Fast in the John Fast Yard in Maymont. Inscription reads, "IN MEMORY OF NEEPAWA SCHOOL" JAN. 1907 to 1943.

Neepawa School Pupils. Back row — Jim Smith, Sarah Warkentine, Myrtle Northcott, Elsie Tyhurst. Front row — Bert Sloan, Audrey Sloan, Grace Northcott, Joyce Beatty, Anne Warkentine, George Beatty.

(Mrs. Jack Miller) and William C. Fast (Bill) who retired from farming and still lives in Maymont.

Serving on the first board of trustees were: Henry Knight, George Northcott and George A. Fast. Jake Fast was first secretary-treasurer, a position he held for twenty-five years. Mr. Knight came from Neepawa, Manitoba and so wished that name to be used for the new district. Neepawa is an Indian word meaning 'the Land of plenty'. S. E. Chambers, an immigrant from Yorkshire, England got the contract to build the school. The foundation was of field stone and built by Alex Garrett of Fielding. When S. E. Chambers was unable to finish building the school a Herman Benner was engaged to complete the job, which resulted in the school being ready by December 31, 1906.

In July, 1920 the old school burned down: classes continued in the new barn until the new school was completed. A Miss Larson was the first to teach in the new building.

Some of the teachers through the years were local girls and men: Muriel Harris, Kathleen McKinnon, Lucille Clifford, Lydia Ballarud, Irene Reid, Lillian Martin, Hazel Lawson, Charles Archibald, from Speers, Max Braithwaite — now famed author — taught for two years.

A list of pupils who were enrolled under Miss Lydia Ballarud (Mrs. Allen Bean) in 1933 were: Irene and Ira Thompson, Walter, Ruth, May and Chester Miller, Edwin, Hazel and Vernon Sloan, John Fast, Clarence Northcott, Allan Tyhurst, Allan Miller. Jim and Wilfred Ryan, Elsie and Mabel Anderson.

The school was closed when only three pupils were enrolled. Neepawa School was moved in 1938 to Keystone District: while in Keystone District children studying under Mrs. Eleanor McCready (who is now retired and living in Maymont were: Bonny Penner; Fred, John, Walter and Helen Pauls; Murray, Margaret, and Doreen Melver; Ron Tanchuck; Darlene and Elaine Wood; Trudy, Sharon, and Charlotte Sloan; and Jim Beardon.

In 1950 the school was once again moved, this time to Maymont as an addition to the then existing school. It remained until 1970 when Bob Johnston bought the building. It was moved onto a lot south of the Tom Sawyer home — and was burned on May 3 when a grass and brush fire got out of hand.

These country schools were the social hall and many times a church for their community. Often card parties, socials, funerals, Christenings, picnics and many concerts were held in them.

Wavie Bank School

written by Laura Prescesky

A meeting was held on July 25, 1927 at the HENRY VOKE residence to make arrangements for the purchase of the school site. Trustees then were: S. A. Johnston, John A. Cooley, H. Vokes was secretary. On Aug. 8, 1927 a resolution was passed to borrow by way of debentures the sum of $4,000 for the building of Wavie Bank School No. 4711 and its furnishings. School was opened on Jan. 16, 1928 and MISS BAILEY was hired as teacher. Enrolments were large and the school served the following families: Cooleys, Johnstons, Prescesky's, Woods, Littles, Martynes, Bulmers, Tebays, Hegglands, Seits, Hewers, Thompsons, Alexanders, and Caldwells.

The following teachers served this School District:

1928- Miss Bailey, replaced by Miss Monk
1932-1933 Mr. Ken Doolittle

Wavle Bank School, 1955 -- Edna Sherman (teacher). Pupils (l-r) Back — Ron, Terry and Pat Caldwell, Jim Prescesky. Front — Brenda and Danny Prescesky, Richard Selb Ken and Judy Prescesky. Kneeling — Doug Prescesky.

Wavle Bank school.

Wavle Bank school children (1928)

Wavle Bank class of about 1941. (l-r) Back row — Elmer Selb, Paul Prescesky, Owen and Sadie Tabay, Mary Prescesky. 2nd row — Nellie Prescesky, Lillian Selb, Jennie Prescesky, Thelma Woods, Joyce Tabay. Front row — Victor Prescesky, Shirley Hewar, Henry Prescesky, Raymond Selb, Eddie Prescesky, Eleanor Selb.

1930-1932 Mr. Harry Broley (Salary at $950)
1932-1933 Mr. McFarlane (Salary of $900 — had to fight fires)
1934- Mr. Stanley Aldrid
1935-1936 Mrs. C. Hall (Salary of $650, depression)
1936-1938 Mrs. A. D. Smith
1939- Mr. W. J. Strong
1940-1941 Miss V. L. Soderberg
1942- Mr. P. J. Moynihan
1943-1944 Mrs. Fraser
1945-1946 Miss L. M. Pootlo (later to become Mrs. Pete Prescesky)
1947-1948 Miss Pearl Makaruschuk (later to become Mrs. Babych)
1949- Mr. Don Slynsky

1960-1961	Mrs. Tony Sawchuk
1962-	Mrs. Barber
1963-	Miss Helen Demchuk
1965-	Miss Barbara Iverson
1966-	Miss Callan
1960-1961	Mrs. Jennie Wallace
1962-1964	Mrs. Terry Daybarab
1965-1966	Miss Edna Sherman
1967-1968	Mrs Laura Prescesky

The school was also used for dances. Christmas concerts, picnics, Sunday School and Church services. Mr. Bill Martynes on banjo and Mr. S. A. Johnston on violin provided music practically at no cost for dances which were usually held on Friday nights.

Trustees that served the school district were: Charles Wood, Stephen Prescesky, Bill Martynes, E. J. Prescesky, James Tebay, Paul Prescesky, Elmer Seib and Peter Prescesky

Centralization of schools was becoming evident. In the fall of 1945 the school district was incorporated into the North Battleford School Unit No. 66. It was with reluctance that the school board turned over its records and financial authority as they realized they were losing control and felt they were only being left to do the menial tasks around the school. I must mention here that I was present at this take over and I still remember vividly sec.-treas. Chas. Wood being commended by Supt. W. Emerson for his excellent records and bookkeeping. School enrolments began to decline in the early 50's and the school closed on June 30, 1963 with the understanding that it may re-open at a later date. It re-opened in Sept., 1967 and closed in June, 1968 with Mrs. Laura Prescesky as its last teacher.

The building has been moved to the farm site of Everett Sherman where it is used as a garage. However, wonderful memories remain of this one-room schoolhouse and someday maybe a cairn will be erected to honor its site.

Ruddell Story

When one turns off highway no. 16 at the sign that reads Ruddell "No Services" and enters this quiet village it is hard to imagine the bustling activity of by gone years. This is the village that now has only the post office and a handful of residents. This is the village that at one time had four general stores, blacksmith shop, butchershop, school, Hotel, barbershop, bank, poolroom, two livery stables, three elevators, three implement agencies, bakery, a church, a doctor, and a veterinarian.

The Canadian Northern Railway Company first named this station Locarno and it was later changed to Ruddell. No one seems to know why the change was made or whom the village was named for.

When the railway was being built in 1914, water close to the right of way was very scarce. At that time the big slough one mile east of town was full and

Ruddell Main St., 1912

Ruddell's Main St. looking south about 1910.

resembled a small lake. The construction crews made their headquarters there. They had cows built into the clay banks. The railway established a pump house there where the engines could take on water. Earl Watts was the operator, he and Mrs. Watts lived in a small house close by. Mr. and Mrs. Geo Mabey and family had the honor of being the passengers on the first passenger train to stop at Ruddell in fall of 1915. The first station agent was Archie McEacheran a jolly fellow who always went out of his way to help people.

The summer of 1916 was the start of the boom years for the little prairie town. The first grocery store was built by Allan Anderson who also was section foreman and homesteaded just north of town. He later sold out his business to Lowrey Brothers. The Lowery Bros. Ed and Jim built a large building on the west side of the street and opened a general store.

Two merchants from Prince Albert Geo. McAdams and Alfred Spence built a new store building and carried a full line of general merchandise. Mr. McAdams bought out Mr. Spence.

The first real estate transaction took place when Mr. Anderson moved his little store across the street and sold the corner lot for the hotel site. The little building was purchased by Mr. William Thrower, a barber from North Dakota. Mr. Thrower homesteaded west of town and came in on Saturdays to look after

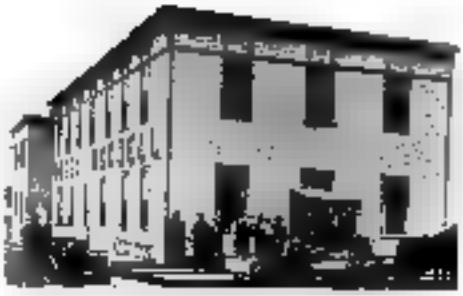
the districts barbering needs. Hair cuts 15¢ and a shave 10¢.

Mr. Spence built the Ruddell Hotel and was completed in 1907, which he and Mrs. Spence operated. Some years after the death of Mr. Spence, Mrs. Spence married an old family friend from New Brunswick, Charlie Johnson. They operated the hotel until their deaths. There was a sale in 1964 where all goods were sold including the hotel building. The building was sold to Stan Delong. He demolished the building and used the lumber to build the Locker Plant in Maymont.

Mr. and Mrs. John R. Kitchen of Alvinston, Ontario built a substantial building on the east side of main street and operated a boarding house. Mr. Kitchen also operated a real estate business. At the death of Mr. Kitchen, Bob Hayter, a barber from North Battleford bought the building and started a grocery store and barber shop.

Bern Robinson had the agency for Deering Machinery and operated a profitable business. Bern later took in Oswald Harper and the firm of Robinson and Harper was well known over a large area.

Charlie Robinson came to Ruddell in 1905 and he might be called the backbone of the prairie village. He operated a furniture store, a harness shop and the first lumber yard. He was a successful farmer. He erected several of the village houses which are still in use. He was an ardent gardener and set out the first trees to be planted in the village. He employed Charlie McClure as his full time harness maker. Mr. McClure was a first class craftsman and the harness business was a going concern.

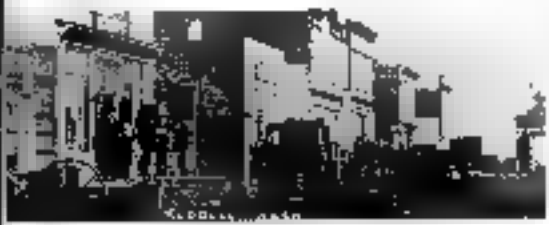


Ruddell Hotel (Before it was stuccoed) In car, front seat — Fern and her dad (Bern) [George O.] Robinson. Back seat — Reg Dalzell (brother of Ruddell elevator agent), and Warne Robinson. Standing — Charlie Robinson (at corner), Shorty [Albert] Mallows (3rd from corner), next to Shorty Charlie Johnson (riding ?. Sign over door — "Licensed to sell spirituous or fermented liquors".

Machinery on display in the early years.

Randy McNeil had his hardware store built in 1906 which he operated from that time to 1929. He also homesteaded the SE ¼ 30, 42, 11 W 3rd. He brought to the West a car load of settlers effects and a carload of apples. The apples came in large wooden barrels and sold for five dollars. The apple deal proved unprofitable. The local market was small, and many were frozen as there was no proper place to store them. Randy McNeil's store was to be completed before the family came in September, but when they arrived early in October it was only well started. Winter came early in 1906 and the last week in November saw 40 below zero. The pioneer home on the mail and all that winter the upstairs living quarters were glazed with ice. When spring came the ice fell off and the plaster with it.

Ruddell about 1910 taken from the top of the elevator.



Ruddell's main st. west side about 1919.

Duncan McKellar built the first livery stable in 1906 the first well in the village was dug just inside the front door. After digging through some forty feet of blue clay they despaired of getting water. In desperation they rigged up a 3" wood auger and drilled down some ten feet and water gushed into the well. There was always a plentiful supply but unfortunately very alkaline. The barn was burned in about 1908 and was rebuilt. Mr. McKellar later sold the barn to Dave Custer who ran the business until it was again burned. It was rebuilt by Turnbull Bros. but on a lot further east. A pump house was built over the old well which continued to supply water through the 3" auger hole. In later years a cistern type well was dug and water

Ruddell Post Office. Shorty Mallows. Reg Cattell (back seat of car), Sam Robinson and Fern (in front seat). Standing in back — George Robinson, John Warden, Wayne Robinson, Charlie Robinson. On wagon — Stanley Bright, Dave Custer (seated on side), 2 girls Elmer and Lorna Warden.

hauled from the Turnbull farm ¾ mile south of the village. This type of well is still in operation.

The early settlers had to go to Battleford for their mail either by walking, horse and buggy, or oxen. Later mail came to the Megaffin house at Rollerville. After the coming of the railway a post office was set up in Lowery Bros. store. This post office sorted mail for Ruddell, Rollerville, Scottsdale, Lizard Lake and Spinney Hill. The well known pioneer Jim Megaffin came bell or high water to take the mail across the river once a week. The Lowery Bros. sorted the letters and first class items and newspapers. A sign over the door said E. R. Post Office which some people said stood for "easy running". Some of the other postmasters through the years were Geo Robinson, Warren Robinson, Albert (Shortie) Mallows, Bill Buttery and our present post mistress Elsie Nimkowitch.

Tom Murtagh came west on the 1906 harvest excursion and in November of that year he started the butcher shop. He had no building to start in but had planks and sawhorses against the side of Kitchen's boarding house. Possibly the only outdoor butcher in

Some of the Ruddell men outside the Hotel before 1914.

Cavan Church, Ruddell, 1908.

Mr. Madill (first minister in Cavan Presbyterian Church) and family. Lower row — Mrs. Madill, Mr. Madill, Alberta. 2nd row — Vi, Pearl, Ethel

all Canada. He cut the broom meat with a saw and cleaver. Later that winter he went back and restocked with a new bride. In the spring he built a proper shop.

A. Gardner built the first blacksmith shop, but he sold to Geo Robinson in 1906. Geo. Robinson later sold out to McKenzie Bros. and bought Lowery's general store. He carried on a successful family business for many years.

The first religious services in this district were conducted in 1904 by Mr. Matheson, a Presbyterian student minister who lived in a tent on Mr. William Andrews farm at Maymont. His way of travel was by horse and cart or by foot. His field extended from Fielding to Brada. The C.N.R. was being built at this time and Mr. Matheson was holding services at camps along the right of way. He persuaded Mr. O. C. Harper to come along and help him as song leader. (Mr. O. C. Harper with his brother Morris had come to the district to homestead in 1903). Mr. Matheson had to go back to college and he left Mr. Harper to conduct the Harvest Thanksgiving Service in Charlie's home south of Denholm. The collection went to the Battleford Hospital. This is recorded in the Battleford Herald.

Then came the Rev. J. C. Madill in 1905 who took over this large parish. He held services at Turnbulls, McClellands, Ralphs, also at Maymont, Fielding and Denholm. He also had O. C. Harper take over some of his services. Village was about 80 miles, transportation was by bicycle.

The Cavan Presbyterian Church was open in Oct. 7 of 1906. The Rev. Mr. McKinnon from Winnipeg as guest speaker at morning and evening services. Mr. O

Ruddell U.C.W. by post. Back row, l. to r. — Mrs. E. Reid, Mrs. Morison, Mrs. Wrenshall, Mrs. G. Scott, Mrs. Naylor, Mrs. Firth, Eleanor Robinson, Marg Thrower, Mrs. Markynes, Margaret White, Mrs. Albert Steel. Front row — Mrs. Grower Reid, Gertrude Whitlow, Mrs. Jack White, Mrs. Charles Johnson, Mrs. John Arnold, Mrs. A. W. Robinson, Mrs. Dave Arnold (Maida Husband), Mrs. Lotta (Ross) Stolly, Mrs. Dorothy (Albert) Mallows, Ivy (Mrs. Bill) Turnbull, Betty Jane M. Turnbull (little girl).

C. Harper led the choir of twenty-seven voices. A. E. Whitlaw and Geo Turnbull took up the first collection.

Rev. J. C. Madill was the first minister of this church. Chairs were used in the church for a few years. Later the present pews were installed by Mrs. Munson. Geo and Graham Turnbull in memory of their mother Mrs. Elizabeth Turnbull.

The organ, Communion table and Bible were gifts from a church in Brantford, Ontario. The Baptismal Font was given some years later by Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Geddie in memory of their son Keith.

The Manse was built in 1913. Carman United Church has been the centre of numerous groups through the years. United Church Ladies Aid, Young peoples, Sunday School. Services were held regularly until 1966 when it became the product of centralization and was closed. Funerals are still held in the church and it is used for meetings by the Reddell community.

The first school was built in the winter of 1906 and 1907. There was one teacher and Grades 1 to Grade 8. The first teacher was Duncan McKellar's wife Margaret. Around about 1920 a second room was added on the west side. In 1953 a new two room school was built. It was opened November 21 with a program. In 1967 the high school was closed and the students were bussed to Maymont. In 1973 the school was closed, sold and torn down.

TEACHERS WERE:

1907-1910 Mrs. McKellar
1910-1911 Lucy Merry
1911-1912 Holmes Calhoun
1913-1915 Miss McCrea
1915-1916 Medley Brundage
1916-1917 Frances E. Reid
1918-1919 Jessie Duff
Pearl E. Paterson
1920-1921 Elsie Elizabeth Reid
Genevieve Pearl Sherman
1925-1926 Hazel L. Leask
1924-1925 Marjorie O. Mackay
1926-1927 Blanche McDonald
Mary Isabelle Huston
1928-1929 A. M. Naylor
1929-1930 G. R. Foster
1930-1931 V. R. Ferris
1931-1932 O. D. Vail
B. Robinson
1933-1934 R. Robinson

Rudder School 1928. Left to right, sitting — Grant Topping, Bobby Bowers, Donald Robinson, Lyle Arnold, George Scott, Lewis Ferguson, Lance Robinson, Woodrow Roche, Harold Anderson, Jack Robinson, Herbert Anderson, Ross Abbott, Ross Arnold, Andy Abbott, Renton Naylor, Bill Robinson, Jack Wallace, Clifford Wallace. 2nd row — Lois Bowers, Lila Topping, Valerie Ferguson, Adelaide Turnbull, Gladys Anderson, Bernice Skelly, Ruth Scott, Rolean Abbott, Jean Murison, Maxine McNeill, Wilieta Hoss, Ruth Wallace, Kay Collins, Ida Anderson, Ethel Anderson, Eileen Abbott, Thelma Naylor, Helen Abbott, Mary Robinson. 3rd row — H. S. Robinson (teacher), Mary Huston (teacher), Ethel Mosley, Violet Wallace, Ivy Moore, Amy Topping, Hazel Anderson, Kay Naylor, Irene Collins.

Ruddell School Spring of 1911. Back row — Bess Turnbull, Louise Thrower, Russ McNeil, Edna Robinson, Maggie Cattell, Lucy Marry (teacher). Front row — Bill Turnbull, Russ Geddis, Les Conway, Bill Gold, Herb Mabey, Fred Thrower, Mary Reikie, Phyllis Mobley.

Ruddell high, 1947. L. to r., front row — Ron Schmidt, Ken Meens, Ron Meens, Bell Scheiter. 2nd row — Della Beausoleil, Joyce Lang, Lorna Soule, Audrey Reid, Ruth Voegeli. 3rd row — Allan Soule, Ernest Voegeli, Bill Schmidt, Norman Soule, Art Martynes. 4th row — Nell Geisbrecht (teacher).

Ruddell School, 1945. Row 1. L. to r. — Garry Hanson, Hazel Acaster, Don Schmidt, Ronnie Hanson. Row 2 — Kattie Demchuk, Shirley Acaster, Audrey Jones, Ruth Voegeli, Ron Schmidt, Bill Blair, Mike Demchuk, Harman Soule, Gerald Acaster, Wes Schmidt, Russell Krake. Row 3 — Bill Scheiter, Art Martynes, George Skinner, Lorna Soule, Helen Demchuk, Doreen Krake. Row 4 — Della Beausoleil, Audrey Reid, Dorothy Gillair, Shirley Blair, Joyce Jones. Row 5 — Norman Curry, Kathleen Barlow (Jr. room teacher), Allan Soule, Art Rein (Sr. room teacher), Norman Soule, Bill Caldwell. Missing from picture — Rita Buttray, George Demchuk, Donna Belerie, Bill Schmidt, Ernie Voegeli.

Junior Room Ruddell School, 1951-1952. L. to r., back row — Anne Buttray, Albert Fredenmuth, Glen Meens, Peggy Daoust, Edith Acaster, Elsie Demchuk, Rita Buttray, Eileen Meens, George Demchuk, Cliff Acaster, David McIntyre, Eugene Krake, Patsy Hanson. Front row — Lorene Geisbrecht, Roy Krake, Mary Rose Krake, Dorothy Voegeli, Bryce Whitlow, Archie Robinson. Missing — Agnes Soule, Gerry Schmidt. Teacher — Miss K. M. Barlow.

1934-1935 R. Robinson
1936-1937 M. Grainger
1938-1939 Mary Welford
1940-1941 Mary Welford
1941-1942 Edythe Marie Hamilton
1942-1943 Edythe Marie Hamilton
1943-1944 Kathleen Melville Barlow

1944-1952 Kathleen Melville Barlow
1952-1954 Lillian Barlow
1954-1956 Anne Helen Leask
1956-1957 Kathleen Marjorie Turk
1957-1958 Caroline Susan Rossaplee
1958-1959 Mary Thora Neilene Jenkins

Ruddell High, 1957. Left to right, 1st row - Roy Krake, Dorothy Voegeli, Anne Burfray, Archie Robinson. 2nd row — Lorana Gelsbrecht, Sharon Towns, Doug Faulds (teacher). 3rd row — Carol Barber, Kathleen Towns, Agnes Soule, Peggy Daoust, Rita Burfray. 4th row — David McIntyre, Albert Fairmuth, Barry Schmidt, Glen Meena. Missing — Elsie Demchuk, Eugene Krake.

1956-1960 Ruth Victoria Rauser
1960-1961 Mrs. John Brett
Lois Eileen McGregor
Victoria Josephine Cherzetski
1962-1963 Freda Alice Gray
1963-1964 Freda Alice Gray
1964-1965 Grace Darling Jess
1965-1966 Grace Darling Jess
1966-1969 Freda Alice Gray
1969-1972 Marion Elizebeth Thompson

HIGHSCHOOL TEACHERS

1921-1922 Ella Stewart
M. E. Webber
1922-1923 Katie B. Cole
M. E. Webber
Ella Stewart
1923-1924 Brenton M. Hobson
1924-1929 H. S. Robinson

Ruddell, 1963-64. Left to right, front row — John Mason, David Schmidt, Rick Schmidt, Kevin Leng. 2nd row — Margaret Krake, Anne Voegeli, Donna Starycki, Charlotte Wood, Christine Starycki, Darlene Schmidt, Monika Siebert, Maxine Gray. 3rd row — Eugene Daoust, Kathleen Acaster, Jerry Sawchuk, Mitchel Starycki, Lee Schmidt, Linda Voegeli, Donald Soule. Missing — Don Seroot, Diane Seroot

Freda and her class at Ruddell School, 1966-67. Front row — Rick Schmidt, Darrel Prescesky, Steven Prescesky, Barton Wood, Dwight Schmidt, Reid Schmidt, Kevin Leng. 2nd row — Sharon Meena, Debbie Schmidt, Roxanne Wood, Donna Voegeli, Colleen Meena, Carol Leng. 3rd row — Freda Gray (teacher), Donna Starycki, David Schmidt, Margaret Krake, Christine Starycki, Eugene Daoust, Anne Voegeli, John Mason, Darlene Schmidt.

1930-1931 Archibald Stanley McPhail
1931-1935 Carmel Aylesworth May
1935-1936 Ralph Nelson Wensley
1936-1938 J. E. Van Patten
1938-1940 Harold M. Paisano
1940-1941 E. A. Simmonds
1941-1942 Ainsley Edward Baikie
1942-1943 Agnes J. Walters
1943-1945 Neil Geisbrecht
1945-1946 Arthur H. Reim
1946-1947 Neil Geisbrecht

1947-1948 Donald Allan Morrison
1948-1950 Annie Rose Klassen
1950-1951 Kenneth Stuart McLaren
1951-1954 John Lindsay Consecutive
1954-1959 Douglas Faulds
1959-1960 Ida Mae Gilbert
1960-1961 John Brett
1961-1962 Laurence Toole
1962-1964 William Thom
1964-1966 Ida Mae Gilbert

The first elevator was built by the Canadian Elevator Company in 1906. The first operator was Alex Young who lived in North Battleford. He never moved his family to Ruddell but lived at Kinnon's boarding house and returned to Battleford when the grain season was over.

Another elevator was constructed in 1907 by the

Ruddell's Station and 3 elevators.

Ruddell's elevator about to cross No. 5 Highway.

Ruddell Ferry.

British American Elevator Company. Jim Goverlock was its first operator. Competition was more keen. Sleigh loads of wheat, some from across the river, lined the main street waiting for the best bid from the elevator men.

Later a third elevator was constructed by the co-op. Turnbulls also had a small elevator but it was torn down in the early twenties. The three elevators continued to serve the community. Their names were changed to the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, The National, and the Consolidated. The late 40's saw the National go. The Consolidated was taken over by the Saskatchewan Wheat pool. In the mid 70's one the elevators close down. One was torn down, the other was bought by Art Martynes and moved to its new home on the hill one mile north of Ruddell.

The Ruddell ferry was installed in 1907. The farmers no longer had to wait till the river was frozen to haul their grain. Some of the early operators were O. Brumbaugh, Ed Ewing, Bill Kennedy, Robert Stephens. This crossing was two miles south and one mile east of Ruddell.

The town Marchands published a newspaper "The Ruddell News" Copies of the newspaper are now

G. E. Sherwood store, Ruddell.

RUDDELL NEWS

Vol. I. Ruddell, Sask., December, 1906 No. 2

A MERRY XMAS TO ALL OUR READERS

Wanted ■ Ruddell

A GOOD DOCTOR

—AND A—

DRUG STORE

A GOOD EDUCATIONAL ADVANTAGE

ALSO GOOD OPENINGS

—FOR A—

BANK
FLOUR MILL
FURNITURE STORE
CEMENT BLOCK MANUFACTURER
BRICK YARD
BAKERY

A GOOD CENTRE FOR MANUFACTURERS

SCARCITY OF RICE

"Rice are now very high in price and very hard to get in this town at all," said a local merchant the other day. Would it not be a good idea to start supplying competition amongst the poultry of the district. We believe it has been tried successfully in some countries, the hens taking a lively interest. Talking of hens reminds us of the story of the farmer whose neighbors complained of the size of his eggs. He made enquiries to do better, and passing a store one day, he saw an article 25c. which he immediately purchased and hung in his fowl house with the following inscription. "Look at this and do your best."

GROWTH OF RUDDELL

We are pleased to announce that in the near future there will be an increase in the business section of Ruddell, namely, a hardware store which will be opened up by Mr. R. McNeil, and an up-to-date meat store, by Mr. Mutlugh, of Saskatoon. These two gentlemen were struck with the appearance of our town and with the bustling activity that presents itself to the onlooker. The present wave of prosperity that Ruddell is now experiencing will undoubtedly bring many more business men into the town, and to those who are looking for openings in the West, there is no town which offers greater inducements.

ON XMAS EVE.

That there will be lots of fun and enjoyment in this town on the 24th goes without saying. It has already been announced that there will be a gathering in Ruddell Presbyterian church, on that date, for a concert and social, when an instructive and enjoyable program will be given by the Methodists of the district. A Christmas tree is also spoken of, and many other things. An enjoyable evening is assured.

ON NEW YEAR'S EVE.

It is announced that on New Year's eve there will be a concert and dance in the new public school of Ruddell, and we are assured that a very musical and lively program has been provided for, to commence at 8 p.m. Admission, concert and dance, 50 cents, concert only, 25 cents, children, 15 cents.

McADAMS & SPENCE

GENERAL MERCHANTS

RUDDELL, - SASK.

FRESH GROCERIES

AT ALL TIMES

DRY GOODS

BOOTS AND SHOES

RUBBERS, ETC.

FLOUR BRAN SHORTS

WINTER APPLES

A FULL LINE OF

XMAS NOVELTIES

R. McNEIL

HARDWARE MERCHANT

I am just opening up my store with a complete line of

GENERAL HARDWARE

All the best makes of

STOVES AND RANGES

Do not start before going elsewhere. Call and see me.

LOCALS.

Mr. Erving of Saskatoon has been on a visit to this town.

Mr. and Mrs. Stetson are now in residence in the district.

E. Ogilvie has returned to his homestead from Battleford.

G. Robinson writes that there is ten feet of snow in Edmonton, Alta.

A. Cayley has been in town and has erected the chimneys for the new hotel.

T. McKellar is busy with digging and is much pleased with the strain of the coal.

C. Hilliard was appointed treasurer for the Board of Trade in place of J. Lowrey.

T. Blewett, Edmonton has been another figure in town lately. There is no weather too bad for this gentleman.

Wanted for Ruddell, freighters to haul freight in this town to help the place of the C. N. R., high prices paid.

Mr. and Mrs. Shilvock of Battleford, gave a very enjoyable evening on Tuesday last to a large number of friends, dancing being kept up till morning. The best of hostesses are to be congratulated upon the delightful manner in which the evening was spent.

At the recent meeting of the Board of Trade all the officers were re-elected for another term of twelve months with exception of the Treasurer, the officers are A. E. Spence, President; J. B. Kitchen, Vice-President; Mr. Sullivan, Treasurer; G. McAdams, Secretary.

C. H. Robinson

Dealer in

LUMBER

All kinds of Spruce and B. C. Lumber.

I have the best kinds of lumber on the way for my Spring trade.

Also a full line of

Sherwin and Williams Paints, Oils and Varnishes.

Contractors. Money to Loan.

Mr. Turnbull and Mr. Bentley paid a flying visit to Battleford but on arrival found that they had to catch a train. They arrived home on a Wrecking train.

Mr. E. Whitlaw has been busily engaged in the town recently, from the coal pit that he has started on his homestead. The coal is of the best quality and would make handsome cement blocks for the district, this is another valuable asset to the district.

The result of the election for councillors have reached us in the following order:- 1-2-3, Mr. Turnbull, retiring councillor Mr. Ellis, 4-5-6 Mr. Sharpe, retiring councillor W. J. Lucas; 7-8-9 Mr. Osborne returned unopposed.

DENHOLM.

Mr. Fancot took a trip up to Battleford to see the Tuesday hockey match between the two towns and was very much elated at the result.

Quite a number of residents from all over for the dance at Mr. McLennan's and enjoyed themselves immensely.

Things are very quiet in the district just now except among the members which are very numerous.

MAYMONT.

Great excitement was shown on the arrival of a freight train from the east and great disappointment was felt when it was known that no goods had arrived, and as under the present conditions existing are getting worse. One Provincial merchant has only just received his Xmas goods. We have only received one mail from the east for seven days now and it looks as if it will be some time yet before communications are restored. Traffic is very quiet to town these days, the most flourishing business being the ice business.

Great regret was felt that there is a probability of losing our agent, but as private quarters are too comfortable.

It will be good news to the farmers in this district to know that Mr. G. Robinson has started up a blacksmith shop in Ruddell, having acquired Mr. A. Webber's outfit and shop. He intends to give entire attention to this line of business. All kinds of repairing, welding and shoeing done at short notice. Mr. Robinson is also an expert in ploughing and has had a good experience as an all round mechanic.

B. Robinson

RUDDELL.

Two car loads of Cockshutt machinery on the road comprising

Drills, Ploughs, Harrows, Packers, Cultivators, Side Delivery, Sulky Ploughs, Adjust. Wagons also Buffalo.

One car of Gray Peerless,

One car of Deering Binders.

Half car Plymouth Twine.

Call and examine my machinery before buying and get prices.

Machinery will arrive February. Call and get a Catalogue

The Pioneer Store.

LOWREY BROS., RUDDELL.

We desire to thank our many customers for the liberal patronage we have received from their hands during the past, and we hold ourselves in readiness to serve you with your every want. Trusting that our business methods will always meet with your approval.

We still carry a full line of

Groceries, Flour, Feed, Boots, Shoes, Hardware and Ready made Clothing.

Headquarters for Stoves.

G. HALLMAN

Ruddell, Sask.

Painter, Grainer, Glazier

and Paper Hanger.

Also Up-to-date

SIGN WRITING

First-Class Workmanship.

All orders promptly attended to.

THE RUDDELL NEWS.

VOL. I. RUDDELL, SASK., FEBRUARY, 1907. NO. 3.

WANTED IN RUDDELL.

Bank
Flour and Grist Mill
Furniture Store
Harness Shop
Printer
Cement Block Manufactur'r
Brick Yard
Bakery
Drug Store

A good opening exists for any of the above tradesmen.

RUDDELL'S ADVANCE.

It is evident to the most patriotic naturalist that Ruddell will be a shuttle for the farmers for many miles around, even at this time of the year it is outstripping in the business that is done, very nearly all the other towns of the district, numerous teams of prospective purchasers who are busy purchasing the necessities and requirements of their households. The reason for this is apparent for the farmers see that a ready market is in Ruddell for all produce, whether it be eggs, butter, hay, grain or wood, in fact anything that is produced in the country finds a ready sale here, a large business is being done in the fur trade, quite a few shipments having already been made from this point. Another good reason for the prosperity of this district is that the farmers in this district are proud of the town and are pleased with the buildings that have been erected, and with their substantial appearance. It is the proud boast of this community that we possess the largest Presbyterian church in the west this side of Winnipeg and the public school that has just been erected is a credit to the town and district. Applications have also been received from a doctor and druggist for a site in this town also the sites have been staked out for two more elevators which are to be built this year. There is no doubt that this year will see great changes and much advancement made in this growing town.

THE HISTORY OF RUDDELL.

Ruddell is situated on the C. N. R. twenty-two miles east of North Battleford, being in a fine stretch of fertile soil. There are no hidings between here and Battleford, but there are no prospects of a town ever springing up at either of the points, which leaves Ruddell in a good position to carry about seven to a town of at least eleven hundred inhabitants. The settlement of which now dates from a year to a year with a population of some twenty-five or thirty inhabitants to establish a newspaper, but this is the hand maid of the Ruddell News will see to work it, take the news, in point. Mr. McAdams is in Ruddell and has associated with him in this name Mr. J. R. Kitchin.

If the reader can glance over this vast prairie with its fertile soil dotting along the great Saskatchewan river with here and there an occasional bluff, then he can see with his imaginary eye what the country in the immediate vicinity of Battleford was some five years ago were the presence of an occasional Indian in quest of game. In the fall of 1904 there the Canadian Northern Ry. engineers first made their appearance through this part of the country, shortly after this settlers commenced to make their appearance, the first to open being John White and Samuel Chestnut who came from the vicinity of Deloraine, Man., about four years ago, bringing with them a yoke of oxen. After locating the ground in several places they decided over here, each taking up a homestead, and buying a half section of C. P. R. land for which they gave three dollars an acre, the same now being worth fifty per acre. Mr. Anderson was the first to attempt anything in the line of a store. He erected a small building where he kept a few groceries, but the business not being large enough to accommodate the public, and wishing to give more attention to other affairs he sold out in July, 1905, to Mr. Lockey, who erected a large

McADAMS
&
SPENCE

GENERAL MERCHANTS

Fresh Groceries at Right Prices,
Dry Goods, Boots & Shoes,
Hatters, Mackinaw, Etc.

WESTERN APPLES $3.00 Per Bbl.
All kinds of Farm Produce Bought.

New
Blacksmith Shop

G. C. Robinson, - Ruddell.

Having bought out A. Gardner I am now prepared to do all kinds of

BLACKSMITHING

and Wood Repairing to Wagons, Sleighs, etc.

Also Plumbing Repairs effected at shortest notice.

Prompt attention and best Workmanship Guaranteed.

J. R. KITCHIN,

REAL ESTATE AGENT,

Ruddell - Sask.

200,000 ACRES

of Farm Lands for sale in the famous

BATTLEFORD DISTRICT

many of them convenient to railway.

Easy terms of payment.

Money to Loan. Insurance.

Auctioneer.

Commissioner for taking Affidavits.

building and started a general store, yesterday morning. The new Post office is the store. Mr. Hamilton appointed postmaster. In his employ, the King, a position which he still holds. In the spring of the present year Mr. James Savory left his father here at Campbellville, Halton county, Ont., to seek his fortune in the west. He brought with him his wife, and entered into partnership with his mother. The firm's name now is Savory Bros., and they conduct a general store business, which is satisfactory to the general public. The boys, as we have in business here, were born and raised in Halton county, Ont. The former conducts the lumber business where the latter owns the grist mill. Mr. Hamilton would erect more substantial buildings on their property, while the latter is engaged in the implement business, handling the John Deere binders and the various Massey-Harris machinery. The large amount of implements handled by this progressive firm during the past months proves its responsibility to please the public. The Robertson Bros. here from Warren, Minn., and are formerly from Park, Ont. Mr. Thomson sold out his implement and got about the building owned by Mr. Anderson, the striped pole reminds us his building will show one that is a barber shop. His generality well good work consists of keeping him a good trade considering the population of our town. Billy hails from Hamilton, Ont. He has formerly been here at Cape Breton, N. S. but has formerly been here at Cape Breton, Ont. He is growing up on the homestead near the town.

At the church of England and Mr. and Mrs. Hughes secured a building where the former conducts a meat-pony where the hungry may be fed and the weary may rest, the latter conducts a real estate, insurance and money to loan agency. Mr. Hughes has recently been appointed a commissioner for taking affidavits and a notice is now in circulation to appoint him a J. P.

Messrs. Hendrickson and Symes are two gentlemen who came here a few months ago from Prince Albert, the former hails from sunny England and is to be congratulated for his integrity and adaptability in this western country, while the latter hails from N. B. They carry a fancy stock of general merchandise. Their affability and their principle in trade is a good index. They accept all kinds of produce in exchange for their goods. At the time of writing Mr. Symes has a large parcel load up ready for sending a load the rest of which will be on the neighborhood of seven hundred dollars.

Thomas McKenzie has had a fine brick barn erected, and has just placed therein a fine hardware business in the livery barn which is bringing to him a good trade.

Randolph McNeil also expects to become agent for the implements. Messrs. Kitchin Lockhart and McNeil put up their own stables, Canadian style, too.

Anderson & Arnold are the builders and contractors here. The buildings they have erected show they are masters of the carpenter and will be employed any undertaking. The former hails from Edmonton county, Ont. while the latter first saw the light of day near the city of Toronto.

John Ingling is the gentleman who looks after all the horse work and a glance at his office in here his books will tell you how far he is and as long as he remains in Lucky Jack he will be a live and business man. He hails from the town of Atkinson, state of Nebraska.

After the structure here the [illegible] Hallman is the gentleman who puts the gravy [illegible] on the meat, or does the artistic sign painting. Any work entrusted by this gentleman is always done up to the mark. Mr. Hallman came here from Lucknow, Ont., but hails from Wilkinson, Ont.

Mr. Anderson, sen., is the station foreman here, who looks after the [illegible] of the C. N. R., and a gentleman who has possibly spent all his life on the railroad and comes from Orillia, Ont.

A. Gardner is the name of the gentleman who started the first blacksmith shop but has recently sold out to Geo. Robinson. Geo. comes from Dunlop Co., Mich., but is formerly from Stroud Co., Ont.

Thos. Murtaugh dropped off the train here about a month ago and became fascinated with the surroundings, he said "My dad was in town I am going to locate," and before night he had a different beef being up in Barnes Robinson's implement building and opened up business. He now has a stand skip at the rear where he supplies the public with the choicest of beef, an occasional slice of moose meat or venison, of fish that will weigh from one to thirty pounds. Tom hails from Huron, Algoma co. Ont.

One year ago saw the first wheat shipped from the point. During the season there were some ten carloads shipped out. The Canadian Elevator Co., now have an elevator here with a capacity of 35,000 bushels. Abel Young of North Battleford, the manager here, tells us he has so far this year shipped [illegible] bushels of wheat. There is still a great quantity in the farmers hands for shipment. It is expected that during the past autumn 1,000 acres of prairie in this locality has been broken and will sow spring as soon as weather.

Horsebreeding is practically a thing of the past, all the horsemen having been taken up. Some farmers will hold by speculators, which the report will be turned over as the actual value when spring opens up.

In regard to the class of settlers located hereabouts, we might say they have mostly been born under the British flag. There are a goodly number of English, some Irish, a few Scotch with a sprinkling of Americans people, but the majority are Canadians, many of them who are native daughters in Uncle Sam, but have again returned to the land of their birth.

Farming is not the only occupation followed here, there are quite few men engaged in the ranching industry. Among the foremost is Mr. Wells who is born Westerner, and was a member of the first Manitoba Legislature. He also took a leading part in the Riel rebellion.

Mr. Richard and Mr. Mitchell are also extensive ranchers, the latter gentleman being Postmaster, at Battleford, a post office on the south side of the North branch of the Saskatchewan river. The Presbyterians have a church which they have named in honor of the Rev. J. C. Madill is their preacher. The Methodist body also worship in the same building. Mr. Atkinson, who is a student, delivers the sermon in a forcible manner.

A school has just been completed, where we expect the rising generation will receive an education, which will help them to go forth in the

future in this town and province.

The C. P. R. have a few shillings and schillings on building site of a substantial residence, with a beautiful view overlooking the Eagle hills, which have been said by travellers, to be the most beautiful spot on the C. P. R. between Winnipeg and Edmonton.

ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS.

In accordance with the law of this province the election for councillors took place on the second Monday in January. This election was duly held for this township (Brandon) on Monday, 14th of January, Mr. Little, the five councillors elected for this township, was declared by Mr. Turnbull. A number of the electors assembled at the hall to hear the speeches of the candidates. They were disappointed in this, and then found that this ruling was to be entirely open, each voter accepting a piece of paper and the name of the candidate he supported. The nominations of candidates, were proposed by on the call of the holding. There was much comment upon the method which the poll open this session and the question was asked, "Why should this be an open ballot, where each candidate could look over the shoulder of the voter to see what he was doing, also, "Why the three commissioners" As the elections are important matters for each township, we think that there should be a little more method used on the occasion. In this province our councillor nominates a township and is responsible. Some a council, and the majority rules on voting a vote on any question coming before them except in the case of a tie, when the election is always given in favor of the negative. It is expected that in the coming session of the Legislature that improvements will be made to our municipal laws.

C. N. R. MAIL CLERKS.

It will be a source of pleasure to the people along the C. N. R. to learn that the Railway Co., has been fined five thousand dollars by the government for failing to take the mail out of Edmonton upon a certain date. The government could also profitably give a little heed in looking after the mail clerks on the different trains. It is a condition to-day to have mail for parties in different towns put off here in the dreadful mail bag, and very frequently mail from the west is carried through and put off by mistake by the mail clerks from the east. The entire letter of the Manitoba Free Press for Tuesday arrived here about the 6th day after being issued from the Press, and only recently the Marquette mail was left on here and the Russell mail carried through, whether it ever returned or not no one knows. On one of two occasions our postmaster has sent the train for the mails and has found the door to the mail clerks car locked and the clerk was apparently asleep inside.

WATER SUPPLY OF RUSSELL.

It is gratifying to know that this town will be well supplied for water. A large well has been sunk, and at first a good flow of water was found. The residents of this town may well compliment themselves upon this good fortune, for without a good supply of water there can be no town of any consequence, but that Russell will be always fully supplied is evident by the numerous wells in this district and the close proximity of the river.

FOOTBALL AND BASEBALL.

Now is the time for the boys of Russell and vicinity to organize for a baseball and football club. It is certain that we have good material for to form a good strong representative team for each of these manly sports, but it is also sure that if the boys will come forward that Russell will certainly take no back seat with any of the clubs along this line, so what we would impress upon you is, that a committee be formed at once so that things may be in shape when the season opens.

J. R. Kilgour has been appointed commissioner for taking affidavits and a petition is in circulation for appointing him a magistrate.

Mr. Thompson who lately had the misfortune to freeze his hands and feet badly has placed notwithstanding and is able to get around.

T. MURTAGH

BUTCHER.

Fresh Fish Now on Hand.

Highest Price Paid for All Kinds of Hides.

Cattle Bought and Sold.

R. McNEIL,

HARDWARE MERCHANT

A full line of General Hardware, Builders' Supplies, Paints, Oils, Glass, and the best makes of Stoves and Heaters.

Also for Sale:
1 Buggy, new.
1 Buggy, second hand.
1 Set Single Harness.
1 Set Single Harness, second hand.
1 Cart, nearly new.

If you want anything in this line it will pay you to call at an early date.

D. R. McKELLAR

LIVERY, FEED, AND SALE STABLE.

BEYLON TURNOUTS.

Commanding drive at shortest notice.

WANTED.

Several good horses for general purposes, ready sale. Apply

D. R. McKELLAR, RUSSELL.

museum pieces. There were three issues published. When the passenger trains stopped at Ruddell the town kids would board the train to distribute the newspaper free of charge.

The spring of 1907 saw a young energetic man by the name of George Sherwood came to town. He was looking for a location to start a dry goods store. He decided Ruddell was the place. Charlie Robinson as usual was to help out by making a temporary furniture store. He lost no time in building George a fine store and a house to live in. The inside of the store was finely finished with counters constructed of one piece edge grain fir 24" wide.

Bass Mylrea's Bakery & Grocery Store. Summer Sports day. 1911.

Bass Mylrea bought Bob Hayden's grocery store. After adding an addition he installed a modern brick bake oven. This became a bakery with the delicious smell of fresh baked bread. Reg Mylrea built the poolroom which he later sold to Shorty Mathews.

Mr. Mylrea who had homesteaded west of town, moved to town and started a livery stable. He built the house now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Patterson.

In early 1907 the towns first doctor located here. Dr. Wheaten was a young medical man from Winnipeg. Charlie Robinson provided him with an office and a house to live in. Dr. Wheaten only stayed a short while. The house was later purchased by Wm. Geddes then sold to Russ Stolly and is now the residence of Mr. and Mrs. J. Birse. Dr. Scratch came to Maymont in 1907 and there after looked after the medical needs of the area for miles around.

Dr. Dewalt, a veterinarian came to Ruddell and stayed a few years, but before he left he married Ruby Mylrea. Other early business people were: Dave Arnold and George Anderson were building contractors under the name of Arnold and Anderson. Mr Anderson soon devoted his time to farming. Dave Arnold built a lot of barns and houses in the district and most of these remain in good condition. Bill Rosamond, Geo Gibney and Barney Welton were carpenters who worked for Arnold and Anderson.

The plastering contractor was old Jon Ingling (not because he was really old but because he wore a beard).

Scotty Miller was the stone Mason. Many basements and foundations were built of local field stone.

George Hallmark was the painter and decorator. All the signs on the buildings were from his fine handiwork. He and his son built what was intended to be a poolroom, but funds run out and this building later became the first telephone office.

Some of the other businesses in Ruddell were, (not necessarily in this order):
Lawrence Robinson
Bowers Hardware
Jennings Gen Store
Geo Robinson
Robinson & Harper Gen. Store
Tyler Gen. Store
George Fong Gen. Store
Fast Gen. Store
Harry Brown
Youngs Butchershop
Wardens Gen. Store
Moseley's Eating House
Braggs Hardware
Denham Turnbull built a store it was run by Mah Lee
Neil Gershrecht
A.E. Steele John Deere Agency (This was housed in Lowrey's old Store Building)

Bill Turnbull had a gas station north of the track, south of now Peterson's house by the old Jasper Highway.

Herb Mabey had a gas station and a garage west of where the postoffice now sits.

Other garage and machine agency operators were: Bob Orchard, J. Freezeky, Walter Parent, G. Holmes, Whitlaws, A. W. Robinson, Eph Reid.

B. A. McIntyre operated a bulk gas station, garage and massey Agency for a number of years. Geo Pringle kept the books for a few years. Bob and Vi lived in Ruddell for 28 yrs. operating the garage and fuel business until the 60's then took over the grocery from Neil Gleisbrecht which called for an addition to the garage. During the years before the business was closed in 1972, Bob travelled many miles delivering fuel, while Vi looked after the store end of the business. During the time they were in Ruddell they raised two sons David and Don. They always had plenty of time for the many activities of the community.

The first picnic was held at the Maple Grove in 1908. It was only a small gathering. The spigots were still in the trees where the Indians had tapped them for Maple syrup. The hand crafted sap buckets made by the Indians were burned to boil the coffee.

As time passed, numbers increased with people coming from Richard, Dunbow, Lilac, and Maymont.

Ruddell Maple Grove picnic, 1931.

Homecoming, 1971 at the Maple Grove

It was said that around five hundred gathered one year. They met in the morning had lunch, then an afternoon entertainment, a basket lunch and more games. Sometime later a race track was built at Ruddell on the strip of land just north of the elevators. They combined the picnic at the Maple Grove with a race meet in town. The first of these occasions it is recalled the town and country was full of excitement. Somewhere about six hundred were present at all events. People began to gather at 10 o'clock with numerous flags flying, citizens all bethbonned and smiling. Stores especially dressed for the occasion with good-things provided for the crowd. The prairie was a picture of wagons, democrats, and other vehicles of all description The weather was fine and the fun began with a picnic at the Maple Grove then all kinds of races and games for all ages, including a basket ball match and a baseball game Maymont versus Ruddell. At 2:30 the crowd assembled at the racetrack in Ruddell where horse races, pony races, ladies driving contests and other games were witnessed. A dance was held at night. This did not continue for very long as there was a lot of disagreement as to where the picnic was to be held. Through the years a picnic has been held each July 1st at the Maple Grove. The numbers attending have dwindled but fun is had by all.

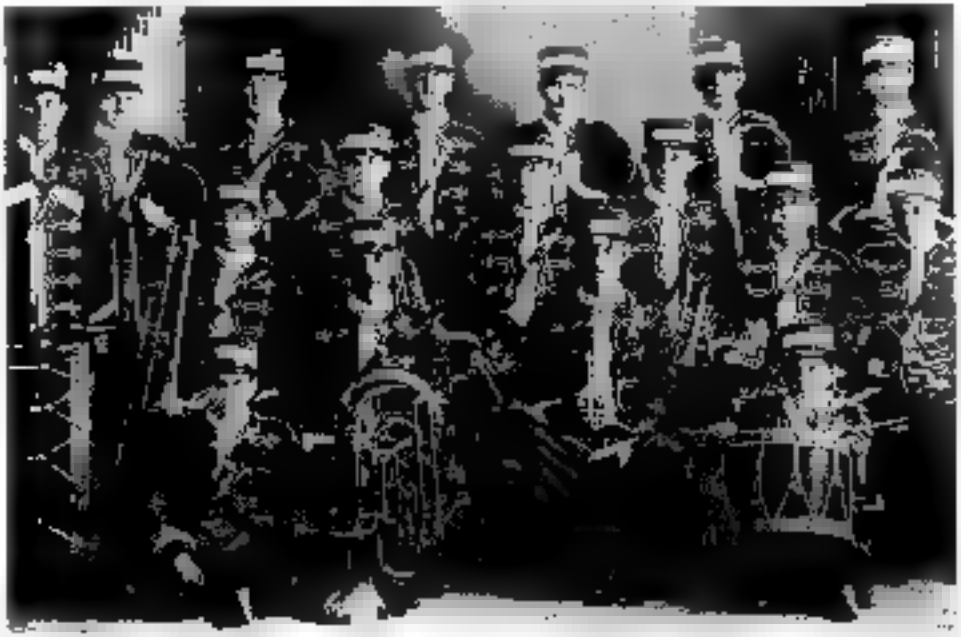
In 1912 a 25 piece Brass Band was organized in Ruddell. It was led by Ed Ewing. Ed was a real musician and could play any instrument. The band was smartly uniformed. They played at many engagements and local celebrations including the Battleford fair.

Bass Myles had the first telephone. His sister Elsie was switchboard operator. The Ruddell Telephone Company came into being on Feb. 29. 1945. Some of the operators were Mrs. Rhody, Mrs. Collins, Marjorie and Jack Thrower. Marjorie and Jack Thrower operated the switchboard for nearly thirty years. On Nov. 14, 1970 the Ruddell Telephone Co. changed over to the automatic dial system. Somethings were gained like the twenty-four hour service. Others were lost like the general ring. The long ring saved many homes from serious fire as all neighbors rushed out to lend a hand. The general ring was also used to advertise meetings and social gatherings Another chapter closed on our rural way of life.

The Ruddell cemetery was first located on N.E. ¼, 32, 41, 15W. 3rd. Later Graham Turnbull donated the land for the present burial ground. The cemetery was moved At present the Ruddell branch of the S.W.I. oversee the up keep of the grounds.

Ruddell was incorporated as a village in 1914. It is considered a village and has its mayor or overseer and town councilors Wayne Acaster and John Elrose.

Ruddell Baseball Team (1913) and Rooters. L to r. — Maxmile ?, Bill Geddie, Dave Arnold, Mr. Mabey, ?, Mrs. Delzell, Grace Harper, ?, Hannah Robinson, Eleanor Robinson, Bess Murison, Florence Geddie, Bessie Coppock, Edna Robinson (Gibson), ?, George Sherwood, Bob Gordon, Bert Krug, Mr. Delzell, ?, ?, ?, Eph Reid, Jack Arnold, Russ McNeil, ?, Charlie Robinson, ?. Front row — Reg Delzell, Claude Jennings, holding Fern Robinson, Mrs. McCann, Mrs. Jennings, ?, Warne Robinson, ?, ?, ?. Standing in buggy — Art Robinson, Adah Squires.



Ruddell Brass Band. Back row — Bill Geddie, Warne Robinson, Phyl Mylrea, Ted Kirk, Willis Swerdfurger, Herb Kirk, Lawrence Steele. Second row — Norman Andrew, Oswald Harper, Ed Bragg, Albert (Shorty) Mallows, Malcom Gray. Front row — Norman Kitchen, Albert Steele, Frank Claridge, Russ McNeil.

Ruddell Ball Team, 1914. Eph Reid, Wayne Robinson, Russel McNeil, Jessie Bennett, ?, Claude Jamieson, Howard Bennett, ?, Herman Spence.

Some parts taken from town books
Jan. 15, 1935

Moved by Councillor McKenzie second by Overseer Whittaw that the village of Ruddell purchase the Lighting Plant from H. Mabey.

Feb., 1938

A communication was read from North Battleford Board of Trade regarding completion of Highway No. 5 asking for co-operation of the village

May 1, 1939

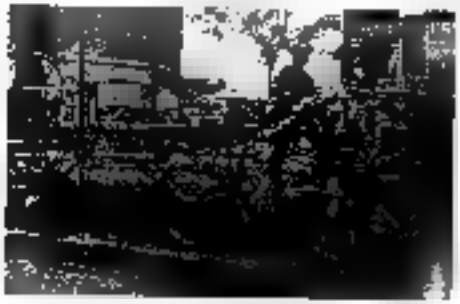
A request from Mr. Pahson for free use of the hall, including lighting, to raise funds to send school children to Saskatoon on visit of King and Queen was discussed. This request was granted for May 19, 1939.

July, 1939

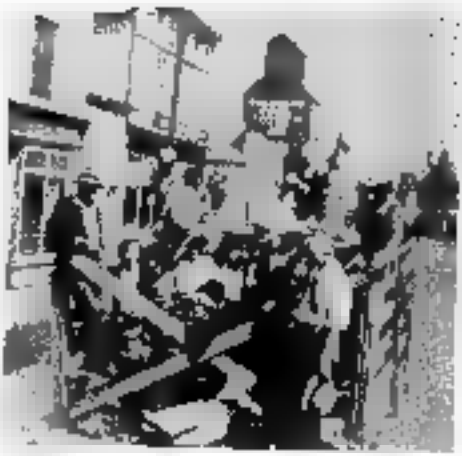
$5 paid for red lights for silent policemen.

A town by-law was passed in Feb. 1947 which prohibits the depositing of ashes, dirt sweeps, or rubbish upon the streets or other public places within the village and compels the removal by party depositing same.

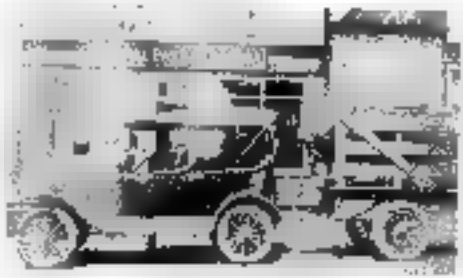
Up to the year 1954 cinders had been purchased from the CNR for the main streets then the CNR informed them there were no more available Gradually gravel was put on the streets.



Maintaining the streets in Ruddell in the early years.



Young people loaded to go to Meeting Lake.



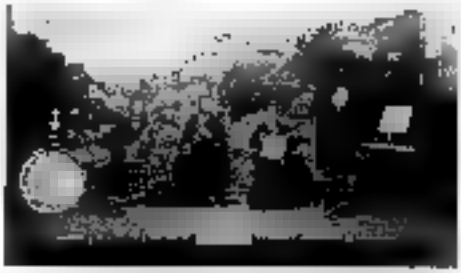
Imperial Bank of Canada, Ruddell.

During the years the town fire engine has been kept up and in working order. This engine moved to different places during the winters such as the livery barn, back of the hall until in 1958 it came to a house of its own on main street.

The Imperial Bank of Canada came to Ruddell in about 1913. It was housed in the building that was Charlie Robinsons Furniture Store

In the early days before there was no proper hall, the school, the room over Robinson's store, the church or the Oddfellows Hall over the Old Pool Room was used for gatherings. The Hall was built and was opened Nov. 1, 1918. Charlie Johnson was Overseer, Charlie McKenzie and Rev. McPherson councillors when the meeting accepted Charlie Robinson's tender for $1,468 for material for the building. In addition the tender of Dave Arnold in the amount of $700 for construction was accepted Council secretary at the time was H. Ferguson.

This hall was built with great participation from the people of Ruddell area. Dave Arnold was foreman



Medd's Orchestra played for many dances in Ruddell. Left to right — Joyce, Erma, Jack, Walter, and Nathan.

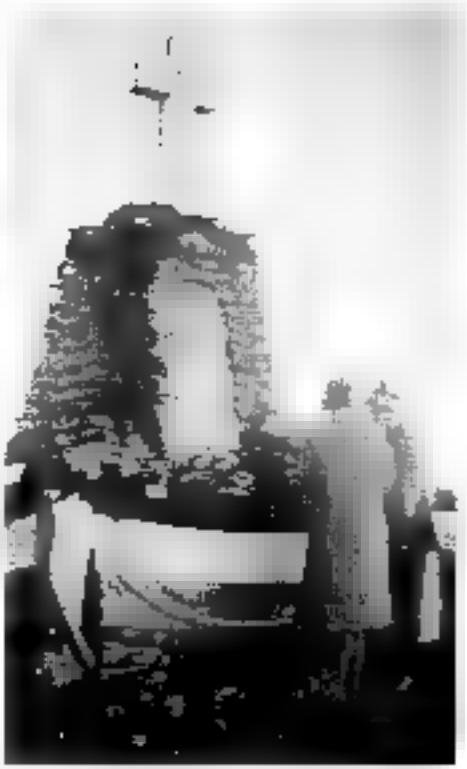
and he was assisted by Charlie Morrison. Others who helped were Jack Arnold, Little Jack Arnold, Miles Stalker, Peter Dalh, Jack White, Warne Robinson, Russ McNeil, Bill Kennedy, Gid Blair, Charlie Morison, Graham Turnbull, Jack Campbell, Bill Geddes and many others.

This hall served our community well through the years. It saw many gatherings of all kinds. It was leveled by fire April 21, 1973. Thus leaving the town with no where to hold gatherings.

Ruddell had several bad fires. The Livery barn burned one Sun. night, and the small Grain Growers building. The bank was quite close and much hard fighting saved it, or the whole west side of the street would have gone up in smoke. Warden's store which had a residence in the back, Butchershop, McKenzies house near the Blacksmith shop and the Second Livery Barn. Nothing was saved.

Ruddell Militia — 1928. L to r. — Sid Moore C.O., Vic Humphrey, Gordon Mitchell, Bill White, Jim Arnold, Jim Ralkie, Lee Roche, Herman Mathenson, Chuck White, Fred Thrower.

The cenotaph was erected in 1926. This was a memorial to those men who gave their lives in World War I. It was unveiled in Nov. 1926 by Mr. Dow. The band came down from North Bellefond and an honor guard of Ruddell and Lilac district veterans were in attendance.



Mrs. Jack White and Mrs. McNeil on the day the cenotaph was unveiled. Nov., 1926.

It reads:

1914-1918

THEIR NAME LIVETH FOREVER MORE

S. Davey	C. Locker
F. Salter	C. Beechy
A. Miller	H. Mather
J. Beckett	C. Pringle
S. Jackson	H. Roberts
J. McMillan	H. Campbell
V. Grandboys	S. Brenner

1939-1945

W. H. Gillatt	J. E. Wright

Sgt. W. H. Gillatt and P/O J. E. Wright were added after World War 2. There are two trees planted at the gate of the Ruddell Cemetery. These trees were planted by the Lilac and Ruddell Service Club in Honor of Sgt. W. H. Gillatt and P/O J. E. Wright who were lost in action.

Ruddell was not all business. They had many clubs and organizations.

Decoration Day — First part of Sept., 1928.

There was a baseball team from the early days of 1907. It has now turned to a soft ball team. One of the things they sponsored was the Ruddell Snow Festival in 1965 with the election of a Snow Queen and skidoo races for all ages. There was said to be close to a thousand people in attendance.

The Oddfellows Lodge with the spade work done by Jim Beckett began in 1914. They also had the Rebecca's at one time.

The Masonic Lodge with much of the organizing done by Arthur Baker and Geo Mabey.

The Ladies Aid which changed to the U.C.W. was active until the church was closed in 1965. They held a wild fowl supper on Dec. 3, 1907. It was said it was well attended.

Remembrance Day at the Cenotaph. L. to r. — Mrs. Dorothy Mallows, Lavi Walden, Vi McIntyre, Mrs. Moore, Hannah Birse, Bob McIntyre, Lance Robinson, about 1968.

Ruddell had a Hockey club, Basketball club, (It was said the girls basketball team even defeated North Battleford.) and curling club. There also was a full sized tennis court across from the church.

The Homemakers came into being in 1947. The name has been changed to the Saskatchewan Women's Institute and there is still a branch in Ruddell.

The Ruddell Bucks Only Club is active in conservation and Preservation of our wildlife.

The Ruddell and District Branch No. 144 of the Canadian Legion was granted the Charter on Sept. 22, 1936. Twenty-one members signed the Charter. Seventeen members joined after World War 2. At one time there were between 30 and 40 members. The branch is still active with 4 members. They look after the grounds around the cenotaph and have a service by the cenotaph on Nov. 11.

There are still a few buildings left in Ruddell which were built in the early years. The homes of Wayne

Oddfellow's & Rebecca Parade, Ruddell.

Ruddell from the air, 1953

Acombe and family, John and Hannah Birse, and Mr and Mrs. Patterson. Ernie Voegeh's shop which was the first home of Graham Turnbull and family. The old post office is all that is left of the McNeil's Hardware Store. Fred Wood's garage and shop was the Oddfellows hall.

People have come and gone during the years with hopes for the future. There may be few members but the community spirit is still alive. We are proud to say "WE ARE FROM RUDDELL".

Since the beginning of this account on Ruddell Jim Polgar, his wife Terry and son Dwayne have come from Winnipeg. They have built a new home and added a small store which is now open. Randy Woolsey (who is a clay sculptor) his wife Yoshimi (who does Batik) and their son Justin, are building a home and shop. Perhaps the boom of 1906 has begun again.

Family Histories

David Angus Addley Family

(Submitted by Angus Addley)

David Angus Addley was born in 1881 in Lucknow, Ontario and died in 1958 in Saskatoon. He farmed in the Rabbit Lake Area of Saskatchewan before joining the services in 1916. He served with Royal Highlanders of Canada in June, 1916. While overseas his first major battle was Vimy Ridge. He married in 1919 and he and his wife, Jamesina, settled in Fielding that year. They spent the first year east of Fielding before moving to their own farm one-half mile south of Fielding. Jamesina was a "war bride" and was born in 1888 in Glasgow, Scotland and died in 1973 in Saskatoon.

They had a family of three daughters and one son. Jean was born at Fielding in 1920 with Dr. Scratch attending. Moira born at Fielding in 1923 — once again Dr. Scratch in attendance. Norma was born in 1926 at Radisson — attending physician was Dr. Whitemarsh. Angus was born in 1934 at Fielding. Dr. Scratch and Patricia McGrath, nurse, were in attendance. (Understood to be Pat's first baby!)

Jean married Harold Gerbrandt at Saskatoon in 1954. They have two sons, Gerald and Donald, of Saskatoon and one married daughter, Leslie Miller, of Edmonton.

Moira married Hans Frechtl of Fielding in 1943. They had two sons, Robert and Karl. Hans died in 1944. Moira married George Anderson in 1949. He adopted the two boys and they had one daughter, Diane. The family all reside in Saskatoon.

Norma married Murray Smith in 1945. They have one son, Robert Murray, and they reside in Saskatoon.

Angus moved to Loon Lake in 1953 and married Glenna Coolin in 1955. They have four sons Barry 22, Wayne 20, Graham 15, Cameron 10, and one daughter, Glenna Lynne 8.

The Wayne Addley Family

told by Reta (Parker) Addley

My earliest memories are of my first day at Gray School. What a thrill getting ready to go off to school with my sister Shirley! Grannie Parker cried that morning because the baby of the family was leaving for school! Whether the tears were real or just presented to make me feel important, I don't know.

Reta's graduating class — 1957. From left to right — Murray Rogers, Velma Wiley, Rena Parker, Trudy Glenn, Billy Caruk.

There were very strict health rules at school, Shirley had informed me. We must have a clean handkerchief, clean teeth, hair neatly combed and clean fingernails. I would get a star if I passed inspection. I cleaned my teeth and fingernails several times before I was satisfied that they would get me the coveted star that first morning.

I remember one of my birthday suppers I didn't get to. Dad asked me to go for a ride with him in the afternoon and we stopped to visit Marie and Harvey Johnston. Dad of course loved to visit and was never in a hurry so we arrived home late for supper. Everyone else had eaten supper — even down to the birthday cake! I wanted to bawl — my birthday and they hadn't even waited for me!!

I had two dolls that I can remember. One was a rag doll with a plastic face. My brother Lloyd wanted to see how close he could get to the stove with it before the plastic would burn. Of course, he did get too close and burnt a hole in the plastic face. I did bawl that

time! The other Doll I remember was a very special one. Hazel Boyd gave it to me as a Christmas present the year my mother died. It was the kind of doll I had dreamed about and always wanted and I spent many happy hours playing with her. I named her Diana Millicent.

I spent the first eight of my school years at Gray School, then Dad, Shirley and I moved to Maymont so I took my high school in Maymont, graduating from Grade Twelve in 1957.

I went to work in Edmonton where I met and married Wayne Addley in 1961. We have three sons Darnell, David and Brian.

We often go to the lake for weekends and holidays. One weekend when the boys were quite small we took the tent and set it up beside the lake. During the night a terrible thunder storm came up. The wind pulled one of the tent pegs out. We were wondering what we should do when Wayne (without saying anything to me) decided he would back the car up to the tent and tie the rope to the bumper and that would hold the tent down, so he asked me for the keys. I said "Oh, Wayne you're not going to run away and leave the kids and me are you?" and I bawled again! It seems to me I did a lot of bawling in my early days. Being the youngest in a family of eight it was probably the best weapon I had.

Wayne comes from a very small family, only Mansell and his sister, so he was really floored when he married me and found out how many relatives he had inherited. However we all enjoy coming back to Maymont to visit my sisters, Gladys and Shirley, and their families and my brother, Leslie, and his family at Endeavan. We have had many happy family "get-togethers" either down at Glenburn Park or at one of their homes.

Our boys attended the same school, Eastwood, as their father and grandfather. Three generations of Addleys have attended this school. Our boys grandfather, Mr. Alfred Addley, was one of the first students in the school when it opened in 1923. Mr. Addley and Wayne had some of the same teachers and Wayne and our boys had two of the same teachers. There is quite a history of Addleys in the Eastwood School as other Addley relations attended also. This year, however, Brian graduated and for the first time in many years, there will not be an Addley in that school.

Our oldest son Darnell, graduated from high school this year and is enrolled in a Civil Engineering class at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology. David is in his last year at W. P. Wagner, a trade school and Brian graduated this year into Senior High School.

The Will Agar Family

told by Agnes Bobby (Agar) MacKay

Caroline Mogk was born December 26th, 1878 at Beechelm, Ontario, and received her Public School education in the Township of Logan, Perth County. At the age of 15 years, she worked out for her living as she came from a large family and was not needed at home. She says: "in those days everyone with any sense of responsibility worked hard . . . not only for eight hours a day but 10 hours or more." When she was 21 she left for Manitoba because she thought the wages were better there but found to her disappointment that it was a poor year so she did not profit by her move. However, while working at Somerset, she met William Agar who was hauling wood in weather that was mostly 40 degrees below zero . . . 16 miles and for the large sum of $2.25 per load. Will Agar was also born in Ontario at Bluevale where his parents had a farm. They both died while he was quite young and as soon as he was old enough to get out on his own, he

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Agar — wedding picture — April 3rd, 1912.

east to Manitoba where he had two older brothers and a sister.

Will and Carrie married on April 2, 1902 and farmed on a rented farm for two years before moving to take up homesteading in Saskatchewan in 1904. They had a daughter Lenora, born in February, 1903. Will's brother, Tom Agar had staked the homestead claims 25 miles east of North Battleford. Since there was no railroad through as far as Battleford, their freight was only shipped as far as Saskatoon which had a population of about 200 persons at that time. They lived with Tom in a 24 by 12 foot sod cabin but as soon as they were able to obtain lumber, they built a 12 by 12 foot bedroom with a cellar under to store vegetables. Although people were friendly and took turns entertaining with dances and good food, Tom found the Prairie country pretty lonely and sold his homestead to Will and Carrie then left but not before breaking the virgin soil by a plow pulled by a team of oxen. In 1906, a second daughter . . Lena was born; and in 1908, they built their own house getting a car of lumber from Dauphin, Manitoba. The cost was only some 500 dollars for a house and stable. Carrie's brother Henry came from Ontario and built the main parts of both buildings.

Nora, Lena, Mabel, Bobby (Agnes) and Florence Agar, with Ted the Collie.

The Will Agar's farmed a section and a half of land for over 41 years in the same place. Carrie stated: "It really was rock but not too bad when you could have help but when the Second World War came and we had to do alone at our age, it was rough." So, "we sold out" and came to British Columbia." Actually, they had good use of their daughters.

Life was not all work on the Agar farm and one of the daughters, Agnes or better known as Bobby who was born in 1907, looks back at her childhood on the Prairies with a great deal of pleasure. She recalls Dad buying their first radio in 1923; it was equipped with earphones and everyone took turns listening and that progressed to a loud speaker which sat on the player piano. This piano was a great novelty for visiting children who pumped and changed the pedals for hours on end. Even before Florence, the youngest daughter was born in 1910, my parents had their own electric light plant which was run off wet batteries charged by a special motor in the cellar. This luxury was especially handy for the barn as Dad was always worried about fires caused by lanterns or smoking. Dad's large red barn was his pride and joy and built by a neighbour Stanley Richard.

The local one-room school . . . Eathgate . . was on our property, and just a short run down the road, except when the Indians were travelling through to pick up their treaty money then in appreciation we walked the track. The railroad cut a piece off the corner of our land and when it was built, a curve out from Richard had to be constructed in order to preserve our farmyard which was in the surveyed path and Dad had to make some concessions to stop the railroad from being built cutting through between the house and the barn. By 1920, the school was moved to Lilac and re-named "Burnley." So Dad had a local blacksmith build a two-wheeled cart and we drove a pony the two and one half miles to school. In winter we drove a team of horses and a sleigh. Mother made us fur overcoats out of Dad's old ones . . buffalo and raccoon furs. We were glad to wear them over our own coats as it was often 45 degrees below zero, and we never thought of missing school. For a number of years, Florence and I took a cream can of drinking water to school everyday as the school had no well and for this effort, we received a paltry two cents a day! Time was usually spent, with some wise planning, on Christmas presents for the family and friends. After Bobby finished school at Lilac, Florence had to lug those heavy cans and lift them in and out of the cart all by herself.

Christmas on the Prairie was luscious. It started off the week preceding Christmas with the whole family preparing for the school concert. On the big night – usually the week preceding Christmas, we would shed our long underwear and shivering a little donned some fairy costume or such. The school was packed with farmers and district residents. A gas lantern hung blazing from the ceiling and the kids would be hustling around in the half-darkness behind the curtains trying to change costumes. Eventually the concert over – a farewell hymn or a verse of song and the children all received a Japanese orange candy and a present, courtesy of the School Board. Then off we went home, bundled under robes in the sleighbox with the horses all frosty there steamy breath shifting by under the bright moonlit sky. At home we had to have a treat and Dad made a special effort to amuse us. Mother always baked rolled sugar cookies out of the shapes of animals and birds and decorated with icing and coloured candy bits. These we hung on the tree with strings of popcorn, tinsel and real little candles in holders that snapped onto the branches. The day before Christmas was Mother's birthday and it certainly must have been a strenuous day for her after preparing the turkey, and then staying up late to play Santa. Christmas week was visiting home with the neighbours . . . eating big turkey dinners at noon, playing cards and other games all afternoon while continuously eating more candy and apples. Then the men would go home and do the chores, supping hard for more coffee at suppertime.

Springtime. It was great to go skating around in the Spring thaw when trying to hibernate in the water from overnight in the railway ditches. Soon the first Prairie crocus came out and dozens of birds of all kinds made nests in the woodbreak around the earth and wood pulps of the farmyard. We learned crows eggs as there was a bounty on them and then pinch a hole in each end of the egg and blow out the contents. There was also a bounty on crows' feet and gopher tails which one turned in to the Municipal Office and received a cent a piece. Florence and I and her friend, Nora Dow, toted a barrel of water on a stoneboat drawn by a horse. One of us poured the water down the gopher hole while the other stood with a forked stick to pin the gopher as his head popped out. Our calling was ready to grab the gopher by the neck and scramch, that was it! The tail was pulled off and we were ready to the next hole. We were proud wearing the hide beaver which resulted in lucky harvests from gopher tails.

What wheat was out at the end of June we headed for the wild strawberry patches nearby in the railway ditches, with hundreds of meadowlarks chirping and dive-bombing from the telegraph lines overhead. The last day of school our entire family loaded up the car with lunch and pails and water bottles and we were all to spend the day in the meadows along the Saskatchewan river to pick strawberries and other berries that happened to be ripe at the time. After having of putting harvest and eating her many we rolled along the hillsides.

Summer holidays always included chores such as bringing around a half section of land possessing gophers which had a sneaky habit of raising a large portion of the crop around their mounds. One carried a gallon can of carbolated water all one hand and put a spoonful of the mixture down each hole. It was a job thoroughly detested. Having was another major task with memories of pitting around the hay slough on a haymaker driving a pair of prancing horses nearly crazy from horseflies which mercilessly covered their chests and the necessity of keeping the mowing straight so that the hayleader could pick up the hay. The leader was attached behind the rack and it was no easy feat driving the rough ground, keeping straight, turning corners without catching a slat on the rack and all the while staying out of the way of Dad's switchstick. The hay was loaded on three slings usually, the load being divided in such portions so as not to overload and cause the sling to break. These were taken to the barn and unloaded by the use of a bright rope and pulleys. A team was needed at the rear of the barn to pull the rope up which lifted the sleigh of hay up the front of the barn and when they reached the loft a person was required to trip the sling to run down the track and trip the hay which spilled the hay at its destination. Sometimes all these things didn't work out just right but it was always a challenge. When hauling loads of hay home the often saw bobbins catching gophers skinning and running down over a ravine. Summer wasn't all work. Dad used to have fun too and was a great sport. We always had time to visit town and sports' days. Richard was our nearest town which sponsored a yearly agricultural fair. We kids were encouraged to exhibit taking sandwiches and Betsy remembers reading a calf around the ring waiting to be judged. Florence recalls the calf spotted pig that Dad gave her she fattened it and won second prize. My sister Mabel won prizes with her calf as well as a black eye from a bare heel. Lena entered the baking competitions and usually won first prize with her bread. Joliet. But the Fair in Saskatoon was the highlight of the summer, getting up early, Mother packing a big basket of delicious smoked ham sandwiches, eggs from our own greenhouse – then spending the whole day wandering around the barns, riding on the Midway eating cotton candy and even staying for the grandstand performance and the fireworks spectacular afterwards, getting back home after midnight. That Mother walked her many sandwiches so many as two times sometimes we spent a week or more at the Lake camping out as Riverdale or Lori Lenore. Lena was the Guide Captain for quite a few years, but the time spent was hardly enough to learn to swim well.

August and September were the harvest months and it was fun to ride on the binder around a big field of golden grain after taking lunch to the field for Dad

The boat-hauler team was changed every three hours and on a good day, barring an break-down, Dad was able to get about 15 miles. As much as we drove old enough the ice was never put we had to pull the sleeves up from the outside of the load to make a shelter for the hired man to sleep. Later we had to wash her and the neighbor scrubbed our shirts and wrists while the sweat fell over us that as we sat down up until we acquired the knack. Then it was travelling hour up in the early dawn and on after dark as we both our both hauling grain with and oats beans and wages to work after. Sometimes we drove four miles to Barbara to the grain elevators or unloaded the grain into a grandmother to fill the granaries at home at hot-rears on a railway siding. However it was a good excuse to miss a few weeks of school and be outside in the beautiful. Fall sunshine before the long winter descended.

Florence's recollections are of her pony and her friend Nora and the fun we had racing our horses across the fields rounding up cattle visiting neighbours to raise them up. There were urban card-parties and dancing until the small hours of the morning the Winter afternoon hooded games and taking the fellows home for Mother's delicious suppers and I love to think of the rides to church in sleigh wagon in the early Spring and the car in the Summer where we met our friends at the Irish Anglican church in Lake. If I shut my eyes I can still see Mrs. Mather playing the organ with the sun shining on her pleasant face as she led the singing as well. There were so many pleasant memories of those good old days when we were young. Mother and Dad never seemed to grow old, their they were always willing to keep you and hoping that you would always be willing to help them.

Just to close anyone is interested here's what became of the Agar family. In August of 1945 Mother and Dad sold their farm and most of their possessions. They packed up their personal belongings in the car and headed West to find a retirement home finishing at last that land of Vancouver Island. They stopped briefly at Nelson on the beautiful Kootenay Lake where Bobby was nursing at the time. Dad was all for having an furlough with some fruit trees on the side of a mountain but Bobby realizing that it was a heavy snowfall area talked him out of it. The boat takes them off and Interspersed them westward over the steep curvy gravel road to Newtons Lake where Dad tried fishing with no luck as the dust resulting loosed them proceeding over the short route down the steep, narrow winding side of Anarchist Mountain to Osoyoos, the most southern part of the Okanagan Valley. They arrived just in time to see "Watermelon for sale" on a number of orchard signs. When Dad stopped to buy one, the orchardist loaded his car with free cukes and tomatoes. He had arrived at the land of milk and honey. Dad continued northward up the Valley until they reached Penticton. Liking this spot, they rented a motel and bought a newspaper to see what houses were for sale and found only two. The house they bought was on Fenton Street near a children's playground and only four blocks from the shopping district yet in a rather rare residential area. Bobby went here to her work but Florence arrived from Overseas and here with the R.C.A.F. Wife and started her her discharge the end of December. Mother and Dad were housewife but running into trouble every day.

Early in the Spring of 1946 Bobby quit her job at Nelson and came to the Okanagan via. Dad bought a small orchard 3 acres 12 miles north of Penticton at Garnet Valley. It sported a small house and had a creek running through the lower end. There were apple pear, cherry and peach trees and Dad soon found that orchard was a far cry from farming, requiring a good deal of handwork such as pruning, thinning, tying leaders and picking the fruit. They kept their house in Penticton and drove the car to work, sometimes boarding it at the orchard until the work was done then that would leave in town to rest up for the next day. Finding the orchard unprofitable they sold it and purchased properties in and near Westbank. Although neither properties were moneymakers, they kept Dad and Mother busy with canning and drying the fruit such as apricots and apples and was reminiscent of the times when they brought dried apples and maple syrup back to the Prairie from Ontario where they periodically visited relatives.

Florence and I decided we needed a rest in the spring of 48 from our nursing and home jobs so we helped Dad with his orchard work and that is how we got involved in packing fruit in one of the Summerland packinghouses. Among all the fine jobs one desired was the best part of the job but packing them was an Ricky experience. I made more money packing fruit than my previous job as nursing supervisor. Florence stayed with the packing job until the New Year after which she was employed by the Summerland Experimental Farm in the Plant Pathology Laboratory, but I left earlier as I had applied for a position with the Victorian Order of Nurses in Vancouver and they asked me to come right away. Later I joined a friend at a remote hospital in north-eastern Alberta and in 1948 I returned to the Okanagan where I met and Chip Markel from Nelson whereas Florence married a Summerland Person Jim McEachern and in the same year they produced five sons. Florence sometimes wondered what has Dad thought of all that male help while he struggled to farm with five daughters.

Periodically Mother and Dad made trips back to Saskatchewan, Ontario and the Southern United States spending time visiting friends and relatives. When at home in Penticton they enjoyed the many Prairie visitors that shared their hospitality.

Mother and Dad celebrated their 50th Wedding An-

anniversary with three daughters and families present. An Open House was arranged and many of their Penticton friends helped them celebrate. Dad, who was fond of gadgets, had ordered a large deep freezer made to order but was a little annoyed when he wasn't able to have it installed because of the many anniversary preparations.

It was a sad day for dad when on his love adventure, the Motor Vehicle personnel decided that his eyesight wasn't good enough to drive a car and wouldn't re-new his driver's license. That didn't stop him from driving his tractor even though he had to commute to his property by bus unless he could get some one to take him. One day he had an accident while cranking the tractor which banged at him, breaking his ankle, several ribs and gashed his head. He thought he was a goner but in a couple of months he was up and walking, soon threw away his crutch and jumped on the bus to Brandon to visit an older brother who was dying. Unfortunately, time runs out even for hardy old-timers, and after spending a few winter months with a degenerative heart condition Dad passed away at home on February 17th, 1961 at the age of 83.

Mother continued to live in Penticton and had our good friend Mary take time Vowels call on her most everyday to lend a helping hand or shop. Mother kept up her garden and visited at her daughters and was also able to take a few trips during the next ten years. Even at the age of 80, when she fractured her hip she was determined not to be an invalid and was able to take long walks after several months.

Her daughter, Nora from the Prairies came and resided with Mother periodically for a few years. And by 1971 because of ill health and failing eyesight, it was necessary for someone to live with her permanently as she had no desire to leave her home. Lena and Bill Carruthers sold their property in Princeton (Bill having recently retired from his job with the Dept. of Highways) and moved in to look after Mother until her death on June 7, 1973 at the age of 93 years. The headstone on her grave reads, "She gave us courage."

Happy Memories of the Agars

by Lena (Agar) Carruthers

One of my earliest memories, is going for a visit to Ontario in 1910, of sleigh riding down the driveway from the loft of the big barn, or the barrels of frozen and snow apples in the cellar. Of my grown-up cousins offering me a pretty stick pin if I swallowed an oyster. Of Nora getting lost in Eaton's Store. Of me asking Mother what those little white animals were, and when she said, "Kids," I said, "They don't look like us."

When I was about nine Dad and Mother planted fourteen rows of trees as a windbreak, and I had to ride the horse pulling the cultivator three times up and down each row. When Phyllis Mallory came to the farm, she was allowed to do this, and I was given an even less agreeable job.

One year Inspector Magee's niece taught our school and boarded at our place. We must have got caught up on the work, for we all piled into the McLaughlin, including a sore old bachelor neighbour, and went to Minting Lake on a Saturday. Dad and Mr. Carpenter caught some nice fish and Dad cooked them over an open fire. Never has anything tasted so good. We stayed overnight as a bachelors, and our dignified Miss Magee suggested we climb out the window and go for a walk in the moonlight.

In the meantime, Dad and I had many escapades such as hitching the stallion and another horse to a sleigh and before I had time to climb in, they took off, shearing a post off like a matchstick. Around and around they went, until I wondered if I should clutch the windmill for safety. One day I was riding one of the horses that Dad had bought. She had a habit of jumping ahead when I dismounted. Mother was running out of the barn with a pail of milk, so I asked her to hold the reins. First thing I knew, the horse had jerked the reins out of Mother's hands and was running across the yard with me standing in our stirrup.

Another fond memory is the time we came in from the field, and mother had set the table on the verandah, and we had the first new potatoes and new peas in cream sauce.

Then there was the time when Dad suggested we girls make a freezer of ice cream and mother made a layer cake, and we all spent a pleasant winter evening at Mr. Carpenters.

To show that I could enjoy things without food, I loved to ride across the prairie on my favorite saddle horse, when the perfume of wild wolf willows was in the air.

I must not forget the June of '29 when Dad, Mother and I and the three youngest went on a camping trip to Vancouver Island. The Essex seats fell down to make a fairly comfortable bed, so Dad and Mother slept on it, while we girls had a new tent with a floor in it. This with a gasoline camp stove, was luxury camping in those days. My only worry was Dad would buy a place in B.C., and I would have to leave Saskatchewan. We had a good time, enjoying the fruit and the boat rides. Dad had planted Garnet wheat and, on returning to a meagre crop of forty-eight bushels to the acre, which I had to help shock. Anyway Dad bought me a new hat coat to the fall.

Mom was a good pal too. One time she saved up her cream cheques and took us all to see "Gone with the Wind". This was when our first little girl was about three years old. Afterward we had a nice picnic in the park — ripe tomatoes on good homemade bread.

The Agar Family

told by Nora Basto

When asked to give the history of the Agar family at Lilac, I asked my sisters to give their memories of the old farm as I had been away since the age of ten, going

to school in Battleford, then teaching, then married when Florence was only four. New my own early days.

Dad came west when I was 16 mos. to please his brother Tom since they had been orphans from about eleven.

Dad believed in punctuality and organization. Sunday mornings we often went to the barn where he gave his team salt and an extra brushing. We soon got a white pinto pony "Lobo" who became part of the family and lived to 31 yrs.

He helped organize a beef ring with Alf Tyson, and Saturdays "Lolo". Lena and I delivered beef shares to Mrs. Wellford, Bulmers, Tysons, Rivers, Swans and Turner and Adams.

There were the prairie fires across the northern hills. In the spring the waters ran to the Big Slough — a marsh at least 4 miles long. The nights would throb with the sound of nesting waterfowl around it. In fall there was the clangour of wild fowl in their millions. We trod the buffalo paths and played in their grassy wallows and marvelled at the many huge skulls. Later Bathgate School closed so we drove to Rudsell and became acquainted with burrowing owls, meadow larks and many others as well as the wild flowers' golden Arrows, Salmon peak spires of Hedysarum, grass of Parnassus. How rich we were! Then I left to attend school in North Battleford. Dad was a real pioneer. He loved the land, enjoying the animals and loving his fun as he laughed when Tom took a harness and led the miniature around about before bringing him home to stay the night.

Many were the travellers who "dropped the traces" to stay for rest and food and talk. Mother was a shining example of hospitality like all homesteaders. In her own words she wrote.

"We moved to Sask. in 1904 before the rail went through to N. Battleford from Saskatoon. We freighted our settlers effects consisting of 4 horses, 1 cow, 2 pigs, 40 hens besides two boxes of salt pork and some necessities and 300 lbs. of oats.

We joined with ten other homesteader's families to Saskatoon who were going our way, camped on the way to Kilnor of the North Sask. river. Next morning we ferried across the river and cut across the country sometimes double hitching through a slough.

One night it being very stormy we stopped at a settlers shack to get out of the rain. He came home and ordered us to "get our bloody traps out of there." So the weary way man had to harness up again in the blizzard and come to another shack. Once more we unloaded and stayed there for a day and a half. We made ourselves as comfortable as possible wondering what the owner would say. When he returned home he welcomed them and apologized for the poor accommodation.

Next we came to Richard's Ranch. Tom's shack was only about 4 miles and he came to meet us. Our friends went on to Jackfish.

First to be done was to build a sod stable for the animals and feed.

The mail came once a week via Old Battleford to Richard and neighbours took turns to get it on Saturday when it was relayed from there.

Tom, Will's brother had 3 oxen so we got 3 more to break 40 acres while Will did other jobs. Later he hitched the breaking with his horses. We lived with him two years, boarding him for the rent.

There was no time to be lonely, plenty to keep one busy.

In the spring of 1905 we had our first prairie fire. Man ploughed with oxen before it reached the fire guard. The same year our second child was born, Lena. It being cold in the shack I came East for the winter to visit my parents. The next year we built our house and barn. Water was a big draw back. We dug some 30 shallow wells to no avail. We got a good drilled well in 1917 so we went into mixed farming.

Mabel was born in 1913 and grew and thrived like the rest of us. One of her memories is hooking up the big team and taking Mother to help start the Homemakers. Mabel too was a school orphan and got her education in Old Battleford collegiate where she graduated winning the Medal for Proficiency. Hence she took normal training and taught. Prolific and many schools for prairie mites! Depression had come!"

Les and Jack Allen Families

by Jack Allen

Dad was born in Northern Ontario of United Empire Loyalist stock in 1884. His mother died when he was small and when his father remarried and raised a second family, Dad was sent to Southern Saskatchewan with his old Granny to help her prove up a homestead. He never really re-established a connection with his family after that and is now busy on his

Lois and Jack Allen

brothers and half brothers. As a young man he moved to Minnedosa where he became a successful storekeeper and married at right about the time of the outbreak of the Boer War. In the early 1900's he took a homestead in Saskatchewan, near Moose Jaw and returned a few years of independence and pioneering at being alone. He is remembered in that community as a very strong young bachelor, a super baseball player and a hero who passed away through the 1918 flu epidemic.

It was during this time that he met Mother. She was Vera Blakely from Manitou, Saskatchewan - a young school teacher in the Secretan School. They married on New Year's Eve of 1916 and entered a period of great prosperity. Dad bought more land, had a lovely farm home built by John Blakely, my grandpa, an Irish journeyman carpenter, got rid of the oxen, bought horses, started a cattle herd, had a daughter (my sister Lois) and built a fine barn. By 1920 when I made the scene I see had a new 1-ton Model screen tractor and a brand new 1918 Chevrolet car.

Then came the Dirty Thirties. Our farm continued to produce but the economic system fell apart and even in that rich land, we were going broke. By 1934 he left everything to be repossessed by Lloyds and moved us to Fielding (probably that choice was influenced by my mother's sister Annie - Mrs. Charles Roberts).

He bought a little 4-room service station from Burt Strickland and we moved into the front part of the house in Fielding. It was an old hip-roofed structure with a galvanized tin porch set in a beautiful triangle of flowers and trees next to the service station. I remember the excitement of wooden sidewalks that began coming in, my first friend Clarence Price and playing in that lovely yard. Mother remembers leaving her new home and moving into that old wreck with its uneven floors and drafty doors - going with the occasional exposure few times turning green paper.

Dad set about earning our keep and worked very hard. As well as serving gas, we sold binder twine and washing machines and battery radios. We charged up two-volt radio batteries and provided electric lights in the town hall. Our living was augmented by cows, and chickens and a huge garden. I remember the old Fielding pump organ and how it could be heard all over as one threshed the handle to send a little trickle of water for a thirsty cow.

We shopped at Gosse's and Hall's and bought candy at Pop Chinnamans. Dinty Garnet ran the pool room and barber shop and Jim Brewster was the postmaster. Terrance Pryce and Phil Phillips ran the elevators and the days events was "ticket time" where, in later years, George Park regaled us with irrepressible stories of his youth. We laughed at him and with him and he never told a story that ever hurt anyone or did any harm - a gentle and fine man.

I started school in 1929 and remember a few teachers' names - Elaine Trelawney, Irene Reed and Kay McNaughton (and I remember her maiden name

Robertson). Sports and outdoors were our central events and in those years the Fielding rink was run by the livery barn between McNaughton's Garage (run by Jim Johnston and then a Model T Ford engine driven rotating screen that a fresh load of water which was used after shoveling up the ice that lined on the rink). Hockey was a passion. Chet Miller, Alex Spence and Kevin McGrath equalled LaVerne to me. Chet [illegible] was a fabric mayor enough to make professionals but never had the opportunity to do anything but work. School was good - a beautiful three-room building headed by Mr. and Mrs. Neil Smith. Some of my school chums were: Mac Scott, Don Hart, Chester Price, Thomas Marshall, Wilfred Gibbons, Grace Edith Edge and Lois and [illegible] Hart, Ken Smith, Harold Gibbons, Mary Jackson, Janet Downie, Jean Hawkins, Lillian Youmaver, Norma and Joan Addley, Warren Wager, Mary Garnet, Jim Garnet, Dwight and Lorna Cousins, Gilbert and Alec Hooman, Ken and Hazel Watkinson who lived at Clarke Townsite.

During summer holidays most of us boys would walk out to Rykon three and a half miles on the old highway and swim in their fresh stagnet (temperature about 45 degrees F). Sometimes at school I had fights because so many of my relatives were teachers and my Uncle Wal Drummond was a school inspector with one short leg.

I remember the terror I felt when I heard of the Declaration of World War II. Major Cook got quite drunk that day and barked his brain Ford truck into the ditch a mile from the store. I remember the news flash of the attack on Pearl Harbor and clearly recall Roosevelt's message about it. During these years I was 11, 12 and 13. I worked for R. B. Harris along with Glenn Harris cutting crops, hoeing grain and late fall cultivating. I learned a great deal about hard work and found happiness sometimes from these honest hard-working folks with whom I harvested an affluence that was short and rich until they passed on. During the war I loved the recitation of fighter and bomber aircraft and knew the performance and capability of everything that flew. During these days old George Blakely said the Japs would lost because of hurting such a chosen people - the Jews - and that the Jews would somehow never lose and live in Israel. I was embarrassed at these pronouncements because everyone who heard him thought he was a "Bible spouting old fool". On V.E. Day 1945, Chester Marshall and I went hunting in the "Jerry Hills" all day, and crashed a rabbit in a jam can without benefit of seasoning or shortening. That night we returned to a town celebration highlighted by a fireworks display saved for the occasion by J. W. Stott.

Adolescent years were spent at work in school and around the Fielding United Church. The Church connection gave me access to the pretty girls in the Explorer Class and we had some thrilling times doing out of town functions. I remember a couple of very stern

young ladies, Eleanor Blackstock and Terry Rolls. They were good friends, good dancers and lots of fun. Fielding had no bar and all our activities were without liquor. I don't even recall any temptation to take a drink prior to my twenties. Surely Fielding should get some applause for being such a wholesome place to grow up. I contemplated going into the ministry under Reverend Frank Myers in 1945-1946. This explains the surrendering.

I graduated from XII in June 1947, entered Saskatoon Normal School that fall for the most broadening and pleasure-filled year of my life and emerged a teacher in June 1948. I taught a year at Dinsmore, Saskatchewan then moved to Dewberry, Alberta to take a class vacated by the marriage of Genevieve Bates of Mayerthorpe. (Mrs. Herb McKendale). I taught at Dewberry several years and in 1951 met and fell in love with Elaine Baily of Kitscoty, Alberta — a young teacher with a singularly beautiful singing voice. Elaine and I married in 1953 and that year I left the teaching profession for what I thought was a summer away from books before going back to University to finish off the few classes I needed for my B.A. and B. Ed., with an eye to going into Medicine. I became a salesman for Mutual Life and loved it — remaining in it for fifteen years and acquiring the degree of C.L.U.

Mother and Dad moved to Lloydminster in 1953 and he became maintenance supervisor at Sidney Roofing. In 1954 his health failed and Mother went back teaching at Kitscoty. She continued until she retired in 1968. Dad's health improved and he worked eight more years at Mills Transport and the Ashlee Lodge in Lloydminster.

By then we were in Lloydminster and in 1953 our first daughter, Betty, was born, Brenda arrived in 1956, Shelly in 1958 and finally Barbara in 1962.

In 1967 I went into partnership in the Kentucky Fried Chicken business and after getting in found it was so busy that to successfully retire the debt, I would have to give up my insurance practice and devote full time to it. We lost the business to a fire in 1970 and after some severe family problems coupled with a prolonged illness for Elaine we bought out the interest of my friend and partner and in 1973 named the business Allen's Dairy Freez, Ltd.

In 1977 we built and opened a second store and overtime in this demanding business which we love.

Betty is on our executive team.

Brenda is an R.N. in the Lloydminster Hospital and is now Mrs. Sheldon Servold

Shelly worked for us for years and is now Mrs. Richard Cyot and has presented us with our first grandson, Robert Allen.

Barbara is nearly seventeen and finishing up Grade XI.

Mother and Dad are quite well and now live in Friendship Village here in Lloydminster.

The Lord had been gracious to us all. We have enjoyed health, happiness, friends and prosperity. We love our community.

I never forget my beginnings — my rich upbringing and the wonderful times and people that were at Fielding.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Alexander

Dave Alexander was born in Magherintemple, Ireland in October 1884. His father was a farmer but Dave operated the donkey engine in a local salt mine. In 1911 he and his two buddies — Tom Patterson and Jack English; decided to come to Canada with Jim Semple who had been on a visit to Ireland and was returning to his homestead at Lilac. Coming by steerage class on the S.S. Lake Champlain the boat fare was six and one-

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Alexander.

half pounds — (approximately $80) from Belfast to St. John, New Brunswick — an eleven day trip. The men landed in Riddell the evening of March 17, 1911. Since there was no one to meet them, the four carried their hand luggage and walked the 5½ miles to the Jim Semple homestead north of Lilac by moonlight. The temperature was mild but the footing poor. On arrival at the homestead shack they roused Tom Caldwell who had been left in charge and he prepared them a meal of fried pork — pork which was cleverly sliced from a frozen chunk with a sharp axe.

Dave worked for Semple Bros. that summer and went to Edmonton for the winter where he worked in a bush camp until spring break-up. Here a badly cut foot sent him to hospital near the end of the logging season. On recovery he went back to Lilac and worked for Mr. H. Welford in the early summer of 1912 and helped Mr. A. Tynan with custom breaking later on. He again went to Edmonton for the winter but this time worked in the railway roundhouse and continued with this work until the spring of 1918. He came back to Lilac with horses and machinery and bought the Hibbard homestead – S.E. 4-28-13-13 — where Pete and Laura Prescesky now live.

Dave batched there and later bought an adjoining quarter of land. He built the main part of the present house and later added to it as well as building the barn which is still in use.

In the winter of 1925-1927 he went to Ireland for a visit and came back again the next year returning to the spring of 1928 with an Irish wife, Mary. They lived happily here until 1948 when they sold the farm, had an auction sale, and returned to Ireland to retire. On May 29, 1958 Dave passed away and Mrs. Alexander lived only a few years longer.

Fred Anderson

submitted by the Anderson Family

Mr. Fred Anderson from Minnesota, arrived in Fielding, Sask. in 1906 seeking a new adventure in life and prospects for the future. In November of that year he went to North Battleford and filed for a homestead on section 20-41-12-W3rd. along with Jim Shanks, George Lowrey and Dave McKay (always a good neighbour and friend). Fred, being affluent in several languages, found it easy to mingle in these surroundings, and along with many of the farmers, while proving up their homesteads, worked at building the grades on railroads. In later years, he also took contracts to put in similar roadbeds along the present sites of Juniata and Kinley. He also spent much time in digging wells, owning two of his own well digging outfits, powered by horses. He eventually sold one to Charlie Collins in Perdue, Sask. and the other to Downey Bros. of Fielding, Sask.

Looking back to those days of bald prairie and the breaking of sloughs, and then farming this land with

Back row — Fred Anderson, Harry White, Harold Warcup. 2nd row — Eleanor Anderson holding baby Elmo, Bessie White holding baby Willie White, Hattie Warcup holding Harold, Grandpa Edward Streeter. 3rd row — Mabel Anderson, Eddie Anderson, Eleanor Warcup.

crops and horses, one can imagine the love and care, that went into the built, days and years of hard work.

The first house built on his new farm was a sod house. It burned down one night, when he was away playing the violin at one of the local dances. Another new house was built, which now sits at the farm of Chester Miller, having been moved off, when S. R. Miller bought the farm.

After eight years, having saved a fair portion of his earnings, Fred Anderson married Eleanor Ann Streeter at Bedroson in 1911. Eleanor had come from Sussex, England in 1908 to work for the family of R. B. Harris of Fielding. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Anderson had four children, born at home with Dr. Kernack in attendance.

Lester, her father, Edward Streeter, came from England and lived for many years with the family. (He is buried in Fielding cemetery.) Two sisters also came from England, Maime Streeter (Mrs. Harold Warcup) and Bessie Streeter (Mrs. Harry White). A brother, Andrew Streeter, also came after serving in the forces. He married, and had one daughter — Iris (Mrs. Jim Clark) now living in Islington, Ontario. Mr. Streeter was postmaster in Fielding for many years before moving to B.C. Andrew passed away in Toronto, 1959. Mrs. Streeter is still living in Ontario.

We children well remember all the happy sing songs at our home with mother playing the organ, and dad his violin; also walking the two miles to Neepawa school, sometimes catching a ride with the Thompson children. Later we drove a horse and rubber-tired buggy, and in the winter, a horse and cutter. The old school burned down in 1929 and we attended school in the horse barn until a new school was built.

The teachers we remember were Mr. Almas, Miss Nothing, and Miss Ballard. The highlight of the year was our annual Christmas concert, with everyone taking part. Candles and all placed on the tree. After the program, everyone took part in the fun and dancing with Fred Anderson often helping with the dance music by playing the violin. We remember one concert in Fielding community hall when the Christmas tree caught fire from the candles on the tree and the hall burned down. The hall was filled to capacity but with good management everyone got out safely.

Mr. and Mrs. Anderson and family left Fielding for Saskatoon in 1928. Mr. Anderson was then a foreman of Robin Hood Mills in Saskatoon when it was being built. He then bought a farm at Kinley, Sask. In 1930. He farmed at Kinley until his untimely death April 19, 1937. He was buried in Kinley cemetery.

Fred Anderson was a charter member of the Oddfellows Lodge — Fielding.

The farm was then taken over by his two sons, who owned it until they sold it in 1977.

Mrs. Eleanor Nocrss (Anderson) died May 19, 1974 and was buried in Kinley cemetery.

The family of Fred and Eleanor (Nellie) Anderson are:

Edward — married Ruby Friend. Living in Perdue — retired. They have three children: James, married with two children — Claremont, California. Marion Burton married with two children — Tisdale, Sask. Kenneth resides at Edmonton, Alta.

Mabel — married Theodore Vogelsang. Living in Perdue — retired. They have two children. Roger, married with three children — North Battleford. Darlene Swiderski, married with two children — Saskatoon

Elmo — married Edna Sommer. Living in Kinley — retired. They have three children: Donna Jensen, Saskatoon Gary — Swan Hills, Alta. Elaine Millard — Winterburn, Alta.

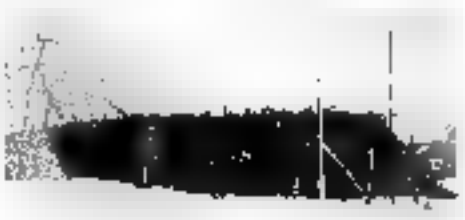
Velda Cowley (widow) — Alberta Beach, Alta. They have four children: Eleanor Taggart — three children — Edmonton, Alta. Eddie — married — three children — Delmamy, Sask. Connie Toombs — two children — Grandora, Sask. Earl — Alberta Beach, Alta.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred J. Andrew

(By Mrs. H. Greenslade)

Alfred John Andrew was born on July 1, 1891 at Belmoral, Manitoba. His parents were William Ezra Andrew and Esther Rogers. He was brought up with six brothers and three sisters on a farm.

In early June 1910, Alfred along with his father and sister, Maria, and her husband, Robert Williams, and son, George, left Belmoral for the promised land. They shipped a carload of settlers effects consisting of six horses, a cow and some equipment; and Robert



Alfred and his big woodpile.

Williams' household effects by rail from Belmoral to Saskatoon. Alfred and Robert accompanied the household effects. William Andrew, Sr. and Maria and George went by passenger train arriving in Saskatoon on July First. It took three days with two wagon loads of their belongings to reach their homestead seventy-five miles northwest in Township 41, Range 12, W3

Most of the trip was across lonely trackless prairie with only an occasional prairie trail. The first day they reached the elbow of the North Saskatchewan River (Borden) crossing by ferry. The ferry was operated by George and Andrew Boyd (later they moved and now are well-known as Boyd's Automobile Business in North Battleford.) In addition to a small monthly allowance paid by the Northwest Territorial Government the Boyds received ferry fees of twenty-five cents for each team and wagon, seventy-five cents for each horse and buggy, ten cents per saddle horse, and five cents for each person.

On the third day the Andrews arrived at seven o'clock in the evening at Robert Williams homestead on the N.E. 29-41-12 W3. First job was to put up a tent which served as their home until a building could be built, doing all their cooking by camp fire

Alfred, Dorothy and Kay Andrew, June, 1953.

Alfred said the first night of their new home made a deep impression on them. Nothing around but gently rolling prairie, sparkling with little sloughs filled with water embedded around with fringes of small willows. For company they had the distant howl of the coyote. Gophers were in countless numbers popping in and out of the holes and also badgers with their handsome striped faces.

The first house built was on the Robert Williams' land. Then they built a house on the Williams Sr. homestead.

Alfred with a Verrity 12 breaking plow set to breaking and broke six acres on each of the four homesteads. Alfred's N.E. 36-41-12 W3. Oliver's was on the N.W. quarter of the same section. Brother William's, Jr. S.E. 3-42-13 W3 and his dad's S.E. 4 in the same township. Before winter came Robert and Alfred had hay to cut and stack for the oncoming winter. Alfred lived with the Williams the first winter as William Andrew Sr. returned to get the rest of the family to get them ready to return to Maymont next spring.

In the spring of 1908 Alfred was appointed as Administrator Land Locator (this being to find the homesteads for the newcomers).

Alfred took great interest in hockey and was a player for the first hockey team established in Maymont.

In the summer of 1912 Alfred started to build a house on his homestead and in August 1912 he married Annie Kennedy of Ripley, Ontario. When she died on January 25, 1913, Alfred took her body back to Ripley, Ontario.

He farmed all his life with horses only. During the hunting season he and his buddies went north to Green Lake to hunt, for many years. Many of their families still have the grizzly bear and moose heads mounted. In fact Alfred's prize head was donated by his daughter to the museum in Saskatoon in memory of Alfred and all his hunting friends.

Alfred was a charter member of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, and a director of the Maymont Rural Telephone Company. He served as director on both until his death.

In October 15, 1924 Alfred married Dorothy Kate Bathercult from England. From this marriage came one daughter, Josephine Kate (Kay). The family lived on the farm until Alfred became ill with arthritis and had to retire November 1943. They bought the Sam Styrsky house and moved into Maymont.

The farm was rented to George Belliveau and family for a few years. Then Mr. and Mrs. Jim Steele and Lucille rented the farm until spring of 1964 when their daughter, Kay, and son-in-law, Harold Greenslade, took over the farm.

Dorothy and Alfred were born very community minded and loved to have friends and relatives come to visit. They both served on the Red Cross Committees during World War II. They both worked hard for the Memorial Hall — Alfred as director and Dorothy on quilting and kitchen committees. Dorothy was a member of the All Saints Anglican Church and W.A.; later known as A.C.W. member. Since coming to Maymont, she played the organ for over twenty-three years until her death and was also a member of the Homemaker's from 1944 to her death in 1967. Alfred was a member of the United Church. Alfred had an interest in all aspects of Maymont area history and being mine-rator for land locater had the first map of the first homesteaders which is now in the hands of Kay.

After moving to Maymont interest went to vegetable gardening and wood cutting always keeping a two-year supply ahead.

Their daughter Kay married Harold Greenslade September 22, 1950.

January 1, 1963 Alfred passed away suddenly at his home. Dorothy passed away May 28, 1967 in Biggar Hospital after a long illness with cancer.

The Billy Andrew Family

by daughter Evelyn Sloan

When my grandfather, William Andrew, married my grandmother, he brought five children from his first marriage and grandmother brought her son, Ransom Rogers. Grandpa's five children were Ernie, Byron, Edna Pines, Maria (Williams) and Annie (Hawkins). They moved from Ontario to Balmoral, Manitoba where my father, Billy, was born in 1880. Other children born to this marriage were Alfred, Oliver, Norman and Lew. Eventually, all lived in the Maymont area for many years with the exception of Byron and Edna. In 1904 the family sold out at Balmoral and shipped horses, cattle, and pigs, along with machinery to the closest railway centre of Saskatoon. Grandpa, Alfred, and Maria's husband, Bob Williams, came the previous year and hauled lumber for Grandpa's house which stands today on land owned by Harold and Ken Means.

Other members of the family who came when my

Billy and Carrie Andrew on their 40th wedding anniversary, 1952.

Dad did were: Uncle Ransom Rogers and his wife Rachel with their children Oliver Elmer Ransom, and Esther Langenmeier Andrew Uncle Lew Uncle Oliver Aunt Marrine and Aunt Annie

I have listened to the stories of those years and I think there were few hardships that could not be conquered. It seems the depression of the thirties was much harder for all to bear.

Back in 1904 they had to have all supplies from Saskatoon. Both doctors and cash must have planned their trips very carefully. Later Arvid Berntsen drove from Clifford Where Mr. E. Bros set up his general store at Marchmont. Grandfather Andrew was the first Postmaster.

Dad's sister Marrine married Sam Miller and Marrine remained here she died along with her newborn son.

In 1912 Dad married my mother Caroline Campbell who came to Rudyard at 1899. Her father, Sandy Campbell, left his career of sea captain in the Maritimes, and with his two sons came to Saskatchewan in 1904 to prepare a home for the family. Mother's brothers were Ken Jack and Hector and her sisters Ollie Hammer Hattie McPherson and Blanche Brooks. Her half-sister Daisy Foster and brother, George Reid came later.

My parents lived at S.E. 4-43-13 and our family was Russell John Earl, myself, Harper Elmer Lew and Daisy. Family life back then was very different to now a days. We had no T.V. and the radio till we were almost grown. We had no power or water in the house. Any fun we had — and it was not — had to be homemade. We use old patch boxes. Imagine Harper and I rode thousands of miles on them. We stole sammon and brown sugar for them to eat. Usually they didn't have it up good enough so we had to help. Memories & treasure are the winter nights around the old wood heater where we listened to Dad and Mother tell stories of their other day when they were young. Some of those stories were dooozies and we thanks my Dad had more has than Mom and all we kids put together.

Dad always did two things before turning in for the night. He picked out some dry wood and with his jack knife made a heap of shavings in the stove flat and crumpled a piece of newspaper beside the pile in readiness for a quick morning fire. Then he and Uncle Alfred talked on the phone. I don't ever remember him saying "Goodbye" he always said "Goodnight Alfred". A neighbour who was an old bachelor used to say they always listened in and they called it the "Bedtime Story."

Before Dad was married he worked on the steamers for Jim Reid transferring coal. Jim shipped the bronze dropped cyrenaics to Transfer Co. in Winnipeg. They did many hundreds of them — a far cry from the way coal is handled now.

Dad worked the year of 1909 for Bill Porter on his road gang. Later had his own crew for many years. They [illegible] was part of his gang at Hill at Pelican. He had a steep tent and a huge round wood heater. In later years, Dad worked on P.F.A. work.

In summer besides we always spent some time at Manning Lake. We left the older boys at home to do the chores. There were two years Dad couldn't afford to run his old Model T so after much preparing from us kids we made ready to go by team and wagon. Dad rigged up a double wide steel covered wagon and we drove the fifty miles camping the first night at the Belgium Plain by the creek and then reached the Assiniboia. Rested by dinner time. One year my cousin Maude came with us and another time Cory Johnston came along. We had wonderful times. In those years the Boy Scouts had a special camp site there and everyone at the resort gathered around their devices in the evening to sing songs. I shall never forget Mrs. Bert Langley making a mouth holler full of the best cream pies and as she started it she sang, "There's One More River To Cross". Good things always end and just as did holidays and back to school we'd have to go.

Schools back then were not like now. Our Keystone School had only one room as we learned what we already knew and resented some that we should have learned. Genevieve Moore, Muriel Brown and I started the same day and we were always together until the Standard Grade Nine. Others came and went in our grade for a few years but we three always stayed and I have many good memories of our friendship in those days. We were three against country kids when we had to go to Maymont to write Grade Eight exams. I think it was a wonderful thing when starting the first year there [illegible] recently pupils while at once were school.

One day at recess during a game of Steal Sticks, Winnie Chantrey and I got in a dispute and I never did recall how, guess much hair and a mess of hats. Winnie and I were always good friends after that because if she yelled "jump!", I said, "how high?".

Mr. Drummie was our school inspector. I was always scared of him. I'm sure he could have shared only what of me at first with the dunce. It does so that it seemed one of his legs was too short so one end of he had a decided limp. One day he spent the morning with us. We were dismissed for dinner and ran to the porch for our dinner pails while Mr. Drummie went to his car. Hector put the foot on his hard pail and tripped up the aisle to his desk amid the laughter of us all. All of once a voice roared out and we all froze. Mr. Drummie had followed Hector in after getting his own lunch from the car. We all thought he had gone home. My, what a howling and a growling we got! It almost spoiled our noon hour. School lunches were not so great then. In winter we fared pretty good, having hot or part sandwiches and an apple which froze on the way to school.

In summer we had mostly squirrel peanut butter sandwiches and a wrath for an apple. I still don't like peanut butter. There was one thing in the fall and it's

[illegible] apples. In the fall a carload would come to town on the railway. Folks took containers and bought them for three cents a pound. We had our own [illegible] from our park so ours were a cheap dessert and very yummy. As long as the apples lasted us Billy Smith didn't fight about who had to go down cellar for potatoes.

To us kids our school concert was the highlight of the year. We tried to do our parts really well so Mom and Dad would [illegible] us up on the ride home. When Santy came we loved it. One year Santy was Mrs. Billy Holmes and when she said "I can't see a thing with this beard stuck on" we all knew who it was. Once when we were quite small and really figured Santy came from the North Pole, Hector and I were waiting for our candy and I noticed Santy had a stiff finger like Dad and Uncle Hector. He looked here and said "My goodness a girl an' I don't have candy for her." That nearly finished Hector's belief at that job.

Rev. Hardy came from Saskatoon to our school once a week and held Sunday School. Church services were also held every second Sunday at the school. Peggy Baldwin and Mrs. Baldwin were the organists for us and Alf Bailey always took up the collection. When Rev. Hardy moved to Maymont in 1927, Rev. Ambler carried on till 1931.

One evening the Ambler family had supper at our house. The oldest boy Bob is here with a little pup we had. He had said he could not take it home. He called a little out the Reverend didn't notice. When they left for home the boy stepped down into the porch and the puppy fell out of his coat bag. It was a sad boy who went home with no pup.

About this time Wherrett Shaw was the leader of the Brownie Pack in Maymont. Irene Barrett and I used to ride old Buck and Queen in the meetings. I was only five inches when but Irene had six and one half inches in rule. When Saturday Pikleys took a load of us by car to Frank Langleys farm for our meeting and a picnic of fun followed by races and contests. Later, we joined the Lark Corners with Mrs. Wherrett as leader.

School dances in those days were a real social event. They were held nearly five times whenever most ladies all brought lunch. Along with lots of coffee no one went home hungry. The supper hour included a brief spot of the afternoon concert - singing, reciting, and step dancing. Mr. and Mrs. George Miller, Bobby Miller, Betty and Kate Dickson supplied our music. They sounded much better than the rest and rest we have today.

In the 20's one day our school got a boost in attendance when seven new kids walked to school. It must have been quite an experience for them. George Miller had sold his farm to Pete and George Hadikopo and Mr. Hebert. Katie Penner was one of those kids and she is the only one who lived in our district till she married and raised her family.

In school one day Jack Bates and Colin Dickson were taking turns reading a play aloud; it may have been "As You Like It". The one who had Orlando's part didn't start quickly enough and Miss Langhorn yelled, "Orlando." "My brother Earl thought she said "Earl Andrew" jumped up and said, "What?" That was how much [illegible] for him as he sat in his desk while the rest of us played.

I guess school days were not so bad if only I had not worn those awful long legged underwear and black wool ribbed stockings in the winter. We were the only ones [illegible] pants worn. I sweated out.

Dave McKay lived about a mile from us. One year they had a pet owl and Stanley loved to tease it. We were outside one evening and heard Mrs. McKay yelling at Stanley. "Stanley, if you don't quit making that howl, well I'll give you something to owl about!"

When we were little on a certain date a July each summer many covered wagons filled with Indians came to us their way to the shrine at Duck Lake. They came from Red Pheasant and Sandy Reserves. They camped at night a mile east, which is where we live now. There was a dent in the corner that the earliest homesteaders used were there they could maybe [illegible] dug it. I don't know. They came for two years after we lived here and after that they used cars and trucks so didn't camp here anymore. Many times the Gypsies came. They always came to the house to beg what [illegible] or anything we would give them. Usually they wished to trade horses and were we ended up with a badly [illegible] horse we could have managed without.

Back in that other day we were plagued with peddlers of every kind. Some were pests and others had a special place in our memories. Bob Ray was our Watkins peddler and as kids always stood around with our tongues hanging out waiting for the package of gum he gave us after Mom bought her spices and flavors.

The one peddler who was great to have come was Bill Brown who sold for the Creamery Co. He often stayed at our house overnight. Obadiah, his old bay horse, looked as old as his name sake. One night he asked Mother for a pan of water to wash his feet before he went to bed. He had operated the operation and I still believe he had the biggest feet in Saskatchewan. He was lots of fun and when we saw him coming we knew we'd get a treat even before he peddled his wares.

Mrs. Billy Holmes was a neighbour of ours. I loved to get her telling stories of true things and real people because she knew lots of them. After Billy died she went to work for Dick Gyrat for a spell and Dick always told her she was out trying to catch a man. One day she was burning in the garden and dug up a leg. Mr. Fox had lived there years before and he wore an army artificial legs and buried them. She took it in and set it by the table and when Dick came in she said "Well Dick I'm a goin to get that man yet, you see. I found a piece of him this morning."

Dad had pneumonia one winter and was really sick. One day Tom Purvis drove Doc Sarnick out to see Dad

and white Doc was taunting to him. Tom played with us kids. He used to Hector "Is your Dad very sick?" Hec said, the sure is! Tom says "Well he's such a miserable mean old man I hope he dies. Hector was only five but he sure gave him hot tongue for a spell and the more he talked the more Tom laughed so Hector died a good licking on his shins by kicking them. Tom really enjoyed it and years later at Lyman and Evelyn Reid's 30th anniversary celebration, we could still chuckle about it.

When Danny was three he and Dad were visiting Dr. Myers. Dad was asked how many sons he had and when he answered seven. Dr. Myers turned to Dan and asked "So you're the seventh son. Well it is very special if you were born with a veil on. Were you?" Dan didn't know what one means and looked at his Daddy for answer. He let out a sweet quiet said, "No, just this old red sweater."

There were eight children in our family and unfortunately it is a fact that we never once ate a meal with the eight of us and Mom and Dad present. When Danny was born some of the brothers were living in other provinces as he was born twenty four years after Russell. Then during the war John, Hector and Elmer were overseas and so Mother really planned on the time they would get home and we all gather around the table for that fine dinner together. Fate decreed other wise and Elmer sleeps in Holland where. Age shall not weary him, nor the years condemn."

Hec said I live at Maymont. Earl and Edith in The Pas, Mavis in Lynn and Moe in Edmonton. Danny and Louise in Campbell River, B.C. Russell and Cathy at Bowmanville Lake near Victoria and John and Nel in Los Angeles. Mom died in 1963 when she was 58. Dad died in 1981 at 91 years.

In the early thirties on a Saturday night as soon I saw someone I felt for, and Ed Bennison was talking to Vera. At the first chance I got I asked Ed who he was. He laughed and said "Why he's your neighbour to the south, only 2½ miles away. I wonder how many times I have been north, east and west and never south." But by 1935 I had my directions straight and Ted and I were married on both our mothers birthday. Weddings weren't as plush then as now. We were married at my home by Rev. Schnell. We had a buffet lunch. There were sixty friends and relatives there. We didn't go for a honeymoon. We drove home to a one room shack where we lived for ten years. Money was very scarce and everyone was making do or using substitutes. My cousin Geordie Williams told us about coffee made from wheat. He called it "Bee and Misery." When I asked him why, he said it was a sin to call it coffee and it was misery to drink."

At threshing time one fall George Lowrey and Ted were watching a load being in a load of sheaves and George mentioned the small load. Ted said "I think he's getting better", and George answered, "Yes, he's better, but he isn't well yet."

In 39 we had two new experiences. Trudy, our first child was born and we moved to Joe Davidson's farm near the river. In 1941 we lost our second daughter when she was four days old. Laurie Currie and Clara lived a mile west on John Rolfe's farm, and Laurie offered to make a casket for her. He proved to be a wonderful friend, and I always thought of him as a special man after that.

We bought our first car that fall for $90 in good running order, tires and battery, but we couldn't afford a license or gas so Ted built on a dandy buggy and it sure beat the old wagon a long way.

In 1942 Sharon was born and Charlene two years later. Then Elmer, Leroy and Shelley. In 1946 we bought a half section a mile east of Dad's farm where Warburtons and Friesens lived. Later on we bought a 1938 Chev from Uncle Alfred Andrew. It was a dandy mover but the wooden frame was starting to rot at the rockers and the chains didn't always stay short. One day, manning a farm as always a worry, it opened and Charlene flew out. We drove it to church and an evangelist from Calgary just stared as we started unpacking it. There were five kids then Ted and I. When we all got out he said "My, what a wagon!" Shortly after that we got a newer model, but we used it till 1956.

Trudy and I (now) live in North Battleford as do Sharon and Bob, and Elmer and Marilyn. Leroy and Shirley are in Edmonton and Charlotte and Lawrence at Spruce Lake and Shelley and Roger at Turtleford. Years back, one thing I was always afraid of was the autumn teacher rush when I went to school and when the kids had teachers. Here I end up with five teachers, four of ours and a son-in-law. We have seventeen grandchildren so may get more teachers yet."

We spend a lot of our time now visiting among our family. On special occasions they all come home and we have singing and revue like in the times past and it makes one glad to be a part of a big family.

I feel we are so very fortunate to live in the community of Maymont where neighbours are real friends, we can truly say they are the "salt of the earth" and no other place could ever really be "Home Sweet Home."

Ernest Edward Andrew Family History

told by Myrtle Clipperton

My Dad, Ernest Edward Andrew was born in Huron County, Ontario in 1874. He homesteaded in the Redmond area in 1908. Finding his land there was light and sandy, he sold his quarter section in 1910 and bought a half-section two miles east of Maymont. He lived there alone for seven years — some of which were good and some not but Dad worked hard and was fairly successful. If shack was not the epitome of cleanliness and comfort, it didn't worry Dad. He was curious and the welcome mat was always out to anyone passing by in particular of food and lodging. Each

as they were. Dad was rough but he had a heart as big as all outdoors.

Dad had an old auto named Ike. When she got cold, she liked to get into the shack and lie near the stove and did so every time she could rest the day long. One afternoon Dad went to Maymont and stayed until quite late that night. In the meantime, Kate and Billy Holmes stopped at the shack and finding no one home, they put their horses in the barn and went in and made supper. There was only one bunk, so when it got late and Dad made it returned they spread their bedroll on the floor and went to bed. Dad came home, happy, as he had spent most time in Bill Bowden's bar. He staggered into the house rambling for a lantern stumbling over Kate Holmes he let out a roar, "Get the hell out of here you damned old sow."

After things were straightened out with Dad as his best and a lamp lit he apologized to the big woman who was lying there rubbing her backside and laughing her head off. They stayed with Dad a week until they bought land three miles north, where they lived for many years. Years later, when Kate used to tell about it, she'd say "With the three of us, two big bulldogs and half the time a 400 pound sow, in that small shack, I could hardly move."

In 1914, came the war and Dad went off to enlist. However he was told he was more valuable in his country raising wheat and that he should go back to his farm. By this time, he had acquired more land and was raising quite a lot of grain.

In 1917, Dad rescued the lady who was to become my mother. By that I mean he probably saved her and her eight kids from starvation. Mom — Agnes (LaFreniere) Saunders — had come from Michigan in 1906. She and her husband had homesteaded near Retlaw. He had bought, on time, a steam tractor and threshing separator, putting up his farm and practically everything he owned as security. When he drowned in a picnic in 1916, the land, and all of the livestock and machinery were seized by the Machine Company. Mom was left with seven kids and another on the way, a collie dog and 36 cents in cash. Also one milk cow which she had sold, transforming her shot gun, all four foot eleven inches and ninety pounds of her, and dared them to take that as well.

Mom had indomitable courage in the face of hardship and was the second woman in Saskatchewan to file for her own homestead. Being the sole provider for seven kids, she was certainly eligible. She was able to get a pre-emption quarter with an old log house on it, badly in need of repair and with dirt floors. She and the kids chinked it up with manure and mud and moved in.

The following two years were more of hard work survival for her and her children. She was forced to drag her own wood in out of the bush and live off the land like with the help of the older son. Timbers, snared and trapped rabbits, weasels and muskrats. The rabbits and muskrats were a source of food along with an occasional grouse which she was able to shoot. The hides were skinned out and stretched to sell for a few nickles.

Dad took on an awful responsibility when married her on April 30, 1917. No one can tell me it wasn't a love and I am certain he never regretted it. He had built a couple more rooms onto his shack for his newly acquired family so after the wedding he loaded his bride, the eight kids and the collie dog onto the sleigh and set out to drive in the Maymont large over roads which were not the best, due to the spring break up.

Mom's children at this time ranged from Jean who was 14 to Ernest (Greg) who was born seven months after his father drowned. Jean (Campbell) now lives in Edmonton. Isidore (Wop) in Calgary, Edward, Agnes (Dominic), Walter (Chimy) and Greg are at Maymont and Ida (Schmidt) lives near Rockhill. Louise died in 1918.

Three children from the second marriage are Marietta (Hutter) of Saskatoon, Norman in Maple Ridge, B.C. and Myrtle (Chipperton) at Kamloops, B.C.

I grew up with nine older brothers and sisters. How could my childhood have been anything but happy? Besides that, I was surrounded by Aunts and Uncles. Four of Dad's brothers and his Father had taken homesteads in the Maymont area, while his sister, Maria lived just up the road.

Dad died in October 1941 and Mom in April, 1969.

Lewis O. Andrew — New Life Springs Forth

submitted by Lewis O. Andrew

It was 1900 the sun upon prairie were shrinking away, wind was everywhere and tiny crocuses poked their delicate flowers forth — a new season for all.

At the William Andrew home Carrollton gave birth to a baby boy on April first. He was given the name Lewis Oliver, named after two of his uncles.

Many memories come to mind of my early childhood of hot windy days when the sun was obscured by dust blowing and one year the army worms crawling everywhere — their destruction was accompanied by a small child, only the innocence of them.

One day my uncle Alfred came to our place in his car. He said he had a job for me. On the way to his place the story unfolded of how his little girl Kay two years younger than I could no longer play outside because their rooster would chase her. I was to wear an apron and her sunbonnet, play in the yard till the rooster came then use a switch that he had prepared and drive the rooster back to the barnyard. The play worked and soon the rooster came on the run but didn't stay long with me using the whip. As we reached the barnyard I turned back and so did the rooster. Round two was different as he would fly at me through the air. The whip was getting shorter and as his head got closer to me I got in a sound blow. There was loaded

chicken and dumplings that evening at Alfred Andrew's home. I never was sure if they were angry or not at the loss of the rooster.

Another big day in my life came early in September, 1924. Arriving at Keystone School riding horseback behind my brother, Elmer, and bouncing all the way. My seat was very sore. Whether I paid more attention to Miss King's teaching or to those two pure spans I don't quite remember. However one of my projects that day was to trace over a small A. This I did many times. This card was taken home and on arrival I asked if anyone wanted to see my 'A'.

Our next teacher was Mr. Langley. It was during his term that King George visited Canada and many of us travelled with Mr. Langley by car to Fielding, then by train to Saskatoon to see our King and Queen. That was some day to remember.

One day from Maymont, Jimmy McClumb, crawled on his hands and knees through people's legs arriving right in front of King George V and had an impromptu conversation with his Highness as well as smiles all around from the official party.

Each year at the end of the school year we had a joint picnic with Grey and Eatonia schools, races and a ball game were the order of the day. It seemed that Grey School always won the ball game even though Keystone and Eatonia joined forces due to small enrolments in our schools.

Ice cream was usually free to school children or sometimes if you won a race you were given a token for a cone. Many of my years and I would watch who was scooping the ice cream because one lady would have made half as much go twice as far while all the others would give you a good big scoop rather than have it go soft soaking the cone and causing many spills and soiled clothes.

Like my father and his father before him the call to go west was strong in me so in 1928 I moved to Edmonton, Alberta where I still reside. I have returned for visits and for family weddings. Two of the trips were very sad. Those were when my mother and father passed away.

In 1932 I married Mae Jeannette who was born in Outlook, Saskatchewan and came to Edmonton in 1913. Our firstborn was Timothy on May 23, 1933. Cindy Lou followed on April tenth six years later.

I believe that for many people like myself, who were born in the Maymont District, they keep returning to be close to those dear hearts and friendly people.

History of Russell Wm. Andrew and Family

told by Russell Andrew

My father Wm. E. (Bill) Andrew was born in Manitoba in 1885. He came to Saskatchewan in 1904 and took up a homestead on the S.E. ¼ 3, 7-12 W3rd. In 1912 he married Caroline McCurdy Campbell. I am the eldest of eight children. Seven are still living. My brother, Elmer, gave his life in the Second World War.

I went four miles to school using horse and buggy or sleigh. Some of my teachers were Miss Jupp, Sophie Langham and Mrs. Christfield. I was eight when I started school but had to stay home to help with seeding and harvest etc. many times. One year I did chores for Mrs. Percy Barrett and went to school from there. Over the years I worked for a number of different farmers – Sam Miller, Stan Barrett, Brahams, George Heller, John Rolf, Jack and Frank Langley, Alfred and Elmie Andrew (my uncles) and Jim Taylor.

In 1936 Gladys (Nelson) Dust and Ruby (Rose) Sloan came to the district holding gospel services in different homes which resulted in the opening of the Foursquare Gospel Church Movement. I gave my heart to the Lord which made a definite change in my way of life. In the fall of 1937 I left for Vancouver, British Columbia to attend the Foursquare Gospel Bible School and also to find work, returning to Maymont July 1940. I left again in February 1942 for Welland, Ontario where I married Catherine Gordon a girl I had met in Bible School. Our daughter, Margaret was born December 1943 and in 1945 we returned to Maymont as Pastors of the Foursquare Church. Our daughter Rena, was born in Fielding in 1946 at Mrs. Garrett's Dr. Berated attending.

We again left in 1947 for B.C. returning in the spring of '48 to work for Malcolm McNaughton and live on their farm. Our son, Gordon, was born that July in North Battleford hospital. We made a detour to Edmonton and from 1951-1956 I worked for Mr. Naughton and Langley's. We lived in the old McKay house a couple of winters. Cliff Beaudoin took the girls to Keystone along with his son, Jim, and Darlene Wood. Spring and fall Cathy took them by horse or car, depending on the roads. And here Cathy has a story to tell.

"The roads were usually deep with snow when we moved onto the McNaughton farm in the spring. One spring we borrowed old Barney from Ted Sloan and old Nellie from Charlie Beaudoin. I had never had anything to do with horses. Russell would harness them but I had to hitch them up, which I didn't always get right. Barney would start off at a gallop but after a quarter of a mile you could hardly get him to walk. I have vivid memories of the horses going along very slowly and the next step going through the snow up to their shoulder, and the sleigh would tip to one side. Gordon and Rena would be hanging onto my coat crying but they weren't any more scared than I was."

Margaret and Rena both started school at Keystone. Margaret's first teacher was Anita McIver and she named her daughter Anita. They also attended Maymont School for a couple of years, at which time we lived in the Langley building next to the postroom.

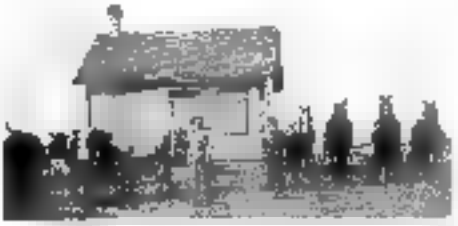
In 1955 we again left to open the mission at Lavelong and then on to pastor churches in Ontario. When we returned to Maymont in 1965 we bought the old Gray house from Bob Gray. I went to work for Jim Ryan and Cathy filled in as pastor of the Foursquare Church for a couple of years with a lot of help from the young people of the church.

Gordon took Grades Eleven and Twelve at Maymont and was sent to Owen Sound, Ontario on the Student Exchange Program. He was also valedictorian at graduation.

Margaret married William Weamuth. They have four children and live on a farm south of Battleford. Margaret and Rena were both given lovely community showers. Rena married Ralph Finch and lives in Invermere, B.C. Gordon married a Victoria girl, Linda Yeats. They now live in Victoria and have two daughters. Gordon works for Island Farms Dairy and they are also part owners of a marina in the Cowichan Bay area. Cathy and I live at Shawnigan Lake, B.C. at present.

Rose Arnold Story

When one thinks of the early settlers on the Canadian prairies, you often wonder what it was that motivated them and helped them to persevere and carry on. Perhaps there could have been some glamour and no doubt a lot of satisfaction in breaking and putting into production the virgin soil that had lain there since the Ice Age. But even so, when you look back and compare our standard of living with that of the homesteader you can't help but feel that we are deeply indebted to them! There had to be some feeling of accomplishment to make up for the loneliness and the privations of daily routine that each settler must have experienced and it is easy to understand the friendship and the loyalty that the homesteaders had for each other. There were seven with new homesteads that spent the Winter of 1910 in the Rudsdell District, John White, Sam Cameron, Ernie Whitlaw, Alfred Pegg, Charles Murison and Dave and John Arnold. I spent a number of years with very close contacts with three of these men and never once can I remember any harsh or vindictive comment directed toward any of the seven.



1909. Phil Wynne with oxen. John Arnold with horses. House is the first section of the Lyle Dean home.

1928. Left to right – David Arnold, Wade Arnold (née Crowe), Mt. Albert, Ont.; James Arnold, Emma (Arnold) Stokes, Duncan Stokes, Mt. Albert, Ont. Seated — Jessie (Reynett) Arnold, Galt, Ont., John Arnold, Clara (Kesler) Arnold, Zephyr, Ont., Lyall Arnold. (Photo taken by Rudsell B.A. Elevator house, near Jean Taylor's present house.)

Jack Arnold "A Good Hunt", 1912.

Thomas Arnold, my great-grandfather, came to Ontario in 1835 from the Rally Bay area in Monaghan County, Ireland. My grandfather, also Thomas Arnold was born in Burgoyville, Ontario in 1841. My father, James Hay Arnold, born in 1869 at Mount Albert, Ontario was the second youngest of a family of eight, four of whom spent some of their years in Rudsell. My mother was born Clara Mabel Kesler at Zephyr, Ontario in 1895, one of a family of eight. An uncle, David Arnold, born in 1870 worked his early years in Mt. Albert and then went to Penn Yan in New York State where he worked several years for a farmer who owned a grape vineyard. From there he went to Sault Ste. Marie where he worked as a carpenter till 1905. In the spring of 1905 he was joined by his twenty year old brother, John, and they went west to Winnipeg where they worked in construction. Carpentry didn't appeal to the younger brother and he joined a schoolmate, Alfred Pegg in North Dakota. They worked the winter

an opposite corner, going into the Bedford District the following spring where they now have farmed and the three of them lived on homesteads. John White and Tom Cameron were already settled near and a half dozen west of the settlement. Alfred Pegg took a quarter south and west of them. Dave Arnold a mile south of the settlement and John Arnold five or four miles west of town but later transferred to what is now the Lyle Hope farm. Tandy Lang - Thomas Thompson took the homestead a mile west and south of John Arnold and Ernest Whitlock - homested one mile west of Alfred Pegg.

The Arnold brothers spent that winter in a sod house on the quarter south of Bedford taking turns with the other five men in walking to Swedesford for food and whatever provisions they could carry. I think it was the following winter the men started running to the Jos. Wagatte home near Balgonie and they place took for mail a round point for social and headquarters besides. The Hord brothers, Bill Arnold filed on the quarter west of his brother John. That quarter remained that of Mortimore and these two were very good friends. Will Arnold did not stay in the area for many years and moved to Uplands Manitoba and should this be permanent home.

Breaking and getting land ready to crop must have been a slow and tedious job with the method horse or oxen power available and I remember Uncle John saying they took to their farm operations and have would get his harness from Longueil's also the farm operations. They started on this home quite young [illegible]

My parents were married in Toronto in 1913 and spent their first year on a farm at Meadowvale west there. The next spring they came to Bedford arriving with the two children and working at the farm for about three years. During this time I came along and can still remember a few happenings where we were there. Getting into the pig pen to try to sleep with them, picking up and trying to smoke corn pipe that was left in mouth - also the time when I must have had some trouble and they pulled the mower out of the plough box. I was terrified and it took a lot of persuading to get me out. From under the bed clothes and how I avoided that spot for days.

The next move was to the Bayside farm west of Lang where our nearn neighbors at the Graham family and close friends ever since. We then have I was running away from home and not from war as the children did one of these trips. They knew I was a Brit. and started me on the way home but I managed to stay and play until it was after Albert or Ted started throwing sticks from the woodpile at me and finally persuaded me that I might like welcome. I recall a couple of runaway trips to see my - Uncle Dave who by was building the Harvest Plow home for Mr. Dave. The first time he took me home after work but the second trip brought my father and a real good spanking seemed to take all the fun out of running away!

In the spring of 1918 we moved to the Dave Robinson farm one mile west of town and that farmed there for three years. My brother Cyril was born there in 1921 and I started school the same year. I have many memories about going to school and remember how glad we were that Walter and Arden Whitlock were close by and willing to take me. I rode with them most of the winter but would sometimes get a ride with Old Thresher as he drove past our house to and from school.

That fall the large granary Building just south of the Imperial Bank burned down and in the spring we moved into town and our father took over the new large farmers operation. Miss Jessie Stevens was running there as secretary having come from her home in Lang [illegible] to stay for some time. Mrs. Bill Hobbs and to recount from a different climate. Some strong friendships developed and the climate seemed so agreeable that she decided not to return to Ontario. One of her closest and longest lasting friendships was with Edna Lehman. Rosemary another one with my brother Major Duncan Lamb, and we sometimes were reminded for some that young between them. She and my uncle John were married in Saskatoon in 1923.

It was about this time that sport record was from the U.S. started to be of interest to young and old alike. Radio was growing in its very popular and a lot of wonderful entertainment received around each and each home for miles each owner had gathered up various the previous night of listening. It was quite common for many competitive owners to show up till two or three A.M. strong in winter each night.

The National Baseball League here had about ten teams was the night and I was possible to know most of the players and their respective teams. Lawrence Gehlert was the local enthusiast on sports and he would give you batting averages, league standings, how the Yankees, Pirates were doing developed and the season on batting, demanded these years by Jack Thompson the owner called him Lawrence and he was known as "Chief" Collins. A name somehow had thought appropriate because of his great knowledge of sports. We was hoping for one day and I failed one how with both hats and boots and in the advancement of my hats of hats to wear. We should call that guy Thompson. That name played with me a through school and with many friends on into adult years. We remember one occasion where I certainly made the person in the name. One of my classmates and myself got into an altercation in the school cloakroom and I came out of the fight with two more heads scratched each and turning to be reported from the bottom of a wrecking mound by some of the eager onlookers. They thought I was laughing and were proud of me passing out from lack of breath or pieces off the adversary. Not bad for Scots! Another classmate all through school was Irene Collins and we used to love to annoy her. She sat ahead of me in school with hair long enough to reach the ink-well in the desk top, or you could dream on the desk top

of log on the bottom of the mat if you could get your leg around the outside without getting caught. Irene played at our house one summer when her mother was in Barrhead and I was so sorry to have bathroom out there to play with but I still remember so longing her. One day we had started a good sized garden and all of a sudden had an idea. Took garden and there home in my jacket, got between Irene and the house, unbuttoned the jacket and started chasing her; if the garden ran in her direction, fine, otherwise it was dragged to the stove. I suspect my mother heard the shrieks and came to her rescue!

The trip was used in the school in those days and it was quite a highlight when someone finally accompanied the teacher to the point where they got the strap. A boy's reputation depended on whether or not he cried during the strapping but the girls very seldom received such severe punishment. I do remember once when several girls underwent the ordeal. We used to have a swimming hole about half a mile from the school and we would swim there till the strap fell three or so. The more hair some of the girls sported then had so much right to the past so did the boys and were entertaining. When it came time to dress and rush back to school the girls' modesty got the better of them and they stayed in the water till all the boys were gone. This made them late for school so away rushed with the teachers and went to report to the lady teacher in the junior room after school. Curiosity was high and several of us interested boys quietly gathered under the school windows to listen to the proceedings. The girls were each questioned and then strapped and we can still remember how we boys resented that unfairness of the girls! We felt they were good sports and we sort of admired them for their rambunctious ordeal. That lady teacher wasn't very popular and we did nothing to co-operate with her for a long time.

Grade Ten was as far as the rural go in Rutherford so when we finished there in '39 we went to North Edmonton Collegiate Institute. Bessie Coffin, Edna Tyler, Thelma Naylor, Ruth Robinson and myself went that year and we used a good rail service to come home for the weekends. My father had been paying grain for several years but when the financial crash came in 1929 the company closed the elevator and we were into the depression.

Rutherford had grown and prospered up to now and you could often find no parking room left on Main Street on a Saturday night. The depression changed all that and seemed to be the start of the decline for so many prairie towns. Little did a person realize the extent to which the decline would go or the number of people that would leave the prairie areas in the next few years to the Pacific Coast.

Dave Arnold and Hilda Chorne were married in Mount Albert, Ontario in 1908 and had settled in Rutherford. Aunt Hilda had been a schoolmate of my mother's at Sutton, Ontario and she was readily accepted into the family and was very shortly involved in the community. We had started corresponding with Uncle Dave and income from this together with what we were able to make at farm work helped us through those lean years in the "dirty thirties". As the depression deepened the government set up relief camps for single men who could not find work but not many from rural areas were turned into them. The government started paying farmers who would keep help during the winter months. Five dollars a month to the farmer and the same to the hired man for most farmers would give them more to have help.

There were now a number of young people in the district, some unable to find work and staying with parents till some job came along. The Young People's Society was sponsored by the church and we had a good active group. The district organized the Rutherford Community Club which lasted for several years. Self-entertainment was the order of the day and there were a number of picnic and evenings of entertainment put on by the various groups. Some of the talent was no doubt embarrassing but we are more than aware of those days and many are more vivid in our memories than most of the professional entertainment we have seen since. The price of admission to some of these evenings, dance included was ten cents and bring your own lunch.

In 1931 Dave Arnold built on the farm two miles north of town and we became close neighbors and friends of the Peter Martynes family. They had come of their families had managed to escape the persecution in Russia and had come to Rutherford as just a handful. Bill, who had earlier come to the district.

Some time before boarding Dave Arnold had taken down three-quarters of the two-storey McNeil Mercantile Store and this lumber went into the buildings along with a carload of goods for another ordered direct by from B.C. and costing about $600 F.O.B. Rutherford. We lodged on these buildings, never suspecting that later on they would become our own homes.

We spent the 1934 summer and winter in Rutherford. Albert's return had left Rutherford in 1933 on a forty two year career with the Bank of Commerce. He was sent to Smithfield, involved with the local sporting club and made arrangements for me to join them. Also with the local outfit set to give me work refereeing. That winter we ran the curling rink and then went home for a short visit in the spring.

Instead proceeded on from going back and I was under the care of Dr. Terrance. He made arrangements to Rutherford, made arrangements for Ray Naylor, R.N. to help nurse and a number of local office calls and my father were able to get him to send us a bill. We had played with her mom, Rose and Polly, on the Maymont ball team and when we finally did get a verbal bill I'm sure he was thinking of this more than of how much he would make that year. We are one of the many families who have had reason of the charity and the compassion of Dr. John Terrance.

It was about 1935 that my parents and brother

Lyall, were to leave Ruddell and work for Jack Jones at Denholm and eventually on to B.C. We spent the next two or three years doing what carpentry repair available and working for the Morrison family. Their house was close to both the railway and the highway and you could see the real effects of the dry years and the depression. The summer traffic would start early many transients and the highway many families with all their possessions on one or two wagons sometimes leading one or two head of livestock as they moved from the south to the Peace River District. Many would stop for feed for the horses and cattle and Mrs Morrison gave many meals to strangers as they passed.

We went to Wiseton at the start of the 1938 hail season and a lot of carpentry and were harvesting with Stan Nelson when word came that Uncle Dave had died. We went back to Ruddell and from then on we payment to have stability and some objective in our enterprises. Alan Wells suggested we rent the farm on a share lease and keep a horse and so we could continue to do carpentry work. We did this for three years and in 1941 Aunt Wells and Norman Husband of Marion were married and made Marion their home.

We bought the farm before they were married, a modest price a verbal agreement, a small down pay about and the balance whenever we had enough to make a payment. Mr and Mrs Dawson were with us for a couple of years and we started to see a lot of Marie Reisinger. She had been staying at the Harper home in Ruddell and a dance at the town hall had started us on our courtship. We still get a card from a kids' project that happened one night as I walked her at the Harper home. We were all having a snack around the kitchen table and knowingly I called her "Macy"; she fired back "Don't you marry me!" This seemed to strike a bad note with all of us and Marie got a lot of teasing from Margaret and her father.

Mr Wrenshall married us on June 18, 1941 in our Ruddell Church. Margaret Thrower was organist Louise Thrower vocalist, and we still appreciate the lovely decorations and the flowers arranged by Church aid Margaret White.

By this time most of the first homesteaders had retired. Mr Cameron to the East. John White, Charles Morrison, Arnold Whitlaw and John Arnold to Ruddell and Alfred Pegg to British Columbia.

My parents were well established in Vancouver, my father a painter for the B.C. Electric Company and in the fall of 1940 we made our first trip to the coast. Cliff and Ruth and Clarice moved onto the farm and ran it till we took the following fall. However shortages were still quite widespread, making it impossible for us to buy a car but we finally found a Ford tan truck at McNaughtons in Fielding. This was our vehicle for several trips to and from B.C. and later was ideal for the construction business. We sold it in 1972 still in good service. Roads were very scarce at the coast and my dad suggested we bring some on our first trip. We did this and the five bags of nails helped pay gas each with a Vancouver contractor for all of that winter and until we were settled at Richmond in 1940.

We hired the usual and found many of our friends who had left Ruddell and settled in B.C. Mrs Collins, Albert and Susan Tait Irvin and Kay Fred and Mary Thrower, Dave and Thelma Jordan; Bob and Vera Orchard; Vic and Dag Humphrey; the Coffin family, the Alf Peggs from Denholm. There were also those who had made the move in the 1930's, the Sherwoods, the Ryans, Mr. Herb Trimble and the Calhouns in Victoria. We still had many misgivings about pulling up roots and leaving the farm. Family and friends too finally decided we should make the move. We sold the farm, with the exception of 1 acre, I have registered, through an ad in the paper and has the Blacktooth Farm at Marmont handle our auction sale.

The coast was good to us, construction a good trade to believe and in about five years we had our own home at our present address. Before that we lived in a small duplex in what was to become the business centre of Richmond and we loved to share our very occasional with those who might visit us. Marie's parents from North Battleford, our uncles and aunts Gordon and Minda Husband from Harris and John and Jessie Arnold from Mr. Albert, Ontario. There is our were some we had plenty of room but we did miss the fun of being jammed in the small duplex.

We stayed in construction till partial retirement in 1968 and full retirement about five years later. Our three eldest children, Daniel, Marilyn and Robert are all in the Vancouver area and they and our two grandchildren are often with us. We have done some travelling, mostly to visit friends on the prairie and have very much enjoyed having friends and relatives spend holidays with us.

James Arkley

by Lilah Hudson

James Arkley (1888-1988) was the first of his family to come west sometime before 1908. He took a homestead on the SW¼ Section 14, Tp. 32, R22 West of the third Meridian. Put a claim in, built on a shack on the west side of the quarter. After his marriage to Emma Thomas on February 1908 they built a two storey frame house with two good-sized rooms on the ground floor. They also built on the south side of the quarter. They had three girls and a boy. Clara, Dorothy, Viola and Richard. Richard unfortunately died of a ruptured appendix at the age of seven. Clara married in both the Saskatchewan Hospital and Notre Dame Hospital in North Battleford until she contracted polio. During the war she fell in love with and married a sailor boy, Ray Armstrong. They now live in Prince Albert where Ray is a worker at the Penitentiary. They have a daughter and two sons. Dorothy also worked as an attendant at the Saskatchewan Hospital and still

James and Emma Arkley

lived in North Battleford. Her husband, Al Kromer, passed away in 1975. Viola graduated as a lab technician. She worked in Trail, B.C. and there married, David Waldie, a machinist with the Cominco Company in Trail.

The tale is told of Jimmie walking to Radisson where he became the proud owner of a new pair of boots. He wore his old parched and darned felt boots till he got a few miles from home. Then he traded footwear and left his old boots beside the trail. The next morning when he got up the old boots were on the doorstep. We're not sure he ever found out who knew him by his boots and played a trick on him.

In early days Jim had a team of oxen which were afraid of women. He would back the wagon or sleigh up to the door and the women would crawl in out of sight. One day he took his sister, Annie, to meet the members of a school board. She thought he had the team tied up and stood up too soon. Away went the team and wagon and Annie with it. Happily the lines became entangled in the wheels and brought the oxen to a halt.

Later, Jimmie graduated to owning a good driving team. His daughter, Dorothy, relates that Dr. Scratch used to change horses there when he went to Spears and Radford. On the return trip her mother would make him a meal and often he would sleep for a couple of hours.

Jim passed away with pneumonia just before Christmas, 1928. When Richard died and no son remained to inherit the farm it was rented and Emma and the three girls moved to a two-roomed house in North Battleford. Clara and Dorothy often returned to Maymont to spend several weeks each summer with their Aunt Annie and family. George and Lilah used to be sent to destroy the eggs of turkeys who were nesting late in the raspberries. Since they were afraid of the turkey hens Dorothy would have to act as decoy while George and Lilah rushed in and robbed some nests. The latter two being cowards Dorothy often had to risk her safety two or three times. Those turkey hens got smarter each time too! Following Dr. Scratch's picnic, Dick, Lilah, and George all came down sick. Dr. Scratch began a check for typhoid fever and sent Clara and Dorothy home much to their chagrin — especially since the typhoid scare was a false alarm.

In her small home in North Battleford, Emma performed an outstanding feat of housekeeping by always having a place for everything and keeping a spotless home in such cramped conditions. In later years she was able to buy a nice two-bedroom home. She died of cancer in March, 1974.

Mrs. James Arkley
nee Annie Alicia Boomer

In 1905 Annie Alicia Arkley accompanied her youngest son west where they took up a homestead on S½ of Section 24-42-13-W3rd. The two-storey house was built on a hill with a wide view to the south reminiscent of their home at Leeds, Quebec. At the time Mrs. Arkley was 51 years of age when she left her three daughters in the East and became a western pioneer. Since she was one of a few women in the West at the time she was often called on to nurse the sick and serve as a midwife. Also she often did mending for her bachelor neighbors.

Mrs. James Arkley Sr.

One winter night when she became lost on the prairies she had presence of mind to burrow into a straw stack and thus survived.

Later she and her son, William, moved to the Spilsbey Hill District. For a time they lived in a sod house. Then they built a new two-storey house on a snug basement. The carpenters did a dandy job of finishing and no nailholes were apparent in the door and window casings.

Annie Arkley was a tiny lady four foot eight inches in height and weighed about one-hundred pounds. Even so, she could carry two five-gallon oil pails full of swill for the pigs. One day a bull, whom the children used to

tease on their way to school, probably mistaking her for one of its small tormentors, knocked her down and broke her arm. Someone was nearby and realizing something was wrong managed to save her. She stayed at her daughter Annie's home while her arm was mending. One day her granddaughter, Muriel, dropped an iron on her foot. Her grandmother reported that, "That woman dropped an iron on her foot, and she's down." Muriel was lying on the bed in the porch hurting her wounds.

Mrs. Arkley was quite vain about her big feet. Her granddaughters can remember her placing her foot alongside their big ones and boasting of her shoes, "Them's size twos." She said of their "whoopee" pants (jeans with a red pie-shaped piece set into the crutch. "Them's fine pants" but she clearly thought they were devil's apparel.

She died at the home of her youngest daughter, Annie, at the age of 65

William Boomer Arkley (1887-1943)

William Boomer Arkley and his mother came west and lived together until his mother's death. He was a kind-hearted, mild-mannered person. He liked horses and had a large herd at the time of his death. In 1943, he had a heart attack at his home and died instantly. He was an honest man who enjoyed a joke and could see the fun in a situation. The homestead farm was rented until his death and then sold to the Wiley family. John Guzik bought the Spinney Hill farm.

Colles Brehon can remember going to Spinney Hill over the West ferry and visiting his Uncle Will and grandmother when they lived in their sod house. His niece Dorothy Arkley remembers driving from Maymont with her father in a buggy and staying overnight. Her grandmother made homemade ice-cream and she remembers it fondly. Croquinole was a game the Arkleys liked to play and they were sharks at it. Annie often told of them warning "Keep your seat! Keep your seat," when anyone gave the least hint of moving the board or themselves to better advantage when shooting. Will's niece, Mae Williams, who lives in Vermont, U.S.A., is 96 years old. She still loves a game of croquinole and is a strong adversary. Mae and Will were each other's favorites

Billy Arkley — early 1900's.

Ron Atchison

Everytime I hear the town of Fielding mentioned a flood of warm memories rush through my mind. . .

The year was 1942. All available men were overseas fighting in the Second World War, so farm help was impossible to get. Because of this shortage Charlie Neumeyer came from Fielding into Saskatoon looking for some young boy to look after his sheep.

Ron Atchison — Rough Rider Football Star of Regina.

It was a hot dry afternoon at Lundy's Riding Stable where I spent all my spare time. Having been raised on a farm I had come to love animals. Well, in wandered Charlie looking for all the world like Edward G. Robinson. He asked if any of us boys would be interested in a summer job taking care of his sheep. I was twelve years old at the time and I must admit it was not just taking care of his sheep but the thought of all that farm food that interested me. So when no one else spoke up I stepped forward. I asked where his farm was and he said halfway between Saskatoon and North Battleford at a town called Fielding. After a hurried trip home to gather some more clothes I announced that I was ready to go. Charlie looked a little dumbfounded, "Well how about your parents? Don't you think I should meet them?" "Oh, well," I explained, "I just have a mother and she will be glad to get rid of me for the summer!" But Charlie insisted that we see Mum. I was right though — she was so happy to see me get out of the city that she could not thank Charlie enough.

In the coming years Charlie became like a father to me. He was just the influence I so badly needed at that time. Living in a city with no father is no way for a boy to be raised. Charlie never drank, smoked or used

profanity. Even when I killed his best milk cow (I broke her neck trying to teach her to jump) — the worst he called me was a darn fool jackass.

I spent three months of that summer and four months of the next at Charlies. Then in 1942 I quit going from school, home and the city and around Charlies for a full time job. The next three years had to be the happiest of my youth. I loved the farm work but all week long I would look forward to Saturday night in Fielding. First all the young boys would gather around to watch Mac Scott and me wrestle, then we'd go to the Chinaman's Cafe for an ice cream and a soda pop. The whole evening would not cost more than fifty cents, unless of course I happened to meet Mary Garnet who I had a big crush on at the time. The two and a half mile horseback ride home to Charlie's was never long enough for me. I could have ridden for hours just thinking of all that had happened during my evening in town.

Sundays were a day of rest. All I had to do was milk seven cows, feed fifteen chickens and clean out the barn twice. Then I'd go to church with Mr. and Mrs. Iverson. They were our closest neighbours, very wonderful people. I just loved them both. Each week I would walk half a mile and meet them at the Fielding graveyard and they would drive me to town for the service at the United Church. The minister was the Reverend Frank Myers and Bill Brown was the Young People's Choir Leader. Poor Bill, I'm sure he'd have greater pleasure in hearing mice being sharpened than in listening to my singing voice.

We had many wonderful neighbours. One of the most interesting was Mrs. Stewart, who lived just north of Charlie's. Though she was well into her middle she had the most beautiful face, her brown eyes so soft and loving. I heard many stories of the riches that she held on her farm and it was not hard to believe that cowboys came for miles just to look at her. How the years had changed her life! Now she was living with two old characters, Ralph and Jack. Ralph drove an old Essex truck and it never failed just fifteen minutes after every rain Ralph would come down the road slipping and sliding from one side to the other leaving ruts a foot deep in the mud. Charlie would just shake his head and say "The darn fool jackass, why can't he wait until the roads dry up? Now no less than a team of beavers can follow his track."

Other neighbours were Art Robb and Irene Beattie. They lived a little south west of us. Mrs. Beattie could tell the girls of today quite a bit about women's rights. She raised two kids, milked cows, shovelled manure and could outwork any two men in the fields.

Charlie's Mum and Dad have a very warm spot in my heart, to say nothing of Charlie's sister, Lillian. Her ravishing beauty and quick step on the dance floor left the boys looking like sick cows.

My years in Fielding were most rewarding. To remember them all is simply too much to do at one time. However, I would like to take this opportunity to say how much your friendship has meant to me through the years.

My wife, Monica, and our three children have heard about Fielding many times over.

Ron gave 'Riders 16 "fierce" years

by Don Lovegrove, Spectator Staff

Being selected to the Football Hall of Fame is a signal honor, but if Ron Atchison had his way he'd still be wearing a green and white uniform for the Saskatchewan Roughriders, not receiving a retiree's trophy.

"When I quit, they're going to have to carry me off the field," the 6-4, 240-pound tackle and middle guard declared in 1964 when asked about his retirement plans. He had just completed his 13th CFL season with the Roughriders and was 35 years of age.

"They just about had to," he says as he looks back. "I really enjoyed the game a lot."

Atchison went on to play the game for another four seasons before he was forced to the sidelines in 1968.

"They were wondering if I was going to die out there," he says.

I had a talk with the coach (Eagle Keys). Or you could say the coach had a talk with me. A guy slows down and you're not the first one to notice — you're the last."

So, Ron Atchison hung up his number 43 jersey for the last time after 17 seasons of hustling in the CFL trenches, one a record career for a CFL player, but a record for a lineman.

Junior career

The irony of the Atchison story is that he had to be cajoled into trying out with the Roughriders in 1958.

After a fine junior career with the Saskatoon Hilltops, Atchison had graduated at the close of the 1956 season.

"I'd never seen a pro game," he says. "I had no inclination that I'd make it as a pro. I sat out the 1957 season. I didn't think I had a hope."

But the Hilltops knew better. They finally convinced him to go to the Roughrider camp and an outstanding career began.

In his fifth season, '61, he was selected Western Conference All-star at middle guard. He repeated in 1960-61-62-63, and when the middle guard position disappeared, he was selected on all star at defensive tackle in 1964.

Roughrider fans tendered Atchison and two other veteran linemen, Reggie Whitehouse and Bill Clarke, an honor night in 1965 and then speculation developed regarding his retirement. Atchison fooled them all by sticking around a few more years. It's just as well he did.

Saskatchewan was hardly a power in those days, but in 1966, Keys hit the right combination and Atchison got his first trip to the Grey Cup. He made no

mistake helping Riders to a 29-14 win over Ottawa Rough Riders at Vancouver. He was back in 1967, but this time Hamilton spoiled the trip by beating Riders 36-1 in Ottawa.

Defensive threat

While two-way players were still in vogue during his early pro career, Atchison reserved his talents for the defensive side of the game, a situation that may have cost him a few dollars in pay.

"One time, I went to see Ken Preston about a raise. 'But you only play one way,' Preston said. 'But I play it for 60 minutes,' I said. Those were the days before we had a good team."

Linemen are generally regarded as the unsung heroes of the game, but Atchison became a legend of his time, not just for his longevity, but also because of his adept use of his right forearm.

"There were a few times when I wore a cast on it. Once, just for an experiment," he says. "I had a sore arm and borrowed a cast from Martin Ruby. That's where controversy started. There were some complaints about it."

He always padded the forearm heavily and that only added to the controversy.

"Every time I hit a guy, it got built up a bit more."

The reputation of the Atchison forearm is such that some of his opponents feel that the cast he used occasionally should be enshrined in the Football Hall of Fame, too.

Upon his retirement, Atchison was given a job in promotion and advertising by the Saskatchewan government. He held that job for seven years, then returned to his original trade as a carpenter. He is now self-employed, buying old houses in Regina, refurbishing them and re-selling them.

But his first love was always football. He was described, during his 17-year career, as "fierce, aggressive and ruthless". But that was on the field. Off it, he was warm, friendly and articulate.

"I think anyone can play pro football," is his message to young Canadians aspiring to CFL careers. "It's a lot better than carrying a lunch pail."

Autobiography of Mr. and Mrs. Harold and Violet F. Baker

told by H. H. Baker

I was born in one of my grandfather's houses in 1894 amid humble surroundings in an English village half-hidden among the Hertfordshire Chiltern Hills.

This village was astride the line of penetration by the Danes north of the Thames River in territory once occupied by Queen Boadicea's Iceni tribe — a tribe eventually conquered by the Romans. When the Romans left the Anglo-Saxons took over. These people were overthrown by the Normans in 1066.

All in their turn had left behind pottery, artifacts in stone, copper, bronze, iron and porcelain; and

Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Baker chi dren and grandchildren.

earthworks and stone ruins as evidence of their periods of dominance. In these remains I became deeply interested.

However, during my childhood most of the countryside was owned by descendants of the barons and squires among whom William the Conqueror had divided the country and foreign financiers who had moved in. These aristocrats had, over the years increased the size of their estates by passing enclosure acts by which they robbed the common people of twelve million acres of common land. This left no land for those who wished to start farming on their own as I did.

By the time I was eighteen I had a good elementary education and had gained farming expertise from surrounding farms. Thus fortified and disgusted with the English class system, I set sail for Winnipeg in 1912, two weeks after the Titanic went to the bottom.

In Manitoba and south-eastern Saskatchewan I learned to drive tandem teams, dig deep wells, adjust to the climate and prairie farm practices. By my second year in Saskatchewan I was herding cattle for a rancher on my own horse and had my own buggy and cow, and knew what it was to live in board shacks, log shacks and sod shacks.

In 1915 I filed on a homestead near a stretch of free range southeast of Battleford, built a shack and log barn near a sparkling creek on whose green banks on a summer eve the glowworms shed their mysterious light, and in the humid air the fireflies weaved in magic dances. Never before had I had such a measure of freedom and pleasure.

But the war did not end in six months as was predicted. And as I did not want my three brothers to fight my battles, I enlisted as a Battleford battalion and soon found myself in the hellish Ypres quagmire fighting to capture Passchendaele Ridge.

Following the armistice period of occupation in Germany I returned to the homestead. The adjacent land necessary to make my holdings an economic unit had been taken up, my log house had been taken down and made away with in the suppression we folks made that I had been missed in action. So I moved to raw prairie on the north side of the river under the Soldier Settlement Board. On this land I have lived ever since.

Before I left for the war I had become engaged to be married on my leave for return to a dark-eyed, dark-haired Manitoba maid. In December 1919 we were married in Prince Albert and this year 1979 - we hope to celebrate our fifty-ninth wedding anniversary.

Except for the rooming utensils our furniture was sparse. The old iron stove I had bought for five dollars. Because the stand had been broken in my absence we had it propped up on bricks.

Our first baby daughter died when a few days old. Later came boys Crawford and Wordsworth and daughter Jane.

Until 1930 farmers fared ok. I was appointed to positions on farmers' and co-op movements. Then came the dirty thirties — high winds, drifting soil, grasshoppers and drought and depression. When the price of wheat dropped to nineteen cents a bushel our finances petered out.

In 1930 I might go dead broke and need a different vocation. through home studies I gained my Grain Id Diploma in 1942, and went on to University English and Philosophy.

In 1931 I underwent an operation for a W W I abdominal injury. Three weeks after the operation the doctors found that they had operated while I had typhoid fever. In the meantime my wife had to make do outgrown. It took us two years to pay off the doctor and hospital bills. A heart bout twenty years ago knocked me out but a year or two do much for illness.

World War II was now on the home front the dust storms ceased, the grasshoppers vanished and I was on call as a member of The Saskatchewan Security Corps. After sixteen thousand soldier settlers of W W One had lost their farms while under contract to the Soldier Settlement Board I was elected president of the Soldier Settlers Association of Canada and in that capacity ran several delegations to Ottawa on the veterans behalf. As well as many letters and historical articles to the press I have written the historical novel Rebellious Hearts based on facts which deals with the life of Britishers before they emigrated and after their arrival here in the gay nineties. I have also written 'Homes for Heroes' - a history of the veteran's vicissitudes under The Soldier Settlement Board of Canada. As a community project I have for many years been local correspondent for The North Battleford News Optimist.

In 1945 I started beekeeping and growing alfalfa and sweet clover. Later then I have won top honours at all the major agricultural shows in Canada and that over the years helped to maintain the high quality of western Canadian honey both for home and export purposes. Restricted by my age I now keep a few hives as a hobby and to pollinate our fields of rape. On June 8 1978 The Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists elected me an honorary life member for my outstanding work during the last seven years for Saskatchewan and Canadian Agriculture. As a tribute of my thirty years work for Saskatchewan and Canadian agriculture, the R M. 4th Council and Saskatchewan Highways Department named the seven-mile road, one mile west of Fielding, and south from Highway 16 - Yellowhead Route - the "Baker Road" and erected signs accordingly.

In 1938 after our fields had begun to show the dangers of soil drifting, we trees and I planted field shelterbelts and windbreaks around our home: plantings of sharp-leaved willow, manitou, Russian poplar, ash, laurel-leafed willow, caragana and Scotch pine. My wife led the horse on a one horse cultivator while I guided and held the handles.

With my wife a share I have reckonings, for without her help and devotion our undertakings here would not have been the success that it is.

My wife Violet Rose Talley was born in the Portage la Prairie district in 1898. Her father Thomas Talley arrived from England some years earlier. Her mother Emily Elizabeth Hodson was the daughter of Mr. Charles Ernest Hodson blacksmith and carriage builder at Portage la Prairie. Thomas Talley homesteaded northwest of Brana and later worked for the C N R until his retirement. Yet what Violet was eleven years old was a public school built in Brana. Prior to that she attended school in the new Anglican church. Before the building of that church Anglican services were held in the Talley farm house and the station house. I met Violet Talley when we were teaching in the Fielding Anglican Sunday school. We agreed to marry me on my return from the war. Not until five years later did I consider myself well enough off to be married.

We lost our first baby daughter at two days old. Later she presented me with two fine sons Crawford and Wordsworth, and a lovely daughter, Jane. All three worked on the farm while they were gaining their Grade Twelve Diplomas. It was with their assistance help that we made the last payment of $1350.00 — thirteen hundred and fifty-eight and 00 dollars to the Soldier Settlement Board of Canada to clear the mortgage on the N.W. 28-46-11-West 3rd Mer., Sask. 160a. 1946, and to have that Department return to me the title of my homestead which I had had to mortgage to them to survive a loss in 1938.

Since that time we have purchased land for themselves and farm ours and there was pretty much as a co-operative farm would be worked — four three-sided acres made of land. Our cattle brand is the Lazy Bar Bar.

One quarter section my son Wordsworth purchased contains the ruins of the Beckwith Lime Kiln which

was built before the railroad came through in 1908. The overgrown ruts of the once proud hills are situated on the N.W. ¼ 34-40-12 W 3rd. The lake was the brainchild of A. L. Beckwith, an American who homesteaded the S.W. ¼-30-40-11 W 3rd. Al, as he was called, was a good organizer. During the pioneer years of 1911-13 he was secretary-treasurer of the local school board which organized the building and funding of the school which was named after him. Our children received their elementary education there at Beckwith School.

With the assistance of other homesteaders A.L. dug a circular shaft seven feet in diameter and between twenty and thirty feet deep in a sidehill and a wide deep trench through the slope to the base of the shaft or flue. Local limestone rocks were piled onto the flue and fired for several days and nights with local wood until the stones turned to lime. This lime and nearby sand was used in plaster for buildings inside and out. Arthur Davis's house — now owned by our son Woodworth Baker — is an example of this construction. Al Beckwith sold out and with his sibling wife and two children returned to the U.S.A.

By way of another hobby I have built up over the years a collection of Indian artefacts and fossils.

Violet at 88 and myself at 86 still keep the home fires burning in the farmhouse we have worked so long and hard to build and furnish and in which we have lived happily together.

George Barling

Silverhill, Hurstgreen, Etchingham, Sussex, England TN19 7QD

It is sixty years since I left Maymont, having just had my eighty-eighth birthday. I remember Mr. Alec Brehon and Mr. Chas. Brehon who I think were brothers. There was also a brother who was in the bank at Maymont who I think was killed in the 1914-1918 war. I flew out to Vancouver in 1970 and paid a visit to Maymont but found about ten folks who were children when I was there excepting Mr. Jack Miller. I met a Mr. Bates who I think was a son of Mr. Tom Bates who I think lived near Mr. Chas. Brehon.

I was a young bachelor out from England and got a

George Barling Share Certificate

single relative in the country and no ones there or I might have been able to contribute more. I have however a daughter living in New Westminster, B.C. married to Mr. Fd Nordscott of a Maymont family.

I am enclosing herewith a share certificate but you may have one already, if not make what use of it you like.

Maymont Grain Growers Association Ltd.

In 1917 many farmers in the district were discussing amongst themselves the possibility of forming some form of Co-operative organization whereby bulk buying of various commodities could be undertaken. A meeting was called and attended by practically all the farmers from a wide area, and after much discussion it was decided to proceed with the formation of a company to be known as the Maymont Grain Growers Association Ltd. with an authorized capital of $10,000 of $25.00 subscription shares and an initial paid-up capital of $5.00 per share. Mr. W. E. Cook was appointed chairman of the Company and Mr. George Barling as secretary. If they could quote a price approximate with bulk prices it was decided in the first place to offer the business to the local tradesmen as the new Company was looked upon by some with concern. The very first transaction was for a carload of apples in barrels. Going by train to Saskatoon one day, the secretary was in conversation with Mr. Simmonds who at one time owned the land later owned by Mr. Thomas Sawyer, and talking to him about the aims of the association, he undertook to select and forward to Maymont a box carload of apples in barrels. It was necessary to contact shareholders immediately for orders and the demand outstripped the supply. Arrangements had to be made with the local bank manager (Mr. John Moffatt) for funds to pay for the consignment as the account came attached to the Bill of Lading and had to be paid before the seal on the car could be broken. He was always very helpful in this respect. The very first order for a barrel came from Mr. F. T. McCorkle and the car was quickly emptied and the bank repaid. Subsequently there was no difficulty in getting a car released. As the association had no storage facilities cars had to be emptied within three days to prevent having to pay demurrage, although the Station Agent at that time would sometimes give a bit of extra time. All goods were delivered from the car to buyers.

The secretary who was farming on his own account found that he could no longer give the time required and had to give up his position to the association, which was now firmly established and handed it over to a new secretary but for some reason trading ceased.

Mrs. Evelyn Bates

told by Evelyn

Evelyn Plews was born in Saltcoats and attended

Bob and Evelyn Bates' 25th wedding anniversary, Dec. 7, 1968, Bob, Evelyn and Evelyn's Mother, Mrs. Plews.

school there; then went to North Battleford for four years of high school and to Saskatoon for nine months of Normal School. Then armed with a First Class Certificate she taught school at Walkerville for three years. She married Gordon Niven on November 10, 1931 and moved to Spinney Hill to farm during the depression. Peter, Tom and Guy were born at Saltcoats at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Plews. In the spring of 1941, the family moved from the farm to help Mrs. Plews run the Post Office and store. Gordon died that fall, so they carried on alone, until December 7, 1943, when Evelyn married Bob Bates. Cleve was born the next year and in 1947 they moved to Saskatoon to start up a grocery store. They stayed for twelve years: then moved to Maymont. After a year or so, Evelyn went to Hair Dressing School at Vocational School in Saskatoon. She is still doing some hair in her home in Maymont. She is active in the Legion Auxiliary, A.C.W., and Quilters.

Cleve Bates

told by Evelyn Bates

Cleve Bates was born in Maymont but lived in Spinney Hill until the family moved to Saskatoon, when he was three years old. They moved back to Maymont, when he was fifteen, so he finished his high school there. He played hockey for the Beaver Bruins in North Battleford and for Maymont Settlers for several years. He was a pitcher for the baseball team, until he hurt his shoulder playing hockey, then he was in right field. He went to the Yukon to the Asbestos mines in 1959.

Jack Bates Family

Jack Bates married Esther Spence of the Fielding District in October, 1938. They remained on the farm at Maymont and had a family of four daughters and one son.

Jack Bates family. L to r. – Yvonne, Don, Margaret. Seated — Jean, Esther and Jack, Twila.

Jean, the eldest, is married to Bill Perkins and they live at Cedoux, Saskatchewan. Jean is a nurse in a clinic at Nipawin. They have three girls, Joan, Sandra, and Janice.

The rest of the family presently resides in Saskatoon. Twila, a former teacher, is married to Sol Berg of Saskatoon and they have one daughter, Tasha, and three sons: Robin, Ryan, and Jason.

Yvonne, who teaches in Saskatoon, is married to Benny Combres, formerly of Richard. They have two girls: Deena and Karla.

Margaret works at the College of Education.

Don, who is a teacher, is married to Wendy McEwen, formerly of Quill Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Bates

told by N. Robert Bates

Thomas B. Bates was born in County Carlow, Ireland. He enlisted in the South African War. After the war he returned to Ireland but again went back to South Africa, working for the railroad and in the police force. There he met his cousin Charles Brebon, also a war veteran.

They decided to come to Canada and homestead as Charlie's brother, Alex, was going to do.

They came to Manitoba, near Brandon, and worked on farms until 1904. Thomas hauled wheat from Hayfield to Brandon that winter, a distance of eleven miles.

With a carload of settler's effects, they came to Saskatoon. The following day the ice took the railroad bridge out.

They thought they would try to build near where the proposed railway would be. It turned out that they settled in the Keystone district north and east of the present day village of Maymont.

That year Thomas Bates hauled piles for the bridge at Coepee and Alex Brebon hauled the pile driver from Saskatoon to the North Saskatchewan River.

In 1905 Mr. Bates went to harvest in the Pense, Sask. district, near Regina. There he met Miss Mary Read who had come in 1904 to Montford Ont. where she had three brothers and three sisters. She came to teach school.

Tom Bates and Mary Read were married in the Anglican Church in Pense. It took three days to return to the homestead, and three locomotives as it was a very cold winter and there was lots of snow.

In 1906 their house burned down. They then bought another quarter of land and moved the house off it to the other side of the homestead.

Mrs. Bates helped out with church work and played the organ in Keystone and Gray Schools for church services.

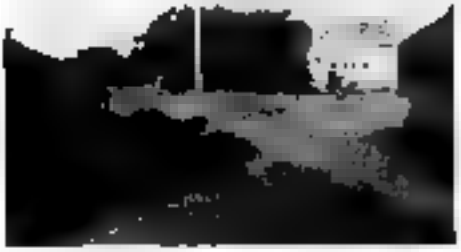
The Bates' had three sons N. Robert, Thomas Jr., and Jack, and one daughter Genevieve. Thomas Jr. passed away in 1966. N. Robert and his wife Evelyn and Jack and his wife Esther are retired and live in Maymont. Genevieve married Hector Wehadale of Dewberry, Alta.

The Tom Bates Family History Including the History of the Early Lives of Charlie and Alex Brebon

submitted by Genevieve (Bates) Wehadale

Thomas Brebon Bates, one of the original pioneer settlers of the Maymont District, was born in County Carlow, Ireland. He was the son of a gentleman farmer. The Bates in Ireland had at one time been quite wealthy, but by the time Tom was born the fortune had somewhat dwindled. They still lived in the large ancestral home, named Jamville, which had

Bates family — Jack, Bob, Tom Seated — Mrs. Bates, Genevieve, Tom Bates, Sr.



The Tom Bates home on the farm

thirteen fireplaces in order to keep it heated. Four servants were hired to keep the house in order — two parlormaids, a cook and a nurse for the children. At the back of the house was a schoolroom where the children were tutored by their mother, a well-educated woman, who had received part of her education in France. Once a week a tutor came to teach French and German — lessons which Tom despised. They had a piano and a singing teacher came to the house also. The singing teacher did not care for either of the two pianos they owned so a third one was purchased. They then had a piano in each of the two drawing rooms and one in the dining room. Later Lady Hamilton, a close family friend, came to teach the girls music. She would take no pay because she enjoyed doing it for a hobby. Tom soon rebelled at practicing scales so was allowed to drop his piano lessons. Tom later went to a public school where he received a good education in English and mathematics. He always liked to read the works of Shakespeare, Scott, Tennyson, as well as the newspapers and western magazines.

Church played an important part in the early life of the Bates family. Each week they drove in a carriage to the Anglican Church at Fenagh. One of their ministers was a Jew, who had become a Christian. Perhaps it was through him that Tom learned a special love for the Jewish people, as he had many Jewish friends all his life, and enjoyed dealing with them. At the church Tom was chosen to sing in the Choir of One Thousand Voices. This choir was made up of young people from Anglican churches all over Ireland. Once a year they went to Dublin where the thousand young people sang together for special services.

The Bates' had their own pew in the Fenagh Church. During the summer the family of Lord Beatborough sat directly behind them. Tom used to speak to one of the boys, a year younger than himself. This boy later became Lord Beatborough and governor-general of Canada. The Bates also had another link with the governor-generals of Canada. Sir Price Blackwood, a first cousin of Lord Dufferin, Governor-General of Canada, was a paying guest in the Bates home for many years. He had never married so chose to live with the Bates' whom he regarded as his own family. When the first Bates grandchild was born (Bob Bates of Maymont) Sir Price wrote to Tom congratulating him on the birth of his son stating in the letter he cried for joy when he heard the news.

All throughout his life Tom met to have a close relationship with his cousins, the Brehons, who lived at New Ross, Ireland. The Brehons were much better off financially than the Bates so were able to hire a butler, as well as many other servants for their house, also a carriage-man to drive them places. The ballroom in the Brehon home was said to have been as large as the Orange Hall in Maymont. Tom was to become very close friends of the two eldest boys, Alec and Charlie. Charlie was sent to a very select school in Ireland. He became rebellious because of the strict discipline so he ran away to sea at the age of fifteen. He joined the Merchant Marine and rose to the position of first mate. He was in line for captaincy when he returned to Ireland before the Boer War.

By the time Tom was in his teens the Bates family fortune had dwindled to the point where they could no longer live in the style to which they were accustomed and they considered moving to Australia. About this time Tom's eldest brother got a good job managing a lord's estate and his wages held the home together. Tom then took over the job of overseeing the Bates estate where they raised pigs, cattle, horses, cereal grains and cereals with the help of servants.

When the Boer War broke out Tom decided to join the army. Because he was an excellent rider, having taken part in many fox hunts as a young man, he was chosen to go into the cavalry. He was soon aboard ship on his way to South Africa to fight in the war. On board ship he got a rude awakening of the hardships of life. At home he had been accustomed to fine meals cooked and served by the servants (who were not allowed to eat with them). The table at home was always covered with pure linen and the meal served on fine china and good silverware. On board ship he refused to eat the gluey porridge, the hardtack and the bully beef which was all that was offered. After two or three days of self-starvation he learned to eat the food without complaint.

Tom did not like to talk about the Boer War but he did tell a few of his experiences. He used to tell how the Cavalry had to cross the Orange River by getting off the horses, forcing them into the water, the soldiers hanging onto the horses' tails to keep from drowning while the horses swam across. At one time the said Tom was in was surrounded by Boers and food was very scarce. At night Tom would go out in search of food. He was fortunate in finding an orange tree on a Boer's farm and took back a number of oranges for himself and his friends. Next night when he returned for more, two very cross dogs were chained to the tree — so he left the tree alone. Another time he found an

ostrich egg which he made into an omelet and shared with twenty-seven others. Each soldier had to wash his own mess-tin in open fire. At the start of the war all that had to eat was rationed operation. Then he came to the outskirts of Cape Town where they were issued with the rest of the kit. Northwest the town Suffolkshire and in there here in the camp at Ladysmith where the British soldiers surrounded for a long time were so hungry that even tried eating their shoe leather. Then a cold glorious there lands for a time on a desert where gold soldiers one of the most deadly malaria were often seen and killed. The desert was terribly hot in the daytime but at nights they would shiver with the cold.

Tom were kept in Ireland after the war but soon returned to South Africa. I went he had married to love. He went to the city of East London where he got a job as a policeman. While there one of the first laws discriminating against the black people came into effect. When the Negroes came to the city from the country they were quite retarded. They would run aimlessly down the streets knocking over anyone in their way be it man, woman or child. A law was then passed saying the Negro people would not be allowed to walk on the sidewalks of the city.

It was in East London that Tom met up again with his cousin Charlie Brahm. By this time Charlie although only twenty-five had been a first mate on a boat (sent to the capsize). A contractor on a train running from Cape Town to Victoria Falls and had bought in the Boer War. Now Charlie decided to work his way on a ship to England. At Cape London he soon found a ship where he was hired as fire stoker. After signing the agreement with the captain he went below to talk to the ship's cook. The cook told Charlie he was sure the captain was planning to sink the ship for the insurance money. The cook told Charlie the best way out, secretly, and showed him places on the ship's structure where, as Charlie described it, you could see daylight coming through. The cook said only a small amount of food has been purchased, not nearly enough for the voyage and the boat was heavily insured. At that time there was a law stating once you signed an agreement to work on a ship you had to go. The captain had thrown the ship out about half a mile from shore. Europe was almost impossible because of enemy warships and submarines. In spite of this Charlie left all his belongings aboard ship, jumped overboard, swam under water as long as possible to avoid detection and made the long hard swim to shore. He made the trip to Tom at once. Tom took him to a house of his friend who had given him the key and asked him to remain at which there were no families. At night Tom took Charlie food prepared by Tom's landlady. In the daytime Tom searched for Charlie in vain along with the other policemen. The ship was unable to find a crew and it was several days before it got out. Charlie would still not be free at the law for a period of ten days after the ship sailed. Finally the ship left for Canada. The captain was a agreement on a big expedition but it did not stop. A big was sent out to tow it and got it on the way again. It sat and for Canada and it was never heard of again or any of the crew.

Charlie then took a job in Africa and worked for a short time when he became ill with typhoid fever. He realized the serious nature of the disease so before he went into the hospital he drew his life's savings out of the bank. He gave these to a friend, Paddy Devlin, to keep for him while he was sick. Hospitals were very expensive and if they knew one had money they had to pay for it and hospitals were free. The friend Paddy Devlin took off supposedly for Australia and was never heard of again. Once again Charlie was in desperate need of help so when he recovered from his illness he once again made his way to Tom who paid for his board and room and got him a job. Tom by this time was working as an inspector of railway cars and got Charlie a good job with his company "making up trains". Tom's job was to see that several Negroes who worked under him did their work thoroughly. They had to clean the cars and disinfect them for bed bugs. It was a hard job to keep the Negroes working. As soon as they had some money they would go back to the country and buy another wife.

Charlie's job was to make decisions about when and where different railway cars were to be moved. One time he was told a certain railway car contained nothing but whiskey. He and his helpers decided they might like a bit of it. They made sure the car wasn't sealed after it was inspected. They placed it on a train going to a country location near East London and Charlie gave orders it was to be placed on an out of the way siding. Then in the evening he and his helpers went out to get themselves a taste of whiskey. You can imagine how disgusted they were when they opened the car and found it contained nothing but canned apricots. Charlie like Tom had had an overdose of apricots in the Boer War.

In January 1904 Tom and Charlie decided to go to Canada together. Alex Brahm was there. It was 40 degrees Fahrenheit when they left South Africa and 40 degrees below when they arrived in Winnipeg. Tom got a terrible cold. Because he coughed so hard people thought he had tuberculosis and was told how to go to doctors on the Canadian Atlantic would cure him. They worked at Portland Manitoba for a time and then went to Prince Saskatchewan to work. It was on Prince that Tom met Mary Reed who was teaching at Lemsford and who was later to become his wife.

Tom, Charlie and Alex Brahm took up adjoining homesteads northwest of Maymont. When they went to apply for their homesteads they had to cross the river at Battleford by boat because there was no bridge. They hired an Indian at a canoe to take them across. It was very stormy and after they got out from shore they realized the Indian was drunk. They were safe they were in no trouble but the Indian managed to get

them across safely. They made sure to have someone else to get them back across the river.

For a time they lived in an abandoned shack a few miles from their homesteads. A young minister lived with them for some time. They enjoyed his company and had many serious religious discussions. Later they discovered the minister was using their oats for his own horse so they were relieved when he decided to move to the Hillsborough District eight miles away. One cold stormy night several weeks later they heard a terrible eerie sounding noise in the middle of the night. It sounded like somebody pounding on the roof and moans of misery and screams. The three young Irishmen were terrified. Despite their fear not to encourage the looked all over but could see or hear nothing. Later they found out the minister had died that night. He had been ill with a fever and wandered out of his shack and had frozen to death right by his own shack. For years they refused to talk about it.

Later the three men built a log shack on Tom's quarter where their land adjoined. Alec and Charlie broke up the land, while Tom did the cooking, walked to New Ottawa for supplies, and did chores around the farm.

On January 1 1897 Tom married Mary Reed at Petite. Then they started back by train to Fielding. A very bad snowfall came up and the train trip took three days instead of the usual one. The train blocked by snow, ran out of coal and there was no heat on the train. The conductor gave Mrs. Bates his fur coat to help keep her warm. It was still storming when they got to Fielding and this was the last train to arrive for weeks. People ran out of supplies. Coal oil for lamps was especially scarce. Fortunately Alec had bought a good supply and they rationed it carefully. A neighbour Mrs. Ashley, knew how to make candles, so when her coal oil ran out she scalded down fat and made her own supply of candles.

Mrs. Bates had come from a background somewhat similar to Tom's. Her father, Nicholas Reed, was born in Ireland of a once well-to-do family. He came to Hamilton, Ontario at about 1850. There he met a lady, who made a considerable, she was known of Mr. Vincent for many years and had a seat on the Gray County council. He was also on several occasions to the Gray County to count vote for John A. MacDonald whenever the country needed help from the government because Mr. Reed was a hefty persuasive man and Sir John enjoyed his sense of humour. When Sir John visited Owen Sound Mr. Reed rode in the carriage beside him as he drove through the streets. Mrs. Bates, a small girl at that time, remembered watching them. When they drove under a certain bridge in Owen Sound a young girl dropped a wreath of flowers over Sir John's head. Mrs. Bates often wondered how the girl managed to be so accurate.

Mrs. Bates, as a young bride, stepped into a very different situation. She had to cook for the three men and their two hunting dogs. She found it very hard work cooking their heavy woollen underwear by hand. The men had big appetites and the dogs each ate a loaf of bread a day. Mrs. Bates said the bread she made was very good and heavy because she was too tired to punch it down properly and the old coal and wood stove had a poor oven.

As soon soon as the work did not get done. Bob was born late in October and shortly after Tom Graham, another brother of Alec and Charlie, came to live with them. Mrs. Bates now had four men and a baby to cook and wash for. One day Tom Graham, a fine man who lived up to his Christian principles, collapsed while working in the hayfield. He told the men that the first time that he had interference of the type and he had hoped to get better in the Canadian climate. For a time Mrs. Bates nursed him, and then he was moved in the home of Mrs. Smith, a kind English lady, (mother of Mrs. John A. McKaig) who nursed him until he died.

About this time Tom Bates built a two-storey frame house which was considered quite grand for those times. Alec Graham decided to go in live on his own place but Charlie stayed on the farm. Tommy Bates Jr. was born in the new house in February. He was just fifteen months younger than Bob.

When Tommy was two months old he contracted pneumonia. Dr. Kynoch was called in and did all he could but it was clear Tommy was dying. Tommy turned blue between cold and stopped breathing. Mrs. Bates, Tom and Mrs. Smith, who was helping nurse Tommy, got down on their knees and prayed to God for healing. When they looked into the crib again they saw that Tommy was alive and breathing once more. He soon recovered and became a strong baby.

May the eighteenth of the same year was a windy day. Mrs. Bates lit the coal and wood stove and the stove pipes caught fire. She fought the flames in the ceiling but could not stop the fire. She took the children, money, important papers, and Charlie's mackinaw papers out of the house and ran to Tom for help. By the time he got there it was too late. The house burned to the ground and all was lost. They then moved to a one-roomed shack on Charlie's place and Charlie slept in a granary on the farm.

Fortunately Tom had taken out insurance on the house. With the six hundred dollars he received he bought a second quarter of land then had on it a two-storey house 14 by 26 feet. This house was moved to the present position on the original homestead. This building still stands. It was built into until a veranda a fairly large house with four rooms and a porch downstairs. Two stairways led to the four bedrooms and a bathroom upstairs. Jack and Constance were born in the house.

In 1914 Tom planted several hundred trees around the homestead. He loved gardens work and soon had the grounds looking very attractive. By 1917 Tom had prospered well enough to purchase his first car, a Gray Dort, which served them well for many years. A few

years later he got a threshing outfit, threshing for himself and many of the neighbours.

Tom especially enjoyed hunting for ducks, geese and other game birds in the fall. It was on one of these hunting trips that he and Charles Brehon were put in here another adventure. They were looking for ducks near Redberry Lake when they got lost. They went to the door of a small house to inquire about the road. A woman came to the door with such a wild look in her eyes Tom decided they should get out of there quickly. He ran back to the cloth covered car which Charles was driving and said, "Get out of here quick!" Charlie became so nervous he gave the car too much gas nearly killing the engine but managed to get going in a series of leaps and bounds. As he swung the car around we saw come running through the air and landing also the back seat of the car. Needless to say Charlie did not stop to return the axe. It was a good lesson they ate and Charlie proudly showed it off to people for years. They found out later that the woman had once been a patient in a mental hospital, and whenever she saw a car coming in the yard feared that someone was coming to take her away once again. One day when the Reverend Hardy - a Pioneer Church minister from Ipsport drove into her yard she threw a heavy pole at his touring car. Keeping one hand on the wheel Mr. Hardy managed to catch the pole with his left hand before it could hurt anyone.

In the nineteen thirties the dry years came to Saskatchewan and the world-wide depression was on. Times were hard but Tom was always optimistic. One year the crop averaged a half bushel to the acre but in the other years Tom managed to grow a lot of crop. He could always grow a good garden and would give vegetables from it to needy people. In the fall he would take a load a wagon box load of vegetables to town to give to people in unfortunate circumstances. Mrs. Bates always canned one hundred quarts of raspberries from the garden patch. Now after their neighbors were invited for a meal and a day's picking of berries were given to them to take home.

Quite a number of men came to the Bates home looking for work in the thirties. One time two Hungarians came together. They were very hungry and begged to work for their board. Mr. Bates felt sorry for them so gave them a job ricking out corrals. They worked very hard so Tom decided to pay them. He had to take them to Richard to get money cashed at the Richard bank. They did not want to go there because they had been at Richard before looking for work. He could not get them to understand about the bank as they could scarcely speak English so he drove very fast because they wanted out of the car. When he got to the bank a clerk there could speak Hungarian. The men were delighted when they found they were to be paid. Mr. Bates advised them to split up as very few would hire six men at once.

Another day Mrs. Jack Langley phoned to say a man who was using crops had gone by their place and was heading toward the Bates. Mrs. Bates hurriedly got Genevieve, Muriel Brehon and Evelyn Andrews, who were visiting that day, into the house. After a couple of hours the crazy man arrived. He was a poor old man in search of work. He had been to town for rental supplies with an ox cart and stayed overnight. He had only a pair of runners on his feet - no socks. Mrs. Bates got him a good meal, gave him a pair of Tom's brand new socks and money to get him room in the hotel for the night. The Bates boys drove him to town. The last heard of the old man he was sleeping in a manger covered at the hotel for the night.

Quite a number of people drove to the Bates home as they moved in wagons from their dried out farms in Southern Saskatchewan moving on to the north in search of homesteads or a more moist climate. Bates always fed their horses, gave them meals and kept them overnight if they wished to stay. Often they gave them a bag of flour ground from their own wheat at the Redmore mill. Mrs. Bates always used to say "I've had the whole country", and it was true because she was always kind and very hospitable to all who came to her door.

One time Mr. and Mrs. McLeish the bank manager at the Imperial Bank, were invited to visit. Mrs. Bates prepared a good meal and cleaned the upper part of the house in preparation for company. She said the Stanley and to take the McLeishes in the basement because it was cool and cozy up. Mrs. McLeish who was very much at home at the Bates' house when run down to help bring up a jar of fruit or... All went well until evening. Mr. McLeish was outside for something, came back into the house took the wrong door and fell into the basement. As he fell he grabbed for the wall, bringing down empty jars to add to the clatter. Mrs. Bates said her first wicked thought was, "Now, they'll all go to the basement... instead of wondering how Mr. McLeish was. Fortunately he was not hurt so after everyone saw the humorous they continued their visit.

In 1940 crops were looking very wet and the dry years seemed to be over. One July day Mrs. Bates was at an afternoon tea at Mrs. Hansen's when Mr. Bates was at home alone. A terrible hailstorm came up. The wind set the pages of the cows and wood range on fire and Tom pulled them down to get the fire out. Then the hail broke the windows. Soon the place was a sorry looking mess as the water from the storm and the soot from the pipes got mixed and trampled over the floors. A woodpecker flew into the house through the broken windows. Although the Bates' crops were almost total ly destroyed Mr. Bates was able to joke about it. He told Genevieve he was sorely glad she wasn't at home or her head wouldn't have been safe with that woodpecker there. The same storm caused a lot of damage in the community. Mrs. Stewart, who lived near Fielding, claimed all her chickens into the chicken

house, making the hired man sit on a chair in there to watch the chickens. Then the chicken house blew away leaving the man still sitting on the chair unharmed. Millman's chicken house blew away too after Mrs. Millman got all the turkeys in but one. Mr. Frank Langley, who got under his tractor in the field for protection, found himself knee deep in water. Mr. Bates once said he had been dried out, burned out, frozen out, hailed out and suffered financial losses in other ways but he never felt discouraged. He always hoped better times were coming.

The Bates' were very interested in the church affairs. Although they were Anglican they often attended the United Church because the services held in Keystone School were closer to home. Mrs. Bates played the organ there for years and later at the Grey School church services.

As the Bates boys grew up they helped a great deal with the farm work. They all drove six horse outfits at an early age. Tom, Jr. learned to run the threshing outfit when he was very young. Bob moved to a ranch across the river at Spitzhey Hill for a few years. There he married Evelyn Niven of Spitzhey Hill, a widow with three boys, Peter, Tom and Guy. They kept the Spitzhey Hill store and post office for a time. A son, Cleve, was born there. Then they moved to Saskatoon where they started the Bates Grocery, returning to Maymont in 1930.

Tom Jr. married Ada Rogers and lived on a farm before moving to Maymont. They had two children, Barry and Beverley. Tom died of a heart attack in 1958.

Jack married Esther Spence of Fielding. They farmed the home place and other land. They moved to Maymont, farmed for a few years longer and then retired. Jack and Esther have five children: Jean, Twins, Yvonne, Margaret and Dan.

Genevieve became a teacher and later married Herb Wiebedale of Dewberry. They live on a farm and for many years Gen taught music. Herb and Gen have two children, Sidney and Lynette.

Mr. and Mrs. Bates stayed on the farm until Tom was in his eightieth year. Then they moved to a comfortable house in Maymont. Mrs. Bates lived to be eighty-four. After she died Tom lived with his son Jack and spent part of the year with Gen at Dewberry. He lived to be eighty-seven. He was proud of the fact that he was the oldest man in Maymont, and one of the two original homesteaders of the Maymont district still alive, the other one still living at that time being Charlie Millman. He said on several occasions how fortunate he had been to live in Maymont District, after having travelled half way across the world, because the Maymont people were so nice.

Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Bean and Family

by Kinsleys Leonard (Bean)

My parents and I came from England, arriving in Maymont in 1905. As I recall, the railway was very recently through that area. The local station consisting of a box car. The first station agent was Mr. Lewis.

A Mr. Dignan and his wife built a house on the south side of the "tracks" and our general store and the brick TYNAN HOUSE hotel went up on the north side. The store continued on in the family hands for approximately fifty years.

My sister, Cassie, and brother, Alan, were born to Maymont, and in June 1907 our father was killed in an accident at the railway crossing. For the first few years we lived in quarters above the store, and then, in 1909, we moved to our newly built home on the northern outskirts of the town on an "acre" purchased from Mr. Whitehouse, another pioneer. A Mr. Bruskill was the man who built our home in 1909, some of his descendants are probably still living in the vicinity. The home is presently owned by Mr. and Mrs. Bill Fast.

Before the days of T.V., and radio, and even the telephone, I recall how one of the regular routines of the day was to meet the evening train, to witness the comings and goings, and to be in touch, for a brief moment, with the great outside world, as the brightly lit cars stopped for a moment in our little hamlet. I can still hear the whistle and envision the sight of the big engine coming slowly to a stop, and then picking up speed again on its way into the never-never land of far-off mystery.

How many people will recall the BIG FIRE? One clear winter night, in the twenties, we were driving home from Fielding in an open cutter, when suddenly we saw, in the distance, a very bright light. What could it be? As we got closer to Maymont it was ever bigger and brighter and frankly in the quiet, sleeping village, we could see that the big red livery barn was going up

Mrs. Edgar Bean's house — Cassie on black horse, Mrs. Bean, Ellsworth, Alan on grey horse.

to Regina. What to do? Why, of course, ring the fire bell on top of the old pump house, and soon sleepy people were racing from their beds to combat the blaze. But, alas, — to late, — it burned to the ground. I think it belonged to a Mr. Melrose, or perhaps it was the Melrose Brothers.

Our mother died in Maymont in 1949, and brother Alan died in 1966, survived by his wife, Lydia, who now lives in Saskatoon, his married daughter, Mrs. George Sayers, who lives in Vancouver, and his married son, Bill, who lives in Saskatoon, and eight grandchildren.

My sister, Cassie, (Mrs. Harold Grant,) lives with her husband (now retired) in Victoria, B.C. and I live in Qualicum Beach (about one hundred miles north) of Victoria) and work in Parksville, — the next town. My only daughter, Claire, married and with two teen-aged sons, lives in Nanaimo, which is located between Victoria and Qualicum Beach.

My first teacher in Maymont was Miss Ina Melrose (Mrs. Art Martin) and my last teacher there was her elder sister, Mrs. Weber. All the Melroses (and the Reids) were good singers, and I can still remember the rousing songs these ladies taught us. Our one and only doctor was, of course, Dr. Scratch, and the druggist was Mr. Hawthorne, who married the lovely blood Lily Davis. Some of the early workers in our store were: Stella Reid, Edna Brandaugh, Harry Martin and Ernie Pattyerson, and Nan Gray (Mrs. Billie Melrose.)

By the large bush at the front of my Qualicum Beach home about 1977. L to r. — my younger grandson, Mark, Margaret (Langley) Strautmann, Jean (Langley) Snell, Fan Langley.

Some of the early family names I recall are: Hutchinson, Dignan, McLaren, Fry, McBride, Andrew, Hawkins, Millman, Malgrem, Johnston, Reid, Melrose, Rogers, Cook, Williams, Bohn, Dawson, and Gifford. Also McLennan, McCorkle, Long, Knowles, Turner, Gray, & Bricker, and Kerr and Campbell.

I think the first Presbyterian minister was Mr. Medill, and his church was a small frame building behind what used to be the Drug Store. Early Anglican ministers were Reverend. Schofield, Gordon and Garlick and Ashley.

In the early twenties I taught school in Maymont in the basement of the United Church, and have many warm memories of my pupils of that time. Especially I recall the wonderful Christmas concerts we all enjoyed, — where the easily trained pupils really shone in those productions. Also I later had some excellent music pupils, particularly including Mrs. Ivan (Maureen Melrose) and Mrs. Hughie Reid (Dolores Deboogh. In the district we also were fortunate in having, amongst the adults also, much musical and acting talent, and the concerts and plays and entertainments of all kinds were highlights for us all.

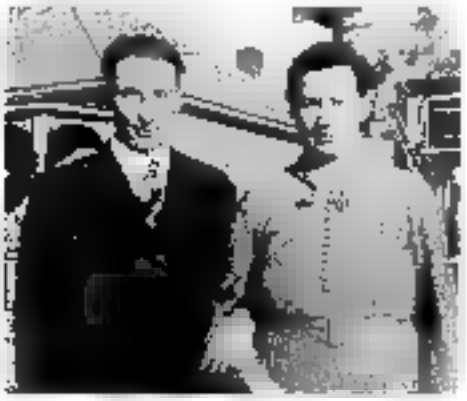
Ed and Hazel Beaudoin

told by Hazel

Ed's parents were Ernest and Agnes Beaudoin who homesteaded in the Radford district, coming from Michigan in 1905. Ed's father was drowned in 1910 leaving his mother with eight of a family. She married Ernie Andrew of Maymont in 1917, and came to Maymont district where she lived out her life. They worked very hard breaking up land etc. with a large family to feed.

Ernie Andrew passed away in 1948. Mrs. Andrew in 1954.

Ed born May 21, 1906 at Radford.



Ed and Hazel Beaudoin on wedding day — Oct. 19, 1938.

My father was Les Sloan who came from Lindsey, Ont. to homestead in 1905 in the Fielding district.

My mother was Mary Fast who came from Nebraska, U.S.A. with her parents and brothers to homestead also at Fielding district in 1902 or 1903.

I was born Hazel Anne Sloan, on February 17, 1918, went to school at Neepawa School north west of Fielding. I was one of a family of 10. Many good times were spent in our younger years playing ball and having musical evenings with much singing, as neighborhood young folks gathered at our place. It was at one of these gatherings where Ed and I realized we were meant for each other. So, we were married on Oct. 18, 1938 at North Battleford in the Foursquare Gospel church manse.

Ed after a mail ride, 1977, renewing old acquaintances with Bob Butterfield.

In the years previous to this I had looked after the house and younger brothers and sister's milking cows doing gardens and many everyday chores. So, it was quite a change to start cooking for two people. We farmed a ¼ section three miles north west of Maymont. To supplement the farm we raised cattle, shipping cream, and always tried to have a few pigs to sell. I always raised a lot of chickens and grew a good garden.

We were at the end of the road so never had a proper road, making life very miserable, walking a half mile and carrying groceries etc. In spring and when snow storms plugged up the roads many times I've pushed the car half a mile to get home when a rain made mud a problem. Before car days it was battle the elements with team and wagon or sleigh. Ed farmed with horses until 1945. We got the power into our farm in 1951, which helped the work load quite a bit.

We've had quite a lot of sickness especially in our later years.

Our oldest child Edna was born on Sept. 19, 1940, the day my mother passed away. She started school in Maymont in 1947 and after she graduated worked in the Bank of Montreal in North Battleford for four years then married Norman McKenzie of Scott, Sask. on October 12, 1963. Worked in the Imperial Bank of Commerce in Wilkie until 1973 when her youngest child was born. They've had quite a trying time with sickness in the family and they farm.

They have 3 girls and one boy

Our second girl Linda was born October 6, 1946, a twin and fortunate enough to be the survivor of the two. She began school in 1952, hating every moment of it. She married Ralph Macnab of Wilkie on May 28, 1967. They have 4 children, 3 boys and 1 girl. They've had many accidents with their family. They live on a farm in the Drummond Creek district. Ralph also works as mechanic for Spence Construction at Maytair.

In 1970 we moved into Maymont to retire because of poor health, but Ed not being one to give up has managed to keep working for other farmers in the summer and doing odd jobs around town. Winter is a time of helping hobbyists — and shovelling snow for many in town who are unable to do that kind of work.

Through the years, many without anyone to turn to, have stayed in the home and never asked for any payment in return. God has been good to us.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Beaudoin

told by Sarah (Gillett) Beaudoin

Elizabeth Laura Parker was the youngest of a family of four children. She was born in Rosendale, Manitoba in March, 1908, and came west with her mother and father, William and Elizabeth Parker, to Maymont in 1911. She started to school when she was five years old but in later years quit school at grade 8

Mr. Beaudoin family — 1953. Back row — Sarah, Russell, Connie, Albert. Front — Dale, Terry.

Celebrating two anniversaries — Aunty Eva and Uncle Norman's 48th, and Mother and Bill's 25th in Nov., 1974.

and helped her mother. She loved the farm and outdoor life. She helped several neighbours in the threshing seasons to feed and cook for the threshing crews. When she was little she said her Dad carried her on his back to church at Grandpa Andrew's house.

In 1917 she was married to Alfred Edward Gillett who came from England. He was born in Kelsey Closes, England, in June, 1894. There were 4 children born. I was born at Maymont on the Doherty quarter and Molly Lang stayed with Mother at night, when Dad was away working. Mother told me that Zadia Rolfe used to come over to see the baby bathed and then hold

The Belanger family about 1940 — Glenda, Ken, Evelyn, Dorothy and Norman, Edwin.

Chinnie and Ed mixing their cow — 1930's.

me. I was born in January, 1915 and it was a real cold winter. I was the first grandchild and my Uncle Percy Parker was teaching at Blue Bird school (north and east of Maymont) and he said he drove in the team and sleigh at 40 degrees below F. to see me. He had a fur coat on but he said his arms were frost-bitten even through the coat.

Mother and Dad made a lot of hay that summer and of course I was out there with them and slept on the shady sides of the haystacks. There weren't baby sitters in those days. We moved to Bardview which is Donavon now and that was where my brother Reg and a sister Elsie Irene were born. Dad had a livery stable, draying business and the mail. I can remember Dad and Mother liked curling and one year came home with the Grand Challenge cup from Rosetown. I don't know who the men on the team were unless one was Harry Weldon. They were our neighbours but hadn't any family. They were good to us kids but we used to get bored because as all kids say, "there isn't anything to do there." When our little sister was born we had the whooping cough and she caught it and her life was short-lived. She was laid to rest in the Delisle cemetery where we had moved three years previous. I just started to what we call Kindergarten now when my Dad dealt with Jack Nugent for some land at Maymont and they went to Delisle. There are still some Nugent off-spring at Delisle.

Mother and Dad farmed north and east of Maymont for several years and both worked hard. Reg and I did a lot of walking to Gray School which was 2½ miles away. On our way home at night we were to look for the cow and bring her home for milking. Many hours Mother and Dad were out clearing brush with the team of horses and the logging chain on "H". Reg and I used to run behind the harrows and catch them. One day Dad told us to go home before we got hurt or our clothes torn but as kids we didn't always do what we were told. Girls were dressed then and I remember bending down and the harrows caught my dress and ripped it all the way down. I scampered home very quickly before Dad could see it. I don't think there was

over a summer week by that flag and I wasn't left with blood poison in my foot. We would stop on boards with nails, some rusty, and we wouldn't take care of our cuts and, our foot would be swollen up and a red streak was going up our leg. Then we would have to sit holding them for a couple of days.

Dad always would get some salvation boxes in the spring from across the river and break them up on the machinery etc. We kids were told to stay back but the excitement of seeing them tear up and twist fascinated us. Dad had a 32 volt light plant which we thought was great and he had a threshing outfit. I remember the separator was called the Red River Special but I don't remember the tractor's name. We used to go with Dad when he rounded up his threshing crew and taking lunch to the crew at 3:30 was a big deal. Dad and Mother went to England in 1938 and Reg and I stayed with Aunty Olive and Uncle Frank at Lake.

Almost three years later Dad rented the farm and moved to North Battleford to another livery barn and built bungalows and also had a small trade in Rabbit Lake. My sister Dorothy was born there.

My Grandpa and Grandma Parker were staunch Presbyterians and later supporters of the United Church. Even when times were tough Grandma would supply 4-H pans with roasted chickens, potatoes, carrots, pickles and buns for the 4-H supper. Grandpa Parker had fixed an apple box with shelves so Grandpa's pies could be more easily transported. A "must" at Grandpa and Grandma's was the saying of Grace before a meal. Grandpa said the Grace but if he wasn't present then Grandma took her turn. I can remember coming up from North Battleford to spend the week-end. That particular Sunday Grandpa as a layman took the Service at the Lone Presbyterian church in Maymont. Another tradition which lasted as long as Grandpa and Grandma were living was the "going home" to their place for Sunday. As long as the weather permitted the Parkers, the Edwards the Cranmers, later Ellens and the Ernest and Walter families met here. Sunday supper would require more than one table setting.

Due to marital relationships breaking up Dad and Mother parted. She was left with three children and the dirty thirties were starting. Mother kept the mail route as long as possible. The roads were terrible when it rained but through strain and worry I don't think she ever missed taking the mail. She also took passengers quite often - however people going to the restaurant or coming back to North Battleford. She finally had to give [illegible] the car as the roads [illegible] up the payments and I do believe that Rabbit Lake got a route system.

Mother did housework for different ladies at 25c an hour and I baby sat for a night and like other nights. My brother sold papers and earned from 25c to 50c a night. That all went to buy groceries. Sugar was 5c a lb.; hamburger 10c a lb. as special for 2 for 25c; bread 5c a loaf; tomatoes and pineapple 10c a can; bananas 5c a lb.; but it was hard to get a nickel or a dime. Quite often the soles of our shoes had holes and we put a piece of cardboard in the bottom.

Mother decided we would move back to the farm. What we really wanted coming back to the farm were the electric lights and running water. I guess things were a bit cheaper on the farm as we ran and got our own water as there was no water hall. We could buy a gallon of coal oil for 10c. It would last quite a long while especially in summer as we were generally in bed as soon as darkness fell - as that saved the power bill.

My brother and I used to be caretakers of the school - go early in the morning when it was really cold and light the old heater to get the school warm. Your teeth would be chattering and fingers and feet cold as you would have to stay there until the stove got going good. That was cold there some cool on top of the stand. We would supply the water to draw for the big sum of $5.00 a month.

One thing our Mother could hold good warm suites for us. When I was around 7 or 8 we always got our underwear - our heavy ribbed socks and our jacket boots. We couldn't stand that long underwear until the 24 of May. There should have been lots of good floor curlers and dancers in me spring as last all summer anyway.

We had some good times at the country schools. The Christmas concerts that were put on by 11 or 12 children would make them large schools look abandoned - the teachers would always come out and play at noon hours. We would play Prisoner's Base, Shinny, Run and Come at the show and Run Sheep, Rope. There seemed to be a closeness in the good old country schools. In 1937 Lorry School received a flood in the Jubilee Parade and we won a prize. Our together was a Mrs. Rose.

As we got older I wrote my Grade 12 and then went to work for Mrs. Hope for $5 a week. I had an embarrassing thing happen. Elaine Hope was a baby and Mrs. Hope had just washed her fuzzy coat out by hand and it was real clean. I was to take the baby out in the carriage for a walk while Mrs. Hope gave a piano lesson to Dorothy Crowley. It was in the spring of the year and windy. So off I go with the baby. I was walking to the post office with the baby in the carriage and by Bunn's store the sidewalk was about 2½ feet high. I got the carriage up. The wind blew my hat off. I turned to run after my prize hat. Lo and behold when I turned around the wind had blown the carriage off the sidewalk. The carriage tipped over and poor Elaine fell face down in a mud puddle. Her face was black plus her nice clean fuzzy coat. I hurriedly picked her up not knowing how many people might have been looking from the cafe or store. I wiped her face off and whipped home to get Elaine into dry clothes and tell Mrs. Hope what had happened. My husband said me 2 years later when we were going together that he had seen that little incident from the main window."

I worked for some farmers at Prince for a year for $5 a month. I got up in the morning for a bed as soon as darkness came. Then I worked in Prince for a storekeeper's wife who had three children. I got $15 a month which was like a fortune. I came back in May 1907 and met the man who was to become my husband, Walter Hamilton. Hamilton and were married in September 1908. Before I was out working, my Mother had her sister and brother with her. She worked for $5 a month living in similar surroundings.

I started with Mr. Andrew Clare and I met Frank at Lilac and went to Harrison where he was a major. Mother was nursing near Redvale. When there she met a man with whom her husband about 15 years later. But Percy, a mother and brother were all consumptive. Allowing $5 wages more $5 a month for food at Christ and about $15 a $5 in the summer. She went to Alberta and got a job on the railroad where he worked until her retirement. Mother died later. She worked in hotels, cafes and later got a job in the laundry in the hospital. She worked there until she was ready for retirement. A second call set up a panel a little way from Mother and Ruth's house. Whenever it is the processing of the cheques she had received everything in the cafe. Mother was a great worker in her yard and flowers. Pure dam gave her a right she mowed up all over and her loved grandkids named her Grandy. She dished up in the hospital and whenever it was a difficult her hands her the remainder of her days.

In the days when raising a few turkeys and selling them before Christmas was our big amount of money to buy a few extra goodies for Christmas. There was a lot of hard work done then these turkeys as they were all dry plucked and head up as sold. I remember Mother had saved and saved up a $2.50 to buy a sweater coat of cream to match her bonnet. She went to get it on the afternoon. Coming home he has a bump in the road and over went the sweater coat and most of the cream was spilt. I thought the car would be taken for awhile.

The day Clarence and I were married it turned out to be a real storm, snowing and blowing. Mother put up our wedding supper at the old Hamilton place. Uncle Percy and Aunty Hazel brought their gas lamp and I'll always remember them going home with the lamp lit as the weather wouldn't work off. Uncle Frank gave me roses and he never even in his life has me a flower that was the one day I was driven as the roads were not built for motor driving and the old had only horses. The cars were dropped. Then water was put back as when you were ready to go.

Then how water we were married it was really cold there as low as 40 degrees below F and I believe others brought a low one it went to 70 degrees below F. Of course this was a hazard and unfortunate you could how a few pounds to put on your stores around Christmas time. The men used to get loads of wood out in the bush and sometimes had a day of wood outside. It was a hard day's work but there was lots of fellowship and community spirit. If you run out of wood or didn't get enough to last the winter you got on the old hardware and moved. I up everyday. That wasn't just a few cords. The old members had to be moved to the top. I think that was one of the essentials in the old country kitchens these days was the "good old wood box". The daily chores for the women or children after school was till the weather except the water. Carry in the snow and ice then the water pails were filled for the night. When the doors being opened that long the house really got chilly but my Grandfather used to say the house was warmed up quicker after that as the night air had got out and fresh air had come in.

The roads used to get real rotting into before spring. I remember one day Clarence and Mother went to town in a large cutter. In those days hence the cutter the size of these sleighs at an angle. Dad went the old box. Mother was on Clancy. The floor and the other gentlemen were holding every thing together with Uncle Percy and some of his friends. Roberts Wedding Clancy Albert who was a large guy and I were going to Harrison's hunt to a wheat drive. It was a real dark night and hard to see. We were all sitting along one side of the sleigh box. Uncle Percy and Clancy were standing in front. The horses were trotting. All of a sudden we hit another snow bank sideways. Over went the sleigh box off the bunks. We were all lying in the snow laughing. We got up and got ready to put the box back on the sleigh and finish our journey.

Walter Hamilton was born in Hatfield in 1868. He came from a family of 12 children. His father was drowned when he was five years old. A couple years later his mother married Samuel Andrew. His mother was left with 5 children and supporting the work. Then by a manner had taken a homestead up near Lacombe so she had to live there so many months to prove her claim.

The family moved to Maymont in 1881 and Clancy has been here ever since. He got his education there. From playing games at school. He was very small but played hard and put all his heart into the game. That acquaintance has stuck with him all his life. He hired cattle and in 1881 Uncle Andrew bought a calf that had been shipped in from Ontario. Clancy looked after it and his calf gained the most of all the calves that were shipped in. When Clancy was a young boy he used to catch horses, ponies and any kind of animal that he could catch. He's a name his sister Agnes were around and they have got young horses and cows. One time when he was rubbing a horse's nose the horse swooped down and bit his head. Her claw stuck right into his head. When they pulled it out, blood just spurted out. Agnes and he were really scared he would bleed to death. The time Clancy had enough strength gathered up he held a cotton and clay pad for admittance. His mother made him a batch of beer. He said that mainly to one or two of his neighbours. He had his young brother Norman, as a page as a memory. When Norman a father and that he was a little aggravated on

Norman was his father's pride and joy. Chimmy's wife, Russell, in something the same as Chimmy her namesake. She's always watching over [illegible] or whatever and bringing them home for the [illegible].

Chimmy liked veterinary work and has been all over for years delivering calves, castrating and has been called out at his bed many times in all kinds of weather. Once he never got [illegible] being as he have one from up where up other people standing around in their pursuit, was remarkable. His workout several hours on one animal sometimes until he would be tired and speak with rest. Chimmy took an [illegible] examination results the second course that was held at that time. In 1946 the Fielding Community Project started and Chimmy and Roy Rogers were in the A.I. field. Charlie Large was the manager and still is today. Chimmy stayed on A.I. technician until he was 65 years old. Then the government quit looking after the A.I. service. He and Dan were ever seeking after that area and he is the A.I. technician now. Russell can also do that if necessary. Chimmy had several different riders to help him through the years.

Some humorous stories that happened with the kids were when Albert was about 14 months old he fell in a scraper of water and got soaked from his head to toe. How he ever got out of there is a miracle as he was very low and could have drowned so easily.

Russell was about 5 years old and was running with his dog. They were through a fence. Russell got caught and couldn't get out. We passed him and started to search for him. Finally we heard the dog barking. Russell was crying as we headed here. Another time the [illegible] was still up from harvesting. Sometimes Russell was playing and got in the [illegible] and was hanging up on his feet. We were pulling our cows and Ella Williams stayed with us. We saw Russell caught and got injured and came running in the barn yelling. Rumors is here. We ran to get him and he was all tangled and really scared.

When Terry was 16 she was playing the organ at church. This particular Sunday she had to play. It was wet and really muddy. Chimmy took her in the truck. Every half mile the truck stopped. It was getting later and later. When they finally got near the highway Terry got out of the truck, took her shoes carried them in her hand crept her hymn book and led the rest of the way to the church.

The first year we were married we kept some horses for [illegible] who had gone to the coast for [illegible]. He had one horse which was a [illegible] very gentle. One had to use the greatest care with him. He was a good worker but one never knew when he would take off like a shot. One night in the spring we thought we would take the wagon and go for a ride. Chimmy and I and the boys started out. We called in at Mother's and picked up my sister Dorothy who was about 16 years old and started off for a peaceful ride. All of a sudden away went Pete [illegible] barking, tearing and then running with all his might. The mile and [illegible] of the road. Chimmy pulling on the reins with all his weight. It was quite lucky that his team mate was quiet. Dorothy was petrified and I had the baby held tightly in my arms. When we arrived back at Mother's, Dorothy never even waited until we came to a dead stop before she was out of the wagon and into the house. Another time during the winter we were in Fleet Square [illegible] with three teams and two sleds. The road was just dip after dip. We had the same team. After running over one of these dips the swingers hit Pete's legs. He got scared and away he went. Three of the others came undone. Pete and I knew were pulling on the reins as hard as they could to the poor animal got tired down. We went like this for three miles before the team could get him stopped. We decided that after that, if we wanted a longer life, we would have to get rid of him, which we did.

In 1945 we bought the Northcott farm and moved over the day that Theodore Roosevelt died which was April 13. It was a beautiful March that year. Norman Andrew ploughed a field on March 31 and then it turned cold in April. The spring was late the crops were poor that year.

Judy Hamilton was born May 10th which was another poor year. We were milking 15 cows that year. Terry Hamilton was born May, 1941. I was by myself at the time of his birth but could I survived or where as I have two [illegible] was on his way. That was a bad winter with lots of snow but the crop was good that year also. Seeding was just starting by most people that year and the year that Dale was born pedaling of wheat was 1st date.

Albert had four miles to go to school at Keystone. He was only about 8 and he was driving the horse and buggy himself. The old water there again I was about mid way before Christmas but it was real cold. He became more and got there in the buggy but his feet, his hands used to get cold and we will always be grateful to Henry Penner who would always unhook his horse and put it away for him. He would hook it up for Albert after school again. Now these days you have children complain about riding the school bus. How things have changed! In 1942 we traded the Northcott place for the Ernie Andrew place with Malcolm McNaughton. Chimmy was back home again. That is where the Donaldson family came with their mother when she married Ernie Andrew in 1951.

Rupert was born in October 1952. We were still milking cows and milked until we left the farm in 1959 and moved into Maymont where we are today. My brother Reg and Hector Andrew were 14 years old when the two of them went on a steak wagon together for $3.50 a day. It was hard work but the money looked good. Reg went in the round to Watrous where he was 17 and got a job on a newspaper truck and went to Bible College. When the war broke out and the 21 year olds were conscripted for [illegible] service and [illegible] in the services until 1945. After the war he went to Los Angeles and went to L.I.F.E. Bible College

and became a minister. To pay his tuition he worked in store homes and a bank at night. While at College he met Appy Mae Sigurdson and they were married in May, 1950. After a number of years ministering back in Canada at Victoria and Penticton he came back to Maymont for a year in 1966. He and his wife, Mother and Bill, Chimsy and I went to California for a three week trip. It was really wonderful to leave at March below zero weather and arrive in Los Angeles at 80 degrees to 90 degrees above. We went to Disneyland, Knotts Berry Farm, Tijuana, Mexico and went swimming in the Pacific Ocean on March 31. It was a real trip as my brother was familiar with the country and the first time I saw palm trees and miles and miles of orchards.

That year Reg went to the States to live again, for awhile logging and then to College to receive his Teacher's Degree. A couple of years later his wife went to College and she is a teacher now also. They live at Nampa, Idaho, both teaching, and have a parish church a little way out at Nampa. They have three children: Linda who is a teacher and married an ex-football player who is in Real Estate. They live in Boise, Idaho and have a small daughter. Timothy Gillett is married and lives in San Diego. The youngest son, Leroy, is married to a girl from Nampa. She works in a bank and Leroy is going to College taking commerce.

My sister Dorothy while staying at our place met a young man who came from the east to harvest at Sam Miller's. Norman Belanger. He worked our way a couple years before he went back to Sault Ste. Marie where his sister lived. He got a job in the steel plant. Dorothy went down east and she and Norman were married in October, 1949. They have four children: Edwin who is married and is a teacher lives in Sault Ste. Marie. His wife also works. The next son, Ken, is married and has three children. 2 boys and a little girl. Ken works in the steel plant. Dorothy's first daughter, Glenda, went through College. She works with elderly people and retarded children. She is getting married in October, 1971 and hopefully we'll be there. Their youngest child, Evelyn is still going to school and is in Grade Eleven. Norman is still working at the steel plant and will soon have his retirement.

Mother and Bill Penny were married in Coronation in September, 1949. They stayed there until Bill retired and moved back to Maymont in 1971. That same fall they were married 25 years and Aunty Eva and Uncle Norman Cheal were married 45 years that same year. Millie and I had a family supper and "Open House" in the fall for them.

My Mother's health began to deteriorate and on May 4, 1970 she went quietly away to rest and was buried Maymont Cemetery on May 9, 1970. She had 11 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. Mother had worked hard all her life with very little at times. She always welcomed anyone to a meal and a bed if they were stranded. She enjoyed the simple things and had a husband who was very good to her and they were happy.

My family are close by. Russell and Dale both farm at Maymont. Albert drives semi-trailers. Our daughter, Terry, lives at Dranoel City. God has been good to us by giving us healthy children and we have 10 fine grandchildren, 5 grandsons and 5 granddaughters. Chimsy and I are both healthy and hope to live to see our grandchildren grow up to be fine young men and women.

The Beckton Family

In Canada the Beckton family origins were in Ontario and Prince Edward Island. John McCrumbton Beckton was born on May 15, 1900 in Kincardine, Ontario. His mother and father were born in Canada but his grandparents on both sides originated in England, Ireland and Scotland. He says, naturally, that he married the best qualities of all those nationalities. The family was completed by two brothers and a sister.

In 1917, Mac, as he became known to his friends, decided to go west to look for a job. At one time he had visions of studying medicine or education but the family fortunes did not allow him this opportunity. His actions from Ontario first brought him to Walwyn, Saskatchewan where he worked on a farm for eighteen months. Then it was on to Manitoba to haul logs in a bush camp since farmers rarely needed assistance in the winter. The next few years saw him working at many jobs such as farmhand, railway worker and the camp employee. On one occasion he even had to wash dishes in a cafe in Edmonton because he had spent his last dime.

Finally, in 1921 he saw the light and came to work for a farmer, named Reid, in Maymont, Saskatchewan. It was in the fall of 1923 that he was persuaded to purchase a quarter section of land in Maymont, which from then on became the home quarter. Since the quarter section of land wasn't really

Mac and Dorothy and family, May, 1956. Christening of George Alexander, the last baby.

[illegible] to keep Mac busy he insisted [illegible] Elmore Frosty [illegible] for a number of months.

It was at this time that he acquired a reputation for breaking horses. When he first bought the quarter section of land Lawrence Reed sold him a nice pair of horses. These two seemed to take their promptly run away. After a few lessons in the horses on the front verandah of running away they never tried that again.

In 1938, contrary to his neighbours' advice Mac purchased another half section of land. The first winter that he owned it he had to work in a bush camp in Alberta to make ends meet. By 1939 Mac had diversified into farming and was raising hogs and keeping chickens.

Mac continued to farm through the thirties when the depression hit Canada. There were times when all there was in the house to eat were eggs so the farm for the day would be eggs for breakfast, dinner and supper. During this time Mac borrowed money to one of the moneyed institutions in the area.

How long life would have continued in this manner can be left to speculation. In 1939 World War II started and with it came changes in Mac's life. Although farmers were exempt Mac decided to enlist and help out his country in this manner. This was quite a big step for Mac who was thirty nine when World War II broke out. He enlisted in the autumn of 1941 and was called up to the R C A F in the spring of 1942. Leaving his farm in the capable hands of a neighbour Mr Foden he left for Toronto where he trained as an aircraft electrician. The military kept strenuously short of supplies, as he discovered, when he was issued a uniform with a hole in it. Needless to say, he would have been reprimanded for a hole in his uniform so he became adept at the use of a needle and thread.

Following his training in Toronto he was posted to St. Jean, Quebec. It was there that an event was to occur which would drastically change his life. While sitting in a park in Montreal on August 24, 1942 he was approached by an attractive lady who was fleeing from another suitor. Dorothy Folgen was a twenty-eight year old Jewish girl who also had escaped the bonds of matrimony. Her father and mother had emigrated from Austria to Canada just prior to World War II.

In early September 1942 Mac discovered that he was to be posted overseas so he proposed to Dorothy. Since no Jewish Rabbi would perform the ceremony, Mac found a Methodist minister who would, and married Dorothy to the Altar. His days as a confirmed bachelor were officially over.

However, instead of going overseas Mac and his new bride were sent to the air base at Nevers, Manitoba. It was there that Dorothy learned to cook through many trials and tribulations. In 1943 they were sent to Pennfield Ridge, New Brunswick just as he was ready to leave the Americans dropped the A-Bomb on Japan bringing the war to an end.

In 1945, following the release from the R C A F Mac went to Vancouver for the winter leaving Dorothy in Montreal. They were reunited in the spring of 1946 where Dorothy believed that her new home in the country was a one-room shack. Soon several more rooms were added but that house was never graced with electricity nor running water.

Dorothy and Mac wanted children but time for their efforts had failed. Finally on February 8 1948 their attempts were successful and John Allan was born. Afraid that their luck might run out, they tried again immediately and were rewarded with the birth of Mac Norman Reuben on November 1 1949. On the way to the registry office Mac Sr. forgot the other prospective name and so he was registered Mac Norman. A year and one month later January 7 1951 Clara Frances was born. She was to be their only daughter.

In early 1954 near disaster struck when five year old John contracted polio. Dorothy was also pregnant at this time with their fourth child. John was rushed to the City Hospital in Saskatoon where he spent the next weeks. Fortunately he was not left with any crippling effects from the polio. When he returned from the hospital he brought the virus to pass home for his younger brother and sister to contract.

Despite all of this commotion George Alexander arrived safely into this world on April 19, 1954. In the next few years, however, they almost lost him as he suffered a number of serious attacks of bronchitis. A good many times they had to rush to Maymont in the sleigh and send Dorothy with young George in the hospital in North Battleford. After a few years he outgrew the ailment and never suffered from it again.

The 1950's and 60's were years of raising four children and trying to make a living from the farm in spite of drought and grasshoppers. Since the road in the farm was not plowed in winter, when the children reached school age they had to be be driven to school by sleigh. In the summer Dorothy would drive them after she obtained her driver's license. Mac had purchased a car in 1948 and Dorothy had proceeded to learn to drive. More than once she had to call for help when the car became stuck had way up a hill because she couldn't change the gears.

One winter in the late 50's Mac Sr. and the kids constructed a network [illegible] Dorothy assisted by a neighbour, had to help with the chores to keep the farm operating. One afternoon they drove the team and sleigh to town to obtain water and groceries. Another one was an inexperienced driver so when they returned to find the gate full of snow an inadvertent turn caused the sleigh to upset spilling themselves the water and the groceries over the snow. Fortunately good humour prevailed and no one took the incident seriously.

During this time Dorothy's cooking fame had spread over the neighborhood and often the small house would be filled to capacity for supper. All the neighbours loved to come to a wonderfully aromas of the delicious. One Sunday Mac took the kids for a drive

in the river at 4:00 P.M. When they returned to the house at last Mac Dorothy had invited twenty neighbours who had dropped in, to stay to supper.

In 1964 they bought a house across from the school in Maymont. Since John Mac Jr. and Claire were now teenagers more space was required and one meant less driving time to take them to the various activities they were involved in. Grandma Teeper came from Montreal to live with them for a few years.

A short time later Mac Sr. built a new hog barn on the quarter section of land farming Wilbur Peden's farm. Here he could raise three to four hundred hogs without the work involved in the old farm. The new barn had special farrowing pens so Mac wouldn't have to be present at the birth of the pigs. Gone were the days of playing midwife to pregnant sows. He continued in these pigs until the winter of 1975 when he finally sold them and continued only with grain farming.

In 1967 Mac Jr. and John graduated from high school. John decided to stay on the farm but the following winter he took a six week farm welding course in Saskatoon. He enjoyed it so much that the following autumn he enrolled in a two-year diploma agriculture course at the University of Saskatchewan. He graduated two years later winning the gold medal for the top student. Upon completion he enrolled in the agriculture degree programme specializing in economics. He was also active in politics and for several years was the president of the Young Conservative Party on campus. In the summers John would work on the farm in Maymont. Not satisfied with all his training he stayed on to complete his Master's degree.

Next John was to announce that he didn't want to settle on the farm and obtained a job with the Alberta Government Agricultural Loan Department. After several years with the Alberta Government he returned to Saskatchewan and joined the Bank of Nova Scotia as their agrologist for the province. In the spring of 1979 he opened a hardware store in Regina with brother George managing it. At present John continues to work for the bank and farms in his spare time.

Mac Jr. on the other hand left Maymont to work for the Royal Bank in Moosomin. From there he moved to Hillcrest with the bank. After a few years he moved to Vancouver where he worked with the credit union for approximately six years. During this time he travelled through the United States and acquired a love of travel. In 1973 he moved to Toronto and continued to work for financial institutions. In 1978 he became a credit manager with Jim Pattison Leasing and has continued to work for them. Last winter he travelled to Spain and has future plans to go to Europe.

Claire graduated from high school in 1969. In the fall she entered the University of Saskatchewan with a scholarship to study Arts and Science. A year later she made the decision to study law and entered the law school in the autumn of 1971. During her three years at law school she was many scholarships and graduated in 1974 with great distinction. During her summers she kept busy working with legal aid in Saskatchewan and then with the Federal Government in Ottawa.

Following her graduation in 1974 with an LL. B and B. A. she attended the University of Ottawa to obtain her LL. M. Having completed the year programme she accepted a teaching position at Dalhousie University's Faculty of Law in Halifax. During her four years in Halifax she travelled extensively in Europe and in the United States. In 1978 she received a promotion to associate professor and also obtained a year's leave of absence to write a book entitled The Law and the Juvenile in Canada. She will be writing this book in Winnipeg where she will live after her marriage to Kenneth Walper, an Armed Forces Pilot from Biggar, Saskatchewan. She met him in Halifax while training to obtain her private pilot's license and will be married October 6 1979.

George Alexander completed his grade ten in Maymont and decided that was enough formal education. He went to work as a psychiatric aide in the Provincial Hospital in North Battleford. After working for a year on the ward for the criminally insane he decided to move to Calgary Alberta. There he obtained a position as a corrections officer for the Calgary Correctional Institute. He was eventually trained for the riot squad and spent time working at the prison camp out on the mountains.

In the winter of 1979 he was invited by John to join him in establishing a hardware business in Regina, Saskatchewan. In February, 1979 the business opened its doors with George managing it. In March George met a Newfoundland nurse, Elaine Harding. True to his parents' traditions it was a whirlwind courtship which ended in their marriage on June 30 1979 in Regina where they now reside.

Mac Sr. and Dorothy continue to live in Maymont. For the past four winters they have travelled to Vancouver, Toronto and Halifax to spend time with one of their children. Then return home to farm in the summer.

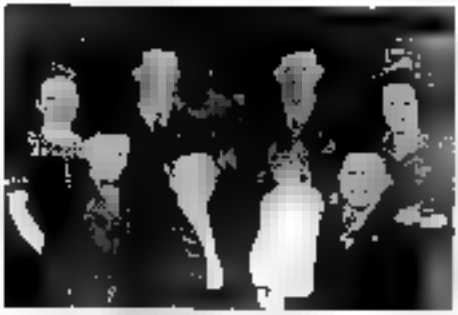
The Dave Belerie Family

written by Elsie Belerie Mather

Dave Belerie was born in Belgium and came with his father and mother to North Dakota at an early age. From North Dakota they moved to Woodrow in Southern Saskatchewan and had five quarters of land.

Dave was in World War I and after his return from the war he married Emma Baumbach. His father then turned the farm over to him and he father operated a harness and shoe repair shop in Woodrow.

Dave and Emma had a large family. There were Thelma, Alec, Lawrence, Ella, and Dan born while they were in Woodrow but they also lost four children in infancy. Between sickness and poor crops they had a



The Dave Belerle Family, 1949. Back, l-r — Theresa, Alex, Lawrence, Ella. Front — Gen. Mrs. Emma Belerle, Diane, and Dave Belerle.

hard struggle. They decided to move to Central Saskatchewan where at least there was lots of wood so as to keep the fires burning. They rented a quarter section south of Denholm in the Harrington district. In November of 1936 they started out in their Chev car pulling their belongings and bedding. At that time the Government moved their machinery, livestock and household furniture. When they arrived at the farm the family who had rented it before them, "Elden Anderson" were still in the house. They all had to live together for quite sometime before the Andersons found somewhere else to live. One night there were seventeen altogether, and it was a small four room house.

They rented this land until 1938 and then moved to Paddell and rented a one-half section from Lawrence Robinson and lived in the house that Bryant Fletcher now owns. Here they raised horses and chickens, had a few cows and a good garden spot so they had plenty to eat. Dave joined the army in World War II but his wife carried on with the farming with the help of his family. In November of 1941 Diane was born at Maymont.

Alex joined the army in 1942, and Lawrence in 1943. Then in 1946 the Belerle's had a sale of the machinery and livestock and moved into North Battleford. Dave worked at the Provincial Hospital on the "Work Gangs" until his health failed. He died in June 1960. His wife, Emma, bought James Street Grocery and operated it until 1966. She then moved to different places in the United States, British Columbia, was on River Heights Lodge for a short time and is presently in Regina.

Thelma Beserle married Harry Nedowin in December, 1942.

After being discharged from the army, Alex worked in North Battleford as a milkman for the Dairy Pool. In 1945 he got the North half section 36-42-14-W3rd, through the V.L.A. where the Tommy Caldwell Senior family were living, which was originally the

Alex and Elsie Belerle wedding — Oct. 11, 1949.

Harry Turner farm west of Lilac. Alex worked his land with his brother-in-law, Harry Nedowin, that year. In November of 1946, Alex lived with his mother and worked for C.J.N.S. radio station as "Transformer Operator". Then in the spring of 1947 he bought a new tractor — a "Massey Harris 30" and a second hand tiller and put in his own crop and continued his job with C.J.N.S.

On October 12, 1949 Alex married me, now Mrs. Clair McIvor, then Elsie Leech from Saltcoats. I was a Registered Psychiatric Nurse and had graduated in May 1949. I continued to work at the Provincial Hospital after our marriage and Alex quit his job with C.J.N.S. and went back to the Dairy Pool working as a milkman again. In May of 1950 we moved out to the farm and I quit my job. Alex did the farming after delivering milk so his days were very long. During the winter months we moved into North Battleford. In May 1955, Alex quit his job and I returned to work at the Hospital so he could at least get his machinery ready for the field while babysitting and this worked out much better. Once Betty started school we stayed on the farm during the winter and took things a little easier.

We bought the William quarter, S.E.¼ 36-42-14-West in 1960.

On September 30, 1950, the Superintendent of the National Grain Company offered Alex a job as grain buyer at Lilac and he took it as it had rained for almost

Russell and Betty Bamsdon, Dana, Terra and Devin — May 19, 1979.

a month and we didn't have any crop left. In October of 1962 the company transferred him and the family to Manning, Alberta where the railway had just been put in and new elevators were built in the Peace River country. There the cost of living was very high and things didn't work out to expectations and Alex quit his job in August of 1964 and moved back to Lilac. We were all happy to be amongst our friends and neighbors again.

We built a new house starting it in the fall of 1966 moved into it the following spring.

On February 15, 1968, Alex took on the job as mail courier from Maymont travelling south six miles and then west on the "correction line" to Lilac delivering the mail twice weekly.

On October 6, 1968, Alex was the victim of a truck hoist accident on his farm.

We have five children. Betty Anne was born in September 1950 and she married Russell Bemstein of Maymont on April 1, 1972. They have three children — Dana, Terra, and Devin. They live on the Dave Penner farm. Elaine Rose was born on May 18, 1953 and she married Garry Dearborn of Richard on October 9, 1971. They have two children — Sean and Tanya and they live in Maidstone, Saskatchewan. Alan William was born on December 3, 1954 and married Donna Stepycki in November of 1977. They have a son, Chad. They are living in Maymont at the present time. Donna is working at the Saskatchewan Hospital. Calvin James was born on June 15, 1958. He graduated from Maymont Central School in 1976. Both Alex and Cal work for Art Martyniuk in Ruddell, Saskatchewan. Brent was born on May 12, 1963 and keeps us busy with hockey in winter and ball and 4-H in the Light Horse Project in the summer.

I continued on with the mail route after Alex's death and I still have it. There are presently twenty-four households on the route. In September of 1976 the route was changed so as to include the Freemesky and Salb farms travelling south from Art Bailey's to Highway 16.

On June 30, 1973, I married Clair McIvor and my house was moved to the McIvor farm in August 1973.

Our house is "home" to both families and life is the way we want it.

Lawrence Beserte married Olive Boucher of Bellevue in November, 1953. They have two daughters — Donna Lynne and Marilyn.

Ella married Bill Thrower in April, 1948. They had three children — Linda, John and Doug. Bill passed away of cancer and she married Mel Wenzel and they are presently living in North Battleford.

Don lives in Manotick in Ontario — and has a son, David.

Diane married Hans Brauer. They have two children — Melodie and Danny and they live in Cloverdale, B.C.

Arthur and Mary Bennett

by Mary Bennett

Arthur and Mary Bennett arrived in Fielding in November, 1955 with their family. Barnsley, age thirteen years, Dale ten, and Keith five. They came from Pathlow, Saskatchewan where Art worked on the railroad. The reason for moving from Pathlow was to obtain year-round employment as first man on the section. This was done by bidding on Fielding Section and gained by seniority. Art worked there from 1955 to 1962 at which time some sections were closed, Fielding being one, and gangs were formed. Art worked on a gang for nearly three years, then got on the section at Maymont. He worked there till it closed in 1969. He then worked on the section at Borden till 1971 when he retired.

Mary was switchboard operator at Fielding from 1944 to 1958 until the telephone lines were connected to the Radisson Office.

Art's parents of Scottish and Irish descent came from Grayesville, Manitoba — originally from Ontario. Mary's father came from near Belfast, Ireland at the age of twenty-one and obtained work building the railway bridge at Borden in 1904. Mary's mother of Scottish and Irish descent, was born in a block-house in Prince Albert during the "Riel Rebellion" in 1885. She's still going strong at the age of ninety-four.

Bernice married Lesley Ewell in 1950 and to that union four children were born. Their oldest boy, Kelly, was tragically killed on the highway at Fielding at the age of eight years, ten months. Daren is now seven-

teen, Tammy eleven and Jeffrey five. They are farming at Flaxling.

Dale married Elaine Braidwaite in 1967 and they have two children — Troy, four years; and Brenda, two years. They are living in Saskatoon.

Keith married Alice Cyr in 1970 and they have two children — Kyle, nearly three and Sandra, nearly two. Their home is in Fort Alberni, B.C.

The Bennetts moved to Radisson in 1958 where Mary worked at the telephone office for two years, till dial telephones came in.

My Life History

written by Charles Glen Bird — Mosquito Bend 100 — aged eleven

On February 4, 1950 a wonderful thing happened. Charles Glen Bird was born. I don't know the place I was born or how big I was, but when I was three weeks old I was brought to Mrs. Lindberg's place in North Battleford. When I got older she told me I used to get sick a lot when I was a baby. One of the things I don't think I'll ever forget is when I was about the age of two Mrs. Lindberg would roll me up in a blanket and cut my hair.

When I was just a baby, Mrs. Lindberg's son, Jon, used to carry me up to bed. When I was about five, Allan Sapp drew a picture of me sitting on Mrs. Lindberg's knee.

Mrs. Lindberg had a sister which lived with them and everyone called her Aunt Edie. She was always very kind to me and when I would go to the hospital she would always come and see me and bring me treats or bannas.

I started kindergarten. My teacher was Mrs. Jopp. I had a lot of fun there. We used to take a lunch. When we got out, we got out earlier than the big people so we would practice riding bikes.

I started school at Connaught School. In grade one and two we had Show and Tell. I was to take something and tell about it. I usually took Indian beadwork of Mrs. Lindberg's. I remember once I took a porcupine bag beaded all over on the velvet cover and lined with silk. Another time I took a silver fox fur wearing around your neck.

Once I went to visit a cousin of mine who lived on Red Pheasant Reserve. I remember seeing a small boy chopping wood in the yard. When we were invited into the house I saw a baby in a hammock made of twine, hanging from the ceiling.

Mrs. Lindberg's daughter and her family took us to visit Joe who was teaching in Alberta. While we were there we went to the zoo. I remember seeing many oil wells.

My favorite place on Saturday when I lived in North Battleford was the stockyards. I would go there with some of my friends. We would ride the old work horse, clean the cattle that were being loaded and chase the sheep.

Other times we hitch-hiked to old Battleford or we rode our bikes.

On Sunday I always went to Sunday School with Mrs. Lindberg. When I was eight years old, Mrs. Lindberg got very sick and Aunt Edie told me I would have to go to another home. The preacher brought me here to Ted's and Em's. The day after I came here, Mrs. Lindberg died. I have gone to visit Aunt Edie many times since I came here.

This summer I went to Turtle Lake for one week of camping. When I got home I went on a Trail Ride. Shelley rode her horse Shayna, and I rode her other horse, Farmer. We started at Radisson and rode to Glenbrae Park where we slept out over night and we sure had fun. There were twenty or thirty horses but I was the only one who rode bareback. We got home at noon Monday. Charlotte and Lawrence took me to Wednesday till Friday.

Although I lack some things other kids have I'm happy and would not trade with anyone.

John and Hannah Birse

by John Birse

Hannah and I came from Newton Stuart, Scotland. I arrived in Ruddell in May, 1920. I went to the Labour Exchange in Saskatoon and was placed to John Anderson at Ruddell. Mr. Allan Anderson and three sons all had homesteaded. Ernie and John at Ruddell and George close to Denholme. After a little while I homesteaded one quarter and one quarter soldier's grant at Loon Lake. The town of Loon Lake is located on the land I filed on. I worked with the Andersons that summer and winter. My wife joined me in June, 1921. We worked with Andersons until after harvest and then went to Arnold Brothers. Dave and John. We stayed there until the spring of 1926 when I rented the east half of 4-48-13 from Turnbull Brothers (the Campbell place). We farmed there until 1935 when we moved two miles west on to three-quarters on section 32-47-13. This land was owned by the Bromley Bros., Jim and George. They homesteaded the north half and Mr. Claud Jennings the south west quarter. He was a

Mrs. Birse and Mary Black (teacher at Mistatay school). Good crop of wheat about 1936.

John and Hannah Birss 50th anniversary. March 12, 1934.

grain buyer at Ruddell for some time. I arrived there in good time for the dirty thirties. Jim had already died but George was on the farm when we moved on. He went east the following winter to Renfrew, Ontario where he came from in 1906, where he died.

Bromleys acquired the southwest quarter and gave them 300 acres of arable land and the rest pasture, only 15 acres able to be broken. My brother-in-law Bobby Clark farmed with me for two summers. Then he joined the army. I bought the farm from the Bromley estate. I had some crop in by Vern Schmidt. By war end, I got myself a Massey 30 and a six foot diller and farmed until the late sixties when I rented to Wes Schmidt. We bought a house in Ruddell from Mr. Russ Stolly and moved into Ruddell. I then sold the farm to Wes and had a sale.

Blacklock's at Maymont

The Blacklock's came to Maymont in 1920 and left in 1936. J.D. or "Black" as he was called by Doc Scratch and his friends, ran the McCormick-Deering implement business, a hardware store, and Imperial Oil.

In the 1920's J.D. sold a lot of 10-20's and 15-30's. Also a lot of binders, mowers and rakes. He became involved with what became the International Harvester Company when he came west from Glenburnie, five miles north of Kingston, Ontario, in 1918. He worked with the Company out of Saskatoon.

After marrying Jane Letitia Johnston in a farm house east of Laura at Christmas time in 1920, he had

John and Letitia Blacklock and family in their back yard — spring, 1932. Jack, Benson, Billy and Eleanor.

the chance of taking out the dealership at either Meldon or Maymont. In those days Maymont looked like the best territory, so he settled there.

J.D. was the eldest of 10 children and so it was his responsibility to leave home in Ontario, the old stone house and barn, the apple orchard, the maple sugar bush, the milk cows and the hauling of the milk to the cheese factory. There were enough younger children to fill these jobs and get them done.

Trading was machinery and taking payment or part payment with horses and cattle became a tradition when people became short of cash in the 1930's. So the Blacklock's rented land from Bill Sowden, the Hotel proprietor. This was beside town where the hockey rink is today. Land was also rented from Mawhinney the druggist. This quarter section was down toward Beckton's. A quarter of land was bought just south of town and adjoining the school grounds in 1929. The pasture land on this quarter became travelling ground for many people, young and old, over the years. There was a dugout with trees around three sides. There were nice paintings done by Edith Butterfield, who later married and now lives in Dundee, Scotland.

The famous picnic in 1932 in recognition of the services of Doc Scratch was held on this pasture field. Doc was presented with a buffalo coat and a sporty new car. He was much admired for miles around. Every family can tell at least one story about the grateful assistance given by Doc Scratch.

Over the years J.D. was very active in community work. Chairman of the Athletic Society which ran the sports day every May 24th. Chairman of the school board. Chairman of the United Church board. Chairman of the Mayfield and Douglas Agricultural Society. He was active in all the things that made it a great town.

Mrs. Blacklock helped with all the church groups, ladies aid, C.G.I.T., baby band, camp mother. And of course also the Homemakers Club. As with ladies with families in the community, Mrs. Blacklock spent much of her time raising four children and seeing that they received an education.

They were Jock, Ben, Bill, and Eleanor. The boys went to University and eventually ended up electioneering. Eleanor took nursing at City Hospital. All are married with families and the boys are now grandparents.

Mrs. Blacklock is now enjoying her 88th year, and is living in a small house in Saskatoon. J.D. passed away in March, 1963.

It is with great pride and pleasure that all members of the Blacklock family recall their days spent in Maymont, and the associations with people there.

There was the old pot-bellied stove in the hardware store or "shop". A small light bulb supplied with power from McConkell's power plant. The floor was sprinkled with oil and swept with dustbane. The bridge game went on day after day, sometimes for nickel White-owl cigars. Some of the players other than J. D and Dot were Coleman, Dudley and McIrose.

Saturday nights, Sawyer would bring in the bleached flour sacks, ooing blood, for the most ring customers. Farmers and townspeople would stand at the store front, visiting.

There were good times and hard times. Sometimes they occurred at the same time. For most of the citizens, life was centered in an area of not too many miles.

Last But Not Least!

by Shelley Bloom

I was born in 1956 into the already ample family of Ted and Evelyn Sloan. My preschool days were spent observing the situation of a big family and enjoying the farm. I especially loved being outside helping Dad with the chores. (I marvel that he had the patience to bother with me.) Some of my earliest memories include my Grandpa Billy Andrew who was always good for treats and stories. Mom has inherited his ability to tell stories. She can make the ordinary come alive and delights the grandchildren with her fascinating way of telling stories "out of her mouth", as my son refers to one that is not read from a book.

Roger, Shelley, Kris and Seth Bloom, March, 1979.

Being so much younger than the rest of my family I had to content myself with cats and dogs for playmates until the fall of 1965 when a shaggy black pony named Farmer wandered into my existence. Farmer was all a horse crazy nine year old girl could want. I not only had the horse I'd been wanting for so long, but he also offered access to kids my own age. For years after, Esther Pauls and I were inseparable. We practically lived at one another's homes. Henry and Jessie were always very good to me. Sometimes Esther and I would venture to Dave Penners to play with their grandchildren or ride on to Lyle McIvors or Woods to ride with Dwight or Orville. We often rode to Clair McIvors to get in some girl talk with Karen and Lorraine. Anita always made us a big lunch and made us feel so welcome. Farmer also gave me the opportunity to join 4-H. The Ligar Horse Club was lead jointly by Ches Miller and Roy Rogers. I was a part of the program for three years. I loved riding to our meetings, bathing our horses for Achievement Day and learning more about horses. My husband and I raise Arabian horses now and I often consult my 4-H books about one thing or another.

Esther and I spent most of our free time riding horses in the "Berg Place", a half section of government hayland bordered by "Rabbit Road" near our farm. It seems sad when I go home now to see the Berg Place fenced and filled with cattle and Rabbit Road is torn up under construction. Although places have changed a great deal, Farmer is much the same as he was fourteen years ago. He is somewhat gray now but he is alive and well at almost thirty years old and continues to delight the children who ride him.

One of the greatest things about the Maymont community is the neighbours. Gug and Millie Beaudelo were almost like an extra pair of parents for me. They always took time to visit, Millie made me birthday cakes and Gug even gave me a horse. We still have her and Shayne is a lovely mare.

School held no particular fascination for me. Parts of it I enjoyed but my happiest days were those when Dad had a calf to tend in the pasture and needed me at home or when I was able to sneak off on a little trip somewhere and skip a few days or weeks . . .

When I was twelve, Glen Bird came to live with us. He came to us for two weeks and stayed eight years! In some ways I found it difficult to adjust to having an instant brother but Glen was a good kid and we all learned to love him. Although he is working in the U.S.A. now, we keep in touch and he is still a real part of our family.

I graduated from Maymont School in 1974. Many of us from that class still keep in touch and our friendships continue despite the different directions our lives have taken.

In July of 1974 I married Roger Bloom, a farmer from Turtleford. We live northwest of Turtleford. Our rural backgrounds help us appreciate farm life. God has been very good to us; we have two boys, Seth, born in 1975 and Kirk in 1977.

I feel fortunate to have been part of a big family. Despite the years and the miles between us, we have remained very close. We learned to love music when we were young, and even now a family gathering is not complete unless my Dad dusts off the fiddle and we have a chance to sing together. Roger's family is also musical and has guitars, Verna and Wendy, and I spend a lot of time playing and singing together. Mom and Dad have a home with elastic walls. Somehow, no matter how our family expands there is always room for us all and at least a half dozen friends besides. I am proud of my Mom and Dad and the principles they have tried so much us. I hope I can convey to my own children the kind of respect for life and the love of God my parents have given to me.

The Francis (Frank) Bohn Family History

as told by Stanley Bohn

Francis Bohn (Frank), Stanley Bohn's father, came from Germany in 1887 to settle in Renfrew, Ontario, at the age of 4 years. He took his schooling there and after completing school was apprenticed to learn the blacksmith trade. Feeling the call of the West in 1899 he freighted for the Hudson Bay Company from Fort Garry, Manitoba to Fort Saskatchewan with oxen and Red River carts (up to 100 at the train of carts). On the return trip they were loaded with furs. The round trip took six months. He also worked in the C.P.R. shops, and while in Winnipeg he met my mother, Sarah Parker, and they were married in 1900. They homesteaded in Rose-Hill, Manitoba, 4 districts South-West of McGregor.

Not being able to obtain land, father came to Saskatchewan to get homesteads. In 1903 he and son, Fred, came to what is now Maymont district and filed on NW¼ 8-42-12-W3rd and also filed pretty on SW¼ 8-42-12-W3rd for son, James. They travelled by train from Rose-Hill, Manitoba to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, (the end of the railway at that time); then drove to the homestead location — later filed at the Land Titles office in Battleford, Saskatchewan. They returned to Rose-Hill for the winter. Father and son, Jim, came back in the spring of 1904 with a carload of settlers' effects to Saskatoon and from there by horses and wagons.

The first buildings were a log house, with a sod roof, and sod barn. Father and Fred returned to Rose-Hill in the winter of 1904 and Jim stayed on the homestead with William Dawson whose homestead was on NE¼ 8-42-12-W3rd. They took turns once a month walking for groceries and mail to the village of N. Saskatchewan, now known as Cee-Pee. Jim remained on the farm 1905-1906 to break and prepare the land for cropping.

Father came back in May, 1907, with the family, by train to Maymont as the railway was completed in 1906. That year a frame house was built, which still stands. The family consisted of seven girls and five boys: Minnie, Mrs. William Dawson; Ernestine, Mrs. Herb Johnston; May, Mrs. Jim Greenwood; Adeline, Mrs. Paul Serack; Henrietta, Mrs. W. Baker; Flora, Mrs. R. Greenslade; Stanley, in army 1914-18; Frances, Mrs. William Cameron; Fred, in army 1914-18 war; Alfred, killed in action 1914-18 war; Henry, retired; Jim, passed away 1984.

My father was active in community activities. He helped build the first Presbyterian church which was located on the present parking lot of the Memorial Hall. He helped organize the cemetery and was the first person to be buried in it on September 7, 1908. My mother helped our local Dr. Scratch (who came in 1906) by nursing maternity cases in her home and district.

The homestead was farmed by Jim and Henry until 1964 when Jim passed away — having filed to farm until 1970 at which time the land was sold.

Frank Bohn family — 1908. Back row — Fred, Mary, Alfred, Fanny, Jim. Centre — Frances, Flora, Etta, Adeline, Minnie. Front — Frank (father), Henry, Sarah (mother), Stanley.

The Stanley Bohn Family History

written by Stanley and Lois Bohn

Stanley and Lois Bohn (nee Walton) were married April 16th, 1938 and took up farming on 23-42-12-W3rd (my old home). We farmed with seven horses and a one-way discer. In the spring of 1948 we bought a Co-op tractor which was driven (by Stanley) from Saskatoon. This tractor was used until we quit farming in 1974. The harvest was done by cutting the crop with binders — stooking and threshing. In the early 40's we bought a pull-type combine and later a self-propelled.

50th wedding anniversary, April 18th, 1973. Back row — Norma, Elsie, Lois, Mabel, Ronald, Margaret, Stella, Verna. Front — Stanley and Lois.

Ready for Sunday School — Norma, Elsie, Lois and Mabel with old 'Prince'.

Our family consisted of seven girls and one boy, who are all married and on their own: Norma, Mrs. Walter Wiley; Elsie, Mrs. Olaf Pylander; Lois, Mrs. Ralph Wiley; Mabel, Mrs. Ben Dyck; Ronald Bole, married Elaine Rogers; Margaret, Mrs. Charles Walker; Stella, Mrs. Tony Roman; Verna, Mrs. Glen Osterlund.

They all attended Grey School, Kirkness, and Shaunavon Central High School.

At one time Lois made as many as five lunches each day. Each one had individual lunch kits. As one couldn't run to town for an extra loaf of bread, etc., it was important to watch the disappearing loaves. Lois usually made six to eight large loaves at a time and usually a pan of cinnamon rolls. And it was mostly a weekly job. Nothing fancy in those days so our own beef, pork, chicken and eggs were used to a great extent along with jam and peanut butter. Dozens of cookies were also made and kept especially for lunches. Then in the fall when boxes of fresh apples came in everyone enjoyed them.

To supplement our revenue we milked eleven cows by hand, skipped cream and made our own butter. During the depression we drove nine miles by horse and cart with a can of cream to Spears Creamery amounting to $2.50. We raised chickens and sold eggs for 10¢ a dozen as well as butter for 10¢ a pound. We sold dressed chickens for 25¢ each, while turkeys were kept for home use. We also produced a large garden but don't forget the beautiful flower display. We also experimented with plum, pear, currants (black), and crab-apple trees. Along with wild fruit, this required a lot of canning.

Our home was always a scene of sport activities for young folks who would gather to play ball, horse shoes and other games. In the winter a skating rink was made beside the dug-out. A rink house was built, due to the efforts of the skaters. As many as 20-25 young people would gather for skating parties — ending with a weekly batch of doughnuts and drinks (milk/tea). Many good times were had!

When the family had grown up and left, Stanley and Lois farmed the land from 1950 to 1974. In 1956 they moved to town, which enabled the girls to go to high school and they farmed from town.

In 1974 they rented the farm for three years, then sold it.

After moving to town, Stanley was care-taker of the Memorial Hall for 13 years. We take an active part in community activities which include church work, Senior Citizen's, Sport Center, Memorial Hall, Glenburn Regional Park and the Lakeland Regional Library.

Stanley is a Life Member of the Royal Canadian Legion and Lois a member of the Auxiliary R. C. Legion since 1948. He is also on the cemetery committee. Stanley served twenty-one years on the Board of Stewards of the United Church and twenty years on the Session. Lois is a member of the United Church and a regular quilter.

We celebrated our 50th Wedding Anniversary last year (1978) and were very happy our eight children, twenty-eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren were able to attend. Many relatives and friends from B.C., Alberta and Saskatchewan were present.

We still grow a garden, strawberries, raspberries and ornamental shrubs, and many varieties of flowers.

At the combined age of 154 years is this being retired or just tired?

The Bodie Family of Fielding, Saskatchewan

by Mrs. Edgar Bodie

The Bodie family came from Bruce County, Ontario to Carman, Manitoba where they lived and farmed for several years. The older children began their schooling there. Then they moved to Fielding about 1907. They raised a family of nine, all living except one son, John, who died in April, 1973.

The homestead was located nine miles north east of Fielding. They built their home and other building of logs, broke the land, and went into mixed farming.

The Bodie Family, 1915

Firewood and logs came from nearby bluffs. A wood-sawing bee for each neighbor came up each winter. All had their chores, even the littlest ones, helping with stock, poultry, berry-picking, and garden. Working bees were regular happenings in the district.

Mrs. Bodie supplied bachelors and other neighbors with home baked bread, butter and eggs, besides cooking for her own family.

Mr. Bodie was always called on in case of illness or accident. He willingly left his work to help a neighbor in trouble. Also he held office in all district organizations. This home was a favorite stopping place for travellers and salesmen. Mrs. Bodie died in 1918. The older children left home to turn to start homes of their own.

Edgar stayed to farm until 1978. Mr. Bodie died in 1954.

John served with the Canadian Army for two years overseas. The farm is now owned by Bruce and Cathy Flath.

Hillsborough School was built about 1908. The family took their education there. A teacherage was built later. Eastbourne United Church was nearby for Church and Sunday School, also the Ladies Aid Society. Several ministers took charge of the parish before Dr. Frank Myers came to Maymont to be the minister until the church was moved to Halcyonia District north of Borden. Many social events were held in both the Church and the school.

Dr. Scratch of Maymont and Dr. Rose of Hafford were well-known names.

The new school was opened in 1952 and closed in 1961. The building is still used for a home on the Kumer farm near Fielding. Pupils were taken by bus to Hafford to finish their education.

The Fielding-Hafford Community Pastures came into being after that. Some farmers sold their land and moved away. Some of the nearest neighbors were Fisher, Hockley, Downie, Flath, Bowar and Breitkreitz families.

Bob and Hazel Boyd

Mr. Robert (Bob) Boyd came to Canada from Ireland at the age of seventeen. He arrived at the Main station in Saskatoon with only a few pennies in his pocket. Bob got a job on a large ranch in Southern Saskatchewan.

He married Hazel Johnson, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herb Johnston, and moved to a farm in the Maymont District. The farm was located two miles north and three miles east of Maymont.

Hazel Boyd was a woman noted for her generosity

THE FAMILY NOW

Mary Campbell	Now in a home in Battleford	1 son in Speers
Leslie Bodie	Speers	1 daughter near Ottawa
William Bodie	Lloydminster	7 children 12 grandchildren
Emma Cunningham	Camrose, Alberta	6 children 8 grandchildren 1 great-grandchild
Muriel Drabble	Speers	5 children 7 grandchildren 2 great-grandchildren
Barbara Alger	Dechenel, Alberta	7 children 17 grandchildren
Edna Hambly	Markham, Ontario	2 children
Edgar Bodie	Radisson	3 children 1 grandchild

Hazel Boyd.

and hard work in community endeavors. She passed away in 1975.

When Bob and Hazel retired to Maymont, Bob became the lineman. He still retains this position and is well known for his kindness and willingness to lend a helping hand.

Bob and Hazel had one son, Glen. Glen is married and has two children, Carrie-Ann and Douglas. His wife Sharon teaches school in Maymont. Glen owns and manages the local hotel.

Albert Bouskill Family of Maymont, Saskatchewan

written by Marguerite (Florence) Maywood

I hope to be excused, both by friends who knew my forebears and my members of my own family, for any inaccuracies in this report. I had this not unpleasant task thrust upon me on short notice and there was no time to verify facts or memories.

My mother, Mary Margaret Bouskill (Maggie), held her face pressed against the window of the train as it sped westwards from Winnipeg that spring day in 1908. Her spirits sank lower and lower as she saw mile after mile of empty prairie, small bluffs and evidences of devastating prairie fires across the flat land. When she finally reached her destination at Maymont, Saskatchewan, (it was still the North West Territories until the previous year) and saw the little freight car serving as a station house, and not much else, she was almost ready to take her trunk full of new clothes, she had enjoyed wearing so much the year before visiting relatives in Toronto, and go back to St. Andrews, just north of Winnipeg, where she was born. But her brother Percy was there to meet her, full of optimism and soon convinced her that this was an exciting new world, full of opportunity and adventure.

On April 18, 1908 my grandfather, Albert Bouskill had filed on a homestead on SW 10-43-12-W 3rd. four

Albert Bouskill — June, 1911.

and a half miles northeast of Maymont and my Uncle Percy's claim was adjoining on SE 10-43-12-W 3rd. It was two or three years before the rest of the family was completely moved from St. Andrews, so far as my grandchildren can remember being told. My mother had come out west to spend the summer and keep house for her brother and returned to St. Andrews in the fall.

Albert Bouskill was born in 1852 at Port Hope, Ontario, the third son of John Bouskill and Mary Margaret Bletcher. Both families had come to Canada by way of New York and the United Empire Loyalists from York County, England. Albert Bouskill left his parental home about 1875 and settled at St. Andrews, Manitoba where he made his living as a carpenter and contractor. He married Jessie MacDonald in 1879. She was the granddaughter of one, Daniel MacDonald who served with the Hudson's Bay Company out of Fort Edmonton from 1805 to 1838. During that time "Big Scot Dan" lived with the Blackfoot Indians as a liaison between the Hudson's Bay Company and the North-West Company who were in fierce competition over the fur trade. Albert and Jessie Bouskill had nine children, seven of whom survived to maturity. Jessie died in childbirth, leaving a family of seven: My mother Maggie, Percy, Edward, Rose, Alex, Stephen and Stewart.

Albert Bouskill built many of the schools in the district around Maymont, and Stephen and Stewart were pupils the first year that Grey School opened near the farm. He also built the Anglican Church in Maymont. If I remember correctly, I was told the famous Singer Wheeler, whose long, and his bride were the first to be married in that church, and my parents were second, on November 24, 1909 by Reverend Schofield. I was baptized and married in that same little church, and

my Uncle Percy who died in 1954, left a legacy to it in honor of his father

My grandfather also had a brother Charles, who married into a Durrett family, and settled in the Maymont District and had a large family, many of whom lived in the area for several years

Uncle Percy never married and cared for his younger brother Alex, who was an epileptic, with the help of several housekeepers. I remember Mrs. Peck a large kind hearted dear lady who quite late in life, married Walt Smith, an elderly bachelor, who lived east of Richard. Next came Robert and Mrs. Neill, a young Irish couple directly from Ireland. Their ready wit, good humor, and jovial personalities, did much to brighten up the atmosphere of a bachelor's domicile The Neills were well received in the district, and decided to settle in Maymont, where they and their daughters contributed a great deal to the social and entertainment life of the community. Mrs. Rose Behmidt with her daughter, Betty was another who was there for many years. When Percy died, in 1954 he left the old homestead to my brother, Donovan Florence

Percy Frederick Bouskill was a man of great proportions, both mentally and physically. He stood six foot three in the Indian moccasins which he wore every winter, and weighed in at from 220 to 230 pounds in his prime, all muscle, sinew and bone.

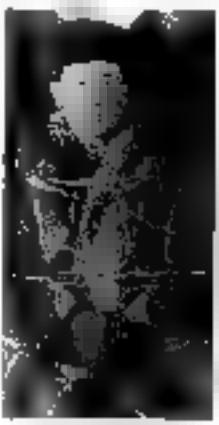
Percy's prowess with an axe, a pitchfork, a shovel, or with his bare hands, are legendary. In harvest time, it was nothing for him to unload a three-deck box of wheat into the bin with a grain scoop without stopping to rest, or even to cause him to breathe heavily. A load of hay (and they were LOADS!), disappeared into the haystaff in less than a dozen forkfulls. Pity the unfortunate individual in the loft trying to lock it back!

In the early days, one of the highlights of the year, was the annual 'hunting trip' to the North country for big game. Percy was an avid hunter, and always looked forward to this trip with great enthusiasm and excitement. The hunting party was made up of local farmers, namely, -- Billy Holmes, the Langley Brothers, Walt Smith, Andrew Bros., Jim and Stanley Bole to name a few, and of course Percy The journey to the big game in the vicinity of Green Lake was made in sleighs, loaded with bedding and all necessary provisions, including an adequate supply of medicinal liquids, and drawn by the finest teams available. The recounting of the events following one of these trips filled many a pleasant evening round the fireside for the rest of the winter.

Percy was a quiet and kind man. One of his greatest interests was his horses, and they always received the best of care and attention. No one ever saw a thin horse on Percy's farm Percy was slow to change; and long after the age of mechanization had taken over, Percy stayed with the horses. In fact, he never learned to drive a car, a truck, or a tractor, and never owned a car or a truck. During World War II, when help became scarce, he was forced to give up the horses for field work, and purchased a tractor. But he never ever drove it himself, and kept horses for driving, putting up hay, and for transportation to town for the mail and groceries Up until the time of his death in 1954, a familiar sight was the black team and buggy, on the road between the farm and Maymont

Uncle Ed married Annie Phelps of Richard and had six children. Aunt Rose married Thomas McBrairney who was a blacksmith at Maymont. They later moved first to Nanaimo, B.C. and then Vegreville, Alberta and had five children

Stewart remained a bachelor and lived on his farm northeast of Richard which he left to Ed's only son, Dougie, upon his death. Both Stephen and Stewart served in the army in World War I, and were in the trenches in France. Stewart left the district in the 1920's and lived in Saskatoon several years before settling at the west coast. He was twice married and



Percy Bouskill — 1913.

George Alexander MacRobbie Florence and Mary Margaret Bouskill wedding picture — Maymont, 1909.

had two children. Both these and Stewart were again in the Canadian Army Overseas in World War II.

All of the Scout II pioneers are dead and long gone and it shakes one up to the startling realization that late is so short. It only we had listened and learned more of their lives. This report would be easier to write.

It was 1908 or so when my mother Maggie Bremner met my father George Alexander McRobbie Pierrance at a dance after the Borden Sports Day. She said this dark handsome man who had been playing the violin in the orchestra came and asked her to dance the Waltz Me Last ... and they had not even been introduced. But the daring (as it was then considered — by strangers) from that on the private never missed a Borden Sports Day if they were in the province until my mother died in 1958.

To go back ... in 1905 the Barr Colonists had arrived in Saskatoon which was then just a little village. Many of them settled along the North Saskatchewan River as far as Lloydminster which was named after Bishop Lloyd who with Mr. Barr had sponsored the 2000 odd homigrants from England. It was an exciting time for the prairies with many new settlers and promises of the railway being built beyond Saskatoon. It was the spring of 1908 that my father George Pierrance, aged eighteen, had left his parental home at Balmoral, Manitoba to work with a survey crew of the Dominion Lands Survey and helped to survey the sections and quarter sections all the way to Alaska on the Alberta border. His parents had come from the Highlands of Aberdeen, Scotland, with two children to settle near Balmoral, Manitoba and my father was the first born on Canada. It was that summer that the Barr Colonists arrived in Saskatoon and it was some city overnight. When the crew moved over who had run out of land warrant for returns and waited again for days before they returned to Saskatoon but with their portable hell of their summer duties moved within sniff of the city they were met by real estate agents in buggies, anxious to sell them land and relieve them of their money. My father bought a small piece right where and when he finally located it found it was mostly a slough. He never did pay any more taxes on it, and about 1955 he had a letter from the City of Saskatoon requesting his signature on a quit claim to the land and to include the note that it was in the University of Saskatchewan grounds.

I have no idea how my father happened to choose his homestead site on NE 16-43-12 W 3rd. who only got at Richard on October 31 1908 accompanied by James Dobbie and Oliver Andrews. I do remember how telling me how his brother Peter Pierrance who became a well known auctioneer at Regina rode his cayuse and then walked from the Land Titles Office at Battleford to Delmas where the land was and stepped off at the Phelps farm.

My father worked for Ernie Richard who was a rancher in the interim of proving up his land and having before and cattle on what was once known as the Belgian Flats between Richard and Wheeling Lake. He spent much dark and some weeks absolutely alone and once showed me a spot near Square Hill where he used to have a sort of lookout over the herds. There he remembered lying face down on the hot dusty grass for hours at a time with nothing to break the prairie silence of the monotonous creaking of the hay binder but for the squeal of birds and the occasional gopher very much as I used to make friends at night the coyotes down by the slough by why he longed for human companionship.

My parents moved to the homestead and there I was born in the January following as he did all the subsequent births of my siblings. The railroad from Prince Albert to North Battleford went through that land in 1913. Settlers were few and neighbors were long. It was in the 1910's after we moved to Mayhews that, and I was working at the Health Region in North Battleford, when a Mr. Joe Vanny another old timer from the Richard District, came into the office and then to surprised to see me that he hollered out for all to hear that he remembered the day I was born. It was that day when the district was hit by a devastating hailstorm that wiped out all the fruits of the labors of the new settlers. My (DT I had two brothers, Duncan and Douglas, and a sister Myrtle and we moved to Edmonton. I vaguely remember just before we moved. On the roadway that led My father had a fortune and much else and ... was very ill. I still remember the horse running down into the mud and the hallucinations I had — of the Germans coming to get me." My mother, and Don who could not have been more than four or five years old, had to lead a big herd of cattle in the deep mudholes and keep me in the creek in water there, as well as warm. She nursed in the house. His father had a business in Edmonton and we also lived briefly in Winnipeg in 1924-25 where he had a General store and finally he joined the Manufacturers Life Insurance Company as an agent and worked with them until his death in 1957.

I was married at Macleod to Olive Marwood in 1926 and we had three daughters. We are now Myrtle's husband Pearce Sunderland ran the Sunderland and Marwood Lumber Store at Richard from 1921 to 1957. In 1963 we moved to North Battleford where Pearce was a trader manager of the Battleford Growers and died suddenly in 1969. Pearce had sold in 1963 the Richard store and moved to Vancouver and also died suddenly in 1964. Then had two sons. Myrtle remarried in April de Jong and had one daughter and they now live in West Vancouver. Dorothy married Merel Sweeney in 1948 had two children and now lives close on the original homestead homesteads near Maymont. Douglas married June Light at Battleford, and have four Bruce on his farm. They have three children. Our "little sister" Beverley who came along later in our family, is married to

David Powell and after living for several years at Williams Lake in B.C. now live in Cranbrook. They have four children.

All these children now live in a world far removed from that of their relatively recent ancestors, and they must write their own history.

Lo! Some we loved, the loveliest and the best
That Time and fate of all their vintage prest,
Have drunk their cup a round or two before
And one by one crept silently to rest
The moving finger writes, and having writ
Moves on: nor all thy piety nor wit
Shall lure it back to cancel half a line
Nor all thy tears wash out a word of it.

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Brechtl
Mr. and Mrs. John Ryan

Told by Elva (Pedow) Ryan

Philip and Barbara Brechtl immigrated to Fielding in the spring of 1905 from Cavalier, North Dakota. Three children came with them: Joseph, Theresa, and Laura.

A fourth child, Mary, was married and remained in the U.S.A. Her married name was Cure. They had four children, Harold, Helen, Madelaine and Clayton. Mary was killed in a tragic accident when Clayton was very young. Harold and Helen remained in the U.S.A. and Madelaine and Clayton came to Fielding. Madelaine was raised by Philip and Barbara Brechtl, her grandparents, until she was married to Clifford Foster of Speers. She had eight children, is now a widow and lives in North Battleford. Clayton was raised and taken care of by his Aunt and Uncle Theresa and Benny Wilcox. He is married now, has a family and is living at Rossland, B.C.

Philip Brechtl on coming to Fielding purchased land one mile west and one mile north of Fielding. They constructed a house and other buildings in the next few years, where they resided until their deaths. Philip Brechtl died in 1936 and Barbara Brechtl in 1940. The house is still there and is the present home of Hugh and Lynn Ryan. Except for minor renovations, it is much the same as when it was built.

Joseph Brechtl married Minnie Allerus, possibly in 1916, and farmed two and one-half miles north of Fielding. Joe Brechtl operated a steam thresher for several years. He also used a steamer to pull a gasoline plough. He sold his farm around 1927 or 1928 and moved to Saskatoon, where he purchased seven houses and ran a trucking business for several years. He also managed Saskatoon Sand and Gravel until 1948 when he sold out and moved to B.C.

He had three children, Margaret, Mary and Jarrett (Jim). Margaret married Ray Guerard and now lives in Seattle, U.S.A. Mary has remained single and lives and works in Vancouver at present. Jim has a family and lives in Fort Alberni. Theresa married Scott Wilcox and farmed four miles south of Fielding until his death in 1958. They raised one son, Leo, and their adopted nephew, Clayton Cure. Theresa moved to Saskatoon after her husband's death and operated a rooming house there for several years. Then she moved to Rossland, B.C. about 1965 and lived with Clayton and is at present living at a house at Rossland. She is around seventy years old.

Laura attended school to Fielding. One of her teachers was Mrs. James Robertson whose husband farmed just south of the Brechtl farm, on the farm where Bill and Pat Brown Jr. and family now live. Laura married John Ryan in 1913.

John had come west from Forestville, Ontario, in 1911, with H. J. Scott, who operated a machine agency and real estate business in Fielding. John later worked for I.H.C. as blacksmith out of North Battleford. In 1913 he rented Philip Brechtl's land and in 1918 he purchased in partnership with his brother, Urban, a half section which he farmed until his retirement in 1950. Urban came to Fielding after the War and farmed with his brother in the mid forties. He took a job as janitor of the Fielding School which he held until his death in 1963. The grounds in front of the school were a tribute to his caretaking. John also operated road maintenance out of Radisson from 1928-1944. John and Laura retired to Radisson in November 1953. John died December 15 of the same year at the age of sixty-four. Laura lived in Radisson until her death in 1969. John and Laura had five sons: James, Wilfred, Lawrence, Myron and Hugh. They lost Hugh at two years of age.

James was married in 1938 to a Maymont girl, Elva Pedow. He farmed with his dad until his retirement and then James took over the farm in 1956. Jim and Elva had three children: Hugh, Barbara and Jackie. Hugh now farms on the home place since the death of his father in July 1976. Elva retired and is living in Radisson. Hugh married Lynn Mikituk in 1977 and has two children; Nicole and Shea. Barbara married Ken Stauffer of Tofield, Alberta, and has three children, Ryan, Cameron, and Lisa. Jackie graduated from the College of Law in 1975, articled a year and passed the Bar Exams in 1976 and is now practising in Swift Current. She married another lawyer, Morris Fracker, in 1978. At present they are both working for the same firm.

Wilfred joined the Air Force in 1942. After the war he was married to Margaret McKenzie in Calgary. Except for a few years in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, they spent most of their married lives in Alberta — Calgary, Stettler, and where they live at present, Edmonton. They have four children; Judy, Ronald, Allan and Kenny.

Lawrence joined the Air Force in 1941. He married an English girl, Betty Margaret, while stationed in England during the war. After the war he finished his university education and worked for Farm Credit, holding positions in Ottawa, Calgary, and Edmonton.

He retired in 1975 to Sooke, B.C. They have five children. John, Sharon, Lynn, Galt, and Michael.

Myron married Joyce Hockley and is now residing in Regina. He worked for National Grain for many years at St. Gregor, and Regina, and has been for the last few years with Mutual Life of Canada. They have five children: Robert, Rae, Kim, Sandra and Pat.

Max Braithwaite

I went to teach at Neepawa School in Sept. of 1932, for a salary of $800.00 per year. I taught in this one room school, most of the grades from one to nine, with ten and eleven taking correspondence courses, until June 1936, three full terms.

For the first year I boarded with Vi and Billy Fast. For the remaining two years I boarded with Johnny Ryan's family. The members of the school board were Jake Fast, Johnny Ryan, Mr. McKay and Mr. Carmen. Billy Fast was the Secretary-Treasurer.

I can remember the names of most of the families, Ryan's, three boys; Tytarats, a boy and a girl; Nachbarts, two boys and a girl; Sloans, three or four children; McKays, three children; Jake Fast, one girl; Friesens, one or two boys.

The thing I remember most about teaching was the satisfaction I got from teaching Grade One students to

Max Braithwaite teacher at Neepawa School years 1932 to 1936. Author of the three books, **Why Shoot the Teacher, Never Sleep Three in a Bed, The Night We Stole the Mountie's Car.**

read. I've been in touch with many of the students since and they all seem to have done well. We had great fun playing baseball in the yard and the Christmas concerts were a roaring success. (See Why Shoot The Teacher, Chapter IX). Marjory Fast on the old wheezy organ was the only source of music, as I myself couldn't tell one tune from another. But the couple skills were great.

I remember riding to school with Wilfred, Lawrence and Myron Ryan in the buggy and walking home across the pasture, keeping a wary eye on Johnny Ryan's bull, an unfriendly beast, who was reputed to have put more than one person over the fence. I also remember the School Board meeting far into the night, debating the necessity of reducing my salary by $5.00 a month, which they finally did with so much reluctance that Johnny Ryan donated me a quarter of beef. This wasn't worth much money in 1936, but it helped keep my family in Saskatoon eating through the winter.

I participated in many activities in Fielding with C. M. Mecway, the principal of the school, putting on plays, organizing dances, attending church Young People's Meetings, helping with Christmas concerts and so on.

My wife Aileen Treleaven, came to Fielding town school as a primary teacher in Sept. 1936. As soon as I met her that fall in Maywood at a district Field Day, I started courting her with more than considerable ardor, and kept it up until we were married Oct. 1938, and I've been courting her ever since. We have raised five children, three girls and two boys, and have nine grandchildren with another just beginning.

Most of my memories of Neepawa School and Fielding are good ones. Despite the hard times the people were friendly and hospitable. I have particularly fond memories of Johnny Ryan, one of the finest men I ever knew.

The Jacob Braun Family

submitted by Erna (Braun) Lawley

Jacob Braun served in the Russian Army in the years 1869 and 1871. After leaving the army, he lived in Germany for two years. Here he met Martha Friesen, and together with her and her family immigrated to Canada in 1923. Jacob and Martha were married in the Immigration Office just before boarding the ship to sail from Hamburg, Germany to Montreal, a voyage which lasted for nine days. From Montreal they travelled by train to Rosthern, Saskatchewan. They stayed at Hoschern with a family by the name of Kroeker, for approximately one year.

In 1924, the Brauns together with two partners purchased a farm five and one-half miles South of Speers. Farm life in those days was extremely hard, as all machines were horse-drawn and people worked very long hours in a day. The crops grown were mainly wheat and oats, and stock raised was mostly cattle and pigs. Large gardens were planted each year and with the produce of the gardens and with raising their own meat, people were very self-sufficient.

Travel was also by horse drawn buggies and sleighs. Jacob Braun did acquire a 1927 Ford in 1928 and drove it for approximately twenty years. Travel by car was strictly for the summer months as the roads were covered with several feet of snow all winter.

The Brauns had five children, two sons and three daughters. All five children attended Keystone School until 1940 when the farm was sold and the Brauns moved north of Speers. The children's names were: Alvin, Jake, Erna, Edith and Frieda.

Travel to school was also with horse-drawn buggies in the summer time and sleighs in the winter time.

During the winter two or three families would travel to school in the same vehicle.

Teachers at the school during these years were Winnifred King, Bill Langley, Muriel Butterfield, Lilah Graham. Probably one of the most remembered occasions is the Christmas concerts. Teachers and students used to put on a tremendous effort to make the concert a success and Keystone concerts were always very well attended, not only by the parents of the students but also people from neighboring communities.

The family lived north of Speers until 1961. As the three oldest children had moved on, the parents decided to sell the farm and go to live near the family. They settled in Calgary, Alberta.

Jacob Braun will celebrate his eighty-third birthday in September, 1979. His wife, Martha passed away in 1966.

Alvin, the eldest son, was killed in an automobile accident in 1971. As he was the father of six sons and two daughters, he will not soon be forgotten.

John, the second son, is the father of two sons and three daughters. He lives in Calgary.

Elva, lives with her husband in a small town outside of Calgary and has one son and two daughters.

Edith was widowed and lives in Calgary with her son and daughter.

Frieda, also lives in Calgary and has raised three sons and one daughter.

Annie Alicia Graham

by Lilah Graham

Annie Alice Graham (August 13, 1888 - March 16, 1978) received her schooling in Lowde Village, Quebec where she was born. She attended high school in the village taking Grade I and II Academy. Then she went to McGill Normal School in Montreal where she received her diploma and won a scholarship. She used this to take a short course at Guelph Agricultural College.

Annie came to Maymont, the first time, when her brothers sent for her to come and look after their mother who was very ill. Grey School was in the process of being built so Annie taught there from November to June. She told of hunting one day and came to, to find her hair (which was so long she could sit on the ends of it) streaming out in a pool of water and Bill Parker, whom the pupils had called, pouring a pail of water over her.

When her mother was obviously recovered Annie returned East and taught school there. When she returned to the west she taught at both Elwin and Keystone schools until she was married. She walked many miles over the prairies to get to these schools and said her long skirts were often wet to the knees till dinner time. Perhaps memories of these uncomfortable experiences made her ready to accept new fashions. One time while touring at Meeting Lake she and Mrs. Bob Downing decided to wear their men's knee length baggy trousers which were still in good condition but out of style for the boys. They did not intend to get caught by the Ladies' Aid which they knew to be arriving later in the week but you guessed it and great was the glee of the women of Maymont when they caught them.

Mrs. Graham could always get through a great deal of work in one day. She made her husband's work clothes and clothes for all the family. In early days women would ask her for sewing lessons. One day when her son Colin went to Maymont with a shirt she had made for him, Cupid Friedman wanted to know where he had bought it so he could stock some like it in the store. Colin had designed the shirt with a large front midriff pocket so he could put his hands in from either side. Annie baked and canned, fed many workmen, and often boarded the schoolteacher. Sometimes she had a girl to help her with the work. When it was time to can peas they would be out early in the morning to pick them and a half large wash pails heaping full of peas. While they were being shelled Annie would sort fourteen quart-size sealers. She did so by putting an inch of boiling water in each sealer, quickly putting on the lid and turning the jar upside down to see if any water or steam escaped. If it did, the rubber ring or metal ring would be substituted and the sealer inverted again. After the sealers were filled with peas and cold water they were put in a wash boiler half full of hot water and kept at a steady boil for three hours. She was very fine makers of anything she canned because of painstaking methods such as this.

When her sister-in-law and her husband Malone and Jack Henderson, lost their home in B.C. to a fire they stayed at the farm. Jack Henderson was a very clever man when it came to book learning but his favorite perch to read his law and engineering books was right in front of the cellar door. After wanting time moving Jack several times, Annie preferred to climb into the cellar through the cellar window. Jack for a time took on teaching duties at Grey School. It fell to Mrs. Graham and Jack's wife to get him and the horse and buggy off to school in the morning and prevail on the colt to stay at home. While the struggle ensued to get Jack on his way, Malone would say, "Now don't laugh, Annie." but as soon as he was out of sight, Malone would herself be on the floor and laugh. At school, Ernie Johnston had a desk at the back of the room. One day while Mr. Henderson was bent over helping the pupil in front of him Ernie put a pair of dividers in the seat of his pant and tacked his teacher. Mr. Henderson was a powerful man and was so enraged he flung Ernie the length of the school. Years later Ernie would roar with laughter when he told the story of how he ended up under the blackboard.

In the thirties, bridge parties were a favourite form of entertainment for the Mothers, Misses, Posters,

Langleys and Brebons and any of their other friends who happened to be around at the time. The parties always began with a sit-down supper and were followed by five or six tables of auction bridge. A lunch about midnight ended the party. People arrived in cutters and sleighs. One night when Hollars were driving Annie home from one such party through Jack Langley's field Annie remarked it would be easy enough to get lost. "Oh, no," said George Hollar as he pointed out the landmarks. All the time he was following the trail to a strawstack instead of the one he should have been on. When he realized his mistake and stood up and saw the Brebon cutter to his right he cut across country and ended up with his horses plunging through the snow-filled draws leading to Langley's dam.

Of her first night in the west Mrs. Brebon said the Andrew men met her in Maymont and she was to stay the night in the Andrew home. At bedtime great was her embarrassment when she had to climb up a ladder to the upstairs in front of all the Andrew men.

Mrs. Brebon's 90th birthday was celebrated at the farm. Several friends came to the tea in her honor. Among them were four pupils who had been her pupils at Grey School. They were Mrs. Chapel and Mrs. Petty (nee Eva and Laura Father) and Elmer and Oliver Rogers.

When Mrs. Brebon died at 95 she left a family of five. Colles, Dick, Muriel, Lilah and George. They were all married but Lilah. She also had thirteen grandchildren and one great-granddaughter, all of whom she was very proud. She had an excellent memory to within three days of her death. She took an interest in the happenings around her and her appearance right to the end. She cooked for her daughter, Lilah, until she was 93 and could still make some of the lightest buns in the community.

A. C. Brebon

by Lilah Brebon assisted by memories of Colles Brebon

Alexander Colles Brebon (May 23, 1880-April 28, 1936) came to Canada in 1903 from New Ross, Ireland. He worked the first two years at a farm near Brandon. He had been attending Dublin College and had never done any manual labour. He came down to breakfast the first morning in a blue serge suit and a high white collar. The farmer said, "I see you don't intend to work this morning or you wouldn't be all dressed up." Alec replied, "This is my oldest suit." The farmer stated he had never owned one so good.

In 1906, Alec came to the Keystone District and took up a Homestead. There he was joined by his brother Charles, and cousin, Tom Bates. Tom did the cooking and used to walk to New Ottawa to have the spare ploughshare sharpened. Charlie and Alec did the ploughing. When Tom Bates was married Mrs. Bates

Alec and Annie Brebon — married Feb. 28, 1911

The Brebon barn built in 1918.

cooked for all three. She said the Brebons had big appetites and she used to cook a duck apiece for Alec and Charlie. Also they insisted on keeping two big hunting dogs which ate a loaf of bread every day. Mrs. Bates said she was too tired to punch the bread as it should have been punched. Charlie used to complain of her heavy bread and probably the men never thought of helping.

The three men chose their homesteads on the middle of three surveys for the railway. Traces of the trail which originally joined New Ottawa and Maymont is still apparent on the north west corner of the SE quarter of Section 35 Township 41 Range 12 West of the Third Meridian.

Alec acquired a team of very large gray horses. To illustrate their size Stanley Barnett who drove the team when they were older used to stand on the manger to put on their collars. With this team Alec used to freight from Saskatoon to a store five miles north of Radisson twice a week. He would go to Saskatoon on Monday load on Tuesday return to Radisson on Wednesday and make a similar trip the last three days of the week. He hauled the engine that drove the piles for the railway bridge at Coal Pass. It weighed 6000 pounds. He had loaded it so most of the weight was on the front wheels of the wagon and every bodger hole whipped the tongue so violently he hired an Indian to hitch his team to the tip of the tongue to control it somewhat. It required 12 teams to haul the engine into position on the river.

Annie Artley and Alec Graham were married in Mayfield on February 26, 1911. Their first home was a two-roomed one with a verandah kitchen added. It was on a rented quarter of Section 13 beside Keystone School. One day while driving eight horses abreast on two outfits of harrows Alex were chasing gophers. The horses ran away and he had a real tangled mess. One crop on the quarter took four pounds of twine just more in the up but it was frozen and didn't pay for the threshing. Grades apparently were not very good in those days. A carbon copy of a letter sent by Alec to the Grain Commissioner bemoaned the fact that grain that graded No. 3 in Maymont graded No. 4 in Winnipeg and the suggestion is evident that he felt cheated. Copies of letters to George Langley MLA pleading the farmer's cause and for grain cars are also available.

The family home was built on the quarter south of the homestead, that is, the southwest quarter of Section 14 Twp. 41 Rge. 12 W of 3rd. It was 20 by 30 and two storey. Some of you age of the first wooden houses that some people came for miles to see it. It was built in 1911. Mrs. Graham used to tell the story that the night the first gas lamp was lit and hung in place she grabbed up the broom and swept the floor. Apparently her horse hadn't been so close to one supposed it to be. The Delco light plant was put in in 1914 and the barn was built the same summer. It was 68 feet long. Shingled and had hay slings to lift the hay into the loft. The wind electric was erected on a Saturday cold day in January 1941. The difficulty with the wind electric was that in December when the lights were turned on early the wind often failed. In February when the snow drifts were deep sometimes would have to shovel out to the wind electric and have it all disconnected batteries were overcharging. Cec Baker thought it was a great joke when she arrived one night to find the empty washing machine electric churn motor, and vacuum cleaner all in the middle of the floor running in an attempt to use up the excess power. Someone finally had to give in and wash out. Cables, later installed inside the cellarway over a system of cables, pulleys and a ratchet with a crank, to turn off the grain electric.

The first radio was an Atwater Kent. Mounted on a board it had three dials which all had to be set exactly the same to get anything on the radio. There were 2 or 3 sets of earphones with it. Alec's last radio was a Marconi with a 12-inch speaker. He used to turn it up as loud as it would that small cabinet walked across the room from the vibrations.

The first threshing machine was bought in 1920. It was a 28-48 Massey. He also had a Massey 18-28 tractor.

Running seemed to be a favorite sport. The story is told of Will Barrett standing up on a car and firing off a shot gun as the car was being driven around the yard. As you can see from the picture of the boys they had something to celebrate about.

The 1918 hunt ended on October 6. The four Langley men, A. and C. Graham, Tom Hamm and Will Barrett took off with four Touring cars and tents. The sun rose on a beautiful morning but by mid-morning it was snowing heavily. They took shelter in the tents thinking it would soon be over but it got worse and by night was much colder. They had to drain the cars' radiators as each day that worked short and heated water to get the cars going and get home. Fortunately cars in those days were built much higher and had a lot more clearance with those 34 inch wheels. Even so it must have been quite a job to get home through the snowdrift which remained on the ground from then till April.

Alec was secretary of Keystone School Board for 15 years. From the numerous carbon copies of letters he wrote concerning the school a genuine interest in school affairs is evident. When the Rural Municipality of Mayfield was formed in 1913 he became one of the first councillors – a position he held for 18 years. He served as president of Maymont Rural Telephone Company from 1918-1921. He was interested in and a director of the Mayfield and Dauphin Agricultural Society. One of his last services to the community was serving as a collector for the fund for Dr. Arnaud when enough money was collected to buy a car and a buffalo coat. This presentation was made in August, 1922. Alec entered the Saskatoon Sanatorium in November, 1922 and passed away in April, 1923.

On the lighter side, his friends tell the tale of his return from a hunting trip wherein he'd had three flat tires but he had had a "GREAT DAY". He was proud of his heritage and the name THE EMERALD FARM was painted on the side of his barn. People used to say "That is an honest man".

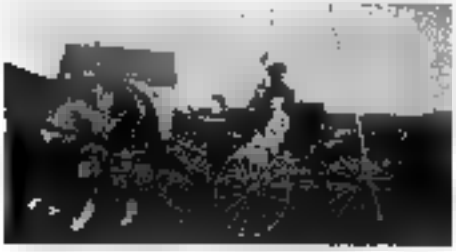
Charles Francis Brehon

by Lilah Brehon

Charles Francis Brehon was born in New Ross, Ireland. His mother, nee Charlotte Bates, died shortly after his birth and he was raised by nannies. Perhaps this was one of the reasons he became what can only be described as a character.

At the age of fifteen he became enraged with his school master who told him his head was made of wood. He barricaded the school master out of school and finished teaching the rest of the day. Afraid to go home, he hid in the woods and his cousin, Tom Bates, smuggled him food until he ran off to sea. His apprenticeship papers for service on the Hildenhope were made out on parchment, and he was paid £ 20 for the four years apprenticeship in the following manner: £4 for the first year, £ 6 for the second year, £ 8 for the third year, and £ 12 for the fourth year, with ten shillings per annum allowed for laundry. While serving on the Hildenhope, he sailed around the Cape of Good Hope several times. One of his duties was to clean the barnacles (small marine animals) off the sides of the ship. With sharks watching nearby, the job became quite exciting. Charlie was always proud of his recommends for very good conduct and ability made out at the time of his discharge. He also worked on the Natal and Transvaal Railroads as stoker and trainer guard in South Africa and served in the Boer War. While in Africa, he contracted typhoid fever and an acquaintance who believed he was dying took off to Australia with his money.

His nephews tell of going into Blacklock's Store in Maymont where a pin could have been heard dropping. Charlie was telling tales of the Boer War and his sailing days. Blacklock's Store was also the scene of many a bridge game. Charlie's opponents felt he knew what they had in their hands equally as well as they did. In later years his nephew, Dick, declared Charlie went out and knocked the stove pipe on his house down and then phoned for some one to come and fix it and bring a fourth for bridge. These games would last from the middle of the afternoon till 11:00 p.m. with time out for supper.



Charlie Brehon — 1915. Children are Callie Brehon and Lilah and Jimmy Henderson.

DOMINION LANDS.

INTERIM HOMESTEAD RECEIPT.

Interim Homestead receipt — 1904.

One day while herding cattle with his nephews, they were avoiding anthills when looking for a place to sit at dinner time. Charlie declared that if they'd fought in the Boer War they'd be glad of an anthill to hide behind, and, this saying, he sat down on the anthill and ate his dinner. Before he was finished, the ants were crawling out of his shirt collar but he stayed with it.

Charlie loved to hunt and even though he had poor eyesight and had to shoot left-handed because his left eye was the best, he was a crack shot once a duck or goose came in range. He depended on his hunting companions to let him know when the ducks were coming as he couldn't see them till they got near. One day his young companion tricked him by yelling, "NOW!" Charlie jumped up to shoot and got a duck on sight.

He batched in a one-room shack until he had lumbago and sciatica; and one day while being attended by Dr. Scratch who was accompanied by Alan Bean, Alan asked how they managed to keep warm in the unlined shack in the winter. Tom Bates, Sr., replied jokingly, "Charlie always wears his fur coat to bed and he sleeps on the side of the bed next to the stove with the hired man sleeping at the back of the bed. When the hired man gets cold, he gets up and restokes the fire. If it gets really cold, Charlie goes out and stands in the shelter of the barn with the cows."

Not long after his bout with sciatica and lumbago, Charlie had a house built, and Mrs. Margaret Warren with her baby daughter, Helen, came to keep house for him. The people of the district had fun giving him a house-warming shower and he received everything from egg-cups to wash tubs. I'm sure Mrs. Warren should be thankful to have the house thus outfitted.

While Mrs. Warren would be serving a sumptuous meal to their visitors, Charlie would tell how well his old shack was being used. The vegetables were stored in the basement and the top was a hen-house. Then he would add he used to sweep his shack but all the dirt fell through the cracks in the floor before he got it to the door.

Although my uncle took delight in shocking people, if he chose to do so he could be on his best behaviour and true to his upbringing. When he went to Vernon, B.C. to visit his sister, Marion Henderson and her family, she "did her proud". She said he could take his place in any society. His housekeeper, Mrs. Warren, described him as a gentleman for which to work, and his ship's captain wrote that he conducted himself in a manner befitting a gentleman. Although he would not have liked people to suspect him of being kind-hearted and God-fearing, I found him to possess both traits of character.

When Charlie was eighty years old, he could still leap to his feet. He declared he would live to be one hundred, but that was not to be. When he was eighty-six, he was hospitalized during the doctor's strike and died of cancer. Mrs. Warren moved to White Rock, British Columbia, and the house was sold to Ron Milnish who moved it to his property.

Brehon (Colleen Alexander)

I, Colleen Brehon, was born January 10, 1913, on the farm eight miles north and east of Maymont, where I grew up and lived until I was married.

Among my recollections are the Chautauqua held each year in a big tent in Speers.

Light for the house was provided by a gasoline mantle lamp which required preheating with an alcohol torch to light it. Then, in 1918, my father bought a Delco light plant, and it gave us electricity until the Sask. Power put in the hydro in the mid '50's.

Our radio was the first in the district and many of the neighbours came to listen to it with us.

I remember the building of the barn and how the carpenter, Walt Evans, would scare me away by running after me with a hatchet in one hand and a saw in the other, all the time yelling wildly.

One fall a snow storm came on October 9 and caught many children at school barefoot. During the winter there would often be only three pupils at school, and we would sit around the coal and wood heater to keep warm.

My dad had about thirty horses which had to be clipped to remove the long winter hair before they were put to work in the spring. It was my job to crank the clippers while Dad did the clipping.

My father became very ill and had to go into the Sanatorium in Saskatoon in the fall of 1932, and I took on the task of managing the family farm which consisted of eleven quarters, six of them cropped, and a section of leased pasture.

Four Generations. — Colleen, Janet (Brehon) Eckel, Pamela Eckel, Mrs. A. Brehon May 6th, 1977.

The next five years were very dry and people were forced to sell their cattle for lack of feed for a cent a pound or less in some cases. Grain prices rose a little, but there was none to sell. Most people had to go on relief and went into debt for feed and seed. The first year was 1937, but a late-sown crop yielded enough wheat for seed. By the next year or two, conditions began to improve again so, in 1938, we traded our old steel wheel McCormick 1530 for a Cockshutt 10, the first fully equipped tractor of its kind in quite an area, and a big improvement over the old one, as twice as much work could be done in a day. By 1941, we were able to buy our first combine, a McCormick Deering engine-driven, pull-type on steel wheels.

In the spring of 1946 William Cook offered to sell me his farm; and, with the family backing me, I bought his farm but continued working with Dick and George until I eventually had enough machinery to do my farming independently.

I married Anna Maxwell in November, 1950, at the Maxwell farm home at Balgonie, and the Reverend Frank Myers officiated at the ceremony. A short while later, we moved to the former William Cook farm where we have lived and raised our family. Much time and effort were spent improving and modernizing the farmstead.

Our three daughters and son, Colleen, Janet, Doug, and Carol all took their schooling and graduated from Maymont Central School; Colleen being honoured as one of the recipients of the Ronald Ferris Memorial Award. Douglas and Carol each being recipients of the Governor Generals Proficiency Award. After graduating with honours from Saskatoon Business College, Colleen worked for seven years as a legal secretary in Lloydminster, then decided to have a change and moved to Edmonton to study professional photography at N.A.I.T. Janet received her business training at North Battleford Comprehensive High School and, upon graduating, worked for three years at

The Battlefords Credit Union. In 1976, she married Alan Eckel of North Battleford. Alan is a welder with Wylie Trailers and took further welding training at the Moose Jaw Technical Institute. They have two small daughters, Pamela, and Amanda, who are the first members of the fourth generation and to whom Janet now devotes her full time. Carol worked for a time at the Dairy Queen in North Battleford, then attended Reeves Business College; and, in 1978, she married Wayne Bullis of Borden. They are residing in Saskatoon where Wayne is continuing his carpentry career with Logel Construction after having attended Kelsey Institute.

All four of our children have benefited from their time with the 4-H Club, the girls making much use of the sewing learned; and Douglas having done a good deal of carpentry work including pieces of furniture, houses, garages and interior finishing. When not carpentering, Doug helps his dad with the cattle farming.

Over the years our family have served in many of the Maymont Community organizations. I have given much of my time and energy to the Maymont Memorial Hall which I have been involved with since its conception back in the early 40's to the present time. I was secretary of the Wheat Pool Committee for several years and was previously a Wheat Pool Delegate for three years. I was also president of the Maymont Telephone Company for many years until 1968. Tel took over in 1977; and I was secretary of the Board of Stewards of the United Church for many years, as well as being a wood-working leader in 4-H for ten years.

Anna was also a 4-H leader for five years having taught sewing and photography. She has been an active member of the U.C.W. for many years, having held office as president and secretary of her unit. She has also given considerable time to the Memorial Hall and the skating rink.

The neat appearance of our home and grounds are due, for the most part, to Anna's efforts.

Her practical mind and wise planning have helped us in many ways.

The George Breber Family

as told by Gladys Breber

I was born on February 16, 1926, the second child of Percy and Hazel Parker. Daddy always told me I howled the whole first winter so I was probably not the most popular member of that household.

My earliest memories are of my first days at Grey School. I remember clearly playing games at recess, being protected by my older sister, Mary. My first teacher was Miss Mary Lundy. She had the loveliest handwriting I have ever seen. For Christmas she gave each of the girls an autograph album. I came across mine not too long ago with the autograph signatures of

Leslie, Garth, George, Gladys, Kevin and Maureen Breber.

people I had almost forgotten. From the day I started school until I finished grade 10 I never had anyone else in my grade. I was always the only one. I always wished for someone to compete with.

Since the school was situated on our home quarter we always ran home for lunch. I always wished we lived farther away so I could have taken my lunch! Other kids always wished they could go home for lunch like the Parker kids but to the Parker kids it was a great treat when it was bitterly cold or stormy and Daddy would bring our lunch over to the school for us. Then we could have a turn at swapping a cookie or an apple with one of our schoolmates.

School Christmas Concerts were the highlight of our year. I suppose around the middle of November we were given our parts to study. Drills, recitations, plays, skits, songs and always a nativity play! The girls drills were something to behold. One pretty cantata we put on was "The Wedding of the Painted Doll". All our costumes were made from crepe paper. That

Snow plow built by George and Hec — 1951.

must have been a lot of work for the teachers and mothers.

A few days before the concert the Dads came to put the stage in so we could put the curtains up and get in a practice or two before the big night. The "curtains" were sheets supplied by various mothers. We strung wires and sewed the sheets to the wires to hold them up. The students helped decorate the tree and we always had twisted streamers from corner to corner of the ceiling with a big red bell in the centre. It's a wonder the place didn't burn down as we had either coal oil or gasoline lamps. We always took at least one gasoline lamp from home to the school for the night. At last the big evening arrived. Supper and chores were done early. Usually we had new clothes for the concert and everybody had their hair done and looked like a million dollars. What a thrill to enter the schoolhouse to see the decorated tree and later Santa Claus came and distributed candy, nuts and always a big orange in the bottom of the bag.

Christmas days were always exciting, too. Grannie always had Christmas at her place and as many of her family came as were able to do so. The table would be loaded with Grannie and Mom's baking — always turkey with all the trimmings, with a rich fruit Christmas pudding and brown sugar sauce. I'm sure us kids must have nearly tore the house apart, but we had some wonderful times. The older people played "500" – a bidding game using the jacks as bowers or trump. These games could go on until the wee small hours of the morning.

Sometime during the busy years my mother taught me to crochet, knit and embroider. I wonder at her patience with a houseful of children and so much work to do.

In the winter, after school and on weekends and any other time they got the chance, Daddy and the boys played "shinny". The boys went to the bluff and cut sticks, shaped like a hockey stick, and used a wooden puck, which they cut from a small tree. As they played ball in the summer, so they played shinny in the winter. They were often joined by Bill Penny, who worked for Daddy under the government scheme where a farmer who paid $5.00 per month to have a man and the man was also paid $5.00 per month. They played in the yard in front of the house and it was so packed down and icy that it was of great danger to man and beast.

During the summer holidays we played ball. Daddy loved a game of ball and since there were lots of us kids, and neighbours close, Sunday nearly always saw a crowd at Parkers playing ball. The Gillatts used to come almost every Sunday, the Dawson kids who lived half a mile up the road, and anyone else who came along. We played ball by the hour. Everybody would stay for supper. We usually set the table twice — the adults sat down at the first table and the kids "waited".

We had a cold cellar outside under the maple trees which was used in the summer. This was a fairly deep hole dug in the ground large enough to hold a cupboard with shelves. There was a ladder down into it. In this we kept the cream, the crock of butter and the milk can. We carried our jello down there so it would set. It was quite an accomplishment to get a jello out to the cellar and down the ladder without spilling it.

One of our favorite desserts when we were kids was oranges and cream. Mom peeled a big bowl of oranges, cut them up and covered them with sugar and when we were ready to eat them she poured the cream on. Nobody ever seemed to worry about things being fattening then.

The depression years are still vivid memories. The grasshoppers ate holes in everything that was left outside, including paper bags. The eastern people sent out apples, cheese and fish. The cheese was good, so were the apples, especially in the dead of winter. The fish were something else. The boys thought that they would make good snowshoes. I don't remember eating the fish. I suppose that we did, because it runs in my memory that the more mom cooked it the tougher it became.

Occasionally we were allowed to go visit one of the relatives for a little holiday. I spent some holidays at Aunt Lata and Uncle Stanley's. Aunt Lata used to sit in her rocking chair rocking one of her babies and reciting poems for us. This was one of our favorites . . .

A Mortifying Mistake

I studied my tables over and over.
And backward and forward too,
But I couldn't remember six times nine —
And I didn't know what to do!

Till sister told me to play with my doll
And not to bother my head
If you call her 'fifty-four' for a while
You'll learn it by heart," she said.

So I took my favorite Mary Ann
(Then I thought 'twas a dreadful shame
To call such a perfectly lovely child
Such a perfectly horrid name)!

And I called her my dear little 'fifty-four'
A hundred times or more
Till I knew the answer of six times nine
As well as of two times four.

Next day Elizabeth Wigglesworth
(Who always acts so proud)
"Six times nine are fifty-four"
And I almost laugh out loud.

But I wished I hadn't for teacher said,
"Now Dorothy, tell me if you can"
And I thought of my doll and — sakes alive!
I answered 'Mary Ann'!

I was in my teens during the Second World War. Mom and Grannie used to do a lot of baking to get parcels ready to send overseas to the men of the country who were in the forces. I remember with great sadness, when we heard that first one and then the other of the boys were reported missing and presumed dead. These were our cousins Jim Crosier and William Lillas.

Since jobs were plentiful after the war I went to Vancouver and worked for the Bartram Paper Company. I ran a big printing press which had been confiscated from the Japanese during the war when they were forced to leave the coastal region and move inland.

After my mother died in 1947, I came home to help Dad and my two sisters.

On August 21, 1952, I married George Brebon, the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Brebon. George was born on November 4th, 1928 in Maymont. He attended Keystone School for most of his schooling with one year at Maymont.

George built our first house. It was 24' x 18', very cozy and warm. We didn't have power or running water so we had the "little house out back." We had a barrel under the drainpipe to catch soft water for washing or George hauled it from the dug-out. In the winter we carried snow in and melted it in a barrel in the house. That was a messy job, besides cooling off the house when the weather was cold, you had to clean up any spilled snow which had melted on the floor.

We used gasoline lamps. They gave a lovely white light but they had to be filled with lamp gas, "pumped up" and mantles changed when they broke. To heat the house we had a Coleman floor furnace which burned oil and for cooking we bought a coal and wood range from Mr. Louis Karpuk who was in business in Maymont at that time.

Since cars were being used more and more in the winter, it was necessary to find some way of keeping the roads free of snow, so in the winter of 1960-61 George and Hector Andrew built a snow plow. This plow was used for several years until the municipality built better roads and began winter maintenance.

The power came to our area in 1964. What a great change it made to the people of rural Saskatchewan! How lovely to be able to press a switch for our lights after years and years of gas lamps. Yard lights sprang up over the countryside. From our kitchen we could see Jimmie and Ethel Steele's yard light to the north and Gordon and Pearl Halliday's to the north-east.

We got an electric stove from Vanderhagen's Hardware and sold our coal and wood stove. What a treat not to have to empty any more ashes!

We have a family of four -- two girls and two boys. Leslie Joan born on May 16, 1956, Garth Alexander, August 22, 1958, Maureen Faye, April 28, 1960 and Kevin George, May 29, 1966.

Two years before Leslie started school, Keystone was closed and a bus route was started. Our children attended Maymont Central School. "I had all I wanted of school teachers then."

When our family were small Elizabeth Regional Park was established and the covered skating rink was built. We spent our time between the Park in the summer and the rink in the winter. They all learned to swim at the park and we enjoyed many barbecues and family picnics at the park. They learned to skate and took figure skating and the boys played hockey.

The church plays a very important part in our lives and the children's. George was a member of the church board for many years and is now a Member of the Session. I was chairman of the Rebekah Unit and taught Sunday School for several years. The girls belonged to Messengers, Explorers and C.G.I.T., taking their turn as officers. The boys belonged to Messengers, Tyros and also were officers at various times. They sang in the choir until it disbanded.

When our family began growing up the small house became rather crowded so in 1968 we built a split-level home and put in running water and sewer so we became fully modern."

George and I celebrated our 25th wedding anniversary in 1977. We were very lucky to have all of George's family and all of mine, except one brother and a lot of friends and relatives to help us celebrate a very memorable day.

Leslie Joan took her schooling at Maymont Central. When she was in Grade Eleven she was chosen to go on an exchange trip to Ontario as one of the "Young Voyageurs." She was a member of the Maymont School "Reach For The Top" team which did so well in 1969-1970. She was class valedictorian when she graduated in 1973. She attended the University of Saskatchewan for one year, then went to work for the Saskatoon Credit Union where she is still employed.

Garth was a participant in the Canada World Youth Program and spent a year travelling and working in Canada and Mexico. He graduated from Grade 12 in 1975. He is presently attending the College of Engineering at the University of Saskatchewan.

Maureen had a trip to Montana in 1975 as a 4-H exchange student which was both educational and enjoyable. She graduated from high school in 1978 and graduated from Kelsey Institute of Applied Arts and Sciences in 1979 as a Recreational Technologist. She married Richard Kachmarski of the Speers area on June 16, 1979, lives in North Battleford and continues to work for the Mutual Life Assurance Co. Kevin is a Grade eight student still attending Maymont Central.

Lilah Viola Brebon

Lilah Viola Brebon is the second daughter of Annie and Alec Brebon. As a girl she was a care to her

another because she spent about one week of every eight sick in bed. At age eight, while determinedly running drinks to her sick older brother and sister it was discovered she herself had an extraordinarily high temperature. That evening Dr. Seventh was called and prescribed two medicines one which was to be taken every half hour and another every two hours. While her mother sat up all night watching a perspiration period of four each and every bottle her father drove to Maymont for the medicine. In his haste he forgot gas for the car and had to make the last two miles through deep snow to bring the medicine. Dr. Seventh had not expected a cure but he said with pneumonia patients prevalent.

One day Lilah saved her brother George's life. He was always inventing labor-saving devices and other gadgets. This day it was a small tin stove. She had been sent with gasoline poured on it to remove the fire scrubbed across the floor and set her reserve boat on fire. The wood petrified until he began to jump and cry. She turned to run for help her eyes lit on a pretty spot and saw which fresh it put the fire out. When the rule of the game fell off a few weeks later their mother said it had to Kansas and got a refund. She never knew till years later what really happened to the tent.

Going to North Battleford was a big event in Lilah's young life. She never liked getting out of bed in the morning but never at a prevalent trip to such an exciting place soon made her scream. George often used the words, "Come on, Lilah. Get out of bed. We're going to Battleford" as a successful alarm which irrespective of whether it happened to be true or not.

Lilah's first school at Keystone found her teaching pupils all of which she had gone to school with except the grade eight. The school was just very unsatisfactory and heated by an oil burner. If it became windy the school could all room with the stove turned to its highest. So one night after hearing the forecast she left the burner turned as high as it would go. Instead of getting ready the weather warmed up. The next morning when she got to school some of the pupils who had arrived earlier had all the doors and windows open. Class Mellow exclaimed her "Oh Miss Brehon, don't go in there. It's so hot it takes the skin right out of your nostrils." The thermometer stood at over 120 degrees Fahrenheit.

Another day the pupils reported flames shooting out the bottom of the stove at intervals. She said nothing but dashed to shut the doors and gave the stove more air. She opened the outside door turned around and nearly fell over the pupils. Without a sound they had moved as one and were all in the porch. Last they "If you were getting out we were we

One Sunday when Mr. Myers was preaching at Gray School, Lilah went to church. She had been attending church where the minister always used old illustrations to bring out the same point as his sermon. So Lilah had fallen into the habit of day-dreaming the first half of the sermon and listening to the last half. She should have known better because she knew Mr. Myers preached briefly positively and to the point but the school room was decorated with many examples of pupil art and work and she managed to view them and listen later. Suddenly by the white flourish that Mr. Myers often put at the end of his sermons she knew he was finished and she had not heard one word. True to human nature her first thought was, "Mr. Myers, I got all dressed up and drove four miles to listen to you and you didn't tell me a word." She never made the same mistake once and would like to thank Frank Myers for the many inspiring messages she did hear.

One time when my mother had high blood pressure and the doctor had told her to stay in bed for a few days and not have any visitors she was quite worried about herself. Mr. Myers came to visit. He sensed a ghost with the work in the bed, but ascribed it and said Mother about her mother whose blood pressure was even higher than hers. Mr. Myers said then hired a girl to do the housework but when they went to visit her they found their mother making the beds and the girl reading a magazine. His mother said the girl liked to read and she liked to do the floor so that was what they were doing. Mother was noticeably improved when Mr. Myers left.

Lilah taught twice at Keystone and twice at Hanley. She taught in several town schools and then at a rural school named Pardale just south of Saskatoon. Then in 1918 she became the proud possessor of a B.A. degree. Since then she has taught at Hanley but is now happy to be relieved from the teaching profession. She hopes to have time for many things which yearning remained in pretense. One of these is her hobby of painting. She took two painting courses at Emma Lake where the emeral or really see and Saskatchewan changed from a dull grey-ness into a beautiful one. She is always so grateful to her mother for sending her to art school for the first time

Richard Cullen Brehon

Richard Cullen Brehon came to Canada in 1911 and he and Val Jeffries who accompanied him stayed for a time with Alec and Annie Brehon at their one-roomed house. The two men slept in the summer kitchen. Dick took a job in the Royal Crown Bank in Maymont. When it moved to the new building he moved with it. I can't recall from the picture of the bank that bankers worked in cages as these days. When World War I broke out Dick enlisted in the Regina Mounted Rifles and was sent overseas. Dick was 6 feet 3 inches in height and one story told that he was then an obvious target when leading an attack from the trenches and was immediately cut down by fire. Another story was that he had been taken prisoner of war. His medals were sent to his brother Alec. Many years later one of his comrades in the trenches presented his nephew and namesake with a book of poems which Dick had written in the trenches

The Richard and Shirley Brehon Family

Today when you drive between Maymont and Richard, those excellent snow-fence hedges you see were planted by the Young Farmer's Club. Dick Brehon was a member and took part in this enterprise.

He was also a member of the Mayfield and Douglas Agricultural Society and Secretary Treasurer for many years. The Society recognized Dick's service by presenting him with a Life Membership. He is a long standing member of the Wheat Pool.

When the power was installed Dick and Jack Longley canvassed the district to sign up the farmers. It was touch and go for some time to get the necessary number. However, the spirit of co-operation prevailed and power went into the farms between Maymont, Richard and north of Fielding.

Being Secretary-Treasurer of Keystone School ran in the Brehon Family; the position being handed down from Alex Brehon to his wife to Collen and finally to Dick who held that position until the school was closed and was moved west at Richard.

Dick has a love of animals. Dogs on the farm became his personal pets. When cattle were rounded up in the fall he knew exactly which ones were missing.

Nature holds a special place in Dick's life. He is fascinated by wild birds, animals and plants. There was always a large garden on the farm which he planted and cultivated.

Fishing and fishing also hold a special place in his life. There are many happy memories of hunting and fishing trips. Many tales exchanged over a meal of fish, venison or duck.

Dick married Shirley Hughes, daughter of Jean and Frank Hughes of Loreland and Wilkie. Shirley taught at Maymont.

They lived for a time at the Emerald Farm and then moved to the T. B. Bates farm. Bruce, their first son was born while they were there.

They moved to Radisson where Dick was employed by Vaughn Lefoy. While the family was in Radisson, Jeannine was born.

Dick then took a job with the Co-op Lumber in North Battleford and the family moved there. They bought a house in the Riverview area, and their second son Charles was born.

In 1966 Dick became buttermaker at Dairy Producers Cooperative in Lloydminster. Twice he has received awards as top buttermaker in the province.

Shirley was active in church work and Brownies as well as helping with a private kindergarten. Later when kindergarten became part of the school system she went back to teaching full time.

A cousin once remarked the Dick Brehons have a "lovely family" and this is true. Bruce has graduated from High School and is planning to go to Australia on a work visa. Jeannine is in Grade Twelve and involved in Candy Stripers. Charles is in Grade Ten and has inherited his father's love of hunting and fishing.

Thomas Collen Brehon

Thomas Collen Brehon came to Canada in 1904. He lived with his brothers and Mary and Tom Bates. His son Bob Bates, who was a toddler at the time, had a mutual affection for one another. No one realized that Tom had tuberculosis of the hip until he collapsed in the field one day. Mrs. Bates said it was one of the hardest things she ever did to have to tell a sick man that she could no longer keep him. Mrs. Smith (Bertha McKeen's mother) was his housekeeper and nursed him till he died in May, 1909. His eighteen year old sister and brother died in Ireland the same year. They had all become infected by one of their mother's cousins. Not realizing at the time how contagious tuberculosis was, and not at knowing, Mrs. Brehon had nursed her cousin in her final illness.

The Brickwalls

told by Doris Roberts

Dad emigrated from London, England to Winchester, Ontario in the early 1900's leaving a job as an accountant in one of the leading stores to become a farm worker for the late Frank Summers who later came to Fielding and was one of their successful farmers. He often told us of the tricks the Summers boys played on Dad and they were many.

One of Dad's colleagues had settled on a farm east of Vonnoy so he finally decided to come west and take up a homestead near Pike Lake.

He had been corresponding with a pen pal back in London so Mother accepted his proposal and arrived in Saskatoon in the fall of 1912 leaving her family with the thoughts of seeing them soon but there was no return with either Canadian until 1948. A cousin of Mother's had come over with her to be married also. A double wedding was performed in the Anglican Church in Vonnoy on December 5, 1912. The first mode of travel was horse and buggy.

Their first home was a one-room shack built on the homestead. The boards covered the outside frame but no insulation on the inside. As many of you know green poplar wood doesn't burn too well and of course there was a tin hanging from each pipe joint to catch the drippings. Many winter mornings they woke up and found the bed clothes covered with frost. The first years were very lean and not much to eat, however, Dad's philosophy was that God never let the birds starve so they would not be let starve. At one time they had to depend on gophers and rabbits for their meat supply.

Myself (Doris) and my sister Hilda, were born at Pike Lake so the doctor at Delisle was the most available person for the big event.

Guess Dad could see not too bright a future for his farming so he decided to move to Saskatoon in 1918 and for a time worked for P. B. McMillan's, a store remembered by many people of the area. The third daughter, Elma, was born a year later. Dad had taken

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Brickwell.

a colchanics course in the meantime and an opening came up at Fielding Garage so the Brickwells arrived there in 1918 with a family of three girls. Another three children were born in Fielding namely Hazel, Edna, and John. They all attended the Fielding School.

The first garage facing the railroad was a home and garage combination. The living quarters had just been enlarged before a tragic fire took place in 1926 leaving us with nothing, only the clothing we wore. The community was so helpful in getting Dad started again with a house, furniture, clothing, plus money to build a brick garage which stood till recently when it had to be dismantled. The garage provided many services besides fixing cars and machinery, such as gas and oil, farm machinery and repairs, binder twine and radios. When radios were being first introduced Dad had got the parts to assemble one and it was one of the first to be heard in the area which attracted many people who showed interest.

A tennis court was made outside our back door and many happy hours were spent with friends playing tennis.

They were staunch supporters and regular attenders of the United Church. Took part in the plays put on by the Community Club and often reminisced about the happy memories during their stay in Fielding.

The depression came upon us in 1929 so in 1934 they left for the West Coast arriving in Powell River but due to Dad's honesty and generosity people took advantage of him so had to leave there and find something in Vancouver. It took some time before he was able to get work in a welding shop. However before long he was fortunate enough to purchase a business of his own. John was of age to become interested in welding and together they ran "THE NEW METHOD WELDERS" for many years. During this time they had also built a number of large steel boats for log salvaging along the coast. Although John didn't have a university education for reading blue prints the results spoke for themselves. The shop was later sold, John moved to Nanaimo and Dad retired at eighty-five. At the age of eighty he made a beautiful chandelier for our living room which we are very proud of because it is one of a kind.

In 1972, Mother and Dad celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary with most of the eleven grandchildren, thirty-two great grandchildren plus many friends present. Dad's health started to deteriorate in 1975 and he left us in 1978. We all miss him but I must say I never heard him say an unkind thing about anyone. Our door is always open to any praline friends, so please take advantage.

The Bright Family

This is the history of the Bright family who came to Maymont in 1920.

Stanley Bright, originally from Muscpoe, Minn. U.S.A. was adopted as an infant by W. H. Bright and brought to Canada in 1910 or 1911.

He married Irene Megarth of Saltcoats. They had a family of five children.

Shirley married Chas Miller and is now living in Maymont.

Glenn has married and spent twenty-eight years in the army. He is retiring this year and moving from Cartierville, Nova Scotia to Regina.

Melville married Ted Turner and lives at Regina.

Jim is married and is living in Grande Prairie. He is working for the Hudson Bay Company as a Credit Manager.

Wayne, married Carol Rogers of Maymont and is teaching school in Plenty.

The family moved to Saltcoats in 1948, except for Shirley, Glenn, and Melville who had all taken up residence elsewhere by then. Mrs. Bright passed away in 1957. Then Wayne returned to Maymont to complete

his schooling. Mr Bright lived out the remainder of his life in Belleville and passed away in 1975.

While in Maymont, Stan Bright, worked at McCorkle's Garage and with Harold Curry operating the town's power plant.

Some of the teachers we had during our schooling were, Mr J. McVae; Mr. Harold Smith; Mr. Glover; Miss Wells; Mr. Morgenroth, Edith Butterfield; Miss Page, and Mr J. Armstrong.

The school was divided into three rooms with four grades in each room

The family of Chas and Shirley Miller are.

Marlene, married Garry Stapp. They had three children and live on the Miller farm.

Faye married Dennis Heler. They have one boy and are presently living in Saint Clement, where Dennis is stationed as a member of the R.C.M.P.

Glenda married Eugene Pshwerbesky and they are living in Borden.

Glenn Bright Story

Glenn has retired from the Armed Services as Sgt. Major with twenty-eight years of service behind him. He begins his write-up by mentioning to his sister that he had devoted much time to trying to recall a worthy incident to mention but owing to the fact that he left Maymont at the age of eighteen that sort of precluded any "worthy incident" other than the fact that Allan Dolden and he went off to join the Army. So he has decided to relate incidents of the humorous or adventuresome category. At least they are humorous when looking at them from this point in time. Having many of us been in Glenn's shoes and asked to write for this book we can sympathize with his problem.

During the years of World War II harvesting help was scarce, therefore, Jim McLeish and I could immediately see a great opportunity to earn some much needed money and approached Franklin Mohler for a job. He provided the team and rack and agreed to pay us I believe it was $3.00 a day for the two of us — quite a considerable amount in those days. We could immediately envision new ball gloves, bicycles, etc., new things we thought only other kids had, possibly even a "real date" when we could spend more than the fifty cents admittance to the old Maymont Hall and possibly even go to the Chinese restaurant at Saltburne!! However, our introduction to harvesting was short lived, when, after four or five days Franklin's patience ran out and he fired us. Seems he figured we looked around too much and would never make farmers. In retrospect it seems he was right.

My "farming saga" did not end there. I was full of determination so after some considerable effort I managed to talk Mac Taylor into hiring me. Seems my reputation may have preceded me as I had some difficulty anyway he took a chance and I was hired to drive his tractor pulling a binder. During those long hot days this sometimes became a very elusive task. My active mind, therefore, developed an "emergency procedure" to be used when the boredom became too great. I would increase the speed of the tractor until finally some part of the binder would break and this would make it necessary for me to go to town in Mac's truck to obtain a new part. In those days the truck driving part was much more desirable to someone my age. It seems I lasted there long enough to earn $35.00 because I can vividly remember my brother-in-law (or sister's boyfriend — I don't remember which), Chas Miller, taking me to Grobman's Store in North Battleford where I purchased my first suit — a blue pin-stripe.

My farming experience also included a short stay at Frank McNeil's — shocking green clover. I can well remember that the sheaves were heavier than I was. Looking back on this experience makes me think that the only reason I stayed was because Shirley was either married to or going out with Frank's brother and I didn't want to "lose face" with the family. However, I think it was about this time that I developed an allergy to grain dust which seemed to have ended my brief association with the farming industry at a very appropriate time as I was running out of prospective employers.

Other items of interest to me that come to mind during my early years in Maymont include the following.

Sometime after I purchased the "blue suit" I can remember being at a dance in the old Maymont Hall dancing with Bea Knight and we were swinging and swaying with much grace and skill when she hooked her heel in Jack Blacklock's pants and fell -- taking me to the floor with her — not considered the thing to do in those days.

Going to Sunday School was mandatory in those days, even if it was not your parents' church, as I can remember attending the Anglican Church — with Jim McLeish I think — for one year and winning a pencil box for attendance — thereafter I returned to the United Church with my coveted pencil box.

I can well remember sitting on Alan Bean's store counter with my sister Shirley singing "Red Sails in the Sunset" and Alan giving us candies, also playing "hookey" from school and going to Maltrom's dam to swim and more than likely picking up "dust ticks" as we usually did each time we swam there.

The Ed Broom History

written by Ed Broom

I bought the Pool Room and Barber Shop from Mrs. Angus. I was living and farming at Spanner Hill at the time. I had a farm sale on March 15, 1948, and moved to Maymont to live where Phil Long now lives. We had not been over here very long when we bought out the restaurant. It was owned by Mr. and Mrs. Wes Fields.

We moved in and the wife looked after the restaurant and cooking. We had it for about two years. Then we sold the restaurant to Mr. and Mrs. Greenslade. We moved across the street beside the Pool Room. I think Mr. Neill had just moved out of there and the building belonged to Frank Langley. I asked Mrs. Langley if I could move the pool room in where I was living because it was a lot bigger. She said if I paid all the bills I could. So I did and put in two more pool tables. When the house became empty at Bill Sowdens Park we moved down there for two years but then we had to move because Nelson Nutbrown had bought the farm. We moved over to the Foster house to live for the winter. Then I bought the house that I am living in now. It had belonged to John Rolfe. I also had bought the livery barn from E. Sykes (that was in 1940). J. Foster worked for me and I worked too.

After the crash stopped, things got slow but I still had the Pool Room. I sold it and I started to work part time for the Glenburn Park when it started up. After about two years I went full time looking after the park. I moved the Pool Room back across the street where the restaurant was before I sold it. I had a sale and sold the livery stuff and the livery barn and it was moved away. I worked at the Park until 1971.

I am retired now and I like living in Maymont. I used to come across the river to curl in 1936 the year they built the curling rink. On my rink I had Bob Bates, E. Holden, J. Cash and G. Kriechke. They all played with me. We used to curl two games when we came over. We enjoyed it but we had some cold trips. We used to put the horse in G. Watson's barn and we would eat dinner there. She always made us tea and we would bring a load of wood with us sometimes.

The Buell's Family History

by Mrs. Terrance Fiva

Edward Franklin Buell who was born in Clayton, Ohio, U.S.A. married Evangeline Isabel Harris who was born in Cambridge, Mass, U.S.A. They were married in Cambridge, Mass and it was there that their first child, Allyson Frances, was born on June 1, 1908.

In the fall of 1907 we came to Fielding, Saskatchewan and stayed with F. B. Harris and family, my mother's brother, until my dad got a homestead west of Fielding. He built a log house and sod barn on it. He started farming with three oxen and a pony.

Three brothers and a sister were born at Fielding. William farms at Fielding. Chester worked in a store. He passed away December, 1969. Jack farmed at Lloydminster and Ruth passed away nine days after birth.

William and I went to Beckwith School for a short time while Calais School was being built. Miss Vera Amy Cooper was the first teacher at Calais School. Her name is now Mrs. Hugh Petty, Bronsyler, Saskatchewan.

Joe Ducharme was our first neighbor.

Dr. Scratch was the first doctor I could remember.

In November, 1918 my dad left my mother and family and have never heard of him since. My mother and family carried on with the farming with some hired help. Chester stayed with his uncle, R. B. Harris, and went to school with his family until he grew up.

Clarence Buell

My name is Clarence Buell. I am the middle son from the Bill Buell family. My mother's name is Helen. I have two sisters, Phyllis and Marmie, and two brothers, Walter and Leslie. The seven of us lived in the Calais School District where my dad and Leslie still farm. My mom, my sisters and I live in Saskatoon. Walter lives at Chandler, Arizona. My mom and dad have twelve grandchildren.

Some of the first memories are of my play farms in the dirt around the house. Imagination was such an important part of play. My tractor was part of the frame of an old horse drawn disc, my brother's was part of an old binder. Imagination gave them wheels and living color. My brother's was green but mine was bright red just like Albert Sherman's new one. Such a contrast from today when most children have an abundance of manufactured lifelike toys. A bicycle or a wagon in those days would have been such a prize. The bicycles leaned against the fence in our backyard until the middle of May this year before our children had the time or interest to take a ride.

Travel was so restricted that our world was very small. As a boy I remember how big I thought Calais School or Gunn's Store were.

In the years when I was in grade three or four there were great numbers of crows, magpies and gophers. The fish and game league paid a bounty of one cent per egg for crow or magpie eggs. My brother and I collected four hundred and sixty-eight eggs and took them to school for our teacher, Miss Dowbey, to record.

As we grew older we organized a school softball team to compete at sports days in the surrounding towns. Our team had players from Calais, Beckwith and Hopewell Schools.

When we were teenagers our family moved to the Gollan farm where we had our own ball park in the cow pasture behind the barn. "Cow Pad Park" as it was named by Philip Long, saw many a good hit and many a safe slide.

The ball game started right after supper and didn't end until it was too dark to play. After the game was over we milked our twelve cows.

These are a few of my memories.

Walter John Buell

Born Oct. 28, 1933

This brief account of Buell family history will mostly cover my life activities. The history of my parents,

grandparents, etc. will probably be presented to your library by family members of those generations.

I was born at Fielding on Oct. 30, 1933 and lived with my parents and 2 brothers and 2 sisters in the old Buell house until Friday August 11, 1944 when we moved to the Shire place. I wrote this date in my diary then and (right or wrong) I still remember it. A couple of years later we moved to the Cameron place. Then to the Gollan place where Dad still farms. I attended Colquitz School thru most of grade 10 and took partial grade 11 in Fielding High School in 1950-51.

I worked at various jobs in Saskatchewan and British Columbia until the end of 1956. On Jan 14, 1957 I emigrated to the United States. All the important events of my adult life have occured here in the U.S. I was reluctantly inducted into the U.S. Army in the fall of 1958 and served until 1960. The Army trained me as a medical X-Ray technologist. This was a good night-time occupation that fit in well with my attending various Universities and Colleges during the day. I graduated from the University of Utah in 1965 with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering. I worked at Utah Power and Light Co. for 2 years as an Electrical Engineer. Since I lacked one Engineering class, University of Utah records show my graduation as 1965.

Just before moving to Arizona in 1967 the most important event of my life occurred when I married Sharon Lee Schow on Dec. 6, 1967. Since coming to Arizona we have increased our family from 3 to 7 children. The names of our children are: Edward Ricks, Del Ricks, Carolyn Ricks, Steven Buell, Tonya Buell, Brian Buell and Kevin Buell. I have been employed as an Electrical Engineer by Salt River Project (an Electrical and Water Utility in the Phoenix area) for the past 11 years. Our family is also involved in various land development projects in the Phoenix area. Farming skills that I learned in Saskatchewan 30 years ago come in handy even in todays modern world.

E. J. (Ed) Bahr

Ed Bahr came to Maymont in 1917, from the Hague district, but he was born in Mountain Lake, Minnesota, U.S.A. on June 13th, 1890. He worked as a carpenter and ran steam engines on various farms in the early years. In later years he helped the Turner family at harvest time, running the combine.

He built a garage in Maymont in 1931, and did mechanic work on trucks, cars, lawn mowers and anything with a motor.

He was also one of Dr. Scrench's drivers, through all kinds of weather and to all parts of the district travelled by this pioneer doctor. He was Doc's companion, and when they were not travelling on a medical case, they were playing their usual game of cards.

Ed is very fond of children and over the years many a child got a nickel or a dime for treats from their friend, Bahr. On Hallowe'en nights he had more children visit him than any other household and he had treats for them all.

Over the years, he has received cards, wedding invitations, and birth announcements from children of the district who grew up here, and when they come home to this day they make a habit of visiting Bahr.

His hobbies were hunting and fishing in his younger days, and he was an ardent photographer, and took many pictures of the town and the residents therein.

He helped his brother Cornelius, build the Memorial Hall and kept a key for the convenience of people engaged in activities in the hall, until the last few years. After being in his location in Maymont for the past 62 years, on Sept. 29th, 1979, due to failing health he moved to River Heights Lodge, North Battleford, where, as his first year, he can be found reading his favorite detective story or locomotive magazines or playing a game of solitaire, without the aid of glasses.

Ed Bahr and Jimmy Rogers.

Mr. and Mrs. John Bulmer
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Bulmer

told by Howard Bulmer

John Bulmer at age 15, together with his brothers and sisters, came to Canada in 1903 with his parents Mr. and Mrs. John George Bulmer from Bartlepool, England with a group of Barr Colonists. They homesteaded S.E. 4-45-13-West. He helped his parents on the farm as well as working for rancher Charles Noble. He also worked in Battleford. When he was 17 he filed on N.E. 10-43-13-West. For a time he was a member of the Mounted Police. He also was in the army in the first World War. After his discharge he resumed farming.

John Bulmer with his 4-month-old grandson Kolin Bulmer, 1962.

(l-r) Mrs. George Mabey with two grandchildren and Mrs. Mahrina Bulmer.

In 1923, he married Malvina Wastle. She had come out west about 1911 from Sherbrooke, Quebec. They continued farming. They raised one son, Howard, who still resides on the farm. Malvina passed away in 1945, a victim of cancer. John died in 1962 of a heart attack.

For ten years, starting in 1939, Howard attended what was then known as Bentley School later to be known as Lilac School.

In 1956 Howard married Effie Stewart of Meliskow, Alberta. They raised a family of five children. Kolin, Colleen, Wilfred, Anita and Dawn.

Nov. 1, 1975, Kolin married Connie Long of Maymont. They have two sons: Dale and Gary. They live in Battleford where Kolin is employed with Kindersley Transport.

Feb. 3, 1979, Colleen married Doug Prescesky of the Wavie Bank district. After living in Battleford approximately six months, they are now making their home on the Bill Thrasher farmstead.

Wilfred is living at home and at the time of this writing is working for the Great Bend municipality mowing the road allowance ditches.

Anita and Dawn are attending Maymont Central School.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Burrows

submitted by Mr. Allan Burrows.

Two young enterprising Englishmen, Fred and Sam Simpson, migrated to Canada from Scunthorpe, Lincolnshire, England and arrived in Maymont, Saskatchewan about the year 1905. Fred Simpson took up a homestead north of Maymont which later was sold to Charlie Tighe. Sam Simpson also acquired a homestead near Eatonia School next to the Potter's.

Both young men returned to England in the fall of 1907 and returned to Maymont in the spring of 1908 along with my Mother and Dad, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Burrows and Lily Simpson who later married Bob Johnston.

Dad and Mother lived in Maymont from 1908 until 1913 when they took up homesteading 3/4 miles south west of Speers, Sask. They lived on this farm until 1928 when they moved to Saskatoon. They left Saskatoon in 1949 to retire in Victoria, B.C.

During Mother and Dad's stay in Maymont they lived next door to our famous Doctor Scratch. Dad often mentioned that he would have to douse the ashes from Doc's stove with either water or snow to prevent setting the town on fire. Doctor Scratch brought all five children into the world. Bernard and Leonard born in Maymont, Phyllis, Allan and Dawn born on the farm.

Dad was engaged by the Maymont council to build the Maymont Presbyterian Church, now United Church, in 1911. I saw the church a couple of years ago and it seems in good shape and as Dr. Myers pointed out to me "not a sag in its roof after all these years."

We also understand that Dad was Mayor of Maymont sometime before 1915, date unknown. He also belonged to the famous Maymont Rifle Club. We have to this day a shield and a watch fob which he had won in shooting contests while a member of the club.

Bob Butterfield

told by Bob

It was not until my father **Frank Butterfield Sr.** built the big house circa 1917 that I have any recollection of the farm and home. I slightly remember the old house which was small and partly of frame and partly of log.

During the time the big house was being built I wanted to be in there helping at six years of age and even at mealtime I would wash up with the rest and get soap in my eyes.

The house was built of frame to a set of plans from Eaton's and lumber from Eaton's — the cost of which was $1200.00. The plans are still in the house. It was built on a stone foundation by a stonemason. The brick chimney and fireplace were his work also. Shorty Stewart was one of the carpenters and I remember him well because he walked the top plate before the rafters went up and to me at that age was something to behold also a two-storey house. The plumbing and trimmething were done by Henry Tadey of Redhaven. The pressure system was a two hundred gallon tank with a hand pump and rain water was taken from a cistern in the basement that was also built by Henry Tadey. In later years I had the tedious job of pumping up the system. The house has a high pitch roof to run the snow off and a double veranda on the south side — one up and one down. The one up was for sleeping out as the summer but brother Bruce would sleep there all winter with a horsehide robe to keep his body heat in.

At one time the front lawn was kept like the greens of a golf course so we used to play tennis on Sunday after Sunday school.

I walked to school with my brother and sister my first day and the teacher picked me up and set me on her knee on which I promptly peed, with fright no doubt. When the horses were all working in the fields we would walk to school but other times we would drive in a buggy with an oat sheaf in the back for the horse at noon — then in winter we would drive with horse and cutter. I remember one day dropping into the parsonage after school with the horse and cutter waiting outside but we visited too long and the horse went home on his own and was standing at the water trough waiting for someone to pump him some water, when we got home with a neighbour. Occasionally my younger sister and I would ride to school on horseback, using my foot for a stirrup. Muriel would climb on and away we would go.

One of these years as a boy I had to run the churn to make butter for the threshing crew — I was impatient and kept opening the lid to see how it was coming. I guess I didn't close the clamp correctly and on one of these barrel churns you either lock it up or you don't have any butter so guess what all the cream ended up on the ground.

I remember my father going for a grist with a team of horses. He would take a load of wheat to Redhaven, twenty miles away, and bring back 90 cwt. of flour, our years supply. The flour in 100 pound bags had to be carried up to the attic, placed on skids suspended from the rafters by wire to keep the mice off; mice got into and shd down the wire so there metal was put on like a roof so the mice would slide off the cool leaving the flour untouched.

The Gothic roof barn was built by Charlie Fry of Kirkhaven in the early thirties and not too many years later horses were done away with when the tractors took over but the cow barn is still in use today.

At age 16 I was one of the threshing crew. I gained ten pounds with all the food, exercise and sleep.

I stayed on the farm until I was 25 at which time I tried selling insurance and was sent to Kirkland Lake, Ontario where a new branch was being opened up. At this I couldn't earn enough so I went underground as a hard rock miner for three years until 1939 when the war started. I then moved to Toronto to serve my time as a machine shop for an aircraft firm to which trade I spent most of my forty years in Toronto.

I am married with one son and two grandchildren living in British Columbia and two daughters living in Ontario. Now at the age of 87 I am retired and spend the winter months in Florida or Arizona playing golf and bicycle riding.

The Bruce Butterfield Family

My early life at Maymont was I suppose nothing out of the usual. The Sports Day on May the 24th was always a highlight, and we boys always tried to get the spring work done before that big day.

Being always interested in farming I had quite a bit to do with grain and livestock clubs for the younger set.

When the thirty's came along with the drought, there was a much future insight, so on May 4th, 1934 I left home 'Maymont' by team and wagon for the homestead at Somme. Sask. which I had acquired a few years earlier. It was quite a trip with the team and took ten long days to cover 300 miles.

When I was about two thirds of the way across, I met up with two young Ukrainians driving a team of oxen. I asked how they liked driving oxen. They replied in broken English. "It's all right on a porch but that is about all"

Then in 1937, I married Ethel Dearborn of Richard. We were married in the Bromley Church in late October. After a short honeymoon, we started for our home at Somme, in a converted Model T truck.

The first years were rather tough, but eventually things improved, and we acquired more land. During the years we took an active part in Community affairs such as Church, Curling Club, Agricultural Society, of which I was secretary-treasurer for 35 years. Chairman of Senior Citizen's low rental housing, and I was on the Telephone Board, to name a few. Ethel has been

involved in the Ladies Club, and Anglican Church Women's group for many years.

We have a family of four: two boys and two girls and they were all very active in the 4-H Clubs.

Ron, our eldest son, graduated from Agricultural College at the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon in 1963, is married and farming in the area. They have two boys. Elaine, who attended Teachers' Training College and the U. of S. has taught school for a number of years is married and lives in Calgary, and has two children. Robert who graduated from the College of Engineering in 1968, has a position in Saskatoon and is also doing part time farming at Sonume. He is married and they have two children. Marlene, who also graduated from Teachers' Training College and U. of S. after teaching a few years, married and lives near Lashburn with her husband and one little boy.

Our retirement is being spent on the home farm with time taken out for travelling.

We are proud to have pioneered and lived in one of the finest agricultural districts in Saskatchewan and to be a part of a friendly and industrious community.

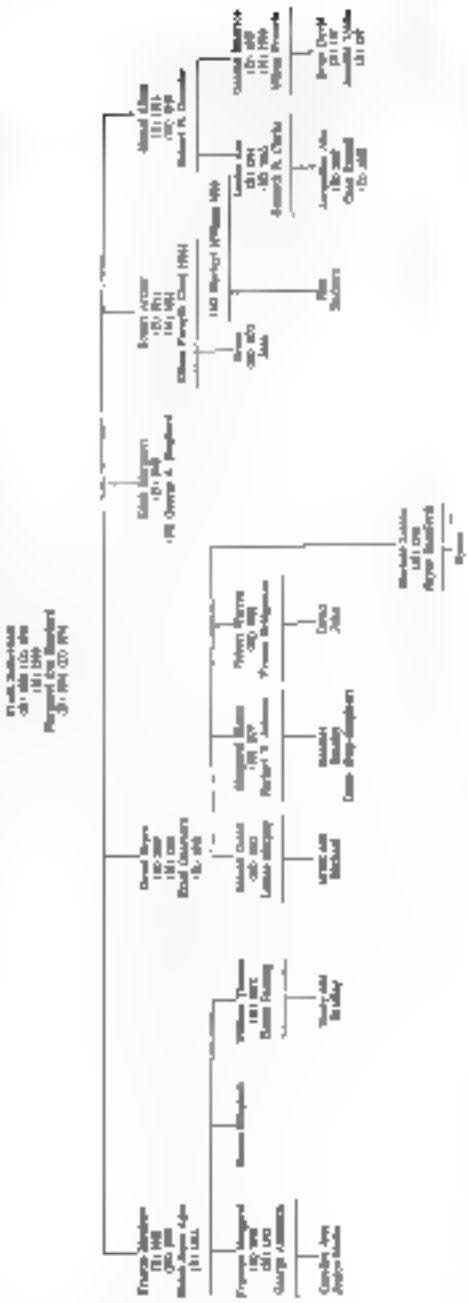
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Butterfield Senior

Frank and Margaret Butterfield arrived on their homestead in the new Maymont area on Easter Day, 1908, with their young son, Francis Matthew, and were destined to see the bald, rolling prairie develop into a wholesome farming community, which was to be their home for the rest of their lives.

Frank, senior, was born in Ambleside in the Lake Districts of Cumbria, England and in 1900 met and married Margaret Ann in London. Their son, Francis Matthew was born in England in 1902.

After deciding to come to Canada Mr. and Mrs. Butterfield arrived at Halifax and proceeded to Wawanesa, Manitoba, where they worked on George Moorey's farm. While there they acquired some settlers' effects and in 1908 went to Saskatoon and took up a homestead in the present Maymont area S.W.¼ 25-12-W3. Like many other pioneer families their

Mrs. Butterfield, Senior.



[illegible] progressed from tent to log cabin with a sod roof to a lovely, modern two and a half storey home built in 1913.

The intervening years were scarred with the hardships of the dirty thirties but healed by the friendship of community neighbours and friends. During these years were born Bruce, Edith, Robert and Muriel who all pitched in to make the home farm a thriving enterprise. Later Bruce left home for the district of Somme with his young bride, Ethel, and pioneered in that area much as the same way as his father had broken sod at the turn of the century. Bob was more of an adventurer and travelled East to Ontario where he worked in Kirkland Lake and later in Toronto. Edith obtained her teaching certificate in Saskatoon and after teaching at Maymont and other communities eventually travelled to England and Scotland where she married George A. Shepherd. Muriel who obtained her teaching certificate in Saskatoon and her Degree in Music from Toronto, taught in Maymont also till 1943 when she married a young Anglican Minister, Robert B. Crowder. They are now living in Calgary. Frankie stayed with the home farm till 1957 he married Mabel Agar of Lilac.

Frank Butterfield, senior, was a man of thrift and hard work. His interest went farther afield than the homestead and is remembered as a man who not only helped build but loved his church where he was warden for many years. For many years he was President and director of the local telephone company and was a member of the local Orange Lodge. He was quite active in the community and the farm until his death in 1966.

Margaret Butterfield like all pioneers had to contend with the premature style of pioneer life for many years. But in spite of this she raised five children and contended with the rude and interruption of farm life. Her interests spilled over into Church and community life where she was made a life member of both the Anglican Women's Auxiliary and of the Home Makers Club. She lived to the ripe old age of One Hundred Years minus four months, and laid to rest beside her husband in the Maymont Cemetery.

Billie Butterfield, their grandson now operates the farm with his father, Frankie.

Frank, Jr. and Mabel Butterfield

Francis Matthew Butterfield was born in 1885, in London, England. A year later he and his parents, Frank and Margaret Butterfield, arrived by boat in Halifax, Canada. From there they took the train to Winnipeg, Manitoba where they worked for D. Moody throughout the summer. In the winter, Frank Sr. worked at Hudson Bay cutting trees, in order to earn enough money for equipment to go farming out west of Saskatoon. He and his family then proceeded by wagon to their homestead (SW ¼, 4, 13, 03) where they borrowed a tent from the Andrews, for Margaret and Frank, Jr. to live in until he finished building their Langham for their house.

The road came to W. Andrew Sr. on the next homestead east. The house still stands as a pioneer post office. Postage from England and Scotland was a penny for letters and a half-penny for cards.

Frank Sr. worked on the road with his neighbors for income. Some of those he worked with were: Sam in the Field, Bob Johnston, Bill Lipsom, Dick Hills, Jimmy Pickett, Joe Adams, Will Baker and Joe Varney.

Frank Jr. went to Carey School in 1898 where Miss Erskine and Miss Waters (Mrs. Dan Prosser) taught them all the old songs. Mr. Baker was another teacher. Later, Frank walked across country to Maymont, where Miss Carter (Mrs. W. Langley) and Miss Chandler and Mr. E. Warner (who later taught French at S.C.I.) were his teachers. Frank's education was interrupted by World War I, during which he stayed home to help build the new home and became a Soldier of the Soil, for which a bronze medal was given by Mr. Borden's Government.

In 1914, Frank Jr. went with the Langleys hunting up north. It took about five days by team and wagon to get up to Crown Lake. They built a spruce log shack for shelter, then hunted for deer, antelope and moose. Perry Russell, Jim and Henry Bate, Harold Coombs and Mr. Haight were among the hunting party.

In 1927 the homesteading bug again hit the Butterfields, when Frank Jr. and Bruce travelled two hundred miles east to Semans to make their new homesteads. They built themselves a log shack for lodging. George, Bob Lees and Mr. Breese were neighbors. Edith went weekends from the Duswell School District to help with the bread baking. Bruce stayed on the homestead and married Ethel Dearborn in 1927.

Frank returned home to help his father on the original homestead. The transportation between the homesteads was a Ford Touring Model A, and the road was open in late fall.

They used a Rumley tractor and separator for harvesting the rather scarce thin crops in the thirties. In 1936 Charlie Fry helped build the arched roof barn.

In July 1938, Mabel Agar and Frank Butterfield were married in Lilac, at St. Mary's Church, which was later moved to the Western Development Museum in North Battleford. Their house was the old Oliver Andrew's house, which was located on S.W. ¼, Section 36 and moved into the same yard as Frank Sr. and Margaret. Mabel and Frank had three children, Frances Margaret, Elizabeth Sharon and William Thomas. Their first daughter, Frances, was born in August, 1940. Frank and Margaret's first granddaughter.

As help was scarce during the Second World War, the first rubber-tired tractor, a John Deere Model A was purchased to do the field work, along with the two Clyde horse teams (Ned and Pat — Frank and Bruce

top! The Model A is still used by Frank on the farm today as a front-end loader.

In 1948, Frank purchased a Ford half-ton truck for hauling grain and livestock as well as transporting the children to and from school.

In 1962, Frank purchased a Massey self-propelled combine which was used until the fall of 1977 when Bill and Frank replaced it with a Versatile pull-type.

The original party line telephone was changed over to modern style in 1970. Frank was on the board of directors. The phone company was taken over by Sask-Tel in 1978, who put in buried cable for more efficient services.

Modern day power came in 1966, to replace the old 32-volt power plant that was kept in the basement.

In 1972, Frances married George Anderson, in Calgary, Alberta. They now live in Mississauga, Ontario where George works as an executive with the Bay. They have two children, Carolyn Ann and Janice Marie.

In 1974, William Thomas married Donna Ruthig in North Battleford. For the first year they lived in Saskatoon where Bill was taking an Agriculture course at the University and Donna worked for Turbo Resources as a Secretary-Accountant. Bill worked the first few months of 1974 at Neals, as a marketer until seeding started. They now live on the original homestead, in the old home of Frank Sr. They've spent the last five years remodelling the house. They have two children, Tracy Lynn and Bradley James.

During one of the coldest days of winter of 1976 the new transformer that the power company had installed earlier that year exploded, shaking the houses and rattling the windows. Sharon was alone in one house and Donna and Tracy in the other. Both thought the other's furnace had exploded. They soon realized that it was the transformer when they saw the flames shooting out of one of them. Sharon called the power company and Donna called David Keegan, who went for Bill and Frank down in the pasture where they were rescuing a stranded calf. The power company came and worked in 40-below weather installing a new pole and larger transformer. The second transformer exploded about an hour after the first one did out with less impact than the first. We all kept from freezing by huddling around the old wrought iron range, and dined by candlelight with the added help from a trouble light connected to a six-volt battery. We were lucky there in the kitchen but the rest of the house was thirty-five below. All was back to normal by 10:00, except the house didn't get warm till an hour later.

After having several heavy snow falls during the summer of 1979, the last being an inch or so on April 28, we had a very late spring, causing many flooding conditions including the F. Butterfield's yard. The yard and garden area was flooded to waist high. This happened at 2 a.m. in pitch darkness, the water roaring like a river, sounding like rapids. The water came from across the road, into the yard and into the basement. Frank and Bill made blockades to divert the water away from the barn and outside. Amazingly enough it was all clear by 9 a.m. leaving no great damage in its wake.

The years have rolled by leaving behind lots of wonderful memories, and some that we'd rather forget. We've come a long way from the horse and buggy days, come through the world wars, a depression and hard times. The past seventy years have brought us to modernized equipment, fast vehicles, and improved technology. What the next seventy years have in store for us, remains to be seen.

Bill Buttrey

In the year 1906 at the age of fifteen years I decided I was going to emigrate to the "Colonies" as it was referred to in those days.

I made application to New Zealand, was refused; then to Australia, again refused, and South Africa with the same result; and all because of my poor eyesight.

I finally applied to Canada and this time was successful.

In 1907 I was accepted for immigration to Canada under the auspices of the Church of England. The Church paid all the expenses and undertook to accept responsibility for my care for three years.

In late July, 1907 I boarded the S.S. Athenia bound for the port of Quebec.

There were ten or twelve of us all about the same age - sixteen years; and we were headed for Melfort, Saskatchewan where the Church of England operated a hostel. There local farmers could apply for a young lad willing to do farm work.

After eight days on the ocean and a week on an immigrant train out of Quebec we finally arrived at Melfort. The journey on the train was an experience I will never forget. The passengers were all new arrivals in Canada, all hoping to find farms and fortune in a new land.

The wooden seats on the train when made into a bed were as hard as a rock. I slept upon the luggage rack.

We were met in Quebec by a member of the church and he had a huge supply of groceries, enough to feed us on the journey from Quebec to Melfort. There was a little cubby hole in the railroad car with a small cook stove and everyone in that car had to do their own cooking. The temperature was in the ninety degree mark and between the smell of perspiration, garlic and food cooking it was an experience never to be forgotten.

A few of the boys had little money, but it didn't last long for the Newsies on the train were very persuasive and had little difficulty getting the boys to part with their money.

We finally arrived in Melfort and found we had jobs waiting for all of us. Myself and another lad had to purchase tickets on the C.N.R. for Lilac where we would be met by our future employers.

When I left England I was wearing a bowler hat and were it all the way to Melfort, as naturally were it on the journey to Lilac! At least it was the cause of lots of laughter for the coming years. Mrs. McCune met me in Lilac and I was on my way to a life as the hired man. Never having done a day's work in my life, for I was still going to school a week before I sailed for Canada. Life changed drastically. I can remember one thing now — what it is to be homesick. All I could think of was to save enough money to get back to England.

My first wages in Canada were set at ten dollars per month for nine months. At the end of nine months I put eighty dollars in the bank.

I will never forget the kindness of our closest neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. King Turner. They were from England and had a young Scottish lad about my age working for them. Most of all they had a piano and they made me feel very much at home and encouraged me to play the piano. When I think now of the many times I walked over there and kept them up late at night while I played that piano. I must have made an awful pest of myself, but they were wonderful people and always made me feel so welcome.

I could fill a book with my experiences with Bobby Gage, the lad who worked for Harry Turner, but one thing I will never forget is the wonderful kindness to a very homesick boy who had but one thing in his mind — to save enough money to get back home.

Finally, in 1911 I achieved my goal with almost one thousand dollars saved I bought my one-way ticket back to England. What a surprise! I couldn't stand it when I got home. Even though I had a good job, after three weeks I bought my return ticket to Canada. I stayed in England four months and really enjoyed myself, but was very happy when I finally boarded a Cunard liner bound once again to Canada.

Now the idea was to save enough money to make a start at farming on my own. This was the beginning of the dirty thirties, money was something to dream about. I worked for many local farmers, sometimes for my board, but always with wonderful people who made me feel like one of the family and never that hated word the hired man.

Finally in 1920 I took the plunge and rented a half section of land from Ross Staby. Did a lot of work on the house that is still on the farm and in the fall of 1920 married May Robinson. Our first daughter was born in this house. We have two other daughters, Ann and Dawn.

Due to the war we were away from Rudsell for a few years returning to farm in 1929. I became post-master at Rudsell, retiring to the village.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Dunish

by Emma Dunish

We came to the Lilac District in 1913 in a farm two and one-half miles west of Lilac. At that time we had one child, a girl, Geraldine. That fall in October we had a son, Dennis. Both Geraldine and Dennis went to Lilac School.

Walter was raised in the Waldron Area and went to Primrose School. Emma grew up in Rabbit Lake District and went to Park Royal School.

Lilac was a busy little place with Post Office, store, garage, two elevators and a church. A curling rink was built in 1913 and it really kept us busy in the winters.

Our mixed farm kept us busy as we milked quite a few cows and shipped cream. Walter also did carpenter work in North Battleford for four years. Then we went into the chicken business in 1924 and supplied hatching eggs to Longstaff's Hatchery in North Battleford, and Amsley's Hatchery in Saskatoon and Lloydminster. We also supplied graded eggs to the Safeway Store in North Battleford. Our flock usually numbered about 1000 laying hens. We quit the egg business in 1930, when we lost our home in a fire which destroyed our egg grader, washers and cooler.

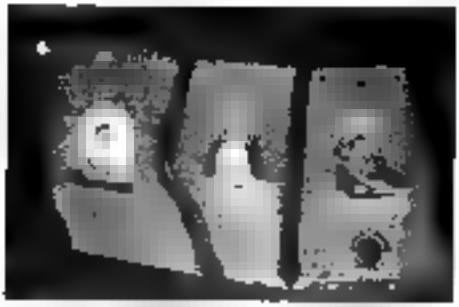
In 1935, July 3, a lightning storm had burned our home; later that summer with the help of our neighbors we had poured a basement. After harvest we started to re-build our home. We got moved into it in February 1937. That was a real cold winter, as we nearly froze in the little trailer we lived in while we were building the house.

Geraldine now Mrs. Vern Young, lives in Montreal and has three children, two boys and a girl. Dennis and Emma live on a farm in the Lilac Area and have three sons.

We are semi-retired now but are staying in our farm house.

The Dennis Dunish Story

The Five D's began on April 25, 1953, when Dennis, a Lilac resident, married Donna Strang, a girl from the Murray Lake district. The first three years of their married life was spent in Edmonton, Alberta, where Dennis worked as a mechanic and Donna a typist. Their first son, Duane Walter, was born on January 30, 1956 in the Royal Alexander Hospital in Edmonton. They returned to Saskatchewan when Duane was about three months old. Dennis worked in North Battleford as a mechanic and then operated a service station at Denholm. A second son, Dean George, was born at the Union Hospital in North Battleford on August 3, 1960. After giving up the service station they decided to give "Beautiful British Columbia" a try. In the fall of 1971 Dennis loaded up his family and moved to Prince George. Although the jobs were plentiful and wages were good, the terrible odor from the pulp mills and rough lifestyle proved to be undesirable. A third son, Devin Patrick William, was born on December 18, 1973 in the Prince George Hospital. When Devin was only four months old they decided once again to move. In the spring of 1974 they returned to Saskatchewan. They now reside on the Levi Walden farm, where Dennis farms and does mechanic work for neighboring



(L-r) Devin, Dustin and Dean Bzdok.

farmers. Dustin, Dean and Devin attend school at Maymont and during the winter are avid hockey players.

The Caldwell Story

Thomas Boyd Caldwell was born in County Antrim, Ireland on June 7, 1889. His mother died of 'galloping consumption' when he was three months old. This was probably why the young lad was sent to Canada. It was believed the drier climate would be beneficial to his health. Thomas arrived at the Lilac District in 1908 and worked for the Semple brothers on their farms. His free time was spent at the Collins farm where he was treated as "one of the family".

Later he had his own "homestead" and also worked for other farmers and one winter he worked for Maymont Livery Stables.

The spelling of his name was changed when he joined the Ninth C.M.R.'s in March, 1915. This, of course, caused problems years later whenever he had to show his birth certificate. In June, 1915 Thomas went overseas where he was stationed at Canterbury. Here he was assigned to the "C" Squadron, Fort Garry Horse and had combat duty in France and Belgium. It was 1918 when 11461 Thomas Caldwell was discharged and able to return to Lilac. During his four years in France he also had pneumonia.

It was while he was stationed in England in 1916 that Tom met Mary Elizabeth Holmes who was later to become his wife. They were married in Saskatoon June 7, 1922, and farmed west of Lilac until July, 1948. During this time they had five children — the first baby being premature only lived two days, as in 1922 there wasn't the scientific knowledge we enjoy today.

However, they raised three boys and one girl with four catechisms after their eldest son Tommy Junior breaking his arm once and having concussion after his pony slipped on ice and fell. At that time we were very lucky to have Harry King-Turner who had studied to be a doctor as a dear neighbor.

When Harry and Margaret King-Turner returned to England in 1936, the Caldwell family moved to their farm and with the assistance of his two sons Thomas cultivated that quarter section plus the Collins farm. Mrs. Collins was a widow and had moved to Ruddell to handle the telephone exchange years previously. They also farmed the land left when the Eustace Scott family returned to their native Scotland.

In 1938 Bill Caldwell joined the R.C.A.F. and left Lilac District to see the world. Thomas Holmes Caldwell remained in the area and married Jillian Seib. The rest of the family moved to Nanaimo in July, 1948 where Bert finished school.

When Bert was seventeen he returned to Lilac and worked for farmers for a short time. He took a correspondence course on drafting and went to work on the South Saskatchewan Dam. Later he worked at Waskesiu Lake with Parks Board and presently is in the Parks Office in Winnipeg.

After leaving the Air Force Bill also returned to Lilac to visit his brother and family. He trained in Psychiatric Nursing at the Battleford Hospital. Here he met his future wife who was the occupational therapist. Bill with his wife and three children live in Meadow Lake.

Thomas Holmes Caldwell and his wife raised six children. Five are married and raising their own families now. Only the youngest, Ron, stayed in the Lilac District to farm.

Laura married Eric Sahlstrom and they raised a family of three. They now have four grandchildren. Laura, now widowed, lives in Nanaimo, B.C., and works as part of the housekeeping staff of the Nanaimo General Hospital.

The following was written by T.B. Caldwell in answer to a request from a Lilac school student. It was written as part of a Homemaker's Project to celebrate Saskatchewan's Fiftieth Birthday.

"I arrived in Canada on March 12, 1908. My first home was a Log house. It was called the "Bachelor's Retreat" as most of the settlers used to congregate there on Sundays. It belonged to Mr. James Semple for whom I worked for three years, cutting scrub and breaking land for seeding with a team of oxen.

I homesteaded north and east of Lilac in 1909. I lived there in a sod shack in winter and worked out in summer. I think Mr. Wm. Agar was first to own a car and also first to have a radio. I cannot remember who had the first truck unless it was Walter Parent.

I lived in and around the Lilac District from 1908 until 1948, when I went out to British Columbia and settled in Northfield, with the exception of my service days in the First Great War when I was in France in 1916. I arrived back at Ruddell in June, 1919.

My experiences were many and varied but as I was just a boy at my leisure I took them as a matter of course. I was lost several times on the prairie while looking for horses but usually managed to arrive at some bachelor's shack where I stayed until daybreak.

My sod shack which I built on my homestead took about on run as the sods had been frozen when I built it

and when they thawed out they sank so low that I had to dig down in front of my stove or else get down on my hands and knees to light it.

Ruddell had only one store at that time. We could drive across country in three days as there were not many fences.

The Campbells are Coming

by Evelyn Andrew Dean, Maymont, Saskatchewan, January, 1979

A team of oxen had been standing for almost two hours near the railroad station of Ruddell. Their heads nodding in the hot August sun.

"Look," Dave said to his partner, "I wonder what brings the two Campbell boys here with the stone boat. Must be going to haul something."

"Didn't you hear?" Ike replied. "Sandy went for the missus and kids. Yes, sir, the Campbells are coming!"

"Oh, so that's it," said Dave. "Well, settlers are getting common".

But the Sandy Campbells were not a "common" family . .

It was back in 1892 that a cholera epidemic took many adults in the village of Ruddell on Cape Breton's rocky shore. Alex and Isobel Campbell fell victims to the plague, leaving nine children. One was a baby of three weeks. The eldest was Alexander, twelve years old whom they called Sandy as he inherited some of the reddish tinge of his mother's hair. Mary was thirteen. Next were Dan, Kate, Rita, Belle, William, Pete and the baby, Dolly.

When tragedies of this nature occurred there, friends and neighbours equally distributed the family as they saw fit. The Campbells had no kin living nearby and so the town squire and the minister called it their duty to go to the little house and break up the family, so that they could be cared for. However, they found a defiant Sandy. This family was his to care for! He was too young to realize that it could not be done.

The next day many folk came to look them over. Mary held Dolly close to her and tearfully stated that she would not be parted from her baby sister. A kind-hearted lady took them both and with them all was well.

The squire looked Sandy up and down and decided a lot of work could be done by a boy of his age and so he chose Dan.

Tourists from Maine, U.S.A., often holidayed on the Island. A doctor and his wife also looked the family over, thinking to take back home a fair-haired, blue eyed girl to make their childless home complete. When they chose eight year old Rita, Kate, nine and Belle, seven, cried so hard and held on to Rita so tightly that after much coaxing, the wife persuaded the doctor to take all three!

The family, standing wild-eyed and sorrowful, was getting smaller. A lady came and fussed over little

This picture is most of the Sandy Campbell clan. Rose is missing and Hector and he did not return from the war. Standing with hat on is Kay, Jack (in uniform), Caroline Andrew holding Hector, just above is Billy Andrew holding Evelyn, behind him is Bob McPherson holding Sylvia, Belle McPherson, Dora Foster and Jack Foster Sr., above is Hilda Foster, Harry Skinner holding Lena, next to Jack Foster Sr. is Ollie Skinner, Blanche Brown holding Irene, Minnie Reid and George Reid. Directly below Billy Andrew and Evelyn is Walter Reid, Frank Foster, Dorothy Foster, Jack Foster Jr. Front — Russell, John and Earl Andrew, Alex Skinner, Tug and Pink McPherson, Vivian Reid. Seated — Sandy and Selina Campbell, Audrey Brown, Ruby Reid, Doug Skinner, Gloria McPherson.

Don your old Peter, comforted him, and soon he was over the border in a new home in the U.S.A. Little did he know what lay in store with the woman

Dan and William were taken to separate places and the little house was like the children — very lonely alone and very sad.

One night in sleeping in a cruel bed very little food, disagreement with the whip and told he might work for his keep and get no wages did not appeal to Sandy. The next night in the cover of darkness a boarder from boy became a stowaway on a ship.

When discovered aboard ship Sandy told his story to the captain. He promised to do anything that method if they would only let him learn to be a sailor where his career could be left in the bottom of the ocean. He did not want to live on land. It was hard and it was cruel. So it was that Sandy soon learned to be a sailor and a captain. Five years passed and Sandy was a man. He wondered where his brothers and sisters were. He thought of Mary and Dolly. They should be in Baddeck. The rest, he knew not where.

One day the captain of Sandy's vessel said they had to go into harbor at Baddeck. Sandy left ship on arrival and hurried to see if Mary was still there. What a grand evening he had with Mary and Dolly!

He also saw the square again. As he looked into his face he was glad he was bigger now and glad he was of age so he would never have to look at Squire Diggs.

Repairs to the ship delayed sailing and Sandy met a girl. Back on the sea the land didn't seem so bad anymore. There had promised her wrongly and he was in love. Sandy married his sweetheart when he was twenty-one and she was a lass three less than fifteen years old. It was grand, except when he had to go to sea. After their baby daughter was born, Jessie had company. Sandy was captain of his own schooner and loved it.

He had been away for over three months and had the range of a storm. He worked his way home on another sailing vessel. He almost ran up the hill to his home to find that the land was hard and cruel. The engineer of the house were boarded up and the door was locked. He went to Jessie's father's house and knocked on the door. It was opened, then quickly slammed in his face. He yelled at his mother-in-law stumbling by the window staring at him. Every bored. He shouted. Sandy went to the bar. He asked the bartender what had happened. He was told that Jessie had died two months before and later Jessie, now over nine year old, was with the Rideaus. Sandy walked to the cemetery and there he found what he hoped he would not find. "Jessie Campbell. Aged seventeen years. Asleep in the Lord."

Sandy went again and begged through closed doors to see his daughter but his mother-in-law said, "Never!" Jessie had taken last the hate she was carrying and died. Sandy was sure now that there was to be another little one.

The captain was over back at the bar and soon his sorrow was drowned in booze. For two weeks he was drunk and near death when an old sea captain spoke him and took him out to sea.

A few years passed and no more trips into the old port were Baddeck. Sandy drank when he could. It helped him forget.

He visited one port in Newfoundland at Little Bay and he was looking for a boarding place for the weekend. He also wanted to have his laundry done. He stopped at the first place he saw which offered those services. A tall dark widow man took at the door. She hoped he had laundry to do for she needed extra money. It was agreed and she soon had his first meal ready and was washing his clothes.

He asked her where her husband was and she said that he had died some time ago. She now had to take in washing to help care her two girls. Flora and Martha and a son George. She said how her husband, Tom, had been a fisher and was first to go down the shaft every morning. On a certain day he had returned because he had forgotten his lamp. He started to leave again, then returned for his lunch. She told him "Don't come back the third time no matter what, because that means bad luck." Tom Reid laughed turned again and kissed her goodbye. As she watched as she watched him circle to the mine entrance seven five hundred yards from home. She heard a noise and saw three men fly high in the air, twist and fall. She knew one was Tom. Four men carried him home to her. He wasn't laughing or joking as always. He was very still and from that time on, Selma knew what loneliness meant.

Sandy, now was in need of talking [illegible] but he decided he would have to know her better. He went to the bar to drink and to think.

When Monday morning came he was sorry to say goodbye. He paid her and said if he ever came by again he'd have her wash for him. She wouldn't leave it at that. Instead she told him that he shouldn't drink. It wasn't good for him, she said, and she also slipped in a little lecture about drinking sailors and where their final destination would be. Suddenly Sandy didn't like her anymore and he let her the ship.

Next month found Sandy hoping she still lived there. He lowered a little more he her preaching. He said her his life had been rough like the sea in a storm and she was sorry for him. Still she worried that liquor would only dull the pain and would ruin him. Each time he left he thought he would never return. But return he did every chance he'd get for a whole year! Selma persuaded him that Sunday should be the Lord's day and she used church was where sailors and widows should be. Always Sandy reluctantly went along.

One cold Sunday the preacher announced he would not be back until April as the cold made the trip impossible. He said if any couples wished to be married before April, they should come to the pulpit after the service. He had marriage licenses with him. Sandy and Selma walked up to the front along with two more

complain. She wore a plain grey dress her Sunday best and he wore his sailing togs.

There were tough times Newfoundland and so after about four years they decided to move to Seabrook. By this time Sandy and Selina had two children and another on the way. They decided somehow they would find Jessie. When they were in Sydney they learned that the grandmother was dead and after much pleading it was agreed that Jessie could come to live with the Campbells over half the time. So now they had Ken, Rose and Jessie. Blanche was born a short time later. Then Hector and Bertie came along.

Selina proved that Sandy would take a job on land as she worried everytime he set sail. She found for the Captain a job as handyman and gardener on the estate of Alexander Graham Bell where he and the McCurdys were working on airplane development. A house was provided which was larger than the one they were rented. Sandy was outraged! "How a land lubber" "No" The battle raged and finally it was Sandy's lot to live on land. This lasted about two years or more and he hated every minute. Selina and the children loved it.

A new baby girl was born. Mrs. Bell and Miss Caroline McCurdy admired her and adored the name. When they learned that she wasn't named yet, they suggested Caroline McCurdy. They said they would "make it right" with Mr. Campbell. The next day a gallon jug of blackcurrant wine (for a tonic, of course) was delivered to the gardener's house, along with seven new baby dresses. My mother, Caroline, wore those dresses and Sandy drank the wine. Selina was now who would have not her much not. In a year and a half Jack was born.

Sandy was itching for the sea again. After a while he up and quit, moved his family and headed out to sea. In 1897 Ollie was born. This was the last of Selina's babies as she was now forty-five years old. Sandy hesitant except to put the food on the table for four years.

He left one day for a three week trip and did not return. They prayed and they cried and they waited. In a month a plank washed up on shore with the name "Talisheena" on it - Sandy's vessel. The next day two of the crew were washed ashore. Where oh where was Sandy? In an overdue the memorial service for the Captain and his crew was held. Selina was at her wits end to know how to raise her children. Her eldest boy George (Tom's son) was about to get married, but he decided he could not go to another new. So it was that the Campbell kids ate lots of fish and stews and many meals were soup. Jess and Bertie were married and lived in Boston. Many happy memories came from Jess as she was an excellent dressmaker.

The days were dreary for Selina. They made it round the body and she kept hoping that the charts would not a captain. The children often spoke of pops. They would vaguely picture him with his long whiskers and his very wrinkled neck which the salt spray had made tough as iron. One Christmas had passed and another was gone again.

As Christmas rolled around once more, Selina told the children there would be no presents. She said them Dora had given a crepe each one to have an orange and mittens from her. George bought a roast of beef which was also a treat as they always ate stew. The house was scrubbed and so were the kids. Years rolled by youngest. There were seven of them now as Rose was married, and of course George would spend part of the day with Minnie's folks. No matter what, Selina insisted that all go to church on Christmas. They were early found their orange and it was good the first they ever ate! They were dressed, ready to go.

A knock came on the door and Selina opened it. A clean shaven man was standing there. No one spoke.

Selina don't you know me" he asked. She ran into his arms and cried "Oh Sandy" The men came out of hiding in the stairway and stared at the pops they did not know. A pops should have whiskers!

That was one Christmas the church bells rang and no Campbells came. They were listening in the story of Sandy's rescue when he was going down in the water for the third time. When he woke up he found he was on a ship to South America and they could not return to Cape Breton. He was taken on to Peru where he was forced to serve in the Peruvian army. Finally the chance came and he got passage on a ship heading north. There encountered pirates at one point and the sailing was rough. The ship was old and many times they thought it would capsize but the Lord was watching over Sandy. An opportunity came to work his way on another ship going further north and closer to home.

The last Christmas was soon passed. When Anderson came Selina said. "That's it, Sandy. No more sailing!" So Sandy did not go but the sea was calling and he couldn't go. He had no ship. When in school Jess had learned the ballad again. That's the only time the Campbell kids ever heard the captain sing. It was always the same song. When they heard it they knew he'd been on a "boat".

"Bonnie banks, Highland banks
Where you leave to all the day.

One day Selina saw a paper on the store town there called "The Winnipeg Free Press." She read that land could be homesteaded every one went for only $10. "But maybe there are Indians," Sandy argued. "We have Mic Mac Indians here and we're still living," replied Selina. So they argued day and night. Sandy wouldn't farm, but one thing he would do is go to sea and forget all about it! He even had a small vessel purchased on harvested money and a crew ready. A cargo of coal from Sydney Mines was to be delivered at Boston. No one in Seabrook knew as he was making his plans very quietly. But, who wouldn't know Sandy very well. Selina saw that he was up to no good. She insisted and explained and followed. Then one day she drove her auto

that Sandy was leaving so she called the kids, and told them a story. They must never breathe a word, she said, but they were going on a holiday to see Aunt Mary and Uncle Dora in Boston. They were so aging, they sealed their lips. Sandy could leave from the bar one night and he didn't speak to Selina. She did not sleep and neither did he. At last a shark Sandy silently slid out of bed, rolled his pants and left the door being careful not to bang it. Selina knew then was it. She too, dressed in a hurry. Before going on a voyage Sandy's habit was to go to each room to kiss the children good-bye. This time he did not.

Selina pulled the blinds in the living and called the family. Each one dressed and pulled from under the bed the box or bag he was responsible for. No breakfast was eaten. She blew out the lamp and walked to the door. It was a cold grey morning, just before dawn. As she let them down to the wharf, not a word was spoken.

Ken was working and Rose was married so six children and Selina made aboard and into the captain's quarters where they would not be noticed. The room was 16 x 11 a low beam in one corner and nothing more. Selina gave each one a crumb and told them to "Shush" which meant to be quiet. It was nearly five hours before they were away from there and out of the harbor. The wind was great and they were making time. Abigail volunteering the Captain decided he should turn his duties over to his mate and get alot of sleep. He walked to his cabin to be shown but how could he lie on a bunk with seven people sitting on it. Seven were looking white and scared. Selina was looking very defiant and ready. They had a battle royal. Among other things he accused her of wanting to drown all her children. She replied that from now on they all went or they all stayed home. The wind was wrong or Sandy would have set sail for home and ended it then. He did have to get his cargo through ~~and~~ to the shipper of the Schooner trade ship at Halifax.

They were a tired lot when they docked in Boston. The kids were tongue-tied. Oh, the beauty of it all! Selina and the children were soon visiting and very happy. Sandy was mad and the crew knew it. They worked hard and unloaded fast and loaded and set out to bring home. When Sandy looked at Selina he knew she would carry out her threat and long along. When they got back home he names for the Free Press.

Sandy decided to sail a few more times and then go west. His eldest son, Ken, wished to go along. A few days out a storm capsized the sailing vessel and tore it apart. It was night and very cold. Sandy panicked. Where was his son? He held to a large piece until he could no longer hold on. His hands loosed so that he could drop into the sea. Then a voice said "Here hold on. I'll help you." Strong arms hoisted him on top of the plank and the rescuer said, "Oh, Dad, it's you!" Sandy blushed not knowing it was his son who saved his life. A ship passing rescued them and more were he was taken on land and recovering.

So, in 1906, the sea-loving skipper bought a ticket to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Ken and Hector came along and they took land at Rudsell about sixty five miles from Saskatoon. The two young men broke the land while Sandy worked on the C.P.R. bridge in Saskatoon. He earned enough money to erect the buildings and to send for Selina and the children.

In the fall of 1908, the family bade goodbye to the island of Cape Breton and boarded the train. Blanche was eighteen years old and could have been quite a help caring for the younger ones. However, Blanche found a boyfriend on the train and had a dandy trip. They brought their meal along in boxes and bags. Near Lake Superior the train had a breakdown and was stalled for two hours. Blanche and her boyfriend decided to pick blueberries for the family. When they had filled a pail with berries, Blanche spied a cow in the field close by. She thought she would add to the feast so ran to catch and milk the cow. The conductor called, "All Aboard" and was about to proceed on the journey when Selina told him her daughter was missing and they would have to wait. (And wait they did!)

They arrived at Watrous, the end of the rail. Sandy was there to meet them. They were driven by horses to Saskatoon, only four miles away, by stage coach. They boarded the CNR train and soon landed in Rudsell. The boys were late and two young men had been waiting with oxen and stone-boat to bring them the last three miles of the journey.

Again the kids were thrilled but hours of hard work were all the parents found time for. Selina felt sorry for the many bachelors in the area and baked bread for them. She baked six days a week but never on a Sunday.

Blanche soon found work and Ken and Hector left to work in Edmonton. Caroline and Ollie married bachelors and Belle married a man who recently came from Michigan.

Hector was killed in action in The Great War, leaving a son and daughter and a wife whom he had parted from prior to going overseas. Jack came home badly wounded to find his mother very ill. Her grief over Hector, along with diabetes had taken its toll. Insulin was not known then. Sandy hoped she would improve if he moved to Maymont where many of her children were. Ollie, Caroline and Belle lived nearby. Dora and family and George and family also lived there. Sandy sold his farm and the following year built a new house for Selina. But she did not improve instead she grew steadily worse.

Ken came from Edmonton. He had done very well there learning home. He had moved on a move and on a bus factory. He had married and had a daughter. He came in his car so he took his mother back to Edmonton where he had doctors care for her. She was removed home to spend two years in bed. Dora did

double love caring for her own family and for her mother.

In 1930 she was released from her pain. Sandy was very lonely and he knew again that the land was hard and cruel. He often longed for the sea and in about 1937 he did have an opportunity to once more view his beloved sea and spend a month in Ruddock visiting his sisters.

His daughter, Jessie, stayed there when he moved West and no one heard from her after 1912. Mary and Dolly had kept in touch. Now Ella was writing to Sandy, too. The doctor and his wife had given Kate, Hallie, and Rita a good education. All three were Nurses. In later years when the doctor was a victim of paralysis, Rita left her job to come home and nurse him until the end.

Sandy put a notice in a paper for missing persons. Peter, now grown, was a coal miner. He read and sensed the ad. Though he knew nothing of where any of the family were, he could remember their names. He then came to Sandy's and bought a small farm nearby at Spinney Hill.

Sandy found that Dan lived in Chase, B.C., and so he went to visit him.

William was a gold miner who found little gold. He came from the United States to visit Sandy and brought a few stones with gold in them. He always had a corn cob pipe.

Pete, William and Dan did not marry: neither did the three nurses. Each one had faired very differently. Pete had an unhappy boyhood and finally ran away when he was only fourteen years old, to fend for himself for the rest of his life. His former mother was a sex pervert and had come to his bed. Pete was out the other side, dressed and amid her cursings walked out the door, a bewildered boy. He was already working but he decided he would never go back. He hid among papers on a freight car and landed in Chicago with only the clothes he had on. He knew one thing and he remembered it well — Women were no good and he hated them. He had his own code of morals. You could not play cards on a Sunday. He caught us once and it never happened again. After that we were very careful if Uncle Peter was staying at our house.

Sandy went to live with Jack and Jean. When the meal was finished he would get up, and with hands behind his back, pace up the floor, turn and come back. He said he was walking the deck. One cold night in the early thirties he took very sick. The Campbell clan gathered around. Ken came from Alberta and he and Jack prepared to take their Dad to a Saskatoon hospital. Sandy now lived close to the railway tracks. A stretcher was made and he was taken through his bedroom window to the waiting train. In his delirium he thought he was being sewn in the Canvas coffin to be cast overboard. He roused and said, "Good boys, heave ho!"

Three days later, we buried the captain, and the prairie winds blow over his grave far from the harbors he loved. I like to think he is waiting on this side of the Jordan and he had the old Yakhasmen all in ship shape. When the last of the Campbells climb aboard, it will be anchors away and he'll sail us all into the Harbor of Home Sweet Home Home". Until then, he is just walking the deck and waiting, and waiting.

Donald Campbell

A Scotch lad, with no relatives in Canada, drifted into Ruddell, got work with Turnbull Bros. In the summer months he'd have a route which he walked leading Turnbull's Clyde Stallion from stand to stand.

With horses gone, Donald went to Vancouver Island and is buried at Sidney.

Jack and Jean Campbell

as told by Jean

I was born Eugene (Jean) first daughter of Ernest and Agnes Beaudoin in Ishpeming, Michigan, U.S.A. I came with my parents, brother Isidore, and grandparents, the Lafreniéres, to the homestead in

Jack and Jean Campbell -- 1938.

Saskatchewan in 1904. The women and children travelled by passenger train, but the men travelled by freight train with the horses, cows, and other settlers effects to Saskatoon. They homesteaded in the district that is now Hafford.

I started school in White Berry. My first teacher was Francis Reid. I loved school but I could only attend once in a while because I was needed at home to look after my brothers and sisters.

After the death of my father in a drowning accident life was very hard for mother and us eight kids. We moved to Maymont in 1917 when Mother married Bragi Anders

I married Jack W. Campbell in November 1923. Jack had come to the Rudsell area in 1906 with his family. Jack was a veteran of World War I where he had received a medal for bravery. Jack had been farming on the farm nearby.

Back row — Lil Lafreniere holding Edward Beaudoin, Agnes Beaudoin holding Ida Beaudoin, Teddy Lafreniere. Front — Jean and Isadore Beaudoin.

We were married in Saskatoon and then went to Winnipeg for a few days on our way to Chicago. It was there that Jack bought me a warm winter coat and a new pair of shoes. I had never had shoes that cost so much! They cost five dollars!

Jack found a job with Sears and Roebuck in Chicago. Our son, Norman, was born there. After a year there I persuaded Jack to take me back home. I was so lonely for my family on the prairies. So Jack did just that.

We farmed in the Maymont and Rudsell areas on rented farms. It was here that our three children were born; Violet, Ken and Shirley.

I remember one spring when we were renting a farm near Rudsell, I wanted some chicks but I didn't have a clucking hen. A crow had a nest near the house so I decided maybe she could hatch me some chicks. I robbed her nest and replaced her eggs with three hens eggs. She hatched my eggs alright but promptly ate the chicks as they came out of the shell. So much for those chicks that spring.

In 1937 after trying to struggle through the depression we decided to move to Edmonton. Jack went ahead of me and found a job with his brother in the mines. The kids and I went later on the passenger train from Maymont. I had packed a lunch of sandwiches, oranges and apples for our trip. Oranges and apples were a real treat to our kids and they would have eaten them right away but I told them they were for on the train. We had hardly left Maymont Station when Norman said, "We're on the train now Mom can we have an orange?"

Jack again joined the army in 1939. We couldn't rent a house in Edmonton that would allow children so we moved to Fort Saskatchewan. We finally found a house in Edmonton so back we went.

When Jack returned home after the war he got a job at the Students Union at the University of Edmonton. We bought our present home when Jack retired. Jack had just been retired for a short while before his death on Father's Day 1965. He had a heart attack while out golfing with Shirley and her husband, Bill.

I still live in our home in Edmonton. Jack and I have eleven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Our son, Norman, passed away in 1974. Ken and Jean and Norman's wife, Doris, live in Prince George, B.C. Vi and Wayne live in Canmore, Alberta and Shirley and Bill in Calgary, Alberta.

Pat (Prysalli) Campbell

I was born in Maymont in 1932, delivered by Dr. Scrutch at home. I took my schooling in Maymont, my teachers being Miss Edith Butterfield, Miss Audrey Page and Mr. Jack Armstrong.

I graduated from Saskatoon City Hospital in 1954 as a Registered Nurse.

I was married in October, 1954 to Sam Campbell at Sharon United Church, Maymont by Reverend Myers. We live in Lucelend, farming from town. We have three children and are expecting our first grandchild.

Duncan (20 years) married wife, Pat, and lives in Buffalo Narrows, Saskatchewan. He is a Conservation Officer.

Janice (18 years) is in third-year Education.

Dean (14 years) graduating in June, plans on taking Vocational Agriculture.

I have been working as a general duty nurse at Kerrobert Union Hospital for the past nine years.

Allen and Edna Carnahan

told by Edna Carnahan

Allen and Edna Carnahan began their farming career with the purchase of the pioneer homesteads of

Allan and Edna Carnahan

Collins, Preston and Ray Cameron from Alvin Nutbrown, who had owned it for a number of years. They once have added the Albert Sherman farmstead in 1977.

Allan born March 8, 1948, is the eldest son of Stan and Elsie Carnahan. He attended Ranger School, east of North Battleford. Allan has been a semi-truck driver since 1969 and at present works at Kindersley Transport, North Battleford.

His interests include John Deere tractors, fishing, hunting, curling and travelling.

Edna born June 28, 1948 at the family farm is the second daughter of Albert and Gertrude Sherman. She attended Calais School until it closed, then Fielding and Maymont. After attending Saskatoon Teachers' College, she has taught school at Allinane, Willow Springs, Wawle Bank, Denholm and is at present teaching at Cochin School.

Edna enjoys farming, horses, fishing, travelling, and rock collecting.

When Calais School closed these pupils were in attendance — Alvin, Earl and Garry Nutbrown, Clint, Bill, and Dorothy Long and Edna Sherman. Our last teacher was Marvin Hodgins.

We lived close to the school, so it wasn't a great problem to go to school.

I remember every time the superintendent came to visit the teacher we kids would catch and kill a mouse and hang it on his car door handle. But we chickened out and always removed it before he came out.

I was in the usual community things concerts, plays, C.G.I.T. and choir at Fielding — also in 4-H Grain Club. While in the 4-H I won the trophy for Oats in the Fielding Club. After belatedly replacing it over, it was entered in Saskatoon on a provincial grain show. I won the Lake Elevator Trophy and was Saskatchewan Junior Oat Champion in 1968.

I also kept Saskatchewan University grain plots on the farm — several varities of grain were sown in short rows in a plot. The University was experimenting in various communities as to best variety for soil and moisture conditions.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Carpentier

by Mary (Williams) Carpentier

I was born Mary Louise Williams, the only daughter of Geordie and Adaline Williams. I have many memories of my childhood such as farming with horses, the old wood stove, coal oil and gasoline lamps and waking up in the morning to find it cold as ice.

I attended Maymont Central School which was a three-room school with a basement. In the earlier years I was taken to school by horse and buggy in the summer, and in winter an open cutter when the weather was cold.

It was a big thrill when my parents bought a Model A Ford. In later years when I grew up I learned to drive it and called it Chippendale. It was all decorated up with arrows going in all directions and balls made out of yarn. I am glad I grew up in the fifties — to me they were great years.

In 1956 I married Bert Carpentier from Paynton. We worked on a farm at Paynton for the first year, then bought a house trailer and moved to Saskatoon. We lived in the trailer for seven years and working on construction we moved around to many different places. We have lived at Saskatoon, Elbow, Lily Plains, Red Deer Hill, Preston, Rising Lake, Radford and Bradwell. It was fun as there were more families and we moved around together. But by this time we had a family and it was time to settle down. Marty, Todd and Karen were born during our rambling years. Marty started school at Clavet.

In 1967 we moved back to Maymont, bought a house and moved it on my parents' farm. It is situated directly east of the spot where my Grandmother Maria Williams' house was built in 1903. We prefer living on the farm to living in the city or moving around from place to place. Our second daughter, Karal, was born after we settled at Maymont.

Bert worked for the C.N. at Mayfield for quite a few years but then decided to see something different. He is now driving a chartered bus for Frontier Coach Lines out of North Battleford.

Time rushes on and our family are growing up but we have a lot of happy memories and each day is fulfilling as we live one day at a time.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank (Mary) Charlton

written by Mrs. Mary Charlton

I am writing, as requested, my part of the Maymont district from when I can remember to the fall of 1942. Since then I haven't been around there too much as my life has been all over the 3 prairie provinces.

First I am the eldest child of Percy Parker and Maud Walker Mary Ellen Parker My father was the son of William G Parker and Elizabeth Hird I've still have many relatives from Manitoba to the Quebec border My Mother was the third child of George Walker and Lydia Purves Both sets of grandparents were pioneers of the Grey School District 3 miles north and 1 mile east of the village of Maymont where I went to school from 1920-1928 From school I worked as a hired girl for various members of the Maymont community I was baptized in the Maymont United Church as it's known now but at the time I was baptized it was Presbyterian I attended the United Church from cradle roll to adult I remember Ella being a lot of money for collection

In the fall of 1942 I tried to join the army and in the spring of 1943 I made the grade and was accepted as a member of the Canadian Women's Army Corps where I served my King and Country until January 1946 In October, 1944 I had a 3 week leave and went to Fort William Ontario (now Thunder Bay) and married Noel Hatter We had one son Lyle Kenneth born July, 1945 Noel and I were divorced in 1956 and in 1958 I had returned a housekeeping job in Alberta and October 1966 married Francis W Charlton He also had a son by a previous marriage his wife died of cancer in 1964 so Frank and I each had a son Lyle Hatter and Leslie Charlton There were many tears trying to put two families together but we managed and had a good home In 1965 Frank and I had a son of our own which we lost 11 hours after he was born It was a difficult time for all We now have 4 beautiful grandchildren. Our son Lyle Hatter married Cheryl Jacque and they have a girl, Michelle and a boy, Blaine. Our son, Leslie Charlton married Rosy Wood and they have a boy Grey, and a girl, Michelle

In the year 1971-72 I went to a Technical School and received my Commercial Baking Papers, plus Short Order Cooking and now I am busy doing birthday, wedding, and anniversary cakes as well as teaching cake decorating at times.

My husband, Frank, had open heart surgery in March 1976 and as he hasn't been able to work since, we have done a lot of travelling. In 1977, we travelled from coast to coast, Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island to Vancouver Also, 1978 we were up in the North West Territories Yellowknife, Fort Providence, and Hay River Then in October, 1979 we went to Salt Spring Island, B.C. for the winter and came back to Alberta in March, 1979.

We live in Bowden, Alberta where we are home most of the time so are here and if not, anyone of our neighbors can tell where we are

Mr. and Mrs. Dave. F. Christie

Richard Pioneers

After spending the first five years of their retirement in North Battleford, Mr. and Mrs D. Christie moved to the village of Maymont, in the fall of 1968, where Dave could walk the length of the village and chat with former friends and neighbors.

Mr Christie an early pioneer had taken a homestead in the fall of 1902, the S E. quarter Section 8, Township 42, Range 13 West of the Third Meridian, located in what later became the Mayfield Municipality.

During the first few years his summers were spent in growing up the homestead and in the winter he worked out. It was while spending a winter at Paddell, working for Turnbull Bros., that he met Alice Carter who was to become his wife

Alice Carter had come from London, England to visit her sister and brother-in-law, Nellie and Herbert Young who at that time operated the Wanganui Post Office some fifteen or eighteen miles north of the village of Richard When she heard of a position at Bredell Hotel she decided to apply, and while working there she met Dave. They were married October 30, 1911 in St. Mary's Anglican Church, Lilac, which is now part of the Battlefords' Museum

While living on the homestead their first two children were born -- a son Dave and a daughter Ethel. Mrs Christie tells of Ethel's arrival as a real heavy rainstorm The roads were so bad that Dr Bridgeh didn't make it in time, so Mrs Cudney an midwife made the delivery

They later moved to a new location one mile north to the S W of Douglas where they lived and farmed until their retirement. It was here their third child, Roberta was born David and Ethel started school at Burgoyne School later moved and named Lilac, and were transferred to Richard near their home town Roberta took all her public and high school in Richard School and was the first student to return home to teach

During Mr Christie's years on the farm he raised and cared well for many prize winning Clydesdale horses of which he was very proud For years he attended the North Battleford Fair with his horses and always made his expenses plus a bit extra in prize money

Mrs Christie was an active member of the Richard Homemaker's Club for many years.

In the fall of 1945, they retired from farm life to North Battleford, where they enjoyed life until the move to Maymont. Mr. Christie passed away the fall of 1968 and was buried in Maymont Cemetery

Mrs Christie was a member of Maymont United Church Women while living in Maymont In 1968 she sold her home there and spent the winter with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr and Mrs. Les Johnston of Richard. However being of independent nature, the next spring she decided to return to Maymont, where she purchased the old telephone office which she had renovated and made her home there until 1974. She then bought the former Richard townhouse and moved there to be nearer her daughter Finding it a bit dif-

fficult to cope with household chores she moved into River Heights Lodge in October of 1977 where she still resides.

On May 31, 1979 her family gathered at the home of her daughter to celebrate her ninetieth birthday, having a family dinner. In the afternoon and evening a 'Come and Go Tea' was held in the Richard Recreation Hall where close to one hundred people signed the register. When they gathered around in the evening to sing "Happy Birthday" Mrs. Christie said "This had been the most wonderful birthday I have ever had. I never thought it could happen to me"

The Frank Clayton Story

written by Frank Clayton

Born on a farm near the village of Preston, Huntingdonshire England, September 27, 1903. Received his education in this area. Left school during first World War (1916) when manpower was getting scarce. Immigrated to Canada, along with a cousin, Jack Cruickshank, in 1923. Left Liverpool on Friday, April 13, 1923, anchored in the ocean for one week, due to fog and icebergs. Took sixteen days for crossing. Landed at St. Johns, New Brunswick. Travelled by train to Cocquet but was held in quarantine for 24 hours due to one passenger having spots out with small pox at Outlook. Supposed to have a job at Cocquet, but was too late arriving. Obtained a job on a farm at Asquith. Worked there the summer and harvested there. Went to Saskatoon for two weeks, then obtained a job in the bush at Mistatim. Worked in the saw mill, arriving Christmas Eve. Worked here till sometime in February, when the mill burned down. Went to Saskatoon for a few days, then got work on a farm cutting firewood, breaking colts and general chores at Artland. Stayed here for a month then went back to Saskatoon for a few days. During April of 1924 got a job working for Tom Turner Sr. in the Maymont district. Worked there the summer. In fall of 1924 went to Carruthers district to be with the cousin who had immigrated at the same time. Went to help the cousin build a shack on the land that he had purchased. Purchased a C.P.R. quarter for himself in January or February of 1925. Early in spring of 1925 returned to Turners for summer. Cousin broke 20 acres on quarter during summer. Returned to Carruthers in fall of 1925 and in spring of 1926 bought an outfit of 4 horses and a breaking plow, borrowed a drill and planted 30 acres of wheat. Broke 120 acres of prairie land between the two men and 30 acres for a neighbor. Came August 7, the whole crop froze black, cut it and stooked it. Threshed some of this crop but burned most of it. Following year (1927) sowed a late crop of oats and rest to wheat. Broke about 60 acres for a neighbor. Oats turned out pretty good, wheat frozen more than 1926. Most of it burned. Spring 1928 rented 3 quarters of land. Farmed this for four years. Spring of 1932 moved to Maymont and bought 2 quarters of land. The next spring bought another quarter. In November 1933 married Marjorie Ellen Long, and resided on NW¼, 8,41,13. In June 1934 a daughter, June was born. Pretty good crop this year. After this drought years hit and until 1937 it was very dry. In 1937 got nearly all seed back. The year 1938 proved to be better. In November 1938, a son, Richard (Dick) Edward was born.

June started school at Calmo School in Fall of 1940 and Dick started in fall of 1943. Continued schooling here until 1948 when family moved closer to Maymont. Bought the NW¼ 26,41,12 so children could go to high school. Took the whole family "home" to England November 1946 to March 1947.

June married Dean Oliver Rogers on January 31, 1954. Dick married Elizabeth Dorcas Brown on October 10, 1959. Both families reside in the Maymont area.

Marjorie and Frank celebrated their 40th Wedding Anniversary November 1973. At present they have 9 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. They still reside on their farm south of Maymont.

The Richard Clayton Family

Richard Clayton is the only son of Frank and Marjorie Clayton. I was born in the village of Maymont with Dr. Scratch in attendance. I took my Grades One to Four in Calmo School District and in 1948 our family moved to Maymont where my parents are living now one-half mile south of Maymont. I took Grades Five to Twelve at Maymont School and after completing Grade Twelve, I took two years of university attending the School of Agriculture and graduated from there in the spring of 1960.

I married Elizabeth Brown, the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Brown on the 5th of 1959. Elizabeth was born in the Spinney Hill District. Her family moved to Maymont in 1944. Elizabeth attended school in Maymont.

We lived in a two-room house on my father's farm which they had lived in when they were first married. We had two sons, Kevin and Terry while we lived there. In the fall of 1963 we bought Nelson Neilbrown's place which was one-quarter mile east of Maymont on the old highway. It was well known as the Sheridan Park. While we lived there Ellen, Neil, Lenna and Marie were born.

In 1972 we bought the farms of Allen and Charlie Neilbrown. We moved to the Charlie Neilbrown farm in October of 1972. We built a house that winter and moved in the new house in the spring of 1974.

Our family takes an active part in community activities such as 4-H Beef Club, church activities and sports. Kevin has completed Grade Twelve and has attended first-year university at the School of Agriculture.

The George A. Clark Family History

George A. Clark, Uel and Mary Clark, Clayton and Louise Clark, William Lee and Karen Schmidt (Clark)

Mr. George A. Clark was born April 28, 1845 in New York, U.S.A. He married Alvina J. Cory on October 18, 1869 in Minnesota. George Clark was a schoolteacher in the U.S.A. Then in 1909 he took his seven children and wife to homestead in Canada. They made the family home south of Fielding.

December, 1913 Uel Sumner, George's youngest son, married Mary Mabel Parker. Then in 1918 George passed away leaving Uel to farm. Uel and Mary had three children – Dorothy, Clayton, and Mabel. In 1948 Uel passed away due to a heart condition, leaving Clayton to farm and support his mother and Mabel.

In 1950 Mary and Mabel moved to Vancouver, where Dorothy was married to Jack Barker and resided there. Mary lived there until her death in 1965.

March 22, 1958 Clayton married Louise Ward. Still on the homestead, they farmed trying to make a living always fighting the lack of water. Then in 1962 they bought the Keith Ferris farm north of Fielding. They moved off the homestead but to this day they still farm

Uel and Mary Clark.

Clayton and Louise Clark, granddaughter Mandie Schmidt.

Murray and Ruth Richards and their family, Jeffery, Wendy, and Jody on mom's knee.

the land, but now Clayton's son, Murray, owns the land.

Clayton and Louise have four children — Ruth, married in 1973 and living in Prince George, B.C. with her husband, K. Murray Richards, and their three children — Jeffery, Wendy, and Jody Karen, married in 1973 and living in Maymont with her husband, W. Lee Schmidt, and two children — Mandy and Wade. Murray lives on the John Runtz farm home in Fielding and farms and works for a construction outfit. Beverley has finished her Grade Twelve in Maymont Central School and plans to attend University of Saskatchewan in the fall of 1978.

William Lee Schmidt is the son of William E. Schmidt and grandson of Vera Schmidt. He was born April, 1952 and married Karen L. Clark April, 1973. They moved to Lloydminster, Saskatchewan where they both were employed, Lee for the City and Karen in the Credit Union. Then in 1976 they moved to Maymont where Lee joined his dad's construction, Schmidt Construction. They have two children — Mandy and Wade.

The Coleman Family

I will start from the very beginning of my husband's and my Canadian life. First of all Clem came to this country, with Les Harmsworth, more or less on an adventure. They both worked at hired men on a farm at Rosetown, until the First War broke out, when Clem joined the Eighth Winnipeg Rifles and was sent overseas in 1914.

I met Clem in 1917 when he was in hospital there at Ealing. We were married in the latter part of that year.

In 1918 he came back to Canada leaving me in England with my first baby Doug. He had planned on finding a place for me to come to however, he was unable to find something suitable so I came out here and arrived at Maymont March 1 1919. In the meantime Les Harmsworth had left Rosetown and settled at Spinney Hill where Clem had visited and decided he would settle there also. Mr. and Mrs. Tom Young were our neighbours and were so very kind to us.

Clem had warned me before I left England that I mustn't expect any luxuries and on asking just what he meant, he told me not to expect a bathroom with all the facilities for one thing. I asked how we would manage, he told me that he would dig a ditch as many paces from the house and that was to serve as a W C. He also said that I would be lucky if I had a one-room place in which to live which proved to be true. I asked what we would do if visitors came to stay overnight and he said that large spiders were hammered into the tree by fours around the walls and sleeping bags were hung on these. I was so very green and really believed all these things.

Before I arrived in Maymont Clem had sent a big order away to Eaton's for groceries - those days folks used to send to Eaton's or Simpsons for groceries, enough to last the winter. The grocery order consisted of the bare necessities but there was an pounds of dried apple rings and five pounds of bulk baking soda. Clem kept asking me to make an apple pie and "baking soda biscuits" so I understood to make scones. I first made the biscuits. I had no baking powder so thought that as the recipe called for three teaspoons of baking powder I would use the same amount of soda. The biscuits were a sickly looking green and of course were not suitable. I then undertook to make an apple pie, the crust was alright, but when it was cut into the contents were like rubber. I hadn't soaked the apple rings - as I had had no experience with dried apples. — for that matter no cooking experience at all.

I almost left of a rather funny experience at least it was for me but not for Clem. In the order from Eaton's was a large dish pan which was to serve as a bath, washtub and was used to set bread dough after having been scoured out first with ashes and rinsed. Friday night was bath night. Clem was taking his bath beside the big old heater and he bent over to dry himself with his back to the heater when I heard expressions and words that I never heard before. He had burned a "hot spot" quite badly and of course I couldn't help laughing although it really was not a laughing matter.

We were very hard up when we first came out here. The government issued a gratuity after the First War as after the Second War - even after serving four and a half years three of which I was served in the front line at different times and was wounded in the face and arm. The pittance deducted so much off each pay check while the men were overseas and that was paid back to them on arrival back here. Clem's gratuity was four hundred dollars. At first it was difficult to get work and Clem dug telephone post holes at Spinney Hill for fifty cents a hole when the ground was in.

In May of 1920 we heard that the West Derry mail needing an operator, so Clem applied for the job, which we were glad to get. I used to go down to the river-bank shack for the summer months and back up to the same kind of abode on Les Harmsworth's farm for the winter. In 1921 Albert Davis was leaving his farm and wanted to sell his quarter section so we cobbled home for the money to purchase it. (we swallowed our pride to do that). In 1926 Bill Philpott, the postmaster in Maymont at that time asked us if we would take over the job as he and his brother-in-law wanted to buy a store at Lashburn so again we had to rabble home for money.

We ran the post office for thirty-three years. Those days were very different to nowadays. There were four trains each day that carried mail. Two passys and two main trains, and which by the way had to be met every day, including Sundays. We also served Spinney Hill and Stoningdale.

Now a little bit about my family. Douglas was born in England at Hanley in Surrey. Maurice (who passed away in 1961) Joyce and Allan were born at Spinney Hill and Dennis and Brian were born in Maymont here.

Douglas and Allan served in the Second War overseas and Clem served as instructor at Dundurn for one and a half years.

The post office was run by Mr. McLaren, followed by Miss Thorneman who later left the post office to run the British American elevator here. Bill Philpott took over the office then. And as I mentioned before we moved in after that. We moved in 1938.

My family is scattered miles from here. Doug is married and living in Hamilton, Ontario. Joyce with her four children lives in London, Ontario with the exception of Maurice their youngest son - who is living in Toronto. All the family are doing well.

Dennis is living at Rusty Creek, Ontario. All his family are established there. Allan is at Swan River and Brian is at Vulcan, Alberta. His eldest son, Douglas, is stationed at Battleford at present as the R.C.M.P. His two older daughters are at Lethbridge. Wayne is attending University there and Danette is working at the Commerce Bank.

I would like to add before closing that the old timers at Armory Hill were all so very kind to me when I first arrived in this country. The majority of these kind folks have passed on.

Conditions here were so very different to those I left behind in England and I would have returned home across the ocean, had it not been for the kindness of these kind folks.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Collins

by Fred Collins

My father came to this country in 1908 which was seven years before I was born, so I have to rely on memory of his telling of experiences happening during those times. As to the naming of the school I believe it was Mrs. Tyhurst who suggested the name "Chinis". Mr Tyhurst had lived in France for some time and as the school was built during the First World War and during the time discussion of a name for the school was going on events going on in Canada France, were quite prominent in the news, so I think that was why the name was chosen. As we lived close to the school most of the teachers boarded at our place.

Frank, my dad, came to Canada in 1908 from England. He and his brother ran a Confectionary and Catering business in England. The Collins family were in England for generations. My dad and his brother were the first to break tradition.

My dad filed on a homestead, the NW¼, Section 3, Tp. 43, Rge 12, W3. Most of the farm work during the first years was done with oxen. The extent of farm machinery for the most part was the walking plow, disc harrows, drill and binder. During the first few years most of the homesteaders had only a few acres as they stacked their crop to be threshed later.

There were a few large steam threshing outfits and they threshed the larger fields from the stooks and when these fields were done they went around to the smaller farms and threshed the stacks. Later some settlers had a small threshing machine. These machines were hand-fed, one man would place a sheaf on a platform and the mist of the machine would cut the twine and feed the sheaf into the machine. When the straw came out of the back of the machine it just dropped on the ground and some one with a hooking pole pulled by an ox or a horse would take the straw away. I heard of an instance where a lady was taking the straw away with a hooking pole and for some reason, she got in front of the pole and was rolled over into the straw mach to the amusement of the men working there.

Dad went back to England for part of the winter of 1906 and 1907 and came back in the spring of 1907 to continue improving the homestead. He went back to England in 1910 and married my mother Frances Chapelle in June. He then came back to Canada and my mother came later.

It was quite a trip for her, by boat to Halifax, from there to Winnipeg by train. Then they boarded a special train to Watrous. Some of these cars contained cooking facilities for making meals. She landed in Watrous, a small village, to be taken to a small farm house by oxen and buggy. Mother had lived and worked in a small village and wasn't used to farm living and was quite frightened of the oxen. She soon got over frightened of the oxen and was able to hitch one to the buggy to go to town. After a few years the boat then came and the oxen were phased out in favor of horses. Our house was of frame construction with two additions built on later.

We moved to the Birch Lake Area in 1913. We made many trips by horse and wagon, a twenty mile trip. We started over again in bush country, doing some breaking with horses and some with a tractor.

I am a bachelor still living on the farm but don't take much part in the farm work. I am getting the pension so can get along very well.

My sister, Edith, is living with her daughter a mile and a half away. My nephew is working my farm. He is married and has two children. My niece is married and has three children.

James and Margaret Collins and family

James Collins and Margaret Drysdale Collins were both born in Belfast, Ireland and educated there. James spent twenty years of his life as a saylor on sailing ships during that time Margaret operated a shop and raised their children. In 1905 James came to Canada to take advantage of the 160 acres of free land being offered by the Canadian Government. He homesteaded about a mile west of the Lilac post office which was not in existance at that time.

Margaret left Belfast in 1909 with their five children, Jean, Margaret, Dick, Harry and Tom. They arrived in Saskatoon by train, during the summer. James met them there. They journeyed north by ox cart to Prince Albert where Margaret and the children lived until 1913. During that time Harry and Tom died and another son Lawrence was born. James worked proving up the homestead during the summer and spent the winter in Prince Albert working on railway construction and other jobs.

The construction of a sod house was finally completed and the family moved from Prince Albert to the homestead. Albert, Ted, Irene and Kay were born in ensuing years. Meanwhile the older girls, Jean and Margaret were married and moved to North Battleford and later to Caledonia where they now reside. Dick was drowned in the Big Bear River.

As the years went by the railroad was completed from Prince Albert to Dauphin. Mr. Warden opened a general store in Lilac. The Sask Co-op built a grain elevator. As they became old enough Lawrence, Albert and Ted commenced their education at the Eastgate School. Miss Dewdney was their teacher.

Margaret accepted the job of telephone operator in

Ruddell and James the job of repair man. The family moved to Ruddell in the summer of 1919. The children attended Ruddell School. Their teacher was Miss Duff, who later married Ephraim Reed. Kay's first teacher was Miss Leach.

Lawrence left Ruddell in 1927 and went to Winnipeg where he worked for Walter Woods Ltd., in their china department. He became their sales manager. He eventually bought a manufacturer's agency and operated his own business until he retired in 1973. He now lives at Winnipeg Beach in the summer and spends the winter in California.

Albert joined the Canadian Bank of Commerce in 1926. He worked for them in various branches and then enlisted in the R.C.A.F. in 1941. He spent 3½ years overseas and returned to the bank at the close of hostilities in 1945. He retired from the bank at the end of 1969. He lives in Vancouver.

Ted went to Winnipeg in 1928 and he, too, worked for Walter Woods. He joined the R.C.A.F. in 1942. He received his discharge in 1945 and moved to Vancouver area where he now resides.

Irene worked in the switchboard at Ruddell until moving to Vancouver in 1941. She married there and now lives in South Burnaby.

Kay graduated from St. Joseph's School of Nursing in Victoria in 1940. She worked in Shaughnessy Hospital during the war years. Married in Winnipeg and now lives in Saskatoon.

James Collins died in 1930 when his safety strap broke whilst repairing a flue.

Margaret (senior) moved to Vancouver in 1941 and died there in 1952.

This was composed by Ted Collins and presented to Mrs. Collins one Mothers day many years ago.

MY MOTHER

I well remember how our home,
Was oft besieged by more than one,
Who needed help in their sad plight
Or somewhere to put up at nite,
Whose sorrows imagined or real,
Had made them look for friend and weal,
Which role you'd always fill.

Our home was overun with kids,
Who under decorum put the skids
A place to freely go and come,
Whene'er a child a smile did need,
To you with all good haste they'd speed.
And soon their tears you'd still.

Your heart doth overflow with good
For those you think in need of food,
Or shelter from the stormy blast,
That whistles round the windows past.
You knit and sew and plan and save
To satisfy your children's craves,
For clothes and things to wear.

In all the length and breadth of earth
There is no one of such deep worth,
As thou, Oh Wondrous mother mine
I think you're grand. I think your fine.
You gave me all I'll ever own —
I would not change it for a throne.
To be a son of such as thee,
Is something extra specially
A pride and joy so rare.

The James and Margaret Collins Family of Lilac Ruddell

submitted Lawrence Collins

James and Margaret were born in Belfast, Ireland. James (1867-1930) went to sea at an early age, in the service of the British Merchant Marine. Three trips around the world with stops in many countries, convinced him that Western Canada was the country he should emigrate to with his large growing family. The main reason for his decision was: lots of room to breathe, freedom of speech and the opportunity to own his own land. Margaret (1875-1952) during this time, was in Belfast where six of the older children of the eleven were born. When the children started to arrive, she realized that she could no longer look after the family and still go to work. To supplement the family income she opened a shop in the front section of her home and sold groceries etc. This venture was apparently successful, as attested to by letters of recommendation received from the Belfast Wholesalers. These are now in the hands of her daughter, Irene, in Vancouver.

The family sailed for Canada in the spring of 1906 to follow Mr. Collins who had gone ahead to file claim on a homestead, located one mile west of what is now Lilac, Saskatchewan. Mrs. Collins packed up everything she could take, including a Singer sewing machine and a cylinder gramophone with the cylinders, and five of her children, the sixth child, David, had died in the year of his birth. Arrival at Clark's Crossing (Saskatoon) was a real event in the lives of the Collins family. Two days in Saskatoon was followed by the trip by oxen to Prince Albert. Where Mr. Collins had rented a small house (present site of the R.C.M.P.) where they could stay until the homestead was in shape to receive them.

During the time Mr. Collins was making improvements on the farm that were required, the family lived in Prince Albert and during this time Lawrence was born. It was in Prince Albert that tragedy struck, in the sudden deaths of Henry and Tommy at the same time.

Early in the spring of 1909 the family moved to the homestead where they lived until 1918. Farm life was hard in those days, but with the selling of butter, eggs, chickens and on occasion vegetables to supplement the main income of wheat, the family lived a good life. While at the homestead, Albert, Edward, Irene and Katharine were born. In 1918 the family moved to Ruddell. Mrs. Collins managed the Ruddell Rural

Telephone Officers, looking after the people with telephones in Rudsell, Lilac and Bulgeview Districts. Mr Collins was a line and repairman until 1940, when in a bad windstorm he fell from a loose pole onto the stump of another pole and within a week died of the injuries. Mrs Collins remained at her job with the help of her younger daughters, in particular Irene, until early in the Second World War. At that time she and her daughter Irene, moved to Vancouver to join daughter Kay, who had established herself as a nurse. Mrs Collins died in Vancouver in 1966.

The Collins family are now spread throughout the U.S.A. and Canada.

Jean who was born in 1900 in Belfast lived in Lilac and North Battleford until 1908 to 1909 when she moved to California with her husband Earl Bennett and son, Leonard. She is now a widow living in a rest Senior Citizens Home in Rosemead, California.

David born in 1904 and died the same year in Belfast.

Margaret born 1897 in Belfast, lived in Lilac and North Battleford until 1920 when she married Albert Bates and moved to Winnipeg, Manitoba, followed by a move to California in 1924. She had with her her first son, Kenneth and later another son, Bill. was born. Margaret is now a widow living in California. She is still driving her car on the freeways to visit her sons and other family members.

Richard (1898-1915) born in Belfast, lived in Lilac until he was drowned in the North Saskatchewan River.

Henry (1899-1900) born in Belfast, died in Prince Albert.

Thomas (1906-1906) born in Belfast, died in Prince Albert.

Lyndon born in 1908 in Prince Albert, lived in Lilac 1909-1910. Rudsell 1910 to 1920 when he moved to Winnipeg and became associated with the wholesale firm of Walter Woods Ltd. In 1954 he opened his agency business known as LARRY COLLINS AGENCIES, LTD. with branches in Winnipeg and Edmonton. He and his wife Regina Mann retired in 1974. They sold their Winnipeg home and moved to their summer residence on the edge of Lake Winnipeg, at Winnipeg Beach. They now live a full life with Lodge work and world travelling. They spend part of their summers at home and the winters in warmer climates.

Albert born 1908 in Lilac lived there until the family moved to Rudsell. In 1930 he joined the Canadian Bank of Commerce and was stationed at many towns in Saskatchewan. He joined the R.C.A.F. and went overseas until the war ended in 1945. He had married Shana Belcher in 1943. When he returned from the service, they moved to Vancouver and he returned to the Bank there. He retired in 1980, but at the request of the bank he works as relief manager in remote areas (such as Dawson City, Yukon) so the resident managers can take vacations. They have a son, Kendal in Vancouver and a married daughter, Janet McCullicudy in Adelaide, Australia.

Richard James born 1911 in Lilac, lived in Lilac until 1918, then Rudsell until 1929 then Winnipeg until 1941, when he joined the R.C.A.F. When the war ended in 1945 he took his discharge in Vancouver. The next few years he worked for a furniture manufacturer who closed down because of a fire. He then joined Eaton's Mail Order until they closed that Branch. The Woodward Department Store was next until retirement at age sixty-five. They asked him, however, to remain with the Company on a part-time basis, which he likes very much. The couples love to travel and to do special services for friends.

Irene was born in 1914 at Lilac and lived there until the family moved to Rudsell in 1918. She remained there until she moved to Vancouver with her mother. During the period in Rudsell she was the telephone operator. In Vancouver she worked in a book store. She met and married Leonard Colton, a newspaper man. They have one son, Richard, and a married daughter, Joan, both living in British Columbia. Irene keeps busy with church and social work. Since her husband's retirement they are able to do some travelling, such as a return to Rudsell.

Kathaleen (Kay) was born in 1918 in the hospital in North Battleford while the family lived in Lilac. Kay was the first of the family of eleven to be born in a hospital. The first two years of her life she lived on the farm. From 1918 to 1937 she lived in Rudsell. She took nursing training in Victoria, then moved to Vancouver. At the end of the war she moved to Winnipeg where she married Arthur Mewhell, employed by Philips Electronics. Later they moved to Regina and then to Saskatoon where they still reside. They have three daughters and one son. Art is a department manager at A. A. Murray, Ltd. Through the years of raising a family Kay has always kept her hand in at nursing and as soon as her children were old enough to care for themselves, she returned to nursing full time. She is now Superintendent of Nursing at the former Veterans Affairs Hospital now owned by the Saskatchewan Government.

"A Move From Western Ontario to Saskatchewan in 1918"
William and Maria Conboy
John and Allen Conboy

by Allen Conboy

William and Maria Conboy came west from Canadac, Ontario first to the Vonnoy area and later bought a section of land in the Maymont District — Section 26, Township 43, Range 13, West of the Third Meridian. There was a family of five came west: Fred, Frank, John, Hazel and Georgina. Later two married daughters came west: Laura (Mrs. George Baptist) to Vonnoy, Saskatchewan and Ida (Mrs. Arthur Campbell) to Pelly, Saskatchewan.

William and Maria Conley.

Farming was done with horses and it was relaxed. They built a small house and sod barns for horses and cattle and broke up most of the land.

My brother Sam Johnston came west in 1911 and bought a half section of land from Walter Shoubridge — also in the Maymont District.

My Uncle Frank Johnston and Aunt Margaret came east on a visit the winter of 1913 and I came west with them in the spring of 1913, and stayed with my brother. I liked the prairies.

I had only intended staying through the summer but spent over two years before returning east the fall of 1915.

My brother worked on the railway being built from North Battleford to Prince Albert the summer of 1913. There was no village of Richard or Speers in 1913 but both were flourishing by fall of 1915.

When I went back east the fall of 1915, I found it lonely: not as much activity as in the west.

In the spring of 1916 I went to Thessalon, Ontario to take care of my brother's three children while my sister-in-law had surgery.

When all was well again I started working in a telephone office there from June until December. I went home for Christmas to attend my youngest sister's wedding. John Conley had come east to visit a brother and sister in the east the fall of 1916 and came to see me at my home at Plantagenet, Ontario in January, 1917. While there we decided to get married and come west again. I had gone with him a lot during my stay with my brother. We were married February 8, 1917 at my sister's home in Ottawa. In the east there was a lot of snow that winter and roads were not very good. We spent a month visiting the kin folk at Stapleyn, Cordon and Caradoc which was very enjoyable.

The summer of 1917 was a busy one. John's folks were having a deep well drilled and we were having our home built. We moved in the fall of 1917. Our oldest son, Burell, was born March, 1918.

When Burell was three years old a little white dog came to our place. We could not find anyone near us who owned it. Burell and the dog romped and played together. About two weeks later while the child was having a nap a man came and claimed the dog. His name was Hodge from Stalking. Mr. Hodge said he had been to a ball game at Ruddell and while there the little dog strayed away. That was seven miles from our place.

When Burell woke up and found the little dog gone, he was very upset. When I got him calmed down he wanted to know where his daddy was. I told him he had taken a load of grain to town and would soon be home. We went to get some wood to start the fire and get supper. Some pretty flowers were growing near the wood pile and I told Burell to pick some for me.

A little later when he didn't come in and I could not see him anywhere, I went looking for him. John arrived home and the search began. He was found at Richard, five miles away. While picking the flowers he had seen the Richard elevators and went to meet daddy the wrong direction. John had gone to Maymont. I have often thought that was the beginning of his many travels through the years, started young.

50th wedding anniversary. Merrill, Stanley, Ron, Thelma and Burell. Seated — Mrs. Conley, Mr. Conley.

There were more neighbors close by there than later years. Just south of us the Lovelace family lived, two girls, Nellie and Ethel, and Arthur at home. Harold and Roy away. The Charles Bousfield family a little further west, two girls Alma and Olive, two boys, Frank and Andy, three girls married. The James Little family just a little west and north of us. Five boys, Myron, Stewart, Jim, Hughie and Leslie, one girl Lois. My Uncle Frank and Aunt Margaret lived just a mile and a half east of us. Their son, S. F. Johnston, and I saw their family grow up and enjoyed many happy visits with them.

Our nearest school then was Hathgate over seven miles from us. Burrill went there first with Leslie Little in 1924. When Leslie quit school Burrill then went to Gray School with my cousin's family until the Wayne Bank School was built in 1927 and opened in 1928. The first teacher was Miss Alice Bailey from Indian Head. The second teacher, Mr. Ken Doolittle, was there from 1929 to the summer of 1930. Mr. Harry Brokey was the teacher in 1930 and 1931. These three teachers boarded with us. The trustees were Mr. Dave Alexander, Mr. Henry Yoke, and John Conkey. Mr. Charles McFarlane was the fourth teacher and a teacherage was built while he was teaching there.

We got our mail at Maymont a couple of times a week and sometimes oftener in the summer. The first postmaster at Maymont was Mr. McLaren.

While Mr. McFarlane taught at Wayne Bank Sunday School was started and there was a big class often as high as sixty, some from Rodsell and Lilac District. What was first known as Hathgate School was later named Lilac and a new school built further west.

Ministers that we had at Wayne Bank were Mr. Herman Whaling of Meikle, Mr. Mack of Edmonton. There were student ministers and friends of Mr. and Mrs. McFarlane. Later Mr. Dorrance from Rudsell. Also Mr. David Cline held services in the school. Wayne Bank School closed in 1958.

In the early years we used an ice well on the farm filled with blocks of ice to keep cream and perishable foods throughout the summer months. We also had a large pit covered with poles, straw and earth and had all vegetables which kept lovely from one season to another and had stores for the neighbors if they wanted them.

We had a wonderful doctor in Maymont from 1907 for over fifty years. He served the country for miles East, West, North and South and I'm sure he was loved by everyone and we were proud to call him "Our Doc Scratch".

Many other incidents happened throughout the years too numerous to mention all a part of life and living.

Many small towns that were once busy & prosperous business have faded out due to larger farms and fewer residents. Some people have moved away and many have passed on.

I moved to Maymont on the fall of 1978 and live on a suite in the former locker plant.

The family of John and Alice Conkey:

Burrill: who is now living in San Diego, California and has one daughter, Evelyn, living in Vancouver.

Merrill: who until just recently still farmed the original land and is now living in Maymont.

Thelma and Shirley (twins)

Thelma married Bill Thompson of Hornepayne, Ontario and is now living in Kitchener, Ontario. She has two children, Darlene and John.

Shirley married Earl Manchester of Toronto and lives there.

Ronald: married to Mary Allen of Perth, Ontario. They have three children and live in Toronto. Ron's eldest daughter Beverley is married to Ney Eastman and they have a daughter, Karen. His second daughter, Lorraine is married to Peter Exley. Ron's son, Keith, the youngest family member, is still at home.

The first three teachers at Wayne Bank all boarded at John Conkey's so needless to say none of the Conkey children played hookey or tried to pull the wool over the teacher's eyes, and some of them can say they can't look back and recall many fond memories of the teachers being there. Thelma and Shirley were made to write right-handed by their teacher, Mr. Ken Doolittle. This was considered the proper technique by teachers in those days.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Cook (Bill and Ella)

Mr. Cook was born in King, Ontario July 8, 1880. He moved to Balmoral, Manitoba in 1898.

In 1901 he married Ella Mitchell at Balmoral and they moved to Maymont in 1906 where they settled on land purchased from the Canadian Pacific Railway. At that time a half section of land cost $2500, interest rates were 6% and the amount was paid off in 5 equal payments plus interest.

The Cooks were never blessed with a family of their own but over the years raised three boys, William Storey, Dean Crossley and Jack Donald.

During the years 1912 to about 1925 Mr. Cook became quite well known for his herd of purebred Shorthorn cattle. He managed to mainly wheat farming when pasturehand and water supply became a problem with a large herd of cattle. Later he became interested in raising hogs but not to the same extent that he had been in cattle.

Both were very interested in community work and were firm supporters of the United Church. In fact they were both involved in construction of the then Presbyterian Church which still serves the community.

Mrs. Cook passed away in 1968 and Mr. Cook in 1968. Both are interred in the Maymont Cemetery.

Mr. Harold Coombs

written by F. F. Mahler

Born in England November 12, 1883. His father was a civil engineer, who supervised the building of quite a few bridges among other projects. As the family moved as each was completed Harold gained considerable knowledge of a wide cross section of life. Once while stationed for three years near a military establishment, he observed their rigorous drill and meticulous dress and strict carriage during their training. Harold felt that after enduring this for some years the men would be bursting to engage an enemy, if only to relieve his feelings.

Harold loved the old land and its people. His collection of pictures and clippings showed his loyalty and devotion to the Royal Family. However the calls of freedom and opportunity in the new land interested him, so he sailed for Canada early in the 1900's.

He first helped a rancher at Broadview, Sask. Then he took up a homestead on the West side of Mawdsley Lake. He walked or drove horses to North Battleford for supplies. He proved upon the N.E. of 33-44-12 West in 1925.

He farmed this land with four horses till 1936, being the last farmer to use horses for power in the district. He gave them the very best of care and treatment.

After the horses were gone he spent more time than ever carving knick-knacks from roots, figures of all kinds from bits of wood as well as animals, birds and snakes, etc. Part of these efforts we now can see in the Western Development Museum. His relatives and people will now be able to get a great deal of enjoyment from his artistry.

Harold visited his relatives in England in 1913 and again in 1935. He seemed glad to get back to his life of freedom, to wear the kind of clothes he fancied: (We have other individuals doing this too) or doing things he wished despite the hour or day of the week.

He planted thousands of trees and shrubs on his farm. He defended the existence of a row of spruce and pools now sufficiently during the widening of the right of way for a grid road, to save them. Now the long distance telephones have cut around them. He was an ardent gardener, never losing hope despite many failures.

When he passed away there was more than a year's supply of wood cut, sawed and stacked by his own effort from native wood from his own farm. He only used a little coal two winters to hold fire over night.

Although the power line passed close to his house he chose to use a simple coal oil lamp to the end. However, he read something every day, including many books, by the feeble light.

Only in the last years did he use glasses for reading. In earlier years he hunted game, large and small. Most of the friends of hunting days predeceased him.

While he took time to visit friends occasionally he was never idle. He rode his bike to town his last afternoon as he had done a good many years. Among other things he firmly believed "The devil finds work for idle hands."

Charlotte Sloan Cooper

submitted by Charlotte

A young father in Russia built a cradle for his first born. One hundred years later I rocked my babies in this same cradle. I am impressed again to realize I exist because of precise timing and the unique set of circumstances which brought to the small district of Maymont, Saskatchewan, this German from Russia, a Nova Scotian sea captain, and a couple of farm families from Manitoba. These people were my great grandparents and I am grateful to them for the privilege I have had of being raised in this community.

My early memories include kittens of my own each spring and a playhouse in the bush. I was always afraid of the dark and I dreaded that moment each night when my Dad blew out the lamp. No one was more thrilled than I to snap on the electric lights for the first time.

On summer evenings the cows were milked outside. My little brothers and I moved with Mom from cow to cow, cuddled in old coats for blankets, and listened to her fascinating stories. She is probably the most creative person in the world. Who else would transform a hot day hoeing in the garden a mile from home into a special memory with her idea of a noon corn roast and a story!

Charlotte and Lawrence Cooper and Family.

My Dad gave me a love for nature. He often stopped the tractor to move a duck nest rather than kill it under the field. He taught us to especially appreciate the birds and for this we received bird books at Christmas with a small hard cover bird book. The price was right — three books for $1.49. I admire more than anything my Dad's priorities in life — time for people and things that count.

School life for me was varied. I first attended Keystone School until our parents, Barney, was sometimes more than my older sister could handle. One day I bounced out of the buggy on my head and I heard the old buggy wheels rattle as the girls disappeared down the road in a cloud of dust. I later endured long school bus rides to Maymont School. We were to pass time on the bus and I think Les Parker often had a headache when he parked the bus for the night.

The year I was eleven I spent my school days in bed doing Grade 7 by correspondence because I had an attack of rheumatic fever which enlarged my heart. Severe relapses during the subsequent seven years interrupted my school attendance and I enrolled in more correspondence courses. I depended on my family in do things for me that other girls my age took for granted. I was a teenager who needed help even to wash my hair and I could walk only short distances. During most hour I visited at my Grandpa's house in Maymont. During that time I spent a total of two years in bed and I wondered if I would ever lead a normal life.

All she changed the summer I was 14. I attended a Bible camp and while there I simply asked God to make me well. A week or two later we received a letter from a heart specialist in Saskatoon where I had been examined after camp. The letter advised that the size and shape of my heart was now normal! What an exciting day for our family and what a change in lifestyle for me from that time on! I have continued to enjoy excellent health since then for which I am enormously thankful.

Our hobbies were broadened during our teen years when my brothers and I entered a Bible quizzing program. Canadian playoffs were held each year in Vancouver and international playoffs in Los Angeles, California. We each managed to go to the finals three years and our expenses for all these trips were paid for us. Quizzing brought us closer together. One fellow quizzer said to me, "They can't be your brothers - they're too nice to you!" Perhaps my family has always been especially good to me because of the sickness I had. We are all friends as well as siblings and I value each one of them.

When I left Maymont School I attended Briercrest College. lived in B.C. for one year then worked at C.J.N.B. Radio in North Battleford. Soon after our marriage Lawrence and I flew to the north shore of Reindeer Lake in Manitoba. I fell completely in love with the quiet beauty of that isolated area and we felt we had flown into another world. Even adults there had never seen a horse, cow, car or train. Brothers seemed to be a team of dogs and more dogs, mukluks, parkas, rocks, and winter scenes.

During the Christmas holidays we had the fun of bringing a small Indian girl, To Sonia, into the cabin to introduce her to our way of life. Her spending money for the trip came from a pair of little squirrel hides her father had skinned at nights on the trapline.

We were out on for the first time while visiting my Uncle Earl and Aunt Edith Andrew in Manitoba. He sat on the floor bouncing to the strains of a T.V. show and as soon as we were back, Lawrence said, "That's our boy." Three months later I carried Kevin from the pontoon plane up the steep bank of Reindeer Lake to our home. The following year we found our new guest. It is to have a baby born into a family but still, there is no excitement that can beat adopting a child you already love. All arrangements had been made via poor connections on radio. I remember the priest's assistant in Flin Flon shouting as loudly as possible, "Do you have news for the Coopers?" and I remember Lawrence and I straining to hear the social worker's verdict through the static on the line.

Our daughter Nancy was born in North Battleford. When she was six days old we headed back into the North. The old Hamlet cradle had been given to me by my Uncle Roy Sloan, and it was piled on top of the suitcases at the back of our plane. In years past the cradle had traveled 3,000 miles more than half the distance around the world — by wagon train, camel, raft, rail and on ship over the Atlantic Ocean. Now we added "bush plane in northern Canada" to the cradle's colorful travel history.

We reluctantly left the North the following year and since then we have lived in the Parkland area, about one hundred miles from Maymont. Lawrence is a reading specialist and travels with a reading lab throughout the school unit.

We call our acreage SHALOM, the Jewish greeting and farewell, meaning peace. The atmosphere is suited to pursuing our musical interests in writing. The location is much like the farm at home, and as I walk through the pasture here I often think of my years at Maymont. I remember the load of dirt wood my sister and I gathered for sale in town. I think of neighbours from home, Jim Gay and Millie Emmerson, who are more than friends to me. And I remember the community shower that was held for me. I think of my Dad's fields and the canes I grew up on. I find when I go home I feel just as much a part of the Maymont Community as I ever did.

Jeremy Jon was born to us two years ago and he also rocked in the old cradle. Recently, I was given the opportunity to write a book called The Mennonite People which is used in Canadian Schools. The story describes some of our own family history and it seems

that the cradle has become to me a symbol of God's loving care and protection not only in the past, but now and in our future.

The Cliff Custer Family

Clifford W. Custer and Rojean J. Abbott were married in Ruddell April 10, 1943 uniting two pioneer families. Cliff was born in Baljennie the third son of Dave and Linda (nee Mogaffin) Custer. His Grandparents came to Baljennie from Battleford where his grandfather had served with the North West Mounted Police. Cliff's father had come to Canada from U.S.A., the only member of his family to do so. He was well known for his love of a good horse trade, and in the years of horse-power travelled his proud stallion throughout the country on both sides of the river. He made many friends along the way.

Rojean's parents, Samuel and Mary Jane (Kennedy) Abbott came to Ruddell from Ontario in 1906. Her Dad had been a logger in Northern Ontario since the age of fourteen years and her mother a seamstress from Toronto, a skill that came in very handy making new and made-over clothing for her family of seven. The prairie must have seemed a very lonely place for a city girl.

Cliff and Rojean started their married life on Sam Robinson's farm west of Ruddell but it was war time

Carole (12 yrs.), Harvey (8 yrs.) with Bulerie's dog Ted at Lilac.

Carole, Cliff, Verne Schmidt and Harvey after ploughing snow, 1954.

and Cliff was drafted into the R.A. Volunteers one month later and was soon stationed in Vernon, B.C. Rojean followed in July and they loved the valley and enjoyed picking the various tree fruits and seeing the different way of life from prairie grain farming, especially the irrigation, thinking how the farmers back home could have used it in the dry years. It was a time of great change for them as army life was a new and not altogether happy experience as being wartime one didn't know what to expect. Carole was born February 23, 1945, while Cliff was on an army course in Woodstock, Ontario and he didn't see his daughter until she was four weeks old. It was at this time that Rojean had word that her dad had cancer and must undergo surgery, so Cliff eventually received a discharge to manage the farm until other arrangements could be made. Thus began several years of moving from place to place, including three years at Baljennie where their son, Harvey, was born in January, 1947. In 1952 we moved to the Lilac District having purchased a farm through the V.L.A. — the Dan Scott place which was to be our home for the next eight years. As the acreage was small we rented pasture land from Egh Reid, the Collins place, where we were able to raise feeder cattle. After much renovating the house was made liveable and with the help of good neighbors we were able to get our crop in and off with our limited machinery, and knew the value of people working together in true western fashion. One of the happiest times was when the power was finally brought to the district in 1956 and we could enjoy the luxury of lights and the other conveniences that electricity brings. And when we got our T.V. it was a real better day. Along with everyone else we battled the drouth, grasshoppers and rust when we couldn't believe that our nice stand of grain would yield nothing, never having experienced rust before.

There were many things we will never forget, among them being the springs when our basement would fill with water from the spring run-off, and once again we knew the value of good neighbors as they would come with their shovels, but in spite of their ef-

facts the water would break through. Carole and Harvey enjoyed it all as they could run all around the house. In the winter of '64 when the snow all but buried us, Vern Schmidt came with his cat and ploughed to divert the water. We didn't get flooded that year and soon there was a culvert put in which solved the problem. Happier memories were the many dances we attended around the country as well as the square dance club when we danced several times a week to prepare for the Jamboree the New Year's Eve parties at the Burnhs and the Christmas concerts as well as the Beaver Baseball games with Elsie Beierle that she and Rogana enjoyed so much, but with Emilie Francis at coach how could we lose? These are all pleasant memories to look back upon.

Carole will never forget the Hallowe'en the Moffat girls and she went trick or treating only to find when they got back to the Moffats that Joe had a trick or two of his own planned as they found out as they jumped into bed and received a shock from the bed that Joe somehow had wired.

Harvey lost his appendix his first month of school only to be followed by the other beginner Garth Parnell. His comment was "The Copy Cat."

In the fall of 1960 we decided that the farm could no longer support us as the cost of farming like everything else had risen, so we moved to Saskatoon where Cliff had found employment. Rejean soon found employment also, and eventually went to work for the Federal Government where she is still employed. Carole graduated as a Certified Nursing Assistant and worked for a time at the University Hospital. In 1965 she married Marvin Zalaschuk from Maymont who is employed with the Power Corporation. They have a son, Darren, born September, 1966 and a daughter, Carmen, born August, 1973. Harvey had had his own Semi for several years — no surprise to those who knew him — as from the time he was a small child he had a car or truck in his hand. He married Diane Martyn in 1970. They are both graduates of Mount Royal Collegiate where Diane worked as secretary for five years after graduating from business college. They have a son, Wade, born March, 1975, and a daughter, Christine, born November, 1977.

Although Saskatoon is home now and has been good to us affording us vacations we couldn't take while on the farm, we are not sorry that our children have a farm background where they could experience the joy of growing things, the animals and slower-paced life, and we had a pang of regret when we learned that the house on the farm at Lilac had been destroyed by fire caused by lightning.

This was written in 1984 in answer to a letter from his granddaughter, Carole Cutler, a student at Lilac School as part of a Homemakers' Project for school children on "Pioneers" to Commemorate the Saskatchewan Fiftieth Anniversary.

Dear Carole,

I will try to give you a little of my early experiences.

I arrived in Saskatchewan by train from Ontario in 1905, and stayed in Saskatoon a short while. At that time it was mostly tents. I was prepared to file on a quarter of land, which later would have been practically the centre of Saskatoon, but decided to move further west — much to my regret years later as I came over the city grave.

I finally settled in Paddell District and broke my land with four horses on a walking plow. Took off my first crop in 1907. — a good crop and very encouraging.

I recall one bad prairie fire that narrowly missed my land and was started by cinders from a passing train.

Having no way to travel and wanting more groceries than I could take on horseback — I found a plank and hitched my horse to it.

By 1908 when my wife came out from Ontario, I had a very small frame shack with a cabinet, stove, two chairs and a bed. When we weren't using the chairs, they were put on the bed to make more room to walk around the tiny floor. Nevertheless it was home until it burned in 1913 and I had the present house built.

Sincerely, Grandpa
(Mr. S. Abbott)

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Cutler, Sr.

Mrs. Cutler went to Paddell as a young woman of 18 years. Mr. and Mrs. Dave Cutler had been married in 1912. Gov. Albert James was born in Saltcoats. They bought the livery barn from Herb Tremble — had traded the Plaw's place in Saltcoats for it. Dave, Junior, was born while they lived at Paddell. She recalled living not far from the tracks on Mrs. Stiebl's place when the turkeys were making a dreadful noise due to an approaching train. She looked toward the tracks and saw Glen sitting in-between the rails. She said she just managed to rescue Mel in time. He was about 1½ years old at the time. They had the contract to haul mail and did drayage. When fire took the barn they sold the lots to the Turnbulls and used the insurance money to buy the William Lachman farm which was just west of A. J. Cutler's present farm.

Muriel Alison Crowder (Nee Butterfield)

My first claim to the farm was that I arrived before Dr. Scratch and from then on "I had it made." I had three older brothers and a sister to spoil me. Although we lived then and a half miles north east of town I was educated in Maymont and during those years, experienced the same type of "junior years" as my contemporaries. I walked to school, rode horseback, used the buggy or cutter and usually got my grade twelve. Very often in the fall I would help at harvest time by hauling grain to one of the elevators in town.

During my school years I was allowed the privilege of learning to play the piano – a factor that was to be a distinct asset and gift for the rest of my life. As everyone knows those were strenuous, rough, "slim" years. Years during which everyone was bound to his neighbour by the common factor of poverty. Having obtained my degree as nurse I began to teach piano, often using lawn and canter to reach my pupils as far north as Richard, and by car or train to Wadena. I played for Church and later on found the piano a distinct advantage after I got my schools teaching certificate. I first taught at Keystone School (for $500 a year) and then at Hughton near Rosetown. It was during this time I met Bob, a young Anglican minister and in 1943 we were married in the little Church of All Saints, Maymont. We have now been married (1978) for 35 years and have two children, Louise and Gordon, (both married) and four grandchildren. Louise obtained her degree in Business Administration Environment Control. The past years have been very rewarding and we now live in Calgary and "my begonias" in Maymont have stood me in good stead. I am now retired and Bob has his Doctorate in Theology and is the Archdeacon of Calgary.

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Crozier
Mr. and Mrs. Norman Cheal
Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Reynolds

told by Mildred (Crozier) Beaumont

My Mother, whose maiden name was Eva Parker, was born May 1, 1888, and moved to Maymont with her family, the William Parkers, and lived on the same land as Grey School. Marve Crozier was born in Ontario. He came to Brandon and then to Edam where he met Eva Parker who was teaching school at that time.

Mother and Dad's 40th wedding anniversary, May, 1943. Back row — Eleanor, Wayne, myself and Gug. In front — Mother and Dad.

On a trip back to Glaslyn after 30 years. I am standing beside the old log house Dad built on the homestead in the 30's

They were married and had 3 children, Jim and Mildred. Mildred was born in Redvale, Sask., on March 28, 1931, and Jim was born June 23, 1934, at Edam Sask. My Dad and Mother farmed at Edam and then moved to Carrot, Sask. Dad ran a pool room. Here he took an appendix attack and passed away in hospital. I was around 5 years old then. Mother came to North Battleford and did odd jobs and looked after us kids.

In a few years Mother married Norman Cheal who was working around Maymont. We lived on a farm not far from Grandpa Parker and Jim and I went to Grey School. (the same school my Mother had gone to). Then we moved to a homestead at Glaslyn. We went with a team of horses pulling a rack full of worldly possessions. Here we had good and bad times.

My Dad built a log house and barn. We had lumber on half the floor; the other half was just dirt. Our horses died and we used oxen for work and going to town. We often walked to town which was 5 miles away. Jim and I went to Glaslyn Rural School. We walked most of the time. Sometimes in the winter we would walk and catch a ride with a neighbour. The entire families went to school house dances. The women took lunch and someone played the violin not piano and that was the orchestra. We all had lots of fun. There was always entertainment at lunchtime, some sang, some played a musical instrument. I remember my Dad and Jim doing a step-dance. We made many good friends. We went to Eden Woods for Xmas several years. That was always a special occasion. I still write to 3 of my girlfriends from Glaslyn.

In 1938 we moved back to Maymont and lived in the house where Harry Wohlberg lives now. Jim and I finished High School. Jim worked out on the farm a bit. Jobs got scarce and war broke out so Jim joined the R.C.A.F. He graduated as an AirGunner.

In 1943 our family moved east and Jim came to our place on his last leave before going overseas. We were had a memorable time and hated to see Jim leave. As it turned out it was his last leave home. We had heard saying he was missing in action on the night of Aug. 23, 1943 on a mission over Hamburg. His crew were all English lads. I still corresponded with his pilot's sister.

I started working out for $4.50 a week then I got up to $13.00 per month and then $15.00 a month. I worked on a confectionary store on the west. Before that I had done housework.

In the spring of 1944 we came west again. Mother and Dad worked around Saskatoon and 6 years ago Dad returned from being a caretaker of schools. They still live in Saskatoon. They celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary this year, 1979.

Now to continue on with our immediate family. I, Mildred Cooper married Ernest Beaudoin in 1944 and we had 3 sons: Jim and Wayne. The summer of 1945 Ernest, who was in the army before we were married, worked for his brother Norman. We stayed with them until fall. Jim was born on Sept. 26 1946 in Grandma Andrew's house with the help of Dr. Scratch. Grandma Andrew and Sarah Beaudoin (my cousin).

On September 30 we went to our summer place to a last anniversary but October came one day and left us our day Sarah, Albert, baby Jim and I drove to Grimsby Parkers with a horse and buggy. We lived in the Warkentin house one winter and in the McNaughton house. Then we bought the land we are now living on but we had built a house 1½ miles north of Ted Sloan. In 1950 with the help of our good neighbours and relatives we got the house jacked up onto wagons and pulled to Grimsby to our present place. We had 2 boys by then. Wayne came along on May 28, 1948. Mrs. Mark Johnston and Dr. Scratch delivered him. Mothers had to stay in bed 10 days at that time so Mother came and looked after us.

Jim and Wayne started school at Keystone in the fall of 1952. Later to Maymont as our school was closed. They played hockey and ball. Ernest and I also attended Maymont School. The boys had a bus to ride instead of horse and buggy in summer and sleigh-in-winter in the winter. The rule used to have to get up early to do chores and milk cows before starting off to school. Our kids had 3½ miles to Keystone. One day the winter upset with Rena and Margaret Andrew and the Ted Sloan kids. They all laughed (some but at the time it was quite serious). The kids even got a few miles to school in the truck or car. That was a real treat at that time. Most of the kids have their own car to go to school. Jim got his first car by working in the summer for Jim Tetley.

In 1964 we got electricity — What a luxury that was — no more oil stoves or smokey lanterns. When we first got electric lights the kids were busy switching lights on and off. With electricity came appliances and motors. We got an electric motor on the cream separator — no more turning by hand. Ernest cut down wood, hauled up on a stone and marketed the cord, separate into milk and cream. Then along came T.V. It was unbelievable to see a show in your own home.

We had a lot of sickness in our family but with the help of our neighbours, doctors and relatives we made it through. My garden was put in several times and vegetables frozen.

One year our crop was put in for us twice due the seeding, some harrowing and some gave money for gas. We will never forget their kindness and help given to us over the years. We appreciate to be always needing help.

Another luxury was the water pressure system by-ing put in the house. It saved a lot of carrying of snow and water. Before deep freezes came into being we had to carry in lots of water for cooking vegetables on the old wood stoves. What a job in 30 degree above F. weather and having a roaring fire on. The deep freeze was a great help to farm wives.

Sawing wood days used to be fun. The men each got a pile of logs or poles and then each had a day for sawing it up. The women were along, too to visit and help the lady of the house. Threshing was another big time of work and visiting. Then the combine came along and replaced the threshing machine.

The boys left school, worked on farms and then left for greener pastures. Wayne was an Orderly for awhile. When he got land off he went to a Sports Store business and Skateboard Park in Saskatoon. In 1969 Wayne married Eleanor Pontier from Richard. Eleanor is a secretary for C.S.P. Foods. They live in Saskatoon.

Jim went to Saskatoon and worked for $1.00 an hour. Then in the fall of 1969 he and his cousins, Dale and Russell Beaudoin and John Fleming went to the miners in Yellowknife. He came back to Saskatoon and then to Edmonton. He still works at the same place as a welder. He went to Welding School for 3 winters and now has his First Class Papers. In March 1979 he married Lynn Lever. They have 3 girls and live in Spruce Grove. Lynn is a hairdresser.

Ernest and I still are on the farm waiting for the old age pension checks and retirement.

A Brief Autobiography of Josephine Blaikie Currie

I am presently living happily retired in the pleasant little town of Oakville here in Manitoba between Winnipeg and Portage la Prairie. I share residence with my youngest daughter while another daughter and her family occupy the larger unit of our duplex.

My life has been an intermingled career of rearing a family and teaching school. While in Manitoba I spent nine years working with retarded children in Portage la Prairie and four years as a rural school.

Before moving to Manitoba my husband and I spent twenty-two years of our married life at Kakabeka Falls near Thunder Bay where he was an employee of

Mrs. Walter Currie, nee Josephine Shives, 1936.

My mother, Ellen Hibbert, her father, Joseph Hibbert, her brother, Edmund.

Ontario Hydro. It was here our family grew up and received their education.

Previous to this I taught school in Saskatchewan for several years. It was during one of these assignments that I met the man of my life, Walter Currie. At that time a married lady was not allowed to teach school. The Board would not give us a unanimous decision to get married and allow me to continue teaching. So, after much planning we decided to take a "holiday trip" to Ontario to visit relatives and get married quietly there. I returned to Saskatchewan and resumed teaching still under my maiden name — a tricky thing to do, but it worked. Of course there is no need to hide the secret now.

My ambition as a little girl was always to become a teacher some day. I attended the little Ballyoaks school which was three long miles from my home. I walked, rode a pony, drove a two-wheeled cart, rode a bicycle and blotched rides with the neighbor kids sometimes. With great determination I passed every grade and finally obtained my elementary diploma. In those days our exam papers came from Regina and were returned there to be marked. Oh, happy day when I received the news in the mail that I had passed my entrance!

I had two lady teachers in elementary school. Do any of my readers remember Mrs. Wickens? She was a middle aged English lady and an excellent teacher. As well as the basics she believed that girls should learn to sew and knit. Once a week we had a sewing class — on Friday afternoon if I remember. I tried my best to make a handkerchief with a piece of cloth I took from home. When I had finished she examined it and commented, "It's as crooked as a dog's hind leg." I don't remember my reaction but I do remember the handkerchief. Then we get a more modern young lady teacher — a Miss Alice Wilson from Saskatoon. I was fascinated with her nice clothes and how well she could twirl her marking pencil around her finger.

The next step was to persuade my mother to allow me to go to High School. This wasn't easy. It took her a long time to make up her mind. Finally after a lot of cossing the decision was that I could go on the condition that I pass every grade and the first time I failed that was it. Of course, I did not fail. My four years at the Battleford Collegiate cost me twenty-five dollars a month for board and room plus my books and a few clothes. My father, mother and I had to work hard to finance my way. After finishing High School I took one year teacher training at the Saskatoon Normal School. A young teacher had to get a school before two years expired or the interim certificate would no longer be valid. In the '30s competition among aspiring teachers was keen and one really had to try hard to get a school-make a personal application was most effective if possible. This meant that one would have to make a train trip to some location that you would really like to have. The wages at my first assignment were $550 a year. As time went on it was possible one might get a $50 a year increment. In some areas teachers worked for room and board moving from one home to another. They were promised their wages when the School

District was better financially situated. There were doubts whether these teachers ever did get paid their arrears.

I grew up an only child on a rocky little farm near the Baljennie hamlet that once was in Saskatchewan between North Battleford and Saskatoon. It was a very poor 160 acre rocky farm with a large alkali flat in the middle. My Daddy grew a little grain and we had a few milk cows and some chickens. Farm work was done with horse power. We never owned a car. Father got this farm as a homestead deal for $10. As a poor boy raised in Tennessee and working his way north to Canada on the railroad he heard about the homestead deal and so he and a friend each took a homestead in Baljennie. Father not being very selective and not looking at what he was getting made a poor deal. However, we struggled along and made a meagre living. My father, Robert Allen Shields met my mother, Ellen Hibbert, born 1884 an English cotton-mill girl and got married. Ellen and her father, Joseph Hibbert left England to seek a happy land they heard advertised so much in England. They had a real struggle to survive – living in a sod shack, and battling the hard cold winters. Shelters for farm animals were made from poles daubed with fresh cow manure. My mother and my grandfather acquired two oxen to plow with. They were Moses and Aaron. Mosquitoes and black flies made life miserable for both man and beast. Oxen were used to break up the sod to grow a little grain and a bit of garden. In fly time on the hot summer days they would run from the field where they were working to the nearest mud hole, harness and all and stay there until they were jolly good and ready to come out. My mother related how she would walk nine miles to get a pail of fresh milk for her and her father and by the time she got back home she had drunk all the milk. Wild duck eggs, saskatoons, wild raspberries strawberries and gooseberries provided a little variety to their food fare.

My grandfather Hibbert is buried in the Maymont cemetery, my mother in Rudell cemetery and my Daddy in Baljennie.

Do you remember when Charlie Johnson used to run the Rudell hotel. Bill Kennedy was always on hand, George Sherwood ran the general store on the corner two brothers operated the blacksmith shop (I can't recall their name just now), Mrs. Mosley served country home-cooked meals in her own home and Mr. Lee ran a short order cafe and store. Mrs. Collins was in the telephone exchange. Harry Hess used to operate the ferry across the Saskatchewan River so we could cross over in the summer time to get from Baljennie to Rudell to get groceries, sell grain and do our banking. This was before the railway came from Saskatoon to Baljennie. In the winter we would go straight north over the frozen river which was much shorter.

Many of my readers will remember the Freedmans store in Maymont. Bessie's general store and Dr. Scratch. He and Dr. J. H. Morry of Rabbit Lake were two very honorable men who served the sick long and well for miles around. My mother suffered heart troubles for many years of her life. When she would feel sick, bored and depressed she would send for Dr. Scratch to come to her home. She would tell him how poorly she felt and finally he would suggest that she should rest in the hospital in North Battleford for a couple of weeks or so. This pleased her. While there she would have a good rest, good meals and meet many new acquaintenances. She would return home and carry on again for another year. She lived for several years alone in Rudell but had many kind and helpful neighbors.

I was widowed in 1973 but a wonderful family helped fill the gap. Our eldest daughter, Jean (Mrs. Robert Gurnett) and her family live in Ottawa. She operates a hair dressing salon. Her two sister, Catherine (Mr. Ken Newey) and her family live here in Oakville where she manages the dining room in the local motor hotel. Our youngest daughter, Frances is a correctional officer at the Portage la Prairie Women's Correctional Centre. She is also a qualified beautician. In between, is Eileen (Mrs. Gary Fletcher) who lives with her family in Courtenay, B.C. where she nurses. Our only son, Edward, a member of the R.C.M.P. resides with his wife Theresa at Campbell River, B.C. Nine grandchildren complete the circle.

The Daoust Family

In 1910 the Daoust family left Plamondon, Quebec and headed west. A family with eight children, four boys and four girls ranging in age from just a baby to twelve years. Phil was just eight years old at the time. They settled in Gravelbourg for two years before moving on to La Fleche. By 1914 three more girls were born to the family. That same year Phil's mother died. In 1918 the family moved back to Gravelbourg. Three of Phil's brothers and sisters are still living there today. The rest have spread out and settled in different areas.

Aerophane view of Daoust farm (now owned by M. Fletcher), 1952.

In 1928 Phil left Gravelbourg looking for work. He travelled as far as Windsor, Ontario but unable to get a steady job he returned to Gravelbourg where he worked on a farm as a hired hand for five years. When the Depression came Phil was out of work again. He finally got a job in Herschel. He worked there as a farm hand for two years.

In the fall of 1934 Phil went back to Gravelbourg for a few days. There he met with the Gaudet family who were moving to Denholm. Phil came with them and went to work for Walter Parent. They baled and shipped straw to southern Sask. They worked from Brada to as far east as Ruddell.

At Ruddell Phil started working for Bert Robinson and worked for wages for three years. In 1938 Phil rented a half section from Bert Robinson. The first year Phil's share of the crop totalled $71. In 1945 Phil bought a house and farm from Lawrence Robinson and farmed it for twenty-six years along with the half section he still rented. Phil retired in 1972. He sold the farm and house to Bryant Fletcher and bought a house in Ruddell.

In 1939 Phil married Ruth Scott whose parents also farmed in the Ruddell area. They had two girls and a boy, Peggy, Annette, and Eugene.

Eugene grew up on the farm and when he was fifteen started working for Art Martynes during the summer and after school. When the farm was sold in 1972 Eugene was working at the North Battleford stock yard while continuing to work for Art. In 1973 Eugene married Debby Laughlin from the Richard area. He worked at the stock yard until April of 1974 then moved to Art Martynes' house at the feedlot to work with Art full time.

In 1977 Eugene and Debby had a son, Lee, so that the Bennett name could carry on in the Ruddell area for some time.

The W. J. Davis Family

Although originally from Ontario, William John Davis and his brother Charlie came from Toulon, Manitoba, to take up homesteads in the Lilac district (W½ 4-43-12 W3rd). His first wife had died leaving him with a family of five — two boys and three girls. Annie and Florence were older and never lived here but Catharine (then in her later teens) and her brothers Archie and Robert came out in 1905 to join their dad and uncle on the homesteads. They rode the 75 miles out from Saskatoon on a load of lumber and supplies. The trip was made even slower when along the way they picked up some cattle which the men had bought earlier and these had to be driven home. First they lived in tents until a log house could be built. Catherine told of making butter using an improvised churn and sharing this butter with other homesteaders. She also baked bread for the neighboring bachelors. In 1934 she recalled it as "a labor of love but it did not smell one much as I am still an unclaimed treasure at 61 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Davis about 1939.

She made two batches of bread in a day as her mixing pan and oven were both small. Bread, salt pork, beans, and oatmeal were staple foods.

Soon after this Mr. Davis married a Mrs. Bacon with two grown children but his new wife lived only a short time. By this time he had bought E½ 32-42-13 and moved there. Mr. Davis had a well-equipped blacksmith shop and was kept busy sharpening shares for breaking ploughs and other jobs for his neighbors. He bought the first steam threshing machine to the district - in 1907 or 1908 and did custom threshing for many of the homesteaders. He had a cook car and a sleeping car for the men — a crew of around 21. He also had a grain grinding attachment on his windmill in later years, so had to choose a windy day to grind his grain.

Catherine kept house for her dad until he married Rebecca Jane Ricketts (a sister of Mrs. Welford) in 1915. She was an English girl who had come out for a

ville but got stranded here due to the outbreak of World War I in 1914. They worked on the farm until failing health led to their retirement in North Battleford in 1938.

Mr. Davis died in 1943 and Mrs. Davis in 1971. Both are buried in Muddell Cemetery.

Arthur Davis went out to B.C. where he operated a successful ranch until his death. Bob went back east to Toronto to work in a factory until he died. Catherine cared for an elderly aunt in Minnesota for many years and later came home to assist her stepmother in the care of her dad when he became an invalid. She then worked on a ranch at B.C. -- also belonging to the Brown Douglas Ranching Co. near Merritt. She returned to Merritt but died in a Kamloops Nursing Home, May 2, 1987.

The Dawsons

written by Annie (Dawson) Thompson

William Dawson was born in Ireland on May 2, 1874. He had two older brothers and one older youngster then he. William or "Billy" as he was known, enlisted in the Irish part of the British Army when war broke out in South Africa in 1899. On the signing of the peace for that war he returned to Ireland, having earned a medal and seven bars for each major battle victory. He returned then in 1900 and immediately emigrated to the new colony -- Canada.

He worked on farms in eastern Ontario and southern Manitoba till the homesteads were opened up in Saskatchewan. The railway was slowly moving west and Radisson was the farthest Post Office and that was where he started. He took up a homestead approximately 25 miles west of there. How this portion of the Western Trek was covered is not clear but I probably expect that could have been where he purchased a team of oxen, a walking plow and whatever other things he needed to open up a homestead. Billy homesteaded on the northeast quarter of Section 8, Township 43, Range 12, West of the 3rd Meridian. He built a sod shack and the first winter he had a companion, in the form of one George Muller. It is not clear where he came from or how they managed to settle in together but they did and many a story was told of how they baked hardtack biscuits on the tin heater and who was the best cook. George Muller went on and settled some six miles east on a homestead.

By this time, settlers were coming in quite quickly, and in 1905 a school was built across the corner from the Dawson quarter. The school was erected on the S.W. corner of section 18. It was named Grey School. Two or sometimes three generations of the original settlers got their education there.

There was almost open prairie in this part of Saskatchewan and the cultivation of the land was comparatively easy and was done by oxen and walking plow to start with. Even then, more efficient machinery was quickly being built and bought by the settlers so the land could be cultivated and productive so much faster.

One of the big chores to most of the folks in this area at this time was the long trip to the flour mill in Radisson for a grist. The grist was the farmer taking his fresh threshed wheat and having it ground into flour. This was usually a long hard day's trip especially when the oxen were used. Even after the advent of horses it was still a long day. By this time the town of Maymont was incorporated and with the advent of General Stores and machine companies, the new land opened up quickly and settlers were ready.

One of these families was the Frank Bohn family that had come west the same time as Dawson, but didn't move his family until 1906 or 1907.

By this time Dawson had built himself a humble shack and in 1908 married the eldest Bohn daughter -- Wilhelmina -- known as Minnie. They settled down as a family and the business of living.

Their first son was born one year later delivered by the new young Dr. Scratch that had arrived to practise medicine in 1907. He was assisted by Minnie Dawson's mother who had been a mid-wife in Manitoba and continued to be one for many more years. The second child, a girl, was born two years later in August. That was me, Annie. As I write this biography I will say that my Dad always told of the night that I was born was the night he was completely hailed out and I never did find out which he considered the bigger tragedy, my birth or the hailstorm.

Billy Dawson had learned the trade of plastering and bricklaying and he went out much of the time before 1914 and did this kind of work. Some of the larger jobs we heard much of, were the hotels built in Radisson, Fielding and Maymont. By the time he enlisted in the war of 1914-1918, he had another son and he went overseas late in 1916. The next spring my sister was born. My mother carried on the farm with the help of hired men. One man, Harold Cousins, stayed and helped with the farm till Dad returned in 1919. Harold Cousins stayed on for a time, then went on and eventually set up his own farm on the land close to the town of Maymont.

During the period between 1908 and 1919 another quarter of land was added to the Dawson homestead. It was the quarter on the S.E. corner of Section 8 and it was owned by a man named Herb Elliot. I do not recall ever hearing why he sold, but it was bought by Billy Dawson. That was the way the farm stood until sold in the 1970's.

During our growing up and school days we didn't do much more than just live. The farming was done with the horses and horse drawn machinery. The caring of the livestock and the machinery was a full time job. In this period a new barn was built to house the animals during the winter and a supply of feed and bedding was kept in the huge loft. A barn warming was held in a barn dance. As I remember it was a huge success. In

those days everyone brought food and lunch was served in that manner. In 1927, a new house was added and with a good supply of water it seemed no time until prosperity should have been a sure thing. But then, as always follows a boom, there was a recession. In 1930, wheat was hard to sell and this was followed by a stock market crash in 1929. Then, things got worse. The drought set in and with grasshoppers eating the crops and no rain, crop failures were a sure thing. This went on for the next five to seven years. The drought seemed to let up in the late 1930's, but many people had moved further to the north to new homelands, but Dawsons stayed on.

Billy Dawson was an Orangeman and his wife belonged to the women's section of this lodge. So the meetings of this lodge and the yearly July 12th celebrations was a highlight of the time. They also belonged to the Veterans' Lodge that is known as the Canadian Legion. Minnie was also the President of the Church of England Women's Auxiliary, All Saints Church branch for nearly twenty years, and was a Life Member. This was an honor accorded to one with 30 or more years service in the W.A.

We, as kids, belonged to the Girl Guides and the Boy Scout movements. My older brother was also an Orangeman. Billy Dawson was also on the Board of Trustees for Gray School for a number of years.

During the late thirties, the rumblings of unrest in Europe had filtered to Canada. In 1939 things came to a head and war was declared. Billy Dawson, being military minded, tried to get into the service immediately but was declared overage. But, the family responded. The second son Bob and son-in-law Cecil Thompson (my husband) joined the army in 1941 and went overseas. Bob returned in 1942 because of a health problem and took over the farm. This led to Jim, the youngest son joining the Air Force. By this time, the West Coast was on guard because of the Japanese. U.S.A. part of the war and Walter, the oldest son, joined the Merchant Marines and served in that branch until the peace was signed. Bob was on the farm with his parents and kept up with the farm work, but by the war's end he had decided to go into construction which left the Dawson farm to be rented as others as Billy Dawson was too old to carry on by this time. The younger son was still overseas and on his return did not return to the farm, as Billy first rented the farm and lived in the buildings, then finally sold it to their nephew and niece. They lived in Maymont two years and finally moved to Saskatoon in 1964 and lived there in their home till 1981.

In 1980, the youngest son died in the Air Force, having remarried. In 1981, Minnie Dawson had a serious illness and could no longer look after Billy as he was in a wheelchair. So, Billy was admitted to the Veterans' nursing home.

Minnie lived with the second daughter, Alice, with visits to others in between. In 1981, Billy died at the age of 88. He was buried in Soldiers Field on Woodlawn Cemetery, Saskatoon. Minnie lived on with Alice and her husband Leo Taylor until her last trip to have Christmas in British Columbia with the youngest daughter Mary in 1986. She took sick in January in B.C. and died there on February 9, 1987 at the age of 86. She was buried in Woodlawn Cemetery as well.

Charles W. Dickinson

by Verna Dickinson Galbraith

In 1905 Charles W. Dickinson, who had been a general merchant in Cascade, moved to Fielding, Saskatchewan and built a store. It was then on the mainline of the Canadian Northern Railway. He family moved later after the school was built.

There was a three storey hotel facing the railway station and grain elevators.

There was a continental train each morning from West and one at late evening from the East. The evening train time was a popular time to meet at the station to see the train — seven coaches — arrive.

At a later time a daily passenger train also ran, in the morning from North Battleford to Saskatoon and returned in the evening.

Other stores at that time: a general store first owned by James McGregor and taken over by others when the McGregor family moved to Saskatoon; a blacksmith shop owned by Andrew Murray; a Chinese laundry; a butcher shop; two farm implement offices; Mr. Joe Gerrett had a furniture store and he was later postmaster.

Our first church services were held in the school — later the Anglican Church was built. It had church pews and rich red drapes that came from some big church in England.

Mr. Robert Ireland from England, a farmer and former Sea Captain and talented artist painted a lovely window — "Christ the Good Shepherd" and several smaller windows for the church.

Nearby a Presbyterian Church was built and Methodists rented it — in years before union.

There was also a Catholic Church built, too.

At first, banking was done in Rastleton and later a bank was built in Fielding.

Each little western town had a tennis court and a rink.

It was surprising the talent that came to these small places. As well as teachers, singers, and music teachers from Ontario, there were many talented singers from the British Isles. Each little town was able to prepare a concert.

In the summer of 1928 — late on Saturday night a fire broke out which burned most of the village down. Our store was the last to catch fire but it burned too. Some of our belongings and store stock was saved. We rented the town hall which was next door and carried on business until December.

A few years ago we motored from Calgary, to Ed-

meeton. North Battleford, Maymont, Fielding, Radisson, and on to Saskatoon. I felt very much disappointed with all the little towns — stations all down — buildings not replaced — no longer was it a mainline railway. I recall when Speers was called New Ottawa because a number of the people had moved there from Ottawa. I believe it was named Speers when the railway was built in that area. Railways did so much in opening up the country. I had a trip on "the Canadian" a few years ago and did not think the service as good really as in 1907.

Dr. Scratch came first to Fielding and he was a friend of C. W. Dickinson. He moved on to Maymont and was thought of so highly by the whole countryside I have heard when he arrived, his patients began to feel better!

Numerous names I recall: Walter Mason, his parent and sisters. Ethelbert Negus and parents, Robertson Family. Geo. Elford Family. Brodie Robertson. Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Pitt, Mr. William Ferris Family. Mr. Robert Ferris Family, Mr. Harrap and Family, Radley Bros., Joe Prechtl, Mr. Schloemer. George Sloan, Vines Sloan. Carman Family, Jim Robertson, Tom Ferris. Glenn Family, Tommy Buchan, Sam Miller, Tom Miller, Herb Miller. Wes Sloan, Les Sloan, Alex Gunn, R. J. Scott, McGrath, Wm Shanks, Mr. Busby.

Lillian (Northrown) and Doug Dodd

Lillian was born on the farm four miles from Maymont during the "dirty thirties". Early memories are of loving parents and grandmothers, wonderful aunts, uncles and cousins. How well I remember the April Sunday my sister was born. The air was so full of dust that Dr. Scratch had to watch the telephone poles to be sure that he stayed on the road during his trip to the farm. Top soil drifted over the fence lines and into the trees. It was very dry and Russian Thistle grew in abundance — no chemical sprays those days. We usually went bare foot in summer so we watched where we walked to avoid the thistles. As if the drought wasn't bad enough, there were infestations by grasshoppers. The bait was poison mixed with saw dust spread early in the morning in an attempt to control the insects. We also had army worms one year.

My mother carried water to irrigate the garden and we always had an abundance of vegetables and flowers. Wild berries — Saskatoons, Pincherries, chokecherries, wild raspberries, cranberries and strawberries were picked, then canned or made into jams and jellies.

Dad farmed with horses until he bought the "Hart Parr" tractor. In 1944 we had a new "Massey". During the early years of my life most people had several horses. Transportation was by hitching up the horse or horses to the buggy, "Bennett buggy" or cart or wagon in summer and sleigh box or bobs in winter. We used hot bricks to keep our feet warm on a

Doug and Lillian (Northrown) Dodd and family.

cold day. Roads were not built up so the sleigh track got pretty bumpy at times if there were many snow drifts. At times we had to detour through farmers fields. Roads had no gravel or very little gravel so if it did rain it was very muddy.

Calais School was 3 miles from home so in summer we either walked or rode horseback. When my brother and sister started school he drove the horse. During the winter we skied or drove the horses.

Christmas concerts were the highlight of the winter. We would practice our recitation, plays, monologues, songs and drills for about a month before the big evening. The week of the concert a stage would be built at the front of the classroom and curtains were hung. The christmas tree was decorated, the big evening soon arrived and the school would be filled to capacity with relatives and friends to view the performances. Santa Claus and lunch completed the evening.

The final day of the school year ended with the annual picnic – ball games were played and races run. There was a "booth" and mother always made ice cream for it. Never have I tasted such good ice cream. Supper was a picnic lunch.

We usually went to the Spinney Hill picnic. This meant a trip across the North Sask. River on the ferry. Our Ross cousins lived at Spinney Hill and this was the time to have a good visit with them.

Church was held at the Calais School during the summer months. Anglican ministers I recall were Rev. Cousins; Rev. Saunders. Rev. Flagg. Rev. Crowder and several student ministers.

Before the advent of power most people had an ice house or ice well to keep milk, cream and food cool during the summer months. Ice was cut at the river during the winter, the blocks were hauled home by sleigh and placed in the ice well, packed in and insulated with saw dust and straw. We usually had ice into the late summer or early fall months. Power in 1952 also meant no more filling of lamps and cleaning of lamp chimneys. (Unless there was a power shortage.)

Grades 10 to 12, I attended Maymont High School — approximately 30 students grades 9 to 12 in one classroom with Mr. J. N. Armstrong as a most able principal. During these years I was active in C.G.I.T and Homecraft and taught Sunday School 1948 to 1952. I attended the Saskatoon City Hospital School of Nursing. I was employed there after graduation until late 1954. I then was employed by the Sask. Anti-Tuberculosis League (of the Saskatoon Sanatorium), until 1956.

In 1953 Douglas Dodd and I were married at Maymont. Doug was born at Kandahar and had lived at Love Rock, Dunfermline, Borden, Unity, Saskatoon and North Battleford. We lived in Saskatoon for 10 years, then on a farm 10 miles east of Saskatoon for 9 years before moving to Rabbit Lake in 1966. Our farm buildings are located in the north west corner of Rabbit Lake and our farm land is south and west of Meeting Lake. We own the land which was homesteaded by the late Harold Coombs.

We have 2 daughters — Mary Lou who in a Social Service worker is married to Bruno Bevare (a teacher) and they live in Edmonton Alberta. Cheryl Lynn is a 1979 Commerce graduate from the U. of S. Both girls enjoy sports and were active in 4-H.

Doug, who played baseball with the North Battleford Beavers in the late 1940's and early 1950's has been instrumental in reviving baseball in this area — he still coaches. He also helps with hockey.

Lillian continues her nursing career at the Rabbit Lake Union Hospital. She has also been employed at the Borden and Spiritwood Union Hospitals.

We enjoy travelling and taking part in community activities.

Ken Doolittle Family

Kenneth Harvey Doolittle was born December 17, 1905 in Cedar Falls, Wisconsin. He was the youngest of four children, three boys and a girl.

He came with his parents and family to Maidstone, Saskatchewan. His father homesteaded about ten miles south of Maidstone. As a boy of five years old, he was sent to report a prairie fire. He had to run two miles to do this. A five-year-old grade into a man in a hurry as he used to say. He and his friend, Elmer Redler used to like trapping muskrats, camping and fishing together. Ken really liked the outdoors.

He started in Tee-Bear Corners country school and

Ken Doolittle.

completed his high school in Maidstone. He was always a good hardworking student. His mother wanted and saw to it that he would be a school teacher. He attended Normal School in Prince Albert and Saskatoon. He taught at St. Walburg his first year — a young man of eighteen years old. He taught in country schools — Lorraine, Blue Bird, Wavie Bank, and Guernsey (north of Springdale).

He met Agnes Beaudoin at her grandmothers while he was teaching at Lorraine. They were married in June 1930. They spent their honeymoon camping on Kingsmere Lake where one day they came to visit Grey Owl. After they were married Ken taught in Saskatchewan at Haymore, Valparaiso and Glaslyn.

Ken and Agnes had one son, David, born in June 1938. He was born in Maymont at the old farm house of Agnes' stepfather, Ernest Andrew and her mother. He was delivered by Doctor Serjeach and nurse, Pat McGrath. Dave is now in Montreal running his own business as Pro Shop Goods for Ten Pin Bowling. He used to be a pro himself having bowled on many occasions on T.V. He was once on a top (Juniors) bowling team in Victoria, B.C. He has three sons.

Ken joined the Navy at the beginning of World War II, where he began as a leading writer. He graduated to Lieut-Commander before the end of the war. He was a very conscientious service man and was respected by all his Commanders and Captains. He also taught Navy Manual at a school in Montreal. He had the organizing of this manual training school building and he wrote several training books for the Navy. He taught Wrens and Leading Seamen. He was Pay Master for sometime. His wife, Agnes, always worried about him when he was in charge of thousands of dollars for salaries). He usually had two M.P.'s with him when he went to the bank. He carried the money in a large canvas bag. One day one of the M.P.'s asked him, "If we get held up, Sir, what should I do? Shoot?" "Hell no!" Ken said. "Give the money up." However they never had to do this.

During a tour of the Navy Band across Canada Ken was their secretary and paymaster.

After retiring from the Navy, Ken was back at

teaching as principal of Star City School. He then taught in a large high school at Fort William, Ontario for four years until he was stricken with cancer and had to quit a few months before he planned to retire. He was operated on and recovered.

Agnes and Ken retired in Qualicum Beach, B.C. There Ken was secretary to the Chamber of Commerce and also looked after the Tourist Bureau. Agnes pursued her talents in clay modelling and painting. Agnes could not take the damp winters and constant rain. They sold their house and moved to 100 Mile District in B.C. They were happy there for five years, living in a home on one acre near beautiful Horse Lake. Here the cry of the loon kindled a spark in their hearts. Here they didn't have to go far to enjoy camping. Ken loved to hunt and fish.

Ken wrote several articles for magazines. One of these was Cry of the Loon. He was a free lance writer who wrote many articles usually on the great outdoors. He had several articles published in Saskatchewan Outdoors and B.C. Sportsman.

The life in the Cariboo was too good to be true. Soon the lake that had no buildings and was beautiful and wild became a real haven for buyers of land. The quiet road by them (not dirt at one time only had one or two cars now became a Freeway. The traffic noise and dust became too much for them so they sold their house and moved back to their home province of Saskatchewan. They lived in the municipal house at Quinton for the first winter. In the spring they bought a three-bedroom trailer in Radisson. Ken fell ill in January once more stricken with cancer, and after two weeks in hospital succumbed on February 8, 1979 — a sad way for such a learned good-living man to go. Agnes sold the trailer and moved into a small house in Maryment where she has not yet recovered from the shock for her great loss. She recalls Ken as saying at the hospital in Saskatoon, "Honey we came home to live our last years with family and friends, but someone threw a monkey wrench in our plans."

The Dows

The Dow family was one of the true pioneers of the west end of the Ruddell and Lilac districts.

William Gerrard Dow was born in Whitby, Ontario in 1868. As a young man he joined the first survey party sent out by the Canadian Government to map out the 49th parallel. He was taken prisoner by Louis Riel but escaped and enlisted to take up arms for his country during the Fenian raids.

Later he returned to the farm at Whitby and was married to Anne McAfee. Together they raised five children — Isabella, Marion, Josephine, Anne and John, the only son born in 1882.

In 1887, he moved his family west to Pilot Mound (Manitoba) to farm and where the children went to school.

In 1903, he and his son John moved to a farmed farm just outside of Saskatoon.

In 1904, John took a homestead 4 miles north of Ruddell, NW 33-42-15 and William took a homestead by what was known as Goose Lake. The railway was not completed to Ruddell so lumber for the house and was hauled by horses from Saskatoon.

The Dows moved in the spring of 1905 from Saskatoon to their homestead which at that time was north of Ruddell. Lilac did not appear on the map until 1915. The siding of Snodes was moved a mile and a half further east on the north east of John Dows homestead and was renamed Lilac after a Lilac Bush that Anne Dow grew in her garden. Daughters Josephine and Marion were teachers, both in Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

Josephine married Carney Perry. It was the first wedding in St. Mary's Anglican church, Rev. Bubbing was the minister. They had two children, Marion a Registered Nurse in B.C. and William now a Judge in B.C.

Marion married Thomas Pain, a farmer at Vonda, and raised three sons, Harold, Thomas and Arthur.

Anne Dow Sr. died in 1915 and daughter Anne stayed home to look after her dad and brother. That same fall, John Dow enlisted in the Army and went to Winnipeg with the 196rd Battalions and then transferred overseas in 1916. In England he met and married Marjorie Ellen Hake in 1918. He and his bride arrived back to Lilac in 1919 to a new house which William G. built in 1911 for his son's homecoming. The house was built across the road from John's homestead on the NE 33-43-15 and they lived in it until 1980 when he and his family moved to Saskatoon. The family consisted of four children. Herbert, Mary, David and Elizabeth. The Dow's were very active in all community activities. John was noted for poems he wrote about almost anything.

Herbert and David both saw service in the Navy during World War II. William G. fondly known as "the Gentleman" passed away January 9, 1967, at the age of 87.

John died in September, 1969 and Marjorie passed away December 30, 1974. Anne Jardine, sister of John, died December 14, 1954 at the age of 84. She must be remembered also as a true pioneer one who devoted her life as one who looks after others. She kept house for her dad after her mother passed away. Then raised her sister's family (Josephine passed away in 1932).

The Dows laid to rest at Ruddell cemetery are Anne in 1915, William G. in 1967, Josephine (Perry) in 1931, Isabella (Gilbert) in 1940, Marion (Pain) in 1960 and Anne in 1974.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. A. Donald (Jack and Phyl)

Jack Donald was born in Saskatoon on February 24,

The Wm. Cook farm about 1920.

L. to r. — Alan Crossley, Jack Donald, Mrs. Cook, Mr. Cook, Dean Crossley.

1916 and came to Maymont at the age of 4 years to live with his Aunt and Uncle Mr. and Mrs. Cook.

He attended school in Maymont from grades 1 to 12 beginning in the church basement then to the "New" school on the site of the present senior school.

In 1940 he married Phyllis Burrows of Speers and Saskatoon whose parents Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Burrows were residents of Maymont from 1908 to about 1915.

In March, 1941 Jack joined the Canadian Army and Phyl went to various training areas when possible. After over 4 years overseas he returned and took advantage of the Veterans training program. He graduated from the University of Saskatchewan in 1948 with a degree in Mechanical Engineering.

After spending about 15 years in various Ontario centres Jack and Phyl returned to the West and lived in Regina, Edmonton and Calgary.

In 1972 they moved to Victoria where they still reside and expect to do so for some years to come.

The Robert (Bob) Downing Family

by Stella (Downing) Brown

My dad, Robert Downing — Bob to everyone young and old, and Mom 'Stella' came to Maymont with Irene, Everett and Valentine from a homestead in the Fielding, Redberry location — I don't know if there was a name to the district — but they were neighbors of Bodlee and Fishers. This was somewhere in 1917-18.

L. to r. — Bruce Kerr, Orla Squire, Scottie Campbell, Irene Downing, Mrs. Kerr, Stella Downing, Mrs. Downing.

They came to Maymont after the war as Dad was in Redberry when he went to war. We were in Maymont in 1919 as I was born there in 1920 in the telephone office home with Dr. Scratch attending and Mrs. Marguerite Thompson of Fielding as mid-wife.

Dad worked the telephone switchboard in Maymont — he was also line-man and was out any hour of the day on lines. Mom worked the switchboard and Irene who wasn't too fond of school, quit early in her Grade Eight to work on the switchboard. Myrtle Johnston, now Mrs. Nathan Friedman, was Irene's friend and in time she was one of our big helpers in that Telephone Office. Mrs. Lena Bohn (Waldon) was also one of the main operators and with Mom's help — and Dad's — they were open all day and mostly until nine and ten at night, and any emergency in the night. Mom and Dad's bedroom was just off the office.

As Everett, Val, and myself got older we worked the switchboard, too, and Mom was relieved more and able to have a home life. We lived in four rooms at the back. In the winter snow piled up between the joined part of kitchen and bedroom to the front. So in winter the kitchen was moved to the one-cabin room, cozy, but we had a lot of happy days there.

Our house was a drop-in centre for many of our friends and we had a lot of music — sing-songs and get togethers. Doc Scratch was one of our favourite pianists. Could he play! Often when he was waiting for a call in the Telephone Office, he would come in and play — a joy to remember!

Kathy, Edith Hamilton and Val would play by the hour. These girls were Reverend Hamilton's girls, the United Church minister. Pink and Ronnie Scratch played the Banjo (I think) and they would join in. They were at our place a lot and were just like family. Most of the time the bunk boys came into our place like home also. Irene, Mom and Myrtle Friedman were good at baking; the fresh cakes, etc. really caught it.

On our Sunday drives Dad would take us out to their old homestead. It was a mud hut and we did hear many stories. Mom used to shoot a gun to kill birds and rabbits. She would grab the kids and hide outside when she would hear anyone riding up.

We lived in Maymont until 1917. Dad had found out to B.C. with Mr. and Mrs. Kerr and he said when he came back he was going to move out. We thought of that as a joke but he was determined. He was a pessimist and had arthritis and French Fever dysentery of some kind, so he thought he'd feel better out here. Maymont people had a big Farewell Party for us in the hall which was next door to the Telephone Office. We were given lovely gifts. I still have the tray the Horsemanships had given Mom. The carving set is still here, too.

Dad had a garage up the street towards the hotel beside the Bank and at the back he had the Power House where he controlled Maymont Lighting. Whenever and whatever was on for entertainments in the hall — the Dewdneys were there, as that is how Dad took out his payment for advertising on the telephone of the event. This was called a 'General Ring' — a long, long, ring on all the lines, and the event would be read off. Great Memories. We went to everything in town. We made coffee on our kitchen stove for these events, putting a big boiler on, of cold water in the afternoon on the coal wood stove.

Many months we would be having and the lights would flicker. Dad would start to run and would work at that machinery until everything was in order again. I can remember even Christmas Days he'd have trouble. But that was his 'Baby' — anything in machinery was his work.

In the office part Mom did the book work until Irene was old enough to take over.

Friedman's Store and Bowes was our source of food. Dad did have a good garden in the later years. We went to school in the school across the tracks — Many times we were late because the train was on and we were unable to cross the tracks.

I remember one time Dad was driving an old Ford Truck across that track. He had his big dog (Mike) beside him. The dog was nudging him but Dad wasn't paying any attention (he was deaf, too). The train was coming and the engineers were waving for him to stop. He thought they were just waving 'Hello'. The train hit him, turned the truck around but no one was hurt.

Maymont and all other towns had these "Five Pepper" downstairs in the church basement — What a gorgeous meal! I hope to see the United Church dinner still when we come back. The concert was always great and one thing stays in my mind was Mrs. Kieper from Fleming who recited. She was great and it was Mr. Braithwaite (who is quite well-known for his books and writings now) did very good verse as we remember.

Mom, Dad, Mrs. Bruce Kerr and Mrs. Dan Campbell were curators in Radisson's First Supper in our one room night. A team of horses was coming from Radisson with a load of flour with no light to show them on the road at all, and Dad hit them. Our cat and four people were really a mess. Mom and Dad were badly cut up since they were in the front seat. Doc Scratch mended all in our living room. Mom's forehead was badly cut, just a little stitching by Doc. Dad had a piece of glass near the jugular vein in his neck somewhere. All the rest of his life he would rub that spot and say he could feel it. Scottie Campbell (passed away last year out in Richmond) said she'd never ride in a car again. But nasty things we've seen her out here and she got over it. Mrs. Kerr was hanged up but not too badly.

Every summer when we kids were out of school, Dad took us big and baggage to Meeting Lake. He would rent a cottage and with a seat for us kids we were fine. We were up there for two or three weeks every year. I remember still and can see it as my mind. Sam Miller's cottage (Irvin Fleming's now version). We kids each took a friend. Pam Scratch always went with Everett. Kathy Hamilton, LaRaye Martin, Margaret Hickman, Verna Thorsteinson were some of the girls that went. What fun! Kathy Hamilton (Johnston) now lives at Victoria. Margaret Hickman married Ted Newbold of Radisson Meat Market. They live in Merritt, B.C. near Margaret's brother and wife, Albert and Irene Hickman Lytton. Verna Thorsteinson (Honeybourne) lives at White Rock, B.C. These three people we still see quite often. Changed? But still a part of Maymont.

Meeting Lake then was a long drive but a great place to go to. That sand and water! We have been back to Maymont three times but never did go to Meeting Lake or Monte.

The school we went to as one room was, or was it? Mrs. Maurice Martin was my first teacher and Ethelwyn Hunt was Val and Ev's. We also had Miss Alice Meikle, George Gerta, Ralph Wensley, George Glover and of course Mr. McDonald. Earl I think.

We as kids took as much as sports to take part in. Everett was of course in ball and hockey, also rugby. He was always strong in sports. Every night for entertainment for most of us we would go to the station and watch the train pull out. Then go over to the Post Office to get the mail — Daily. Mr. Coleman was a big help and kept our imagine and minds alert.

Mom belonged to Homemakers and on here she belonged all her days (they were called Women's Institute out here). She was one of the first women of the Orange Lodge Auxiliary. Dad was a strong Orangeman, and Legionnaire. Mom was Legion Auxiliary.

Irene, Everett, Val and I were all skaters. We always had a season ticket. Irene played basketball as did Dad.

When Margaret Hickman and I were about twelve years old we did the Highland Fling and a Doll Dance on different occasions. Irene (Reid) Hickman taught and played the piano for us, as did Ethelwyn Hunt. We were taken to Fleming, Kendall and Richard on occasions to do our 'thing', going with the orchestra —

Bruce Kerr, Bruce Reid and Ernest Tiffin. Sometimes Ron Gerrish played in the orchestra as did Fish Kennedy.

Maynard had a Big Event for Our Services while we were there. It was remembered as a field south of town. Everyone was there. Great Old Car was processed with a car and a big hat road. Charlie there's the three I remember. He was one of the greatest. Since we have been out here Pinnie has been up here about three times. We have great times talking of Maynard. The last time was before Everett died. We went to Val's at Lake Cowichan — Dorothy Kerr, Mom, Everett, myself, Val and Pinkie all of Maynard. Pinnie hadn't changed we didn't think.

We have been back to Maynard a number of times drove out one year — Irene and Bob on to see the Centennial. We went to Fleming. It rained so we stayed only a short time. Another time was a big church gathering on the park. We met so many Mom was with us then. Another time we just made a short of the same time. Mrs. Graham and Muriel were happy at the farm. We did enjoy that as our family had spent so many days and nights with the Graham's years ago. Val and Ev spent numerous holidays out there. I did also. I went to Bruce more, sometimes was quite into the cattle like me. We did spend so much time with Graham and Bessie. Our first trip back to Maynard we were at Bruce at work and at the farm of Graham. Mom came with us each time she loved it. When ever the car was ready Mom was in.

On one of our visits out there, Mrs. Neill took us to see the Anglican Church — it was a real treat. We were treated. Church people but at times had gone to the Anglican.

When we came out here in April of 1957 we came out in the same Chevrolet that Dad had the previous to. Mrs. Kerr, Jean Bruce and Norma Johnston were in same car and we travelled together. We had stopped in Edmonton and saw Mr. Merrett. He had the Drug Store in Maynard before John Hope. We had a great visit with him, recalling Maynard days. We made the trip in a week. After a short time Dad got a house just on the outskirts of Chilliwack. We had pears, plums, apples, grapes and raspberries and a garden. We loved it. We had cows, pigs and chickens. The first winter was cold but Dad worked hard getting wood chopped and cut out trees. He was in his glory — made lots of friends. Then in February, he went up town to buy a money order to send to Everett who was then running with Bill Kerr and Walter Dawson up in the Lytton Area. Then that was a long day to go. Dad fell over dead in the Post Office. He always said he was going to drop over a counter as the end he did. He died at sixty years of age.

Irene lived in Langham. She had married Mel Spence, a C.N.R. man. His father worked on the trains after Mr. Hathaway — Alec Spence. Irene and her girl, Orla, came out twice regularly to visit us. She soon moved out here. Mom moved off the farm and for many years Everett, Val and I lived with Mom.

Everett got working for a Meat Market here. Then when war broke out he joined up and went overseas with the Westminster Regiment. He married one there an English girl who was in the service. Everett was sent home on the first hospital boat to come out with tuberculosis. We didn't know he had this until we saw a picture of him being carried off the boat by ambulance in Canada. He spent a year in Vancouver Victoria and Kamloops with T.B. He had one lung collapsed and ribs removed. (He had a rib shaved made from his rib). He stayed with Mom until his wife came out. When he was well again he worked for the Elk Creek Power Works here in Chilliwack for years. Then he worked for the Cottonwood as manager and while there he took home interest in skating and hockey. "Boys Hockey" was his thing. Also ball. He retired and was really interested. Having been a keenest player and hockey player when he was young he was interested in sports here. He was presented with the honour of being the "First Sportsman of the Year". Since then we have a Sportsman named every year. His picture hangs in the Lobby of our Cottonwood. He was made presentations and given a "Big Ovation". What a few years of poor health, stomach trouble etc. he was operated on for kidneys. He only had one kidney working — passing in his sleep September 16, 1971 at age fifty-nine. He had a wife "Eddie" (Elyse) and daughter, Sandra, still in Chilliwack.

After Irene moved out here she worked for several Ladies Clothing Stores. Then went to our Kodak & Store to work for fifteen years until she retired. She was so Mom. Every day one many of her prairie friends came in. She had married the second time to George Schweitzer, a man from the Army. After many good years she passed away with cancer. She was only hospitalized one month before she died May 22, 1969 at sixty-nine, after a year of heavy therapy in Vancouver. Mom "Betty" Downing after whom I was named when I arrived on her birthday in 1928 was a very small but very sturdy person. She had her share of sickness but got over all. She was very fun in bringing us kids up. She had good health to the last — very sick about two weeks at the end. She passed away July, 1976. She was ninety-one going on ninety-two. As Mom got older, she got younger and she only weighed ninety pounds. She was placed on hand of Mrs. Graham and Mrs. Jones.

Valemore lives in Cultus Lake. She worked after Dad died in Woolworth's as I did and at the same time. She went to school as soon as we came on I did. She was married during war time to a Chilliwack man, Millard Buckingham, an electrician. He has worked at the Army Camp here since it was built and they live at Cultus Lake where they moved after the war. Val has two girls. Josh — who trained as a policeman in England after school and working as a stenographer

here. She came back from England and had to train again as Canadian Policewoman. She graduated in Vancouver and I'm glad Mom was here for that! Linda lives in Vancouver, too. She is a Bank girl. She spends a lot of time on sports and skis.

Myself, Stella Brown — married Victor Brown when he first joined the Army. He was a Post Office employee — joined up in Postal Corps and after the war came back and went into the Post Office again. He worked thirty-five years then, retired. Now works from February to September at a nursery and is off work all winter. He just went there to help out one year and has been there five. He loves it. We have lived in this house twenty-five years. Victor was born in Sardis, five miles out of Chilliwack. We have three children. Dorothy is married; her husband works at the same nursery as my husband. They have two girls. Terry works at the C.N.R. station in Kelowna. He has two children, a boy and a girl. Shelly lives at home. She graduated last year and has worked since, working first at the nursery where her dad did, then at Zellers at a new mall just out of Chilliwack.

Joseph and Ellen Ducharme Family

By Bernice Ducharme

Joseph Ducharme was born into a large family at Drysdall, Ontario, on August 10, 1888. He took up homesteading in the early years on a farm south of Maymont overlooking the North Saskatchewan River. The river was a source of joy to Joe all his life. He never tired of watching it through all its moods and seasons. He was an avid hunter, gardener, trapper, as well as a farmer. This is a trait he passed on to his sons and grandsons. He raised and used large hounds in his coyote hunting in the early days, being a familiar sight to his neighbors in the community.

Joe Ducharme with hunting hounds.

Mrs. Joe (Ellen Ducharme and ? ? ces

Joe Ducharme Family. Della, Alma, Desmond, Delmar, Adolph, Stella, Mabel, Francis

Some of his early friends were Alex Gunn, Alex Garnett, Leo Gelinas and others from Notting. Some early neighbors were Mike Evans, Charlie Sherman, Nethrowns, Doherys, Dedonys and Bill Edge.

Joe married Miss Ellen Englebee on August 12, 1912 at Flecking. She had come from the county of Longford, Ireland with her parents, brothers and

Francis and May Ducharme.

sisters to the Fielding Area. Ellen Englisbee was born on July 11, 1894.

Joe and Ellen had a family of three girls and five boys. Ellen was a quiet reserved person. She was a loving mother and grandmother. She had a friendly manner and welcomed visitors to her home. Joe was especially happy when there was music being played. He could tap dance and danced so enjoyed school dances and neighborhood gatherings. They were faithful members of the Catholic Church both at Fielding and later in Maymont. Joe had taken his turn at being a trustee of the Calais School where their children took all their education, walking through some severe weather up and over the river hills, three miles. Three of their sons served during World War II, namely Adolph, Desmond and Delmar.

Ellen passed away suddenly at the age of sixty-four years on February 14, 1954. Joe passed away on March 17 in 1971 at the age of eighty-one.

Their children are: Francis, Stella, Mabel, Delmar, Adolph, Desmond, Mark and Delia.

Francis who farmed east of Maymont on the Ernest Tyburst farm married May Miller, daughter of Sam and Edith Miller. They had one daughter, Mary, who became a nurse. She married Dave McIntyre of Ruddell. They now live at Kronau, Saskatchewan. They have two children, Robbie and Sheri. May passed away in May 1977. They had been retired to Maymont for four years.

Stella is married to Gus Deneomme at London, Ontario.

Mabel is twin to Stella. She is now married to Douglas McKnight in London, Ontario. Mabel had two children by a former marriage.

Delmar now lives in Pictou County, Nova Scotia. He has raised four sons.

Adolph married Bernice Johnson, daughter of Reuben Johnson, ferry operator for many years. They have six children, two girls and four boys. Brian lives in Maymont. He is presently employed in Uranium City as a truck driver, owning his own truck. Cheryl is a nurse. She married Robert Stack from Moose Jaw. Robert a Captain in the Air Force is currently stationed at the Canadian Armed Forces Base in Baden Baden, Germany. They are enjoying sightseeing and will be away three years. Their home is in Calgary, Alberta. Gregory is a pipe fitter on Robert Johnson's backhoe operation. Michelle, Darren, and Lorne are all at home, still attending school in Maymont.

Desmond and his wife Violet live in Calgary, Alberta. They had two children.

Mark and his wife Betty live in Surrey, B.C. They had one son, Larry.

Delia is Mrs. Stan Bedard of Courtright, Ontario. They had five children.

Englisbees

Ellen Ducharme had two brothers Pat and Tom who farmed two miles east of Fielding. Their parents passed away, 1923 for Mr. Englisbee and 1936 for Mrs. Englisbee.

Tom married Myrtle Davis of Sunningdale, Perdue Area. They had four daughters, one passed away as an infant. Tom died in 1943.

Pat married Lorraine Rush of Mullingar Area. They raised four children: Joe, Marie, Eileen and Jimmie. Joe married Diane Kostyk of Maytar. They have three children. Eileen a school teacher lives and works in London, England and Jimmie married and has no family. Marie married Dave Kostyk of Maytar, they have two children.

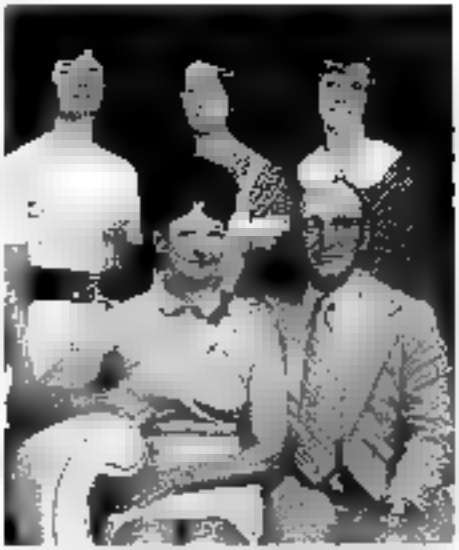
Mrs. Ed Naumeyer was also a Miss Englisbee as she was Pat, Tom and Ellen Ducharme's sister.

The Alwyn Ebach History

Alwyn Ebach and Mable (Sorry) were married November 4, 1940, in North Battleford. They lived in Neptune until 1942 when they moved to the Ruddell District to the Jack Arnold farm (where Lyle and Lillian Dean now live). In 1951 Alwyn and "Mac"

Well-boring machine — Len and Alwyn Ebach, 1941.

Elmer and Agnes with sons Clarence, Leonard and Alwyn Ebach.



Alwyn and Mabel Ebach, Linda, Carol and Betty.

moved to the Lilac area settling about one mile east. They raised a family of four.

Al served as councillor in Mayfield Municipality, resigning when he moved to Lilac as Lilac is in the Rural Municipality of Douglas. Al became active with the Russell Rural Telephone Company and soon became president. He held that position until the government took over the telephone system.

Alwyn passed away in March 1978. Mae still resides at the farm home.

Len Ebach

On May 26, 1937, Mabelle Ayers and Len Ebach were married at Laird. They farmed in the Hepburn area until 1946, when they moved to Lilac. Len bought the South ½ of 3, Twp. 43, from H. P. Voke, and the West ½ of 4 and N.W. ¼ of 5 from Stephen Prescesky. Later he sold the "Voke half" to his brother, Alwyn, and bought the Jack Evans farm. Mr. Evans was one of the

Leonard and Mabelle Ebach.

Gerald and Douglas, Sept., 1959.

Summer of 1978 — Lis and Doug.

original Barr Colonists who, with his mother, homesteaded section 6.

Garnet was born in 1953, and Douglas in 1954. They attended Lilac School until 1966, when they were bussed to Maymont School to continue on into High School.

In February, 1974, Thelma Saunders and Doug were married at Wilkie. Elaine Saunders and Garnet were married in Borden the following June. Thelma and Doug have one daughter, Lis Carreen.

Lee still farms, but any spare time in summer is spent at Turtle Lake. The winter months find Lee and Mabele at their house 2020-09th St. North Battleford.

John Evans

This letter was written the spring of 1964 in answer to a letter from a Lilac school student as part of Homemakers project to celebrate Saskatchewan's Fiftieth Birthday in 1955.

I arrived in Saskatoon April 5, 1905, with the Barr Colony. There was some confusion there, so some of us looked round for a job and were referred to A. T. Bell of Prince Albert. We went up there and worked a while at a sawmill thirty miles north, about south of the present Waskesiu Park. It was all forest there then. Then about the end of June, S. Semple and I walked up from Rosthern and arrived on Township 43-14 about June 23 where the Harper Bros. and Semples were camped in tents. This was the first of the new settlers that I knew of, as the land was not surveyed that summer and was quickly taken up. The only family before this was Chewer Nolin, on his ranch on Section Twenty, three miles north of Lilac. I went to Battleford and filed on my homestead June 29, 1905 and was I believe the first to do so, and then returned to Prince Albert and the sawmill. The sawmill burned down, and to fill up time while it was being rebuilt, I returned and spent Christmas with W. J. Davis on the southwest quarter of 4-43-13. Then when the sawmill had been rebuilt I went back to Prince Albert on the ninth of April 1906. I returned to the homestead with tools, etc. and built a sod shack, 12 x 14. It was very comfortable for three years. The first year we got our mail at Battleford, but there was much confusion there, so I altered my mail to Great Bend, north of Radisson. I had to walk there, stay overnight at the post office, the next day walk back. Later in 1906 the mail was carried to Richard by S. Nolin and we got our mail there. Then in the fall of 1908 the mail came on the train to Ruddell.

You will see at No. 1 issue of the Ruddell News that a house party was held at Boustead. This was a wedding party and there were a hundred or more in that house where Mrs. Reierle ... now lives; quite a party. In No. 11 issue, November 26, another party at W. E. Harper's at the NW 4 celebrated his wedding; another overflow crowd.

My last trip to Prince Albert by road was May 1906. I walked via Richard Speers, Maymont, and Duck Lake; after that civilization caught up with me and I travelled by train. In December 1908 to the victims for municipal councillor, my mother voted, being the first woman to vote in the township. It was forty below that day. We voted in a sod house belonging to Henry Allen on Section 18.

The first church services were at W. T. Davis' house. The first threshing I know of was Jim Little's and Richard's in 1906.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. (Walt) Evans

told by Mary (Evans) Edgelow

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. (Walt) Evans came to Fielding in 1925, moving into the house formerly owned by Mr. and Mrs. Bob Thompson, and lived there for nearly 40 years.

Walt was a contractor and carpenter and built schools, houses and barns in the Maple, North Battleford, Speers, Borden, Radisson and Fielding districts. He was a hard worker and expected good results from his helpers. "Walt 'er boys!" was often heard on his construction jobs. Walt was the Imperial Oil bulk dealer for many years, and a good many barrels of gas were delivered to farmers in a small trailer behind W.D.'s car.

He was overseer of our village for over 30 years, as well as serving on the ball and local school board. One Christmas concert time the school board was not really in favor of a dance following the concert, and were told in no uncertain terms — "No dance — no concert!". Who was the ring leader? W.D.'s daughter.

Mrs. Evans was active in church, Sunday School, Ladies' Aid and W.M.S. work. She was noted for boarding teachers, baking for bowl suppers and washing church windows. Her embarrassing moment was entertaining a certain politician for coffee after

Following Old Custom

W. D. Evans, 81, retired Fielding carpenter and contractor, is seen here collecting sap from his soft maple trees at his home. The flow was good and he was able to bottle a number of quarts of syrup. According to his neighbors, his syrup was just like the Quebec product.

he had told her daughter she should have stayed at home from the meeting!

The Evans' took pride in their yard and garden and when Walt was retired he made some syrup from his own maple trees.

Walt passed away in 1969, and Jean in 1973. Their daughter, Mary, taught school in Saskatchewan for 10 years, married George Edgelow of Nanaimo in 1950, and now live in Edmonton. They have three daughters and two sons.

Mr. and Mrs. George Fair

written by Barry (Bob) Fair

George and Betty (Shatt) Fair were married in 1935, by Rev. Coates in the Anglican Church at Fielding.

George came from London, England to Canada and Sherbrooke, Quebec, at the age of 14 years, to foster parents Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Prange. In 1925 he came to Fielding with a harvest excursion.

I came with my parents to Canada from London, England, first to Hamilton, Ontario, then to Fielding in early spring 1911, where I lived until 1916, when we moved to Saltcoats where George took over the Pool Elevator as agent. We resided there until his retirement in 1956, then moved to Radisson, Sask.

We had two children, Joan and Robert. Joan was born 1937 in City Hospital, Saskatoon where she had her Aunt Kay (Scott) as nurse.

Robert was born 1939 at Fielding. Ron Scratch, who was assisting his Dad at Maymont was our Doctor. Mrs. Alex Garratt was nurse.

They both attended Fielding School until we moved to Saltcoats. Joan took Grades IX and X by correspondence and then graduated at North Battleford Collegiate. After attending Teacher's College in Saskatoon, her first school was Keatley. The next year in the nearer home she taught at Prongua. She spent a year at the University in Saskatoon before teaching two years at King Street school in North Battleford.

In all she spent 13 years teaching, the balance in Nipawin. During that time, July, 1962, was married to Dave Nelson of Saskatoon, formerly of Richard. He was then employed at Squaw Rapids dam, as an electrician. Since finishing there, owns his own electrical business in Nipawin, Sask.

They have a daughter Joanne, born in 1966.

Bob finished schooling at Saltcoats and Grade X at North Battleford Collegiate. He worked for Moffat Motors, North Battleford, where he apprenticed as a mechanic. In 1960 he married Patricia Becker, of Spruce Hill, who was secretary with S. Mighton, Q.C. in North Battleford.

They have three children: Jeanette, born in North Battleford, Robert and a chosen daughter, Sharleen in Calgary, Alberta.

After moving to Calgary, the first ten years Bob was employed with Dominion, also Esso Motors, the latter as a transmission expert. The past six years with City of Calgary, Mechanical Services Division, as heavy duty mechanic.

I have witnessed many changes, particularly in the grocery business where my sister Molly and I assisted Dad. Such things as raisins, currants, dates and dried fruit came in bulk and had to be packaged into paper bags used as they arrived. There were no plastic bags, waxed paper or saran wrap in those days, also tea came in fifty pound cartons. Bananas, complete with stalk, were pulled to the ceiling with a rope and pulley. We couldn't keep up with the demand for their containers, a large basket sold for 35¢ and used for clothes hampers. Cheese came in a large round and cut as needed with a special cheese knife. Many groceries were exchanged for eggs, 18¢ a dozen and butter 25¢ a pound. Many of these went to the nuisance ground; eggs contained chicks and butter rats with French

Wood. Candy came by bulk and put in a candy display case, where many children longingly eyed them, especially the Christmas candy with its large variety. Chocolate bars were 5c. What we could have done with refrigeration and deep freezers!

The store lights were gasoline mantle lamps until Dad got his own electric light plant, this was used until the power came to the district.

When the river was frozen and until Stonewall had its own railroad, it was quite a sight each winter, at noon, to see a long line of horses with loads of grain coming to town. Their teamsters clad in Buffalo coats walking beside them to keep warm. At times you could hardly see those faces for frost.

Since retiring to Radisson, George and I have kept busy and are enjoying our retirement. George with his garden, I have my plants and hobbies. We are both active with the Agricultural Society and 71 Senior Club. I enjoyed being news correspondent for the North Battleford News Optimist while in Fielding. Best wishes and Radisson

Gerhard A. Fast and His Family

Gerhard A. Fast — Fielding, Sask.
Katherina Fast — died Dec. 24, 1913 after ten years on the homestead.

Much has already been written of the Fast family, who came from Gladstone, Nebraska in March, 1908, settling on Sec 26-41-13-W1. Gerhard Fast's and Jacob Fast's account of their early days on the homestead are told in *To Find The Daily Bread*, which had the honor of being the first book printed by Prairie Books, Western Producer, Saskatoon. It was reprinted serially in The Western Producer in the summer of 1970 to celebrate the anniversary of the coming of age of Prairie Books, also the first serial in the series": they were all accounts of pioneers in Western Canada.

After retiring from active farming Gerhard and his second wife, Anna, tended a large garden each year. He supplied fresh vegetables – cabbage, cauliflower, carrots, beets, and potatoes — to the hotels in Fielding and Maymont, and to the farmers who had large crews of men to feed during harvest and threshing. He, with his distinctive buggy drawn by "Jewel," were well known as far as Reddell, Richard and Speers. He had a day each week for certain customers. He was also a director of Mayfield and Douglas Agricultural Society and always exhibited vegetables.

When the Wheat Pool was being organized, he accompanied his son, Jacob, to meetings and was asked to speak of his journey experiences, after travelling so far under such adverse conditions.

He was very happy to have achieved his goal – land of his own and for each of his sons, and he spoke to try to better conditions for all.

After his death June, 1936, Anna Wall Fast returned to her former home in Henderson, Nebraska.

Gerhard H. Fast, (eldest son), was known as George. He and his wife, Augusta and children, Mary and William G. (Bill) Fast. A man of many talents, a builder, blacksmith which was a help to all his brothers in those early days. Always interested in home, school and church. He returned to Fielding where he continued to be active in the community. After the death of his wife, Augusta, he lived with his daughter, Esther, in Saskatoon.

Jacob H. Fast also homesteaded on the same section as his father. Well known in the Co-operative movement, Wheat Pool and politics. Perhaps Rev. F. Byers said it best: "He was an ardent missionary in the cause in which he believed. With his wife, Pauline, he built up a prosperous farm in addition to the original homestead where he lived all his life.

William C. Fast, after ten years on the homestead and working out, brought his bride, Laura, from Kansas, where they returned to live after spending several years on the homestead. In Kansas he worked for the Santa Fe Railroad which had a round house and yard at Barrington where Bill and Laura spent the rest of their lives. Bill returned several times to visit.

David D. Fast after proving his homestead, became one of the threshermen with a steam engine. He did not keep it on the homestead long, preferring to work at jobs other than farming. Being mechanically inclined, he operated engines and turned to carpentry which continued to be his trade after retiring to Vancouver in 1946. Dave and his bride, Fleurie, lived in a small house on his father's farm for several years. During this time, he was interested in photography. He moved to Rosthern where his ability to speak several languages and his carpentry were invaluable in managing a lumberyard for Mosaic Lumber. He was transferred to Vonda. After a number of years in the lumber yard, they moved to Saskatoon where the children could get a better education. Dave returned to carpentry at this time.

Mary Fast married Leslie Hage whose story appears elsewhere in this book.

John A. Fast (See separate story.)

The Jacob Fast Family

(As written by Jeanine and John Fast and Marjorie Haslam)

Mr. and Mrs. Gerhard Andrew Fast came to Hopkins, Nebraska, U.S.A. in September 1884, after a long trek through Europe and Asia. They lived there with their family of five sons and one daughter. Mr. Fast worked at various jobs. He owned and operated a shoe store and a shoe repair shop. Repairing shoes, but more so, making them was his trade, as in 1868 he was apprenticed to a cobbler where he learned the trade for three years in Europe. Due to a chest ailment he started farming. A brother in Canada helped him find a homestead, so in 1908 he came to Rosthern, N.W.T. and filed on a homestead near where Fielding now

shanks. He returned to the States and the following year brought his wife and family out. There were no railroads, so everything had to be hauled from Rosthern to his homestead by horses and sleigh, across the river where the Borden Bridge now stands. The homestead of Gerhard Fast was NE¼-34-41-13-W 3rd. They lived in a tent until they built a sod stable, then lived in the stable for a couple of months until a sod house was built. In this house they lived for fourteen years. The first two years they had to go to Rosthern for groceries. Their mail came to Great Bend - north of where Radisson now is. Later a post office was built at Fielding. The railroad was being built from Saskatoon west at this time. By Christmas of 1904 the roadbed was ready for the steel track up in the North Battleford - Battleford railroad bridge site, west of the place to be North Battleford. There wasn't much work for men to do at the winter time so Jacob - one of the sons - went to Rosthern to work. He got a job for the winter of 1904 and 1905 cutting firewood. In April he came back to his homestead and broke more acres of land. In the autumn of 1904 Gerhard Fast helped Julius Schleusner (Mennet) build a sod house on SE¼-36-41-13-W 3rd. That house was lived in for certain four years. In October Jacob Mr. Schleusner and Dave McKay got the team of John Sawler's covered wagon to go to Rosthern to bring Mrs. Schleusner and their three youngest children back to the homestead. Later Mrs. Schleusner helped in many maternity cases as a midwife. The two oldest girls - Pauline and Annie stayed in Rosthern doing housework. Annie later married Ike Lewis. Jacob and Susanna corresponded for the next few years and finally got married February 25, 1906. They lived in the sod house till 1909 when they moved into the house they had built, which is on the farm, now owned by B. Bishop. Julius and Mrs. Schleusner moved to London, Ontario in 1914 to live with John one of their sons. They passed away in 1934 and 1938.

Of their family in which there were three girls and three boys, as I said Annie married Bill Lewis. Elizabeth married Hollo Smith. Walter and Harry both went to the States. At that time John and Harry are the remaining living ones. Hollo Smith took over the Schleusner homestead.

Neuanau School District No. 1317 was organized in the spring of 1906. An acre of land situated on the SW corner of NW¼-36-41-13-W 3rd was donated by George Northcott. The first school opened with seven pupils with T. A. Amos as the teacher. This school burned down in July, 1908. Everything was lost. School was held in the school barn until the new Neuanau School was built later on that year. The new school was located on the NE corner of NE¼-36-41-13-W 3rd and operated till 1946. At that time it was closed for lack of pupils. In 1953 it was moved to the Keystone District where it was put to use again. Then in 1956 it was moved to Meyronne and used as a classroom until the new portable classrooms were added. Bishop Johnston bought it, moved it to the SW corner of Meyronne, where in 1973 it accidentally got burned down. So ended the era of Neuanau School. At the present time John Fast has the outside bell mounted on a steel plaque on his yard — a reminder of Neuanau School District No. 1317.

At one time there were thirty-three children going to the country school. Now three classrooms later in the same district there are only four children of school age. Jacob Fast was secretary-treasurer for the Neuanau School for twenty-five years. Some of the teachers were Mr. Amos as mentioned, Lydia Bullerad (May Allen Brown), Muriel Elliott, Muriel Martin, Kay MacKinnon (Mrs. Roy Kasper) and Miss Braithewaite among many others during the years.

In the old sod houses they had phones. The Fielding telephone exchange started up near 1908. In the very early 1910's Jacob Fasts had the phone.

The first harvesting of grain was done in the fall of 1904 with a Case 20HP steam outfit owned by John Swain. The straw was burned to generate steam which furnished the power to move and operate the machine. The grain was hauled to Radisson where the Topper Elevator Company had just the first elevator. They got fifty-five cents a bushel by the wagon load.

If you wanted a new sod, or log house built, or maybe a barn, or help with getting up the winter supply of wood, bees were the thing amongst the homesteaders. Then also when it came to the day of worship, in 1904 they headed to the home of Gerhard Fast. At times the minister was Mr. Mackenzie, at other times missionaries came from Rosthern or a small place near where Borden now stands. The first Community Christmas celebration was also held in the same house. The sod house had it's ups and downs, improvements thus making it a load or no room on the outside, so quite a few people must have had many good times in it.

Dr. John A. Scratch came to Fielding in the fall of 1908. He put up his sign in the window of his room in the hotel. That was his office, until he moved to Meyronne in 1909.

Mrs. Gerhard Fast passed away on December 31, 1941. Gerhard married Anna Wall later the next year. She had two sons, Norman and Jacob who resided in the Fielding District for many years and a daughter who only came for visits. Gerhard died June 29 1956, just forty years to the day he left Ostenberg on the boundary between Europe and Asia, many thousands of miles away. Jacob Fast took over his dad's farm as well as his own and farmed for many years, through many hardships what with prairie fires in the early years, to drought, grasshoppers, etc., in the later years. He and Pauline had no family of their own. The one daughter who was born to them May, 1938 lived only a few hours. So they adopted two children, a boy

John S. Fast, born October 19, 1913. Later they adopted Marjorie born in 1930.

John stayed on the farm and farmed, until 1965. He had married Gladys Nelson in 1938. The marriage dissolved some sixteen years later. He then married Jeanine Dell from Sexsmithdale. They sold the farm in 1965, bought a house in Fielding, moved it to Maymont and live there. John does some carpenter work and gardening, while Jeanine does the sewing, gardening and helping with the carpenter work.

Margorie married Wilbert Hanlon of Sexsmithdale, and lives on a farm there. They had three children. Glen the oldest died of polio in 1949. Valerie came next in 1950 and Lorne in 1953. Both are married. Valerie has a daughter, and Lorne and his wife, Bonnie, have two children, a boy of their own and an adopted daughter. So this is the family of the Jacob Fast branch.

During the mid thirties Fielding was quite a hive of entertainment. The Chautauquas toured the country. Some of the more spectacular things they had were the Swiss Bell Ringers. Then also a Mr. Hoffman with large rings that he juggled together so make many patterns. Now do we see the same thing on TV. Fielding young people with their Young People's Club put on numerous three-act plays. Every March 17 was Irish Night. The Irish people put on the program. Also there was Scot's Night in January. — Even to the bagpipes, highland flings, — all Scottish entertainment. The Fielding Community Club had dances every week or so. People every Friday night hooked up the team and sleigh and away they went, young and old. Young kids learned how all the dances were done there, and they did them. Dads danced with girls six years and up. How enjoyable it was! Of course it was radios at home then, and before that the old gramaphones with the cylinder records,updated to the disc records. We in our area had a lot of house parties during the winter. We would go to houses in the neighborhood. There we would play games - spin the bottle, musical chairs, and many more. Much singing went on. In the summer we played ball every Sunday at Les Sloans. This was during the depression years. The mode of travel was horseback for many, although buggies, wagons, etc., were used. No money for gas so people did what they could. The depression years were tough on everyone. So were the war years what with gas rationing, sugar, butter, coffee and all the other rations we had to deal with. Even vouchers for clothing and groceries at the store. Each family were allowed so much money to go on. It naturally went for the things that were needed the most. The men that worked outside, of course, had to have the most of the clothing voucher.

Gerhard A. Fast and Jacob B. Fast have written a book "To Find the Daily Bread" about their struggles and hardships of travels and homesteading in the late 1800 and early 1900's. The book is in the Maymont Library.

John A. Fast and Anna C. Fast
Maymont, Saskatchewan

submitted by Gladys (Fast) Zimmer, Edmonton, Alberta

My Father, John A. Fast, came to the homestead — N.W. 2-42-13-W3 from Fairbury, Jefferson County, Nebraska, to join his parents and brothers and sister who had come from Nebraska in March, 1903.

No. 7-1
LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
RECEIPT FOR TAXES
Received from Mr. J. A. Fast
the sum of
Dollars,
in payment of Taxes due to Local Improvement District
No. 7-1 for the year 1913 on the following lands:
N.W. 2-42-13-W3rd
Dated at Lloydminster, Sask. this 5th day of January 1914
Per

John Fast receipt for taxes.

John, Anna and Gladys Fast.

He brought a carload of settler's effects by rail to Saskatoon, arriving on Christmas Eve, 1904, after ten days travelling. He was met by his brother [illegible] William C. Fast. They loaded what they could on wagons and sleighs and stabling the extra horses and delivering colts, drove out to my grandfather's sod house, later returning to Saskatoon for the remainder of the goods that had been stored there.

He brought the basic farm implements, plus whatever the family had left behind in Nebraska. There was a wagon, bob sleigh, and two buggies. There were walking plows, single furrow 14 and 16 inch share for stubble and breaking. I am sure one plow had a wooden beam cut from a single piece of oak. Perhaps the steel tooth drag harrow survived the longest. He had a certain amount of optimism since he brought the corn planter which was called a lister plow and used for the 44 years he lived on the homestead for ridging up the garden and plowing out potatoes after the seeding attachment had been removed. I believe that my Uncle George Fast who could do blacksmith work made a garden cultivator. The wheels became the base for a barrow cart, otherwise one walked miles a day at the duty.

My father brought horses. He never did farm with oxen as many others did. The two colts, whose sire was of the horse breed listed as the foremost Dark Polish, grew up to be the driving team. They were never used for field work unless there was urgent need for an extra horse at light work as they were too light for the other work. Since he brought a top buggy and an open one they were often borrowed by the Andrew boys for taking their lady friends to the dances. The light wagon was soon only used for the road or as an extra wagon at haying as the high wheels and narrow tires were not suitable for use in the fields hauling sheaves as they cut too deeply into the fields. There was machinery bought — a disc harrow to work down the breaking and later a Massey Harris drill and a Massey Harris binder the Bain wagon and last Deering mower and a Massey Harris rake for haying.

There was seed brought from Nebraska — corn, alfalfa, and timothy proved unsuitable for the climate. Also seedlings of trees — ash, walnut, hazel did not survive the winter.

Mrs. Anna Fast, Mary Mary and Mrs. Lena Hiebert — log house with sod roof — 1908.

My mother, Anna Fast, came to Saskatoon in January, 1905. By this time there had been snow, so her drive to Grandfather's was in the sleigh. The horses were not used to the cold weather or to travelling on a snow road. They took a strong forth on the road and her first experience in a sod house was at a neighbor of Grandfathers, the Frank Bergmanns. Mrs. Bergmann put her into a bed warmed with soft wrapped stones which had been heated in the oven and rubbed her chest with the good old Dr. Thomas Eclectric Oil to ward off the chill. She was very cold despite the fur coat that Anna Mary Fast had sent for her to wear home on the trip.

The balance of that first winter was spent at Grandfather Fasts. They moved into the log house with sod roof in June, 1905. The house had been built by a son of the neighbouring settlers.

Mother was fortunate to have a floor of plain boards. Many early homes had only the earth floor at the start. She also had new furniture, table and six chairs, wooden bed, dresser and washstand and her prized sewing machine. Mother had been surprised when she arrived in Saskatoon to be given a note from Grandmother instructing her to buy suitable material for a wedding dress for Mary Fast. That was her first dressmaking in Canada. She had spent several weeks at Fasts, each mom sewing for Grandmother and Mary. The wedding dress was worn on March 12 1905 when Mary and Leslie Sloan were married. It was the first wedding in the new settlement. Mother also sewed a wedding dress for Paulina Schanner when she married Jacob Fast, February 26, 1906. Both these dresses were worn by relatives more than twenty years later by Adelina Sloan and Eva Amsbardt, winning prizes and attracting much attention at masquerades.

The balance of the furniture was from my father's bachelor days — a small cook stove and an Oak heating stove, kitchen baking table that had two pull-out boards for bread and cutting boards and two ball round pull-out bins for flour under the cutlery drawer, several kitchen chairs and packing boxes with a curtain in front made other storage cupboards.

At first the house had no partitions. Rooms were divided by curtains strung on wire. Later, when the sod roof became very leaky after heavy rains it was replaced by a half-story frame gable and shingle roof. The rooms were properly partitioned then.

Little has been said about the women settlers who were used to different homes and manner of living. Perhaps the most feared it easier to adjust with being busy getting the required ten acres per year broken and working wherever they could to earn the extra cash that was needed to carry on. There was always a need to buy staple groceries and need pins whatever repairs to harness and machinery that they could not do for themselves.

I believe that my parents were better able to manage, as they had a farming background, than the

neighbors who came from England and were used to city life and factory work. Mother had worked in the city for bankers who were from Boston, so had learned special cooking. She was an excellent cook and baked five wedding cakes. The first was for her fine friend, Minnie Martin, who married Percy Barrett, the pioneer photographer. She also baked the wedding cake for Lilly Martin who married Sawyer Wheeler. For these two cakes she did the icing herself. For Maggie Hemmell, who married George Florence, she baked the cake and Maggie and her sister Rose, walked more than a mile across the prairie in deep snow to help do the decorating. This was the largest and most elaborate cake she made. Later, she baked the cake for Nellie Millman who married Rev. Schoolfield and for her sister Emily Millman, who married Dick Williams. These cakes were decorated by Mrs. A. E. Sloan who was artistic.

Mother always had a garden but some years tender plants were killed by late spring and early fall frosts. It was many years before tomatoes survived long enough to bear fruit. She also went to Indian Head Experimental Farm for tree seeds and perennial flower seeds. These were planted in Grandmother Fast's garden as it took several years to get a suitable garden spot prepared. She also brought seeds of the wild plum. The Manitoba maples planted there are still living. After many years the plum trees bore fruit and Grandfather received a special prize at the Agriculture Society fall fair held in the Maymont school.

I was born in the log house. Dr. J. A. Scratch was the doctor and Mrs. Margaret Thompson, a nurse from England, lived-in for several weeks leaving her two little girls in the care of her sister who lived on a homestead some six miles east. Mother had a hired girl, whose parents the Hartwells, lived a mile east of Keystone School which I later attended.

My first two or three years of school were at the old Neepawa Public School, No. 1517. T. Ali Amcon was the teacher. He taught us phonetics a sound foundation for reading. Also instilled an interest in good literature. After there were enough pupils in the district, Keystone Public School No. 1140 was re-opened. I finished my schooling there with Miss Grace Jupp of Speers for Grade VIII teacher and Miss Flora Geary of Keppel Sask. for Grade IX.

During that time the Rev. R. W. Hardy drove with his horse and buggy from Speers one afternoon a week to give Sunday School instruction after the afternoon recess. Church services were held in the school every second Sunday afternoon during the spring and summer, usually ending with Harvest Home.

There are many stories told of prairie fires. I was so frightened that I still remember the last one that came our way although this must have been before I went to school.

A beautiful spring day when suddenly the clouds of smoke could be seen coming from the east. Law Andrew drove out to where he was plowing his field south of our house and came straight across the prairie throwing up two furrows all the way and plow furrows near the house. My father plowed deep furrows and ridges in the open grassland to the north till he and Law had made a circle on the sides the fire was coming from. Those deep furrows remained until the pasture was finally broken. As the fire advanced rapidly the animals from the bush dashed across the yard in headlong flight, coyotes and many bush rabbits paying no attention to each other. Even deer which weren't seen often then.

Mrs. Rogers who could see the smoke more than a mile away, put her pre-school children in the buggy and drove across the prairie. She brought with her a tub of water and sacks and a broom with which to beat out the sparks. The roar of the fire was dreadful and the wind generated by the flames carried the sparks far. All watched to beat out any that came inside the fireguard. The fire was turned from the buildings and burned itself out when it reached Law Andrew's plowed field.

Neighbourly help was always given unstintingly where it was needed and I hear that the pioneer spirit still carries on at Maymont.

I expect that others have written about the old time threshing. My father hauled water for the large steamers for five years — three seasons with Wright Andrews and two with Les Sloan. Mother was left at those times to care for the stock. When the large outfits came they had a cook car and a bunk house for the men as mother only cooked for the grain haulers. Much farm work was exchanged with neighbors, a day's work for a day at whatever job help was needed.

My parents spent 44 years on that homestead until failing health forced them to return to Saskatoon where they spent the rest of their lives. Both are buried in the Maymont Cemetery.

After 30 years in Saskatoon, I moved to Edmonton.

Prices of Groceries and Supplies — 1896, 1897

Flour (one sack)	$1.75
Tea (1lb.)	.40
Coal oil (1 gal.)	.40
Sugar	.50
(Sugar, Tapioca, rice, dried fruit, raisins, apple, currants, apricots, prunes — no quantity specified, bought by .25 or .50 cents worth.)	
Lard	7¢
(likely 5 lb. pail)	
Pork (4 lb.)	.40
Coffee (1 lb.)	.30
Broom	.30
Baking Powder	.30
Baking Soda	.10
Barbed wire must have sold by pound.	
4 spools wire 480 lbs.	$18.30

Axe handle	.35
Garden rake	.35
Stove pipe elbow	.35
Overall jacket	1.00
Hat	1.50
Lamp Glass	10

Our Neighbours

by Gladys Zimmer

Albert Bostell — came from Manitoba with his daughters Maggie and Rose, and sons Percy, Ed, Dave and Stewart. The girls often told this story Mr Bostell was a carpenter and while the young lads were in a manse he decided to change the door to the other side of the house. The girls got a surprise when they exclaim : 'and the door where they came home in the wee hours' The farm was taken over by the eldest son, Percy Bostell, who lived there the rest of his life. Percy farmed with horses long after others had changed to tractors. He had extra room as his farming land needed at least two outfits. He had several house-keepers. The one who stayed longest and was best known is Mrs. Rose Schmidt, and her daughter Betty. Betty attended Grey School till Grade VIII and then went to Saskatoon. Mrs Schmidt stayed on at the job till Percy's death; then she returned to Saskatoon. The neighbouring homestead was taken by William Holmes with his wife Kate. They came from Nebraska. Mrs Holmes was also a real-wife and helped Dr Breach many times sometimes driving for miles with her horse and buggy or by cutter in the winter.

Henry Chesterfield also came from Nebraska and homesteaded the adjoining quarter. After proving his title, he became an implements agent in Maymont. After selling that business he moved to B.C. with his wife and family.

Abel Shrock came from the U.S.A. with his parents and wife Cora, and three children Trevo, Leland and Mindy. Their homestead years came to a sad conclusion in 1911 when Cora died at the birth of a tiny daughter. The neighbors offered what help they could to the grieving family. Mrs. Holmes took care of the baby. Mrs Wm Parker and Mrs John Friel attended to the unwelcome task of preparing Cora for her last rest. Someone stayed with the family till after the funeral. The grandmother felt she could not care for the frail baby Cora besides the other children, so the baby was adopted by George and Eva Heller with whom love and patient care she grew. The Shrock family returned to the United States and supply. After many years Cora found her family and was able to visit them. The baby Cora is now Mrs. Frank Miller.

Homer Cowan homesteaded west to the Shrocks. He was a bachelor who lived in a very tiny shack.

All of the original homesteaders of Sec. 36-41-13 have gone. Some stayed only a few years.

Henry Knight from Neepawa who suggested that name for the school.

Frank Bengtsson and family. There was a stopping place on the trail and they did not stay very long. Last heard of in Washington State. Their daughter, Martha, a popular young lady became Mrs. McKellar and lived at Redmond. Son Walter and his mother in Vancouver B.C.

John and Maria Schlosser (Brewer). came from the U.S.A. in 1908. Mrs. Schlosser was a mid-wife and called to help many times. She also baked bread for the bachelors. Her January for the Naval before there was a Chinese laundry in Maymont. Her daughters, Annie (Mrs. Bill Lewis) and Freda (Mrs. Rolly Smith) helped when not on working. In those days they were called hired girls. Julius Schlosser also grew vegetables for sale. Their sons John and Harry, played the violin and Freda played the organ. Many sing songs were enjoyed there. Harry became quite an accomplished musician and now lives in Washington. John and Walter went to Ontario where Julius and Maria were joined them.

Dave McKay came from Manitoba in 1908 and was a bachelor for some years. He spent a good deal of time at Schlosser's with the young people. Dave was a good shot and his ?? supplied meat for the table. One time he asked Mrs. Schlosser to cook for his threshers. He was to supply the meat so what rabbits. Being a commercial cook, Mrs. Schlosser made the most into hamburger meat balls and all enjoyed a good meal. It was the story of N.W.M.P. to visit the district. One fine spring day Dave shot a duck, cleaned it and was cooking dinner when a Mounte rode up. Dave invited him to share his meal. The evidence of the illegal game was still by the door but nothing was said. Dave McKay and Bessie Cook from England were married in Schlosser's house. Bessie had helped her very cake. She was a good cook and soon learned to use all the wild fruits. Bessie always had a garden and was especially interested in new varieties of perennial flowers. Their son Stanley was also a hunter and trapped. Weasels and other pests in the area did well to avoid him. After Dave's death, Bessie and her daughters Violet and Pearl moved to Fort William, Ontario and Stanley lives in Edmonton.

S. E. Chambers came from England with his wife and family. The elder daughter and sons soon went to Prince Albert. Lily, Howard and Leonard remained with their parents. Mr Chambers helped build Keystone and Grey Schools. Some of the first Keystone teachers boarded at Chambers. They were a musical family. Leonard played the accordion and Howard the violin and mandolin or banjo. After the death of their parents, Lily was married and Leonard also elsewhere. Howard left the farm and was last heard of in Vancouver. The adjoining homestead was taken by Tom H. Martin who came from England with his wife, Hannah, and sons, Ben and Harry. His wife could not survive the climate. After her death, Mr Martin sent for his daughters. Maude and Lily to join him and keep house. Tom Martin was an organ builder and brought

materials. One of the organs is (was) in the Anglican Church at Maymont and one at Grey School, besides the one his daughter had in the home. They, too, were a musical family and good singers. Ben senior returned to England. Harry worked in Mrs. Beans store and had the undertaking business, later joining his brother, Ben, in Leithbridge. Lily married Senger Wheeler and lived at Rosthern. After some years in Maymont where her husband Percy Barrett was photographer, Maude and Percy returned to the farm.

Henry Bergmann was well known in the district although he became a resident of Maymont only after retiring from his farm at Spinney Hill. Henry came from Emmiere, Nebraska in 1913. Homestead land was all taken so he filed on a homestead near Cando. When not putting in his homestead duties there, he lived with his aunt and uncle John Fast.

He worked during the summer, seeding, haying, harvesting and threshing and then returned to the homestead. He sold that and bought a farm at Spinney Hill, usually returning to his aunt's for the winter. Like all retired farmers, he still found little jobs to do in Maymont besides curling in the winter and playing cards.

The William Part Story

I was born in Nebraska in 1902, and came with my pioneer Mother and Father in 1906 to a homestead in a district which was later called Neepawa, 54 miles north-west of Fielding. I was the eldest boy in a family of 3 boys and 3 girls, 2 of which are still living, Esther of Rochester and Arthur of Edmonton.

We grew up on the farm and when Neepawa school was started, I was one of the first pupils. Mr. Aymes was the teacher for 14 years, and I still hear from his son, Bruce of California, every Xmas.

In due time the railway went through the country and the village of Fielding came into being. We had good times going there to dances, picture shows, and sports days.

Later on the Curling rink was started, and everyone was very enthusiastic. I curled there many winters and later on at Maymont.

I married Violet Laidlaw on July 9th, 1928. She was a school teacher at Beckwith school south of Fielding.

We rented the William McNaughton farm and while there we boarded the teacher at Neepawa school. He was Max Braithwaite, who has since become a well-known writer.

We have a daughter, Maxine, who was born in 1936. She started school at Neepawa and her teacher was Miss Lillian Martin, now Mrs. Kimbel of Lauseland who boarded with us.

After one year the school was closed so there was only 3 pupils. Maxine then went to school at Fielding. She stayed with her aunt Esther who was the telephone operator there. She graduated from Grade XII in 1954. Later on she took her nurse's training at Saskatoon City Hospital, and graduated in 1957. She is married to Darryl Dodds, an electrician, and lives at Snow Lake, Manitoba. We have two granddaughters and one grandson.

We lived on the farm 4 miles east of Maymont till 1958 and then moved to Maymont. We sold our farm in 1973.

We celebrated our golden wedding on July 9th, 1978 with a Come and Go tea in the Community Hall. Vi heard from 21 of her former pupils, and 8 of them were present, and helped with the program.

We enjoyed our life on the farm, good times and bad, and if it was possible, would gladly do it over again.

Bill and Vi's 50th wedding anniversary — July 9th, 1978. L. to r. — Heather, Bill and Vi, Darren, Maxine and Darryl, Kim.

Cecil Ferris Family History

By Betty Ferris

Cecil was the seventh child of a family of thirteen born to Robert and Maude Ferris. He began his farming career by working on the home farm. In 1935 he moved to the farm which his father had purchased from Will Ferris. He remained there for six years until he returned to the home farm after his father's death. He and his brother, Chester, farmed together for one year until Chester joined the armed forces. Cecil has farmed the home place ever since.

I came to Fielding in 1940 to teach the junior room at Fielding School. It was a two-room school at that time. Raymond Kachur was the principal the first year that I taught at Fielding School and Bob Olson became principal the second year. I boarded with Mr. and Mrs. Walter Evans and they remained very dear friends of ours until their deaths.

Cecil and I were married in 1947. We had little but love to live on that first year. The first rain of the season came in the form of a thunderpost in mid-August, the evening of our wedding dance in the Fielding Hall.

Many of the crops came up after that rain. Feed for livestock was scarce as there hadn't been enough moisture to produce a hay crop.

As luck would have it, the drought of 1947 was followed by a severe winter with above average snowfall which stayed with us till near the end of April. Many farmers ran out of feed for their livestock and poor quality hay was shipped into Fielding. The hungry animals were ravenous when fed this mouldy frozen fodder but it kept them alive.

We soon found our home livened by "The patter of little feet". We had five children in all, Lesley, Ronald, Audrey, Gregory and Joanne.

July 31, 1959 was the saddest day of our lives when our eldest son, Ronald, was killed when the tractor he was operating overturned, pinning him beneath.

Lesley became a teacher and is now married to Dennis Morgan, a farmer at Marsden.

Audrey is a nurse married to Constable Edward Miller of the R.C.M.P. They live at LaRonge but this summer are being transferred to Meadow Lake. They have one son, Gregory.

Our son, Greg, has joined his father in the farming operation.

Joanne became a Laboratory Technician and is presently employed at St. Joseph's Hospital at Ile-a-la-Crosse.

Through the years we have witnessed many changes in rural life. When we were first married we travelled by horses and sleigh in the winter. Nowadays if the roads become heavy with snow we wait for the municipal plow to clear them so that we can get out with the car.

In about 1954 the power line was put through this area and this did much to brighten the homes and enable the farm homemaker to acquire many of the appliances which made her work lighter and more pleasant.

We had many neighbors in years gone by whose homes now stand vacant or have been demolished. Farms are larger and farm homes are farther apart.

The farming operation itself has become more complex. It seems strange that with all the efficient farm machinery, and gadgets, farmers still work long hours and under even more stress than their forefathers. There are fertilizers and numerous chemicals which are applied to the land and standing crops, to combat weeds and insects. Granted, we do grow higher yielding and cleaner crops than in years gone by but I often wonder what the long term effect of this "chemical farming" will be.

Mr. and Mrs. Chester Ferris

This is another branch of the Ferris Family and one of the larger ones in later years.

Chester, youngest of five brothers, came out to our in 1946. After four years had past the second World War was over. Then while still in Holland he met a Dutch girl called Wilhemiajtje Liefhebber. They were married in Delft, Holland in December, 1945. After returning home with his wife they raised a family of six children namely:

Diane who married a farmer, Robert Quick of Radisson, and are now farming at Mayfair, Sask.

Robert William, who married Patricia Parchoma of Keyster, Bob is Customer Service Manager for Air Canada and lives in Saskatoon, Sask.

Terry Donald who married Carrol George of Livelong and is a school teacher in Blaine Lake, Sask.

Edward Allan, who married Mary Maxwell of Radisson. He is a store clerk and living in La Ronge, Sask.

Marilyn Ruth, who married Ian Mascor. He works in the oil fields at Lloydminster and are living at Lloydminster, Sask.

David Lloyd at home going to school, living with Dad and Mom.

Chester was postmaster at Fielding, Sask. for 28 years and is now in his own insurance business at Radisson, Sask.

Wilhemiajtje is now Postmistress at Fielding, Sask., where she and Chester still make their home.

Mr. and Mrs. William Ferris

by Gladys (Ferris) Tapley

Mr. and Mrs. John Schrader and young daughter, Jennie, came by covered wagon from Iowa, U.S.A. and took up a homestead in the early 1900's in the Yorkton District known then as Assiniboia. Later after building a log house Jennie's father had an accident and he passed on. Then the mother and her daughter were left alone on the homestead. So the daughter, Jennie, got a job cooking in the hotel at Yorkton.

In the meantime my father, Mr. William Ferris, and his brothers, Rob and Harry, and Telford and Tom Ferris decided to go west from Ontario. After coming west my father, William Ferris, worked for the T. Eaton Company at Winnipeg as he had experience in working in a store in Ontario. But his older brother, Harry Ferris, insisted that my father come west. They could get one hundred and sixty acres for ten dollars. Well, this looked good at the time. Then my father

William L. Ferris born June 30th 1881, passed away Dec. 24, 1964.

Mrs. Wm. Ferrit with Gladys Age 8

there to Yorkton where he worked for some time in the Flour Mill. It was here he met my mother, Jennie Schrader: later he married her on March 23, 1904. They were married by the Reverend Beagle of Yorkton. Father worked for awhile in the Flour Mill but came west with his brothers and got a homestead three miles east of Fielding. The railway was not through yet but the family would come as soon as they could

I was born at the Yorkton Hospital on January 30, 1905, the year the Province of Saskatchewan was formed. After I was six months old the railway had gone through so they decided to come to their homestead. It was fall and we had no buildings so my father's brother let us live in his tar paper shack for the winter as he was a bachelor and was out home. Tom was a good carpenter so was in demand We got our log house built the following summer — also log barn and chicken house My father came with the livestock and machinery in a car. He had to haul it all thirty miles to Canora so he went through many hardships Mother and I came by train. The engine broke down so we stayed for sometime.

After our buildings were built my father had to plough a fire guard around in case of prairie fire as the land was all prairie.

Our first close neighbor was Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Thompson who lived northwest of our homestead. Mr T. Thompson had a steam threshing outfit So my father got a job hauling bundles as money was scarce in those days. The land had to be broke up and worked, so it took a number of years, believe you had a crop. The neighbors were very good to help each other in those hard years.

My mother told me that she used to take me in the baby carriage to town with eggs and butter and walked three miles each way. We did not have a horse and buggy, only a wagon and my father was busy working and breaking up his land The first winter my father had the misfortune of losing two of his horses so he had only one horse. A Methodist minister gave my father his team for the winter. My father was very grateful for this kind act

When I started school I walked the three miles each way and I got the mail also a few groceries. I remember my first year at school in Fielding. It was a large room and only one teacher. His name was Bennie Summers. He taught the beginners to High School and you could hear a pin drop in school the order was so good.

Every fall we had a prairie fire when the wind got in the South, because there was a muskeg and when it got dry a spark from the railway engine would start the fire. The slough in front of our place always saved our buildings.

We lost our barn in the fall of 1914 and a lot of hay But the hired man and I saved the animals My father was away hauling grain three miles when he noticed the fire. So my father got a contractor and built a new barn as winter was coming on and the animals needed shelter My father also had purchased another quarter of land east of us. It had a shell of a house. After the harvest was finished Tommy Thompson moved it over for my father So we got the house lined up and moved in. The house and barn still stand

My sister was born September 13, 1916 at the City Hospital in Saskatoon. The telephone was just being put in. In those days we had no radio or phone. There were Dr. Scratch at Maymont and Dr. Whitemarsh at Radisson. Our travel was by horseback, or buggy or wagon. So my mother administered the old time remedies and they worked.

Finally we got a buggy so that was safer nice to drive to town. The cars were just starting to show up. The horse was very scared at first but got used to them

I remember the bad 'Flu' after the First World War the fall of 1918. There was no school as you were to keep away from crowds. The doctor had a man driving his car as he went from patient to patient. The people who got the 'Flu' had to have doctor's care or they died. So we owe our early doctors a lot for saving lives. We were lucky and missed the 'Flu'.

We had our good years of crops and some were poor. But we managed to live as we milked cows and shipped cream to buy our groceries and clothing

Later years Mr. Wm Sloan used to thresh our grain with his steam outfit and cookcar. The cook car had the bunks inside, twelve in all.

I received most of my education at Fielding School — getting all my Grade XI but a couple of subjects. Miss Blakely was my last teacher. We went to the

United Church for High School as the old school was not large enough.

However I got married quietly, July 21, 1926 and moved to Radisson where I still reside. My mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. William Ferris, had celebrated their twenty-fourth wedding anniversary quietly on March 22, 1926. During the two years after I got married mother had not been feeling well. However we did not realize that she was so sick. So on Easter Monday, April 5, 1926 my mother passed on in her sleep. I really did miss her. My sister, Mildred, was only eleven and a half years old.

My father sold the farm after mother's passing. Later he bought a John Deere Agency at Battleford which he operated for ten years. Then he sold out. Then he lived with my sister, Mildred, at Allan and her husband, John, for awhile. Then he came back to North Battleford. He was a night clerk in the Clarendon Hotel in North Battleford. He worked there till his eyesight failed. He was then eighty-two years of age. My father also loved hockey and baseball.

In the later years my father stayed with me at Radisson. He liked talking of the early days. His memory was wonderful for his age, although he had been ailing for sometime. My father passed on in the City Hospital, Saskatoon, December 26, 1964. He was laid to rest by mother at Radisson.

My husband, Raymond Tapley, passed on June 12, 1960. My girls Gladys and Barbara were small then. But they have grown families and are doing fine in life. It gives one great pleasure to see your grandchildren grow up to be good citizens. My sister's families have grown up and have their own families. So I have seen a lot of changes during my life time.

My sister, Mildred and John have retired and live in Saskatoon.

The R. W. Ferris Family

by T. L. Ferris

Robert William Ferris had come to western Canada a little ahead of the homesteading era. His place of birth was Alliston, Ontario. The beginning of the 19th century found him engaged as a lamp lighter for the burgeoning city of Winnipeg — gas lamps were in vogue at that time. Mrs. Ferris (Maud) practiced her trade in millinery. Their rented home while not pretentious, was reasonably comfortable, and served as home for a couple of unmarried Ferris brothers. These brothers were railroaders, working westward with the forward push of the C.N.R. and the C.P.R.

Early in 1903, an unfortunate dollar explosion crippled one of the brothers for life. At that time the great homesteading boom had begun, and the Ferris brothers were caught up in the lure of a ¼ section of land for only $10.00. Now they all headed westward in search of land. The C.N.R. had not yet built the bridge across the North Saskatchewan river — like many others, the Ferris Brothers crossed by Gov't ferry.

The R. W. Ferris family. Back row — Cecil, Keith, Enid, Vivian, Edna, Telford, Russell, Verna. Front row — Father, Chester, Ruth, Mother, Norma. Missing from picture is the eldest daughter Laura.

They chose their future homes not far from present day Fielding. At that time, the man who had settled on that particular quarter, was named Peter Shack. So when the nuclei of the village began to form, it became known as Shacktown. But with the arrival of the railroad it was changed to Fielding.

Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Ferris had claim to the NW¼-23-41-13-West 3rd. This ¼ was located 5 miles north east of present day Fielding. The most noticeable thing about the topography of the ¼ was the presence of two large, flat topped hills, in the southeast corner. Mr. Ferris built his log house on the top of one of these hills — this afforded a panoramic view of a large area to the south, including the site which was to be Fielding. The old "Battleford Trail" passed by just at the foot of the Ferris hill, and I can remember our parents saying how the sound of wagons and democrats passing by helped to relieve the loneliness of homestead life. That hill upon which the Ferris home was built, was the reason our Dad named the Farm "Observation Farm". I should have mentioned how the ruts in the virgin prairie, made by the wagons on the Battleford Trail, remained visible for many years, because it crossed what was to become part of our cow pasture.

I was born in that log house on the hill — but by the time the next child arrived, Dad had built a new house of sawn lumber. That house sheltered the family up to, and including, No. 11. We were eight girls and five boys. Everyone worked in our family — even the young ones had jobs assigned them suitable to their age. It is hardly necessary to say it required exceptional management to feed and clothe us all. Yet we were well fed, and while plainly dressed, it was suitably adequate. Looking back now, I cannot but marvel at the ingenuity of our parents.

Even so, or perhaps because of our large family, R. H. Ferris found time to serve a growing community in many ways throughout the years. He served on the council of our municipality - he served as a schoolcrustee - on the church board and just anywhere he was needed. To illustrate - I might mention one bit of conversation I overheard some 40 years ago. Two of the town fathers were discussing a roadhole in the street which needed filling. - "We'd best get Bob Ferris", said one man, "he is the busiest man around, but he will get the job done" - the other man agreed. That bit of philosophy has stuck in my mind ever the years.

As time passed our father bought the other 3 quarters on our section. This farm is still intact and is home to J. H. Ferris, third son of Robert Wilson. Though the others in the family have of necessity spread over the whole of Canada our roots still lay with nostalgic longing for the old prairie homestead.

Dad bought one of the first automobiles to come to our area. It was a seven passenger Studebaker but carried the entire family on occasion. The car was bought in 1917 from Royal Brothers who had gone into the business after having farmed near Saskatoon, Sask. Other neighbors soon blossomed out with new cars also. Some of the more popular makes at the time were - Saxon Six, Grey Dort, McLaughlin and Overland as well as the Ford Model T and Lizzie, as it was popularly known.

Dad also purchased one of the first combines in the district. It was a 16 foot J. I. Case and must have been 20 feet wide including the body. We pulled the machine with an 18-36 Hart Parr tractor, at a speed of about one mile an hour. It should be remembered as this really knew how to prepare a crop for harvest with a combine. Since all previous experience had been with a binder and stooks we did not realize how dry the grain must be for combining. Grain samples had not evolved in metric proportions - so we had lots of hooked grain on our farm that year. Our farm was cross fenced in several places, to accommodate a large herd of cattle. These fences were badly breached by the time harvest was over - that big combine didn't walk the gates, so we had to cut the fence to get from one field to the next.

I am not sure when our town of Fielding really began - probably about 1908, since the railway came in 1906, that is the time the village began to grow. In those early years there was no rail line south of the river in the Swengrafeld area. So the farmers from that area hauled their produce to Fielding as soon as facilities were available. So the town prospered, and by the time I started to school it was a bustling, thriving frontier town. There were all the usual businesses - a right front a chinese laundry to a well equipped hotel - complete with a stand up bar of course. In addition the names of the more representative elements - not unusual in any frontier town.

These early days in the life of Fielding were very different from the present. The Ferris clan lived 3 miles from the school in town, where we were obliged to attend. Because horses were scarce, and needed for farm work, we walked to school in the summertime. Even in the winter, if the weather was not too severe. It has always seemed to me I might have been an inch or two taller, had I not worn it off from the bottom and walking to and from school. Later on we did drive to school with a horse and buggy - or "jumper" in the winter time. As many as seven Ferris kids rising to use vehicle to and from school on locally also documented.

It has always seemed to me that these small hardships of the early days, served to promote resourcefulness above all else - a quality that accumulates with affluence. Time to idly view these quarrels erupt with the manners learned to school teachers. Their object when when the bell rang I came the last 100 yards in to the house. Our family had to cross a couple ravines on our way to school. Most of the year this ravine was dry, but the spring run-off changed it to a raging torrent. Since it had to be crossed twice a day, we just waded our rubber boots into the water, and hoped to arrive at the other side reasonably dry. At least once I remember when the water proved too deep, and we saw our school books and lunch boxes float away downstream. We did manage to fish them out from a vantage point down the stream a bit, much the worse for the ride. As well, there were flume accidents over the years - such as run-aways upsets broken wheels or harness and to mention frozen toes or fingers in the winter. But we survived it all without undue hardship.

I do think our parents did not come through these early years unscathed. Their considerations for the welfare of their offspring required much dedication. Perhaps they did not live as long as they might have under less rigorous conditions. Our mother passed away in 1950, while dad lived on until 1968. But they had left good memories in the life of their chosen community. I like to think they set a useful example for others. I know we are proud of our pioneer parents - we are proud of the community that sheltered us during our formative years.

Fielding has since suffered many reverses over the years. These disastrous fires have decimated the village. Circumstances of economy has shrunk the place to near oblivion. Yet it is far from dead - since there who remain exist in supporting their city body. As one of the fathers born on the almost virgin prairie, I have I can speak for the family when I say we are proud and thankful for having been born and reared in and around Fielding Saskatchewan.

I think it might be suitable at the conclusion of this book that the names of such a large pioneer family should be recorded here - they are as follows: Lucie, Vivian, Verna, Teldord, Enid, Russel, Cecil, Edna, Keith, Jean, Chester, Ruth and Norma.

Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Ferris

submitted by Mrs. Evelyn (Ferris) Webster

My mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Ferris, raised and educated their family at Maymont. T. D. Ferris came west to Saskatchewan in 1906-1905. He hauled lumber with horses and wagon, between Saskatoon and North Battleford, for a living. He took up a homestead at Fielding. In 1908 he married Bertha Johnston of Maymont.

Tom Ferris

In 1909 my mother and father farmed on the homestead. Earl Ferris was born in 1908. Dr. Manly of Fielding delivered the baby. In 1911 Evelyn Ferris was also born on the homestead. Dr. Scratch delivering her.

In 1914 the Tom Ferris' moved to Maymont and farmed next to Jim Reid. He bought a J.I. Case Threshing Machine and cook car and did the threshing for all the farmers around for years. In 1917 and 1918 Lois Ferris and Lorraine Ferris were born, Dr. Scratch again being the doctor.

Tom Ferris was on the school board for years. He was a prosperous farmer and was fond of everyone in Maymont. In 1918 Tom Ferris drove Dr. Scratch during the winter when the flu was so bad as Doc was too tired to drive himself had to answer all calls. Tom Ferris was a councillor for the rural municipality when the new school was built.

He passed away in 1975, being ninety-two past. He had many trips back to Maymont. Bertha Ferris in her ninety first year lives in Winnipeg.

I enjoyed growing up in Maymont. I have many pictures of the school kids and Sunday School group I was in when Mabel Worrell was our teacher. She formed a club called U. A. D. (Up and Doing). I left Maymont when I was seventeen years old. All us Ferris kids married. Earl is in Vancouver; Harold in Montreal; Lois and Lorraine in Winnipeg. I am retired at Brighton, Ontario. I am now sixty-eight years old.

Our children have done well. You may be interested to know my son, Dr. Ferris Webster, an oceanographer, was appointed by President Carter to be in charge of all research and development of the oceans and the weather in the U.S.A.

I have many recollections of Hallowe'en escapades. When one of our teachers was living at Andrew Reid's, we knew which room she had, so we tried to put a ladder up to scare her. Mr. Reid came out and someone said he had a gun, so we ran. His yard had a barbed-wire fence and I still have the scar on my throat where I cut myself trying to get under the fence. Dear Andrew Reid would not take a gun to any child! I feel I could write a book about my happy times in Maymont.

My mother is a sister of Grace Fowlston, Herb Johnston, Alex Johnston, Bob Johnston and Lawrence Johnston. Their father was Mr. Alex Johnston.

The Ron B. Firth Family

In September, 1939 Ron and Joy Firth, their son Brian and daughter June, moved to Lilac from the Lloydminster area. Ron was the Wheat Pool elevator agent there from 1939 until he joined the Air Force as a mechanic in 1941. The family moved to Rudsell for one year before going to Saskatoon in 1942 when Ron was posted to the No. 4 Air Training base in that city.

While in Lilac Joy Firth was active in the Anglican Church Ladies Aid and Sunday School occasionally pinch hitting at the organ when the regular organist could not get in for services.

For a number of years Ron played drums in a local band with Herb Mabey on violin or Sax and Annie Lewis at the piano when the local dances were the highlite of the winter entertainment scene.

Ron Firth passed away in 1970

Joy Firth is living at Oliver Lodge in Saskatoon.

Brian, Joy, Ron and June Firth, 1942.

The William Fisher Story

told by Will Fisher

William Fisher was born in 1869 in Ashburn, Ontario — near Toronto. He attended school there for a few years, going to school in the winter and working at home on the farm during the summer. In those days it seems that education was secondary, work came first. Anyway he got a few grades during the winters.

In 1903 he came to Fielding and got a job herding cattle for Bob Angar. It seems that these cattle were from several owners around Fielding and Radnorson.

Eastbourne Ladies' Aid. 1914/15. Mrs. Johnston, Mrs. Hockley, Mrs. Schreiber, Mrs. Fisher.

He told stories of a very bad winter when he hauled a load of straw, from straw stacks, every day. It seems that it stormed every day and was cold. He had a good sheepskin coat with a big collar and it protected him from the cold. He had to travel a good distance for some straw.

He took a homestead when that area was opened up — must have been 1906-1907. He built a log cabin, dug a well and built a log barn.

Dad's uncle, Ed Bodle, was homesteading at the same time, half mile south and they helped each other with a lot of work.

In 1910, Dad took a trip back to Ontario, where he met Nellie Hall — fresh out from London, England. They corresponded for a year, then in 1911, January 24, they were married on the next trip he took. He had lots of company those days. There was always someone visiting. Lady cook, I suppose.

That must have been about the time they built Eastbourne church. I don't know where the financing came from but Wm. Kerrod was carpenter and Dad was main helper. The other neighbours must have been helping, too, but I don't know much of that. Kerrod and Dad built Hillsborough school about the same time and the school started in 1911.

Dad was on the church board most of the time. Mr. A. R. Johnston, Fred and John Wilcox were serving quite often, too. There were others but these are uppermost in my memory.

Then of course there was the Ladies Aid who had their meetings — I don't know how often.

In 1917 Mom's sister, Ada, married Dan Hockley and came for a honeymoon visit and settled across the road and raised their family. It was great company for Mom and Ada to have each other so close. They had a wonderful time tormenting the men and more than once they got their feet stuck in the water trough in retaliation. Mom and Ada had tea every afternoon without fail — Old English Custom you know.

Dad's brother, Alf, came west about 1910 and got a homestead on Section 14. Alf joined the army in 1915 along with two or three others that the game warden caught poaching — deer hunting, of course.

There was at that time a government sponsored rifle range operating on Section 13, west of Hillsborough School, where the young men spent a lot of leisure time.

Then one must not forget the annual Eastbourne Picnic held at Dubbin Lake. That was the event of the year. Ice cream, pop, chocolate bars, peanuts — the only time I ever saw pop bottles. There were the pillow fights, races, prizes and ball games, and horse shoes. Decorated booths and ladies all dressed up in pretty gowns.

Louis Fiala even had a canoe there one year. Then the slough went dry and when they had the picnic elsewhere, it seemed to have lost something.

In 1924, Dad got his first hive of bees from Eaton's. I think it came complete with mask, smoker and gloves. Anyway it became a life hobby with Dad and he kept at it until he was not able to lift the supers to the top of the hive anymore. In hard times he took honey to Speers and the proceeds from the honey paid for the twine to tie up the crop, if there was any.

Dad never got very rich but he was happy and contented on the homestead he chose. He lived there until 1958 when he died at the age of 78. Mother lived on until 1973.

Grape Fosters

In 1903 three of my brothers were working in North Dakota when they heard of the homesteads to be had in Saskatchewan, and several men from the Dakotas were going over to have a look so our boys went too. The result was they each filed on a homestead.

Alex and Will got their homesteads on the same section 5-4 miles north of Maymont. Bob got his in the Lilac district.

The boys went back to North Dakota and worked during harvest, and then came back to their homesteads.

The boys in the meantime had written to father to

Ontario and he in turn talked to two of his brothers and they moved out with their families and homesteaded.

Father and Uncle Robert got homesteads on the same section 3 miles north of Maymont. Father shipped a car of settler's effects, in the spring of 1906, and also brought 2 more sons Herb and Maurice. Herb worked on the railroad when it went through in 1908.

Father drove the mail from Great Bend to Maymont. Richard, and New Ottawa. Mother, Bertha, Lawrence and I came out in September, 1908. The railroad was completed then. The people who moved in with their settler's effects had to unload in Saskatoon, as there was no railroad in here yet. The boys had horses and they did a lot of hauling freight from Saskatoon. They also hauled for the Barr Colony.

Will had to give up the land he homesteaded he filed on because of ill health, so he went back to Ottawa and studied for the ministry. But he still wanted to farm and have horses, so he filed on another homestead and started farming. He shipped in a lot of horses from Ontario and also some McFadden Bros.'s from Alberta. Some of his family still live on that homestead.

In 1905 Alex shipped the first car load of wheat to leave Maymont. He had to go to Redberry to bill it out as there was no agent at Maymont.

He lived on his homestead for a while then went to B.C. where he worked on a telegraph crew. Later he took a pre-emption in Barkley Valley B.C. He came back to Maymont, got married and settled down.

Herb homesteaded in the Eatonia district and Maurice homesteaded north of Richard. Lawrence never had a homestead. He worked at Bean's store for a while and later in McGregors store in Fielding. Then he farmed for a while and later moved to Rabbit Lake, where he had a store and Livery Barn. He married and later moved to Duncan, B.C.

My husband, Albert Poulston arrived at Maymont in 1912, coming from Balmoral, Manitoba. The first couple of years he worked in Maymont then he and my brother Lawrence rented some land north of Speers.

We were married in March, 1917 and moved to Tatsfield, Sask. We farmed there for 15 years then came back to Maymont. In 1941 we moved to Speers and in 1944 we bought a farm at Lilac.

In 1956 we moved into Maymont where we still reside. We celebrated our 52nd anniversary in March, 1969 and Albert just turned 80 years of age in May.

A lot of changes have taken place since then but it is nice to look back and think we played a small part in the settling of the west.

They have 10 children, 3 are still living. They have 28 grandchildren, and 36 great-grandchildren.

Mr. and Mrs. John Foster

told by Dorothy (Foster) Crowley

My parents, John and Dora Foster, were not pioneers in the true sense of the word, but it took work, hardships, and doing without were some of the

Mr. and Mrs. John Foster, Frank and Dorothy

qualifications, then I'm sure they qualified many times over.

We came West from Nova Scotia in 1919, to live a year in the Rudyard district and the following year in Maymont.

My dad was a professional gardener by trade, having worked on estates in Boston and later in Market gardens in Nova Scotia. How forbidding the prairie must have looked to him! He hired out to various farmers working with horses which he loved.

When we moved to Maymont he and his brother-in-law, George Reid, bought the A. Hawkins farm, a partnership which failed partly perhaps because of inadequate equipment, lack of experience in prairie farming on my dad's part, and overall a clashing of wills! A herd of milk cows and large beautiful gardens were our mainstay in those days.

Dad became school janitor after we moved into the village — of both the two room school and later when it was moved and additions built. My mother was a dressmaker and also made beautiful hooked rugs-sale of which to the more affluent, added to the family income. We also had a milk route-milk being 10¢ a quart at that time.

Some say that my dad was a stubborn old Englishman — I remember it wasn't a good idea to get into an argument with him even if you knew you were right. My mother was very outspoken and when she knew she was right she backed away from no one — teacher, preacher, doctor, lawyer, or Indian Chief if there had been one!

I remember one occasion when she had a run-in with the minister of the Anglican Church which she and dad attended faithfully. Mother went to Church one evening minus a hat — something frowned on in those days. All would have been well if the Minister had spoken to Mother about it in private, but the following Sunday he made the grave mistake of bringing up the matter during the service. That's all my mother needed! She cornered him after the service

and among other things gave him to understand that with, or without, a hat she thought it was better to attend than add to the increasing number of empty pews, seldom since his ministry.

My dad passed away in 1947 at age 65 — my mother in 1966 age 86.

I live alone now, my husband Noel having died in 1974. My two bachelor brothers, Jack and Frank, live near me. All in our 70's, we look after each other whenever and wherever possible and will continue to do so until health fails

Mr. and Mrs. Torrance Free

by Mrs. Free

March, 1913 Mr. and Mrs. Ben Free and family of Red Wing, Ontario settled on a farm in the Radisson District. They were Vine, Torrance, Hilda, Clifford and Clarence.

1. Allyson Frances Buell, eldest child of Edward and Evangeline Buell, married Torrance Harold Free in 1929 in Fielding.

Torrance started to buy grain for the National Elevator in Fielding in 1928 and was in the same elevator for thirty-nine years.

We have two children. Chester who is married to Mary Wasylenchi and Shirley who married Bob McAuslan. Chester and Mary had four girls. Barbara Anne killed in a car accident in 1975. Audrey, Dennis and Betty with their parents live in Radisson.

Shirley and Bob have two adopted children, Barry and Kelly, living in Saskatoon with their parents.

Torrance and I moved to Radisson in 1958.

Chester Free and Jack Allen.

Isaac Montgomery Fry

Dr. Fry was born at Tiffin Ohio in 1841. He was married in 1871 and with his wife crossed the central plains in a covered wagon to Empire Prairie, Missouri. His wife died in 1872 at the birth of a son. He married Ellen Ellis in 1878 and they moved to Hebron, Nebraska where they resided until 1906. He practised dentistry and was a lay preacher. There were 6 children born to this union. In Feb., 1906 Dr. and Mrs. Fry with a son and 2 daughters took a homestead at Maymont. Ellen Fry died Dec. 29 1907 and Dr. Fry returned to Nebraska. In May, 1915 while on a trip to visit his family he was taken ill and died in Minneapolis. He was brought back to Maymont to lie beside his wife.

Ernest and Margaret Garnett

Ernest E. Garnett was born in 1874 at Mount Pleasant, Ontario, while Margaret Mary Halliday, his wife, was born in 1881 at Minnedosa, Manitoba. They were married in 1906 and farmed first at Russell, Manitoba. Then Ernest and his brother, Harry, came west to C.P.R. land they had purchased southwest of Fielding. Their families came in June, 1917.

Two boys, Elgin and John, came to Fielding with their parents while two more sons, George and Malcolm, were born at Fielding. Both Ernest and Margaret "May" took an active part in the Fielding community. Ernest had been choir leader, organist, a member of the session, and Bible class teacher in the Fielding United Church. He was also secretary-treasurer for ten years of the Beckwith School District.

'May' was an active member of the Ladies Aid and the Women's Missionary Society.

Their four sons joined the service of their country during the war years. Elgin and John in the army and George and Malcolm the airforce.

Ernest passed away in January, 1956, while Margaret passed away in May, 1950.

The boys all married — Elgin to Kindly Iveson of Fielding; John brought home an English war bride named Maud, George married Kathleen Kaltenyuth of Radisson: George passed away in January, 1973. Their three children are Ronald, Billy and Sandra. Ray resides in Fielding. Malcolm married Irene Stewart of Saskatoon. They make their home at Penticton, B.C.

Mrs. Mary Glynn holding nephew Ron, Garnett, and Mrs. Ernest Garnett holding granddaughter Gail.

About One Branch of the Garnett Family

by Elgin Garnett

It was in June of 1917 that the Ernest Garnetts and the Harry Garnetts came to Fielding from Russell, Manitoba. Ernest and Harry had come a few weeks before and had houses under construction on the C.P.R. land they had bought.

I went to school a few days in June, through July and the rest of the summer. The school was closed most of the winter. The weather was not too good, however, we got through it — and the water also.

1918 was quite a year! I can remember about September, we went to town and there was quite a celebration on. It was the last day the bar was open. A Saturday, I believe it was, and it came to be known as "Prohibition". The bar was never re-opened as the hotel was burned down. A few weeks later, in November, the phone rang and we heard the news that the war was over.

The winter of 1918-1919 was particularly bad with the flu. We all survived it but it was some experience.

1919 was a dry year. It seemed to us that things were going from bad to worse except the years from 1925 to 1928 when we had four good crops. In 1929 prices dropped and like so many others, we had troubles.

The thirties were hard years — little money or crops, plenty of drouth, dust and thistles — especially Russian thistle. My father died in January of 1936, at the age of sixty-one. The depression and hard winters were too much for him.

In 1937 I left Fielding, except for short visits, and went to The Pas, Manitoba, and back to Hudsons Bay Junction where I met a Fielding neighbour Cliff Elliot, who told me where to get a job. It was only a farm job but I kept it for three years until I joined the army.

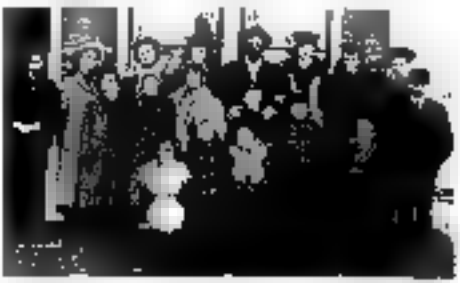
My brother, John Garnett, had also joined the army. He got back to Regina about the same time I did in 1945, and in 1946 he came to Cayouse where we had settled. Now we are back retired and enjoying our homes here.

Editors Note — Elgin Garnett passed away in June, 1979, after submitting his story.

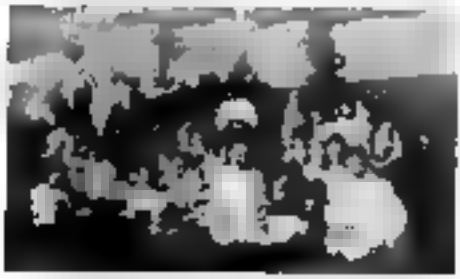
The Gifford Family

On November 20, 1908, Falconer and Bertha Gifford with their four daughters — Ethel, Maryadelle, Lucile, and Hazel — arrived in Maymont by train from Omaha, Nebraska. The family had become interested in Maymont through their relatives, the John Careys, who had lived there since 1907. Preceded by a car of settlers' effects and farm animals, Falconer and Bertha were well prepared to face life as pioneer prairie farmers. Their new five-room house on 7-43-13 was just across the road from Bohn's farm buildings and only 2½ miles north of Maymont.

Maryadelle, Lucile, and Hazel first attended Crop School. The building had windows on both sides, a blackboard across the front and neat rows of double desks in varying sizes. Water heat was provided by a barrel-shaped, cast-iron, wood-burning stove. Readers were supplied by the Department of Education, but the pupils supplied their own slates for "figgering." Early teachers were Miss Barbara Waters and Miss



A group that went to hear Swiss Bell Ringers in Maymont — probably early in 1909. Back row, l. to r. — Stanley Bohn, Mae Davis, Ethel Gifford, Flora Bohn, Minnie Bohn, Olive Parker. Centre row — Grace Johnston, Delma Davis, Gladys Carey, Francis Bohn, Eva Parker, Henry Bohn, Percy Parker. Front — Lucile Gifford, Laura Parker, Maryadelle Gifford.



Birthday party at Gifford's Bar Nothing Farm' outing Jack Horner pie

McLaren. Later the Gifford sisters transferred to the two-room school, half a mile south at Maymont with Mr. and Mrs. Ephriam Weber in charge.

As our father always grew a big garden, the whole family was involved in planting the potatoes on May 24. Harvesting this crop usually occurred on a Saturday near Thanksgiving Day when a very extensive family effort was followed by a festive supper to make up for the weary backs of the potato pickers. Corn roasts — actually corn boils — were the Gifford's August contributions to the social life of the district.

Even now we remember those and other happy parties arranged by our mother who was a most enthusiastic party giver. After Comelia was born on May 18 while Hailey's rocket brightened the night sky, there were five girls' birthdays to celebrate in addition to Hallowe'en, Christmas, Valentine's Day, Easter and many others. We enjoyed strawstack-burning parties, hayrack rides, Jack Horner pie surprises, music, dancing and homemade ice cream at any time. We rural children enjoyed a very pleasant childhood.

In the early years our winter transportation was provided by a double-seated red sleigh made by father and drawn by a team of black horses. In summer we travelled in a two-seated carriage complete with hoods and steps on which we were sometimes allowed to stand while the carriage was in motion. When cars arrived they were at first such a novelty that school children were sent from the classroom to stand against the pagewire fence and watch the vehicle pass, often in a cloud of dust.

Our first farm implements were drawn by horses. We girls were taught to drive two- or four-horse teams, and at farm help was scarce we frequently served as grain haulers. Hoping to be able to thresh his own crop, father bought a small Stanley Jones outfit which we used for a few years. Large steam engines and later gasoline engines provided the power for the custom harvesting which soon almost became better.

Our first Holiday School teacher was Mrs. Fisher and the rest of her terms in town. Later student ministers came to Maymont in the summer and held services in a large room above Patterson's Pool hall and Barber Shop. Finally the Presbyterian church was built and there we young people held our school Christmas concerts after which Santa Claus came with treats for all the children. For the church bazaars mother made a huge bread-rising pan of popcorn balls, a popular children's item.

Maymont was a thriving village in those early days and the true centre of the community. Dr. Berwick was a lively young doctor. Dr. Fry was the dentist; the druggist was Mr. Markusson. Bage's Grocery and Dry Goods store and John Reid's store served the needs of the people. There was a butcher shop and a harness maker, a hotel and a post office. Main street was a busy spot, especially in the evening just before the mails came in. Literally everyone went to the station to see this important event. Then the people gathered at the post office to wait for the mail to be sorted. When this job was completed, the sorter would be opened for a short time to give out the mail to those who did not have mail-boxes.

On August 19, 1913, our crop and many others were wiped out by a hail storm. As the grain was almost ready for harvesting, such a fatal loss was a heart-breaking disaster. Many were financially troubled that year. Still we could enjoy the Mayfield and Dunglow Agricultural Fair, the Annual Food Supper in the church sometimes the Chautauqua and open-air dancing. Baseball was popular with an excellent team in town and for a few years at least, a ladies' team.

All five Gifford girls became teachers and three married teachers. Ethel taught at Falconia, Marguerite at Moore Lands at Neepawa, and Cornelia at Wayfleet – all in the Maymont area. The family's teaching service in Saskatchewan schools totals 185 years. Added to this are 17 years of teaching in the United States by our father and seven years of Adult Education night classes in Cutknife where he still teaches at Lamoona College in Victoria. Moreover, the family tradition is being carried on by Ethel's granddaughter, Dianne Murray, who also teaches in a Vancouver High School.

In 1916, Ethel married George Murray. Both passed away in Victoria in 1966. Their three sons and families all live in Canada. Marguerite married Cecil Hailey in a Maymont wedding at the Gifford home in 1917. Cecil passed away in 1979. One of their sons, Norman, lives with his family in Canberra, Australia. The other son, Earle, has recently moved to Victoria with his family after retiring from the RCAF. Laurie married Larry Ward and both taught in several towns in Saskatchewan before retiring to Victoria in 1968. Hazel and her husband, Hailey Goodman, farmed at Carrot River where Hazel taught for over 25 years; Hazel's son, Dr. Ken Goodman, is engaged in research in Arctic waters. They welcome fun visits to their Victoria home several times a year. Cornelia married Charles Hall and at one time lived on the farm at Maymont before moving to Meadow Lake and later to Prince Albert. They now live in Victoria, retired, more or less. Their

daughter Ann is still with the Royal Bank and her children live in British Columbia.

Maymont remains as an essential part of our family history. At our frequent Gilfard gatherings in Victoria, Maymont reminiscences are sure to surface. We all have such happy memories of our young days there and we are proud to have had a share in the community life of the district.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Gillatt

Frank Herbert Gillatt, son of Herbert Samuel and Sarah (Clifton) Gillatt of Wroot, England, was born June 5, 1891 at Graizebound, England. He was the third child of eleven — seven boys and four girls. His parents started as farm labourers and eventually became estate owners.

Frank, an brother Alfred and an uncle, Albert Clifton, came to Canada in 1911. George Gillatt, a brother, had come to Canada in 1903 and had found Frank a job working for George Langley, on the Langley farm, north of Maymont. One can imagine the differences Frank must have found coming from a country of small farms, moderate climate, and large population, to one of large farms, severe climate, and sparse population.

After working on the Langley farm for two years, Frank and George Gillatt bought the livery barn in Maymont. Then began a different type of life, — buying and selling horses, providing feed, shelter and water for travellers' horses, and providing livery.

One man who often called on Frank to drive him was Dr. Ramsay. These were often trips in the night to farms surrounding Maymont as well as those further away. It seemed that an emergency would often occur during the coldest and stormiest part of the winter. One such trip took them over twenty miles north and it occurred during a terrible blizzard. Roads were impossible to see and as they travelled home Frank was certain they were lost, so he wakened the sleeping doctor. Doc told Frank to sit down under the blankets with him and let the horses take their own lead as the horses would find their own way home. Frank consented and eventually he woke up to find the horses stopped by the livery barn.

On June 22, 1920, Frank married Mary Olive Parker, of Maymont, and they moved to a farm on the west half of 33-42-13 that Frank was buying northwest of Maymont in the Lilac District.

Olive, the oldest daughter of William G. and Elizabeth (Hird) Parker, was born March 1, 1895 at Rossdale, Manitoba.

The Parker family had moved to the Maymont area in 1904. Mr. Parker, as well as farming his homestead, had a road construction outfit and helped build many roads in the Maymont-Richard area.

Olive attended Grey School, then completed her High School at Battleford Collegiate. Following this she attended Normal School in North Battleford where she acquired her teaching certificate. She taught at Bromley School, Prolific School and Grey School. The Frank Gillatts had a family of three sons: William Herbert, Wesley Alfred, and Clifton Percy.

Incidents in the Life of the Family

FIRE!

Fires of many kinds have always been a worry to rural people. Prairie fires were one of the worst kind

Herbert, Sarah and Mabel Gillatt.

Frank and Olive — June 22, 1920.

Wesley, Clifton and William Gillatt.

to plague people of Saskatchewan. Therefore most families ploughed a fireguard around the farmstead to protect buildings and livestock.

Fires in buildings usually resulted in total loss of the building and at times lives, livestock and feed were also lost. The Gillatts lost three barns but were fortunate in that chickens were the only animals lost. Ed. Irvine, of Richard, was called upon each time to help rebuild the barn. Once the lumber was obtained, Ed would come and cut the beams, studs and rafters. When this was completed, a building "Bee" was organized and the construction completed.

A fire in their home could have resulted in tragedy but a little house dog began barking and aroused the sleeping family. The fire had started in the back porch and Frank and Olive were able to extinguish the fire using the water from a barrel kept in the kitchen.

ACCIDENT!

In the fall of 1925, Frank was hooking the disc to a John Deere steel-lugged tractor when the hooks on the hand clutch broke allowing the tractor to back over him. Dr. Scratch and his nurse, Pat McGrath, were called upon to care for Frank at his home as his many injuries prevented moving him to the hospital. That the doctor whom Frank had driven so many times, was able to return service for service.

From his years in the livery barn, Frank had learned a lot about horses and so was often called on to do veterinary work.

He served his community as well by being on the local school board and as a member of the Lilac Wheat Pool Committee.

World War II brought many changes and often sadness to many families and Gillatts were no exception. William joined the R.C.A.F. on May 12, 1941. He served with the R.C.A.F. in Europe and while there gave his life for his country on February 6, 1944. Frank also joined the R.C.A.F. in October 1941, but his term of service was spent in Canada. Frank suffered a broken neck in a bus accident while stationed in Alberta. So during this wartime period Olive was left on the farm with only two teenaged boys, Wes and Cliff, to do the farming. Add to this worry of a husband and son in the services, and then later the loss of William and one realizes that Olive had courage and faith.

Olive, besides caring for her family found time to take an active part in the Lilac community. The Lilac Community Club helped to provide entertainment, relaxation, and community togetherness. They sponsored dinners, card parties, dances and garden parties.

Having been raised in a very Christian home, religion was very important to Olive. She took an active part in the Ladies Aid of the United Church as long as it functioned at Lilac. Each fall the Ladies Aid had a supper in the school. Some family would bring a cook car to the school and place it so that food and dishes could be passed through a school window. Water had to be hauled, dishes brought, food prepared at home, and transported hot, coffee and tea made in boilers on the stove, and then the meal served.

In later years Olive belonged to St. Mary's Anglican Guild and attended church in the little church at Lilac during the summer and the United Church at Ruddell the remainder of the year. When St. Mary's Church was moved to the Museum in North Battleford, the Lilac Ladies Guild had a Cairn erected to mark the place where the church had been. As Olive was the president of the Guild she helped in the unveiling of the Cairn.

When a U.C.W. (United Church Women) was organized at Lilac, Olive took an active part.

Frank, due to poor health, had to lead a quiet life in later years. He devoted his time to gardening, chores, and advisor to Wes and Cliff who had taken over the farming operation.

In the fall of 1948, the family moved to S.E. 5-43-13-W3, to the Semple home one-quarter mile north of Lilac.

Wesley married Charlotte Boutilier, August 8, 1953, and he built a house in the same yard. They have a family of two sons: David and Gerald, and three daughters, Sandra, Catherine and Susan. These grandchildren were a great pleasure to Olive and Frank.

Clifton married Ida Boutilier August 4, 1956, and Cliff moved a house from the Mike Kocenish farm into the yard.

In June 1964, Frank and Olive took a trip to England so after fifty-one years Frank returned to his birthplace and saw his brothers Harold, Arthur, Thomas, and sisters Hilda Markham, Edith Prentice, and Mabel Bowskill, as well as other relatives.

They spent a few days with Dave Boutilier in London and he took them to an uncle, Charlie Clifton. When they arrived at the address they found the bene-

most buildings were being torn down. They asked one of the workers if he knew where the Veterans had moved to, and the worker said that some of them had been moved to townsites several blocks away. Dave and Frank decided they would drive on and ask at the first townsite they came to. They had only travelled a block when Frank said, "Stop! There's Charlie on that porch." Sure enough it was Uncle Charlie! They stopped and Frank visited the uncle he had not seen for over fifty years.

George and Mabel Rowehill came to Canada in June 1969 to visit Frank and Olive. They were able to see the country that Frank had told them about.

The following May 30, 1970, Frank passed away and four weeks later, June 30, 1970, Olive followed. They were buried in the family plot in Maymont Cemetery.

Mr. and Mrs. Wesley A. Gillatt

Wes Gillatt was born at Lilac, Saskatchewan, Jan. 4, 1926, the second son of Frank and Olive Gillatt; attended Barnsley School (later to be re-named Lilac School) where he completed ten grades in nine years. He received his Gr. XI and Gr. XII in the two-room Rudsell School, graduating June 30, 1942. Because both his father and older brother, William, were in the R.C.A.F., Wes, with his younger brother, Clifton, engaged in farming full time on N½ section 33-42-13 West.

Charlotte Boutilier, (who later became Mrs. Wes Gillatt) was born at Meota, Saskatchewan, Feb. 19, 1928, as a baby in arms with her parents, Roy and Anna Louise Boutilier, older sister Anna Louise, and two brothers, Daval and Leaman, moved to the Sandhill Farm, 2½ miles east of Richard, in August of 1929. Her brother Leaman died in Dec. 1938. A sister Iris Mae, was born at Richard, June 4, 1930. In 1937 the Boutilier family moved into the village of Richard. Charlotte attended Richard School for 12 years graduating June 30, 1943. The first week in July of that same year, Charlotte entered the Normal School in Saskatoon for the last 10 week crash program of instruction for teachers which had been used to help alleviate the teacher shortage caused by the exodus of so many young men and women into the Armed Forces.

Wes Gillatt family (25th Anniversary — Aug. 8, 1971). (L-r) Gerry, Sandra, Wes, Charlotte, Cathy, Susan and David

Although Lilac and Richard are only 7 miles apart, it wasn't until Charlotte was teaching the 1948-49 school term at Badger Bluff that she and Wes had the good fortune (?) to meet. They were married in the Richard United Church, August 8, 1953.

Their first home was a house Wes had built in the yard of his parents (S.E. 5-43-13 West — where the Semple Bros. homesteaded and had built a two storey house). It was a 4 room bungalow, 24' x 28', with a full basement and a cement cistern for soft water, with electricity but no plumbing. Much of the lumber in their house had come from the F. Gillatt house on N½ 33-42-13 West. While living in this home their two children were born.

David — Dec. 10, 1956 — became Electrician, Feb. 1978.

Sandra — April 12, 1957 — Registered Nurse — August, 1977.

Gerald — October 16, 1960 — Grade XII graduate June, 1978, now farming with his father and uncle (Gillatt Bros.).

Catherine — Jan. 9, 1963 — Grade XII graduate June 30, 1979. U. of S. College of Education.

Susan — Nov. 1, 1965 — Grade IX student at Maymont Central.

Following the death of Wes's parents (father May 30, 1970, and four weeks later his mother, June 30, 1970), Wes and Charlotte and family moved into the Semple house, December 15, 1970.

Sometime after Cliff and Ida were married in 1956, it was decided that a second outhouse was needed. So one Saturday morning Wes and Cliff loaded on to a truck the "Biffy" from the old place and headed for home through Lilac. All they passed in front of Mabey's General Store the outhouse fell off. Well morning, too! Life's embarrassing moments.

In early days prairie fires destroyed all in their paths, taking no pity on man or beast. They too, experienced fires. In the last ten years many fires were started along the railroad right-of-way when grass along the track was ignited as a freight train passed by on its way west. The Harold Palm, Joe Mattatia, Alwyn Shacks and Percy Wood yards were all threatened at one time or other. Gillatts yard was threatened once, when the fire came across the stubble on Grant Reid's field. In all cases only quick action by neighbors prevented a disaster. Lilac itself could have been wiped out. A C.N.R. work crew had been burning debris along the spur line and had gone home. Later that evening a pile of ties were noticed burning. Apparently the fire had travelled through the undergrowth. That was one work crew who had very little sleep that night.

Putting in fence posts with a tractor-driven post

driver is a vast improvement over doing all the work by man power. In June of 1971 while using a post driver Wes had two fingers of his left hand smashed. The driver was accidentally released when he was lining up a post. It could have been much worse as he could have lost the whole hand smashed.

Many changes have taken place in their 36 years of marriage. In 1954 F. Gallant and sons farmed 5 quarters. They now own and rent 15 quarters and 80 acres. 1954 - 1 quarters from Mike Kanyuk; 1960 - 5 quarters and 80 acres from Clarence Reid; 1974 - 3 quarters from Albert Fredstein. All farm machinery is larger and more powerful. Horses are not used anymore not even for winter chores since they purchased their first snow toboggan. Deep well water is pumped by an electric pump - pipes and carried to the livestock by a pressure system and heated water bowls. Were their home is now heated by a propane furnace it is no longer necessary to saw and pile wood nor haul in a sleigh's supply of coal. A Silage Co-op with Gillett Bros., Ralph Rafuse, Ray Kennedy, Bill and Walter Jess was formed in 1968 to enable the production of nutritious green feed for the livestock in winter. Steel machine sheds and granaries are used for storage. They now use bale bales for bedding chicks instead of straw or sawdust. They used to haul their year old laying hens to North Battleford to be sold live. Now by a farm they butchered them all at home and had to hand pack them all - now four freezers. Harold Plaus, Walter Hamaka, Elsie Beierle Nichols and Gillette were an electric pitcher and in just one morning 100 or more birds are made ready for the oven. Since 1969 a milking machine has been used to speed up milking and eliminate the "hand work". Now they are one of the few district families who still milk cows and keep laying hens.

Changes have come in the house, too. A deep freeze in 1964; their first refrigerator in 1967, T.V. in 1968, electric clothes dryer in 1968, running water hot in 1968, a propane gas central propane furnace, a microwave oven and a dishwasher many more surprising on main floors except kitchen and bathroom.

Both Wes and Charlotte have helped in the community. Wes has been actively involved in sports especially softball curling broomball oldtimers hockey and golfing. He was a member of the original LILAC BASEBALL team. He was the municipal councillor for Division 3 of the R. M. of Douglas No. 436 from July of 1968 until December, 1974. In 1967 he received the Centennial Medal for his work as a councillor. He has been on the executive of the Prem Dale Rural Telephone Line School Board, Lilac Wheat Pool Committee, Lilac Community Club and together with Charlotte was one of the directors of the Sports Old Time Dance club. He was the Douglas Municipal representative on the board of Directors when Glen-Iver Regional Park was started. In the fall of 1968, Wes started a school bus route for Lilac pupils commuting to Maymont Central School. Later when Verdi Rural school closed the route was altered to pick them up also. He is still driving the bus.

Charlotte taught Lilac School the 1964-65 term also a Sunday School teacher in Rudell until the United Church there was closed in June 1968. She has been a 4-H leader for eight years, five years of which she was the General Leader of the Maryland Multiple 4-H Club. She was a member of the Richard W.M.S. and later the U.C.W. at both Richard and Lilac. She is now on Glenburn Community College Board and Maymont Library Board. She is Secretary of the Lilac Ladies Guild and has been named to the "Lilac Celebrations Committee".

The first 50 years of Saskatchewan history was a growing process and the last 25 years has been a re-arranging, a declining of rural females and community life as well as a swing in centralization and urbanization. The Lilac store, Post Office and Rudell United Church closed in 1968 and their School closed in 1971 when their elevators were closed and soon there was no train service at the Lilac Station. There has been a gradual move to more straight grain farming.

The telephone System has gone to 24-hour Direct Dialing, telephone wires are buried and many fence lines have been removed. Many electric or mercury vapor electric eye yard lights are vandal all hours of the night. Many of the conveniences that we take for granted would have been real luxuries to our parents. What changes will the next 75 years bring?

Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Gillett

written by Mrs. Ida Gillett

Clifton Percy Gillett son of Frank and Olive Gillett, was born April 10, 1908 at Lilac. He received his formal education there and in Rudell. Miss Annie Lewis was his teacher for years.

Ida Mae Sinclair was born June 6, 1908 at Richard and went to school at Richard. In 1940 Ida attended Normal School in Saskatoon and in the fall of 1940 began her teaching career at Prairie S.D. - north of Richard. Following two years at Prairie, she taught in Richard, Battleford Central, and Spinney Hill.

On August 6, 1946, Cliff and Ida were married at Richard United Church with Rev. Myers officiating.

Cliff had moved the house from the Mike Kennedy farm on to the yard of his parents. Cliff and Ida lived there until the fall of 1976.

Cliff has taken an active part in sports all his life. Playing softball at school, then for the Lilac Men's team. In 1951-52 he and Wesley played for the Saskatchewan Hospital in Provincial Competition. In 1951 they lost in the Northern final playoffs in 1952 they lost in the Provincial final.

In following years Cliff played for Maymont, Mayfair, Rudell and Richard Oldtimers.

Baseball was always a love of Cliff's. He played for Mayfair and Maymont for several years. Then in 1957 and 1958 he joined the Twilight Greatyster over 50

Cliff and Ida Glover

playoffs with North Battleford. In 1977 they played in the Provincials in North Battleford and Assiniboia in 1978.

Curling started in Lilac in 1945 with the erection of a one-sheet Curling rink. Since that time Cliff has been an enthusiastic curler and especially enjoys competitive curling. In four different years the team he was with were able to go to Zone, Northern and Provincial playoffs.

1962: Mike Kaleynych, Cliff, Harold Pain, —
1973: Bob Lagodis, Jack Rowley, Cliff, Al Slade.
1977: Doug Scott, Vern Barnerman, John Kuharoff, Cliff.
1979: Ed Zawada, John Saranchuk, Cliff, Les Moffatt.

Ida continued to teach school, after marriage, and taught at Rudell and Maymont. Now she substitutes at Maymont when required. She has also taken part in Richard Women's Missionary Society, Lilac U.C.W and Lilac Ladies Guild.

Ida was a 4-H member during her school years, later she acted as Camp Hostess at North Battleford Farm Girls' Camp, then taught sewing for several years. Now her main interests are the Richard W.I., Embroiderer's Guild and Lilac Ladies Guild

Ida also enjoys sports and she is a member of the Battleford Ladies Curling Club. In the winter of 1955, while curling with Mr. Leslie of Battleford, they lost an eight-ender.

Farming has been their way of life, a life they both enjoy. There is a lot of hard work involved but there is always variety and sometimes a lot of laughs. These laughs are the result of unwanted visitors — SKUNKS! They usually put in an appearance when the chickens are running loose and especially when they start to lay eggs. They also usually appear after dark and the result is a nocturnal treat.

In the fall of 1976, Cliff and Ida moved six miles north on the Russell Reid farm where they had built a new home. Therefore for the last while their time is spent finishing the house and working on the yard

Mildred (Mohler, Scrivens) Glass

Some of Mildred's childhood memories:

It seemed that very often men from the British Isles or Europe were sent out from Maymont to help Dad on the farm. These men carried on very interesting conversations with Mom and Dad and they shared goodies with us children such as sweets in like, preserved ginger in squat ginger jars, or chestnuts to roast in Franklin's "fort" fireplace. Then there were the two men who painted saucer-size bright red spots on our old white horse so they could join the parade. And too, there was the one who climbed up on the roof of our house to pour salt down the stovepipe that had caught on fire.

One of the earliest memories dates back to the day Marguerite was born. Bessie, who was helping Mom those days, took Mildred to Schmidts for the day. And though Mildred recalls the excitement of having a baby sister her most vivid memory is of a rendezvous with that strange tool which Mrs. Schmidt showed her. Twice Mom took her young family to spend some weeks on Grandpa's ranch in Montana. Alice and Mildred had many ways of amusing themselves such as collecting snakes' rattles, testing "soap holes" by sticking in fingers to see how far they would be pulled down, or skating down the creek to a favorite resting place where they sat on old "Macroni and Cheese" tins ranch horses that hadn't survived the winter. They also learned not to chase the goldfish around the bowl with a long lead pencil or to feed them bits of chandelier leaves. I think, out of self defence, and even though they were very young Mom taught them to embroider, knit, crochet and even tat.

Other memories of childhood were the dresses Mom made for her girls. And since Mildred's birthday is in June she had many birthday parties. One in particular regards me. The men unloaded the hayrack in the yard. Mom wove leafy branches into both ends and arranged tables in the centre. Soon the young guests arrived all bright and shining with their gifts of yards of shimmering satin hair ribbon and bottles of "perfume". Remember old Major, the shiny brown horse, that took all the children to school? Dad made a skating rink on the croquet grounds every winter. And he made a flat-bottom boat which he named the Marguerite. Many children from town came out to pole the boat around the slough north of the house. And Franklin and Dad made a tennis court which the family was expected to keep in shape.

Some of Mildred's memories of days at the old Maymont School.

Each spring there was the excitement of a paper-chase. The "hares" with school bags stuffed with bits of paper slung over their shoulders were given a head start. They were scarcely out of sight behind the mills leaving an exceedingly scant paper trail. After a few minutes the "hounds" followed. Once the children were out of sight of the school they slowed down, and were relaxed. Boys were brave enough to risk their necks swimming in the sloughs. Others picked wildflowers while still others enjoyed a snack. After an appropriate length of time had elapsed all returned to the school only to find that some of the more conscientious "hounds" had indeed caught some of the clever "hares."

The basketball court was some distance north of the old school. There the girls spent their noon hours at energetic play. When Miss Wade left Mrs. Reid's income all play stopped. Though many years before it became so popular, Miss Wade jogged all the way down that little path to the school. And in order to cover twice the distance the girls sprinted.

Those were the horse and buggy days. And that could be exciting too. In the mornings the drivers would position the vehicles facing the wide school gate. As the hands on the tag rack approached four o'clock desks were cleared, homework was gathered and everyone prepared for a quick exit. Once out of the schoolhouse everyone getting a ride rushed out and climbed into the vehicles, all except the persons who held the horses heads and the ones who fastened the traces. That done with a whoop and a holler they too jumped on the rig as the excited horses raced for the gate. Once through there was a sharp turn onto the road toward town and here the race continued slowing down as they approached the tracks. Though two vehicles sometimes tried to go through the gate at once sometimes on two wheels, and in the winter a sleigh box was known to roll, to my knowledge no one was ever hurt.

Before some of the girls were old enough to become C.G.I.T. they formed a club which they named U.A.D. "Up and Doers". Miss Merrill, a favourite teacher, helped design a club ring which the parents made for the members of sterling silver and heavenly blue enamel. Mrs. Gifford and Mary helped the girls make their uniforms which consisted of "bloomers" white caps and blouses.

Later most of the girls joined C.G.I.T. Mrs. Blacklock was one of the leaders. One summer holiday when no leader was available to take the group to the lake for camping Mom offered and thanks to her we didn't miss our annual outing. Those were the days when we learned to swim, row a boat learn water safety and to take our turn at K.P. Even in those days "doing your own thing" was sometimes attempted. Like the time the two girls who were cooks for the day couldn't agree who should peel the potatoes. So they compromised deciding to boil them with their jackets on. However the whole operation took considerable time since another girl was prepared to scrub those potatoes and they were forced to change the menu a couple of times when it became somewhat monotonous.

Mildred attended Bedford Road Collegiate and Saskatoon Normal School. Her first school was in Hagemann. A brand new school, a janitor, a new salary but a change every month. Annie Reid as sponsor; Mr. Osler who had worked for Dad as secretary of the school board; and Mrs. Perrin teacher at Mildred's special friend, as superintendent. She had it made.

In 1926 Mildred married Bill Scrivens, brother of Alice's husband Ted. In 1928 Linda was born. Bill was president of North Rosetown Telephone Company and a steward for the United Church in Rosetown. He had a fatal heart attack in 1954.

Mildred returned to the classroom in 1930 when she began teaching her friends' children at Community School. She taught there for seven years spending her summers taking university classes and travelling. In 1946 she began her work with the mentally retarded. The eight years she taught at the Opportunity School were very demanding but vastly rewarding.

In the meantime Dale had earned his B.A. and Law Degree at the University of Saskatchewan where he met Marjorie LeMoine who was taking nursing. They were married and set up housekeeping in Regina. Dale articled with MacPherson, Leslie and Tyerman and a few years later became a partner in the law firm Reid, Scrivens and Scrivens. Marjorie and Dale have one daughter, Laura, and three sons – Mark, John and Paul.

In 1936 Mildred and Frank Glass were married. Frank retired from his work with the Department of Highways in 1959. In the following spring Mildred retired. Frank is active as a member of the Vestry, a founding member of the Museum and Art Centre here in Rosetown and he spends many happy hours in his darkroom as an amateur photographer. On fine summer mornings you may find both Frank and Mildred with friends on the golf course. For perhaps twenty years Mildred taught Sunday School pupils. For six years she was Provincial Secretary for the Homemakers. Having been president of the Rosetown Red Cross she continues in that line by assisting with the local blood donor clinics. Both she and Frank continue to work with the handicapped at the workshop, organizing special recreation. She wishes there were more time to spend at her potter's wheel and at oil painting.

Over the years Frank and Mildred have travelled to many parts of world, to Hawaii, Fiji, New Zealand, Australia, the British Isles, Europe, five countries, in Middle East five countries in the Orient, South Africa, Brazil and Cuba. They have toured Canada from coast to coast and each summer they go pottering around Saskatchewan in the camper van. All the while they take notes so they can share their experiences in a

small way with school children, church groups and various clubs.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Collas

by Alice M. (Collas) Hill

Thomas Collas was born in Lucknow, Ontario. Because of reason of health he came West in late 1908.

He took up the dealership of Frost and Wood Machine Company, travelling for this company until he took up farming four miles west of Fielding in 1907. He met and married Mary Allen in 1909 who had previously lived in Manitoba. From this union five children were born. The eldest passed away as a small baby.

Alex, the eldest born on the farm where he lived, helped with farm work at an early age. He was interested in machinery and carpentry at which he has done quite a lot.

Thomas, the second to be born, on the farm, was interested in all to do with farming, minerals, etc. He served in the Second World War overseas for five years. Some years later, after being sent home on Terminal ill health necessitated him being hospitalized in the Veterans' Hospital in Saskatoon where he passed away April 4, 1979.

Alice who was born on the farm lived at home until September, 1938. She moved to White Rock, B.C. She took up nursing becoming a Licensed Practical Nurse. She nursed fifteen years on Surgical and Intensive Care Unit. She married in 1959, lived on a dairy farm and raised four children. Two daughters are Registered Nurses. Two sons are Heavy Equipment Operating Engineers. She has five grandchildren and is now semi-retired.

John, born on the farm, was interested in farming and livestock. He is now living in North Battleford, retired because of ill health.

Most of the children were delivered by Doc Scratch, the older ones by a doctor in Kadlunna whose name I can't remember at this time.

Early days were ones of hard work and many set backs for our parents, but in the spirit of true pioneers they kept on looking ahead to better times. Their means of living were mixed farming, grain, livestock, shipping cream, chickens and hogs. Their mode of travel at that time was horse and buggy or wagon. Many years later we acquired a Model T Ford which in those times was a big thing.

We were all educated at Calais School and had a varied amount of teachers.

The friends and neighbours were close-knit, always ready to help one another in any way possible, which I don't think we will ever forget. They were happy days in spite of the hard work; days in which everyone made their own pleasure and all joined in. A spirit so which, in many ways is lost in many parts of the country and I think the world in general.

Dad passed away March 17, 1961 after quite a few years of ill health at the age of seventy-two years. Mother and the boys moved to Marshall, Saskatchewan to take up mixed farming. Mother passed away February 16, 1969 after a long period of ill health. She was eighty-one years of age.

Memories of Early Days

Lillian (Sherman) Gould

I was born on a farm near Fielding, Sask. in 1906. My father came to the province in the early 1900's and my mother came in the spring of 1910. My early recollections are of very cold winters and it was always a relief when the warm spring sun came out and the snow disappeared. Later when I was about 13 we moved to a new home that we did not mind the cold winters so much.

Most of my school days were spent at Calais School except for two or three months that I went to Rock with School just before we moved to our new house in 1927. I managed to get through grade 8 and then took three years high school with the help of the Government Correspondence course and a very good teacher we had. While growing up we did not have all the advantages of children in the later years and sometimes felt quite frustrated because we could not do the things we would have liked to learn or do because we did not have the money or the facilities to do them.

I will remember quite well the depression years of the 1930's. I don't need to describe them as anyone my age will remember them. Toward the end of the 30's, (in 1938) about Sept. I came out to Vancouver, B.C. That brought quite a change in my life. Jobs were not easy to get but we managed and we did enjoy the milder climate and the sense of getting around and just seeing something different than the dust and dry prairies. It was quite exciting to me and my sisters as well to travel and start a new life.

I met my husband in 1939 and we were married two years later in 1941. We enjoyed working together building our home in Burnaby and lived in Burnaby for 36 years. We had two children, Kenneth and Sylvia who are both doing quite well on their own now. Kenneth is married and Sylvia is thinking about it. We have no grandchildren as yet.

While we lived in Burnaby we were quite active in our church and then in the community as well. Just this June we moved out to Crescent Beach area of Surrey so have to start over again in meeting new friends and becoming involved in the community. My husband, Elliott took early retirement two years ago and we built this home starting last year. It is pretty well finished but there are things to do to keep him from getting bored for another couple of years. We hope to travel more in the next few years, but this will be our home till we can't look after it. We hope our friends will come to visit us here.

William and Rosetta (Paine) Gray Family

by their youngest daughter, Marion (May) Rogers

Bill, as he was known to his friends was born in Hamilton, Ontario in 1864, of Scottish parents. His wife, Rosetta, was born in England in 1870 of English parents. Rosetta came to Canada with her parents when she was a small child. They came from England on a sailboat, and the crossing took them six weeks.

In 1891 Rosetta and Bill were married at Uffington, Ontario and made their home for several years near Bracebridge, Ontario. Here seven of their children were born. Dad worked as a lumberman.

In 1908 Dad and Mother came west to Saskatchewan and brought the children, Rosetta, Malcolm, Robert, Roy, Jim, Emma and Marion (May). Later another son, George, was born on the homestead here in Saskatchewan.

My dad acquired a homestead located on S.W. ¼-22-41-13-W3rd

The first summer while Dad and the other boys built a shack on the homestead we younger children and Mother lived with a cousin of mine. Dad managed to break ten acres of prairie sod, with two horses and a walking plow that first summer. In his spare time Dad worked for the neighbors helping to build log houses and in the fall threshing grain.

Dad was often called on to help on the Ruddell Ferry when extra help was needed. This ferry was located on the river south and west of Dad's homestead.

Once we were settled on the homestead it was necessary for the older children to find work away from home, so there was no more thought of school for them.

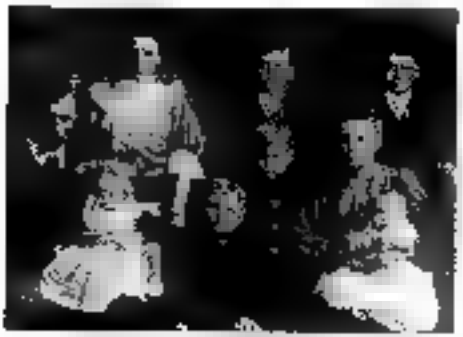
As there was no school in our district at that time, we younger children attended Maymont School when weather permitted. We had to walk five and one-half miles, so didn't manage to go very regularly. Dad rented a house one winter in Ruddell and the following winter in Maymont, so the younger children could attend school.

In 1917 Monitro School District was formed. This school was located on N.W ¼-35-41-13-W3rd. Monitro was a bit closer for us but we still had three and one-half miles to walk. We always had holidays from Christmas to the first of April, so school was open all summer. My dad was one of the first trustees on this school board, and I was one of the first pupils. I believe there were about eighteen pupils the first fall school opened. Some of the teachers I remember that taught at Monitro while I attended were Marygalla Gifford, Phyllis Adamson, Hilda Foster, Gertrude Thibeault, Dorothy Chisholm, Mary Rankin, Mary Parkerson and Olga Isaac taught just a few weeks as sub.

As the years went by Dad and my brothers acquired more land and in time all five sons married and settled in Maymont District.

My older sister, Etta (as she is known) married Ayton Moffat of Dinsholm. Ayton had a livery stable in Dinsholm at that time and later a hardware store. They later moved to Saskatoon where Ayton worked for the C.N.R. He retired and moved to Vancouver, B.C. Ayton passed away in 1966 but Etta still resides in Vancouver.

Malcolm, my oldest brother, farmed in the Ruddell District for several years. He married Clara Larson,



L. to r. standing — Etta, Bob, Malcolm. Sitting — Dad, Emma on his knee, Roy, Jim, Mother, May on her knee, Taken just before we left for the west from Ont. in spring of 1908.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Gray's 60th wedding anniversary — 1957. L. to r. — Malcolm, Jim, Emma, Roy, Etta, Mr. and Mrs. Gray, Bob, May, George, Mr. Myers, Mrs. Myers.

and they had three sons. Malcolm homesteaded S.E.¼-31-41-13-W3rd. On account of his wife's poor health they moved to Ontario, where he found work for a few years, later moving to Calgary, where he worked for C.P.R. Malcolm passed away in 1973. His wife and two sons predeceased him. His youngest son, Lyle, and two daughters live in Calgary, Alberta.

Robert married Vera Prondall, farmed for a number of years, have now retired and inhabit their home in Maymont. Roy married Charlotte Carney (Nellie to her friends) and farmed several years. Roy homesteaded N.W.¼-15-14-13-W3rd. Roy and Nellie have two children. Roy was catcher for the Maymont ball team for years and is still an ardent ball and hockey fan. They have retired and also live in the village. Their son Kenneth, teaches school and their daughter, Dalsie, is a nurse and now makes her home in Edmonton.

Jim married Wilma Wiebers, farmed several years and is now retired. They also live here in Maymont. They had one daughter.

Emma married Angus MacDonald. They had three children. Angus passed away in 1959 and Emma remarried to Arthur (Doug) Johnston. They now make their home in Regina. They have one daughter.

Marion (May) married Oliver Rogers in 1939. We farmed for four years in Rudsell District; then bought land northeast of Maymont and lived there until 1968, when we retired and bought a home in Maymont. We had two children. They are both married and farm near Maymont.

George, my younger brother, who married Freda Mikkelborg is still active in farming and lives one mile south of Maymont. Freda and George have a family of six.

Dad and my four older brothers were all members of the Loyal Orange Lodge. The highlight of our summer vacation was the picnic at the Maple Grove at Rudsell on the First of July, and the Orangemen's parade and picnic, on the Twelfth of July. We didn't always get to the Twelfth of July picnic, as it was sometimes held too far away for us to travel with team and wagon.

William and Rosetta Gray retired in 1939, and bought a home in Maymont, where they lived until mother passed away in October, 1963. Dad spent his last four years with his son, George, and wife, Freda, on the farm. Dad passed away in September, 1967.

We did not get to church very often in early years. After Mother and Dad moved into the village they both attended church regularly; and mother was a faithful member of the Ladies' Aid. Her specialty was knitting for the bazaar.

Mother and Dad lived to celebrate sixty-one years of married life, and in spite of many hardships I'm sure my parents must have endured through the early homestead years, they both lived to enjoy good health to a ripe age. Dad passed away at ninety-three years and mother at eighty-three.

Bob Gray History

written by Vera Gray

Bob and Vera were married in 1925. Bob came from Ontario with his parents, the William Grays. Vera came from Morris, Manitoba, in 1918 with her parents, Mary (Gunness) Prondall, who came from Brockville, Ontario, and Herman Prondall. He came from Stockholm, Sweden.

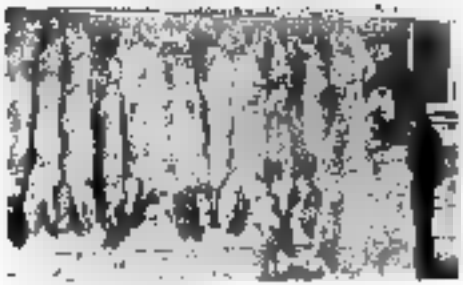
Vera came from Morris to Sowingdale in 1918 and lived there for seven years.

Bob had some interesting experiences crossing the river to visit Vera. He went over one spring for the week-end. The ferry was taken out and he had to drive around by Battleford with the team and buggy. It took him from 9 A.M. to 7 P.M.

They first lived about 4 miles from Maymont in a very large and cold house. It wasn't plastered inside on the upstairs floor. In those days the only insulation was tar paper. In the winter they used three or four rooms and had to keep three stoves going. It was a good thing Bob was a good wood cutter.

They had three children born there, Phyllis, now

Bob and Vera's wedding picture.



The spoils of the hunt!

Mrs. Wilfred Johnston, living three miles north of Maymont; Dorothy married to Craig Stewart in North Battleford; and Murray married Valerie Neill and they are living on the farm about a mile and a half from town.

The mid-wife was Mrs. Duncan McLennan and Mrs. Mansell from Bearingdale. Dr. Scratch was the attending physician.

They lived about a mile from the river and Bob hauled water for the stock from the C.N.R. pumphouse which was run by Joe Davidson.

As they were 4 miles from school the children had to be driven. In the winter they had to keep the road open pretty well by themselves, across the fields. In the summer the children drove themselves with a two-wheeled cart, drawn by a shetland pony.

Like everyone else they had their hard times in the 1930's. Bob had a new Model T when they were married, but later on there were a few years they could not afford to drive it, so they had a Bennett buggy made by Mr. Fry.

Bob liked trapping in the winter, which helped a little. One winter he got twenty-two coyotes and got $75 for the hides.

In January 1932 Bob was very sick with pneumonia and typhoid fever. The weather was very cold. They had two nurses, one for forty-two days and the other for twenty-five days when he needed twenty-four hour attention. Dr. Scratch was very wonderful. When he decided he would hire another Doctor's opinion it was quite a thrill in those days to have Dr. Anderson fly from Saskatoon, by airplane and land in the field near the house. Luckily the snow wasn't too deep to get a clearing made.

In 1942 they moved nearer town to the William McIvor farm which they later bought. The house was smaller so they only used two stoves.

Murray and Valerie took over the farm in 1968 and Bob and Vera built a house on Maymont where they still reside. They have eleven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. They celebrated their 50th anniversary in 1976.

The George Gray Family

written by Freda Gray

George, the youngest son of the late Wm. C. Gray, is my husband. I, Freda Gray (Mikkelborg) came to Maymont District as a teacher for Maxtro School during the dirty thirties. Harry Skinner was the chairman, Roy Gray and Billy Pickford the trustees. I taught for six and a half years before taking over the job of a housewife. For twenty years I remained at home before starting to teach again for nine more years. Five of these were at Ruddell School. During those twenty years six children were born.

George Gray family, Dec., 1976. Back row — Norman, Keith, Tom and Gordon. Front — Maxine, George and Freda, Kathleen.

Gordon, son number one, was born in September, 1939. He has remained on the farm as a partner with his father. He married Donna Blum of Denholm and has three children Karen, Lee and Jason. He has been an active and successful leader of the 4-H beef club since 1965.

Norman, son number two, was born in June, 1941. He became employed with the Bank. Power after getting his Grade XII. He married Lorraine Goldbrecht of Ruddell and has three children — Brian, Christopher and Mark. Norman is still with the Bank. Power, now being a Gas Fitter in Meadow Lake.

Kathleen and Keith, twins, were born in March, 1943. Keith, like his brother, Norman, worked with the Bank Power at first. They helped put up those high power towers that go through our land, across the river, on to Saskatoon and beyond. Keith married Sharon Bell of Nipawin. They have three children — Ricky, Reggy, and Laura. Keith now works at an Alfalfa Pellet Plant in Tisdale. Kathleen, the other half of that birth, and our first daughter attended a Business College in Saskatoon. After working as a receptionist for Dr. Palmer in N. Battleford for

several years she moved to Saskatoon. There she worked as a receptionist for a dentist and later on accepted a job at the University Hospital at the Admitting Office where she worked for five years becoming acquainted with many people and those on the staff. She married Gordon Moore of Spears and has three children — Bobby, Dwayne and Douglas.

Thomas Charles, son number four, was born in September 1948. He worked for the Bank of Commerce in North Battleford for one year before deciding to continue his education and become a teacher. His first school was at Meadow Lake. He liked teaching very much so decided to get a school in Saskatoon and continue to work for his degree. He taught eight years there at Albert, Queen Elizabeth and Nutana Vista and succeeded in getting his degree. He is now employed at a Meadow Lake School as Vice Principal. He is still a bachelor.

Marlene, the youngest of our family, was born in April, 1955 and is daughter number two. After attending a Business College in Saskatoon she accepted a job at the City Hall in the Treasurer's Office and has been there since 1975. She married Alex Scott of Fielding who is now working for United Drugs in Saskatoon. Alex excels in all sports.

Raising our family during the forties after the dirty thirties was a hard but rewarding struggle. Those really were the good old times. Our favorite sport in winter was being towed on skis behind a sleigh or car sometimes.

George has worked hard all these years clearing the land of bush, removing unbelievable amounts of stone and having flood waters and sloughs drained.

George and Gordon have a large herd of Hereford Cattle sprinkled with some Simmentals. This creates a great deal of extra work all year round. Calving time starting in March requires a twenty-four hour a day vigilance until spring work starts on the land. After the crops are in the cattle are all prepared for pasture. No little job! Then after the summerfallowing starts the big pile of haying. Several methods have been tried to make this easier. The first great improvement was the sail hay sling George made. By the hay fork grabbing into the hay and a team of horses hitched onto a cable on the other end the hay was lifted from the hay rack and swung over onto the stack in three or four great lifts. Next came the square baler and the bale loader. Stacking bales was a back breaker. The harvester was purchased. It travelled up the swaths of hay or straw grabbing it up and blowing it back into the truck. But feeding the loose hay in the winter was the next difficult problem to overcome. A round baler has proved to be the answer. A front end loader with tine bale spikes on it handles the bales both for loading and feeding. A straw bale ruled out for the cattle is like a carpet for them to sleep on.

The work in the fields has also become easier but more expensive. With the purchase of bigger machines and expenses increasing, more land was required. First the Hill Road farm was bought and later the Clarence Nest farm. George and I have made the latter our permanent home. Gordon and his family have a new home on the old family farm.

George is about ready to retire, I hope. He cuts and polishes stones for a hobby. He is very fond of fishing when he has time. I like painting pictures. Gordon is very handy with the welding machine. He made a smart looking cattle van last winter. He also has wonderful ideas in remodelling his various rooms and building handy corners. Norman revels in making old discarded furniture into unbelievable articles of beauty. He also has good ideas for remodelling. Keith is somewhat like Gordon and Norman but hasn't produced anything out standing like they have yet. However, he and Sharon built themselves a lovely home. Kathleen is the number one mother, housekeeper and outside worker. Tom's life is his school children. He also is very clever at remodelling fourplex rooms. Marlene has many talents but swimming and water-skiing is her big thing. Animals are her weakness.

Timely Reflections
Wilma and James Gray
Eloise and Ken Matheson

told by Wilma (Winters) Gray

A desire to leave the open prairie for a new area, led me to be a rural school pupil at Maymont, January 31, 1908, into the lovely Saskatchewan River country.

As the train pulled away, I received a set-back to my enthusiasm though. Finding my baggage missing, except for the one small case I carried, my anxiety was eased when the agent, Mr. Fred Porter, was able to locate it by wire in Rosthern. Mr. and Mrs. Mathews Gray, with whom I was to board, met me and we proceeded to their home. They and their two little boys lived a mile west of Maestro School where I would begin.

I was then Wilma Winters, youngest daughter of the late Mr. Wm. George and Catherine Winters, who came from near Napanee, Ontario. In 1904 they had arrived with settlers effects at their farm home five miles north of Viscount, Saskatchewan. I attended a rural school near our home and High School in the village. My teacher training was obtained in the Saskatoon Normal School.

Maestro school, the modern cottage style, in operation seven years, was not too roomy for the twenty-six pupils enrolled. Allowing all across the front for entry and cloak rooms, one large corner for the "Washbowl", -but the real answer to a prayer for heat- the heating was too crowded. During cold or rainy, playtime indoors grew quite noisy.

Rural schools in general had lack of supplies in every branch. Maestro was two years back on library grant, no playground facilities or craft materials provided. Horrible thought today. These inadequacies were opposed by good quality blackboards of ample

Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Gray and Elaine — 1941.

able (a joy to a teacher), also a quite presentable organ (under the grime). After removing the nests of the furry invaders, repairing the pedal straps with binder canvas tape, we were set to sing.

By degrees supplies came and through dint of steady work the pupils began to show improvement. With only one convention per year to hustle up as many new ideas and methods as possible, lack of reference material in the school, the rural teachers needed to possess an abundant initiative and perhaps leaned heavily upon the basics — maybe not such a bad idea.

After the snow was gone and the slough supply was exhausted, water was at a premium. It was trouble that on the school grounds was a well with pump — very dry. A board having being pried loose the previous fall, still allowed the boys to explore the depths, a situation I soon had corrected. Some pupils carried their own drinking water, as the janitor supplied but one pail of water per day for washing and drinking.

Spring was so lovely, apart from slush, wet clothing and colds. The lush green poplars and dainty willows; song birds, many new to me; bush roses; warm sunshine; and at last a few hours to spend by the river. The air was heavy with the scent of wild fruit bloom.

Spring also brought the gophers — CASH to the pupils, for whom a stern ban forbade capture of these creatures outside school grounds during school hours. Warm days brought the desire of some to return to their fall habit of dashing the quarter mile to Sam Nutbrown's home where the radio proved an exciting pastime at recess or noon hour — seem to be discontinued.

They were not difficult to discipline, though full of tricks — such as having to climb up to the roof top when the flag rope "oddly" tangled. After the "magic touch" of a neighbour, that rope slid neatly into place.

Mainly the children walked, six of Chas. Wood family drove some miles, while on occasion, four of the Skinner family rode on one horse. Their manner of mounting was unique — a leap, a handful of horse tail, foot on the horse's back and each in turn, slid onto the horse's back.

Owing to Mrs. Gray's ill health, in September I went to stay with Roy and Ellen Gray, living south and west of Mooire three miles — they kindly provided a horse and buggy for my use. "Joe" was a nice driver, though given at times to shy at a tumble weed, partridge taking wing or a shadow, at which time he either took off like a dart, or made an off-the-road-side jump. One winter morning we had nearly reached the school (Joan McAllister was with me luckily) when a small rabbit startled Joe, who promptly landed in a ditch full of snow. Joan and I plunged in to release the harness, pulled the cutter back, then a snorting Joe, and soon we were off to school. We decided he was too well fed and needed more work, so Uncle "Toots" took his place, now one had more time to admire the scenery.

I always enjoyed preparing Christmas programs, as did my pupils. In the case of Mooire, it was a district half way between Maymoor and Kindell, as a result little visiting was done. It made me happy, that at the festive season friends and families met at the school. Santa with treats adding to the joy.

Dominion Diamond Jubilee celebrations were the main topic of conversation in 1927. Maymoor was a centre of activities. Mooire School was to portray "Alberta" in the parade of school floats.

All school grades emerged into a thorough study of people, products, industries. Then planned our float. To my joyful surprise an offer to assist us came from Mr. and Mrs. E. Wilmot. I'd heard of their interest and success with young people, so knew our project was away.

Malcolm Gray provided a large rack and drove his grey team. The central feature was the mountain scenery (devised and painted at the Wilmot's), with the large silvery "Prince of Whales Feathers" denoting his Alberta ranch, floating at the forefront.

Flags, curiously, seldom fluttered at the back, the most important on an derrick.

All pupils in suitably costumed groups were arranged on either side, a settler's family, lumberman, gardeners, cowboys, miners with coal, indians, farmers stacking hay and sheaves of grain, which Mrs. Wilmot and I selected from the stacks at the Ray Gray's and a tall Mountie to keep the peace.

Weather was Dominion Day was perfect. A very large crowd to view the many entries in the parade, renew friendships, take pictures and enjoy the basket lunches. It was a distinctly exciting surprise when the school floats were lined up, to hear that Manitoba for Alberta was in third place. Each of us realized much honor and credit belonged to a good pioneer couple who had shared their time and talents with us in our endeavor.

From the end of January 1938, I filled in a half term at a school south of Langham, while waiting to join the Saskatoon Public School staff in September, as a Grade 1 teacher. After rural school routine it was a pleasant experience — association with other teachers, supplies at hand, numerous advantages — plus the depression years crept in. Overcrowded city homes, likewise our classrooms. The primary teacher and I were coping with about 50 pupils each. It tried us last, called a pictures, nor work for fathers, and for us to see hearing ability lessened — very heartbreaking for parents.

Certainly it seemed best to be in the country. My co-teacher married in August, 1934, going to live in Manitoba while I left King George School, December, 1934. After James Gray and I were married at Viscount, on a bitterly cold New Year's Day we returned to Maymont and rural living.

Our home for thirty-seven years was formerly that of Jim's parents. Sheltered by a fine tree belt, the house was located at the top of a lovely southern slope, commanding such a view as would have stirred the late Edna Jacques to poetry. Pastures so beckoning in deeper shadows gorgeous as autumn besieged the hills; a sparkling flash of the river, all the paths of smoke which told us where our Spruney Hill friends lived. Mirages often appeared to bring the Eagle Hills into our neighborhood, from Saltpoint, normally seen from our doorstep.

In season, if a good year, wild fruits grew in quantities, so many makers could be tastily filled and left to share. The cattle ate the berries, as did our collie dogs — one Laddie found Jim's pail, from which he had a good meal.

Naturally we knew dire times in the "Dust Bowl" era. Others may tell that tale — I have no wish to recall the strain, only to be thankful we survived it, though the scars remain. People were relieved when times became easier in the early 40's, though wages were low, employment scarce.

Happiness for Jim and me along the way had been the care and love for our little daughter Elaine, born in the fall of 1936, in Saskatoon — the event surpassing all others. Time slipped along — in 1943 Elaine was to start school in Maymont (it's rules). Thus began a twelve-year series of twice daily trips, except for the two winters she spent living in town, one with Grandma Gray and one at Uncle Ray Gray's. We used the car until too cold, then her Dad drove a team with a closed, heated cutter. It was a full day, yet we much managed some involvements in sport, church or community affairs.

Completing Grade XII in 1954, Elaine went to business college in Saskatoon, was married in December, 1954, to Ron Nesbercom. They live in Saskatoon with teen-age son Allan, and daughter Shelley.

Elaine, after five years of secretarial work, has preferred homemaking as a full time job. The family has found time for church activities and participation in sports, music, and community involvement. Ron is General Manager of Saskatoon Central Linen Supply, operated under the University Hospital.

Sadly we had parted with Jim's mother in 1953, his father in 1957 after a long illness. My mother, Mrs. Winters, spent her last six years with us, no stranger to the district, she had many friends. She passed away in our home August, 1960, 98 years and 11 months, well an alert person.

We were once more able to help with the church, W.A., community affairs, etc. Work I so loved was at volunteer visitor in the Provincial Hospital where I assisted with handicraft and music, plus just visiting, until arthritis forced me into a semi-retirement, gladly took it up again for awhile, but eventually found myself unable.

By degrees we had improved our home, insulation and brick siding in 1960; a closure, then a pressure pump system after the electricity line was extended in 1956. A propane furnace was a 35th wedding anniversary surprise.

In 1968, Jim felt it necessary to sell the cattle because of labor and feed problems, but since Wayne Acaster, who owned the land west of us, purchased the hard we could still watch those young and grass the hills.

In the early spring of 1973, Jim's health was not up to par, nor was mine, so when a home in the village was available we purchased it, and sold the farm to Bob Johnston. While having the village home renovated and enlarged during August and September, we lived in Ray and Ellen's home — they were visiting their daughter in New Brunswick.

We are nicely located here but — the view from the windows or door step still lacks the rural beauty — no sound of spring run-off roaring along, ice crunching as river breaks up, and so much more. No one need be surprised to find us driving on the river hills where the sunset is so fantastic or across the river to gaze back upon our northside hills and dwellings.

Roy and Ellen Gray

William Roy Gray and Charlotte Ellen Conroy were married on a Wednesday afternoon, January 31, 1906, in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. After a few days in Saskatoon, they came back to take up farming on a homestead and half section of land purchased from Henry Howe. This farm was to be their home for forty-three years. It was located one mile south and four miles west of Maymont. Their worldly possessions consisted of three cows, two calves, six horses, a trunk full of miscellaneous articles that Ellen had made or collected, the above mentioned homestead and a log cabin to live in which had been built about 1905 by Roy's father Bill and Mr. John Reed. With these, their lives began together and with their combined desire to work, laugh, and struggle, their domain began to grow. Life had many hardships and also great rewards.

Roy and Hollie drawing water from the North East River

The first few years were devoted to breaking sod, growing a garden, preserving fruits, vegetables and meats. The fruits were mostly wild gooseberries, raspberries, saskatoons, pincherries (which often took a whole afternoon to gather a small pailful), chokecherries and cranberries. Pigweeds, in the spring, were often used for greens. It was a constant challenge to increase the herd of cattle, horses, feed and horses so as to cope with the increasing land acreage and the desire to have more cream to sell and more to sell and eat.

Then on September 9, 1908, a son Kenneth was born at their farm home. He was delivered by the well-known Dr. Scratch in addition to Mrs. McLennan a nurse and midwife, who had to be brought up from Saskatoon by train. He was a healthy young lad and continued to be so until he contracted typhoid fever about the time of his fourth birthday. There was much anxiety over his recovery as he developed a raging fever which lasted many days and nights. Dr. Scratch made several visits to the farm home to see this child and had given up on any hope of recovery. However, Roy and Ellen never gave up hope. They would work the fields all day taking off the crop with the horses and binder. In the evenings, he would drive five miles with a horse and buggy to town in order to secure ice from Mr. Tiffen to help combat his son's fever. Ellen sat by his bed night and day sponging him, feeding him water with an eye-dropper, and undoubtedly doing a lot of praying. Finally, one morning he opened his eyes and whispered, "Mom". His fever and delirium had left him. He was on his way to recovery. The same fall, November, 1908, Roy and Ellen had a daughter, Cecile. She was also delivered at the farm home with Dr. Scratch and midwife Mrs. Ambrose in attendance.

The following several years rushed by. Ellen with a lot of hard work and little free time. During the winter months the cattle and some of the horses were kept inside so there were barns to be cleaned each day. A water hole to chop out each morning in the nearby dam, so they were able to get a drink, straw to be hauled into the barn for bedding, hay to be brought in for feed, grain to chop for the pigs and chickens. That as wood was used for heat and cooking, there were dead trees in the ravines to be chopped down with a hand saw, trimmed and piled in order to be hauled up to the farm yard in the spring, all to be sawed again by hand into short lengths to enable them to go into the fire boxes of the stoves. Later on, as the gas engine came into existence, the engine driven saw was used to cut all the wood up in short lengths. This was done on one day by a lot of men (usually brothers and neighbors). During the summer and fall there was the land work to be done which was a slow process when done with horses. When fall came, large threshing crews would go from farm to farm to thresh the grain. The large groups of men took many hours of baking and cooking by Ellen to keep them all well fed. She was a great cook and it is possible that they sometimes stayed a little longer than necessary due to the delicious food.

The days work began at five in the morning and did not end till dark. Ellen milked eight cows by hand, mixed her own butter, baked the bread preserved, set all the old hens in small coops until the eggs hatched (she usually built the coops by herself from old apple boxes), fed pigs and kept a well weeded garden. These chores were accompanied by the preparation of three large meals every day and the weekly wash which was undertaken with a scrub board and washtub. When these tasks were completed there were usually pants legs that had to be picked off the plants by hand and destroyed. The one time the garden was found in poor condition was in the year the army worms marched through the area, eating all the garden greenery in sight.

One of the highlights of the farm life was Ellen's freshly fried chicken. It was caught, killed, plucked and cleaned in the morning, then fried in pan-lard pans at the back of the wood cook stove all afternoon. That was chicken that really tasted like chicken!

An important activity on the farm each week was

drawing water from the North Saskatchewan River. It was to be used for washing and watering some of the livestock. This tank was filled by hand with Roy and Ellen pailing from each side. Then it was drawn up the river hills with two teams of horses.

It was not all work and no play. Ellen took great delight in knitting, crocheting, tatting and sewing. She also enjoyed making great batches of taffy on many during the long winter evenings and homemade ice cream on summer Sundays which was often enjoyed with relatives and friends. Roy got his enjoyment out of playing baseball with the Maymont team from 1946 to 1947 during which he was their catcher. He often recalls some excellent pitching done by Mr. Mike Dell, Albert Heckman, Russ Arnold, not to mention some impressive coaching done by Mr. John Blacklock and Nathan Friedman. He also enjoyed playing hockey in the snipers of his younger years, eventually turning to curling when he grew a little older.

After World War II in 1945 both rural and urban economy seemed to improve. Mr. James, a neighbor, had a sale in 1944 at which time Roy and Ellen bought their first car, a 1944 Model T Ford. (Gosh, this was a real bit of business!) They could now make a fun occasional trips to North Battleford to the Exhibition. In addition the trip to Maymont took only fifteen minutes instead of the hour by horse drawn vehicles. Then a new barn, double garage and ice house were built. The ice house was filled with ice blocks cut out of the North Saskatchewan River which were covered with straw and stuffed to keep milk, cream, and other perishables cool during the summer months.

About this time (1948-49) Kenneth, their son, completed grade twelve and after a brief bit of farming with Roy decided to take up teaching as his occupation. Then, he left home for further education in Saskatoon.

In 1948 a new Fargo truck was purchased. It was a real joy for hauling grain and travelling in on the way to church, picnics, sports days, and other activities, which took place in the nearby area. Farm work was also beginning to modernize quite quickly in the 1950's. Roy and Ellen purchased a tractor to replace the horses and a combine to replace most of the threshing machines work.

Their daughter, Deicie, graduated from grade twelve in 1951 and left home to train for a nurse at Saskatoon City Hospital.

They continued to farm until 1958 at which time they owned seven quarters of land, some worthwhile pieces of machinery, and a nice herd of Hereford cattle. They sold and retired to the Village of Maymont in the old Doidge home just west of main street. Since that time, they have enjoyed trips to Ontario and the Maritimes, and have celebrated their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary. That occasion took place in 1978.

The Gordon Gray Family

written by Donna Gray

In June, 1964, Gordon William Gray and Donna Marie Munn were married in the Third Avenue United Church in North Battleford by Rev. Bruce Wartman.

Our first home was the Frank Schneider house in Rudsdall. We rented the house for the summer months while Schneiders moved to the Maple area to take up their farming operations. As Gordon worked with his father, George Gray, on the farm, he drove back and forth to work from Rudsdall.

Gordon Gray family Jan., 1979, Karen, Donna, Ian, Gordon, Jason.

In the fall of 1964 we bought the old Drug Store and Pool Room buildings, on the main street in Maymont next door to the DeLong Locker Plant, with memories of demolition and salvaging lumber for a new farm home. We fixed up the Drug Store part to live in and during the winter commenced taking down the old buildings. In the process there were many folks stopping in with stories relating to "years back when". Some of the avid pool players would stop in to see if we found any of the special coins that must have dropped below the floor boards around where the tables used to sit. We were hoping to find some old papers or treasures but came up with very little.

The first addition to our family arrived on June 23, 1965. Karen soon became the center of attention in our family as she was the first grandchild on the Munn side and the only granddaughter on the Gray side.

As the summer passed, we made plans for the site of our future home at the farm. In the fall of 1966, Murray Melver dug the basement. The cement was poured and the floor was nailed in place. We worked on the basement in all our spare time. After the New Year we decided we would live in the basement and save the expense of driving back and forth.

After we moved out of the Drug Store in 1966, Bob Hall, the ferry operator at the river decided to open a Barber shop and later a Sewing Machine Shop. Later

that Gail Ron Milnes purchased and moved the building to use it as a grain bin on his farm.

In 1967 we purchased the Bill Reid farm. At that time Gordon's brother, Keith and family, lived there until they moved to Tisdale where Keith is a foreman at an Alfalfa Pellet Plant.

The summer of 1967 was a very wet one as we remember quite clearly. We had some difficulty keeping dry with our flat roof which convinced us we better look into a top story. On November 17, 1967 our future home arrived in pieces to be put together like a puzzle. In three of the coldest days that winter the shell of the house was put up. For the next four months, with help from Stan Long, we worked. The brewers selling up walls and plastering rooms. By March, 1968 we had moved upstairs.

On November 14, 1968 the second addition to our family arrived. Jan quickly grew into a fascinating playmate for Karen. Then April 16, 1971, Jason arrived on the scene. With Karen off to school that fall, Jan became greatly annoyed by the new baby.

In the spring of 1971 we purchased the Clarence Reid farm and Gordon's folks moved there so that there would be one of us at each end of the week.

Over the years our family has taken part in 4-H activities as Gordon is a leader of the Beef Club, curling, figure skating in which Jason won the McIvor Trophy for the Most Improved Skater in 1975, hockey, swimming, and the latest sport — downhill skiing to which all of us take a fancy.

Let's only hope that the years ahead will be filled with as many pleasant memories as those in the past.

Richard (Dick and Flora (Bohn) Greenslade

Richard (Dick) and Flora Bohn were married in Maymont Sharon Presbyterian Church on October 15, 1919 by Rev. Schaell. They were the first couple to be married in this church. Flora came to the Maymont District at an early age and attended Grey School. She was active in the church as a Sunday School Teacher, Mission Band Leader and she belonged to W.M.S.

Dick and Flora lived on Dick's homestead, situated one mile south of Meeting Lake Store. Dick had lived there since 1908, except for the years he was over seas. When their new home was built on his Soldier Settlement land they moved to it. This land was 5½ miles from Rabbit Lake. They named their farm "Lone Pine Farm".

They had five children. Harold, living at Maymont, Phyllis at North Battleford, Alder, Millie, Alberta, Ivy, Prince George, B.C. Morris died in infancy. Harold, Phyllis and Alder were married in Maymont.

In 1943 they sold their farm and lived in Alberta and B.C. In 1945 they bought the Royal Cafe in Maymont. Due to ill health they sold it in fall of 1947 and retired in Penticton, B.C. Dick passed away in May, 1965 and Flora moved back to Maymont. She later moved into River Heights Lodge, North Battleford and remained there until her death Oct. 16, 1972. Her funeral was held in Maymont United Church and she was buried in Maymont Cemetery.

Harold and Kay (Andrew) Greenslade

by Harold A. Greenslade

I, Harold Albert Greenslade, the eldest son of Dick and Flora Greenslade was born at Maymont at the farm of my aunt and uncle Herb and Tessie Johnston. I was raised and educated at Athelstan School of the Meeting Lake District.

As a kid for years old, I remember different neighbors used to hold house parties consisting of card games in the smaller homes. In larger houses, we used to play cards till 11:00, then would have lunch and pull all the furniture aside for dancing until 2:30-3:00 in the

Greenslade family taken at a reunion, Sept., 1963 at Harold and Kay's home on the farm. L. to r. — Phyllis, Harold, Flora and Dick, Alder, Ivy.

Eva, Kay, Harold, Betty and Clifford, 1979.

morning. All the folks used to bring their children of all ages and after midnight they would put the younger kids on coats or blankets in corners. This took place just during the winter months and only once a month. (There were no telephones and very few radios). The music was supplied free by people attending the evening and consisted of violins, guitars and a recordiona. There was no liquor.

I left home when I was Fourteen school. I worked on farms in the district and one winter at a saw mill. I also spent time building and repairing roads. When I was older and working on one of the farms I drove four horses, walked behind harrows in barefoot because I couldn't afford them, working from 5:30 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. and only got fifty cents a day.

I came to Maymont to work on many farms making my home with Mr. and Mrs. Jim Gray. Then I went to Edmonton, Alberta working at many jobs. When I left Edmonton I went to work for seven years with the Cranstons. Shows: horseback at Penticton, B.C. Also worked in Vancouver and New Westminster, B.C.

Came back to Maymont in 1951 where I worked and ran the old skating rink, located then where the Senior Citizens low rentals are. Boy! Talk about snow that year. The next year went to North Battleford and worked in the Savoy Cafe for one year.

In June 1952 I started to work for Mr. Vanderhaegen in the hardware store. I worked there until 1980.

I married Josephine Kate (Kay) Andrew, the only daughter and the only child of Alfred and Dorothy Andrew, on September 23, 1950 in All Saints Anglican Church. The ceremony was conducted by Reverend Randy Wood of Calmeny. We lived for three and a half months in a rented house owned by Mrs. Jimmy Reid, located south of the present skating and curling rink. Kay was born in City Hospital, Saskatoon. She grew up on her parents farm and was educated in Maymont School.

January 15, 1950 I went to Saskatoon Sanitorium for nine months. Kay also moved to Saskatoon and for fifteen months worked at City Hospital.

May 1, 1951 we both moved back to Maymont where we rented Kay's dad's farm. We lived on the farm for two years.

Eva Joyce was born on February 20, 1952 in North Battleford Union Hospital. Kay's dad passed away January 1, 1953. The day of his funeral was a very mild day being in the 40's. The flowers didn't freeze over night and next morning they were beautiful with dew drops on them. The next day it turned cold and went to 40 degrees below zero and stayed very cold for the next six weeks.

In the Fall of 1953 we purchased the Oliver Andrew house in Maymont. After remodelling it we moved in on November first but still farmed until 1958.

Centennial year 1967 our son, Clifford Lee, was born May 22 in Borden Hospital. Kay's mom passed away the day before in Borden after a lengthy illness of cancer.

That fall we remodelled and built on mom's house and moved in.

In 1968 the farm was rented to Wilfred Johnston and boys for a three year term. Then in the spring of 1972 Glen Boyd rented the farm. On January 1973 we purchased the farm.

In March 1969 we purchased the Vanderhaegen Store and opened and operated a poolroom for four and a half years. During the summer we operated a store and cafe at Glenburn Regional Park from 1964-1974.

Betty Lynn was born January 30, 1960 in North Battleford Union Hospital.

For three years Ray Gray and I took over the C.N. Gray Business.

In the spring of 1975 I put a new roof on the old poolroom and July 17, 1976 we officially opened Greenslade's IGA & M Store of groceries, meats and hardware. Wholesaler of I.G.A. at this time of writing we are still in business.

In the spring of 1979 we took on the caretaking of the Memorial Hall which we had had previously from 1967-1969.

Since I have lived at Maymont I have been a member of the Board of Trade, time keeper for the skating rink when it was built in 1954, and five chief for five years.

Kay's been very active all her life with church, community, former 4-H student and leader. Now she is a Sunday School teacher in the United Church, member of Rebekah U.C.W. unit and for the past 15 years correspondent for the News Optimist at North Battleford. In May 1979 she took on also reporting the Big Country Voice, a Radford paper.

Eva is taking her Grade Eleven in Maymont Central School but is very active in the church, Sunday School teacher, C.G.I.T., 4-H member and now is the assistant librarian for Maymont Branch of Lakeland Library Region.

Clifford is in Grade Five, active in Sunday School, plays hockey in winter, is a 4-H member in Sportsmen, and swims in the summer.

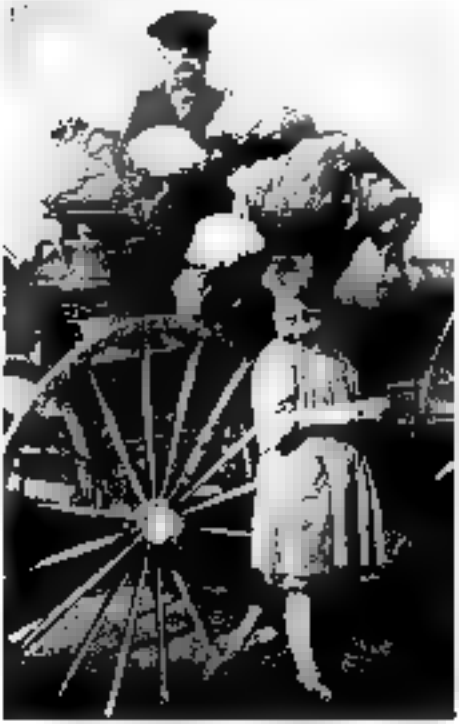
Betty is in Grade Four and is also active in Sunday School and Explorers. She figure skates in Maymont and in March 1979 won the Wendy McIver Trophy for most improved skater 12 years and under.

The Life of Alex Green — From 1980

told by Alex Green

I was born in Lambton County, Ontario, Feb. 4, 1908. My parents were Joshua and Alice Green who were also born in Ontario. They had answered the cry of the west: "Go west, young men, you make more money."

They came west in 1912 to Fielding by train with a car load of machinery, horses, cattle and household effects. I, Alex, was just three years old, the youngest



Joshua Green with vegetables and cream, to sell in town

Joshua and Alice Green

Alex Green family, 1918 — Alex, Charles, Alice, Gordon, and Margaret.

of the family. The first year we lived in a sod house near Fielding. The next year Dad built a lumber house and building on the quarter section of land he bought four and a half miles N.E. of Fielding. Dad and the elder boys cut logs all winter with a cross cut saw. Then in the spring they sawed them stove length by hand with the cross cut, and split them with the axe. Then the little boys helped pile it. At this time my eldest brother was over seas in the army, in the first World War. I started school in the town of Fielding in 1913. When I was still going to school I won a 22 rifle for getting the most Gophers in the municipality.

Dr. Scratch from Maymont was our Doctor and my mother helped him for many years as midwife. She also went on her own when necessary in the Fielding district. As far as I can remember I was still going to school early in the 1920's when a fire broke out in Shank's Implement Shop, then the Post Office went. Use livery barn, Nelson Hotel. The strong wind from the west took it across the street to Gunn's General Store, then to Dickenson Store, Brickwall garage. All that saved the hall was that it had eave troughs and so the water was caught and reused. It seems to me there was a fire later when the Bank of Nova Scotia and some other buildings burnt. All they had for water was one well on the south end of the street. It was still there when I was in Fielding last.

Besides farming and milking cows Dad was a great gardener. Joshua Green and myself are both life members of Radisson Agricultural Society. Back in the early days in Ontario Dad had a fruit orchard, vegetable and flower garden. I still follow my Dad's foot steps and keep up the garden work but in a small way just for ourselves.

After thirteen years in the west, in the early spring of 1912, Dad passed away, age 64.

In the fall of 1905 Mother and I decided to go to what was later Carrot River. Mother filed on a quarter section of land. It was heavy timber at that time. The C N R. Rail did not come till 1909. I was too young to homestead so mother filed and held a quarter for me. Then we went back to Fielding. I went working where I could find jobs, in-between I cleared enough land so Mother could grow up. I did it with axe and grub hoe. We travelled up to N E. Sask. with a team and democrat took a stump puller to clear a spot for a land. We were loaded outs for the horses, groceries enough for awhile, horses with nose nets, us with netting over the top to try to keep the bulldogs and mosquitoes out a bit.

I got a house built for Mother on her homestead, but in 1908 she passed away at the age of 45 years. As I was part of the time I kept clearing my land in the summer and worked in the saw mill in the winter months. Then I got some machinery and got a little crop for a few years.

In 1915 I married Evelyn Morgan. We had two sons Gordon and Oliver. In Feb. 1943 Evelyn passed away. After two years in Oct. 1945 I married Margaret Hawthorpe. We had one daughter Alice. We still lived in the same house I built for Mother back in 1908 up until 1953 when we bought a two-room house and had it moved in. At that time Margaret's parents came up and lived in the little homestead house. It was still in the same yard. They lived there for seventeen years. Her Dad died in 1967 at the age of 90. Her mother still lived in it alone for the next three years. The last year we moved her in to our house as she needed a little help. It broke her heart to leave her little home although she knew it was better for herself and Margaret. She still cared for herself. In Dec. 1970 her Mother passed away at the age of 92.

There has been lots of water gone under the bridge since 1905. We got all the homestead cleared. It was just the last seventeen acres that I was able to get a bulldozer in and clear the stumps out. Then I was able to get the whole quarter in crop in 1947. In 1953 I got another quarter of bush land and started all over again. But this time I got a bulldozer and puller in. We still had to pick and burn the root piles for a few years. By this time the boys were through school and on their own. We still had the girl at home for eight years. She was much younger. By 1960 we had all the land in crop that meant a half section to farm. Along with this we milked ten cows, kept a hundred hives of bees, was Government Apiary inspector for ten years. We had a large garden and fruit trees. This was a lot of work as the fall canning along with harvesting. In 1966 the girl finished school and went to Saskatoon.

In 1972 we had a sale and in 1974 we sold the farm and bought a new home in Carrot River where we still live. The family are all married and there are four grandchildren.

Now I sit and think of the days gone by when we first came to this part of Sask. in 1905. left the old farm at Fielding, headed straight east crossing the Hepburn ferry onto Rosthern ferry then Melfort. Trouble cross-country all the way. When we stopped at Rosthern we got the horses shod. They were getting sore feet. We bought some bread baked in a clay oven. It took us over a week to make the trip which was about two hundred and thirty miles.

The Fielding School had a good baseball team and the store keeper, Mr. Gunn used to take us to all the sports days at Borden, Radisson, Maymont and Rabbit. Radisson was the only town that could beat us. We have been back to Fielding a few times. In 1968 we went back and I put flowers on my parents, Joshua and Alice Green, and my brother Joshua. It's graves. I have two brothers. Alfred and Arthur, a sister Daisy buried in Carrot River, a brother Robert in Ridgedale, Sask., sister Mae in B.C.

There is one brother, William, left in B.C.

The Gurney Story

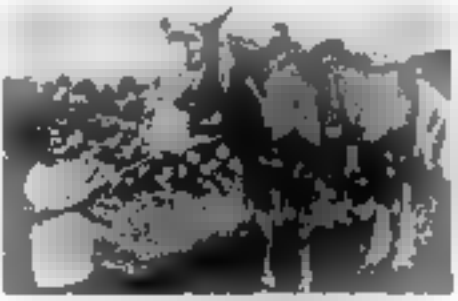
by Betty Mahler

I am asked to tell the Gurney story. Where do I begin? It is not much different than that of hundreds of other pioneers. Keep it brief. Make it interesting.

They were both born in England, my father, Frank B. Gurney the eldest of ten, my mother, Flora Kingsnorth, the third in a family of ten. They met when Mother's eldest sister married a man from Daddy's home town about 1907 or '08. They became engaged in 1908 but were not married until January 20, 1914.

Like so many young people of that time they read the glowing accounts of life in Canada. Make your fortune" in the new land. One hundred sixty acres for $10. "There was no future" in the old land, jobs were available were "dead end" positions. So in 1908 Daddy left for Canada to make his fortune. He worked on a farm in Ontario for one year and then came West.

Mr. Arthur Morris farming near Denholm was a friend of my great-uncle in England, and Daddy came



Betty and Pete, the pet horse - about 1926.

to him. Mr. Morris came to Canada with the first colonists in 1883 and like many others decided to homestead on his own before they reached Lloydminster.

From Lloydminster my father trekked for a homestead. I do not remember how it was that he settled on one hundred miles north of Rosthern but that is where he settled. He built his homestead shack and broke the necessary land, working with neighbors as so many did to help one another.

Mother remained in England waiting for the home to be built; Daddy's English pride would not let him marry until he had proved up the homestead. That is, he had to have a certain number of acres in cultivation, have a house and have lived there for at least six months for each of three years. Mother had a sister living near Strasbourg, Sask. and in 1913 she came to her. There they were married in 1914. They came by train to Rosthern and Mrs. Anna Claassen was the first woman Mother met at Rosthern. Both in 1959 she and Mrs. Claassen are both residents of the Rose Heights Lodge in North Battleford.

Mother did not know what to expect when she reached the homestead. Her brother-in-law had told her to expect a dirt floor. To her joy, but not surprise, she found clean boards and a roll of linoleum standing in the corner waiting for a warm spring day to lay it. That particular wood linoleum was to be moved several times and serve floors for many years.

They had many faithful neighbors and I think my father was proud to have them for Sunday dinners.

Three years must be before I arrived to "liven their house." Well, isn't that what little ones are supposed to do? I did not make my appearance without creating excitement anyway. Arrangements had been made for Mother to go to Nurse Tarbert's nursing home in North Battleford upon the weight of February. At 4 a.m. February 1 Mother woke Father up with the news that the start was on it's way. Remember when the start brought babies? The nearest phone was four miles away. A hasty horseback ride to phone for the doctor. The doctor came readily aside with a heavy team, on arrival he sent the team back to the city and decided to go with Mother in Lilac to meet the train. Lilac was a flag stop i.e. you waved the train to a stop. But it was foggy and the train did not see them. It kept on going.

Neighbors got fresh horses, warm stones, hot-water bottles and drove the doctor and expectant parents on another hard miles to Rosthern. Mr. Tom Francisco was one of those friends and he remembers the trip too. The thermometer was around 40 degrees below fahrenheit that night. About 24 hours after that horseback rider left town on phone for the doctor the maternity party boarded the train at Rosthern. At 11:30 a.m. Feb. 2 I made my entrance into the world. No wonder I was their only child!

The homestead was ten miles from Rosthern and twelve from Hepburn. Once every two weeks in the summer Mother drove a single horse on the buggy to one place or the other to trade butter and eggs for groceries. In winter Daddy did the driving.

I cannot recall those days without a word about our driving horse. Pete was a light sorrel with a silver mane and tail. His previous owners had taught him to come for a handful of sugar and he never forgot. Some days he was a perfect horse carefully minding reins and rough spots. He could find his way home anytime but if he should decide he did not want to go he would prance in the lanes or sky at the least little thing. Mother was equal to the occasion she would and she give him a few well aimed strokes with the buggy whip when needed. If he was lame and she turned toward home he would trot out with ease; that just meant he'd appear and go to town. He lived a long and useful life that ended suddenly one day as he was running in the pasture playing. His motor heart stopped and Pete fell. A fitting end to a faithful, clever horse. I know he was not the only clever horse, no doubt every family had their favorite but he was the Graney pet.

In 1913 they had a chance to sell the homestead and they decided to move nearer to town and to school. For four years they rented a farm a mile north of the Maple Grove southeast of Rosthern. I can remember when we lived there we would see sleighs crossing the river on the ice hauling grain to Rosthern from the Hepburn area before the railway which now is closed, was built.

What a difference when Rosthern was then is now. I hope someone writes that story. There elevators, a lumber yard, two general stores, a hardware and implement store, an implement agent's bank, blacksmith shop, hotel, one or two years some millionaires from the United States stayed there for the goose hunting season, pool room and barber shop, telephone office (dear Mrs. Collins, the operator until the early 1940's was a second mother to all the children although she had a large family of her own). Railway station, section men, a station agent and the church, manse and school. What a difference the years have brought to the small group of people because there couldn't be more the younger people will know I am exaggerating. I forget the Mennonites' eating house where the men who were hauling grain could get dinner.

In 1918 we bought the McNeil farm four miles west of Rosthern. I attended Harringay school, a typical one room country school. It was built in 1907 by and for the pioneers. Three generations of the Stucki family were to attend it before it closed for lack of pupils. In the early 1920's there were 35 students in grades 1 to 10. Today I do not think there is one child in the district. In the 1920's when we had classes at the school we had 30 young people between the ages of 15 and 20. The school has since been torn down, the yard worked in with the rest of the field.

There are hundred schools, as there I have the

stove was at the back near the door. The stove pipes ran the length of the room to the chimney at the other end. The oldest boy had the job of lighting the fire. He often "roasted" of having the pipes red hot for several days. I do not remember any fear of fire. our guardian angels must have been caring for us. Daddy was a trustee and secretary-treasurer of our school district for many years. First on the homestead, where he was on the school board when Ellisboro school was built then at Harringay. Anyone who attended the country schools will remember the Christmas concerts. Near the end of November the teacher gave the parts to be memorized and we started to learn Christmas songs, plays, recitations, drills, and always a pageant depicting the Christmas story. The last period of the afternoon was used for practising. Then a week before the concert a makeshift stage was built and wires strung for curtains. the curtains were often white sheets, sometimes special material. The night of the concert the desks were put outside and benches appeared for the audience. A tree was decorated for Santa's visit. gasoline lamps or lanterns were hung in the school for light. In those days schools did not have electric lights.

They bought the farm in 1928. In 1929 the bottom fell out of the economic world including farm prices. Then in the thirties went on drought (were to the area and grasshoppers! We spread poisoned sawdust to kill them. We gathered what feed we could for the horses and cattle. Some of the stacks were mostly Russian Thistle and if you have never helped to handle that you do not know what prickles are. Not the rains did come and life styles changed for the better.

In 1943 the young men were overseas in the services and teachers were in short supply. Seven years after I had completed my grade eleven by correspondence I went to Normal School in Saskatoon. By September, 1947 I had had the year at Normal, completed my grade twelve, two and a half University classes taught two years at Grey School and one year at Richard. In November Franklin and I were married and I left the classroom for (Then years. When I returned it was as a substitute teacher at Maymont for a few years.

Back to my parents. When I left home they gave up the cattle and gradually eased out of farming. First hiring some custom work and finally renting the farm. In 1955 they retired to Maymont. Their health was not good and in 1956 Daddy passed on. Mother lived with us for a year until there was a room for her in River Heights Lodge in North Battleford. Never a large woman, never really healthy she never-the-less survived the pioneer years and today at 94 she alternately walks behind the wheel chair and rides in it when tired. still writes the occasional poem and generally takes an interest in the activities there. Their lives and mine revolved the Lilac Ruddell, and Maymont areas.

As I said, Franklin and I were married on Nov., 1947. We had a quiet ceremony at the United Church manse, Maymont, with the Rev. F. L. Hyatt officiating and our parents in attendance.

The next years were busy. Franklin took an active role in many organizations. He specialized in registered seed growing on the farm and we met many other farmers from many areas through this work. He was president of the South branch of the Canadian Seed Growers Association for two years and then one of two Saskatchewan directors for the C.S.G.A. This gave us the opportunity to travel. Finally in 1973 we decided to retire to live in Maymont. The farm was sold and we control but time does not drag.

Again turning the calendar back, Jean was born March 26 1951. When she graduated from grade 12 in Maymont Central School she went to Saskatoon Business College where she took a Secretarial course. From there she went to work in the office of the eye department at the University Hospital.

In 1973 she married Bill Hajl. He had played Junior hockey for the Saskatoon Blades while attending high school and University. He was drafted by the Buffalo Sabres of the National Hockey League and won in 1979 they are living in Williamsville, New York, a suburb of Buffalo, with their two children, Angela and Christopher.

The Prairies

by Rose Harvey

The prairies are where neighbors stand by.
Where no words are needed. To answer a call
Without hesitation, they come one and all.
A prairie fire, a house burns down.
In a matter of minutes they all gather round,
With a helping hand a cheerful smile
Though some have travelled many mile
They are there to help no sweat down
They are there to help without a frown
A case of sickness, perhaps a death
Nothing stops them while they have breath.

The Bennett Buggy and Anderson Cart

by Betty Mahler

The "dirty thirties" would be a story in themselves. Any that people of our age could tell. The bottom dropped out of the economic world with the crash of Wall Street in 1929. Prices dropped rapidly: wheat down to twenty-five cents a bushel and even nineteen cents eggs, five cents a dozen, butter fifteen or twenty cents a pound, a cow sold for ten dollars — the cow — all of it — alive! As if that was not enough, drought spread across Saskatchewan, drought, dust storms, grasshoppers. It hit southern Saskatchewan first and families discouraged by life there, loaded their belongings and trekked north to greener pastures. We saw families in old cars or trucks. We saw them driving wagons with their household goods and family, and hauling their milk cow asking "How far to Meadow Lake? Are we nearly there?" How did you say, "Another 100 miles"?

An Anderson Cart. 1937. Horses show result of poor feed due to drought (note lack of fires).

Then the drought, dust, grasshoppers reached us. So little rain the grass turned brown, the leaves fell off the caragana hedge early. What crop there was, was too short to harvest in the usual manner. We cut it by any method we could to salvage it for feed for the livestock. Horses were worked for half a day only then turned into the sparse pasture to graze because the stacked feed would be needed to keep them alive during the winter. In the winter the government shipped in bales of hay and straw and rationed it out to keep the bare minimum of livestock living. The coal had to be sold for whatever you could get or hauled. Imagine being able to see a gopher running through a wheat field. Gopher tails were worth one cent each from the Rural Municipality.

Eastern Canada, though suffering from the economic depression, realized that Saskatchewan people were worse off and shipped carloads (freight) of dried salt cod from the Maritimes (few knew how to use it) apples and cheese (both very good) to be given to the needy.

In 1938 in order to give some of the unemployed men a place to live for the winter the government offered a farmer five dollars a month to take the man and gave the man five dollars. Some were lucky and got the farmer's five dollars if the farmer did not have to have it for groceries.

Money was very scarce, unbelievably so! Many farmers, unable to afford to run their cars took the engines out, remodelled the chassis, put a tongue on and hitched on a team of horses for power. Because R. B. Bennett was prime minister at that time he had the dubious honour of having these vehicles called "Bennett Buggies". The others, whose cars had reached a more advanced age cut the car in two and having the seat and two wheels plus a team of horses named them after the premier of Saskatchewan at that time and called them "Anderson carts". It was 1937 that was the worst year for wide spread drought.

Yet we survived, the rains came again, crops and gardens grew and the economic situation improved. Unfortunately, the economic picture changed for the better in the first place when war broke out and no one could be happy about that. Men who had been unemployed because there were no jobs to be had were needed for the war effort and became heroes overnight.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Gustafson and Ruth and Lorne Thomson Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Johnson (Mr. and Mrs. Spence and Edith and Herman)

as told by Ruth Thomson

My parents, Ida and Dan Gustafson came to Canada in 1911 from St. Paul, Minnesota to homestead. They settled at Park Bluff. Money was scarce so Dad went to work for McMillan, owner of the sawmill at White Court, Alberta. Rather than be alone on the homestead my mother answered a "want ad" from Braddell Hotel. Mother and I came off the morning train from North Battleford to be interviewed by Mrs. Spence, wife of the owner. She kept glancing at this busy year and a half old child and finally said, "I don't know if we can pay you twenty-five dollars a month with that baby." Yet Mrs. Spence showed her a room, told her to get into working clothes and come to the kitchen. Apparently all the doors intrigued me as I was enjoying

Ruth Gustafson, Bill Kennedy

Left to right — Gordon Brair, Viola Acosh, Larry Collins, Ruth Gustafson, Walter Whitlaw.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Johnson.

myself opening and closing them. Finally Mrs. Spence added in her salty Eastern tone. "Now I'll need to hire someone to keep the doors closed." Many a laugh and jest resulted from these barbed remarks but it didn't deter from a lasting friendship being formed between Mother and Mrs. Spence which lasted through the years; each seemed to be there to help each other in time of need.

After Mr. Spence died Mrs. Spence married Charlie Johnson who had come west with the Spences. Charlie worked with the lumber company in Ruddell but before that I believe he ran the bar at the hotel. A roaring business was carried on in the bar and the dining room. Farmers from Senningdale and Baljennie hauled their wheat across the frozen Saskatchewan River during winter to Ruddell Elevators. Many times Mother Johnson, my mother, and a waitress by the name of Cora (later married Warren Robinson) would serve as many as a hundred people at noon. I made a nuisance of myself by peeking through the swinging doors leading to the dining room. I was finally locked in my room during the peak hours.

Later when we were in Ruddell during winter months I attended the public school. Miss Duff was my first teacher there. She taught all grades. I thought it was something to see such a tiny person teaching big boys. She later married Mr. E. Reid.

One period that stands out vividly in my mind was the year of the influenza outbreak. I was the one of the first to be ill. I was well looked after but most important to me was the day Mother Johnson brought in a lovely doll for me. I often wondered how she had time to make its lovely clothes. Soon many people were coming down with the flu. The cooking kettle on the big kitchen stove seemed always to be simmering with chicken broth. Mother Johnson carried a pail of it to be served as she tended the sick in the village. At times the hotel was filled with patients whom my mother helped to look after. Dr. Scratch from Maymont was a frequent visitor to the sick in the Ruddell Area.

During these busy times George Negus, a war veteran, also worked at the hotel. George was very deaf. He was always so kind to me that George was not only appreciated by me but by many others. A permanent roomer at the hotel was Bill Kennedy. Bill was a source of information on all subjects — always the same and I don't think I ever heard of him complaining or being cross. He seemed to be caretaker at the C.N. Station and other places.

Hotel business petered out with roads being gravelled, so cars were used by travellers; people started going to larger centres and only a few stopped overnight. This was the beginning of the end of many small towns. I came back to take Grade IX and X at Ruddell High School staying with Mother and Charlie.

This period was our "depression era". A time of dust, drought and despair. A vivid memory of a still peaceful morning till around ten then the "blow" would begin. One could hardly see across the street; around us the wind would die down but a film of dust would cover floors and furniture. We would dust and mop so be repeated the next night. These dust storms usually lasted for three days.

This is a brief note in the Johnsons. Mr. and Mrs. Spence came from the part of the east coast of Nova Scotia called the Spence Settlement. They came west and started in the hotel business at Prince Albert, then moved to Ruddell.

Charlie Johnson who was born in the south of Sweden boarded fishing boats at an early age. He could tell you many tales of his trips around the world. He landed at the east coast and came west with the Spences. In the early days he tended the bar at Ruddell, later ran the Lumber Yard at Ruddell and several other lumber yards when the one closed at Ruddell. He married Bessie Spence a few years after her husband's death.

A few years before his death he was called to go back to Sweden to settle an estate that was his due. He refused his claim so never returned to his homeland.

Mother Johnson came by her name honestly. I can remember the baking that was sent overseas — large jumbo cookies, homemade taffy, knitted wool mitts and socks. Many letters came from soldiers that enjoyed her efforts but were strangers to her. She had two children, Edith and Ebenezer, from the first marriage.

The hotel seemed to be a "drop in" for many people — Not just her contemporaries but also young people who needed someone to "listen to them". Saturday night was farmers' night, to shop, get mail, sell their produce, then visit. Mr. and Mrs. McCann brought

wife and butter to Mother and Charlie. I believe butter was twenty-five cents a pound and eggs ten to fifteen cents a dozen.

Good Friday. Mother Johnson always made Hot Cross Buns so many came for the afternoon. Names that I remember were Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Ferguson, Mrs. Lawrence Robinson, Mrs. Brandt (mother of Marvin Brandt who became a respected doctor at Dauphin; Ivy Turnbull, Mrs. Sadly and Mrs. Schaefer, etc. She seemed to know whose footsteps sounded on the dining room floor as she would sit knitting in the evening at the kitchen table.

Charlie's garden was always something to admire for people as they walked along the board walk. Charlie shared many of his vegetables with neighbors.

After finishing school I taught at a school in the Blanchard area. I usually spent every third week at the hotel. In the fifth year I met Lorne Thomson who was the relieving Station Agent. The following August we were married. My husband and I have lived in a number of larger cities in Canada but have now returned to the farm at Prince.

As the years go by we must and will see changes. I do feel very nostalgic about Rudduli as one drives past on the highway. The hotel is gone, even the last lonely elevator had been moved to a farm. I think of it as once a "booming" centre. People were filled with high aspirations and hopes. Let us hope that the future may once more find our small towns a "hub of activity".

The Bill Hamilton Family

by E. E. (Hamilton) Johnson

Bill Hamilton was born in 1888 near Belfast, Ireland. He emigrated to Canada in 1910 and settled in Griffin, Saskatchewan as a student minister of the Presbyterian Church. His wife, May Reid, born near Dublin, Ireland in 1885, followed him to Canada in 1913 and they were married in 1912 in Toronto. They had two daughters, Edythe, born in Griffin, and Kathleen, born in Perdue, Saskatchewan. Bill was ordained as a minister of the United Church of Canada from the Theological School of the University of Saskatchewan in the mid 1920's, with B.A. B.D., degrees. Other charges included Admiral and Northern, Saskatchewan before he accepted a call to the church in Maymont, Saskatchewan in 1930-31. During his stay in Maymont he had charges at Maymont, Fielding, and Swiftcurrent. He ran as a C.C.F. candidate in the Federal election in the mid 1930's but was defeated. May was very interested in drama and directed a number of plays with local talent much to the pleasure of all who saw them. They travelled to various towns by sleigh to stage these plays and had many exciting experiences to tell. Old-time residents like the Reids, Meirooms, Mathers, etc. would remember those days.

During the depression years the manse was a marked home for all those who "rode the rails" and many free meals were handed out to these on their way to nowhere!

The Hamiltons left Maymont in 1937 to accept a charge in Richles, Saskatchewan. From there they went to Moose Jaw and thence to Walseley, Saskatchewan and then left Saskatchewan to accept a charge in Wallacetown, and finally St. Thomas. Rev. Bill Hamilton and his wife May were killed in a car accident just outside of St. Thomas in February, 1967.

Edythe went in to training as a nurse at the Saskatoon City Hospital just after moving to Maymont, and then worked for Dr. Chas. Bird for several years before meeting her husband-to-be, Henry Fast. She flew to Yellowknife in 1940 to marry Henry who was then a mining engineer with the Negus Gold Mine there. They returned to Saskatoon in 1940 at which time Henry accepted a position with the C.N.R. in St. Thomas, Ontario. From there they were transferred to London, Horseshoe Lake, Quebec and Montreal. Henry accepted a special assignment with the C.N.R. in 1970 and they spent the next five years in Kabwe, Zambia, Africa. Leaving there they moved to Vienna, Austria where they are presently residing in semi-retirement. They plan on retiring in Victoria, B.C. in 1981. Edythe and Henry had two children, Karen living in Vienna, and Jerry in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Kathleen took all her high schooling in Maymont, Saskatchewan. Mr. MacDonald is one teacher's name that sticks in her memory — the student's call him "Old Mac".

They were years with many fond memories and ones in which many lifelong friends were nurtured. Sports days at Redman, Paddell Richard, Fielding were days to be remembered. Val Buckingham (nee Downing), Helen Spence (nee McCorkle) and Kathleen were inseparable friends and many great holidays were spent at Sleeting Lake where Everett Downing (now deceased), Ron Scratch and Norville (Pinky) Scratch used to go roaring in on the weekends on "Old Martha". Ron's Buick with a rumble seat!

L. to r., standing — Dorothy Kerr, Marguerite Mather, Jack Donald, Sadie Johnston, Muriel Meirose. Seated — Helen McCorkle, Marvel Scratch.

After graduating from high school, working on the telephone switchboard in Maymont and Langham for a short period. Kathleen went to Saskatoon to take a secretarial course at the Saskatoon Technical School and then worked for a chartered accountant's firm, Ronald Griggs & Co. She married Robert Johnston, a serviceman from Fort William, Ontario, in 1961, and they were subsequently transferred to Winnipeg, St. Thomas, Trenton, Ottawa, Montreal, Penhold, Alberta and Clinton, Ontario. Bob retired from the Forces in 1969 after serving over thirty years, and the family decided to take up residence in Victoria, B.C. Bob is presently working with the Canadian Bank of Commerce; Kathleen is semi-retired from secretarial work.

Kathleen and Bob had three children — Richard, born in 1946 in St. Thomas, went into Military College in St. Jean, Quebec in 1963 and graduated from Royal Military College, Kingston, Ontario in 1968. He married Jocelyn Griffiths of Montreal in 1968. They have two children — Brent, age seven, and Deane, age four. Richard is presently stationed in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Kathleen, Jr., born in 1951 in Belleville, Ontario, took her high schooling in Clinton, Ontario, and worked in Victoria, B.C. as a secretary until her marriage to Gregory Bush in 1972. They are presently living in Nanaimo, B.C. where Greg is a teacher. They have one daughter, Tamara, age two.

Maureen was born in 1952 in Ottawa, took her high schooling in Victoria, B.C. went in to banking and subsequently into clerical work with the Provincial Government where she is still employed. She married Ian Maitland in 1970, who is also working with the Provincial Government in the engineering field.

The following poem was written by Helen Spence (nee McCorkle) as a memento of a holiday at Meeting Lake.

SUNDAY
Dorothy's house on Sunday noon,
Full it was of luggage soon,
And the jolly lake-going crew,
All were in one grand old stew.
Finally the truck did come,
And we piled in one by one;
Each with our mind on the fun
We'd have at the Lake when we arrived at one.
The truck proceeded without mishap,
Despite eleven riding in the back.
Arrived at the Lake we went for a swim.
And it restored our nearly lost vim;
Followed by dinner, piping hot,
And needless to say we ate a lot!
Then Ronnie took us over to Peters,
And we treated so we wouldn't be cheaters!
Kathie and Val, they played darts,
Then home we went for a much-needed rest.
We met the boys and went for a dip,
Dark it was, but we didn't give a rip!
Thus ended our first day at the Lake,
And we could hardly wait for morn to break!

MONDAY
'Twas nine o'clock on Monday morn,
Before we opened eyes before.
The day was raw and cold;
And we'd wanted fine weather untold!
Bacon and eggs, jam and toast,
This was the breakfast of which we boast!
True stories we read in the kid's tent,
This was the way our morning was spent.
Horseshoes we played in the afternoon
And hoped we'd be better players soon!
Kathie and Val played for the dance,
This being a way their funds to enhance.
The Speers and Haleyons boys were there,
And only to one did we give the air!
After the dance, home we came,
Ate cookies and talked of Val's new flame!

TUESDAY
Tuesday morning we rose at ten.
And as we went for a swim right then.
A visit to Speers camp then we made,
And for them their gramaphone we played.
Their dinner, it was on the table,
And they ate, as well they were able.
Pie, and coffee made in a pail,
Howard fed us, so we wouldn't wail,
To the meadow we went to watch the ball game,
And we razzed our boys as they gave us a pain!
To the dance at night we all did go,
Blaine Lake Orchestra ran the show!
We danced until our shoes were thin,
And we had used up all our vim.
Ate cookies until the boys were fed,
Then, off they went, and we to bed.

WEDNESDAY
Wednesday morning was nice and sunny,
So we were feeling extra funny.
Suddenly Bertha came racing in,
With Roo, and Ken Gurney, neat as a pin!
To the exhibition we went after dinner,
Eight in Old Bertha, she's a humdinger!
Val played ball with the Haleyons crew,
They won, as we knew they would, too!
Kathie and I came home with Ronnie,
And dolled up till we looked quite bonny!
Back with us, we took Val's clothes,
Then helped her dress, and powder her nose!
We went to the dance in fine array,
Hoping 'twould last till break of day
We danced to the music of Battleford Band,
And hoped they'd all be buried in sand!
Home we came when all was over,
Happy as if we'd been in clover.

THURSDAY
Thursday was a cold old day,
And we felt like hitting the hay.
Nevertheless we played catch,
And many a blister we had to patch.
With Halcyonia, Val and I played ball,
And our kids, as rooters, were no good at all!
Harness us had and guns and pop,
Until finally we had to yell "Stop"!
To the dance we escorted our Ladies fair.
Each one with bothy brown hair.
Finally eleven o'clock drew near,
So we had to part with our lovely ones dear,
Which we gracefully did without one tear

FRIDAY
One P.M. came, breakfast in bed,
Indeed we were quite royally fed.
From home came another camping crew,
And we helped them all their buddies undo.
Went to the meadow to a ball game,
And found two players worthy of fame;
Curly and Mac, very good to behold—
Who we hope, didn't think us bold!
Off we went to the dance at night,
Glad we did. It was a delight!
After the dance, home we came,
And Val parted with her new flame!

SATURDAY
Saturday dawned bright and fair,
We, each with a wash we'd willingly share,
From Mrs. Andrew we borrowed the tub,
Feeling dismay at the pile to scrub!
From home, soon came our dear old crew.
So, you can guess, we were in a stew.
Down to the meadow to watch the ball,
Arch took us, and minded not at all.
To the dance at night we all did go,
And of a keen time we can surely blow.
After the dance, home once more,
And us, to our good bed on the floor!

SUNDAY
Sunday was our day to cook,
Which we did without the aid of a book.
Church time came — 'Twasn't help us John,
But we were too busy scrubbing pots!
In the pavilion old and queer,
The orchestra played to bring us cheer.
After the concert we met OUR Curly,
Who, if we wished, would play ball early!
So to the meadow we went to watch our bunch,
But had to leave early to get the lunch.
Nathan saw us, and thought we looked thin,
So bought us marshmallows to fatten our hides.
Behind the boy's tent we made a bonfire
And roasted marshmallows to our hearts desire!
Marvel, Wes, and Jackie all came.
Er, and Pink wouldn't, and said we're to blame!
Frenchie sang songs out in a boat,
And for him, ev'ry time we'll vote.
Finally to bed we went,
Feeling our Sunday was well-spent.

MONDAY
Monday it was nice and fair,
So we lay on the beach in the balmy air;
We read stories most of the morn.
We're sorry to say, our books got torn.
The Hamilton family arrived at noon,
And we hoped they'd not be leaving soon.
They invited Kathie and Val to more in.
And I went to Margaret's, to become one of them.
Val and I took our sweet ladies fair,
To the dance at night — what charming pairs!
The dance, it was free, so of course we stayed.
As long as the Blaine Lake Orchestra played.
Then we parted at the door,
I to my separate home once more.

TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY
Tuesday and Wednesday were very hot.
So swimming, again, was our main thought.
The water, it was lovely and warm,
So you can guess, we went in swarms!
Our water ball we remembered to take.
But nearly lost it out at the Lake,
I was invited to Hamilton's for tea,
Kathie and Val, were the cooks, you see.
After supper we went to play ball.
Fielding didn't know, so came out at all.
So Wednesday eve we played with them,
And they beat us twelve to ten!
Dances on both nights we took in;
Which were keen, tho' the crowd was thin!
We dressed again as triplets three.
It being my last night with them to be,
I had to leave Thursday — too bad for me

THURSDAY
Came Thursday, my last day at the Lake,
Packed my luggage, so it was ready to take
Went for a swim, my very last swim,
And how I hated to have to go in.
Said goodbye to all my pals.
Friends of mine, Kathie's and Val's.
Ben with Old Bertha soon came by,
Then the Orchestra played to bid us good-bye,
And we left the Lake with a heart-felt sigh,
But hope to be back again next July.

Helen McCorkle

Hugh Harkness — Village Blacksmith

submitted by Grace Melrose

Hugh Harkness bought the Blacksmith Shop in Maymont in 1911. The shop was located at about where Mr. and Mrs. Brown live. After a few years he rented the shop to Mr. McBratney, and went back to Ireland. However he loved Canada and wished to make his home here.

Previous to 1911 Mr. Harkness was in Canada in 1906 or 1907 and lived at Virden, Manitoba with his wife and small daughter Maria. His son James was born there in 1907, the only one of the family born in Canada. However he had to return to Ireland again as his wife wasn't happy in Canada.

During his many trips to Canada in the early years, he once worked on the Fraser River in B.C. at Tete Jaune Cache.

In October, 1913 Hugh Harkness came to Maymont from Ireland with his family of six children. This was after the First World War and also after his wife had passed away in Ireland. He had quite a responsibility getting his family settled for the winter and everything done in preparation for his work as blacksmith. Our thanks went out to Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Reid and family who were so very kind and generous to all of us. They took us into their home until Dad could get us settled for the winter. We moved into the house which is now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. F. Clayton.

In 1920 Mr. Harkness bought an old church which he moved and converted into a house for us in town. Its location was where Mr. Penny now lives. We lived there for quite a few years, and went to school first in the basement of the United Church. Miss Carter was our first teacher. She is now Mrs. Will Langley. One other teacher was Mrs. M. Martin. Some others I can't remember.

Hugh Harkness made an important contribution as blacksmith and woodworker to the farmers in this area in the early days. He shod many horses and sharpened many ploughshares.

Dr. Scratch was our family doctor and served us well. Mr. Hugh Harkness' last years were spent in Saskatoon. He died at the age of eighty-seven years in 1967. He was predeceased by his wife, Margaret, in England and son, James, at Saskatoon in 1959. Another son, John, passed away in B.C. in 1974. Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Bill Reed and Mrs. Norman Melrose who are still living at Maymont, two sons, Hugh and Crawford in B.C. Crawford is a War Veteran from the Second World War. Also surviving are seventy-seven grandchildren, twenty-two great grandchildren and one great great grandchild.

Oswald C. Harper's History of Rosedell

by Marjorie E. McCallum nee Harper

My father, Oswald C. Harper, was born in Thornfield, England, in 1880, and emigrated to Canada on the same boat as the Barr Colonists in 1903 with his brother M. E. Harper. They came by train to Saskatoon and then purchased oxen and wagon and a few necessary supplies; eventually locating in the Lilac district where they homed together until the fall of 1906. There my uncle married Miss R. Reeve. Theirs was the first marriage in the new church at Rosedell.

My father, Oswald C. Harper and Mr. H. O. Robinson were partners in the farm implement business until he left for overseas in the 1914-1918 war. When he returned he married Grace Robinson who was born in Paris, Ont. She was the daughter of Charles and Jessie Robinson and sister of Lawrence Robinson, who married Ruby E. Winkler in 1915. After farming the home farm east of Rosedell, he later had a harness shop. He died in Victoria, B.C., in 1962.

First log house built by M. E. and O. C. Harper in Great Bend District district in spring of 1903 in the North West Territories. M. E. Harper and dog Jacko at doorway. O. C. Harper taking photo. Power for farming, yoke of oxen. Bell and Frame used until 1910. Wheat raised was sold as seed to incoming settlers. The seed grain used for this was bought from Mr. G. Dove who had rented a farm at Smithville 7 miles west of Saskatoon. Our first crop was flax cut with a scythe and threshed with a flail, but it was frozen. Wheat crop was threshed on powered outfit owned by J. Swain of Jackfish.

My grandfather, Charles Robinson died in 1937, my grandmother in 1948. After their marriage my Father and Mother lived in Saskatoon where my Father worked for the Soldier's Settlement Board. My sister Ora and I were both there. In 1926 we moved back to Rosedell where my father was again in partnership with Mr. G. H. Robinson. This time in a General Store. My mother died there in 1941. My sister Ora married Orval Lilbeck in 1945. They were both in the Royal Canadian Air Force.

They have two children, Garry and Gail and one grandchild. Orval and Ora now live in Victoria, B.C.

After my Mother's death my Father and I spent the winters in Victoria, B.C., returning to Rosedell for the summer months. Father died in Victoria in 1968.

I met and married John McCallum in 1950. We are now living in a new home near Sidney, B.C.

Reeve Harper Story

Item from the Rosedell News December 1906

Mr. Rosdell successfully tied the knot on November 28, for Mr. O. Harper and Miss R. E. Reeve, who had just arrived from England. The ceremony was witnessed by a large number of friends, and all agree that it was a very pretty wedding.

I was born Charles William Reeve Harper February 7, 1908 on Father's homestead, a few miles north of Rosthern. My birth certificate reads Rosthern, Saskatchewan as place of birth, as no other was the case, instead of the homestead legal description. The doctor in attendance was Frank Maynard, a Dr. Resnick. My father, Montague E. Harper, and his brother, Oswald came to Canada from England with the Barr Colony in 1903 and landed in the then tent town of Saskatoon and from there by oxteam, to Rosthern. It is difficult to recall but I believe Father said that took something over a week. My mother came from England in late October of early November, 1906, staying with the senior Dow family until her marriage.

My brother M. E. (Ted) Harper was born November 14, 1908. Same doctor in attendance. My brothers, Oswald E. and Allan C. were born in North Battleford in 1912 and 1914 respectively.

Father moved the family to North Battleford in 1911. Here he worked at various jobs until severing, among Dr. Glass, Veterinary Surgeon, etc. During 1914-1915, Mother was taken to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, N.Y. My brother Ted and I were cared for by Uncle Oswald at Rosthern, brother Oswald by the Dow family. Following the second visit to Mayo Clinic in 1915 the family went to Florida, U.S.A. in the spring of 1916 for Mother's health. We returned to Canada in the fall of 1916. The spring of 1918 saw us on Uncle Oswald old homestead where we remained for the duration of World War I. Brother Ted and I attended Rosthern School in the winter and Bethania School in the spring and summer. Bethania School was then two or three miles east of Lake.

Father had to buy a pony in order that we could attend the school called Bethania - some five miles from the farm. The school boards in those days did not pay transportation costs as they do now.

Bethania School closed when cattle out in honor the move into Rosthern. I drove the pony, hitched to a two-seat buggy, and picked up some neighbor children the spring and summer of 1916-17-18.

I was told by my mother, who occasionally is alive and currently resides in Willowbunch Private Hospital age 96, that I was the first white child to be born in Rosthern vicinity. This was also referred to by Mrs. Edna Dobson - nee Rosemount - of Victoria, B.C. in her Christmas letter last year (1978). This of course, I cannot substantiate.

My memory of life on the farm and in Rosthern is a very pleasant one really. Rosthern as one as a youngster was a busy active community. There were tough but we had our pleasures. The time the kids used an interval in the school hall rope at Halloween and everyone turned out at midnight wondering where the fire was. The time a cow or calf was hoisted to the roof of a barn and the struggle to get it down, the changing of the front wheels of a buggy to the back. The sleigh rides in winter and the picnics in summer which were sandwiched in between the busy life of a farmer. The children, at a dance, were wrapped in blankets and put to sleep in a corner while the older people danced the night through. The dances were not that frequent as I remember but people thoroughly enjoyed themselves when one was put on, usually at the school house.

The Dow family was very important in the lives of our family. To we boys Mr. and Mrs. Dow were Grandpa and Grandma and their daughters Aunties to us their son, Uncle Jack. William Dow fought in the Riel Rebellion.

A story that was told me - that Uncle Oswald rode horseback to Maymans to teach the dances that cold blustery February night that I was born. That must have been some ride there and back.

In December 1919, just before Christmas, we left the farm and Rosthern for Prince George, B.C. It was that same December as I recall, that Uncle Oswald married Aunt Grace Robinson.

Among various other jobs Father was appointed a Deputy Sheriff for Cariboo County and in 1938 was appointed Sheriff of South Kootenay at Nelson, B.C. He occupied this position until his retirement in 1951 at age seventy-four.

My brothers are living and in good health. Ted at Solana Beach, California. Oswald in Vancouver, B.C. and Allan in Vernon, B.C.

Father passed away in July of 1956, the same year as his brother Oswald.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Owen Hawkins

by Lily (Hawkins) LaRocque

Alfred Hawkins married Annie Andrews in 1886. She was born in England, came to Canada in June 1886. Annie came from Manitoba with her father, William Andrews. They had six sons, two daughters and one stepdaughter, Ria. The children were called. George, Ernest, Lily, John, Robert, Oswald, Philip, and Barbara.

George married Emma Sweeney. They have two sons, Owen and Glenn, and two daughters, Sylvia and Leona. George and Emma lived at Meadow Lake in 1928 and moved north of Dorintosh, which was then called "Spring". Their oldest daughter was born in Meadow Lake, Saskatchewan. Glenn and Leona were born at a lady's house who looked after mothers and babies. They moved west to Pierceland, Saskatchewan and later went to Victoria, B.C. where George passed away in 1969. Leona died a few years ago. Emma remarried and lives in Victoria, also Glenn. Diane and family. Owen lives with his wife near Vancouver.

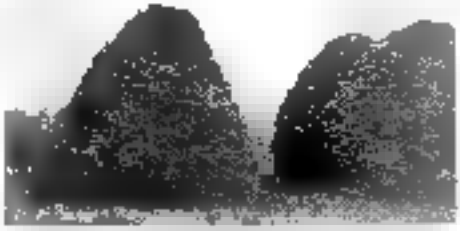
Ernie married Frances Dugan. They have six children and live in Wainright, Alberta.

Lily married William Robert LaRocque. They lived in Meadow Lake, and had two sons, Robert and Brian, and one daughter, Betty. Robert married Frances and has one son William Robert, two years old and in Grade Four in school, and one daughter, Brenda five years

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Hawkins.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. LaRocque.

George and Diana Hawkins.



Grain Stacks — Hawkins farm — Maymont.

old. Brian married Alice, has one daughter, Shelley six years old and in kindergarten. Betty married John Murray. They have two daughters, Susan, five years, and Linda four years old. LaRocque farms, raises cattle and works for the Friendship Center in Meadow Lake.

Brian, a mechanic, works for Meadow Lake Car Sales. Betty's husband, John Murray, built their own home on ten acres in the country. He works for Revelstoke, driving a cement truck.

John married Emily Jones. They had five children; one boy died in infancy. The others were named, John, David, Donald, and Nancy. John Sr. died in 1966. Emily still lives in Maymont.

Robert married Mary Ellen Cornet. They have two sons. Alfred and William. Robert was in the army and served overseas. He farmed until a few years ago when he sold his farm to a nephew, Robert LaRocque. He is retired now but still lives on the farm twelve miles west of Meadow Lake.

Oswald died young in 1918.

Philip and his second wife live in Saskatoon.

Barbara married Thomas Whiteman who died in 1973. She still lives in Saskatoon with her son, Roger. Her daughter, Jane, married Herman Friesen; they have one girl and two boys.

Things I Remember

By Lily LaRocque

Brother Ernie was home from school for some reason. He took John, (about three years old) and myself (about five) out to play. He made a fire for us to get warm. He made it at the edge of a straw stack in the field. The boys had dug holes to play in, but we went up on top of the stack to play. Ernie thought he had put the fire out, but it came up the stack and we tumbled down the other side. I ran to the house and told Mother the haystack was on fire which really was the straw stack. Father was away working so mother phoned a neighbour who came to help. Mother always said he was slow. It was a hired man who came with a horse, but he walked and led the horse. They didn't save the straw stack but they kept it from spreading. I can't say what Father said when he got home!

We moved from Maymont to Lilac in November of 1918. Father had bought a section of land. Our house wasn't finished so we moved to another house a few miles away.

We went to school at Bethania School.

I remember how our horses used to always be running away. One day Father was going back to Maymont to do some farm work. He had two horses hitched to a wagon load of grain with a horse on each side and two behind hitched to a plow. I held the horses until Dad, Mother, and Barbara got on the load. Then Dad said, "Let them go," and go they did! Out the gate at a run! I was sure someone would be killed. But the bolt came out holding the double trees and the tongue came down. Away went the horses. The tongue ran into the bank at the side of the road, broke the wagon reach and stopped. The railway repairmen saw the horses. A couple of them ran to the road and caught them. The other team ran away with the plow and tipped it over; but no one was hurt.

I remember Father telling about winning a car. I found the clipping in Mother's papers after she was gone.

"It was a Five-Passenger Touring Car. It was for the winner of the Free Prize Prairie Farmer Oat Estimating Contest.

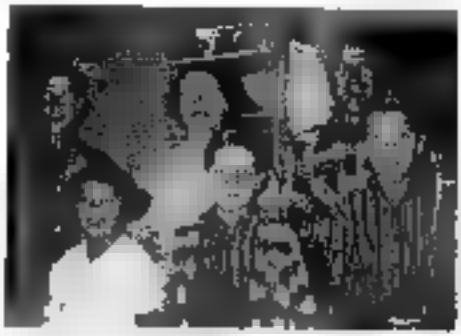
Principal J. B. Reynolds of Manitoba Agricultural College announced the number of oats in the jar of Palmer Oats to be 34,325.

Alfred C. Hawkins of Maymont, Saskatchewan, estimated the number of kernels to be 34,304. The prize was for the number nearest to estimate of number of kernels contained in 32 lb., 300 cu. of Banner Oats."

I don't know for sure what year this was, but it was in the years of the First World War, if I remember them saying. Father gave part of the money he got instead of the car to the Red Cross and I came across his Life Membership from the Red Cross.

Emily Hawkins, Maymont, Saskatchewan, 1979

In 1941, April 4, I came to Maymont as a young girl (then Emily Jones) from my home town at Rabbit Lake, Saskatchewan. I came to work for an elderly couple, namely Mr. and Mrs. William Cook who lived on the farm where Mr. and Mrs. Colles Brohan now live. Mrs. Cook became ill and died of cancer about a year later. I stayed on and kept house for Mr. Cook until I got married.



Oct. 12, 1963. Back row — John Jr., Emily, John Sr. Front row — Nancy, Donald and David.

On June 28, 1945, I married John William Hawkins. We lived and worked on the farm of my husband's father's homestead, about one mile north of Maymont. John's mother and father moved into the town of Maymont. His father passed away in May, 1951. His name was Alfred Cross Hawkins. We moved into the town of Maymont in 1952. His mother lived with us until the time of her death in 1958.

We had four children, John, David, Donald and Nancy. My husband farmed until 1966 when he became ill and passed away in the University Hospital October 8, 1966 of cancer at an early age of fifty-two years. So I was left a widow with four children between the ages of ten and sixteen.

In 1969 I sold the farm and bought the house where Mrs. Ada Bates lived, and have been living there since. My family have all grown up now. My eldest son, John, worked for different farmers until four years ago when he got some land of his own and got married to the former Helena Chastney. They live between Maymont and Scottsdale. The other two sons, David and Donald, went out to Mackenzie, B.C. to work in a sawmill as soon as they had finished high school, and have been there ever since. My daughter Nancy works in North Battleford at the present time.

My two sisters Edna and Hazel lived here for about four or five years and both worked for Mr. Cook, and also other people around Maymont. Edna married my husband's brother, Phillip Hawkins. They farmed

south of Maymont. They had no children of their own, so adopted a baby boy who they called Ronald. When he was four years old, my sister passed away with cancer. Philip married again and is now living in Saskatoon. My sister Hazel went back to work at Rabbit Lake where she met her husband-to-be, Telford Speertrecker. He passed away three years ago.

So throughout the years we have had our good times and bad times.

Walter P. Hewer Family

by daughter, Shirley

Mr. Hewer was born and raised at Lumsden, Sask. His birthdate was June 21, 1890 and he had 3 brothers and 1 sister. His father had a business in the town of Lumsden.

During World War I, Walter served in the Third Canadian Infantry Battalion from 1914 to 1919 during which time he was a prisoner of war in Germany for 27 months. Upon his discharge from the army, Mr. Hewer was an elevator agent for 14 years at Richard and later Lilac. While at Richard, he married Alma Boskill of Maymont on Nov. 20, 1923 and they had one daughter, Shirley.

Mrs. Hewer was born Nov. 3, 1900 in the Winnipeg area. In 1906, she moved to the Maymont area with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Boskill. 3 brothers and 3 sisters. Alma received her education at Grey school. She stayed at home helping her parents with the farm work until her marriage to Walter Hewer of Richard in 1923.

In 1925, Walter, Alma and Shirley moved to the Boskill homestead after the death of Alma's father. This family farm was located three-quarters of a mile south of Wavie Bank school. The land description was W¼ 26-42-13-W3rd.

"Alma's brother, Frank Boskill, who farmed north of Richard used to hunt coyotes in the Wavie Bank area with his horse drawn sleigh and 3 wolf hounds".

In 1947, the Hewer family bought a grocery store in N. Battleford. The farm was sold to nearby residents, George and Grace Patterson.

Walter and Alma Hewer.

Shirley Hewer.

Boskill Family (about 1921). Back : (l — r) Maude, Alma, Andy, Frank, Eva (Frank's wife), Bill Nolan (Mary's husband), May, Olive. Front — Charles F. and Sarah (parents).

Shirley Hewer completed her high school education at the N. Battleford Collegiate. Then she worked at the Saskatchewan Hospital for 7 years, then moved to Saskatoon where she continued doing secretarial work for the next 11 years at the Land Titles Office at Kelsey Institute.

In 1960, Walter and Alma moved to the River Heights Lodge, N. Battleford, upon selling their grocery business. They enjoyed travelling upon their retirement. Mr. Hewer died August 18, 1965 after a brief illness.

Mrs. Hewer then moved to her own home in N. Battleford where she lived to the time of her death. She took pleasure in her garden, was adept at sewing and was a crossword puzzle fan. She was a member of the Old Timers Association. Mrs. Hewer died on April 2, 1979.

Shirley was married to Hurley Boldt, formerly of Freemont, Sask. on Aug. 2, 1968. They reside on an acreage 13 miles west of Saskatoon. Hurley is in residential construction during the summer and quite frequently they travel during the winter months.

The Hickman Story

Jack Hickman was born in West Bromwich, Staffordshire, England and his wife, Florence was of Welsh descent.

Hickman family and Irene and Jim Reid.

Before coming to Canada they had two children — Ida Geddie who lives in Sarnia, Ontario and Albert who lives in Lytton, British Columbia.

When they planned to come to Canada, they had a booking on the Titanic — fortunately for them, their booking was changed to the Royal George instead.

Jack Hickman got a job on the railroad, starting in MacDowall, then to Speers and Richard, where Margaret Nambold was born. She now lives in Merrit, British Columbia.

He was the first section foreman when the branch line opened between Prince Albert and North Battleford. He was then transferred to Davidson and in 1928 moved to Maymont. Their younger son Keith was born in Maymont. He now resides in Toronto.

While in Maymont Jack's hobby was Gardening — he took a very active part in Maythem and Douglas Fair each year. He also put many entries in the Saskatoon Exhibition.

His retirement from the railroad was in North Battleford. His death in 1972 took place in Sarnia, Ontario. His wife predeceased him in 1961, at Borden, Saskatchewan.

The Dick Hiltz Story

as told by Ken Hiltz

Dick Hiltz was born in Nova Scotia in 1880. He homesteaded on SW 32-42-12-W3rd alongside the Jack Nugent farm. He lived with the Nugents until, he married Winnifred Dolfuss in 1912. He then moved to the Speers area and farmed there.

They raised a family of three sons, Chester, Kenneth, and Arthur, and three daughters, Belle, Margaret, and Kay. A son, Ken Hiltz, still owns the land.

Dick Hiltz — gang plow

William Hill

William Hill came over from Scotland (Glasgow) in 1908. He bought land in Fielding but later sold it to go back and join the army (World War I). He came back on the "S.S. Tunisian" on May 31, 1919 from Liverpool, England with his bride Jeannette (MacDonald) and baby son, George William, two years old.

In 1913, he applied for a homestead patent on the North West Quarter on Section 4, Township 42, Range 11, West of the Third Meridian, was received by the Commissioner, approved the twenty-first day of April, 1913, patent issued.

Later on they had another son, Hugh John, and a daughter, Mary Elizabeth, but sold the farm and furniture by public auction and moved to Saskatoon, because his wife Jeanette became very ill and needed to be close to doctors and medication.

She died about two years after of cancer, at the age of thirty-eight. While at Fielding, She was very noteworthy for her activities in the Saskatchewan Homemakers (W.I.) and other women's organizations.

Mr. and Mrs. William Hill and son George on their farm at Fielding.

She also used to play the piano and organ and sang at most functions. She was very well liked and missed by many.

William Hill continued to live and work in Saskatoon alone with the children, but found it quite hard. He was forced to give Mary up for adoption but kept the two boys. George and his wife Betty had three children — two boys and one girl. George lives at Mississauga, Ontario. Hugh in California, U.S.A. and Mary in Ontario.

The Hinchcliff Family

Father — John Hinchcliff
Mother — Sarah Ann Hinchcliff
Son — Leslie Hinchcliff
Son — Harold Hinchcliff.
Daughter — Muriel Towran Hinchcliff (born in Ruddell)

John was formerly a school teacher, then a coal merchant in Hull, Yorkshire, England. The family of four sailed to Canada on June 11, 1911, and first settled in Montreal. Moving to Ruddell in 1912 John worked at many jobs, including butcher (above), on the railway at Maymont, section foreman and station agent at Decre, Sask. Times and conditions were very hard for providing a living for the family. During this period the family moved around from Ruddell to Maymont, to Decre and Denholm, and back to Ruddell. Muriel was born in Ruddell during this period.

In 1915, when Leslie was 19 years of age, John and Leslie joined the army, and were sent overseas. John served on the western front and was wounded in action and hospitalized in England, and sent home in 1918. Leslie was returned home in 1917. The family moved to Regina in 1918, where John served to receive the returning troops at War's end.

John now decided that farming was his great desire, and so the whole family moved back to Ruddell to farm land in the Harrogay School District. Harold and Muriel attended the Harrogay School, and Leslie assisted in the farming operations. Harold attended High School in Ruddell 1924-25. The farm was a nice place to live, and the neighbours were friendly. However for a farmer to start off but a small way the going was difficult, and at times very hard. Crops suffered from drought, hail or snow before harvesting. Horses were used for farming operations, and transportation. Power machines were not used, and it was not until the last year on the farm that the family owned a car - a Ford touring model T.

Therefore in 1925 as a result of the difficulties of the farming operations the family sold the farm, and moved to North Battleford, where John worked as an accountant.

Ted Clark who was an acquaintance of John's in England came to Canada on the same ship, the "Corsican", and farmed nearby in Ruddell, and also sold out and moved to North Battleford.

Dr. Scratch of Maymont was the family Doctor, and on one occasion drove in horse drawn buggy to the Harrogay S.D. farm to see Harold who was sick. He was a great man.

John and Leslie were members of the I.O.O.F. lodge in Ruddell. John was also active in community events, organization of the Wheat Pool, telephone board etc.

John passed away in Vancouver in 1967. Sarah Ann passed 1975 in Vancouver.

Leslie married May LaBorde in North Battleford, and they have one daughter Ann, (now Mrs. Robert Jaeger) and four grandchildren, Mark, Dean, Janet, and Gregg, and one great-grandchild.

Harold married Doris Frost of Edmonton, and they have one son Rodney, and three grandchildren Charlene, Nadine and Daryl.

Muriel married Fred Barrass, and they had one daughter Betty. Fred died in Vancouver, and Muriel married Tom Goodman. Betty is married to Henry Harris.

Highlight of the social season in the winter were the White Drives and Dances held periodically in the Harrogay School, which were very enjoyable. Music was supplied by a piano player and one or two violinists. Lunch, especially box lunches were a looked-forward to part of the evening. All styles of dances were danced, including waltzes, fox-trots, one steps, quadrilles, etc. Of course all the children came to the dances with their parents, if there was no one at home to stay at home with them.

In summer there were community picnics, usually near the river, with races for the children and cash for the winners, and a big community lunch table.

The big sports events of the summer were the baseball tournaments, with most towns or communities represented by a baseball team. Combined with this event was foot races, and ice cream stands. Quite a gala occasion.

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Hird

by Ann (Sherman) Hird

I was born at Fielding, Saskatchewan in 1918, December 3, one of eight children of Charles and Annie Sherman. I went to Calais School to the age of thirteen and a half. The teachers in the rural schools were not compelled to teach high school and as the depression came along, jobs were scarce and even if a person finished school, it was impossible to find a job. I worked at housework for several neighbors. At age nineteen I came to Vancouver, B.C. with my sister, Emma, and her young daughter, Darlene. Her husband had come out the year previous and was working.

I worked at doing housework, also cafe work, around Vancouver for several years also went to work in a shingle mill cook house on Vancouver Island. I met and married Ted Hird. He had one son, Dennis, from a previous marriage, and we had two daughters,

Patricia and Gloria, and one son, Kenneth. War was declared in 1939. Ted had his call to go into the army but failed the medical. He was working in the shipyard in the toolroom.

When our first daughter was one year old I too went to work in the shipyard as we needed to start buying a home. Even in those days it was hard to get a start on one wage. I worked until we were expecting our second daughter. When the girls were in school I worked at the T. Eaton Company on the Auxiliary Staff, working on sale days or busy seasons, which I enjoyed. When Kenneth came along I said I would work no more, but when he was a year old, Ted had a heart attack at the age of forty-one. I was afraid he would never be able to work again so decided to look for work. I was lucky as I got on at the Telephone Company. By this time Pat was a big help in taking care of the baby. She was thirteen and even ten year-old Gloria helped. Ted eventually went back to work and later had an operation on his heart. This seemed to help him for awhile but I believe other arteries are pretty well plugged and they are not able to do any further surgery on him. He will retire shortly.

I retired from the Telephone Company after twenty-three years of service and lots of good memories. Dennis and Patricia are both teachers and married to teachers. Gloria is a teacher and, and Kenneth has just graduated and will be teaching in Nanaimo in September.

We have done a bit of travelling and hope to do some more. We want to Europe and England twice and to Hawaii twice and to California several times. I hope to see a bit of Canada next year, perhaps drive across in our van, along with another couple in their mobile home.

Dennis and wife, Denise, have two children — a boy and a girl.

Patricia and husband, Kenneth Walach, have three girls — Charmaine, Michelle and Dionne. They are presently in Lahr, Germany for at least two years teaching on the Canadian Army Base.

Gloria and husband, Ian Otto, have three children — Michael, Tammy and Roslyn.

Ken, our youngest, as I mentioned earlier, is a teacher.

The Robert Hodge Family

As a young man our father Robert Hodge lived in Kitchener, Ontario. He came west in the early years of the 1900's. He told tales of having to raft across the river at Borden as no other means of transportation were available.

His first homestead was on Section Four north of Fielding. This was in 1904. Later he bought a half section in the Calais School District. This he broke with a steam engine. In 1910 he was married to Grace Morgan from the Carlyle Area. Morgans had come from there to a home across the river. They raised a family of eleven children — all are alive and have homes of their own.

Our father was a competent thresher and many tales could be told of those days. He used steam threshing outfits. He also was an ardent sportsman: baseball and horseracing were among the things he enjoyed. For many years he raised standard bred horses which were entered in races.

Our mother Grace passed away in the spring of 1960.

During the dirty thirties some of the family moved from the Calais District north to Pierceland where our father eventually became a butcher. He passed away in 1953. In 1952 Cecil Hodge came back to the family farm where he farmed until it was sold in 1963.

Mr. and Mrs. John Hope

submitted by Barbara (Hope) Palesdwiak

Around the year 1933 John and Winnie Hope came out from Saskatoon to live in Maymont. John was starting up as the druggist in town. They had two daughters, Barbara and Lorraine, and the Hopes lived in Maymont until about 1943 when they moved to Prince Albert. John Hope died a few years ago, and Winnie is living in Winnipeg. Also in Winnipeg is Barbara (Mrs. Moe Palesdwiak) and her family. Lorraine (Mrs. R. Byers) is living in Coquitlam, B.C. with her family.

Winnie Hope fondly remembers going out to Tom Sawyers at Christmas time over the years. A group of friends would go there by sleigh for dinner and entertainment. A highlight of the entertainment was a racing game — even when the Reverend Myers was present!

Some of the Anglican Church ministers remembered are Mr. Cozens, Mr. Saunders, and then Mr. Crowder, who married Muriel Butterfield. Doc Separch often took Mr. Crowder along for company on long trips. And if Doc had car trouble, Mr. Crowder just laughed at the language Doc came out with! One of Doc's favorite foods was hot bread — he couldn't resist it — but was often sick after he ate it!

A couple of teachers from long ago were the principal, Earl McDonald and Edith Butterfield.

Iveson Information

by Emily (Iveson) Garratt

My father, G. E. (Bert) Iveson came to the Fielding district in 1906 and homesteaded east of town. His father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Iveson came soon afterward and homesteaded on N.E. 28-41-11, 4 miles north-east of the town. Bert found that his homestead was rocky and poor, so in 1908 he moved and lived with his parents. He bought the half section east of theirs. They built a log house, plastering it with soil dug from the cellar. That plaster set like cement and remained on the walls for the fifty years the Iveson's lived in the house.

Mr. and Mrs. George Iveson.

My grandparents lived there until their deaths. He died in September, 1933 and Grandma died in January, 1934. Both were two months short of 85 years old. Both are buried in Fielding Cemetery.

In 1915 my parents were married. Mother was Annie E. Mason, who came to Fielding with her father, L. A. Mason, and brother Walter, in 1905. They settled on the property later owned by Mr. Jack Brost, south of Fielding. The Mason's first home was a pioneer sod shack. Eventually they moved to a farm north of Radisson where they were living when Burt and Annie were married.

I do not know just when the railroad went through, but before it came my Dad had to walk to Saskatoon for flour and other supplies. The trip would take several days. He found the Doukabours overnight at Saskatoon most hospitable. He would stay with them over night, and often was given a loaf of bread.

Father was a blacksmith by trade, so helped as such when the railroad came. I think he had the first blacksmith shop in Fielding. He took an active part in community life. He sang in the church choir, taught a Sunday school class, and took part in community plays and operettas. He was secretary of Fielding school district for some time, municipal councillor for Mayfield municipality, and road construction foreman when needed. He attended a course in Regina to learn about telephones, and became the repairman when telephones were installed. About 1915 he received 50c per hour for his work. (I learned this from his records.)

Mother too was active in church work, singing in the choir and teaching Sunday school, as well as helping with Ladies Aid and W.M.S.

These two children were born and raised on the farm at Fielding. Emily became a schoolteacher, married Elgin Carnell and moved to Vancouver Island. Lawrence obtained his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Saskatchewan, worked for Imperial Oil Co. after serving in the Canadian Army. He married Joan Ashdown and died in Edmonton in 1972. In 1951 Burt and Annie Iveson moved to Vancouver, B.C. He died in January, 1970 in his ninetieth year. Mother was almost ninety-seven when she died in Feb. 1978.

* * * * * *

Before the days of refrigerators it was a problem to store fresh meat in summer so the folk of our area formed a meat ring. I do not know just how many families were in it, but Mrs. Stewart, Ted Neumeyer, Bob Ferris and Burt Iveson were some. Each farmer supplied an animal for slaughter during the summer. Mr. Boobe was the butcher and prepared an animal every two weeks, dividing it so each member received his share, to be the equivalent of his animal at the end of the season. Neighbours took turns going for the meat. It was always a pleasure to be allowed to go with grandfather when he went for meat.

Each spring a pig was killed and the pork cured, using a dry salt cure, or fried and sealed away for summer use.

In winter, fresh killed meat was allowed to freeze after being cut up, and used as needed.

* * * * * *

I started to school in Fielding. Sometimes I walked across the field to Wes Sinnett's, to go in with their girls, Doris and Edna. On the way there I crossed a sandy hollowed out spot, which Grandfather explained was a buffalo wallow. We thought the Indians had hunted buffalo there because we found arrow heads in the sand there.

One winter Father or Grandfather took me each school day to Joe Brecht's, one mile west, and I'd go to school in Fielding with their children, or we'd go all the way and take them. Father had to sit up on the seat to drive the horses, so had to face the frosty wind. To prevent frostbite he hung a chamois shield over his face, with tiny slits to peak through.

One day, I suppose it was in the spring, Mr. Brecht took me along with his family up to Mrs. Stewart's to see a stampede. She had riders there riding her animals and putting on a show.

In later years we went to school in winter with the Neumeyer children. Father made a covered van with wooden walls and canvas top, with seats along each side to sit on. Mr. Neumeyer supplied the horses and

Charlie or Jim would drive their sisters, Gilberta, Margaret, Florence and Lillian and the Iveson children to school. We kept our feet from freezing by using a foot warmer, heated by glowing carbon bricks. We were very grateful to the school janitor, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Wooden, who would get the 'warmer' going before school let out, so it kept us warm on the way home.

In summer we drove ourselves (when we got big enough to handle the horse). At first we used a covered buggy, but when it wore out Father made us a Bennett buggy with rubber tires. I'll never forget the first time we took out this new buggy. We had an old mare to drive that was due to foal before too long. It was a lovely Sunday and Lawrence and I were going to Sunday School with our new rig. All went well until the ferrichlig broke as we went down the hill near Blagna. This allowed the buggy to roll up on the mares heels, so she took off. The more we pulled in the reins to try to stop her the faster she went. We knew we were pulling the buggy up to her but we were afraid to stop pulling. We raced along, turning the cemetary corner on two wheels. Finally, more than a mile further down the road, I took the reins and Lawrence hung on the back and let himself drag. I steered into the ditch and we got stopped. Just then Hilda Garnett and her beau came along. They returned us home. We were most grateful to them and that no harm came to the mare or her colt.

Jens and Anne Jensen

by Nellene Thomas

Jens and Anne Jensen with their two children, Curtis and Nellene, came to Maymont in 1946. Jens built a John Deere office and shop which is now the Senior Citizens' Complex. The family resided in the Harris house until January, 1951 when Jens began buying grain for the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool and they moved to Marwin, Saskatchewan where Jens and Anne still reside. Curtis now lives in Richmond, B.C.

Mr. and Mrs. Archibald Robert Johnston

by Dorothy (Johnston) Prysaltt

My dad, Archibald Robert Johnston came west in 1905 from eastern Ontario. He bought Section 18, Tp 42, Rge 12, W 3rd. in Saskatchewan and proceeded to become a farmer.

The winter of 1910 he returned to Ontario and married my mother, Lucy Fern Freeley on February 9 in Ottawa, returning to Saskatchewan in the spring. I, their only child, Dorothy Merrill, was born June 15, 1911.

A few years later my dad bought a farm three and one-half miles northwest of Maymont. He farmed with horses and later on bought a tractor.

In the early years mother helped at harvest time by driving a binder. My dad built a box and attached it

Lucy and baby Dorothy at the homestead

below the seat of the binder and apparently I had many rides around the field.

As I grew older threshing time was a big deal to me as I got to haul grain, but it sure was a busy time for my mom.

I started to school at Grey which was a mile east of us, from there I attended classes in the United Church basement, and from there to the Maymont School built in 1926. In 1926 a new three-room school was built known as Maymont S.D. No. 1155 and it was there I finished the education I took.

My dad passed away in July 1937 in Fournier, Ontario at the home of his half sister. A couple of years later my mother remarried and in 1939 they sold out and moved to Eugene, Oregon. On November 1, 1940 I married Edmund Prysaltt of Balcarres, Saskatchewan. We lived in Maymont and raised three children, Leonard, Patricia and Fern. These were depression times and Ed worked at several different jobs. I had taken a hair dressing course in Saskatoon and was able to help out occasionally. Later on Ed got a job trucking for Weeb's Livestock Ltd. in North Battleford. Later he went buying cattle for Mr. Weeb, and continued until his health gave out in 1949. He had emphesema, a lung condition. In October 1950 he passed away. During this time I clerked in T. C. Saunders' Store.

In 1960 I sold out and moved to Calgary, Alberta; and lived with Fern and Doug for a year. While there I took the ten month nursing course at the nursing Aid School. I nursed in Calgary and Edmonton. I am retired now and still living in Edmonton.

My mother is still living. She is eighty-eight years old and went into a nursing home last summer (1978) in Roseburg, Oregon.

Len and Bev live in Richmond, B.C. They have three children — Valerie married to Greg Aitkin, and they have a son, Sean.

Steven is employed in a music store. Bryan is learning a trade and their father, Len, works for LaFarge Building Supplies in Richmond.

Pat and Sam Campbell live in the town of Lumsland, Saskatchewan. Sam is a grain farmer and Pat nurses at Kamsbert. They have three children — Duncan married and living at Buffalo Narrows, Janice going to University, and Dean who was a grade twelve grad this year.

Fern and Doug Riley live in Calgary. They have two adopted children, Alison and John both in school. Doug works for Shell Oil and Fern is a buyer for the "Tall Girl Shop" in Calgary.

Emma Jessie (Gray) MacDonald Johnston

told by Emma

I was born at Bracebridge, Ontario, October 18, 1886 and came west with my parents, William Charles and Rosetta Gray in April, 1906. I attended Maymount and Monaco Schools.

In October of 1913 I married Angus MacDonald. There were three children of my first marriage, Mary Elizabeth — September 8, 1914; Donald William Angus — July 23, 1916, and Wilma Georgina — July 27, 1918.

Angus MacDonald passed away December 26, 1918. I spent some time with my parents on their farm southwest of Maymount. When the children came of age to attend school I built a home in the village and moved in with my wee family.

I joined the Ladies Aid and Women's Missionary Society which I served as president for ten years and served on numerous other offices. I also joined the Sharon United Church, was a C.G.I.T. Leader, also served as Baby Band Leader and taught Sunday School.

This was mostly during the 1930's and money was scarce. I made over old clothing into dresses, coats and even knitted stockings for the children from my mother's cotton hose. A few yards of cotton print was a luxury. Some of my better off friends gave me used clothing for which I was very grateful. I had to make everything I possibly could as the Mother's Allowance was only fifteen dollars a month. How I managed I will never know, but God was good to us. My parents and brothers helped me as much as they could, but they, too, were finding it hard to carry on.

Mary worked out during the fall to make enough money to buy her books for the new term. She was only twelve years old. I did sewing for some of my neighbors and friends to make a little extra money.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Johnston and Mr. and Mrs. S. F. and Family

told by Jim Johnston

My Grandfather Frank Johnston came West from Rochland, Ontario to the Spring of 1905 to file on a homestead, situated North of the hamlet of Maymont, on the S.E.¼ sec. 20, 743 R18 W2nd. This he did by walking to Battleford, Sask. the Head Land Office for the Territories, crossing the river by steam ferry.

Farmstead of Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Johnston

Mr. S. F. Johnston

Mrs. S. F. Johnston

Grandfather stayed the summer months, returning home to Ontario to prepare for the departure of his family the following Spring 1906. Dad who was married in December, 1905, worked in the logging camp, gave up his job to come West with his Father and brother Robert by freight train and two cars of settlers effects'. On their arrival a tent and sod house made temporary shelter for the summer months.

Dad bought homestead land from a cousin, the S.E. ¼ sec. 20, 42, 12-W3rd. and the N.E. ¼ sec. 19, 42, 12 W3rd. of C.P.R. land. He began building a house on this quarter with the help of cousin George Johnston, neighbours and friends. Additions were added later then stuccoed in brick design as it now stands.

Mother, Grandmother and brother Lorne who was 15 months old came in the summer. Dad's sisters Annie and Margaret (Mrs. Joe Campbell) and family coming later to make our family complete. Mother and baby stayed with Uncle Alex and Aunt Jessie until the house was built.

The men were kept busy building a stable too, breaking land and cutting hay, of which there was plenty on the treeless prairie. There was sufficient water for the animals in the sloughs, but drinking water came from the neighbours, who had come out earlier and had dug wells by hand. It was hauled in milk cans brought with them from Ontario.

Dad tried digging a well in his yard without success. He heard of Mr. Jack Smithe who was digging wells in Fielding area with a horse-drawn boring machine. Mr. Smithe came, dug down 180 ft., the water coming up within 10 ft. of the top. This well served us for many years. A windlass was used for a

time, later a pump and windmill. A cistern dug beside the well, a building built over it and a stationary engine in it to run a pump-jack attached to the pump. This method was needed to fill the cistern and trough when the wind did not blow.

When I was 19 Uncle Robert's windmill needed greasing. I never was afraid of height, so on this windy day I went up doing this, the windmill began to sway. I finished but got down the 40 ft. in a hurry. The wind mooching it had fallen to the ground. I never could go up high again.

As Dad's family increased to six boys and three girls, one more quarter of land was bought, seven more horses were necessary and a larger barn 60 ft. x 40 ft. was started in 1914. The first 8 ft. x 3 ft. wall was of stone and cement. Stewart Muir was the stone mason, and with help of cousin Sam, Uncle Robert, Frank and John Cooley, Jack Easterday and friends. The following year the barn was built by carpenters Art Morton of Maysmore and Wilmot Wareup of Sonningdale.

Our school days began at Grey School and ended there too. I often talk about those days, some good, some not so good. Our first teachers were Frances Christfield, Helen Wood, Dorothy Chisholm, Louise Elkerton and Mr. Henderson. Some had a hard time to stay and live with the gang that went to school then.

Dad had a herd of Aberdeen Angus Cattle in the later years so needed more pasture, the school section adjoining his farm was rented for many years. Here loads of hay were cut, some put in the loft with slings and some in stacks left in the meadow.

Farming was done with machinery brought from Ontario. Ben Wooden came from Fielding district to thresh with his Steam threshing machine. In a few years Dad bought a Sawyer Massey wooden machine, when we finished school Lorne and I ran the outfit for him. A Case 20/54 was used until Combines became the method of harvesting. Then once modern machinery, tracks and cars became a necessity.

I remember the summer I was eight years old, Grandfather was harrowing in the North field, a lightning storm came up suddenly, struck the three horses and killed them. Grandfather was only partially knocked unconscious but after resting a week he had recovered. During this time we took the opportunity to read his garden, but we did not go unpunished as he never forgot any mistakes we made.

Sunday was a day of rest and Church services were held in the settlers homes by travelling Ministers. Grandfather and Grandmother always made them welcome at their home as he did of anyone who came there. This tradition followed as Dad and Mother's home, too.

I was eight years old when Grandmother passed away in September, 1916 eleven years when Grandfather passed away in January, 1928. These first years with them were very meaningful to each of us and many fond memories remain.

As each of us were married, we made homes of our own, some near some far away. There are 28 Grandchildren and 45 Great Grandchildren.

Lorne and Gladys, a family of four at Duncan, B.C. Dean deceased. Donna (Mrs. Jack Crandon) Chemainus, B.C. Keith of Campbell River, B.C. Kathaleen (Mrs. Robin MacDowell) Duncan B.C. Gladys deceased 1976. Ernst and Ada a family of two at Parksville, B.C. Grant and Delbert at Parksville, B.C. Ernst deceased 1971. Cora and Don a family of two at Victoria, B.C. Mark and Ricky Victoria, B.C. Alma and Alec at N. Battleford Sask. Myrtle and Nathan Friedman a family of three at N. Battleford, Sask. Lorraine (Mrs. Marshall Pollick) and Harvey of Toronto, Ontario. Robert of N. Battleford, Sask. Russell and Alice a family of seven at Fort Saskatchewan, Alta. Yvonne (Mrs. Jim Garnett) Margaret (Mrs. Ken Samielski) Arnold and Wayne of Fort Saskatchewan, Alta. Debbie (Mrs. Nick Phoyt) Edmonton, Alta. Betty (Mrs. David Foster) N. Battleford, Sask. Russell deceased. Patricia (Mrs. Ernie Newhouse) Winnipeg, Man. Carl and Edith a family of five at Fort Saskatchewan, Alta. Beverly (Mrs. Don Stannard) Calgary, Alta. Lois (Mrs. Norman Wallace) Dale and Wilfred of Fort Saskatchewan, Alta. Dean of Edmonton, Alta. Arthur and Emma a family of one at Regina, Sask. Ruth (Mrs. Ron McLeod) Regina, Sask.

The farm is sold now and no one lives on it.

Mother passed away in September, 1968. Dad moved to town in 1962, later residing at Duncan, B.C. and River Heights Lodge at North Battleford, Sask. until 1970, when he passed away.

1. Jim live on my farm East of Dad's.

Our Pioneer Women

From the very beginning women shared the disappointments and the setbacks as well as the rewards that attended life on the Western prairies in the early days. They cheerfully endured the hardships of homesteading, the loneliness and the gruelling hard work. Many of them lived in sod houses or rough log shacks, far from civilization and with none of the amenities of life such as Western farm women, for the most part, know today. Even the most gently-natured ones — and there were many of this kind — had to learn to do everything for themselves, pump water, trim lamps, bake bread, milk cows, cook for hungry men, raise children without help and sometimes even do their stint in the fields.

written by Jim Johnston

Arthur Ray Johnston

written by "Doug"

I was born May 3, 1914 at the farm home of my parents Samuel F. and Julia Johnston. I attended school at Grey School.

I worked on my father's farm in the summers and

worked in logging camps in Northern Ontario and Northern Saskatchewan for two winters.

In 1940 I married Emma MacDonald (nee Gray). Emma was a widow with three children, so I became a step-father. In 1941 we were blessed with a daughter, Ruth Darlene Julia.

I continued to farm until 1958 when I rented for two years and finally sold. I moved to Regina and took a job at the Regina Inn. After one and a half years I moved to the Y.M.C.A. where I am still employed.

While in Maymont I joined the Sharon United Church and served on the Board of Stewards, was a member of the Wheat Pool and served as a director. The last eight years I farmed from town having moved in in 1950.

I attend Zion United Church in Regina. I am a member of Tor-Hill Golf Club, of the Y.M.C.A., and the Health Club.

I have two granddaughters and thirteen step-grandchildren and fifteen great step-grandchildren.

In 1977 I spent a month in Great Britain visiting England, Scotland and Wales. In 1978 I took a tour of California, Mexico and U.S.A. In 1979 I spent two weeks in Jamaica, West Indies.

I lived in an apartment for some time and finally moved in to a small apartment on the ground floor of our daughter's home where I am at present.

I spent one winter in Vancouver with my step-daughter, Wilma and husband Garry, and have visited Vancouver Island many times. I curl in the winter and golf all summer. I am a Senior Citizen now and plan to get involved in some of their activities.

I am known to many as "Doug" a name I got from school days.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Johnston and Family

told by Lauretta Johnston

I came from Scottingdale, Sask. in August, 1933 as the bride of Jim Johnston, to his farm on S.W. 29, 42, 12, W3rd

Jim built our house that summer with help of family, neighbours and carpenter Art Martin of Maymont. The basement dug with horses and scraper also much

Jim Johnston family — 1969. L. to r. — Glen, Irene, Kirk, Lauretta and Jim. Eleanor.

Log barn built in 1933.

done with pick and shovel. The rough spruce lumber hauled with two team of horses and wagon gear from the saw-mill at Rabbit Lake 90 miles North. The round trip taking 3 days. Remaining lumber etc. bought at Fred McClorkle's lumber yard at Maymont.

A straw barn made shelter for a team of horses that first winter. This was made by spacing a double row of 12 ft. long poles every 4 ft. apart upright, making a 16/16 ft. size barn. Pegs were attached to the outside line and inside line and straw put in between the wire. The roof of small poles and sod.

During that winter Ed Rothney and Jim made several trips with a team and sleigh to the West ferry crossing, to haul logs off the island in the river, to build our barn and sheds. There was a stove near by with an old cook stove in it, where they stayed overnight. It was only a shelter, sleep was impossible, as they were kept busy filling the stove with wood to keep from freezing, and waiting for daylight to come so as to get back hauling logs. Even then their tea-pot on the end of the stove froze and broke. Roy Gray, who lived near there, came in the morning and invited them to stay with them. They gladly accepted the invitation, to meet now to endure another cold night.

There were many hours of hard labour those first years, all the farm buildings were made of logs and sod roof. This log barn now 47 years later is still standing 4 miles East of here on Ira Thompson's farm as we knew it then.

In 1936 we bought a lumber barn 36/60 it from Sam A. Johnston it was moved by Bill Perkins of North Battleford with two local tractors and a caterpillar tractor of our neighbour Jake Prescesky. Gradually as we could afford it, lumber buildings replaced the logs ones.

After a few years, Jim bought a driving team from Mr. Bradshaw, often driving Doctor Scrauch and cattle buyers in the winter throughout the district. Extra money was needed those years of the depression.

Many times in those days of 1934-37 the winds blew every day, so much sand and dust in the air, a lighted lamp was used all day. We saw many people travelling North past our farm coming from Southern

Saskatchewan with just what the wagons could carry, cattle being herded along with them. We had very little straw there years too, we bought straw from a neighbour and hauled it from his old straw-stack that had been left a few years previous, for just such an emergency it would seem. We considered ourselves fortunate not having to move away too.

The sawing of the wood was a Spring event for every farm. The neighbours gathered at each other's place, usually it took six men to saw up at least 16 loads of dry and green wood for the year. Most of this wood was hauled from across the river 30 miles away in the winter.

Two bored wells were dug in 1909 by Gordon Downey, one 90 ft. and one 103 ft. both unsuccessful. Jim then hauled water in barrels or tank with horses and wagon or sleigh from the neighbours well for most of 15 years. A dug-out made with horses and scraper in the later Forties became our source of water. Later in 1950 a large one near the buildings was dug by Cliff Spence Construction Co. of Speers, Sask.

Everyone attended Church and Sunday School held at the country schools in summer. Rev. Frank Myers of Maymont came to Grey School, Rev. David Cline of Ruddell came to Wavie Bank School. These schools were the center for entertainments too. Christmas concerts, social evenings and dances. Always a school picnic at end of the school year in June. Home-made lemon-aid and ice-cream be a dish. Games and races for everyone of any age. But there was always the cows to milk when you got home.

Power came to our yard in 1954, making work easier, as more cleaning of lamp globes and lanterns being blown out on the way to the barn on a windy night. Most noticeable was the refrigerator replacing the ice-well, where cream, milk, meat and any food needed to be kept cold was stored. This was a square hole dug by hand in the ground near your house 8 ft. wide 8 ft. deep or larger, filled with blocks of ice cut with an ice-saw at the river. Each layer covered with saw-dust and straw to preserve the ice for summer months and a small building over it.

Our farming was done with horses for 15 years, a Hart-Parr on steel wheels the first tractor. Another quarter of land was bought, some rented, then modern machinery, trucks and a car became a necessity. We sold our cattle and horses in 1957, but continued farming until 1976 when our land was rented out.

Our family of four went to Eatonia and Wavie Bank country schools and town school in Maymont. Most of their school years they drove a silver-laud pony and cart in summer and a driving horse in winter. Later the school bus being the way of transportation.

The family are married and live at the following places.

Eleanor (Mrs. Bernard Spencer) a family of three at Maymont, Sask.

Derrell. Lana. Karen.

Rene (Mrs. David Zwack) a family of three at Saskatoon, Sask.

Dana. Jayda, Shaila

Glen and Elva a family of five at Langham, Sask. Glen deceased in 1972

Michelle. Darren. Dawgood. Laurie, Barry

Michelle (Mrs. Stuart Wurtz) a family of two at Langham, Sask.

Kirk and Lorraine at Lloydminster, Alberta

Jim is now deceased this February, 1978.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam A. Johnston and Daughter Mrs. Bernice Wood

written by Bernice Wood

Sam A. Johnston was born at Pharmagenet, Ontario, in the year 1886. He came west with a carload of horses and bought land from Walter Shaddee between Maymont and Richard in the Wavie Bank District.

He married Jessie Sutherland (born 1897) in the year 1917. Jessie Sutherland came west in the year 1915 to her sister's place, Mrs. Joseph Kinmond at Speers. She worked at different places — Alex Benson's and S. F. Johnston's where she met Sam A. Johnston.

One son, Raymond, (Ray) was born July, 1918 and farms the homeland. Ray married Loreta Klassen of Richard. They have one son Lloyd and two grandsons.

A daughter, Bernice, was born January, 1920. She married George Wood in December, 1943. They had a family of three — Kenneth, Dorothy, and Lyle. Kenneth was killed in a car accident at 1965. Dorothy, born September 1949 married Robert Bell. They live in Edmonton and Dorothy works in a bank. They have two children, Kenneth and Deidra. Lyle was born August 3rd, 1953. He married Kathryn Dotse in 1975 and they have one daughter, Lindsay. Lyle is a pensman. He also worked 4 years with the Hudson Bay. Lyle spent one year at Mackenzie, B.C. before he came back to work in Saskatoon.

The winter of 1920, Sam A. Johnston went to B.C. to work in the bush. He farmed with horses for many years. They used coal oil lamps to see with and they travelled with a horse and buggy. They got their first car in 1926. Dr. Scratch was their doctor in these early years.

Sam had his first combine in 1938. He used it one year and then got a threshing machine.

Sam was on the School Board of Wavie Bank School which was built in 1928. Ray and Bernice went to Wavie Bank School driving to school, 1 miles, with a horse and buggy. They had both started school at Bethgate but went to Wavie Bank after it was built, as it was closer. Also by that time Bethgate had been moved to the hamlet of Lilac. Some of their teachers were: Miss Bailey, Kim Doolittle, E. Bailey and Mr. McFarlane.

Sam played the violin for dances in the 30's.

Sam A. was on the Municipal council for a number

of years as well as on the River Heights Lodge board in later years.

Sam and Jessie bought a house in Maymont in 1952. They moved back and forth from the farm until he sold the farm to Ray in 1961. He was on the Maymont Village Council until his health got too bad. He enjoyed curling.

Bernice makes her home in Maymont. She likes to crochet, knit, make quilts, and garden with flowers around the house.

The Herbert Johnston Family

written by Nellie Johnston

Herbert, son of Alexander Johnston and Janet Sharp came west to Maymont with his parents and family of nine children in 1905 from Ontario to take up a homestead. His older brothers Alex, Bob and Will were working in North Dakota. They heard that Saskatchewan was opening up for homesteads so came up with two other lads in 1906. They filed homesteads and drove back home. Our grandfather's homestead was three miles north of Maymont where Wilfred now

Group of young people at Roc Johnstons.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Johnston.

Herb Johnston family. 1951.

lives. Herbert married Ernestine Bohn, daughter of Francois Bohn and Sarah Parker in 1910. They were a family of twelve children and came west in 1907 from Manitoba. Mother and Dad lived in our grandfathers house and our grandparents moved another 1½ miles further north to the homestead of Fred McCorkle as they farmed the land. Mr. McCorkle did have the first store there hoping the railway would come that far north. When it didn't he built in Maymont and sold his land to our grandparents. Dad and mother had eight children Hazel, Harvey, Nellie, Sadie, Gordon, Wilfred and Grace and Allan who was deceased in 1981. We used to school at Grey School which was built in 1905. We had numerous teachers two or three a year. I'm sure those young teachers were frightened with over thirty pupils and so many grown boys much larger than they.

We children had our chores to do. Some did the milking others looked after the horses. We always had a big garden so had our share of pulling weeds. We had our fun also playing hockey in the winter and baseball in the summer. We had a rink in the backyard in the winter. I have spent hours standing in goal while pucks were fired at me both at home and at school. Hockey sticks were made of poplar wood and the pucks were also pieces of wood. Every child who could hold a bat had a chance to play ball the entire players went out in the field. The students were allowed to play games at recess and noon hour. The year I attended the town school I found it lonesome as so many pupils went home at lunch time and the ones that stayed just wanted to hang around the school. At the country school we frequently had a little program Friday afternoon. We had plays and recitations with every pupil taking part at some time and Christmas Concert night. I'm sure no movie star was as important as our student actors. At Valentines day and Hallowe'en our parents and younger brothers and sisters were invited to a party at the school. Our parents enjoyed these as much as we did as it gave them a chance to visit with their neighbors. At Maymont School in the winter we got out to see the Senior hockey games. We got Bob McCorkle with his charm to ask permission from the

principal. We gave up half an hour at noon and our mother saw to it we had to eat her fine garden which was a whole dime.

Our father supplemented his farm income by breaking horses and buying and shipping carloads down east to Ontario. We had some merry rides to school when he was breaking in the new stock. Hazel so harried her father a love of horses and made I afraid of any of them. She gave us some scarey moments when she would slide down the slope sticks into the back of any horse and they would stampede into the farm yard. She took Harvey and I on a first buggy ride before any of us were old enough to go to school. That was away with the new buggy her father managed to borrow a horse with mane and harness and hook it to the old buggy. She sat me down at the bottom and she and Harvey on the seat. Our mother came up from the cellar as we were going out the gate. She thought we would head for our aunts place so phoned her. I can still see my aunt with her arms outstretched as we drove in the yard. Hazel became a fine horsewoman and in her early years tended grain from the threshing machine.

We had interesting neighbors. Tom Sawyer a merry hook character to us who came from England. One of our cousins was staying at our grandparents place and Mr. Sawyer came in get some water he asked Mr. Sawyer "What's your name" He replied "Tom Sawyer, what's yours? Huck Finn" came the reply.

The Gilford family came from the United States. They had a flag pole on their front lawn and always flew the American flag on the 4th of July. When we took the hands out to the field in threshing time, Mr. Gilford would tell his stories of home events in the United States. Mrs. Gilford was a quiet woman and a lovely crocheter and made us some very pretty dresses. Their youngest daughter Cornelia married Charlie Hall and came back to the farm for awhile and was our neighbor once again. She taught school at Verrie Bank and their daughter Ann was born while they lived there.

Our father loved public life and served on the school board, church board, and was a municipal councillor for many years. On Sunday he took over running us, made sure our shoes were polished and got us ready for Sunday school. Mother was a home person and kept the home fires burning as some one had to stay home with us as we rowed and going. She belonged to the Women's Missionary Society and made tea and coffee for church functions for many years. She enjoyed her quiet time and would stay up after all had gone to bed to read the Bible, write letters and do Bible study. She was good at looking after the sick and was often called to help a neighbor lay out the dead at the passing of a loved one in the early years. She acted as mid-wife and helped the local Doctor bring many children into the world. We had an open house to travellers with free food and lodging. During the hard times when men were walking the roads, mother would see that the men would bathe their feet and she would wash and mend their sox or give them a new pair before they went on their way.

When we took a contagious disease all the family were quarantined for 3 weeks. We had many a game of crochet or table tennis on our long dining table as many a time there would only be one sick. Gordon took polio when he was 3 years old. We took Gordon from his cradle until he improved. Death struck our family in 1911. Our grandmother Mother's mother and our grandfather Hazel's father and our youngest brother Allan died within three weeks. After the death of our grandfather the grandmother spent the winter at our house and went back to her own home in the spring.

As the crops failed those who could get seasonal jobs. Gordon went to Fort Francis, Ontario to play hockey for $35.00 a month but could get $60.00 working in the bush so managed to that. Harvey and us girls also went. Harvey then went to Kirkland Lake and worked in the gold mines. Hazel went to southern Sask. and worked on the wheatland ranch. Sadie was training for a nurse at Cranbrook, B.C. I went out with my cousins to B.C. to work. All but Harvey had returned when the war broke out.

The first harvest during the war was a trying one. Gordon had been rushed to the army. By this time we had a small threshing outfit and Gordon run the tractor. Wilfred was young but did his best to take over his quiet many late evenings studying the tractor manuals. By the time Gordon's leave came through harvest was nearly over.

Later when Wilfred was married another and had moved into a house they bought from the Nathan Friedman's which was built by Fred McCarthy. They lived to celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary and both died on their 51th year two months apart.

Sadie married Lawrence Le Roux and they lived in the Okanagan Valley. Law worked on the boats on Okanagan Lake and was on the gate at Rogers Pass until his retirement. Sadie still worked until then. They had two children. Wayne and Karen. Wayne has three children and works for the C.N.R. at Fort St. John. Karen is Mrs. Steve Brown of Calgary and they have 4 children. Sadie and Law now live in Okanagan Falls, B.C.

Grace is Mrs. Bob McKeever and they live in Saskatoon. She had two children. Donald Patterson of Edmonton and Wayne Mrs. Chris Manochuk of Calgary. She has three grandchildren. Jim and Peter, and Heather Patterson of Edmonton.

I went to Calgary during the war and worked in an ammunition factory filling shells at 45¢. Ontario for defence industries Ltd. for three years. After the war I worked at Calgary, Calgary. There I met my husband James Johnston. After our marriage we went back to Northern Ontario where he used to live. He got a job working in the gold mines. Gold was $35.00 an ounce then, not $800.00 like it is now. After my husbands

depth I came back to Maymont with Helena, four, and Ralph, seventeen months old. We lived with Gordon who was farming the Dawson farm. Later we bought it. The children loved the farm. We had lots of water but had a windmill. You would see it turning, grab the water pail, and by the time you got there it would stop. We had a windmill at home also but had a cistern so could always get water. I think the highlight of those years was getting electricity. I don't think anyone really dreamed of having power on the farm. I think the day the power was turned on we had every room lighted. It was such a thrill. Percy Parker lived with us in the summer. He worked and had his land farmed also. The children loved him and he always had time to fix anything they wanted fixed. It was a sad day when he passed away.

I enjoyed my years on the farm. We had very good neighbors, so willing to pick the children up to take us to events. I was glad I came back to Maymont. The church groups, 4-H leaders and their leaders who had such a great part in helping me bring up my children. We are now living in town. Ralph is with us still. Helena is Mrs. Randall Bell and lives in Saskatoon. She has two children Jim, 8 and Roxanne, 5. We had an anxious time when Roxanne was born. She was an undernourished child and weighed 3½ lbs. at birth. To me she looked like one of those Biafra children, was so thin. She responded to loving care and was a real fighter. By her first birthday she could do anything other children her age could do. She starts in kindergarten this year.

The Harvey Johnston Family

Harvey Johnston is a son of Herbert and Ernestine Johnston.

Greg, Alan, Merle and Harvey

Harvey married Merle McGregor of Kirkland Lake, Ontario, on June 22, 1946. They have two sons — Alan and Gregory, both born in Kirkland Lake, Ontario, now both married and residing in Saskatchewan.

Harvey served in the Armed Forces in World War II and was Prisoner Of War in Italy, Austria, and Germany. After the Armistice he returned to farming until taking over the Post Office from Glen Coleman in 1956. He retired in 1977 and is living in Maymont.

Harvey is a village councillor and a member of the Maymont Library Board and the Maymont Legion.

Margaret Emma Johnston

Margaret Emma (Lough) Johnston was born in Alpen, Michigan, U.S.A. April 24, 1892. She was the elder daughter of a family of five children of William Lough and Elizabeth (nee Somers) Lough. Prior to her marriage she was a professional dressmaker.

In 1913 she was married to Robert Frank Johnston and moved to Maymont, Saskatchewan where she resided with her husband, farming one and a half miles north of the Village of Maymont. Later upon retirement she moved into Maymont where she resided until 1968 when she moved to Edmonton to be near her family. She had three children, Clifton, Norman, and Leola all born at the farm residence with Dr. J. A. Scratch being in attendance.

Mrs. Johnston passed away in Edmonton in April 1979 with funeral services in the Sharon United Church, Maymont, and interment was made in the family plot in the Maymont Cemetery.

Mrs. Johnston was a member of the Maymont United Church, Women's Missionary Society, Maymont Homemakers since 1932, and the Ladies Aid. She assisted in drama in Maymont in the early years, and gave much of her time to this project. She gave demonstrations in both sewing and glove making. She was leader and organizer of the first Homecraft Club held in Maymont. She was an instructor for the Farm Girls Camp and acted on the Board of Camp Leaders at North Battleford. She was a member and one time president of a weaving class brought to Maymont through the Searle Grain Company, this being a six-week course. She was the first lady appointed to the local cemetery board and was active until 1968.

Robert Frank Johnston

Robert Frank Johnston was born at Horseshoe Bay, Quebec on October 10, 1878. He came to Maymont in the year 1906. In the early years he bought horses and shipped them east for sale. Later he took up farming in Maymont, one and a half miles north of the town.

In 1913, he was married to Margaret Emma Lough in Alpen, Michigan. Then she returned to Maymont and resided with him on the farmstead.

Mr. Johnston was the second eldest of four children of the late Frank Johnston and Margaret (nee Lough) Johnston.

Mr. and Mrs. Rob Johnston raised three children, namely, Clifton, Norman, and Leola all born at the farm in Maymont.

Mr. Johnston passed away on May 4, 1960 with funeral services in the Sharon United Church in Maymont on May 13, 1960. Reverend Frank Myers officiating, with interment in the Maymont Cemetery.

Mr. Johnston at the time of his death was a member of the Sharon United Church in Maymont and a Life Member of the Mayfield and Douglas Agricultural Society.

Muriel and Howard Johnson and Son

Muriel and Howard Johnson came to Maymont in April 1957 — had one son, Bernard. Howard worked for the Rural Municipality of Mayfield for four years. In November of 1961, we moved to North Battleford. We came from Bracken, Saskatchewan where Howard had worked for the Rural Municipality of Lonestree. Bernard attended school in Maymont when Mr. Armstrong was principal.

We enjoyed our three years. We were there for Dr. Scratch Day.

Sven Axel Waldemar Johnsson (1904-1972)

by Muriel Johnsson

Sven Johnsson was born near Linkoping in southern Sweden on April 22, 1904. This area of Sweden is a rich agricultural area, wheat being the main crop. He was one of the younger members of a family of eight, five girls and three boys. At the age of eighteen he entered the army for one year compulsory military service but remained for three years as an instructor in demolitions. He also became an avid cross-country skier, winning races in that sport.

In the spring of 1928 he emigrated to Canada, landing at Halifax and came directly to Elnsworth, Alberta where he worked for a farmer named Wayne Randall for two years.

Back (l-r) — Jo-Ella, Charlotte, Lynne. Front: Sven, Erik, Muriel, Nancy — 1963.

In the spring of 1930 he came to Biddell, Saskatchewan, where he hoped to obtain work on No. 3 Highway which was then under construction. Work had been halted on the highway but through the help of Bill Kennedy, who lived at the Biddell Hotel he obtained work at the farm of Dave Alexander where Pete Prasecky now lives. Sven planted the trees in the windbreak which shelters that yard.

The Alexanders were much impressed by this young Swede and when fall came Mr. Alexander came to my father, the late John Swan, to recommend that he hire him. My father was crippled by arthritis so he had to have year round help on the farm.

So Sven came to work for us on the farm in the Lilac Area. He stayed until the spring of 1931, when he went farming on his own on land rented from Mr. O. C. Harper south of Lilac, land which is now owned by Harold Pass. Sven continued to farm for the next four years, returning in the winters to do the chores on my dad's farm.

In the meantime I had grown up and finished high school and these were the depression years.

Sven and I, having been in love for many years were married on December 23, 1940. We continued to live in the farm home; my parents had both died in 1940. We raised four girls and one boy, JoElla, Charlotte, Lynne, Nancy and Erik.

Sven raised purebred Hereford cattle, starting with two cows from J. S. Palmer and Sons of Marsden, Saskatchewan at that time the premier Hereford breeder in Saskatchewan. This was in 1944. We raised Herefords with success until we had a dispersal sale in 1958. We showed the grand champion at the North Battleford Bull Sale in 1957. Two years later he (the bull) was brought back to the Bull Sale and was Reserve Champion. From 1959 on we had a small feed lot.

Sven died on February 29, 1972, due to a heart attack while on the way to Saskatoon to keep a doctor's appointment.

I continued to live on the farm until the spring of 1976 when the farm was sold to Henry Walford, Bill Walford's oldest son. Since then I have lived in North Battleford.

It was hard to leave the farm where I had lived all my life and where my father had homesteaded.

I have so many pleasant memories especially of a truly wonderful man who came from so far away to be my husband and the father of my children. I have no regrets. It has been and continues to be a good life.

The Jones Family

told by Kenneth Reid

Warren B. Jones and his wife Emma, lived with their four children in Fremont, Nebraska. Mr. Jones was a teacher in Fremont College. The family were comfortable and happy in this beautiful city. However, they too heard the exciting stories of the north west and decided to move to that new land to make their for-

mon. The family arrived in North Battleford in 1911. It was a drastic change of life style and the young people found the adjustment very difficult.

Wilmetta was the oldest daughter. She used to sit and cry and she watched the trains leave North Battleford. As far as she was concerned, they were heading to Fremont, Nebraska. She later returned to Teacher's College in that city. However upon graduation, she returned and taught school in the Medstead area. Here she became close friends of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Dodge who helped her to survive. She later taught school in the Harrmagny district where she met her future husband, Grover Reid.

Herschel was the next eldest child. He also returned to school in Nebraska. He then joined the army. After returning from the services, he moved to Buena Park, California where he lived until his death in 1983. He had two daughters, Iris and Betty.

Alta also returned to school in Nebraska. She never returned to Canada to live. She taught school in Nebraska and later married and lived there until her death in 1981. She had two children, Evelyn and Alan.

Alan Jones was the youngest son. He learned to enjoy living in this new land and he decided to remain. Alan married Matilda Johnson and they had one daughter, Maxine, who is now living in Prince Edward Island. Matilda died in April, 1977 and Alan only lived one year later.

W. H. Jones
Lilac

written by Mrs. H. H. Turtle

My name is Maxine Turtle, and I am the only child of Allen and Matilda Jones, who were early settlers in the Lilac district.

My Grandparents Jones, immigrated from Nebraska to North Battleford in 1912, where my grandfather started a livery stable and taxi service (horse-drawn of course). Grandpa was Warren R. Jones, and all his life was referred to by his friends as "W.R." His primary interest was politics. A staunch supporter of the Liberal party, he was always a campaigner, and often a candidate. Since the Liberal party was not too popular in the west in those days, he was never a successful one. Although he had been a member of the Legislature in his native Nebraska. He and my grandmother Emma, had both been teachers in Nebraska, but neither of them pursued their profession in Canada.

They had four children, all of whom came to Canada with them. My father and his brother Herschel made the trip in a stock car, taking care of the horses that were being imported, too. The girls, Alta and Wilmetta, travelling in a little more luxury, with their parents in an immigrant car. I believe Alta, the youngest attended school in North Battleford, but they were all sent back to Fremont, Nebraska for their higher education, attending the Normal School there. Both of my aunts later taught school in Canada. My Aunt Alta at the Badger Bluff school, but the boys came home to work with grandpa in his various enterprises, and in 1913 they moved to a farm in the Lilac district.

At one time my grandfather always a "horse-trader", owned a great deal of land and property in the district, but as happened to many people in the 30's, he was land poor, and lost most of it in the depression years.

The "home place" was on land now owned by Mr. Mike Odinskaw. Grandpa moved his house from North Battleford, as it was one of the few houses in the district that was wired for electricity and had a bathroom. Unfortunately neither of these conveniences was very practical, as rural electrification was far in the future.

Both daughters were married from this home. Wilmetta to Mr. Grover Reid, also of the Lilac district, and Alta to Bob Aldrich, a young man she met while attending school in Nebraska. She returned with him to the United States, where she remained until her death in 1980.

My Uncle Herschel returned to the United States when W.W. I broke out, and joined the U.S.E.F. He went overseas with the American Army and on his return home, went to California, married and had two daughters Iris and Betty Ellen. He died in 1983, but his daughters and his widow Ethel still live there.

My father, Allen, joined the Canadian Army, but served only briefly. After their initial training, men who were needed on the farm were granted leave to help with the harvest. By the time he returned from harvest leave, the war was over. He and my mother, Matilda Johnson, were married in March of 1919, and moved to the "English place", where they continued to farm until about 1940. Then they moved to the "home place" where they continued to farm until Dad retired in 1963.

In about 1931 or 35, my grandparents moved to the "Shaw place", where they lived for a few years, selling it to a family named Berryman, sometime in the thirties. The Berrymans were an American family, father, son and their wives. They came from Detroit and had always been urban people until the time I'm sure I think rural Saskatchewan was quite a shock to them. Mrs. Berryman Jr. was a beautiful pianist, and they all had great singing voices. They busily organized choral groups, a dramatic society, a mixed quartet and kept us all so busy that I'm sure they helped us all endure the grim years of the depression. Eventually they gave up and returned to Detroit. Experienced farmers were having a rough time making things "go" in those years. I wonder if anyone still hears from them. They were a nice family.

Grandpa and Grandma then moved to a house about two miles from Lilac, that had been owned by a Mr. Henry Barnett. They lived there until they retired to North Battleford in 1950.

Grandpa wasn't a very successful farmer. He started a store, yard and ran that for several years, in addition to selling cars for Gladwell Motors. He and Grandma had been married for 50 years at the time of his death in 1958. Grandma died a year later.

My mother's people were also early settlers in the district. My grandfather Johnson (John) was born in Oslo, Norway. He was a carpenter and cabinet maker. He originally emigrated to North Dakota where he met my grandmother, another Emma, and were married. Mother, her sister Anna and brother Hjalmar were all born in North Dakota. Grandpa came to Saskatchewan ahead of the family and built their home and most of their furniture himself. The original was a log cabin, later enlarged (the room at a time, as the family needs and finances allowed. Grandpa Johnson homesteaded on a farm about equidistance from Lone and Dewdown. Our Dewdown was their post-office and home village. My aunt Anna had completed her education and was sent to Normaldorf School in Saskatoon. There she met and married Mr. Allan Patterson and then went to live in Arcola, Sask. They had two children, Audrey and Carol.

My mother attended Nutana Collegiate in Saskatoon and then went on to train as a nurse at St. Paul's Hospital there. She graduated with the class of 1918 and at the time of her death was very proud that she was the oldest graduate of her training school. In the early years after she and Dad were married, she delivered either alone or with Dr. Scratch at Maybank a good many of the babies in our district. I remember many evenings as a child, waking up to find Dad getting breakfast because mother was away having a baby.

My Uncle Hjalmer attended the Badger district school and later the school in Dewdown. Then he stayed on the farm, which on the death of my grandfather, became his own. He married Margaret Curtis and they had three daughters, Thelma (Lenore) and Joan, and two sons, Roy and Earl. He will be best remembered as an ardent sportsman — baseball, hockey, softball, curling, hunting, fishing, — he did them all, and well. He was always a great hero of mine.

I grew up in the cottage on the "English place". Mr. Bill Parrott's were our closest neighbours. They were a big family and since they lived only half a mile away, I didn't have them to be an "only" child. We shared rides to school — horse and buggy in summer, the car chained in jumper snowcarriers with a heater installed in winter. It was a long three miles to the Morinston school in the winter. My first teacher was Mary Hopkins, who later married Mark Mabey and for many years they ran the general store at Lake. On Friday nights we all, young and old, went to whatever school or hall was having the weekly dance. Remember you took a quarter and your lunch and we all danced from eight o'clock until three in the morning. Any local people who could play music up the hand — sometimes Mr. Parrott and his violin, or Herb Mabey and his sax — Mrs. Berryman on the piano — sometimes the Wade family. We went as far afield as Ballyneale and sometimes to Rudsell or Maywood where they sometimes had a real band. Remember the Tuffin boys and Miss Reid on the piano and Carmen Mary and his violin?

We all took our higher education by correspondence with a lot of help from the already overworked public school teacher. Then when provincial exams just to prove we had really done it. I took my last two years of high school in Rudsell and then on to U. of S. for a year before going into CWAC Hospital for nurses training. After graduation I worked at the Provincial Jail in Saskatoon until I married Len Tuttle in 1943. Len was a pilot in the R.C.A.F. whose parents were pioneers of the Marshall district. We were stationed in Souris, Man. when our daughter Elaine was born. The war was over when Len was killed in an air crash at Estevan in 1945.

After Len's death I worked at the D.V.A. hospital in Saskatoon until 1950, when I married Len's brother Bob.

Bob was also a pilot in the air-force so we were posted to many different parts of Canada — Edmonton, Alta.; Goose Bay, Labrador, Trenton, Ont., and finally to Summerside, P.E.I. where Bob retired. Bob also spent a year with the U.N. forces in Egypt and we had a year with the U.S.A.F. in Smyrna, Tenn.

Our son Garth was born in Edmonton attended Acadia University at Wolfville, N.S. where he graduated with B.Sc. and his B.Ed. He now teaches Physical Education at the Bonnyreade Secondary School. He is married to Lynn McElmoon of Summerside.

Our youngest daughter Jennifer is married to Irving Lawrence of Lowell, Mass. and they have one son, Darren. They are both graduates of St. Francis Xavier University. Jennifer with her B.Sc. in Nursing.

Our elder daughter Elaine graduated from the Kingston General Hospital School of Nursing and is now married with two children daughter Lee and son Mark. Her husband is Jack Cameron, a major in the Canadian Forces, presently serving in Kingston, Ont.

Since retirement, Bob and I have been operating a motel and cottages on P.E.I. Great as a busy little summer and a long winter vacation.

My mother died in 1977 and my father in 1978. They had been living in North Battleford since they retired, though dad retired like his father, to selling cars and worked for Victory Motors for several years. He also had done some inspecting on a part-time basis for the P.F.R.A.

My parents had been married for 58 years at the time of my mother's death and had lived in Saskatchewan from the days of sod shanties and ox-carts to the days of jet liners and air-conditioned trailers. I hope I may live as much and enjoy as much as they did.

Louis and Catherine Karpus

told by Louis Karpus

With the surge of immigration to Canada, my grandfather left Poland and settled in southern Manitoba, where my mother was born. Later the family moved to Krydor Saskatchewan area just east of Redberry Lake. My father left Poland early in 1900, worked for Canadian National in the vicinity of Saskatoon where he met my mother, then employed in the city of Saskatoon. They moved to a homestead west of Krydor. My father passed away in early 1918 due to illness, leaving mother with three young boys. It was two years later that my mother remarried and in 1927 the family moved to Hardon and I left to attend Nutana Collegiate in Saskatoon, and on graduating attended Regina Teachers College graduating at 1930 at the age of eighteen years.

Garage built in 1947. Lots 10 and 11, Block 4, Main Street, Maymont

My first school was just north of Hafford, then called Canada School, later I obtained a teaching position at Sand Lake School near present Petrofka bridge. There were forty-eight pupils with eleven grades. This was a very friendly district the pupils were eager for learning and the parents were cooperative and helpful.

The Barchuk family emigrated from Poland and settled in the Krydor northwest area. It was here that Catherine with three sisters and one brother were born, moving to Krydor-Blaine Lake area in 1917. They all attended Krydor public and high school, graduating. Catherine attended Regina Teachers College graduating with a teachers certificate. Her first school was Lost Lake east from Hafford at thirty dollars per month and she had to pay for her board and lodging.

Due to low teachers salaries, early in 1934 I decided to try my hand at farming. Catherine finished the balance of my term and in July of 1934 joining our fate better or for worse. Farming was most interesting and challenging plenty of work with small returns. It was 1940 that daughter Lucy Elaine came to share our lives. She was a beautiful baby, and with a partner named Patsy for company she was no problem but a bundle of joy.

War broke out in 1939, my brother Peter joined up and left for the front lines of Italy and Sicily with the Transport Division of Saskatoon Light Infantry. Catherine and I were faced with more land, more work and due to enlistment help was impossible to get. The load was getting too heavy so we decided to leave the farm and try a business venture. In the fall of 1943 we purchased Nolan General Store at Speers from Louis Semen. Speers was a progressive community full of new ideas of cooperative movement, and spring of 1944 Speers Cooperative Association was organized and approached us on purchase of our business. It was end of January of 1945 that the final agreement was just about completed when on Saturday afternoon a customer using the coffee pigeon dropped a cigarette and a box of shellac, and in about two hours the building and contents were burned to the ground, unfortunately no insurance was carried. The fire seemed to end what looked like an interesting venture, but with the fine support and cooperation of the residents of Speers and surrounding community we were able to re-establish the business and build a new building, the present Coop Store. It was spring of 1945 that Speers Cooperative Association took over the business and I was hired as manager. I liked my work very much, the authority all came from Federated in Saskatoon.

Our desire was to own a business of our own, so we looked into the possibilities of farming in the immediate area. Consulting some credit rating executives Maymont was recommended to us as a good location. We began to investigate these possibilities. Driving from the north down Main Street there were two old original stores, one on each corner of the business block on west side of Main Street with a hardware storeroom and drugstore in between. On the east side was a telephone exchange, bank, light plant, cafe, hotel and service station. The C N R depot was located on the north side of C.N.R. tracks with three grain elevators located on the south side of C.N. siding. Across from the C N R depot was the pool office and Esso service station.

A Chinese gentleman by name of Sam Williams was operating a restaurant, in the hotel owned by Bill Sweden. This seemed like the best place to obtain the necessary information, regarding business, people, church, school and community in general. On the South West corner of main block was a general store owned by Allan Rose, this was one of the oldest buildings in town built in 1905 by Allan's father Edgar W. Rose. This was a flourishing business operated by Allan and Lydia Rose. On the northwest corner of the same block was another old building built by John Reid and his brother James in 1905. This business had changed hands several times, but was now owned by Nathan Freedman, who had just returned from Armed Forces and was wishing to dispose of this business to undertake livestock business.

Just north of Rose's store was a hardware store built in 1908 by Stephen and Carveth and in 1911 J. D. Blacklock purchased this building and opened a hard-

Hale store with I.H.C. Implement Agency. This place was purchased in 1945 by M. F. VanderHaegen.

Listening to Sam Baldwin entering the town of the employees I felt that in a friendly town where you could see a late Model T is a late bottom at the top end, a friendly gambling joint back of the old restaurant, that this could be a real challenge to stake in with a family and try to make a living.

I approached Nathan Freedman about purchasing his business. We made a deal and our next move was to obtain permission from Wartime Prices & Trade Board to sell and to buy. Mr Symmonds who is in charge of Saskatoon Wartime Prices control board and Nathan assured me that he knew Mr Symmonds quite well so we should have no difficulty in obtaining necessary permission. We arrived at the Prices Control Board office and down met Mr Symmonds and said

What can I do for you gentlemen. I have sold my store business said Nathan. He is not known if you have you have but got no permission to sell. Oh, that is why we are here. I interjected. Nathan wishes to obtain permission to sell and I wish to get your permission to buy." That's different, I said Mr Symmonds we will see what we can do for you." Filling a few forms answering a few questions we obtained our permits concluded the deal and on November 15 1945, we took stock and took over the business.

There were no houses available to rent or buy, my family remained at Spears where we had built a new home in Spring of 1945, while I moved into the Imperial Hotel. The hotel had ten bedrooms a sitting room and one pot belly heater in the sitting room that heated all the rooms. If you desired heat you kept your door open, since there was no central heating system.

New Year's Eve was a gala event, everybody came out to celebrate. I never realized that a ten-room hotel could hold so many people in one night so happy, carefree and gay. I got caught in that gala event, since I was lodging there with two young ladies sitting on my bed covers, trying to convince me that this was New Year's Eve and that this particular one will never come again. It was about two before I was able to convince the two young ladies that I am in no hurry. I think are many more New Years Eves. When then left I turned the central heating off and left asleep.

Our family did not move into town until January 31, 1946. Mrs Holmes was said to rent us her home for the winter months. The house next to Sharon & Noel Church. Spring of 1946 I began to look for a location to build a home. When I inquired at the Village office I was interested when the secretary told me there were not any lots for sale. It seemed odd so I began to inquire for a location from other residents who assured me even more lots than they needed. On inquiring I was also surprised that they did not own all the lots. We were able to buy three and build a house previously owned by H. H. Bates.

Those who remember the old store building will recall the building was divided by a partition and the back half was used as storage for hides, furs, fish and meat. We proceeded to enlarge the building by removing the centre partition. When we arrived on the following morning we found that all fruit and vegetables were frozen solid. We proceeded to insulate and reline the inside walls to keep out the weather and cold.

The spring of 1946 Ted Saunders had arrived from Canadian Armed Forces and asked he and the employee in the store before enlistment he expected to be re-instated as he took the position from Donald McDonald who was temporarily employed. Ted wanted as an employee, but had a desire to start a business of his own. With a style returning from the Canadian Legion Ted went into another business at the south wing of the general store. This venture did not prove too prosperous and Ted returned to the old store as manager and finally purchased the business in 1956.

Spring of 1947 we could see that there was need of a garage called in the town so we purchased the old metal building which housed the town light plant, demolished the building and put up new garage building. We were able to obtain franchise with Imperial Motors to sell Pontiac Shark cars and G.M.C. Trucks also all implement contract to sell J. I. Case machinery. Ron Watson, Jack Lamb and Lloyd Parker were hired as mechanics. The community owes these three gentlemen many thanks for hard services that they faithfully performed.

1951 was an eventful year, daughter Gladys Linda joined her sister Lucy Elaine which made our family complete.

In 1952 the Provincial Highway by-passed the town quarter of a mile to the north. The result was possibilities of highway service. We approached Mr J. M. Martin who was engineer of Whitehouse Estate NW 32-41-13 W3rd and were able to purchase the property on which we built the present Esso Service Station, which was opened for business in the spring of 1954 with Walter Starosta as manager and the family operated the lunch counter. The following year two duplex bungalows and a bachelor were added just east of the service station. This proved to be a profitable addition to the enterprise, but help was difficult to get so after two years the cottages were closed and sold. In 1958 we sold the whole operation to Imperial Oil with Gordon Leach as operator.

After selling the service station we decided to build a new home on SW 32-41-13 W3rd about 1500 yds west of the service station. This was a landmark the brick red house our family home. Our family remained here until 1971 when it was sold to Bob and Mary Johnston. At present we reside in the Village of Maymont.

In 1968 the residents of the Village of Maymont petitioned the village council to adopt Daylight Saving Time. The council passed a bylaw adopting Daylight Saving Time, apparently this did not please all the residents and another petition was presented to revert

to Standard town, this annoyed the council and the whole council resigned, leaving the village without any administration. Some of us did not like this occasion, so Mr. P. VanderHaegen, Fred Porter and myself decided to ask the Department of Municipal Affairs to set up machinery to elect a new village council. Mr. John Bruchleman, the minister of Municipal Affairs appointed James Rogers as returning officer and a new council, Mr. P. VanderHaegen, Fred Porter and myself were elected.

Maymont community sports were under the direction of Sports Committee headed by J. D. Blackstock. This organization was disbanded in 1967 and replaced by an active Board of Trade, which looked after sports day, skating arena, planting of trees and general advisory to the village council. I had the privilege of serving the village as overseer from 1948 to 1957 at which time I took a challenge from the municipal rates contested the municipal elections and chaired the municipal council for the next six years.

With the future came the end to minor municipal problems, hard law enforcement, weed inspections, grasshopper control and relief vouchers and councils were faced with more serious and progressive programs. The Provincial Government embarked on a Gold Road Assistance Programs whereby municipalities could get assistance to provide a better class of engineered roads. The taxpayers were obliged and demanded that better roads be provided. In the spring of 1958 the municipality started on the grid road north of Maymont to the Saskatchewan River. The following year Schmidt & Construction contracted to build five miles of grid north of Maymont.

The years brought more changes. Farms were being mechanized. The provincial highways were better, people were equipped with better class of transportation, and demanded still better roads. The provincial government developed a Farm Access Road Program, to assist municipalities to build more and better class of roads and assist to provide rural residents with urban living.

Revenues brought in the Main Street improvement and highway connection program, under direction of Minister of Highway and Transportation, Elding Kramer. This linked small communities with black top and provincial highway system. The demand for wider road and better summer roads forced the municipalities to invest in bigger and better equipment. Also gravel more roads making them all weather as much as possible.

Our family was growing up daughters Lucy Elaine graduated from University of Saskatchewan with a degree in Education and specializing in primary work, while Gladys Linda being more adventurous joined the Canadian Navy and left for the East coast. We continued in our business venture until the spring of 1968, when we sold the business to Lloyd Porter and continued with grain and hog farming enterprises.

In our spare time I attended classes at Law and Administration at the University of Saskatchewan and took a course in municipal accounting from Regina College. In completing my studies I received my certificates of standing and the family set on a summer holiday. In September of the same year Mr. Ivar Westerberg took ill and was forced to retire. I was engaged as secretary-treasurer of the R.M. of Mayfield No. 406 in 1967.

My previous association with the municipality made my work interesting and challenging for the next eleven years. The town of the municipality was Richard Cargill with foresight and progressive achievement. Throughout his term of office the municipality took advantage of winter works programs and built a new roadmore office and a heated shed for winter storage of road clearing equipment. The municipality also built many better class of Farm Access Roads. He was followed by Victor Prusecki as reeve who had visions of even a better class of Farm Access Roads engineered to grid road specifications. It was during this period that Fire Fighting Equipment was purchased in partnership with Villages of Maymont and Rushmil.

Throughout the years our family was busy trying to make a living that it was not until 1961 that we took our first holiday with a trip to the west coast. We were overwhelmed by the beauty of the rockies and the Pacific West Coast. We took in all points of interest from the Rockies Dam to Butchart Gardens in Victoria. We visited scenery Park, the Aquarium and took pictures of the whales of the Pacific Ocean and the black bears of inner British Columbia.

In 1967 Catherine, myself, Lucy and family made a trip to Eastern Canada, visiting along the route legislative assemblies, museums, parks and some industrial points. We spent a week at Expo, toured city of Quebec, visited one of the first churches in the province, also visiting the open areas and industrial developments. Visited Halifax where daughter Gladys, Ron and granddaughter Kathy were making their home, crossed some of their wooden bridges, toured New Brunswick the legislative building, some fisheries and watched the fishermen bring in their oyster catch, visited Prince Edward Island, the Haven of Anne of Green Gables, tried our hand at digging for clams. We were taken with the red soil on the island which seemed to be quite productive.

In 1970 Catherine and I took a trip to the Orient, visiting Japan, Hong Kong and Taiwan, visiting the border of China proper. In Tokyo we visited parks, palace grounds, the golden palace, rare pedding, fishing villages, tea plantations, botanical gardens, industrial research, pearl farms and pearl culture beds. Japan is beautiful with their cherry blossoms. We also visited their beautiful cherry blossom dances. While in Japan we took in the Expo, visited with many students

and school children. Hong Kong was a very interesting place to visit with its financial sky scrapers on one hand and crowded poverty overcrowded apartments and slave dwellers. We took in the parks and many commercial developments.

In 1971 we took a trip to the British Isles visited the rural areas across to the Irish sea and north to Scotland the city of Edinburgh and the castle. We also visited historical buildings, botanical gardens Buckingham Palace watched changing of the guard spent a day at London Museum shopped in Piccadilly Square and used the underground trains to get around in. Leaving London by train and boat we landed in Belgium from where we toured Holland with beautiful fields of tulips with an occasional windmill. Denmark was a country of dykes and dairy farms. Sweden with beautiful Lund gardens. Norway reminded one of our British Columbia with mountains, fjords and glaciers. The scenery was beautiful.

In 1971 we took a trip to the British Isles, visited Switzerland, Austria, Italy Isle of Capri, Monaco and France. We found Switzerland very interesting went through Italy where the Canadian troops were making their stand against the Hitler armies. Viewed the Isle of Capri a beautiful resort a real treat for the tourists tourist. We also visited Monaco a beautiful principality ruled by Prince Rainier and Princess Grace. This was the only place in Europe that we saw large American automobiles.

In 1974 Catherine and I together with my brother Walter and his pretty wife Olga took a trip to Fiji, the garden of Eden beautiful island with warm climate and happy carefree people. Here seems to be an abundance of wild fruit and coconuts. They seem to live simple happy lives. From Fiji we went to Australia, a nice kangaroo country good warm climate and moderate amount of rainfall. The hills however are covered with vast mallee sheep and many herds of range cattle. Here we visited many parks, reserves botanical gardens, wineries and museums. We enjoyed and toured a few northern cities were looking for ways to put their fruit. In the area of Tamworth we visited an irrigation farm there grew a huge crop of sorghum and wheat. Leaving Australia we visited New Zealand also a beautiful country with climate much the same as Australia and here again their chief occupation was sheep and cattle ranching. They grow grass all year around so we did not see anyone putting up any forage. Most farms we visited had no farm equipment other than garden tractor and lawn mower with a four wheel jeep for supervision of pasture land. We also visited a stud farm where they raise race horses. They had a beautiful two million dollar sire. They raise two-year-olds and sell them to Great Britain and Australia at thirty to forty thousand dollars each.

On our way home we stopped at Hawaii, a beautiful group of islands, very scenic, beautiful beaches, highly commercialized with one of the finest harbors in the world. We toured Pearl Harbour saw the sights and monuments of Japanese invasion in 1941. We visited the ocean shores and watched water surfers being buried out at terrific speeds and in general we loved the islands very much. This a home away from home.

Lee Keefer

I am Lee Keefer. My father Philip Keefer came from Pleasant Valley, Michigan to Fielding in 1908. My mother Alice Johnston was the daughter of Frank and Margaret Johnston who lived five miles north of Maymont. My parents were married in 1909 by Reverend Madill, and they lived in Fielding where my dad operated the livery barn. In 1918 we moved to the farm on the N.E. 6-41-11 where we lived on the north side of the quarter.

I have two sisters living and I lost my younger brother in Lake Athabasca in 1936. In 1937 I moved from north of the river to south of the river where I started farming on the NE 16-40-12 where I still live and farm.

This story started in the winter of 1907 some six months before I was born and told to me by my mother.

It seems she developed a very painful toothache, so she asked my father to get Doc Scratch to come and pull the offending tooth out. I believe Doc was still in the town in Fielding and his office was either in Fielding or out on a farm some three miles northeast of town at that time. So father went into Fielding to get Doc. But Doc would not come out. He gave my dad his forceps and told him to keep them, as he had lost a little girl in his arms when he had tried to remove her tooth and because of this he would never pull another tooth. This part of the story is only hearsay and those of us who knew Doc Scratch are certain that he was in no way responsible for the death of the child. Now my dad was a veterinarian so Doc told him to go home and pull mother's tooth saying. "You can pull horses tooth so her tooth should be no problem." According to my mother he came home and asked where such hurt she opened her mouth to show him and in a very short time the tooth was out on the table. She told me that it was the easiest tooth that she ever lost.

Sixty five years later I lost my father on the Yellowstone River in Montana. After his funeral I left to come home. I asked if those forceps were still in his little black bag that he kept his veterinary supplies in. My relatives knew of the forceps but he had given them to a neighbor some ten years before. My neighbor didn't give up and searched them until he found them in Nebraska and sent them to me. I will have them a very valued part of early days by history.

Now to complete this story of the forceps I wanted to know who the little girl was. I asked different older people around Maymont if they knew, some had heard the story but quite I guess who she was. One day in Bassingthwaite I asked Tom Neven if he knew anything about this as the Neven family came in the

Spinney Hill District in 1908. To my surprise he said

Yes I knew she was a relation of mine and I could take you to the land they lived on in the Maymont District. She was a niece of Mrs Tom Young who used to live at Spinney Hill and of Mrs. Bert Langley who lived north and east of Maymont. She is buried in the northwest corner of the Maymont Cemetery under a maple tree. I was told years ago that the original tree could have lived that long but I can believe that the trees there now are seeds from the original

This story happened in the fall of 1908 as Fielding and was told to me by my father

Dr Berdahl at that time practiced his profession from a room in rooms on the three story hotel in Fielding. My father had a livery barn on the street parallel to the further just east of the hotel. Both these buildings were lost in the big fire in Fielding in the summer of 1912

At the time I am going there came into Fielding that were Indians who were camped out north by Rodberry Lake near Hafford, were sick and starving. The good storekeepers of Fielding got busy sides of beef together in some way and my dad and Doc were to take this beef out to the Indians. Now Dad had a pair of bronco ponies that had never been broken and he thought this would be a good time to educate them. With the help of other Fielding men they hitched the broncos to a democrat, inside the barn. With the beef in the back, Doc a medical kit of equipment and medicines that he might need, and a two-pound sack of Epsom salts they were ready. Our gang we had rounded up on the road then threw open the front door and away they went at a high rate of speed, east across the tracks and other north. According to my father they got about five miles north before the horses commenced to slow up a bit and he had a little more control over them. When they looked back the town was gone. The question was should they turn around and go back and find the nearest place road to somewhere back on the road or would they go on without it as that was a very long trip to make in one day with a pair of green ponies. They decided to go ahead and get the beef out there as another day to Doc and him has selected and the Epsom salts and he said that they all be needed to treat both Indians

The next 1000 miles or that they were both quite young were at that time. They went about and found the Indians Doc went from one to two to care for the sick. Dad found some dry wood and a hatchet and spent the time sawing up more wood as he was afraid to go master as they didn't know what contagious dis- ease these people had but not Doc. He went wherever the sick were regardless. They returned to Fielding with a much quieter team of horses. The meat was found good and used later.

This story is a part of the history of Grey School now retired at the museum in North Battleford.

In the winter of 1950 there must have been about thirty or so children attending Grey School. The school trustees had a discipline problem at that time, caused by some of the bigger boys who worked at home all summer driving outfits of horses in the fields and came to school in the winter maybe to bring the smallest start and so they were not much interested in learning English history. A couple of teachers came & went has given up and left

One morning when we came to school there was a lady who was not too big and certainly not very old, up at the teacher's desk. We wondered what how long she would last but we had underestimated the resolve of this lady. At the beginning she gave us a little talk say- ing that if we all behaved ourselves to our lessons and caused no trouble she would have a pot of candy cook- ing on the stove for the last recess on Friday and that everyone of us should go home with a generous portion of taffy. But if any single one of us stepped out of line and caused any trouble there would be no candy.

Well that did it dear you wouldn't know it was the same school. After school was over on Friday the big boys carried the big pot of taffy outside and spread it out on the clean snow. The bigger girls with buttered hands rolled us all out a generous portion of taffy. I remember (correct) it was the late Roberta Walker who gave me my first candy

But this was all too good to last and in the next week one boy started up a little trouble and at the last recess — no candy went on the stove. After school somebody asked why not and the lady said she believed in keeping her word and named the boy who was responsible. There was one kid who had no friends, all at once. This teacher must have learned something from the Boy Scout Movement, where there are no better dis- ciplinarians than boys themselves. But needless to say we never went home without taffy for the rest of the winter

This lady's name was Helen Woods and she came to Maymont from either New Brunswick or Nova Scotia with two other girls who taught at the Maymont School. One of them married Wilfred Langley and I believe still lives in North Battleford

This story happened as near as I can remember, in the summer of 1911. The three Johnston boys Lorne Ernie and Jim and myself were walking home from Grey School, all barefooted and carrying our dinner pails. We were on the grade near George Tobey's house when we heard a noise behind us like we had never heard before. Well we all dived into a willow bush that grew close to the road. That sound could be compared to the sound of the first jet aeroplane which was heard in later years. Well what it was — was Ernest Richard and his son Conrad in their Model T Ford which had a large radiator and a horn bore on the side which was activated by a rubber bulb and Conrad had squeezed the bulb. They stopped and called us to come out and have a ride home the next mile. We piled in the back seat and had the ride of our lives all of fifteen or twenty miles per hour. Something to remember

The Kleper Story

On March 28th, 1914, the Kleper family arrived in Fielding by train . . . Charles Kleper, formerly of Russell, Manitoba, his pretty young wife, Maud, and four small lively children, Roy, Edna, Ethel and Florence. Their hired man had come ahead with eight horses, a fox terrier Tippy, and the furniture and household goods. The previous year Charlie had traded his flourishing livery business in Hamilton, Sask., for Phil Keefer's farm at Fielding, which he had already visited and looked over. The farm he had leased for three years to Mr J. Campbell who farmed at Maymont, before returning to Russell to live. When he was not satisfied with the way the farm was being managed he terminated the lease and brought his family to live on the farm south west of Fielding.

During that first busy year the young couple built a 24' x 26' barn with a loft designed to hold 3 loads of hay, and bought a good milk cow from H. W. Ferris. They grew a crop, which was threshed by Les Sloan, and also broke 15 acres. A second son, Earl Charles, was born at the Fielding farm, and the older children started to school, driving a quiet school pony Victor. The family got acquainted with their new neighbours and became part of the community.

Before long misfortune came to the Kleper family when Maud became ill and had difficulty looking after her family. However they began making plans to build a new home and barn, and chose a building site half a mile south of their present home. In the fall a Saskatoon doctor diagnosed Maud's illness as tuberculosis, at that time a very difficult disease to cure. By winter she was no better, and fresh air was prescribed, so she was brought home from the hospital, put in a nurse's care, and established in a tent where she stayed for the coming year. Here she could see the children come and go, and be near her husband. During this time the new house was built. In November, 1916, they carried Maud in to see the outside and the inside of her new home before they put her to bed, where she stayed until her death in February, 1917. This left Charlie Kleper with a farm to work, a home to care for, sometimes with the help of a housekeeper, and five small children to look after. He nursed the youngsters through the usual ailments, including the time Edna and Florence had diptheria. He increased the family farm by buying a quarter to the west at $28.00 an acre, and he dug a deep well and bought a windmill for it.

Charles Kleper Family. Back row, L. to R. — Ethel (Mrs. Tom Roberts), Earl, Edna (Mrs. Morley Wager), Roy, Florence (Mrs. Doug Groff). Front row — Mrs. C. Kleper, Ruth (Mrs. E. W. Martin), Mr. Charles Kleper.

Horse racing was popular at both Fielding and Redvers at that time, and Roy was a proud boy when he raced his school pony Victor and was second every at both towns. Even little Earl got into the act, and rode Victor in one of the races.

That summer Mr. Kleper bought his first car, a new Model T Ford. Though he had never driven before, the dealer at Fielding put two gallons of gas in it, showed him how to start it, and he started for home, sometimes hitting a high of 12 miles per hour! He didn't make it all the way home that time, but soon learned to manage a new mode of transportation.

It was November, 18th, that Charlie Kleper married Miss Mary Pfrimmer of Stanley, Wisconsin. She was a good mother to the growing children, and made a real contribution to the community. She took part in many plays, concerts, choirs, and became well known in the whole area for her monologues. They had a little daughter, Ruth Marie, a sister for the others to care for, love, and tease.

The years brought changes to the family, of course. Edna was the first to leave home when she became the bride of Morley Wager on a blizzy again. They had two children, Warren and Beverley. Years later Edna came back to make her home in Fielding. Roy got married to Kathleen McCannon who had taught Neepawa School for two years. They settled on the former McClintock farm and stayed there until they retired in 1978. They had two daughters, Phyllis and Marjorie. Ethel married Tom Roberts, and they had one daughter Dorothy. Ethel died in 1977, after a long painful struggle with arthritis. Florence married Douglas Groff of Winnipeg, and they are the proud parents of four daughters. Earl took a course in agriculture at the university, and later married Elaine Walz of Moose Jaw. During the drought period in the south Elaine's brother Con had left the dry south and came to Fielding where he worked for Frank Summers farm for four years. Elaine and brother Con had attended High School at Fielding. Earl and Elaine had one son, Dale, who farms with his father, and three daughters, Cheryll, Wendy and Melanie. These girls were very interested in sports, and played on the Fielding Ladies Softball team for many years, as their mother had before them. Ruth, the youngest Kleper

girl, married Bill Martin, and lives in Winnipeg. They have one daughter Marielle and one son Bob.

Charlie and Mary Kieper retired when Earl got married and was ready to take over the family farm. They lived in Radisson, and became active in that community until Mr. Kieper died in 1967. Some three years later Mrs. Kieper moved to Oliver Lodge in Saskatoon, where she still lives.

During the dry years of the 1930s crops were poor and money was very scarce. Farm produce brought very little return . . . a can of cream brought little over $2.00, eggs sold for 5¢ a dozen a real highlight for Roy's small girls at this time was a visit to Aunt Ethels when she gave them Real eggs to use in their mud pies. There were plagues of grasshoppers and army worms, dust storms and hot dry months, but all survived. Gardens usually were reasonably good, and each farm had milk, butter, eggs, chickens and beef, so there was an abundance of good food. And there were plenty of good times too, with the Fielding Community Club, Sunday School and School picnics and concerts, and the plays and concerts put on for special occasions. There was good community spirit. In fact going through the depression and the anxieties of the war years brought people together and made them more sympathetic and helpful.

The Kiepers have remained a close knit family who enjoy and help one another, and are proud of the younger generations growing up. Earl and Elaine still live in the house that Charlie Kieper built in 1910. Echo has a home in Fielding, and Tom Roberts still runs a gas station and small store there. Roy and Kathleen live in near-by Radisson. All have enjoyed, and still do, being a part of the Fielding community, where people are the most important asset.

Harry Alfred King-Turner
George Burnaby Adams
Mary Ruth Adams
Margaret Irene Adams

by Mary Ruth (Adams) Moore

George (Jim) Burnaby Adams and Harry Alfred King-Turner left England March 2, 1910. They arrived at Ruddell, March 17, 1910. The land was being surveyed. Jim worked for Alfred Tyson. Harry worked for Mrs. Evans and her son, John Evans. That winter, 1910, Jim and Harry kept house for Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Welford who went to England. In 1911 Jim and Harry bought the old Tyson farm. Their first crop was hailed out.

In April of the year 1913, Mary Ruth Adams, a sister of Jim Adams came to Canada. In 1914 Harry enlisted in the Medical Corps. Ruth had intended to train for a nurse at St. Paul's Hospital in Saskatoon but instead stayed with Jim. Harry returned in 1918. The following March, my sister, Margaret Irene Adams came out and she and Harry were married March 11, 1919 by the Reverend J. B. Bunting.

Harry King Turner, Jim and Ruth Adams

Margaret Adams, Harry King-Turner.

Dad (Jow and Ruth (Adams) Moore.

During the year 1918, we all moved to the Tom Snowdon Farm (Selerie Farm) and on June 4, 1919, Ruth married Samuel Leroy Moore of Spears. On September 19, 1924 Jim married Iris Mae Hill who came from England. Two years later Jim passed on, October 26, 1926.

Harry was always most helpful in sickness and accidents having taken almost full exams to be a doctor. He was also very musical.

In 1935 Harry and Margaret returned to England to stay. Harry died on April 1, 1960 and Margaret March 8, 1977.

Four of the Adams family were married by Reverend J. R. Bunting — three in Canada and a brother in England.

Roy and Ruth Moore had two sons — Thomas Wendell and John Leroy, Thomas after my father and Leroy after his dad.

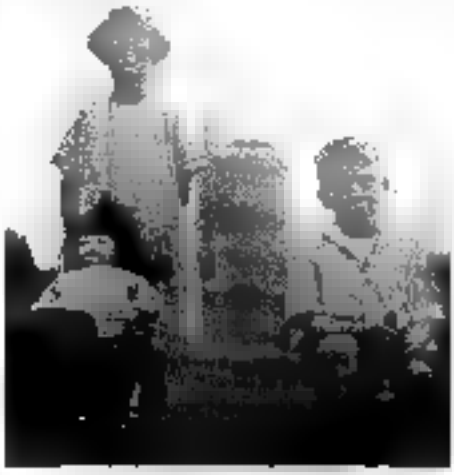
Samuel Leroy (Roy) Moore died at Hafford May 17, and was buried May 21 in the Memorial Gardens, North Battleford.

History of D. A. Klassen and family — Lilac

I, Weir, the son of Dave Klassen, my mother, the former Agatha Wiebe and my sister, Eunice, arrived in Lilac from Langham, Sask. in 1928. Dad arrived to take over the job as agent of the National Elevator.

Our first residence was the farm house north of Lilac then occupied by Wes and Charlotte Gillett. In the fall of 1928 we moved to the Church Manse and whilst there, Mother took over the position of postmistress. In the spring of 1929 we moved into the newly completed National Elevator house.

Roy and Ruth Moore.



Eunice and Weir Klassen — Lilac — Pool Elevator construction in background (about 1931).

Preparing to go to school about 1924 :- r: Florence Nystrom, Julia Patrick, Weir Klassen, Jimmie Patrick, Eunice Klassen.

In about 1921 the construction of "our opposition", the Pool Elevator, was commenced. In 1925, the annex to the National was erected which again placed "our" Elevator in a position of superiority over that other one.

Eunice and I commenced school in 1923 at a location approximately 2½ miles east of Lilac.

The school later was moved to Lilac, circa. 1924-25. There were some disagreements as to the desirability of the proposed relocation. Mr. Welford headed up the group wishing to leave the school where it was and Mr. Jones was the leader in support of the move. The final meeting, of all interested, was held in the National Elevator when the decision was taken for relocation. This move, of course, contributed a great deal to the economic and sociological welfare of Lilac.

The depression years with the drought, created lasting impressions on all who lived through this period. Our family was luckier than most in the district since Dad received $80.00 to $90.00 dollars a month. This total income was greater than the majority of farmers, many who had to rely on relief cheques. It was a period of sharing and helping each other and without this wonderful philosophy, many more families would have had to leave the prairies just to survive. Dad was interested in fixing machines and as a result the yard around the elevator was always piled with implements and cars. One winter our house was was filled with clocks of every description. Dad also provided barbering services and during the period when ladies were having their hair bobbed, I recall Mrs. Grover Reid coming to have her hair cut. Mrs. Reid's hair had never been cut and the luxuriant growth was long enough for her to sit on. As soon as Dad took hold of the scissor, Mrs. Reid commenced to cry and without her assistance, through many tears, Dad would not have proceeded.

Eunice married Jack Wright, whose family farmed west and north of Lilac, in 1933. Their son, David, was born in 1938. Dad died from a heart attack on March 28, 1938 at the age of 56 and was buried in the Ruddell cemetery. At Dad's death, Jack Wright took over the agent's job and Mother stayed on as Post-mistress. I had finished high school in Ruddell in 1935 and during the next few years worked at the Lilac store, owned and operated by Herb and Mary Mabey and various farms in the district. In 1941 I joined the R.C.A.F. and from that time onwards, my associations with the Lilac people were restricted to annual visits to the district.

Jack Wright also joined the R.C.A.F., in 1943, and Eunice and David moved into North Battleford. Mother stayed on as Postmistress and moved into a small house between the store and the elevator house. In 1948 Mother relinquished the position, and moved into North Battleford to live with Eunice.

In summary, the first Klassen arrived in Lilac in 1920 and the last left in 1948, a period of 28 years.

As a postscript, Mother died in Abbotsford, B.C. in 1967. Jack Wright was killed overseas and Eunice is now Mrs. Peter Hornby, living in Victoria, B.C. I married Margaret Woodlin of North Battleford in 1943 and we spent the following years in wartime locations in Canada during my service with the R.C.A.F. We have four sons. In 1965 I joined the Federal Public Service in Ottawa and retired from this service in December, 1978. Currently, we are living in Ottawa.

T. Russ and Mildred Knight

by Mildred Knight

My husband and I with our two children, Horace and Bea, came to Maymont in 1930. He was a barber and the children went through school there. Our youngest daughter, Shirley, was born in 1933. We were both members of the United Church and I belonged to the W.M.S. and U.C.W., also the Homemakers and Legion Auxiliary. Russ was a member of the Legion and was fond of curling and golf. The children skated, played hockey and ball.

We had many friends in and around Maymont but Mrs. Bean, Reverend and Mrs. Myers are the only ones I correspond with now.

Horace was in the anti-airforce and died of wounds in 1944. He is buried in France. Russ died in 1961 of a heart attack. Bea and I live in an apartment. Shirley is married and lives in Anaheim, California. She has five children.

We left Maymont in 1940 having spent happy years there in spite of the depression.

A good many friends have visited us in Winnipeg. Mrs. Cozens and Walter different times.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kormish

Dick Kormish, the younger son of Mr. and Mrs. Nick Kormish of Mayfair, was born Sept. 7, 1919. He had one brother, Mike, and two sisters, Olga (Mrs. Walter Kulyn) and Annie (Mrs. Emery Kulpa). He

attended Eldorado School. His parents had come to Canada from the Ukraine.

In 1948 Dick bought E½-1-48-13-W3rd. from Bill Chrushaw and moved then to the Lilac district.

On October 25, 1949, Dick married Doris Pushee. Doris was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Hamilton Pushee. Doris had two brothers, George and Hamilton, and two sisters, Norma (Mrs. Walter Bulmer) and Dorothy (Mrs. Louis Lavallee). Her dad, William Pushee, had come from Antigonish, Nova Scotia and was one of the first settlers in the Loreman area. Mrs. Pushee had come from Sifton, Man.

During the first years in the Lilac area, Dick did a lot of custom baling and swathing for his neighbours.

Dick and Doris lived in a little, old house that had neither power or phone. For many years they kept 6 milk cows, chickens and pigs as well as raised beef cattle.

In the spring of 1956, the spring run-off flooded their yard and all their buildings. That same year they built a new home, 22' x 30' and moved into it. In 1957 they had the house altered and the power turned on. In 1974 a 10' addition was built on to the east end of their house.

In 1966, once again in the spring the farmyard was flooded and a lot of water came into the basement.

Dick and Doris raised two sons. David was born Aug 27 1957 and George on April 11, 1960. Both boys attended Lilac School and later Maymont Central. David graduated in 1975 and moved to North Battleford to work.

On January 13, 1978, David married Gail Keyko of North Battleford. They have two sons, Lee and Daniel.

Dick passed away in May, 1979 after a lengthy illness. George went on farming and he and his mother still reside on the farm.

The Russell Frederick Krake Family

by Doreen (Krake) Griffith

My father was born in Cavalier, North Dakota, U.S.A. in 1910, one of a family of five children. In 1913 the family moved to Elrose, Saskatchewan where they had the dray business. Later they moved to Turtleford, Saskatchewan where they farmed.

In 1933 my dad married Margaret Andrew of the Drummond Creek District south of Battleford, and they worked on the farm for D. W. Phelps for one year and then moved to a farm at Fielding. Here they farmed for four years before moving to a farm one mile west and two and one-half miles north of Rudiall.

We were a family of six children, three girls and three boys, myself the eldest, Russell Jr., Eugene, Mary Rose, Roy and Margaret.

Dad and mother, like everyone else, went through the depression years, no modern machinery, drought and grasshoppers. We always had a good garden which certainly helped with the food problem. I can remember one year when the grasshoppers were so bad, my dad tethered a cow in the garden to eat the grasshoppers and scare them away and in this way we saved a lot of our garden produce.

In 1954 I married Keith Griffith and we are presently living in Meadow Lake. We have three daughters - two of them married - Karen living at Lloydminster with their two little girls, Valerie living in Meadow Lake, and Penny still at home.

Russell Jr. married Aileen Ramsay and they live in Calgary with their four children, three boys and a girl.

Eugene married Gulder Gunlag of Norway and they are living at Cyprus, B.C. with their three little girls.

Mary Rose married George Scotton and they are on Paradise Hill with their one son and one daughter.

Roy married Arlene Pederson of Mount Nebo and are living in Saskatoon with their two little girls and one boy.

My mother passed away in July 1960 and sister Margaret passed away in February 1975.

Dad stayed on at the farm till 1968 when he sold to Charlie White of Rudiall. He then retired to live in North Battleford. In 1968 he married Nora Andrew of Turner Valley, Alberta and they now reside at Battleford, Saskatchewan.

We have fond memories of our growing years. All of us attended school at Rudiall and Maymont and drove to school with the horse and buggy in the summertime. Dad drove us in the winter time until the boys were able to take over this task. Russell, Eugene and Roy furthered their education by attending University in Saskatoon — Russell and Roy as chartered accountants and Eugene as a school teacher. Mary also attained her D.N.A. at Saskatoon.

My dad has enjoyed his retirement and still keeps very active - playing horseshoes, fishing and gardening in the summertime and curling and doing woodworking in the winter time.

Alice C. Langley

(The oldest of the family recalled some of her experiences.)

"In 1903, the city of Saskatoon was a small village of about one hundred people. As we crossed the river and pulled into the station we saw a huge heap of buffalo bones on one side of the track and a lone deer trotting up and down the platform. The Indians and Metis collected the bones and sold them to a firm in Eastern Canada - which used them to make charcoal for refining sugar."

She had attended a girls' school in England until she was fifteen. After settling on the farm at Cutarm she went to the village of Duck Lake where she boarded with the postmaster and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Grundy. In exchange for her board she gave music lessons to the Grundy children and assisted in the post office. When Mr. Grundy was killed by a renegade cattle puncher "Almighty Voice", she became Mrs. Grundy's assistant in the post office.

Alice Langley.

The rest of the family had now moved to the homestead at Maymont and she joined them there.

In the early days, with no telephones to summon help in case of emergencies the family used an SOS signal adopted by many pioneer families. They hoisted a flag up a pole in their front yard to notify their neighbors when they needed help.

Feeling a desire to get out on her own, she went to Prince Albert to take business training. Her first position was with A. P. McNab at the Saskatoon Milling and Elevator Company in 1907. The next year Mr. McNab was elected to the provincial legislature and appointed Minister of Municipal Affairs. She went to Regina as his secretary. When her father was named Minister of Municipal Affairs in 1912 she became his secretary and worked with him until he retired from politics in 1921.

Following this she embarked on a new career. She studied household science at Guelph, Ont., when she was forty-four, then went on to Columbia University for courses in dietary and institutional management.

During the next few years she worked at a number of hospitals in Western Canada and became travelling dietitian for Saskatchewan. "I would go to little hospitals and stay with them until the kitchens were on a good running basis. I also trained nurses in invalid cookery at the smaller hospital schools. After three years of this I grew tired of living out of a suitcase."

In 1935, she was appointed Dietary Matron of the Provincial School for the Deaf in Saskatoon. She remained there till 1939, when she retired to care for her Mother who, since the father's passing in 1921, had lived at the family farm.

At the age of 43 she undertook to receive lessons in reading Braille. Her eyesight had failed and after three years of concentrated and tireless effort she became proficient. She also learned to use the typewriter so she could correspond with her sighted friends.

At the age of 93 she was quoted as saying, "people who become blind in later life should keep themselves busy. Find things to occupy their hands and their minds. Be interested in their friends, both young and old. Make the effort to attend a variety of social functions so that they can meet and talk to people."

Our Early Years in Canada

by John V. Langley
submitted by Margaret (Langley) Stroosman

On the evening of March 23rd, 1908, George Langley and family embarked from Euston Station, London, England. The following morning we were in Liverpool, and it was not long till we were aboard the Allan lines; "Parisian". It was then that the Langleys were to become Canadian citizens.

The voyage was vastly different to that of the immigrants of today. The steerage passage, a low cost form of ocean transportation, was such as to ensure that the passengers would arrive at their destinations, at least alive.

Our Dad and we four boys seemed to take the rugged existence very much as a rough sport, but for our mother and sister it was a gruelling hardship.

Our family consisted of seven, our parents, sister Alice, sixteen, our eldest brother Bert, fourteen, Frank, twelve, myself Jack, ten, and Walt eight.

We disembarked at Halifax and started on the long journey by rail, to Regina. No cushioned seats in the tourist railway cars in those days, instead they were hardwood slats about two inches wide, and spaced about an inch apart. A stove at one end of the passenger car provided the means of heating water and the four-day trip was a succession of meals out of a picnic basket; but I well recall that as those four days passed, the cold meals, hard seats, and stuffy car soon became far from a picnic.

We arrived in Regina on the ninth of April. The winter had been an unusually severe one, with more than an average depth of snow as well. Our destination was to be Saskatoon. However, when we reached Regina, it was to find that the railway from Regina to Saskatoon had been blocked with snow for more than two weeks. The twice a week train from Prince Albert had become stalled where the track climbed the side hill out of the Lanigan valley, and the blizzard was then still pouring snow over the hill, and onto the track behind the stalled train. Eventually it was hopelessly hemmed in. A relief train and plow was sent out from Regina which met with the same fate of having more

snow that it could plow through, and having no plow at the back of it, the continuous blizzard blasted the personal engine too. There must have been a lot more grief on the railway tracks all that because it was almost the end of April before rail service on the branch line was again in business.

In the meantime all of us billeted in the Immigration Hall in Regina where could not be planned as anything more than a shelter from the weather. There was a table and seats and a stove. All of our beds were on the floor. And here again, we boys took the whole thing as a great adventure, but for Mother and Alice it must have been an endurance of courage.

As soon as rail service was resumed, our Dad, along with another immigrant, Mr Hibbard who had just arrived from England took the train for Saskatoon. It was Mr Hibbard's son, Arthur, who had come to Saskatoon three years previously, who was really the great point of reading Saskatoon our surname last. They met up with Arthur Hibbard and also Rodger Wheeler, then a young chap of twenty-three, who later became prominent by winning the highest award for producing the highest quality spring wheat to be grown on the North American continent.

It was Rodger Wheeler who was instrumental in assisting our Dad in locating on a piece of land where we were to make our first attempt at farming.

It was on the sixth of May that we finally left Regina. Our Dad had purchased two quite good wagons and harness, a milk cow, a used wagon a walking plow and three sections of diamond harrows. Also some lumber to make a table and some seats and wooden bedsteads.

On the former trip to had connected a Thomas Molloy who had homesteaded and obtained title to a quarter of land on which he had built a small log story and a half house and also a small log stable. The roof of the house was in poor repair, and so cedar shingles were also brought from Regina to re-roof the house.

In due course our luggage and settlers' effects had arrived in Regina, and with all the rations I have mentioned and very little more they were loaded into one of the regular cars. I had remained Mart and Frank to ride across in the car along with the animals and other things, while the other five of us rode in the passenger car of the mixed train.

Outer station, about eighteen miles north of Saskatoon was to be our final destination. Word had been mailed ahead of our date of arrival, and we were met by Mr John Caswell who with his team and buckboard drove another out there to our prairie location. Rodger Wheeler was also there to assist our Dad in bowling up a ramp of railroad ties to unload the cows and cow. The freight car was unloaded at the end of our belongings and after assembling the wagon and loading a part of our world's belongings on to it, the cows were hitched to it and we were away.

That was seventy-five years ago and I can see myself and Will perched up on the load behind the pair of cows just as clearly as if it were a day ago. We had come out of London where horse transportation was still everywhere but those cows were like something out of a zoo.

The snow was about all gone but there was water everywhere. There was a trail that had enough traffic on it to barely be able to follow it, and of course those temporary patches of water would have the mud covered, some up to the cows knees, some up to their bellies.

That being no report as we driving took the rein and gave reports of leading them which means that he was wet well past his knees. This was not worth what the cows had fetched the way out the water must have been extremely cold.

Prior to everything else, the first task was the shingling of the roof of the house. A complaint of that shingling job would today be a real museum piece. Dad had been told of the general rudiments of laying on shingles, that you started at the lower edge of the roof and finished at the top, and to be sure not to expose more than four and a half inches to the weather and no explanation of what all that meant but none of the advisers had mentioned anything about using a straight edge to lay out to the roof to keep the shingles to and regularly the amount of lap, and so, each shingle was pencil marked four and a half inches from the thick end. There must have been some real artists at work in the rows of those shingles by the time that it got to the top row. I can still see the boys pencilling and carrying the shingles up the ladder to where Dad, with a rope around his middle and the other and thrown up over the roof, and anchored to the wagon on the other side of the house for added safety was placing and nailing the shingles.

On the Molloy land besides the house and small stable there were about fifty acres of cultivation. Plowing and harrowing twenty acres and hand broadcasting with wheat and oats was another romantic chapter of farming. The cultivation included what had been previously used for a garden quite close to the house, and with everyone eager to help such as hoeing the weeds, breaking up the lumps with a rake and hoe, and sowing seeds. I remember it as being quite a respectable attempt at a garden, and, of course there was a potato patch as well.

The coming of spring as this had been a late one. Even though it was the end of the first week in May the few scattered settlers were still waiting for the land to dry enough to start spring work, and so even though it was getting up to the end of May before our small crop was in the ground we were pretty well on schedule with the rest of our neighbors.

What ways have been of great concern to our Dad and Mother was that there was no school closer than Saskatoon, and for the three years that we lived on the first location there were no facilities for school of any form, which for the two youngest of us at least, was something for parents to well be concerned about.

With the sowing over, Dad ploughed furrow after furrow across the prairie sod, completing the remaining part of the broken land, thirty or forty acres. Later he 'backset' the breaking which was to re-plough it, and turn up the inches of subsoil from below, the first ploughed furrows. As our first haying time approached, Dad had commenced to mow the slough hay with a scythe, but later was fortunate in having Percy Wheeler come with their mower, with Dad tramping along over the cut swath and 'spading the crops,' while Percy rode and controlled the mower over stones and humps. The raking was done with homemade wooden rakes. Then there was the making of a hayrack to get on the sloughs. This Dad made with poles from the river. Dad harvested the small crop entirely with a scythe, with we boys raking together the swath and tying it into sheaves. The straw was so short that we pulled the sheaves up by the roots to get enough length to make straw bands.

A horse power threshing machine that had come from Saskatoon to thresh our neighbors' crops threshed ours as well.

Our first attempt at building was to construct a sod chicken house. Probably a snapshot of that sod house would also be a museum treasure!

Our location was on a treeless prairie, although we were only a mile from the river. The river here was only a little more than a large ditch through the open prairie with a very sparse growth of trees.

The time was fast approaching to when provision would have to be made for winter fuel. Dad knew the winters could be long ones, though we had yet to learn about how severe they could be, and it was by good fortune that the telegraph line patrol man, by the name of Ross Hamilton, told the trail which hardened the wife here and drove in with his horse and buckboard to see who was living in the house that had long been empty.

As the conversation drifted along, Dad mentioned the problem of the winter fuel supply, and Ross Hamilton told him that as he followed along the telegraph line with his work, he thought he could see in the distance dead trees showing above the normal growth which could be worthwhile investigating.

So it was the next day Dad, Frank and Bert started off with the team and wagon, following the telegraph line to the spot that Hamilton had described.

It was good firewood, though difficult to get. The trees had been killed by a prairie fire, and second growth had grown up among them, but it served the first purposes for the three winters that we were there. It was about twenty miles in a northwest direction from where Dalroomy now is situated. Twenty miles might not sound like much of a trip these days, but you had to keep those oxen goodly slapped with a stick to maintain a pace of two and a half miles an hour.

Naturally, we did not call it Dalroomy in those days, it never went by any other name than Timbercliff.

One of the trips stand out in my mind is one when the new ox and all the kind stands of the wagon came off. It was after dark, and the two fell to the ground unheard. It only took a few revolutions of the wheel without the axe to start going in power. We had about two miles to walk, part time Frank and I rode the oxen, but I think it is easier to walk than to ride at night.

Fishing, that is deep in the hearts of both boys and men, was one of our earliest sports. It was the Wheelers who showed us about the general idea of hooks and setting night lines in the river, the safety for lines and hooks that quite small and there were periods during the summer when our catch was a big help to our diet which was perpetually meatless.

It was Percy Wheeler, too, who showed us the method of curing and smoking fish.

There was the thrill of finding the nest of a pair of Canada Geese, only a week or two after our arrival, which we brought home and incubated under a broody hen, and successfully reared them to maturity. Also worthy of mention is the fact that the pair of geese returned to the nest for two successive springs and on each occasion laid seven eggs at the same spot as their former nest had been and these also we hatched and reared successfully.

Our first serious setback occurred in the autumn, when our cow died as the result of swallowing a small turnip and choking to death, all the more disastrous because there was not enough money to buy another one.

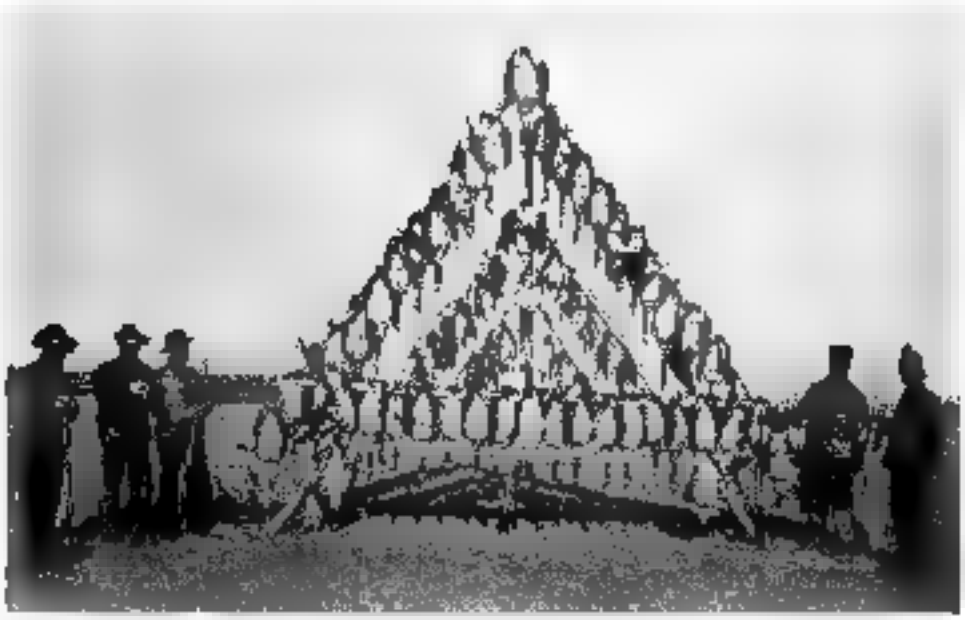
It was but mostly days later that Providence entered the picture. A stray cow, within a few days of having her calf, came wandering into the yard, and what I suppose was a most natural thing to do we tied her up in the stable. In due course the calf arrived, and it was not long until the milk and butter requirements were again back to where they were before the loss of our cow.

There were the days before there was any Official Gazette to advertise about lost or found animals, and two decades before the rural telephone, so it was spring before the owner of the cow, who thought she must have perished, came and claimed her.

It was Ginger Wheeler who showed us the first acts of trapping. Christmas was fast approaching, and although we young people had already realized that the Christmas presents which we had always enjoyed, were completely out, it was the prospect of not having the rich Christmas plum pudding, which we had always regarded as being the real emblem of Christmas, was bereavement also.

Even with our lack of know-how in the art of trapping, we caught a few foxes. It was with these furs that Dad realized at Saskatoon, seventeen dollars, and with part of their value, which was the barest few dollars, brought back the ingredients for the Christmas pudding.

The story of our first winter on the land and upon prairie would have to include what could easily have been a tragedy. Our Dad had ordered from Regina one



L. to r. — Frank Langley, Will Barrett, Will Langley, Jack Langley, Bert Langley

hundred sacks of what in those days was called Strong Baker's Flour. Word had been received of it's arrival. Not having a good set of bob-sleighs, Dad hitched the best of the two oxen to the homemade stone-boat and went to Osler station for it. All went well until, with the gathering darkness it commenced to snow and blow, and it was not long until all traces of the track he was following was completely obliterated, and he found himself with nothing to guide him excepting the direction of the wind, which unknown to him was changing direction. Finally with the snow piling up in front of the sleigh, and greatly increasing the load, the ox tired out. There remained no apparent alternative except to put in the night and wait for daylight, because by this time Dad realized he was hopelessly lost.

It was 30 degrees below zero, and snow and wind continued all of the night.

Dad related that with the ox tied to the sleigh, he had tramped out a circle around it, and walked briskly around and around, sitting on the load of flour only long enough for a short rest and then again continuing the walking. That night must have been like an eternity.

We had a dog, and I don't think there ever was a more useless dog than that one was. However, she had followed Dad and the ox that day, and was still with him throughout that long night. Dad was wearing only heavy English boots, and he always gave what we had called 'wolves old Sport' full credit for keeping his feet from freezing, by always lying on his feet during the spells that he would be resting.

Daylight finally came, and by the time the sun rose, the wind had dropped and there was enough visibility for Dad to get his bearings. The poor ox, although probably half perished, was at any rate, well rested for pulling the heavy load and about two hours later saw them at last safely home.

Dad had always grown a moustache before leaving England, and since coming to Canada had also allowed his beard to grow. I so well recall the state he was in when he came into the house. His moustache and beard had completely frozen together from his breath, and only nostril breathing was possible. It was not until he had stood over the hot stove and thawed the ice seal from his mouth that he was able to tell us of what had happened.

As the winter wore on we ran into a water problem. The shallow well went dry. Dad, Bert and Frank commenced digging a deeper well, but when they got about thirty feet down, came to a large stone which almost covered the bottom of the well, and I suppose that it was with the thought that the same thing could happen all over again, that the attempt was not made again, and so for the rest of the winter we melted snow for the two oxen and the cow. It is only when you start to melt snow over a small four lid top wood burning stove, that you get to know how much these grown cattle can drink. How well I remember how the steam

from those looking pale and leather that we passed on the barrel of water in the kitchen forward are on the windows, well over on both sides of course also out front of the light one. The following venture we drove the stock to the river a mile and a quarter away.

Winter entertainment was naturally all of our own making. Night lighting was in the form of a wick coal oil lamp in the middle of the table and a small carrying lamp that was used to carry from one part of the house to the other which also included the small upstairs where was not much more than a coal very cold in winter and very hot in summer. As I remember it was cards, checkers and tiddley winks though all of us were avid readers.

Dad was first class at reading to us. It was at about the same year that we came to Canada, 1885 that the Aberdeen's were I made a Governor General and it was Lady Aberdeen and her daughter who organized a worthy movement of collecting used magazines around Ottawa and parceling them into ship board parcels and mailing them to the less scattered settlers on the prairies' periphery. These receiving them would pass them around among themselves. I am sure that those early day settlers will have always remembered the pleasure and information that we got from the Aberdeen Parcels.

An account of our first prairie fire cannot not be passed over without some comment. It started at the railway from hot cinders from the stack of a locomotive. It was late fall and we had been enjoying a fine spell of Indian Summer which our neighbours had told us was always a regular thing on the prairies.

Night frosts and warm weather had ripened the prairie grass to a state of dryness, so that once started as even a light wind, it would soon spread out of course.

On that day there was a still wind. The railway was five miles away and those who first noticed it said that it spread at a rate of a mile every five minutes, and with what we learned later about prairie fires, I can well believe it.

With thick, heavy grass growth the smoke tends to give up the progress of a prairie fire, but this had been a dry summer, and the grass being both short and thin, it was more as though it were just stepping over the ground with a minimum of smoke, and that, of course, would account for it's speed of travel.

It was fortunate that the ten acres Dad had broken that summer lay at the path of the approaching fire, so that at no time were our buildings at haystack in any danger but without that step of work hard things would have been a lot different.

Here and I must pause with a young neighbor chap, had been away to the river with the oxen and wagon, and it was not until they were up onto the prairies after coming up the river hills that they saw the fire bearing down on them. To Bert and Frank this was a new experience and their first urge was to head the oxen and wagon back in the protection of the river, and maybe in the water if necessary, but Malcolm Copeland, a veteran of the ways of the country, and fortunately having some matches with him, started a fire in the grass which quickly spread, leaving burned off ground, where they drove the oxen and wagon, and some too soon, as the fire was soon all around them.

With the roaring roar of the smoke they lost all thought of there own danger and were almost in our buildings in the distance unharmed.

Our first winter 1884-85 was a tough one. Long severe cold spells, which, although we did not have a thermometer of our own, we were told reached forty below for days at a time. Prince Albert had a record of 72 degrees below. Milestone had a longer duration than they seemed to have in later years. A three day storm was an almost household experience.

So the long farm winter finally ended, and the spring of 1885 came. Dad had produced enough seed for the ten acres of breaking and thirty-five acres of summer-fallow. The seed had wintered well on the dough hay and a little oat straw, although no grain feed whatever. Dad had broadcast the seed on the forty five acres, while Bert and Frank took turn about leading the oxen to draw the three inchers of harrows raising them occasionally where they plugged, and tapping the oxen along with a light whip. Later some more breaking was done but this was with some difficulty because after the moisture of the spring there had gone we entered into a hot dry summer.

Mosquitoes struck again, even a smudge which neighbours used to protect their cattle from mosquitoes, fanned into flames and crept through the grass, which resulted in burning up the hay stable. Following that, a second year Dad had bought, sickened and died.

It was now that I changed from a carefree boy of twelve, to a wage earner, to help pay for another year.

The deal that Dad made for the new year was that I would have Mr. Carnell's cattle. From May until November for which he would allow twenty dollars off the price of the year. In my memory that was a hard wearing summer. It even there was a community hay, that was merely me. Mr. Carnell was located at Heathcote, over thirty miles away, and it was only the distance that kept me from running home.

It was not long before the miles that I was covering on foot, made it necessary for me to have a new pair of boots, which in those days, provided that you did not want anything fancy, cost about a dollar seventy cents. My employer got me the boots and some few days later he drove me off to one side and quietly said me that if I was a good boy, and kept the cattle out of the hay sloughs and creeks, he would give me something all my own.

I was out in good training for the Marathon at the end of that summer, because I had fully made up my mind that at the end of the summer, I would be leading home one of the Carnell calves. My hope served the well, and I did everything Mr. Carnell requested me to do.

The long summer came to an end, and time for me to go home. It was time to leave Mr. Caswell told me that I had been such a good boy and that he would not be charging me for the boots, which needless to say were by this time worn out, too. We hope that it is the hard knocks in early life that makes big men, if so I should have grown into a giant.

By this time Dad was becoming uncertain, and rightly so. The nearest water was the river - a safe proxy, the supply of wood had been found by others and was fast running out. The Caswell's had already moved north to Aneberry and the two Wheelers, Reggie and Percy had both made trips there. The attractions were that water and wood were more available and also that the rainfall was better but furthermore with more settlement there would be no difficulty in organizing a school.

A litter of pups had been raised that summer and we loved quite well that winter. Game was particularly scarce out there on the open prairie but at the river there was the odd spot with enough bush to harbor some bush rabbits. Dad had bought a second hand ten gauge muzzle-loading double barrel shot gun before leaving England and when the weather was not over severe with a supply of black powder and shot caps, and a packet/kit of paper for wadding, away he would hit it off on foot, just as enthused as any unbroken sailing to hounds.

In the fall of 1884, a flour mill was put into operation at Prince Albert. It was there that Dad and Frank started out with enough wheat to be ground into flour for a year's supply. Prince Albert was over one hundred miles away, and with oxen travelling much less than three miles an hour, (really two and a half would be a safer estimate), to which I say they were away ten days, it is quite plain that they were on the road all of those ten days.

In the fall of 1885, it was arranged to again make the trip to Prince Albert and it was myself who was to go on the existing expedition this time. But the snow came early that year and having any husband the Hudson set with the wagon wheels grinding through several inches of snow. It was far from the pleasure trip Frank had had the year before which was all very fabled summer days. With the days very cold, and the snow getting deeper as we got further north, Dad wisely decided to leave the grinding done at Duck Lake.

The Duck Lake flour mill turned out a good wholesome flour, but it did not separate as much of the bran and shorts with the result that the bread was much darker in color and did not rise quite as well, either.

With the improvement journey the road became much more treated and those metal tires made a difference - great which I think in an imaginary way I can still hear. The oxen were becoming tired and were more slow, and time and time again I used to run back over the road in order to catch up at a pace to warm me up. That there were those when, with the wind in our face I would walk partly sideways beside one of the oxen with my outer pressed against him rubs for a little warmth.

With an extra load or two of wood from Duckinton - which Dad always managed on to be on the safe side our house was always livable during the day, but a wood burning cookstove has to be constantly stoked and there is no means of banking it at night so a person has with a coal stove. And so the fire would go out soon after we retired. Fortunately we had brought an ample supply of bed material from England and we kept warm during the night, but it was no unusual thing in the cold spells in the morning to see quite a collection of white frost on the bed covers around your face.

A supply of stovewood which we kept stacked with our pocket knives, and the spot kindling was always ready to get a quick fire going in the morning.

Another thing never to be overlooked on a boat where one is to be sure never to leave the dipper in the water pail as it would be sure to be frozen in the morning. Covering the potatoes in the earth cellar was also of the utmost importance, too.

We had no musical instruments of any kind, but the Wheelers were both musicians. Reggie had his concertina and Percy his banjo, and they would quite often spend an evening with us. On the nights of their coming, down the trail we would see the flicker of a lantern which they always carried. If the night was rough they would have a hot pail to protect their face and neck. All of the early settlers were the customary fur caps and buffalo mackinaws.

The financial aspect was now becoming increasing by acres. The wheat that was harvested amounted to little more than enough for the next year's seed requirements and what was needed for grinding into flour.

Fortunately through it all we had all enjoyed exceedingly good health. Even better still, our Mother's health was better than it had been for some years before coming to Canada.

With the coming of the third summer, 1885, the three oldest of us were away earning a few dollars that were needed to keep the home together. The farm income in total was that of the grain of flour and while the Great Bear probably had it's work cut out to get living at bread alone, we had our own vegetables at it, and knew it to be all we had. Over the whole area where we were including Saskatoon and miles beyond, everybody was a homesteader, and we were all experiencing the same bad effects of the continuing dry summer. It was only the barest few of them who had the means to employ anybody at all, and the wages were such that were they compared with the wages of today, what we received for a month was even less than is now earned in a single day. And so it was that the three of us together earned less than twenty dollars a month, and they were long months too, because we worked longer days.

By now a medium Electric was under way, and a

year later the whole area was a deserted camp. Right to this day, I cannot think otherwise than that our Dad had suffered a quirk of fate that had been settled on what I think was about the most unproductive piece of the prairie to be found anywhere.

In the spring of 1895 Dad sowed the crop, but did no further breaking, as it was his intention to move to Southern. He had abandoned the quarter he had filed on at Duval, which gave him the right to homestead again.

Had Dad gone west from the railway he could have got better land, but there was no other settlement there other than the Mennonite folk. The land around us had been picked over, and the quarter that Dad filed on was light and sandy, and with the wild conditions of the dry summers that were there during the next three years, our efforts were not crowned with much success.

It was not long after we were there that Dad first met T. O. Davis then Federal M.P. for the constituency of Prince Albert.

T. O. Davis was a Liberal, and as Dad's politics before leaving England had always had a Radical leaning, and although not having much knowledge of Canadian politics it was not long until T. O. Davis had him enrolled as one of his campaign assistants which was to become the first stepping stone of our Dad's political life in the future Province of Saskatchewan. Progress was slow because that was a good number of years before Saskatchewan was granted her autonomy.

Those three years at Southern were mostly of a subsistence sort of life. Dad had previously bought an office car, and quite recently three members moved thereto. All of us had been out working and even as the mill starting very low wages in order they were paid for.

By now we boys had become quite competent trappers and the Southern country being more in the park belt, with considerable scrub and bush, caribou and foxes were quite plentiful, and although we received very low prices for the furs, they were at least an addition to our income.

I can't recall that we ever produced a crop that could even be classed as fair.

In the meantime a Federal election had come around, I think it was either 1899 or 1900, and Dad had been away a lot with T. O. Davis, who was re-elected at the election.

With some additions to our horse power, and arrangements underway to add still more to it, Dad had entered into an arrangement with the owner of a section of land four and a half miles north west of Southern wherein we were to break up the most of it, and hence the year, and also to erect some buildings with the owner of the land supplying the building materials. In return for our work we were to receive all that the land produced during the four years that we were there. It seemed a good deal but unfortunate bad fortune lay ahead. The seasons of limited rainfall still persisted, and the light land that we had been having trouble to make things still worse, so when we had the opportunity to move to Semler land we regarded it as a streak of good luck.

We had united, by means of subscription financing, another three teams of horses to our working force and the first summer was on with over two hundred acres of breaking placed, and all ready for the drill and the crop went in satisfactorily the next spring. But it was now that we had come to the end of the dry cycle, and that summer we had some good rains, and also long spells of cloudy days followed them, and also it was to find that a lot of the land was inclined to be low-lying. To make a long story short, our two hundred acres of wheat on the low heavy land was as green as a leek at the coming of the first severe frost, and every bushel of it graded "feed".

It was at this time that the farmers around Battleford and Indian Head had commenced to give vent to their grievances, and had organized the Grain Grower's Association. Northern was not far behind in organizing their own local of the same movement as well.

There began the Grain Growers Association yearly conventions which alternated between Regina and Saskatoon. We were still in the Territorial days, and the population was still quite sparse, but these conventions drew big gatherings of delegates, each delegate representing every ten members of the organized locals. Mackenzie Bowell, Partridge and his brother-in-law Robbins, had previously tangled with the Winnipeg Grain Exchange, which had grown into the idea of thinking that it was the farmer's job to grow the wheat, but after that it was their God-given right at the exchange to manipulate every device, honest or otherwise, to secure the farmer's wheat at the lowest possible price by "Bearing" down on the market, then dispose of it by "Bulling" the market up. It was many years later that Dad had been chosen as spokesman for the farmer in a further controversy between the Grain Exchange and the Grain Growers, in which Dad declared before the Judge of the Court and a lawyer for the Exchange, Isaac Pitblado, quote "no highwayman who held a gun to his victim's head demanding his money was any more guilty of theft, than were the manipulations of the Grain Exchange in their dealings with the producers of the grain."

This statement was not followed by any demand for apology or any threat of libel proceedings either, because they knew full well what he said was perfectly true.

All of the men in Winnipeg the seat of the Grain Exchange, but there were still more grievances which were to become more and more acute with the growing numbers that were coming to the prairies to seek a livelihood at farming. And then in 1901, the first delegation of western farmers moved on Ottawa. Their grievances were many. To mention the main

over freight rates, revision of the Grain Act, boosting of duty on imported farm machinery, reciprocity with the United States to allow free grain, lower mineral rates, etc.

Dad was the appointed spokesman for that first delegation that moved on Ottawa from western Canada, and I don't doubt that he proved himself no a diplomat because in later years he was appointed spokesman on a number of occasions.

Our years at Heatherdale were drawing to an end, and plans were being made to move to unsettled territory where we could secure homesteads. I suppose it was partly due to Dad's association with T. O. Davis, M.P., that he was offered the job of operating a sub-land office where the Barr Colonists had pitched their tents on the spot that was later to become Lloydminster. His office was just another tent where he recorded the survey number of each of the Colonists and there he sent an interpreter to the Land Office in North Battleford. This was a service set up to save the necessity of each of the colonists travelling the ninety miles himself to file on the piece of land he had chosen.

Dad travelled to Lloydminster with a team of ponies and a buckboard, following the old Carlton-Battleford trail as far as Battleford, and he later wrote us that he was impressed with the country that the trail wended through that started fifteen or twenty miles west of Redberry Lake and suggested that we should drive out and look it over.

Hart had a good job at Lloydminster with the Massey-Harris Company setting up farm machinery that was being bought by the Colonists. This was being freighted from Saskatoon mostly on the cranes, and it was Bert's job to set them up in working order.

With Will staying at the Southern home with Mother and Alice, Frank and I outfitted ourselves for the land seeking expedition. Our outfit consisted of a team and wagon, and behind this we led a third horse hitched to a buckboard. This was to be able to travel light while looking the country over in the search for suitable land.

On the wagon we loaded a walking breaking plow, a few hundred feet of scantlings and shiplap for a shack, a quantity of food stuff, camping equipment and some grub. A cable ferry had been installed over the North Saskatchewan river at Petrofka, where we made our crossing. We picked up the old Carlton trail that marked it's course around the north of Redberry Lake.

Arriving in the area that Dad had previously described, we pitched our tent and being careful to securely tie up the teams to the wagon, we commenced covering around the country with the third horse hitched to the buckboard. We were practically "land at all we surveyed. Not a furrow had been plowed, and apart from the old trail, there was no other road that had to anywhere.

From east I covered a lot of country. We were on for that we where Lake stood, and south to where today are Maymont and Richloth. There was a land surveying party that were camped nearby where the Maymont School was later built and from them we got a lot of information concerning the lay of the better land in the course of it all there was the spot where we had first pitched our tent and though we had travelled out for a good many miles in every direction it was the tent site that held our greatest attraction.

I have told of us having received suggestions from the foreman of the survey camp. It was at the later part of our search in the area north of where Paulding took us that we again called in at the survey camp. We were met by the foreman. An elderly man who said he supposed we had got some good land, and Frank and I replied that we had not yet made up our minds, to which the sage old fellow replied "Well, either the kind of land you want is not here, or else you do not know what you do want.

I would not go so far as to say that it was that which stopped us out of our endeavours, but it was not much later that we were reading the Forestry Journals that were classified into the area tracts that were driven into the ground at the centre of the four pits that the surveyors had dug and we soon had the sections, township and range of some of the better quarter sections recorded. Being very recently surveyed it was not until the following December that the surveyors records had been registered and we were able to file our applications to homestead but our earlier applications had given us elsewhere of first homesteading rights. Without any further delay we lined up stakes and strings and with the three horses on the buckboard each breaking plow, we proceeded to plow a few acres of the half half mile on each of the quarter sections.

It would not do to mind the erection of the first shack. I think it was not to involve only a shed, not even a floor. It was already apparent to us that we were in an area that seemed more subject to high winds than our first building was only a few days old when a shack raised that gave promise of rain that should help our breaking job proved to be only a hurricane of wind and believing as we were being in the shelter that the sands would be creeping over the grass, we thought it better to be getting outside: and some one said either, as somewhere later it were raining over, not to stop until it came to a small low place on the adjoining quarter section. The few acres of breaking I have written of was subsequent to the erection that application for filing had been made.

The winter of 1908-09 was one of more than average snowfall and sending every where was late in commencing. We did not go to work with a great deal of optimism except to get it done and make preparations for the move to the new location. It was early in June by the time that everything was set to go. There was a team of seventy miles, counting the detours and winding trails. There were no improved roads of any description, or bridges either. I think we considered it

fortunate that there was the recently installed ferry at Prince Albert as the only other alternative would be to go to the Carlton ferry an extra fifteen miles north and then back south again. Even the crossing made up one hour's loss for our waggons. I suppose it was due to our experience that Frank and I had the summer before when we had travelled comparatively light and had not had any trouble whatever in getting through even the worst spots that we were not there customer. As it was found water across the road where there had not been any before and the creeks were deeper and wider too. We were fortunate not to have had any serious mishaps, and with the month of June speeding along, we immediately had every horse hitched to breaking plows. There consisted of what was then known as a twelve inch low lift gang plow with two furrows, as usual, but instead a pair of handles to help steer it when turning at the end of the field. The other men were hired horse walking plows, one twelve and the other fourteen inch. We had got about two hundred acres broken when the weather became so dry and hot that we could not keep the breakers in the ground. However, we built the stable, 24 by 24, added an addition to the little shack, 12 by 16, dug a well, and put up the winter hay.

The steel was laid as far as Radisson that fall.

Although we had been having quite dry conditions on the new land, there had been more than enough rain at the Northern farm and heat or steam rust had damaged the wheat more than it had ever previously done.

Bert, Frank and Will went back there to look after the harvest.

I rarely saw anyone during that time excepting the Painter's who had come in that summer. Mrs. Painter baked my bread. And also the George Walker's. George used to keep my plow shares ground out for me, at twenty-five cents each. Mrs. Potter baked my bread on the basis of receiving as much flour for her own use as she used to make my bread.

It was a glad day for me when the boys arrived back: they had brought the cattle, and we proceeded to get things in shape for the winter.

As I write this and think of those early winters, I think that we must have been a fairly hardy lot. At that time there was not as much as a twig in hotel back the stove from drifting right up to the door and over the tops of the food stacks and low buildings. We were right on the open prairie and our small farms in the making, in the distance across the snow, were like a group of spots on the landscape.

There was a job for all of us that summer. Will stayed at the Northern farm, Bert and I were on the road every day making trips back and forth, bringing loads of feed, seed grain, machinery-binders drills etc. to the new farm. Frank stayed on the new farm, caring for the stock and extra horses, and also many many day cooking or repairing something for future use, as was characteristic with him all of his life.

1908 started on an unusual kind of year. There had not been much snow that winter and most weeks in the first week of March had it all melted. On the week of March Frank and I started harrowing down the backsetting with one outfit but it was a short lived spring because in only a few days it again turned cold and with more snow falling. We did not do anything more until on into April. The land did not need much further preparation and seeding was soon finished and we got a lot of breaking done that summer. The crop then was better than medium in yield but the quality was excellent, grading No. 1 Northern.

This was 1908 and Saskatchewan had been proclaimed a province with powers as Manitoba and Alberta had. Though of course with limitations similar to those of the other three provinces which were already in Confederation.

The date for the first Provincial election had been set to be held in mid October. Dad had been pressing us among the three quite sparse settlements that was in a general way in the Redberry constituency. His conveyance was a single horse and buckboard.

The Liberal nominating convention was to be held in Radisson and Dad had arranged for a Mr. McKinnon to nominate him, and I do well remember Dad's account of it.

Mr. McKinnon had come to the district from the U.S.A. As to whether he had ever taken part in a Presidential convention was not known, but the eloquence that were was that nominating addresses should be preserved in the Provincial Archives.

Dad was not without a nominator. Mr. Hind Barbara whose cattle and horse ranch was six miles from us had approached also Mr. Richard was known for miles around. He has sold good numbers of Shorthorn horses and steers to the homesteaders, many of them without money were given credit, and there would seem to be every good reason that this would render him some support, which undoubtedly it did, but because while he had quite a strong appeal in private conversations he had very little ability when speaking in an open meeting. It was when addressing a large gathering that I had met at his best. It was a home over the closest possible in his first appeal for public political support. Dad had won by a majority of one.

The Liberals won the election and the Redberry Constituency elected Dad also.

George Langley was elected Liberal representative for the Constituency of Redberry and was a member of the first sitting of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Saskatchewan in 1908. In 1912 he became a member of the government and was given the post of Minister of Municipal Affairs in the cabinet of the Honorable Walter Scott. In 1913 he also held the portfolio of Minister in charge of the Bureau of Public Health. He held this portfolio until his retirement in 1921. Always prominent in farm activities and organizations, he was most active in the formation of the Saskatchewan Co-Operative Elevator Company in

Though the land they chose as homestead N.E¼ 25-42-12 was not rocky, there would be occasional large boulders that required ingenuity, sweat and brawn on the part of the young men

1911. He retained a remarkable hold upon the imagination of all those with whom he came into contact. He possessed a great sense of humor and a magnetic platform presence.

The story of the Langley family homesteading in the Maymont district now continues.

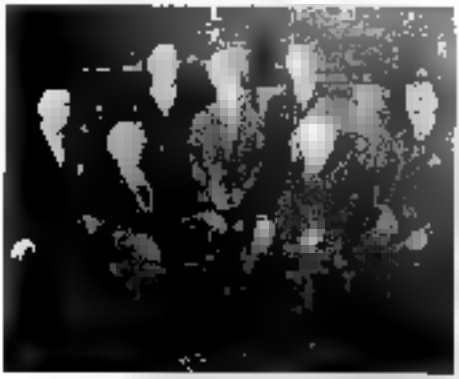
Submitted by Mrs. Margaret (Langley) Streatman.

As the mother and sister were to join them from Northern a house had to be built. Frank designed and built the two-storey building as it stands today. There was an earth basement, cistern and coal bin and a new coal and wood furnace. Trees had to be planted by hand and mulched well over two thousand. Spruce were brought from Meeting Lake to complete the grove. The cement posts that surrounded the yard were individually poured into molds, wire threaded through for the later attachment of a wire fence. The home became the centre of gatherings for church and social dances or other such social occasions. Alice played the organ and Will kept toes tapping with his violin. It is known that many times he was across the river playing at a dance and most reluctant to get up for work the next morning.

Bert as eldest and more studious looked after the financing and records. Frank was the organizer, builder and repairman. Jack had the drive and was a very hard worker. Will often was delegated as the cook. On one occasion he went down to the hillside sod chicken house to collect the eggs to find the door shut and a growl coming from within. As he pushed open the door a furry body flew through the window, down the hill and across the prairies — a lynx. The floor was strewn with dead chickens. Will checked them carefully and could not see how they had been killed. He took one and prepared it for dinner but no one could bring themselves to eat it. There were fortunately a few chickens left but their supply of fresh eggs and poultry was severely limited.

A carload of lumber was ordered in 1916 from Fred McCorkle of Maymont, for the construction of a large barn. They were now going into the breeding of the Belgian horse with a purebred stud "Barney". The well was a considerable distance from the construction might so an underground pipe was laid well below the frost line. to fill a cistern dug beneath the south end of the barn. The water was raised by hand pump to an indoor water trough. The floor was cement in the main barn but the lean-to had the foaling stalls with dirt floors — and just a cement walkway. In the winter the main barn would be partitioned off at the harness rooms, to retain heat for the few head of horses kept in for driving during the winter months. The new barn was a smaller area with drainage ditches and stanchions for each individual animal. The large loft provided shelter for the stack of feed. Two chop bins in the north corners would be filled with either oats or chop. Sheaves were elevated by a system of pulleys and slings. The slings would be laid on a rack and piled high with bundles. At the barn from the peak a very heavy rope ran along an overhead track and out the side of the barn, through a system of pulleys a team of horses were able to raise the load up from the rack to the track that ran across the entire roof. As the load came into position the smaller rope would be activated, the sheaves dropped when the slings opened and the slings would be pulled back and out by the operator. The ropes mentioned were made from twine and woven by their own "rope maker". In the playtime memories we can recall the adventures of the younger people who would ride those slings and drop off into the piles of hay below.

The farm site was on the crest of a hill, overlooking a valley and across ten miles to Maymont. Hailstorms had a pathway that often followed the crest of the hill along this valley. Many windows had been broken at the barn and Frank had finally replaced them all. August, 1948 would stay in the memory for during a sudden thunderstorm the barn was struck by lightning. The whole loft interior must have been on fire for the



In 1926 the Senior Langleys celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary. The members left to right are: Will, Mother Ellen, Jack, Alice, Frank, Father George, Bert.

JOHN LANGLEY — In 1798 came from Ireland (Ulster Rebellion) to Stafford Walden, England.

JAMES m: Mary Barber

JOHN

WILLIAM

WILLIAM

JAMES

JOHN

GEORGE b: 1848-1850 in 1876 m: Ellen Hales

ALICE 1877- 1973

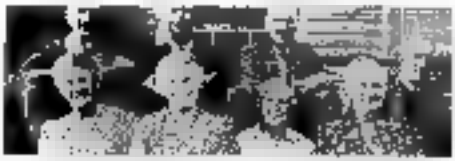
HERBERT m: Sarah Stephen 1879- 1952 Helen Bill Ted Jean

FRANK m: Kate Smales 1880- 1964 Margaret

JOHN m: Margaret Turnbull 1882- 1973 George Jim Stuart Arthur Cec Edna

WILFRED m: Mary Carter 1886- Alice Victor Fred Howard

roof was burning from end to end. It burned quickly and completely as it stood, never collapsing. Neighbors soon arrived to help prevent further destruction of other buildings by flying debris. The few pigs that were in the barn escaped injury. The wheat stored inside smoldered on the surface but the grain underneath was saved and a special permit had to be obtained to stop the smoke damaged food.



The four brothers and their wives taken about 1950. Jack and Madge, Will and Mary, Burt and Lady, Frank and Kate.

The years have passed and the original brothers are no longer here to tell their tales. Many descendants still live in the immediate area and in Saskatchewan. Some have moved to warmer areas as Vancouver while one great-granddaughter now resides in Holland.

Mrs. William Leask

submitted by Helen Sophie (Langham) Leask

In my teaching days after you had finished Normal School training, the only position available was to teach in a rural school. I never could understand the reasoning behind this. Surely it would have been much better to put the inexperienced teacher in the city schools with only one grade to teach! And, also, there would be some supervision.

However, after teaching several years in rural areas, I decided it would be much too unpleasant to teach one grade.

On August 18, 1925, I stepped off the evening train at Maymont. A gentleman stepped forward, took my arm and said, "This way Miss - - - - - -." I said, "I'm sorry I am not Miss - - - - - . I am Miss Langham." Mr. A. Brehon came forward and joked with Dr. Scratch for trying to take off with his school teacher. Apparently Dr. Scratch had been expecting a nurse. As I was the only lady getting off the train I should have been his nurse.

I taught in Keystone until December, 1925. Believe, me, it was never monotonous. There were sixteen to twenty-six pupils from grades one to ten. Two boys in grade nine were taking their lessons by correspondence. I was supposed to correct their work and help with any problems. The boys had decided they wanted to take French as their second language. The principal where I had taken my high school had majored in Latin. Problem number one! I had to do each French lesson and send it away to be corrected. At least, I learned a smattering of French.

The first day I entered Keystone School I noticed there were "spitballs" all over the ceiling but I didn't say anything about them. It takes time to get things organized with grades. So far there hadn't been any spitballs flying but it was a problem to deal with before it got going. One day I decided, "where ignorance is bliss 'tis folly to be wise". I innocently

asked "What are all those things on the ceiling?" Of course the answer came back "Spitballs" "What are spitballs" I asked They proceeded to show me "Who put them up there" Many hands went up "Well" I said, "You put them up there You will have to find a way to get them down

The next morning the two boys in grade nine came armed with trestles, planks and corn brooms. Much to my surprise they got the spitballs off

I usually played with the pupils during the noon hour – ball, tag, knife, whatever the season dictated. One day I had some work to correct and didn't go out. All of a sudden everything was still not a sound to be heard There was one girl in the room She had just come in so I said, "Where is everyone" She said, "They are all down in the bush and each has a girl on his knee" I rang the bell. They all came running and stood in two lines. The older pupils were all looking a bit sheepish Suddenly it just occurred to Nancy what I had said and laughing I never said a word about it! What could one say after laughing!

I taught to quite a number of rural school but I enjoyed my teaching days at Keystone most of all So to all my students of those days I say "Thank You."

Doris Evelda (Sherman) Lofsgaard

I am the fifth daughter (seventh child) of Charles and Anna Sherman. I was born on June 13, 1908.

My recollection of life on the farm near Pinkham, Saskatchewan is very sketchy, but certain things in my young life do stand out, such as walking to school, rain or shine, or perhaps I should say snow or shine, spending hours trapping, snaring or drowning gophers from their holes for the precious one penny bounty. I now shudder to think that at one time I was very good at it, I thought. Besides the gophers that were a constant bane to a farmer's existence I also distinctly recall the hoards of grasshoppers that ply father and brothers tried to destroy by mixing poison with grain and scattering it from a wagon around the perimeter of the fields.

What wheat stands they were able to salvage were harvested in the fall, and I remember trying to stook the bundles of wheat and somehow I never could make them look as neat as the grown men I wish young people today could see the monstrous I have at home with their rows of stooked wheat waiting for the threshing machine to come in and complete the harvest

As a young girl on the farm so many years ago I was not spared the drudgery of herding cattle, milking cows, feeding pigs and chickens, carrying drinking water from the well to the house, chopping wood, butchering chickens, churning butter in a rotating barrel churn, and scrubbing clothes on a wash board, all before I turned thirteen years of age. But these chores were interspersed with such goodies as – building playhouses in the trees, devising the rowest with blister tarns and hearing how angry my brothers got when they would get caught up in tarns while churning overtime through the bushes, and happy times running and hopping and singing out through the fields with all that freedom from care, and the dances and the Christmas concerts at Calais School, and oh, what a great joy to get to go to town with the horse and buggy

Winter was different I remember freezing my fingers and ears walking to school in a blizzard The silent teacher saw me coming toward the school with cap covered ear distended, and knew enough to put snow on my ear before letting me near the pot-bellied stove in the classroom But along with blizzards came snow drifts, and though they made it difficult to walk or travel in them were fun to play in, and made great mountains to sled on

Going to school in one room with other students up to the eighth grade was not as disruptive as one might think. I believe getting a glimpse of your next grade gave us a bit of incentive However, two of the most terrifying things in our early school life were the visits to our school by the District Superintendent of Schools, and the doctor I remember Dr Screech came periodically to vaccinate and inoculate all of us The fear of these incidents was passed on by others and was worse than the actual happening One of the fun things I remember was the inter-school track meets we used to have. Although it was so very frightening to me to have to meet and compete with strange people We were not very worldly in those days

These were a few of my recollections of life up to 1928 when we moved to Vancouver

March 6 1940 I married Bennett A Lofsgaard a school teacher from Klamath Falls, Oregon. After six years we moved to Sacramento, California and raised our three children. Evelda, born January 15 1930, living at Southern California now Catherine, born July 10 1931, now married and living at Metropolis, Illinois with her husband and tiny daughter, and Bennett, born October 6, 1942, now living in Sacramento

My husband and I have publish a daily report on planned Construction in our area. It still keeps us tied to Sacramento, but hope one day to visit my home town. I am a licensed private pilot, so we do have an opportunity to cover a lot of territory in a short period of time

The Donald Long Family

Donald Long was born on the Fred Long homestead, south of Maymont. He attended school in Maymont – often walking both ways. During the winter months the family lived in Maymont and returned to the farm in the summer Mr. Fred Long worked for the C N R for many years. In 1936 the family moved to the Calais School District – southeast of Maymont.

In 1935, I, Margaret McGuffin, of Senlac, Saskatchewan was hired as teacher for the Calais School. I taught thirty

Don Long family. Back row, L. to R. — Jim, Margaret, Donald, and Bob. Front row — Linda, Beth and Donna.

until June 1945. Money was scarce and times were tough, but the families and the school had a wonderful relationship. Each pupil pulled his weight and we all learned how to work as a unit. We had many happy times at field days, Christmas trees and picnics. Calvin always did well at Area Field Days.

In 1935, Donald Long and Margaret McGuffin were married. We farmed near Fielding. In March, 1937 our son, Bob, was born. Beth was born in July 1939 and Donna arrived in January 1945.

In 1946, the Ivor Longs and the Donald Longs moved to farms, south of Lloydminster. We bought adjoining farms and farmed together for a few years.

Our Linda arrived in July of 1947 and Jim came along in November 1951. Times got better and we have had a good life. We now have a few cattle with on our land.

Beth and Bob attended Calvin School with Jean Downey as teacher.

The three girls went through Teachers' College in Saskatoon and taught for a number of years. Beth is now Mrs. Charlie May of Lloydminster, Sask. They have four boys – Eddie, Greg, Gerry, and Mark. Donna married Greg Slasarenk, a teacher. They live in Creston, B.C. and have two girls – Deanna and Sharla. Linda married Don Holt, a teacher, and lives in Cranbrook, B.C. They have a girl, Gina and a boy, Geoffery.

Bob had two children, Murray and Marlyss, when his wife passed away. He remarried and now Bob has five children – Pam is married; Murray and Kevan are fourteen; Marlyss is twelve and Deirdra is eleven. Bob was elected M.L.A. for Cutknife-Lloydminster, for the N.D.P. in the fall of 1978. He still farms with Jim.

Bob showed early that he would be a politician. During the war, we lived on the Cameron farm, near Fielding. The airforce were training at North Battleford and came down the river valley and up our coulee. One day they flew so low that the dishes in the cupboard rattled; and we saw the wing extending over the south window. Bob was in Grade II and had to take a new item to school. He told of the airplane rattling the dishes and showing over the roof — but — he added, "I got up and ran around the house and there was the wing showing on the north side too". Miss Downey wondered about that one!

Jim attended U. of S. taking Sociology. He works as a Youth Counselor during the winter and farms with Bob during the summer.

Don and I are semi-retired and still living on the farm south of Lloydminster, Saskatchewan.

The Ivor Long Story

told by Ivor Long

My parents, Fred and Florence Long, and my older brother and three sisters, came from England in 1908. After working on farms to gain experience, my father filed on a homestead on the north bank of the Saskatchewan River, about five miles south of Maymont. I was born in 1910, being the first of family born in Canada. As the school at Maymont, where I received all my education, was some distance away, my father purchased a house in Maymont in 1918 from a Mr. Andrew Kerr. We lived there during the winter months, moving back to the farm in the spring, for the summer. My father was employed by the C.N.R. working on section. Then in spring of 1926 he purchased a farm four miles west of Fielding, which my younger brother Philip is still farming today.

As for myself, I received all my education in the original two-roomed school at Maymont which at that time was located on the west side of the road. My school days ended in June, 1924 when I completed my grade eight. As my father was still employed with the C.N.R., I was kept at home to help with the farm work. My first job at threshing time, was hauling straw for a large steam outfit owned by Jack Spies and Wes Rolfe. As I had to be there when the fireman was getting up steam in the morning, it would often be a fourteen hour day. After about twenty-five days of this kind of work, I began to realize that going to school had been a pretty soft life. I continued to work at home and for farmers until I was able to rent land and make a start at farming myself.

In December of 1936, I married Ruhama Rutherford and we lived on a rented farm owned by Alan Patterson, where our only son, Leonard, was born. In spring of 1940 we moved to a better farm, formerly owned by Robert Hodge, where we lived for six years. Our only

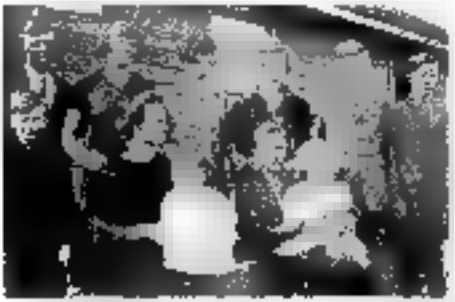
daughter, Evelyn, was born here. We purchased and moved to the farm ten miles south of Lloydminster in 1930 where we are still living.

Our son Leonard was married to Eveleen Mann, from north of Lloydminster and they have three children. He purchased a farm about two and one half miles away but chose to build and live on the home farm. Our daughter Evelyn is teaching in North Battleford.

Fred and Florence Long

Mr. and Mrs. Long arrived in Maymont from London, England in the spring of 1908. Mrs. Long was born in Gloucestershire, England. After leaving school, she went to London where she worked as a nursemaid. There she met Fred Long and was married in 1908. Fred worked as a bus conductor in London. At that time they were using horses, but later switched to motor driven buses.

When they arrived in Maymont they had four children. They stayed for awhile with Mr. Long's sister, Mrs. Percy Knowles, in Maymont and then moved out to a log house with a sod roof on Mr. Knowles' homestead, where they spent two winters. Their closest neighbours at that time were Mr. and Mrs. Walmot, who were homesteading on a quarter about half a mile east of there. Harvey Dunning owns the land at the present time.



The Long Family. L. to R. — Stanley, Marjorie, Peggy, Molly, Ivor, and Don. In front — Phillip, Mother, Miriam, Father and Gwen.

After moving around for some years, as Mr. Long worked on farm and road work, he also did some carpenter work and helped to build the United Church, he finally took up a homestead down by the river. He broke up the land with oxen. He managed to break up twenty-three acres and the following spring worked with Mr. Holmes and helped him to put the seed in. Mr. and Mrs. Holmes lived at that time where Glenburn Park is now situated.

There was a very good crop that year and Mr. T. Turner thrashed it with the big steam outfit. Fred bought some CPR land next to the homestead. He sold the oxen and bought some horses and broke more land. They farmed there for some time. In 1928 they sold that land and bought land in the Fielding District so as to be close to a school, that was Calais School. Phil Long is now farming the land.

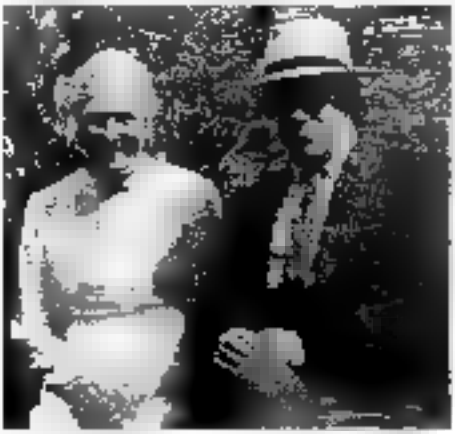
Fred Long passed away in March 1935 and Florence carried on with the farm for some time and then built a house in Fielding where she lived for several years. She passed away at the age of 64, April 9, 1954.

They had a family of nine children, five girls and four boys. They are: Stanley Long, Muriel (Mrs. Ed Larsen), Marjorie (Mrs. Frank Clayton) and Phillip Long of Maymont; Ivor and Donald Long, Gwendolyn (Mrs. Reese Holdest of Lloydminster and Miriam (Mrs. Ken Barbary of Vancouver, British Columbia and Alice who is predeceased.

The George Mabey Family

told by Mary (Hopkins) Mabey

In March, 1905, George Mabey homesteaded five miles northwest of Paddell. Mr. and Mrs. Mabey and small son Walter emigrated to Canada from England in 1901, and worked for a farmer at Carmen, Manitoba. Their son Herbert was born in 1902. Mrs. Mabey remained in Souris until after Frank was born in April of 1906, and at the end of May joined her husband, travelling from Saskatoon on the construction train. Mr. Mabey had bought oxen and wagon and supplies at Saskatoon, and travelled across country to the homestead with his brother-in-law, Herbert Dagnall, who was a carpenter. They built the first frame house in the district — a little grey house in the West — with two rooms, and a log lean-to kitchen and bedroom. During the first winter their main source of meat was



Mr. and Mrs. George Mabey on their 50th wedding anniversary.

jackrabbits. With plenty of water in the sloughs there were many ducks, and also prairie chickens and partridge in season. Periodically an R.C.M.P. officer rode through the district to check on the welfare of the settlers, but no charges were ever laid when he was served meals out of season. Visitors were always welcome and always invited to remain for meals or a place to sleep.

At first Mrs. Mabey was the only woman for several miles radius, as most of the homesteaders were bachelors. She baked bread for several of them during the summer months while they were busy with the necessary improvements on their land. In the winters they would return east to work timber for the next year. The nearest town was Rastadt and as soon as a school was built, Walter and Herb walked five miles each way to attend. When Frank was six, they bought a buckskin pony and buggy for transportation. Till then, they used a wagon and pair of oxen.

With no towns, a light was always kept burning in a window during blizzards as the wagon or even anyone was lost. Many were lost during a three day blizzard in 1911 and for weeks of bitterness in attendance. During the summer prairie fire was a potential hazard until most of the land was cultivated. The last one was in 1918 in the west of the town. Mr. Mabey and neighbours hurriedly plowed fire guards and backfired to save the buildings. Walking over the burnt prairie later was an unforgettable experience.

Mr. Mabey and Herbert Dagnall with other neighbours built the Anglican church at Lotus, St. Mary's, which is now a part of the Pioneer Museum in North Battleford. Mr. Mabey was a Warden for many years, and Mrs. Mabey played the organ for services until they sold the farm and retired to North Vancouver in 1946. Mr. Mabey died in 1954 and Mrs. Mabey went to live in Dromore where she died in 1964.

When music lessons existed in the district people would gather in different homes for an evening of fun and entertainment. Both Mr. and Mrs. Mabey were good singers, and Mr. Mabey could elocute and also recited amusing poems. Each September a community picnic was held in the Maple Grove on July 1st, with races and games for all ages. This event is still continued today.

Wood for heating was scarce, as the bluffs were of small willow and poplar. The men would go several miles south to the Saskatchewan river valley to cut logs and bring them back on sleighs or about the same distance north to the Whitewood hills. Keeping a fire going during cold winter nights was a problem until coal was shipped in from Alberta.

Herbert was the only son to remain in the home district. After completing a mechanics course in Saskatoon, he opened a garage and implement repair business in Rastadt. In 1933 he and his wife Mary bought the general store in Lotus. He also operated a garage and oil business there, and Mary became an integral part of the community. Herb was very musical, and played the violin and saxophone. With Mary Turner on piano and Hal Buttery on drums, the trio played for the dances in Rastadt hall and the area schools. Herb and Mary became avid curlers and played in many bonspiels. They sold the business in 1955 and retired to the West Coast.

Walter Mabey joined the Royal Canadian Airforce in 1918 in Toronto and lived and worked there till his death in 1961. Frank became an accountant and lived in Saskatoon, Winnipeg and Vancouver. He died in a drowning accident in 1956. Herb lived in White Rock, B.C. until his death in 1977. Myrtle married Adalbe Glover and lives in Toronto.

Pioneer Days as Remembered by Mrs. George Mabey

written in 1964

We took up our homestead in 1908 and my husband and a friend came to Saskatoon with our settlers' effects in March, 1908. The bridge at Nutana was out, so they built a shack and unloaded the car, storing their belongings until they could return later. They took a few necessities loaded in a wagon drawn by two oxen, Buck and Bill, and travelled on to Borden. There they crossed the Saskatchewan River by ferry and continued west. There were no roads and very few placed to inquire the way. Eventually they came to what is now Rastadt district and called in at a shack there and found there were five more south of there (relatives). They set up a tent and looked over a section of land which was virgin prairie. There was lots of water in the sloughs for the oxen but no drinking water so they hauled the slough water to make tea and coffee. They returned to Saskatoon, which was 14 miles, and loaded another freight car with the stored goods. The rails at that time were laid as far as Rastadt. The towns were just called sidings until the rails were laid to North Battleford.

In June 1908 I came from Leeds Manitoba with my three sons the youngest 8 weeks old. My husband met us at Saskatoon, which was a very small place then. We came on as far as the Dominion which is now Warman and where they were building a house. We had to stay there for a day and night to wait for the construction train which took us to the 33th siding. It was the roughest trip I ever had for the rails were not spiked and we wobbled from side to side. We finally arrived and our friend loaned us his horse and buggy to drive the five miles to the homestead. So we arrived on our land the 8th of July 1908. The house was of lumber brought from Nutana and used previously there to store our belongings and it was 14' x 20'. The winters were very severe 40 and 50 degrees below zero and my husband banked the house with sods to the roof for warmth. We had only wood for fuel as there was no coal for 2 or 3 years.

In 1909 my husband broke the sod and planted potatoes and other garden, but the gophers cleaned out

everything. The boys trapped hundreds and in later years we poisoned them. Good drinking water was a necessity and after several dry years our boys discovered green grass. A sign of water. My husband dug and I emptied the pails of sand and we had a good well. Many people came there for water for themselves and their cows. There were no horses good at that time.

The early bachelor homesteaders moved in their shacks during the winter months doing their homestead duties and at the summer worked out and had more neighbour visits and got broke up the land. Spring came late and we never started seeding till May often having snow then. We started the chores with bluestone and thanked it as a usual hard spell. There was only Red Fife and later Marquis varieties and year after year it would be frozen as the heavy frost in June kept it growing soft. Rust and Black rust would strike and the resulting grain harvested was only feed grade.

A kitchen and bedroom were added to the house after removal of the sods and the outside covered with shop siding. The house was the rendezvous of all the bachelor homesteaders and later the newer student ministers. We had several prairie fires which were terrifying. They burned out all the grass and left the ground hard showing up all the corners which had to be cleared from the land. The last prairie fire I remember was in 1914. The wood lands of poplar and willow had to be cleared with an axe and numerous bonfire piles were made to clear it. Most of the breaking was done with 4 oxen.

There were no schools until 1907 when a one-room school was built in Rudsell. The two oldest boys Walter and Herb walked the five miles to school each day from spring till Christmas. Later on when Frank was old enough to go to school we bought a two-horse jiggy named Nancy and the children drove in a buggy. In 1908 the men began to build the Presbyterian Church in Rudsell. Previously the roaming ministers held services wherever they could in barns and stores. Some homes were used and church got organized. Reading and receiving mail was quite a problem. It came to North Saskatoon by train and was taken to Richard. The mail boat came in only to Richard for the most and as Sundays we all gathered for a church service and to get our mail. Later a boat to Saskatoon used to call there and the men on Saturday afternoon to take and bring mail back. The settlers gathered and played baseball until Mr. Kennedy returned with it. The Mounted Police came around frequently to see how the men were getting along and what news there was and if anyone was ill about. They would stay for a meal and water and hear their true stories. We enjoyed happy social times and dances in some of the homes, the music being played on a reed organ and violin.

Rudsell at that time was a very busy town. Two grain elevators were built and farmers hauled grain during the winter from 30 miles north and from across the river. There were several stores and a hotel. Mr. Turnbull who farmed just south of town used the first tractor. Threshing outfits were horse drawn. Mr. Pepper owned the first Ford car and I think Herb Mahon owned and sold the first radios.

I remember one of the temperatures nearly went to Prince Albert to work for the winter and came back in the spring packing a whole harness loaded with flour and other necessities e.g. the way home. At the west end logs of the river during the winter and hauled them home for building purposes and fuel. About Christmas time in 1906 two neighbours shot a bear at the river, so everyone had some bear meat, which was tender and good. There were also deer and red foxes, but they disappeared as the country was settled. There were lots of jack rabbits which we called jumping deer as we had to use them for meat. At the time we had thirty-six rabbits hanging up frozen in a pole teepee. Some years there were lots of Saskatoon berries at the river so we used to hitch up the team and take some neighbours and canoe loads with pails of berries to preserve. On July 1st we had an annual picnic at the Maple Leaves near the river and that is still held each year.

At the beginning we had a sod barn for the cows. After nine years we bought horses and moved cattle and built a log barn with a hay loft. We built a log barn for the cattle and a log house of lumber. There had a roof of poles covered with a heavy layer of flax straw and on top of that sod. That was dry and stable. I made butter and traded it and eggs at the stores in Rudsell for groceries. I used to bake bread all days a week for our bachelor neighbours and our own family.

In 1908 fifty young people came from England to Prince Albert as there was no Universities then in Saskatoon. In the early summer they were sent to all the little towns to learn and establish the Anglican churches. Mr. Lloyd came to what is now Lake of the Rudsell District then. Mr. Thomas gave him an acre of land on which to build the church. At the churches built most of the stone pockets and just one pile of lumber. Later on when the money was available the men hired and finished the inside of the building and a good heater was installed. My eldest son made the altar table and the Women's Auxiliary supplied the linens and bought and made the curtains. A new organ was bought and constructed in the church. At the beginning there was also a sod stable, later replaced by a frame building. Later there was a manse built for a resident minister.

We had a different student minister each year from May to September when they would return to college. There we had crowded services and later on crowded rooms. The church was named ST. MARY'S. Mr. Harry Wetherd acted as the minister's warden through the years and Mr. George Mabey as the people's warden. In the early years the people were mostly Anglicans and there was a good congregation. I played the organ for 35 years at all the services.

Mallows, Albert, Dorothy, and June

Albert Mallows came from Comberton, Cambridgeshire, England, to Canada in 1906. He worked on a farm in Stratford, Ontario, until heading West in 1909. He worked on the farm of the Charles Robinson family in Ruddell.

During the 1914-18 war, Albert joined the Canadian Forces and served Overseas. He acquired the name 'Shorty' because of his stature. His brothers were very tall, so no doubt many comments were made re his height. 'Shorty' remained with him through the years as did his barbering, which he took up during the First World War, of which he loved to recall many stories.

Albert Mallows holding the horse in front of his pool room and barber shop, Ruddell.

In Ruddell, he operated a Pool Room and Barber Shop on Main Street. The upstairs portion of the building was rented to various lodges for their meetings. The morning of November 11th every year, that big room hummed with the sound of the Legionaires making their delicious ham sandwiches for their annual Remembrance Services and social evening, in the Village Hall.

During the World War I, Albert met Dorothy Lamson, and she came out to Canada in 1921 to marry Albert. The Ruddell folk gave Dorothy a Bridal Shower, complete with some Canadian recipes. She used these and became very Canadianized in every way.

Together, Albert and Dorothy Mallows operated the Ruddell Post Office for many years. At first in a small building, next door to the house they rented, opposite the Cenotaph. Later in a building which remains at this date, on the Main Street, he had the Post Office in one half, and the Barber Shop in the other.

Albert used to meet the trains, morning and evening to pick up the mail. In the stormy, wintery weather it sometimes meant waiting up all night. More than once, the evening train would come in from 7-8 a.m. While Dorothy sorted that mail and operated the Post Office, Albert would be at the Railway Station to meet the regularly scheduled morning train heading East. He was always well acquainted with the Railway Station agent, as they sat around the big heater, exchanging stories. In the early years the Mallows handled mail for Ballasalla area. In winter drivers would cross the ice on the Saskatchewan River to transport their mail to and from the district.

Before retiring from the Post Office, Albert and Dorothy bought May White's house, where they resided until their passing in 1970 and 1978, respectively. In 1971 Dorothy married Jack Humphreys, a life-long friend of Albert's.

Jack and Albert, both from Comberton came to Canada together in 1906. Jack went back to England and joined the English Forces during World War I. He and his wife Ada, (also from Comberton) operated their farm in Eston, until Ada's passing in 1965.

Jack still lives in the house in Ruddell. He enjoys visits from his family and neighbours. Dorothy and Albert Mallows only daughter June, with her family, also visits Jack.

June is Mrs. Milton Dingham, and married Mrs. Beth Easterbrook's son. They reside in Comox, British Columbia, where Milton retired after thirty-three years, in the Canadian Armed Forces. Their eldest, Milton works in a Bank in Vancouver, while the youngest, Beverly is attending the University of British Columbia there. Daughter, Dorothy, is Mrs. Earl Kelly and they reside in Mackenzie, B.C., where they both are employed at B.C. Forest Products.

The Martin-Barrett-Roy Rogers Story

written by Irene (Barrett) Rogers

When Benjamin Martin of Leicester, England was advised by his doctor to 'go abroad' for health reasons he chose Canada. He owned a Musical Instrument Store and manufactured reed organs. He brought an organ and the parts for several other organs with him when he, his wife, Hannah, and two sons, Benjamin Hamilton and Gerald Harry, arrived in Canada in 1904. He took up a homestead on Section 12, Township 49, Range 12, W 3rd in Saskatchewan northeast of where Maymont now stands.

Here they put up a 14' by 16' frame building where they spent the first year. With their possessions were many fine linens which had to be stored in trunks and with no place to keep them from getting wet they mildewed and were lost. Hannah was very homesick and lonesome, as a result her health failed and her two daughters, Maud Mary and Lilian Agnes, made plans to come to Canada to be with their mother but she passed away three weeks before they sailed. They arrived in April 1908. As she lay sick and dying her husband and two sons had to go and fight a prairie fire

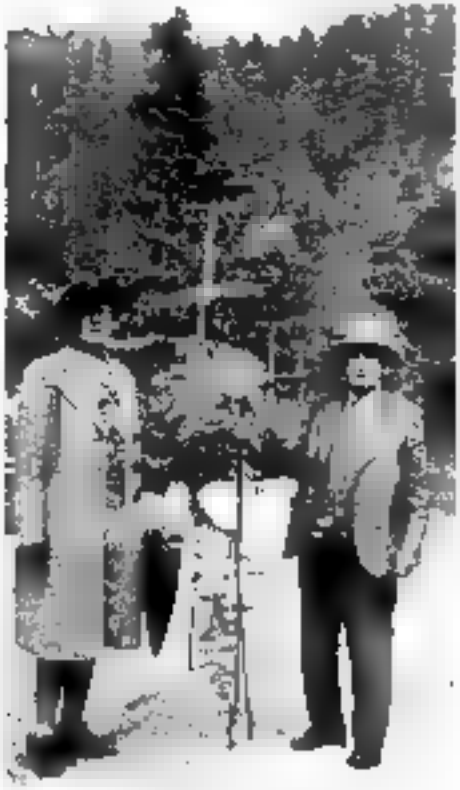
even though this was in February. Benjamin made the casket and she was buried on the homestead. Later when the cemetery was established in Maymont, the body was moved there. This was the first death in the area.

Keystone School opened in May 1906 and Benjamin was on the first school board.

He made one of the organs and played it for the church services held in the school. This organ stayed in Maud's family for fifty years. About 1954 it was shipped to Lethbridge to one of Benjamin's great-grandchildren. J. Maud's daughter, remembers as a child playing in the late 1930's with the rest of the organ parts that were still stored in boxes outside, never made up. We didn't have toys in those days.

Benjamin stayed for only two or three years and went back to England leaving the four children in Canada. A fifth child, Mary Ruth, had always remained in England.

In 1907, the second son, Gerald Harry Martin,



Mr. and Mrs. Seager Wheeler in beautiful Victoria, soon after retiring

became the manager of a store in Maymont when Edgar Bean, Maymont's first storekeeper was thrown from a buggy and killed. Harry continued in that position until 1925. During this time he started up the first furniture store in Maymont and his brother, Ben, worked with him. Harry then bought the Harness Shop from Henry Christfield and in 1913 Ransom Rogers went to work for him. Harry also started up the first undertaking business in Maymont.

Harry bought one of the first cars around Maymont, a Rambler.

Ben was called to war but by the time he got to England the war was over so when he came back he went to Lethbridge, Alberta and started an undertaking business there. By 1925 Mrs. Bean's son was old enough to manage the store so Harry left to join Ben, selling his business here. They had a very successful undertaking business in Lethbridge which their sons still manage. Ben who had three sons and Harry who had one son, have both passed away.

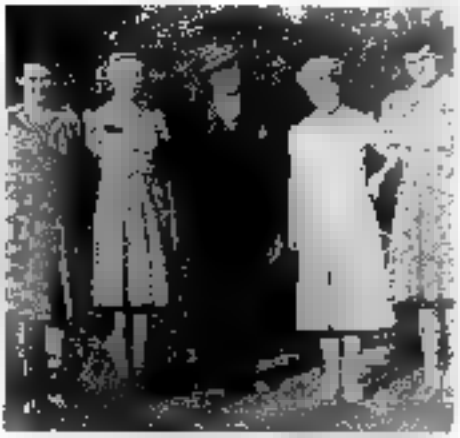
Seager Wheeler came to Canada from the Isle of Wight at age seventeen, in May, 1888. He lived in Moose Jaw for awhile and then took up a homestead at Rosthern. In December 1900 he married Lillian Agnes Martin, Benjamin's youngest daughter, the first wedding in the Anglican Church in Maymont. The spire of the church still wasn't finished. He continued to farm at Rosthern, becoming very famous with his wheat, potatoes and fruit trees. He won the World Wheat Championship five times. Upon retirement they moved to Victoria, B.C. They have both passed away and are buried in the Bergthal Cemetery at Rosthern.

They had four daughters. Two are living in Saskatoon; one in Edmonton; the other one in Rosthern, and her son farms the original farm.

George Barrett came to Canada from the Isle of Wight in 1884. His wife, Sarah, a sister of Seager Wheeler's mother, and three sons Fred, Percy and Will, came two years later. Will, the youngest, was six at the time. They lived in the Moose Jaw area where a cousin lived, then moved to Rosthern. Will came to the Maymont area around 1913 and took up a homestead on Section N.W. 28, Township 42, Range 13, W 3rd. His parents, George and Sarah, came to live with him. Percy came to Maymont and started the first photography shop. Many of the early pictures of Maymont were taken by him. Fred was killed at the age of eighteen, when thrown from a horse.

Will married Annie Weston in 1913. Vernie was born in 1914 just before Will's father, George died. His mother died in 1917 and they are both buried in Maymont Cemetery. A second daughter, Estella, was born and in 1918 Will left the farm to manage a grain elevator. A third daughter, Ethelwyn, was born after this. They lived many years in Denholm, Saskatchewan then moved to Lloydminster where he retired. Will passed away about 1968 and his wife still lives in Surrey, B.C. with Vernie, now a widow. Estella

Will Barrett's wedding picture.



The Barrett family — 1941 (L. to r. — Ruth, Ethel, Stanley, Mrs. Barrett and Irene).

Percy Barrett and Stanley — about 1913.

passed away at an early age with multiple sclerosis. Ethelwyn has two daughters, married and all living in the Coquitlam area in B.C.

Percy married Maud Martin in 1907 and lived in Maymont for a few years. Stanley Frederick was born in 1908 and Lillian Ruth May in 1909. They then moved to the Martin homestead. Irene Maude was born in 1913 and Alice Ethel in 1924.

While Percy was breaking land with a walking plough the plough shear hit a stone causing the handles to strike him in the chest. From this he developed tuberculosis and after spending several months in the Saskatoon Sanatorium passed away in August 1923.

Stanley then took over the farming. A neighbour on the adjoining farm, Howard Chambers, gave up farming and Stanley rented his farm, too. He later married and lived on this farm but this was the era of no crops and low prices so he gave up farming and went to Vancouver. Stanley took the only job he could find at the time, washing dishes in a restaurant. He stayed with the restaurant until he became Head Chef. He didn't like being inside so much so got a job on a tugboat handling logs and kept with that until he was Captain of a tugboat. He also built and owned two apartment blocks in Vancouver. He died in 1962 at the age of fifty-three and is buried in Vancouver.

Ruth married Roy Schmidt of Sonningdale, Saskatchewan in 1930 and he farmed the land Stanley had farmed.

Irene and Ethel took all their schooling at Keystone School. We lived seven miles from Maymont and the only transportation was with horses and wagon. Later it was with a version of the Bennett wagon, a car chassis with rubber-tired wheels. Lucky were the ones

who owned a pony to ride. Usually it was the work horses we rode and they couldn't be ridden when they had to be worked in the fields.

We used to catch a ride to school with the neighbors but that means sitting by the window from anywhere up to an hour watching for them. We had no phone.

Before Stanley left the farm he bought one of the first battery operated radios, a large black box about twelve inches square and two and a half feet long with numerous large dials and knobs which all seemed to need turning at once. We would wish had a mule to his place in the evening to sit with our ear close to the machine to hear screeches, squeals and faint far-off music. Very exciting at that time!

The highlight of the school year was the Christmas concerts when I'm sure we practised for a month ahead of time. At the school there was a big evergreen tree but at home we always had a poplar tree which we trimmed with homemade decorations for Christmas.

Then there were the school picnics with lots of lemonade (from real lemons) and ice cream.

The school dances were great fun with one squeaky violin and someone chording on the organ. Then every second piece was "Red Wing"!

The babies or smaller children were put to sleep on top of the coats piled on the desks all around the room.

The stove was burning at first until it got too warm in the school, then it was picked up and carried out by three or four strong men, which meant more room to dance too. Everyone brought some lunch and it was pooled and passed around. Coffee was made in a wash boiler. A pound of coffee was sewn into a white cheesecloth bag and it was thrown into a boiler full of water which was then brought to a boil. Tea was often made in a nearby house and carried to the school at lunch time. Card parties later became popular. Usually two a year, one to raise funds for Christmas presents and one to raise funds for Red Cross.

In 1938 Irene married Roy Rogers, youngest son of Eustace Rogers, who lived on N.W. quarter, 4-83-12-West. In 1943 Ethel married Jimmy Steele. Our mother spent her summers on the farm and winters with daughters or her sister, Mrs. Seager Wheeler, at Rosthern, later at Victoria. She passed away in 1950 and is buried in Maymont.

Roy and Irene continued to farm. Ransom still had the harness shop and undertaking business with which Roy still helped him. He worked under Cotton Funeral Home, North Battleford. A casket in those days was thirty-five dollars. Many of the people who couldn't afford that much had a municipal funeral. Ransom and Laurie Curry made the caskets out of cedar and spruce, covered the outside with grey flannelette and Mrs. Rogers lined the inside with white satin. Handles were purchased and put on. These caskets cost fifteen dollars.

There were five children born to Roy and Irene, Elaine Ada in 1940; Christine Ethel in 1942; Carol Marie in 1944; Louise Marilyn in 1950 and Brian Edward in 1956. The three oldest went to Grey School until Elaine finished her Grade VIII and then they went to Maymont. Grey School was closed shortly after and is now in the Western Development Museum in North Battleford.

Crops were poor the first ten or eleven years we were married, ranging from five to ten bushels to the acre. We always had several cows to milk. Feed was very scarce at times. One year Russian thistle was cut green and put up for hay.

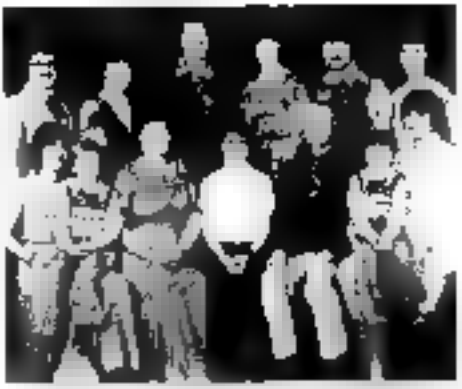
Once farming with tractors became common better farming methods were practiced and crops have been good.

Elaine married Ron Bohn and moved to Campbell River, B.C. in 1960. Ron has worked in a Pulp Mill ever since. Both being farmers at heart they bought fifty acres fifteen miles south of Campbell River along the Island highway and kept a few chickens, cows and pigs for awhile. They have three children — Connie Arlene, born in 1964, was married in 1975 to Henry Nickel and is living at Black Creek, B.C. Dale was born in 1968 and works for Pacific Playgrounds. Laurie Roger born in 1963 is still at home.

Christine took a secretarial course in North Battleford and has worked in North Battleford, Saskatoon and Calgary. She is presently working in Saskatoon.

Carol married Wayne Bright in 1963. Wayne taught school in Hudson Bay, Saskatchewan for one year and then in Ploaty, Saskatchewan where he still is teaching. They have two children; Tammy Anne born in 1968 and Jeffrey Lee born in 1964. Carol works in the Royal Bank.

Louise finished her high school in Ploaty where she babysat for Carol. She is the town secretary for Ploaty and is married to John Doering who is a carpenter. They have two boys: Darryl Brent born in 1973 and Michael Kurt born in 1975.



Roy Rogers family. Back row — Wayne, Christine, Ron, Elaine, Brian, Carol. Front — Tammy with Darryl, Irene, Jeff, Roy, Louise with Michael.

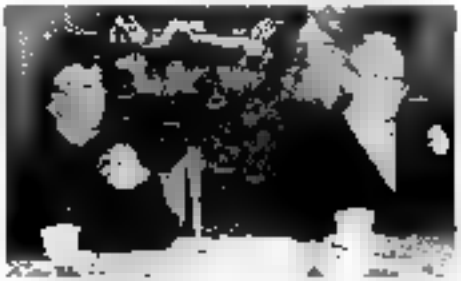
Brian after finishing school worked for a while with an oil company at Longview, Alberta, then with Alberta Power at Grand Cache, Alberta. He now works for Redi-Mix at Saskatoon.

Roy and Irene still live on the farm but rent the land to a nephew, David Rogers.

Roy runs a tractor during busy season for another nephew, Harold Moore.

Jean and J. Morris Martin and Daughters

J. Morris Martin, his wife Jean and baby daughter, Lillian, arrived in Maymont from Sioux Falls, South Dakota, July 20, 1920. They are still living in the district.



Mr. and Mrs. Martin's 48th wedding anniversary, Dec 28th, 1978

Morris, familiarly known as "Moe", and his partner, H. Chamfield bought the Maymont livery and feed barn from F. Elliott in 1920. Moe did most of the driving so soon became acquainted with much of the country and many people. A car was used for summer driving. Horses were usually used for winter driving. During the winter months Moe was often called at any hour of the day or night to drive the doctor on his calls. The trips were often long, the weather bitterly cold and the winter roads, at times, almost impassable. It was not uncommon to make a forty mile trip with horses. Moe and the doctor made a long remembered trip in the winter of 1923. The doctor was called to a home several miles beyond the North Saskatchewan River. The day was cold, the time was 4:00 P.M. and the Model T car that they were driving was old. They had just crossed the river on the return trip when the car hit a snowbank and died. The only way to get to help was to get to a telephone in the empty ferry house. They were both tired and numb with cold when they reached the house only to find the door locked. They found a way to get in. Dr. Scratch went straight to the telephone. About 2:30 A.M. the phone rang in the home of William Gray, a farmer who lived about a mile from the river. His son, Roy, answered the phone. The call was from the doctor who said, "Moe and I are at the ferry. We are both terribly cold. The car is in a snowbank and we need help." Roy rushed to the ferry with a team of horses hitched to a sleigh, ordered the two men to get into the car and they were soon on their way up the long river hill. About 4 A.M. two cold hungry men reached the Martin home where they found the house warm and the tea kettle boiling.

J. M. Martin sold his business in 1927. Shortly thereafter he started to buy grain for the Searle Grain Company and continued for more than twenty years.

In 1944 the Martin family made their home on land near the village that had been purchased from the C.P.R. in 1908 – S½, 31, 43, 12, W3. It was convenient for Moe to enjoy life on the farm and also to be close to the elevator. After retiring from the Searle Company he took up farming in earnest until 1975 when he moved to the village.

In 1934 when Mrs. Martin first came to Maymont she taught the junior grades in the basement of the Presbyterian Church. Later she taught for over eleven years at the Maymont School, most of the time in the primary room. She also taught in Grey School three miles north and one mile east of Maymont, in the Asgard School near Scottsdale and in the Gateway School south of the North Saskatchewan River.

Mrs. Martin found that the North Saskatchewan River was a barrier between her home and the rural schools of Asgard and Gateway. There were times, especially in the spring, when she was not too happy about crossing the river. One Monday morning she arrived at the river expecting to cross on the ice. The river was filled with great chunks of ice slowly floating down stream. Mr. C. Coleman, the ferryman, was standing near a heavily laden rowboat. He motioned to Mrs. Martin to get into the boat and warned her to keep very still or she didn't wish to sit in the bottom of the river. Then he casually seated himself in the boat, picked up the oars and skillfully found his way through a channel in the ice.

Mrs. Martin made her first trip to the Gateway School when the ice on the river was unsafe to cross and the roads were unfit for wheels or sleighs. She was driven to the river on a wagon, was obliged to climb a high tower to reach a box hung from a cable that crossed the river, pulled into the box by the ferryman and enjoyed a swift ride across the river. Mr. Ira Price, a school trustee, was waiting with a horse and buggy to drive her to the school house. The children were waiting and ready for the day's work when she arrived at her destination.

Jean Martin's mother was nine years old when she left Scotland. Her native land with her twenty-one year old brother to make her home with the family of an older brother who lived in the Niagara Peninsula near Ingersol, Ontario. Jean's father was born in the same area.

When Jean's parents married they decided to 'go West' to Manitoba where land could be had for the

dollars and other land for about two dollars per acre. They filed on a homestead and built a log house for their first home. It was situated a few miles north of Fort Ellice, a fort that was built near the meeting place of the Qu'appelle and Assiniboine Rivers. Her parents could often hear the whooping of the Red River carts as they passed along the "Old Fort Ellice Trail."

Jean Martin was born near Binscarth. She was educated in Binscarth and Winnipeg. She taught school in Marquette and Russell, Manitoba. Morris Martin, was born in Minnedosa, Manitoba. The family moved to a farm near Binscarth when Morris was nine years old. He attended the Crescent Ridge School near the farm home.

Morris and Jean Martin were married in Winnipeg, December 28, 1918. Their first home was in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Their older daughter, Lillian, was born in Sioux Falls. Their younger daughter, Jean, was born in Maymont, Saskatchewan. Lillian was educated in Maymont and Saskatoon. She attended the University of Saskatchewan and received her B. Ed. Degree. For the past sixteen years she has been teaching in the Lucerland High School.

R. R. Rembel and Lillian were married December 27, 1947. There are three children. Raymond has his degree in education and taught school three years before moving with his wife to Lloydminster, Saskatchewan.

Leslie attended school in Lucerland and continued her education in Lloydminster. At present she is in Red Deer, Alberta.

Joy attended school in Lucerland, trained for a nurse at the Foot Hills Hospital, Calgary and is now an R.N. in the Royal Alex Hospital, Edmonton.

Mrs. Martin who joined the Homemakers Club in 1936 is a life member of the organization.

In March, 1975 she received the Merit Award from the Saskatchewan Women's Institute in recognition of service.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Martin celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary December 28, 1978.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Martynes

From Russia, Martynes with brothers, sisters, father and cousins, eight in all, arrived at Ruddell train station on February 14, 1930. The temperature was a cold thirty degrees below. They were met by Bill Kennedy who notified brother Gerald Martynes who had arrived earlier. Gerald picked them up at the station. The Martynes made their first home in John Trezenky's house. They found jobs on farms in the district.

The following winter the Martynes group rented the Anderson house, spending the winter there. In the spring they rented the old homestead.

Peter married Agnes Epp, December 16, 1931. This

The Anderson Place present home of Mr. and Mrs. P. Martynes.

is when the relatives left to make their own homes. Grandpa Martynes passed away March 22, 1931.

A happy occasion on October 6, 1932 when Arthur Hugo was born.

It was a difficult life for the family as there were continual crop failures. Farming finally improved in 1938. During the depression there was always enough to get in spite of all the problems.

In 1946 the Martynes moved back to the Anderson house which is their present home.

Peter under went major surgery in Saskatoon while Agnes carried on with all the tasks that were waiting on the farm.

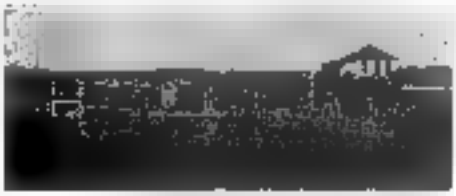
Their farming methods improved when a tractor was bought. Money was very scarce so a friend, John McKenzie, helped them out in order to be able to make this purchase. In 1940 a threshing machine was bought and they did custom threshing.

The crops improved in 1942 when they really started to farm.

Arthur attended school at Ruddell and attended Rosthern Junior College where he graduated.

Lots of hard work and long hours was the life of the Martynes. They enjoyed it!

Arthur began to take over the farm at about the year he married Ida Flamm from Norquay. Three children were born to this family. Kenneth born November 23, 1958 — a very exciting time for both



First homestead of Mr. and Mrs. P. Martynes, and Arthur's birthplace.

parents and grandparents; Markus born April 4, 1979 — a little brother for Konrad. At present Konrad is in Grade V; Markus in Grade III.

Konrad and Markus were always hoping for a sister. They would mention this in their evening prayers now and then. September 19, 1976 Natasha joined the family — a very happy occasion. The Martynes are still farming. The days aren't quite as long and the work isn't as hard. They still find farming an enjoyable and rewarding life.

Maxwell (George and Hazel)

George and Hazel Maxwell retired to Maymont in February of 1957 where they could be close to their daughter, Anna. They took up residence in the former Anglican parsonage on the north side of the village.

George Maxwell and Hazel (Dunbert) Maxwell were married in November, 1902, at Chatsworth, in Grey County, Ontario. They farmed for several years in the Chatsworth area.

George's father, Leonard Maxwell, was born in Dublin, Ireland, and came to Canada as a young boy with his family who settled in Ontario. George was the second son of a farm couple, Leonard and Hannah Maxwell, who had a family of four girls and four boys which included twin boys.

Hazel was the youngest of a family of eight children of John and Susannah Dunbert who lived in Hepworth, in Bruce County, where John was a machinist in a furniture factory and Susannah operated a bake shop. Later, the family moved to Chesley where John was a carpenter and his wife continued the bake shop business. John's father had come to Canada from Germany.

In 1908, George and Hazel, with their two small daughters Ruby, and Anna an infant, moved to Saskatchewan settling in the Mount Hope School District, 16 miles north and east of North Battleford. A small lumber house was built over an earth cellar for the family, and a log barn provided shelter for the horses and cows. There they managed to struggle through the dirty thirties on a quarter section working hard for long hours with very little returns.

In 1925, their second daughter died a few hours after birth and, in 1933, at the age of nine, their eldest daughter, Ruby, died from a ruptured appendix. Anna was the only child from then until 1936 when son Robert was born.

By 1944 they decided to look for a bigger farm and late that fall moved to the Saljemie district where they farmed a half section for several years until George's failing health forced them to give up farming and they moved to Maymont.

Daughter, Anna, married Colles Brehon in 1930, and they farm just a short distance east of Maymont. Son, Robert, quit school after Grade VIII and went into the R.C.M.P. when he was eighteen. After completing his training at Rockcliffe, Ontario, he was posted in Two Hills, Alberta. A few years later he left the R.C.M.P. and moved to Edmonton where he began working in the Social Services Department and today is the Director of the Regional Offices for Alberta. Bob married Elaine Tymchuk of Two Hills, and they have two sons, Chase and Grant. Elaine has become an assistant for a podiatrist in Edmonton. Chase now has his commercial pilot's license and is taking further pilot's training. He shares his father's interest in flying, his father having built his own aircraft, a two-passenger Zodiac. Grant is working towards his Bachelor of Music degree at the University of Alberta.

George Maxwell died at the age of eighty-four, and Hazel carried on alone for a few years till ill health forced her to move to River Heights Lodge in North Battleford where she receives the necessary care.

Memories include the days in the fall when Hazel would take the mattress ticking, made from flour sacks, and fill it with freshly threshed straw for the bed. The first few nights you slept quite high off the floor but gradually as the straw packed you eventually got down to a normal mattress thickness.

Living so far from town meant one didn't go to town very often, especially in the winter. It took four hours to go to North Battleford in the sleigh with a load of wheat, wood, or sometimes a cow. The horses were left to feed and rest in a hay reserve for that purpose or put in the livery barn. Late in the afternoon when

Four generations. April 10th, 1977. Great Grandma — Hazel Maxwell; Grandma — Anna Brehon; Mother — Janet (Brehon) Eckel; Baby — Pamela Lee Eckel.

the shopping had been done one would start the long drive home again. George had a big fur coat he always wore and walked behind the sleigh for a short while to keep warm when the weather was extra cold. Anna accompanied her Dad on several occasions and remembers making a trip alone at the age of eleven with a wagon load of stove wood, her sister having met her at the out-skirts of the city to go with her to deliver the wood, and on the trip home they kept stopping and waiting to make sure Anna was coming along all right. Her dad rode the last five miles home with her as it had gotten dark by then.

The family would go down into the cellar during the big wind storms as it was feared the small house would be blown away but it withstood many storms.

Donald William Angus MacDonald

by Emma Johnston

Donald William Angus MacDonald was born July 23, 1926. His parents were Angus and Emma MacDonald. He attended Maymont, Moosomin and Wayside Bank Schools. He worked on the farms of his uncle's for a few years; was also employed by Friedman and Karpan in the store for awhile. Finally in 1946, Donald went to Kamsack where he was employed by Harold Dodds as a butcher. He met the former Doreen Ramage who was teaching school in Kinistino and on October 10 1948 they were married at her home in Star City, Saskatchewan.

They lived at Quill Lake where Donald was working in an auto body shop. Their first child was born at Quill Lake in 1949 — Sharon Diane.

Later Donald moved to Watson and was employed at the butcher shop until he took over the Auto Body Shop. His family increased. The six children born in Watson are: Maxine — May 4, 1950, Earl Lawrence — June 15, 1952; Beverley Dawn — December 28, 1956. Dale Arthur — November 21, 1961. Dennis Boyd — October 7, 1962 and Donald Bruce — February 7, 1967. Donald is known to his friends as "Dally".

The three girls are married and have children of their own, so we boast five grandchildren. Two of the girls are school teachers.

Donald has always been a great sportsman. He has been very active in hockey, both playing and coaching, and baseball where he played the position of pitcher for many years.

He is a member of the Lion's Club and has served on the Fire Brigade for twenty-eight years, the last thirteen as Fire Chief.

The last two years has found him busy building a lovely ranch house on his six-acre country lot just south of Watson. He spends all his spare time among his trees, lawns, flowers and gardens, barbecuing and entertaining friends and neighbors. He is proprietor of Watson Auto Body Shop which he and his eldest two sons still operate.

In November, 1960, I married Arthur Roy Johnston and moved out to the Earnest Johnston farm, where Arthur (Doug) worked with his dad and brother James. Donald and Wilma were with us. Mary stayed in town with her grandparents to finish high school. In August, 1961 we were blessed with a daughter, Ruth Darlene Julia. We remained on the farm until Ruth was married in 1980 when we moved back into our house in town.

We continued to farm from town during the summers but closed our house up during the winter for a few winters. One winter we spent in Watson, Saskatchewan near our son Donald; one winter we lived with our daughter and son-in-law at Vonda, and another in Saskatoon, and one in Wadena, Saskatchewan.

In 1979 we came to Regina. We had rented our farm and Arthur got a job and we decided to stay. We lived in an apartment for five years and finally Frank and Ron built a new home and kindly asked us to share it with them; so they built us a lovely suite on the lower floor.

We are both Senior Citizens now and sure appreciate being near our family. I lived at Maymont for sixty-two years. I have made many good friends in Regina. We attend Zion United Church. I quilt with the ladies in the church basement every Tuesday, and go five-pin bowling every Monday. I have gone to Bible class for a year and a half and really enjoy it. also belong to the Senior Citizens' Drop-In Centre and New Horizon Group.

We are happy in our little house. We are close enough to Donald and Mary that we can visit them on week ends.

I have thirteen grandchildren and fifteen great grandchildren. In 1977 I spent a month in Great Britain with some members of my family. We visited England, Scotland and Wales. In 1978 I had a tour of California, Mexico and other U.S. states. August, 1978 spent two weeks in Jamaica, West Indies. I have made two trips back to Ontario and visited by birthplace and saw where my grandparents were laid to rest. We still have some relatives there which we visited. I have made several trips to the West Coast where we also have relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. H. J. U. MacLennan

Mr. and Mrs. MacLennan came to Maymont about 1908. Duncan was a carpenter and Margaret a school teacher from Tatamagouche, Nova Scotia. Mrs MacLennan, a kind friend and neighbor, was a practical nurse and assisted Dr. Beraeth and looked after many women during childbirth. Both she and her husband were active in church, school and community activities. They left Maymont in 1929 and lived in Montreal. Both Mr and Mrs MacLennan passed away in Montreal, also Kay, a nurse. Their son, Donald, was called in active service in World War II. Three

daughters survive. Maurine was a nurse in New York and married a West Point graduate, R. B. Davey III. She and her husband were stationed at Honolulu at the time of the bombing of Pearl Harbor. They have two children and several grandchildren, and reside in Texas. Louise lives in the Eastern Townships, Quebec. She has a son and was predeceased by her husband and a son. Mr. and Mrs. Don Oulton (Annet) are retiring in 1979 to Tatamagouche, N.S. They have two children.

William MacLeod

William MacLeod was an early pioneer settler of the Fielding district Sask., born in the year 1882 at Lochmar, Ontario of Scottish ancestry. In early manhood he participated in the Caledonian Games held annually by the Clans of the area. In 1907 he came west and took up a homestead six and one-half miles southwest of the village of Fielding, Sask. and farmed there until 1942.

Several years later he met and married Lettice Harlow Woodin, daughter of the late O. T. Woodin, also an early pioneer. Woodin operated one of the largest and first straw burning steam driven threshing outfits in that area in the 1910's.

In the 1920's when rail and elevator facilities were not yet available to farmers of the Swengrydale area, grain to harvested had to be hauled by them north across the Saskatchewan River, after freeze-up, to Fielding, Sask. this was the nearest rail and elevator point to them necessitating a round trip ranging between 30 and 38 miles. Often the weather was bitterly cold with poor road conditions and deep snow. This caused much discomfort and hardship to these hardy pioneers. The rural road used by the Swengrydale farmers ran parallel to the MacLeod farm, situated 1¼ miles north of the river. On many an occasion, either due to a storm or exhaustion of horses and teamster, someone would stop at the MacLeod farm. There they were provided with food, shelter and rest. If found necessary to remain overnight at the small farm house, accommodation even though sometimes cramped, was soon comfortably provided. These grain haulers were always considerate of the hospitality and assistance provided, however meagre it was customary at that era when either due to mishaps, misfortune or unusual circumstances that neighbours were always ready and willing to lend a helping hand. The true pioneer spirit really existed in those days.

The depression years were grim, however these pioneers survived by hard work and great determination. All made many sacrifices. One cannot forget the relief shipments from the east coast of dry salt cod fish, which was doled out to all families through the winter.

William MacLeod is survived by his wife, one son Kenneth and two daughters Evelyn and Ileene. A daughter Jean died in infancy. The children attended Beckwith Rural School No. 3161 and later a High School at Fielding, Sask. The family belonged to the Fielding United Church and despite the long distance they resided from the church, attended faithfully via the roadpan of horse and buggy for many years.

Beckwith School was usually the center of Social and Sunday School activities in the early days and also during the depression. Many competent and faithful teachers served the district during that period, namely a Mr. Ford, Miss White, Violet Laidlaw (Mrs. Wm. Ford), Miss Edna Hamstock, Miss Ann Robertson. It is sad to note, that old rusty back rural schools have since been disposed of or demolished, with little thought given or effort made to preserve such a landmark.

In 1942 William MacLeod and his wife rented their farm and moved to Saskatoon, Sask. At this point he took up employment with the Field Husbandry Dept. at the University of Saskatchewan, under Dr. Patterson until retiring in 1953.

William MacLeod passed away in his seventieth year. His wife is a resident of Central Haven Personal Care Home in Saskatoon. Both Both married daughters also reside in that City. The son Kenneth retired from the RCMP and also served in the Navy in World War II, combining a total service of twenty-nine years in uniform. He is presently residing at White Rock, B.C. and has a married son living nearby practicing in Dental Surgery.

Boyhood Memories of George E. McAdams in Rudyard, Sask.

Born in Rudyard, Sask., June 17, 1897

At the time of my birth we lived in a small cottage about one block to the rear of the store.

Later we lived in rooms on the second floor above the store and I have clear memories of seeing muskrat pelts tied in bundles and stacked like cordwood on the landing of the stairs. Obviously my father traded with the Indians. I also have memories of seeing Indian women and children sitting on large rugs and blankets spread on the floor around the large wood stove which was used to heat the store. Most of the Indians were from the Sweet Grass Reserve and were very civilized and of a high character. When I was about five years old I was allowed to spend a day on the Sweet Grass Reserve with an Indian boy who had become my friend. I think I met him at the Rudyard school.

I also have memories of the busy excitement around the store in October. I can remember several large horse-drawn wagons loading up with great quantities of flour, sugar, coal oil, tea, etc. This was the homesteaders of the region laying in their winter supplies before the first snowstorm.

I also have some very keen memories of a great amount of excitement and horseplay on Hallowe'en night. The year would be about 1911 or 1912. Looking from our front window on the gable above the store I

George D. and Ada E. McAdams, baby is B. McAdams.

saw men shooting rockets into the door of the pool hall across the street. Some boys had set fire to a straw stack near the railway track and while our one policeman was checking on that problem the older boys determined to attack the poolroom. A small fire started but the local volunteer brigade soon had it all under control.

My father owned a fairly fancy democrat (four-wheeled buggy) and it was a great joke next morning to find that the "gay young blades" at Ruddell had perched it up on the roof of the local church.

We learned later that this was done with great care and much work as they had removed the wheels in order to get the buggy up there and then carefully replaced them when on the roof.

It shows the moral character of the men of that time as the next day the policeman brought in a note to say that it was all in fun and if my father would lay no charges the beautiful buggy would be brought down and re-assembled. This was done and Dad said he couldn't find a scratch on it.

I also have some clear memories of my first day at the Ruddell School. It must have been a trial affair (kindergarten style) as I was only five years old and spent most of the day playing with crayons. I think it was a one-room school with about twenty children.

I also remember my Dad buying a team of fancy coach horses called Hackneys. These were used with the four-wheel buggy mentioned above. One of the great items made by the Indian women was the famous "rabbit robes". These were made of tanned rabbit hides with the fur left on. The fur was cut into strips about an inch wide, then plaited into a blanket then Mother covered the whole thing with thick flannelette bag coverings. This was the greatest thing for a bed cover or a riding sleigh during the deep zero weather of winter. These rabbit robes were often traded in our store and fetched quite a price as they were much sought after by the people of "down East" Toronto and Montreal.

Like all children of that time I was much impressed by the spectacular thunderstorms of the Prairie summers. They were usually followed by a hailstorm and displays of static electricity. I can clearly remember seeing a flash of static fire dance off Mother's needle during one of these storms. Can also remember seeing a wagon with a haystack racing across the prairie as the wind drove it along.

Close friends of my parents at this time were Mr. and Mrs. Spence, proprietors of the Ruddell Hotel.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred T. McCorkle

Submitted by Helen Spence (McCorkle)

Fred McCorkle came to Maymont in 1903 from Welsford, N.B. He homesteaded a quarter section north of Maymont, and ran a store. His fiancee, Agnes MacDonald, Welsford, joined him, after their marriage in Winnipeg, in 1907. As Fred saw the local need for lumber, he opened a lumberyard, and later also operated a garage on Main Street and hired a number of mechanics over the years. He passed away at Maymont in 1942 at 68 and Agnes in Ottawa in 1962 at 72.

The McCorkles whole-heartedly endeavoured to make Maymont a town to be proud of and a good place to bring up children. They had four children: Margaret (Mrs. Trevor Parry), Ottawa. Margaret taught school at Keystone, Sperry and Beechy. The Parrys have a daughter and two grandchildren.

Helen (Mrs. Allen Spence), Fielding. They farm at Fielding and have three children and three grandchildren. Don (mentioned elsewhere) farms at Maymont. Brian, is in the audio-visual field, and Marjorie is a nurse. Mary is spending 1979 touring New Zealand and Australia. Bob and Irene McCorkle live in Ottawa. Bob was an instructor-pilot in World War II in Britain. A chartered accountant, he has worked in the Department of National Revenue since the war. They have three children and seven grandchildren. Donald McCorkle with the R.C.A.F. air crew in W.W. II, was shot down over France and is buried at Evreux, France.

There were several school fairs at Maymont in the early years. The Maryfield-Douglas Agricultural Fair replaced the local fairs.

Sunday School parades were a highlight. The clouds were watched carefully and prayerfully in hope the picnics wouldn't be rained out.

The McCorkles had a few of the early cars. One which comes to mind as E.M.F. which was jokingly called "Every Morning Fix". The old touring cars with the side curtains to put on when it rained were perhaps more lovingly remembered than some later cars. Roads were rough and speed was slow.

One event stands out — two of the children were ill with scarlet fever in October when the barn garage went on fire. What a time! Friends and neighbours hurried to help and managed to push out the McLaughlin Buick car with the canvas top on fire and holes burning in the upholstery. Friends sprayed the house with extinguishers. A new top and patched upholstery repaired the car. We were in quarantine until after Christmas with scarlet fever without our father being allowed to stay at home. Our mother became exhausted and we had a nurse, Miss Whiteman of Saskatoon, for the four-year-old who was critically ill with complications but fortunately recovered. Friends and neighbors were very kind.

Dr. Scrutch delivered most of the babies at Maymont in the early years. He was a warm, kind family doctor who was available at any hour to see a sick child. He worked day and night during the flu epidemic and only lost one patient. He was a good diagnostician and if in doubt sent his patients to Saskatoon for more expert advice. I recollect begging the doctor to bring us another baby so we would have five, the same as our neighbors.

In the depression many young men riding the rails came for a meal. A few were angry, all were young, and most were full of optimism and glad to have a chance to see some of Canada before settling down or going back to school.

In the "dirty thirties" a Mr. and Mrs. Love, with an infant daughter stopped at Maymont, walking the railway track from Ontario to make their home in British Columbia. They were given a meal and some necessities for their journey.

A "corn roast" at Bald Rock Farm, north of Maymont, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gilliard was an event for the district each fall. The Gilliards provided tubs of steaming corn cobs with pounds of butter to rub the corn on. The Gilliards came from the States and had a family of five girls, Ethel, Lucille, Marysdelle, Hazel and Cassetta. Gilliards always had a wonderful garden including a free bed of asparagus. They had progressive ideas. Mrs. Gilliard, in all weather, drove her girls the three miles by sleigh and buggy or cutter to and from school at Maymont.

A trip to Saskatoon by car was an event, with a ferry crossing at Borden and roads dependent on the weather. One such outing stands out — a trip to see a wonderful six-ring circus. Roads were good and the circus spectacular! Bob, a pre-schooler, became lost in the crowd and was at last found feeding the elephants. He was the only one not alarmed. Another time we spent a night in Langham due to muddy roads, only to find next morning that the roads from the ferry to Maymont were dry.

Eliza, Alice and Ida McCorkle

Eliza, Alice and Ida McCorkle all nurses, came from Welsford, N.B. in 1908 and spent some time with their brother Fred McCorkle. Eliza nursed at Sault Convent where she passed away in a typhoid epidemic. Alice later nursed in Hoosier, Maine and Ida, Mrs. W. J. McKeen, nursed at Medicine Hat, before moving to Nelson, B.C.

The McCready's

The McCreadys, Bill and Eleanor, are uniquely resident in the Maymont village where so many families have been firmly rooted for generations. We came not as pioneers nor even to retire but certainly to find temporary storage for our belongings from the Richard beachcrage.

However Maymont had churches, a bank, a store, a restaurant, and friendly people (many of whom we already knew). It was on the Yellowhead Route route to North Battleford and Saskatoon. So here we decided to stay. We bought from Bill Langley the old elevator house on Second Avenue. Bill did a renovating job during a rainy muddy August and the following year we installed water and sewer and a furnace. Water and sewer lines in later years have occupied much of Bill's time as councillor and later as Mayor of the Village.

Bill helped to organize the New Horizon Group and along with other civic-minded citizens spent much time and labor "fixing" the building which became the Senior Citizen Centre.

Bill has enjoyed fellowship there and at Cactus Flats and as the Municipal Office. He helped to reconvene the Lucker Plant and make rates in the old Bank of Commerce building. He is well acquainted with various culverts and drainage ditches as well as the water pumps and sewer lift and even with the lagoon (which is definitely out of the driveway bliss variety)!

All this he has enjoyed. For a few years he became an eager golfer but had to give up that sport as well as the curling game.

I have enjoyed my contacts with friends and neighbors and with the Women's Institute and the U.C.W. groups of ladies but I do miss the school connection. For a few years I was still able to do some substitute teaching and to spend many hours with my garden and flowers. Nature recently decided to take over the house planners by surrounding the house with trees.

Speaking of trees, our roots started in the British

John Hill, was, in fact, born in Ireland and came to the District Lake area with his parents and two small sisters in 1910. They homesteaded there and his father also taught school. He taught in the Waldheim District and other places before coming to Brownlee in 1918. There Bill finished his schooling and started farming at an early age.

My grandmother Dolan also came from Ireland as did great-grandfather Simon. They lived in and near Ottawa which was then Bytown. My parents raised a family of seven on a farm at Aylmer along the scenic and historic Gatineau. We were happy there attending a small school which still stands with its neighbouring town hall on the bank of the river. Although living in Quebec we were not bi-lingual and the school and teachers had a separate and English curriculum.

When we came west to the prairie country in 1918 it was quite a transition. For one thing the teacher had an over-crowded classroom run on Grade Eight. Since she did not relish having my sister alone in that grade she demoted me and my brother also. Our parents might have objected but I enjoyed the novelty of having seven sisters in the grade. The work was easy as we had a good grounding and could have handled our respective grades. But there was a wealth of extra-curricular to learn including baseball. At Aylmer we had played with a flat bat and a rubber ball (which often had to be fished out of the river). Each home run entitled us and as one only could spend all day at bat.

Many years and events between the bald prairie and the beautiful park country where I met Bill, I came by the teaching route. On my first day as a teacher I turned the tables on a big boy who was chasing his older sister with a large snake.

After having spent ten years in prairie country I was enchanted with Arthur Hill between Brownlee and Paynton. Incidentally it was there that I met Mrs. Petty who is known by all Saskatchewan and most teachers but more to the point of this story I met my husband-to-be. He was well liked in the intercourse of teachers in general. His father had just returned from teaching and his sister, Edith, was at a school in the Meadowdale district area.

When I moved from Arthur Hill it was to the Glenheath area where I had many many pupils. This was the thirty thirties. Jars and jars often went before pulled their heads of family and fitted by the school. Unfortunately for Miss Thacker, some had relatives or friends with whom to enjoy a visit and my lodging classroom really lodged. I was not lacking in composure and honestly tried to teach my transient scholars. Fortunately discipline was not a problem in Avery School.

One thing I will remember is the north-bound scholars coming after school to accompany teacher. They played the little games at "Teach-last" and as I was the most popular target I was usually happy to be escorted by the last trio and slowly sleep home. There I was quickly refreshed by the warm welcome I would be received from the lady of the house.

While at Avery I was the owner of a 1928 Chevrolet sedan. With it did not drive in winter. I do not remember where or why that I never got for the weekends. At that time a car was a mixed blessing as there were dips and dives and hills and dales between there and Brownlee as well as a shortcut which involved a scary swim with the ferry at Delmas. Depending on the current crossing, one sometimes had to drive off the ferry and into the river before eventually reaching a steep bank which sometimes held onlookers who bet on your making it.

Driving on the by-roads in the winter was often a problem. One Saturday Edith and I became firmly entrenched in mud. Inspiration prompted us to literally dig our way out. We fell to with our hands and flung mud balls in every direction. A very muddy pair arrived at North Battleford a few hours later.

In July 1936, Bill and I were married by a minister in a manse. During the brief ceremony my six-year old niece cried copiously but my sister and the other nieces were riveted.

There were bells during accompaniment as on our honeymoon. They sat on the edge of the back seat and issued instructions and comments. Highway Five being then on the square, we drove through Maymont and had a picnic lunch by the roadside. On the return trip these girls - a five wedding gift of beauty. Harriet Hanks reached from their rears in the back.

That wedding gift from my young brother played an important part of our second term after we had convinced the trustees that the car was not about home away from home.

Although they were supposed to have three rolls to provide eggs and compliments. For them the men rose and set on their newly-married manners and who after-wards I came home at all a check to find that all twenty had returned to roost.

But I would get away from the home and the pet pigs and cows and run away horses as I am still prone from the Maymont connection. In the fall of 1938 we returned to the Brownlee side of the river where Bill continued farming while we lived with the owner Mr. Crowder. To the community then I became Mrs. Hillier. I loved my teacher as I am dearly and we were happy on a basic stated-room terms. I was sorry to have quoted in the kitchen and yard area as I washed and scrubbed and cooked. I also gardened and restrained my enthusiasm with the hens and chickens as well as with the cows and the calves.

Then came the saga of the RIVER. During this period we were truly pioneers. I accepted a position of teaching a school about four miles distant but on the other side of the North Saskatchewan. For a short term I lived in a small unfinished, privately-owned cheerage. The field were held pursuant games of the nocturnal order and my first night I rose at two a.m. and carried my cot out to sleep under the stars. The

went week a cat prevented some of the cross-bars weeks but shade so much water jumping from floors to rafters and windows that I still could not sleep.

During that semi-drowned period I had the honour of becoming one of the newly-appointed inspector's first teachers. Bill Brennan remained a good friend throughout the years. Soon I was rendered speechless by becoming headstone! And after spending a few nights in the school we came up with the idea of becoming boat people. This was not truly depressing days on the farm and it meant getting up at four a.m. in order to be moving at that ever boat before 7 or 8 a.m. I wished to see Bill back to his waiting horses before I began my alpine walk to the school. Always I was drenched with dew and sometimes soaked by showers. The long afternoon trip left hours for farm and household picture resting at midnight. Cleaning and churning could always be done by lamplight.

It was a foolhardy venture for neither of us could swim. When we started on a weather Bill had to swim the oars while I hopped out and dislodged the boat. Later on when ice was forming I was the hatchet man who chipped and dove us to the bank. For a period of a week or so I argued with the Lardy Lassie until it took heavy oats to cross on the ice. Then I could do at least a mile of jogging on the river (usually hemp followed by three cowsers). The really stormy days Bill drove me all the way but he still had his farm work to do at home. Fortunately, my wife was able to take home with him barrels of water or loads of ice or logs. Brushing up the flood times I shall try to forget but I still wake on windy nights thinking "How can we cross that river?"

We had still another river job but the Battle River was not formidable and it had a bridge. I went there to substitute but the resignation of Graham had not return as full time teacher several years and years. Our daughter was born in one of the shacks. We went home only on week-ends and holidays and I had a written understanding that I could quit any time I wished.

Another term at Arbor Hill School where I got in action by various means and resorted on the farm a short time followed in the afternoons.

Meanwhile Bill had sold his farm and had torn down and re-built the house for his parents in the village of Strangler. We learned out our walking cows to a neighbor and went to Carrie for the summer months. We were persuaded to come back to Arbor Hill again in the fall and the band rented a house and barn about one mile distant. In the spring we again farmed out the cows and Bill went to farm with my family. However, Minnesota lured us short time later and I spent several months in Carrington Hospital.

Meanwhile Shaun was now five years of age so she came along to Carrie School with me in September.

Incidentally there had been some good farming years at Carrie but not '47. At or @

In the fall of '48 we went to a school with a anchorage. Fitzgerald proved to be our happy home for seven years before we moved to North Battleford where Shaun could attend "R.C.I." I taught at Cutknife and Bill did carpentry work.

When we left there in 1956 it was to live in the Maymont area at Keystone School. It was a small anchorage so Bill emerged a while we lived out of boxes and suitcases. Bill was working at Biggar at that time and my I overnight people decided I should not live alone. Anna Marie's parents agreed that I should have her live with me. She was an active and interesting as well as a devoted pupil who fitted in well with the three girls at Keystone. Her happiness was complete when she was able to take so many "parts" in our Christmas concert. She even did a hostel number - in which her costume consisted a rosy moth coat from the improvised foot-lights!!

Since we are now in the Maymont country I shall say we became acquainted with some of the villagers as well as the members of the Tambelon Mennist-Maymont Local. At one of our meetings which was held at our anchorage and co-hosted by Trudy Sloan we played a joke on Mr. Fowler. He had prophesied that since we lived in the "stucks" we would probably serve moose meat for lunch. Accordingly Mrs. Sloan made a huge bun and Bill turned our trample at Fitzgerald for accordingly. The moose was really delicious and we later learned that Mr. Armstrong would have re-shot it too.

In May 1958 a movement was on to transport the school and its pupils to Maymont. This decision was pending for weeks and our wedding plants remained in the back of our car. Finally, on the last possible day Mr. McKinnon told me that the Unit and the Maymont trustees would be happy to have me teach at the Richard School.

That move I have certainly never regretted. While we were in the process of painting floorers and re-decorating the anchorage a very unfriendly big dog did his best to dissuade us from our activities. We returned to Aylmer from somewhere we concluded he was past the best days. And then as what he had become more he refused to move in the farm with the harvest winds.

Now Teddy could come home and he did. We accompanied me to school around seven, and later we carried the grain buyers to wind up later with Mr. Boettcher or the little neighbor girl.

Life was very busy and very pleasant at Richard. Bill worked at various places and also did much building and helping locally.

At Richard I became known as "Mrs. Crosby" and I loved my large family. I received co-operation and helped from all quarters and never lacked rides for our Guild and festival activities. I must pay tribute to Loretta Johnston for her invaluable help with the concert and festival music. She is a superb accompanist.

And when the time came that I was forced to retire for physical reasons I was given a wonderful retirement party by the Home and School, parents and

pupils, teachers and friends who invited pupils and friends from former schools to share the evening. I realize now that I did not perhaps properly show my gratitude. How could I? One of my very important teachers was there as well as one of my very first pupils. These two have now passed away but I shall never forget them.

Now that I have up to 1968, the year of our transfer to Maymont I have not much more to say. I did enjoy some substitute teaching at first and enjoyed having the Hallowe'en goblins say, "But Mrs. Cready, you should know us, You teached us." I can still remember a velvety kiss on my cheek when one child met me in the corridor and said, "Mrs. Cready, bend down for a minute. And I can also laugh when I recall that one morning after a prolonged term in Mrs. Robinson's room it was reported to me that ... having seen me through the window said "Cready Creep is here again"!

So Maymont I salute you and those friends who have passed away or gone to live elsewhere! I regret that I am not always at home and that sometimes when I am here people do not know it. I hope that our family of two will continue to be part of the community for many years and that we can continue to visit our daughter and small son, Jamie, and husband, Ed, in Winnipeg. Bill's father, "Grandpa Cready" was part of our life in Richard before he died just before his hundredth birthday. His sister, Edith, lives in Edmonton and Bernie near Winnipeg, while his younger brother, Doug, is teaching in St. Louis.

My sister, Ruth, and brothers, Henry and John, live in Saskatoon with two other sisters in California. We all keep in touch. Ask Isak-Tel.

In reminiscing Bill likes to remind me that he is one of the few people now living who can remember being on the deck of the Titanic shortly after its launching.

Meanwhile Bill has certainly enjoyed being a retiree in need and a dedicated promoter of Maymont. This summer a four-year old who refers to Bill as "my mayor" gave his definition of that honorable office as: A mayor is a man who always helps everybody.

Mrs. Mabel (Merrell) McIntosh History

I was born Mabel Mildred Merrell in Gilbert Plains, Manitoba where I started school. My father then moved to Roblin, Manitoba, where he was principal of the public school for many years. After graduating from high school, I attended Normal School in Dauphin, Manitoba then taught in that province for six months.

My brother, H. C. (Bob) Merrell, graduated from the University of Saskatchewan in Pharmacy, and he and his wife, Ella, bought Mr. Shewchuny's Drug Store in Maymont, Saskatchewan in 1928, I believe. In August, 1921, I started teaching in the intermediate room at Maymont, and remained there until the end of

Mabel Mildred Merrell, Lydia Margaret Hallsrud at the former farm.

Up and Doing class at Maymont

June, 1926, except for another term at Normal School in Saskatoon.

I taught Sunday School, and my class of girls called themselves, "Up and Doing". They bought rings with the insignia U.A.D., also Indian Clubs, and I taught them all I knew about club swinging. I often meet former pupils, but they are grandmothers and grandfathers now. It's wonderful to see them.

On January 1, 1930, I married Robert Gordon McIntosh (Gordon) from Winnipeg, at the home of Ella and Bob, in Edmonton. Our first home was at Lloydminster, then North Battleford, and in Saskatoon since January, 1935. Our son, Gordon, his wife Norma, and their three children, Bob, Marcie, and Patti, live in Edmonton. Our other son, Kenneth, his wife Joyce, and their children, Cathy and Phil, live in Ottawa. The three families get together once a year, if possible, in the East one year, and in the West the following year.

Lydia Hallsrud and I attended Normal together, and we boarded at the same place. When Nesbitt School District needed a teacher, I asked her to apply, and she was accepted. The night she arrived in Maymont, there was a corn roast out at Gilfords. We have been very close friends ever since.

George Hilton McIvor

George Hilton McIvor was born in Kearny, Ontario November 14, 1885. He had one brother and three sisters.

At age eight, "Mac" as he came to be known, moved with his parents to Neepawa, Manitoba. In the spring of 1908 his father was accidentally killed when his gun went off while he was crawling through a fence to shoot a coyote.

Later his mother remarried but Mac and his brother didn't get along with their stepfather so they left home. Mac was twelve years old when he went to work for Leonard McClahan at Kinley, Sask. He got along so well, he stayed there for eight years until he had enough money to start farming on his own at Aberdeen, Sask.

George and Freda McIvor's 25th wedding anniversary. Standing — Doreen, Ron, Clair, Lyle, Murray. Seated — Mona Gail, Mr. and Mrs. McIvor.

Memorial race at Edmonton, Sept., 1975 in honor of George McIvor.

These were exciting winters for him as he used to take his horses to Big River where he worked for the sawmill. However, he wasn't allowed to use his own horses while there as his job was to bring provisions from Big River to the Camp. There was no transportation for workers. They walked to and from work which was about three a road of twenty miles. Mac drove good stout horses while there which was tricky because of the icy roads. His horses wintered well and he always came out in the spring with enough money to carry him through, if the crops were not too good.

In 1918 George had to go into the army but never left Winnipeg as the war ended. When he came back in 1919 he sold the farm at Aberdeen and bought the livery barn in Fielding. He enjoyed that very much and made many long cold trips with Dr. Scratch. He had round the clock service and had good horses but the depression brought that to an end too.

George married Winnifred Thompson in 1928. Of that union they had two children: Clair William and Lyle Raymond.

When the depression hit and he couldn't make it in the livery barn, he moved his house from Fielding to the homestead which he had taken four miles north of Fielding in 1931.

In October, 1937 his wife, Winnifred, died and he tried to carry on with housekeepers but that didn't work too well.

In the spring of 1938, Freda with her son, Ronald who was 1½ years old, came from Lampman, Sask. to keep house. George and Freda were married March 8, 1939. Of this union there were three children: Murray Hilton, Mona Gail, and Doreen Ethel.

Clair, Lyle and Ron all attended Keystone, about two miles west of Fielding, for Public School and attended high school in Maymont. Because Keystone was closed, the other children went to Maymont for all of their schooling.

Clair graduated from the School of Agriculture in Saskatoon and Ron apprenticed for his C.A. in Saskatoon.

Clair married Anita Lesko of Speers on July 7, 1951. They had four children, Donald, Karen, Lorraine and Olga. Anita died in 1970 and Clair remarried in 1975 to Elsie Beierle of Lilac.

Lyle married Shirley Parker of Maymont in June, 1956. They had two children: Wendy Ann who unfortunately was born with kidney disease and despite all efforts she died July, 1968. Dwight, a son is working in Alberta.

Ron married Esmee Smith, a nurse from Saskatoon City Hospital who graduated in 1955. Ron is a chartered accountant and lives in North Battleford. They have two children Ross and Shannon.

Murray married Dorothy MacArthur of Vancouver in 1972. They have two children Donald and Sarah. They live at Lander, B.C. where Murray is employed by B.C. Hydro and carried on with his father's sport of horse racing as a sideline.

Mona Gail married David Miner of Speers in 1961. They have six children, Kelly, Shelley, Sharon, Mark, Christopher and Gail. They have a farm at Speers but live in Regina where David is Vice-Chairman of Sask. Land Bank.

Doreen married Carl Schmidt formerly of Maymont and Keystone district. They have one son, Dale, and live in Surrey, British Columbia. Carl is a foreman for Weldwood Canada (lumber company).

Freda now lives at Cloverdale, B.C. since she retired from Harness Racing in 1973. George and Freda started racing in 1958 on a full time basis after George suffered a stroke in 1952. It seemed the one and only thing for him and he pursued the sport with great

enthusiasm until his death in 1976. George and Freda travelled across Canada with their horses. They raced their horses from the West Coast to Windsor, Ontario as well as at Bay Meadows in San Francisco, California. They spent the winter of 1972-73 at Orlando, Florida. Freda raced at Sacramento, California in 1975 and the next two years in Edmonton, Calgary, and Cloverdale, B.C. She still visits the farm at Maymont where her two sons, Clair and Lyle, do the farming.

It might be of interest that George was a councillor for Mayfield Municipality for ten years. The old house on the farm has been replaced by two nice homes with modern conveniences but I guess the happiest part of our lives was when our children were young. Sure it was depression times but we were all in the same boat and had wonderful times with our neighbors. The fun times were the Christmas concerts, picnics and sleigh drives at the different schools. The wood sawing in the spring as you always had to have a years supply of stove wood ahead. Children in those times were never bored. They were too busy and they all learned to work. They took lunch to school and never once complained about the lunch. Clothes were washed on the wash board at our house until we got a power washer in 1946. Had lots of water for the stock and drinking but too hard for washing. The first detergent "Drift" was a great help. We baked all our bread and kept our children well clothed in hand me downs and make overs. We never had too much sickness but having Doctor Scratch handy was such a relief and he always came when called or went for. It seemed so fitting that George had the last years to devote entirely to horses as horses had always been part of his life. He always had a good driving team and the work horses were no slouches either. It been a good life and we are glad we were there to make our contribution to the Maymont and Fielding communities.

The Clair McIvor Family

written by Elsie McIvor

Clair McIvor is the son of George and Winnifred McIvor and was born in Fielding on April 23, 1939. He went to school at Keystone and Maymont and graduated from School of Agriculture in 1961.

In 1963 Clair married Anita Leske of Speers. Anita was a teacher and taught at Hillsborough school after they were married and was also a substitute teacher at Maymont for several years. Anita died in 1973 of cancer.

Clair and Anita had four children. Don was born on April 4, 1964. He married Adelle Copelin in 1977 and lives in Saskatoon and works as a backhoe operator. He graduated from Maymont Central School in 1978. Karen was born on June 12, 1966 and graduated from Maymont Central School in 1984. She took two years of Journalism at Ryerson in Toronto. She is presently in Burnaby, B.C. Lorraine was born on October 17, 1967 and graduated from Maymont Central School in 1985. She took Radio and T.V. Arts at N.A.I.T. in Edmonton and is presently employed at the radio station in Red Deer, Alberta. Glen was born on June 25, 1968 and is a

Clair and Anita Karen, Don, Glen and Lorraine.

Clair and Elsie McIvor — their wedding day June 30, 1973 with their families (missing — Alan Belleria).

Grade Eleven student at Maymont Central School. He is very interested in the cattle business.

On June 30, 1973 Clair married Elsie Belleria of Lilac and operates the farm along with his brother, Lyle.

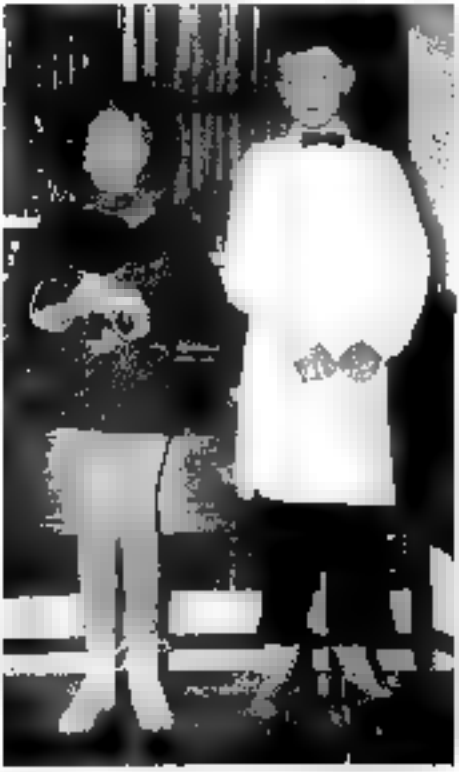
The Lyle McIvor Family

by Shirley (Parker) McIvor

I was born in the old farm house in the Grey School District on 15-12-13-W1. I was the eighth child born but two weeks after my birth we lost a brother, leaving me to be the seventh child. Two years later a little sister, Reta, came along. I lived on the farm and attended Grey School until Grade Ten.

We never went much further than the functions that

The four Parker boys with sister Shirley. Sleigh was being pulled by the Billy goat



Wendy and Dwight in Figure Skating Carnival costumes — 1967.

took place at Grey School, like the whist drives, Christmas concerts and the annual year-end picnics. We sometimes went to town Saturday afternoons with our mother in the horse and buggy and had an ice-cream cone which was like candy and a great treat for my little sister, Reta, and myself. Life on the old farmstead was far from dull. Being a big family we had no trouble entertaining ourselves, and if we found life boring the Billy goat, gobbler or a cranky rooster gave us something to lift us. Our Billy goat was like a guard dog around the farm and made it clear to any newcomers, and us kids, that he was boss. Reta and I could be minding our own business very nicely when, all of a sudden, we found ourselves being chased (as fast as our little fat legs could carry us, up the steps and into the granary) by the goat. He wasn't satisfied at just putting us in there, he stood right there making sure we stayed in the granary. Finally someone, usually by one of our brothers would come to our rescue and get us out of there. I remember an old turkey gobbler that didn't like Gladys hanging the clothes on the line and he made it pretty rough for her, flying at her until one day someone (I can't remember which one it was) killed him out cold with a club. (I can't remember whether they killed him at that time or not. We always had to pass the chicken house to go to school). Very innocently we'd be running to get to school when all of a sudden a mean old rooster would fly up at us and the screaming and running that took place! Everyone ran out of the house because they thought for sure we were getting killed. It gave me a scare for life, as right today I'm petrified of poultry. I raise chickens but Lyle gets the majority of the work when it comes to touching them.

As the years passed the kids started leaving home, until it was just Dad, Reta and I at home. Dad, being a farmer and working out, wasn't home too much of the time, so we looked after ourselves (well if you can call hiding under the bed looking after ourselves). We had thunderstorms then, worse than we have now, at least it seemed to us they were worse. The lightning sent sparks from the telephone and made it ring. We were sure it was out to get us. Finding Reta in a storm wasn't hard to do because she was under the bed and I was on top of the bed with my head covered up. I was safe as long as my head was hidden.

Lighting gas lamps gave us a lot of trouble. I never liked those gas lamps and could never pump enough air into them, so rather than fighting with the lamp we stayed in the dark until Dad came home to light them for us.

I remember one time when I should have had the paddling of my life, but I didn't get one. It was one Christmas when the family were all home and all the relatives were there for Christmas. There was also a couple of air force men in uniform, friends of my cousin. When everyone was preparing to leave for home they offered to take my sister, Gladys, back to Maymont where she was working. I decided Gladys

[illegible] I going with anybody in uniform and the whole [illegible] up was abroad. I worried and worried and the girls were tired to give me candy guns and pins saying a [illegible] was having no part of these brutes. They weren't having any sense and that was that. I don't remember who calmed me down or maybe Gladys just walked out the door and left me bawling, because she went to town with them anyhow.

We attended church services at Lucy Hallock through the summer months with Reverend Crowder being the first minister I remember and later Reverend Waters. After a few years more we got a new [illegible] church in Maymont which we had. At the age of fifteen I accepted Maymont Union and boarded at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mark Johnson. The next year Jack Reay and I moved to Maymont and lived in the George Walker house [illegible] arranged by Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Bate. After three years we moved into the old rule on Main Street that subdivided into living quarters. I attended teachers' college in Saskatoon for one year obtaining my Interim Standard [illegible] in June of 1936. I married Lyle McIver and went back to the girl I enjoyed the most, that of farming. We lived on the McIver farm northwest of Maymont on Section 17-43-11 W3. Our first home was a little house between two [illegible] with a kitchen and a bedroom. We had a coal and wood stove that heated the entire house, [illegible] and water. We had power so I had no problem with gas lamps. We didn't have television for a while as our big outing was going in town on Saturday night to the [illegible] Mclvers and watching the wrestling on T.V. There was always lots of work to be done and one of the big jobs was getting up a big wood pile so it would do for the winter and the next summer. Having was a big job and all our spare time was hooked to mowing either on stacks and trailers and pumped by hand. Today we get them hooked on by a tool propelled hay wagons and everything is done up machine, right to making the stack.

Our first baby was born December 18 1936 and to us she was the most precious baby ever born. A sweet little girl named Wendy Ann. We were so proud parents as ever there was. After all the hair arising I had done since the time I was twelve years old. I finally had my own hair to wear after. When she was two and a half months old we headed out for Saskatoon. We took her to a doctor in Saskatoon and had to leave her in the hospital for two weeks. When we were to bring her home she was crying and happy and such a different baby, and she was eleven months old. When back to Saskatoon to the doctor again and we found she had [illegible] trouble. The bottom fell out of our world then, but we carried on and did everything possible for her.

In May 1941 our son was born and I was so grateful to keep the worry off the boy during and troubles. A few years were good happy years with our son and daughter and they gave us a great deal of pleasure by Wendy's few short years with us she took part in [illegible] Church Sunday School and belonged to Baby Band until the age of six years. Then was Messengers until nine years of age and passed [illegible]. She graduated from Explorers in C.G.I.T. at June of 1950 and passed away July 31 1950.

The next figure skating from the time it started in Maymont to 1951 through 1952. In 1950 she became very ill and could no longer take part in activities she enjoyed. In November of 1950 the doctor told us her kidneys had failed and there was no connection but to put her on the kidney machine at St. Paul's Hospital Saskatoon for dialysis, and await hopefully a kidney transplant. She got out of hospital in December and we had to take her in Saskatoon every Tuesday and Friday so she could go on the kidney machine. It was a tough struggle but she took very ill for her as regardless of whether it rained she had to be there at a certain time on the given days. Thanks to our friends and neighbors for being so thoughtful and helpful to us we never missed getting her there on time. Ray Jordan, at the Esso Service Station, kept our car in tip top shape and the Vowgeli Bros had their snowplow always ready in case the roads were blocked. We were never snowed in, fortunately, but many days were very cold. There was one time the forecast was for a blizzard so we left home on Monday and were [illegible] at the Cecilian Lewis home in Saskatoon to spend the night and take her to the hospital the next day. When she had to have long stays in hospital I was always welcomed and made her at home at Agnes Day and I'm to Vantage Chain's in Saskatoon. For a few years I think I spent more time with them than I did at home paying regular visits to the hospital to spend as much time as I could with Wendy.

All this time Dwight was growing up and trying to take part in the things he enjoyed and being left at Grandpa McIvers, George Brahms or Les Parkers. He wasn't as sure where home was either.

Our kids attended Maymont Central School travelling by bus through all their school years. Dwight with his sister attended Maymont Sunday School. was involved in their [illegible] Messengers and from there joined the Tyro group for boys from nine to twelve years.

When the sports season opened we spent seven days a week at the rink three days hockey practice three days figure skating and Sunday was game skating. Dwight is a very ardent sportsman and gives everything his best whether it be football hockey or any other sport. Dwight was in hockey starting in the Novice age group under ten years and progressing on up through PeeWee Bantam, Midget, and was a Senior. In his first years in WeePee he was the goalie then moved to a forward. When in PeeWee hockey he played in the North Star Tournament in Saskatoon held at Agnes. He enjoy the trips to Saskatoon to take part in the tournament. The next year in PeeWee he played with the Anglish team in the North Star Tournament in Saskatoon. Getting ready for the tournament meant

taking him to Outlook, Asquith, and Rosetown for exhibition games that were Saskatoon for the week-end tournament. All this was a great experience for him. We felt it was just as good for him and taught him more than having his nose in a book of ancient history that would never mean anything to him or be of any help either. He played hockey on several provincial teams throughout the years and got to travel the greater part of Saskatchewan. In 1975-76 he went to Notre Dame College in Wilcox and played on the Junior team travelling to Ice throughout Saskatchewan for their league games. In the winter of 1976 he was now chosen from the Maymont Senior Team to play in the All Star game of the 5-40 Hockey League when the South played the North. The South made up of players from Maymont, Borden and Radisson defeated the North made up of players from Watford, Leask and Blaine Lake. He was chosen most valuable player of the game, bringing home his first trophy.

He is very active in football and started out playing tackle and under ball playing first base and doing some pitching. At the age of fifteen he joined the Maymont Marauders. He was also part of the Maymont 147 a provincial team. His first year with the team in 1976 they won the provincial championship played in Rosthern and from there went by plane to New Castle, New Brunswick for the Canadian Finals. When they arrived in New Brunswick the team was short as a flu bug so could not play their best ball but the experience they gained and the new country they saw was a great experience for them.

When he was eleven and twelve years old he spent the summer holidays travelling with Grandpa and Grandma McIver and Murray in the harness racing circuit and keeping them with the race horses. At that time the Maymont has grown a keener on the racing business. One time he drove from Regina to Calgary in a two car with the horses and fed and watered them for two days until they were unloaded in Calgary. At present he is employed with Imperial Pipeline and works most of the time in Alberta.

Perhaps Dwight's love of sports and ability comes from his Dad. Lyle has taken a great interest in the family and always took time to drive them wherever and whenever the need arose. He's been a superb goal judge and when he was being called everything from a bald headed old ox and so to shit by fans and players alike guess what he was doing yes, he was refereeing. Well refereeing is the professional name for it but people call referees almost anything. Lyle loves hockey and has given Dwight every chance in it because when he was young he never had the chance. They lived ten miles from town and there were no cars or trucks to get them around and no winter roads for vehicles. The snow got so deep on the roads they quite often got stuck with the horses and sleigh and made roads through fields and got out that way.

Lyle was born in the old farm house on the McIver farm on section 27-40-11-W3 in 1938. That is the same yard as we live in today. The old house was torn down in 1973. At the age of four he lost his mother as they had housekeepers until Mrs. McIver came to work for them and married his Dad.

He attended Kerrobert Schools until 1948 when the family moved to the Alfred Andrew farm northeast of Maymont. He then attended Maymont School and drove his brothers and sisters to town and themselves in the summer and a cutter in the winter. When attending Keystone School they walked the mile across the field to school.

He belonged to the Maryfield Golf Club for a few years when Mr. Blackburn was the leader. He attended Maymont Sunday School when Mr. Andrew Mahaffy was the teacher. Then moved back to the present farm in 1948 with his family and was known as the same farm.

After our marriage and as the kids got older and more involved in community activities he also got involved. He coached Minor Hockey from the time Dwight was in WeeFee in 1964 on up through Midget moving along with Dwight. It worked out well as only one trip to town had to be made. He coached the Radisson Senior Hockey Team for three years from 1974-76. While coaching at Radisson they came from a last place team in the 5-40 League to a first place team and made the finals in playoffs. He then coached the Maymont Senior Team in 1977 to a first place season in league play, and they came second best in playoffs. He again coached Maymont Seniors in 1978 and came out second in playoff series. He was assistant coach for the Maymont Marauders for a few years. Lyle served as a councillor in Division Three in the R.M. of Maryfield for nine years and attended the R.M. Conventions in Regina and Saskatoon.

At present Lyle he is concentrating on building his herd of Limousin cattle and in 1978 took a course in Regina Agriculture placing third in his class. Being Registered Jet Walker Feed's aerial spraying, looking after his cattle, and all other farm jobs keeps him personally very well occupied.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave McKay

by Bessie (Corbet) McKay

My mother and father (Mr. and Mrs. Corbet) were both born in England. My father worked as a gamekeeper and my mother worked as a housemaid. I was one of three girls and no boys. I went out to work as a farm boy or three miles from home when I was ten years old. I went to school every afternoon for half a day. I stayed home in the mornings as I had to help do the chores. I milked three cows, tended to the calves and pigs, but I was happy. The schoolhouse was two or three miles from where I was working. I had to walk to school and back again. The school was right on the side of the road, a dirt road. We had to play on the road when we were let out of school, no playground. No one in my time ever got hurt on the road when we were out

Mr. and Mrs. David McKay and baby Stanley — 1917.

to play. The Wesley Chapel was in the top floor of the schoolhouse. They held church services in there every Sunday.

When I left school I worked out up until I came to Canada in 1913. I was twenty-three years old then. I came in May all by myself to my cousins on a boat called the "Royal Edward". The boat was sunk not too long after that about the time of the First World War. I took the boat as far as Quebec. My boat was a good trip, fine weather. Then from Quebec I took the train to Maymont station. My cousin was there to meet me in a broken old buggy. The horse's harness was all tied up with binder twine. I thought it would break down before we got to his house. He came to Canada to live. He got a homestead, a nice farm. The Maymont Cemetery is on corner of it close by the road.

Now I left my cousin's after a day or two of rest. I went to work on a farm. While I was working in the Maymont Hotel which at that time was owned by Bowden and Pernak, a livery barn beside the hotel owned by Joe Vassey burned down. I was in my bedroom at the time and I put my hand on the wall. It was so hot I could not keep my hand on it. I was single then.

I got married in 1918 to a farmer whose name was David McKay. He came from Wingham, Ontario, about 1905 to take up a homestead. He used to go to Saskatoon for repairs and some groceries by team and wagon. Later he went to Langham to get lumber and he also went to Radisson to get the wheat ground into flour. Dave built a long house on his farm. The first part being log with lumber additions on either end, which he lived in until his death in 1948.

We were married at the neighbours who had come to Canada to get a homestead around the same time as Dave McKay came. They had built a sod house and I was married in that sod house on the farm. The preacher that married us was a single young man who preached in the English Church in Maymont. He left Maymont a few years later.

We had a very nice meal the day we were married. We had it at the neighbour's because I had asked a number of the neighbours around to my wedding. Two days after we were married we gave a dance at the schoolhouse and a lunch which everyone enjoyed. It was in Neepawa, that schoolhouse which burned down, and they built a new one on the side of the main highway on the south. Now they have taken it away to Maymont.

My neighbour was a midwife so when my children were born she attended me. I had four children, two boys and two girls. I went to England in 1930 to visit my mother. I took my two boys, one was in arms, the other could walk. I went alone. When I came back my husband met me. The two children did not know him. I went home on the boat and came back by boat to Quebec, then by train. A short while after I was back home again, my youngest boy died.

My husband and myself always worked together. I would help him outside at harvest time and he would help me in the house to make butter, wash dishes, scrub floors. When I came in from helping in the fields, stooking the grain, cutting brush, picking rocks off the fields I was so tired he would get the meals for me but I used to be too tired to eat, just drink tea. We were always happy.

I went to England again later by plane, by myself, and back again. My mother died before I went so I did not see her. My father died before I came to Canada. I had two sisters but they are dead now so I am all alone of that family.

My son lives in Edmonton, Alberta. My two daughters, one is not married; the other lost her husband. She is alone now. I live with her. She has two girls and one boy, now all are adult and married.

Dr. Scratch was our doctor at Maymont. We lived five miles from town, three miles from the school. My children had to walk to school and home again in winter. Dave, would drive them. In summer he would drive a horse and buggy to town or the neighbours would take us if they were going. Mr. Hawkins was an old-timer. He was out there for years before me.

My youngest son was buried in Maymont Cemetery, and Dave was buried beside him. I am to be buried next to him when my time comes. I will be ninety

years old on the third of December, 1978. I have not been sick since 1963. I feel fine now only have arthritis which makes me walk lame.

The Fry and McLaren Families

submitted by Mrs. Gertrude (McLaren) Wilson

I was born in Maymont, Saskatchewan July 9, 1908 Dr. Scratch attended my mother. My mother was Beulah Fry who came to Maymont with her sister, Margaret Fry, and their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Fry. Isaac Fry was a deacon and a lay preacher. They homesteaded about two miles out of Maymont. Both are buried in the Maymont Cemetery.

My father Ernest McLaren came West with his brother Robert McLaren. He came as far as Edmonton and bartered for some time in what was then Strathcona, then returned to Maymont. The brothers subsequently met and married the Fry sisters, Ernest married Beulah Fry and Margaret Fry married Robert McLaren.

My father had bartered in Maymont and then took up a homestead. They lived there until 1912 and then moved to Ontario for about five years where my sister Beatrice was born. The West called again and they moved to Ponoka, Alberta where they made their home on a farm northeast of Ponoka. There a son Ernest Jr. was born.

Both my parents passed away in Ponoka, Dad in 1958 and Mother in 1964.

John McLaren

(submitted by Catherine McLaren)

John McLaren is the eldest son of Robert McLaren. Born at Maymont in December 1908, he was delivered by Dr. Scratch. He married Catherine Johnsen in 1932 at Ponoka, Alberta. Ever since that time he has farmed east of Ponoka raising grain and cattle.

There are seven children living, one died in infancy.

Sheila a R.N. married Ted Harper, a farmer, at Ponoka. They have one daughter married and nursing in Ponoka.

Gordon married Frances Bezak of Winnipeg. They have three boys and one girl. Gordon has a trucking business in Sherwood Park, Alberta.

Gail married Reverend Bill Ruggles. They have pastored twenty-four years in Saskatchewan and B.C. They have a boy and two girls. One girl and one boy are married.

Alan married Judy Gallager of Edmonton. They have a girl and a boy. Alan has a trucking business hauling oil well equipment.

Arthur married Diane Fiest of Ponoka. They have one boy and three girls. Arthur is an oil well consultant. Brian married Patricia Stewart of Ponoka. They have four girls and two boys. They farm near John at Ponoka.

Stanley married Erma Welm of Bashaw, Alberta. He farms with his dad. They have three little boys.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert McLaren

told by Robert

I, Robert Fry McLaren, was born to Robert and Margaret McLaren in Maymont Apr. 6, 1914. Living there with my parents, and John, Raeanna and Margaret until about 1918. We lived in several places, until about 1924. Since then we have lived in the Ponoka District.

Thelma Courser and I were married on October 27, 1937 at Ponoka. From this union was born four children — Wayne, Robert, Sharon and Daniel.

Wayne married Eileen Eby and they have two children, Scott and Linda. Wayne is minister of Cameron Memorial Baptist Church in Regina, Sask.

Robert married Patty Tuscan and they have four children, Brenda, Robbie, Jim, and Caroline. Robert is the minister of First Baptist Church in Cranbrook, B.C.

Sharon is married to Garry Schober and is living in Camrose, Alberta. They have three children, Goesel, by Sharon's former marriage, and Shari and Wanda by Garry's former marriage. Garry is a field supervisor for Sherrit-Gordon Fertilizer Company.

Daniel married Benna Lee McLeod. They have four children, Archie and Leann, both adopted, and Lori and Todd. Dan is a building contractor and lives on an acreage on the home farm. We live six miles east of Ponoka.

Robert McLaren

Robert McLaren was born in Villa Nova, Ontario on January 27, 1878. There were 13 children in the family. He died June 19, 1964. He was greatly loved by his family and friends. His grandchildren never tired of his stories of his experiences in the early days. The following (in his own words) is an excerpt from a short story of his life.

"In 1900 I came out to Indian Head where I worked for Cameron Dowling for a year. Then I went to Grenfell and worked for my cousin Tom Wright for 3 years. In 1904 I started a small grocery in Grenfell. On the recommendation of a Traveller I made a trip to a new country that was being opened up by the C.N.R. west of Saskatoon. The country looked good to me and I returned to Grenfell, packed and shipped my goods to a siding called 13th siding west of Humboldt, afterward named Maymont. I arrived the 22nd of May, 1905 and on May 24 hoisted the Union Jack at the front of my store (the first building on the townsite.) After operating the store for 2 years I sold out to Jim and John Reid.

I was the first postmaster at Maymont and held that office until 1918.

In the spring of 1906 Margaret Fry arrived with her parents Isaac M. Fry and Ellen Fry, who took up a homestead about a mile west of the town. That winter

we became engaged and were married at her parents home on May 15, 1907. We moved into our first home across the railroad tracks and our first 2 children, Ramona and John were born there. In 1912 I sold that house to an elevator Co. and built a house beside the Post Office across from the railway station where we lived until the spring of 1918. Bob and Margaret were born in this house. About 1913 I took a homestead near the Saskatchewan River where I grew alfalfa. I broke this land with oxen."

After leaving Maymont the Robert McLaren family lived on Vancouver Island, in Alberta, Ontario, Colorado and finally back to Alberta in 1925, where they bought land from the Hudson Bay Co. He grew alfalfa for seed developing, some which he got from Siberia. We sold his seed all over the west and got the title "Alfalfa Bob." Their 3rd daughter Eloise was born in Ontario and Donald in Alberta. In 1934 he became a Farming Instructor on the Montana and Simpson Reserves at Hobbema. After 8 years there, they moved to Penoka where he spent his last years. Margaret died in 1976 at the age of 91.

Five of the children live in or near Penoka and Eloise Fink lives at Nelson, B.C.

H. H. McLeish Family

Mr. and Mrs. H. H. McLeish (Mac and Grace) came to Maymont in 1924. Mr. McLeish came to manage the Imperial Bank of Commerce.

Mr. McLeish was born in Hintrgowell, Scotland, and moved to Toronto in 1913, at the age of 19, and began work with the bank. He served in the First World War as a medical orderly, and returned to the bank after the war.

Mrs. McLeish, (nee Wigmore), came from London, England, to Port Arthur in 1920.

The McLeish's had one children born in Maymont, Jim and Doreen.

During the tough years of the thirties, Mr. McLeish was very sympathetic to the financial difficulties of the people in the district and I'm sure will be fondly remembered by many.

Mrs. McLeish was well known for her wit and humor and was active in the Ladies Aid, Homemakers and the Maymont Curling Club.

The McLeish's moved from Maymont to Brandon in 1941. Jim was married in Brandon to Vivian Jackson. They had three children, Wendy, Penny, and Ron. Wendy died at the age of four months. Jim was stricken with polio in 1951, and was paralyzed from the neck down. He was forced to live in an iron lung, until with much fortitude, he learned to frog breath. This freed him from the lung during his waking hours. With the help of an electric wheelchair, he spends a very active and useful life in the King George Hospital in Winnipeg.

Doreen was married in Winnipeg to Jack Miller and they had three children, Cathy, Carol and John. They moved to Saskatoon in 1962 and Jack Miller died there in 1973 at the age of 42. Doreen re-married in 1975 to Cy Rennie and they still live in Saskatoon.

Mrs. McLeish died in 1965, Mr. McLeish died in 1977.

Mr. and Mrs. Don McLeod

June 1st, 1970 the Don McLeod family moved to Maymont. Don, Cathie and their seven month son moved into the Rural Municipal house. That June, Don started his job as Rural Municipal secretary of the Rural Municipality of Mayfield No. 406.

Don was formerly from Swift Current, Sask. and Cathie from Hodgeville, Sask.

Don, Cathie and Kevin McLeod.

Their son Kevin was born in Herbert, Sask. where Don was Town Administrator before their move to Maymont.

The McLeod family were made to feel at home right away by all the friendly people of Maymont and community.

Mrs. Ruth (Johnston) McLeod

told by Ruth

Ruth's parents Arthur and Emma Johnston, were living at the farm home five miles north of Maymont when Ruth was born on August 21, 1941. She attended school at Wavie Bank, Grey and Maymont Schools. She graduated from Grade Twelve in June, 1959.

Ruth attended Teachers' College in Saskatoon in 1959-60. She was married to Ronald Arthur McLeod on June 15, 1960. From 1960-62 she lived and taught school in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan.

In June, 1962 Ruth and her husband, Ron, were

transferred to Watrous, Saskatchewan where Ron became an accountant.

On November 26, 1962, Darla Jean McLeod was born at Watrous Hospital. She was attended by Dr. Akmenat.

In 1963-64 Ruth taught Grades V and VI at Rosy Valley, Saskatchewan.

In June 1964 the McLeods were transferred to Vanda, Saskatchewan where Ron became the manager of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce.

On September 13, 1965, D'Arcy Robert Arthur McLeod was born at University Hospital, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

July 1, 1966, the McLeods moved to Saskatoon, where Ron attended the University of Saskatchewan and Ruth taught at Greystone Heights and Mountain Schools.

In 1969 the McLeods moved to Regina where Ron accepted a job with the Saskatchewan Power Corporation.

Ruth resumed her teaching duties teaching at Argyle School in 1969, Haultain School in 1970 and M. J. Coldwell School from 1971-1976.

From September, 1976 to July, 1977, Ruth attended the University of Regina having been granted sabbatical leave by the Regina Public School Board. May 16, 1978 Ruth received her Bachelor of Education Degree. September, 1977 Ruth returned to teach at St. J. Coldwell School.

Ruth was an active member of the Baby Band, Explorers and C.G.I.T. groups while living in Maymont. She was organist of Skyview United Church from 1959-60 and also sang in the choir. She was also a member of the 4-H Club.

Ruth has also filled the role of church organist while living in Modena and she was organist for a number of years at St. Michael's Anglican Church, Regina. She is a member of the Regina Highland Dancing Association having served as president and also on several committees. She has been a representative and is Past President of the Highland Dancing Association.

Mr. and Mrs. John Malcolm McNaughton

John Malcolm McNaughton will be remembered as one of Fieldings community leaders and business men. He was born in 1888 in Guelph, Ontario and came to Saskatchewan in the early 1900's. After attending Teachers College he taught school for a short while near Milford, took up a homestead near Kenley but moved onto Fielding where he decided to make his home. During this early period he was a grain buyer for the British American Grain Co., as well as a hail adjuster with the North-West Hail Adjusting Co.

In February, 1917 he married the former Florence Harris who with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Percy Harris came originally from Nova Scotia. In her early married life Mrs. McNaughton was an ardent tennis player. She was an active member of the Fielding Ladies Aid and after taking up residence in Saskatoon, an active member of the Legion Auxiliary. She passed away in Saskatoon in 1971.

Mrs. McNaughtons father, Mr. Percy Harris, before coming to Fielding, had spent a number of years as a sailor and a cook on a sailing vessel which plied the eastern sea board. He took out a homestead north of Fielding, and later acquired land south of Fielding where he built his home. During his years of farming he played an active part as a councillor of the Mayfield Municipality.

Shortly after his marriage Mr. McNaughton answered the call and went overseas with the Canadian Army. A crack shot, he was soon detailed as a sniper against the enemy forces. After his return from the war he continued to buy grain for a while and then he purchased a farm which he operated for many years in partnership with his brother William (Bill) McNaughton also a World War I veteran. Mr. Bill McNaughton was married to the former Patty Smith of Guelph, Ontario. He passed away in 1957.

In 1922 Mr. McNaughton became an automobile dealer. We feel that it is of interest to note that he sold his first car, a Model T Ford to Mr. Alex Garnett one of Fieldings earliest pioneers and we believe he had the honor of being Fieldings oldest living pioneer. Mr. Garnett now resides in Vancouver, B.C. In 1923 Mr. McNaughton obtained a franchise from the Ford Motor Co. as well as the International Harvester Co. to sell their products. In 1927 he built the Ford Garage, a Fielding landmark for many years. These dealerships were later moved to Radisson under the name of the Great Bend Farm Equipment Co. which he operated until his death in 1965.

During his business lifetime at Fielding he was the recipient of three gold watches commemorating 25 years of valued service with each of the following: The Ford Motor Co., The International Harvester Co., The McColl Frontenac (later called Texaco) Oil Company.

Mr. McNaughton was an enthusiastic hunter, fisherman and card player. He enjoyed a friendly partnership in curling and bridge with his long-time friend Alex Gunn. Mr. Gunn was also a farmer and storekeeper in Fielding for many years, and had emigrated from Scotland.

Mr. McNaughton took a keen interest in all community affairs and had given dedicated service as a member of many years on the local school board, an overseer of the village and as a member of the Board of the United Church. He was a distant cousin of the late General A. G. L. McNaughton, commander of the Canadian Forces during World War II.

Mr. and Mrs. McNaughton had 4 children: Malcolm, Jean, Ross and Chester who died in infancy. Malcolm, Jean and Ross grew up in Fielding and Malcolm has spent 40 years there in the business of farming. He still does some farming and makes his home in Saskatoon. Malcolm married the former Kathleen Robertson. They raised a family of three

boys. Brian a graduate in Agricultural Engineering and now operating the family farm at Fielding; Darryl a medical doctor and specialist in pathology in U.S.A. and Canada, now practising at Kamloops, B.C. and Ross Jr., a member of the R.C.M.P. Drug Squad stationed in Vancouver, B.C. Brian is married to the former Olga Shrumida of Sundown, Manitoba. Olga and Brian have one son, Robert, born in 1968. Darryl married the former Freda Torrance of Elrose. Freda and Darryl have two children: Marla Ann born 1972 and Andrew born 1976.

Jean McNaughton married Vaughan Lasby and they are presently residing in Ft. Frances, Ontario. Jean and Vaughan have 2 daughters. Marnie, a registered nurse, married to Robert Beninger and residing in Emerson, Man. and Bonnie, a graduate of the Ontario Police College and now stationed with the O.P.P. at Thunder Bay, Ontario.

Ross McNaughton served his country in the Signal Corps of the Royal Canadian Navy in World War II. After the war he worked for many years with the Civil Service in Ottawa. He married the former Marguerite Poirier. They are now retired and living in Victoria, B.C.

The McNeils

My father and mother Randy and Agnes McNeil (nee McVicar) — both of Scottish origin arrived in Ruddell from Alvinston, Ontario in October, 1906 — my father Randy made a scouting trip to the west in 1905. In the spring of 1906 he again came west — purchasing a team of horses and a democrat in Saskatoon he spent several months locating a homestead which was the SE ¼ 20-42-13 W3rd.

At this time he gave a contract to build a two story building in which he operated a hardware store from 1906 to 1923. My mother and myself, Russell, came in October, 1906.

In 1923 he moved to farming -- although he and my mother always resided in the village

Randy McNeill's car. Left to right — Bess (Turnbull), Murison, Grace (Robinson) Harper, Peggy (Granger) Johnson.

June, 1927 at Bessie McNeill's shower for Louise Thrower. Back row — Mrs. L. Steele, Clara Robinson, with Frances, Mrs. Turnbull, Hanna Robinson, Mrs. McNeil and Betty, Jessie Arnold, Joanna McMillan, Florence Steele. Front row — Mrs. J. Geddie, Mrs. White, Mrs. Ferguson, Grace Harper, Bess Murison, Eleanor Robinson, Mary Thrower, Mrs. Stelly, Mrs. Arnold, Maxine McNeill, Bryneice Stelly, Jean Murison, Louise Thrower, Phyllis Mosley

In 1915 a young cousin Peggy Grainger came to live with us. She received her education in Ruddell and Battleford and taught school in Alberta, Calais and Ruddell. She married a high school preacher Dave Johnson of Maidstone and resides in Portland, Oregon.

My father Randy died in 1936 — after his death my mother moved to Calgary where she died in 1954. Both are buried in the little cemetery at Ruddell. Randy 1886-1936 — Agnes 1870-1954.

For myself Russell, I attended the one room school in Ruddell. In 1939 I married little Bess Turnbull. In 1952 we moved to Calgary. We have two daughters Marion and Betty both born in North Battleford. We have four grandchildren and three great-grandsons

Meeus Family History

written by Mrs. E. Meeus

Thomas and Mary came to Saskatchewan from Ontario to settle in the Keystone district. They bought land from a Real Estate Agent, Mr. R. J. Scott in Speers. They came by train, which also brought their settlers' effects.

Thomas' sister, Jennie, accompanied them to help care for the small children, Ruby, Everett, Jean, John and Adella. Thomas was a bricklayer and plasterer by trade, so went to work at his trade, while Mary took care of the farm. This meant the older children had to take their places at an early age, and many hardships went with growing up, as Thomas went as far away as Manitoba and was away for weeks at a time.

At the opening of the first school, classes were only

Their first car, 1922. John, Thomas Sr., Everett, Dell, Mary, Thomas Jr.

The Everett Meena family ready for school, 1942.

held in the summer months, so Jean and John went to stay with their Aunt Jessie and Uncle Richard Wilcox, (who had recently been married) and walked to school.

In 1919, Thomas Earl was born. Their Dad had left instructions with Everett (who was 10 years old) that there was to be a new baby and showed him how to harness and hitch the driving horse to the buggy. When his Mother told him he was to go to the neighbors for help, Everett went to Mr. Alex Erskine's, who went for Dr. Scratch and Everett went to get Mrs. Smith, another neighbor, who was the mid-wife at that time. All turned out well.

Thomas put in the crop the following spring, but went away to work again.

A new binder was bought to harvest the crop. Everett, John and their Mother did the harvesting, while the girls tended the baby and the household chores. A step-sister, Melinda Meena, came to stay with them and teach school at Keystone about the time Thomas Earl started school. Later, she retired to Lemdor, Sask. where she passed away.

When dances were held in the school, Thomas played the violin. He was a keen gardener and Mary took great pride in her flowers inside and out.

Thomas returned home to take over the farming. Ruby went to work in the telephone office in Maymont. John worked for a time in A. E. Pearse' store, but with more work being involved in the farm, she returned home to work there. John worked at home and Everett hired out with his Uncle Dick and George Bolber when he could be spared at home.

Most of the grain was hauled in the winter time a distance of nine miles, so much walking was done behind the sleighs to keep from freezing. A load of wheat might be taken to the mill in Radisson and exchanged for flour and bran.

A herd of Holstein cattle was bought and the family started making a number of cows by hand. The cream was taken, first by horse and buggy or sleigh and later by car, to Fielding and shipped by train to Saskatoon.

Prices and crops were poor and the work hard. As the family had married and taken their own homes, Thomas and Mary decided to move to St. Walburg to a semi-retirement. The land in Ontario was sold and a small farm bought, and new buildings set up.

Thomas passed away from a heart attack in August, 1943. Mary made her home among the family and passed away while staying with Dell and Jim in Meadow Lake in December, 1944. Thomas Earl took over the farm.

Ruby Meena married Frank Oakley in 1918. They had a family of three boys and two girls. Harland, married, with a son, Kenneth and a daughter, Debra, farms at Rocky Mountain House.

Mervyn, who served in the 2nd World War as a dental technician is married, now retired, living in Calgary, but still works repairing dental machines.

Everett John, when five years old, was run over by a team and wagon and spent many weeks in the Notre Dame Hospital, under the care of Dr. Nunn and nurse Ella Biddle. With careful nursing and care, he was nursed back to good health. He is married and has two step-daughters and lives at Sylvan Lake, Alberta.

Consess is married to Elmer Buck, has a girl, Linda, (married), a son, Lyle (married) and a girl, Margo, at home in Lacombe, Alberta.

Zona went to work in Calgary as a young girl and married William David, has two girls, Sandra and Marilyn, and a boy, William.

Everett Meena started in farming for himself in the Clay School district. In 1938, he married Gladys Rogers and they rented a farm at Lilac. With poor crops and prices, after two years, they filed on a homestead at Goodsoil, where several people from the southern dust bowl were going. Lloyd and Ruth rented at St. Walburg. With another two years of work without pay, they came back to Maymont by team and wagon for harvesting and the following spring brought their equipment back and rented land at Heinsale, but times had not improved. Dry years meant doing with

whatever you had and hoping the next year would be better. The Russian Thistle was the only crop that did well. It put up in the early stages did make feed.

In the fall of 1929, land was rented south west of Ruddell, where there were kind and helpful neighbors. By 1940, times were improving and better prices were realized.

With the closing of Hartingay School, a farm was bought west of Ruddell. A tractor and larger machinery was bought and the horses sold. A small dairy herd was started and a milk contract was taken, shipping milk by truck from Ruddell to North Battleford. Later, it was taken by truck.

When bulk tanks had to be installed and a bulk tank truck was to deliver the milk, the dairy cattle were sold and replaced by beef cattle.

Poor health forced Everett to retire and the boys took over the farming, buying more land.

Everett and Gladys bought a home in North Battleford, where Gladys resides in the winter (on the farm in summer). Everett passed away in March 1974 leaving a family of four boys and a girl.

Ronald married Laurienne Dore in 1965, having a family of two boys, Everett (married) and Grant, two girls, Lou and Marilyn. He is an engineer at the Battleforeun Hospital and has acreage where Everett lives, having horses and cattle.

Ken married Shirley Armster in 1966, has a family of Colleen Caldwell, Sharon, Murray (married) and Lyle. He bought the former George Mohler Seed Farm and other land at Maymont.

Harold, married to Treva Miller in 1964, with a family of Gwen, Carla and Kurt, farms the land at Ruddell. Also bought the original homesteads of William and Alfred Andrew at Maymont.

Eileen, married Vernon Curry, a ratepayer, in 1959, has a son, Terry and a daughter, Sheila. She is employed as Deputy Sheriff at the Court House in Battleford.

Glen, married to Barbara Syberg, with a girl, Shantha and a boy, Kelly, is a chartered accountant, a partner in Gangsmo, Stranton and Company. He also has farm land where he lives west of Battleford and farm land at Ruddell.

Jean Mcana married Elmer Rogers in 1938 and they farmed north east of Maymont where they built a new home. With the depression years, land prices were too high to compare with the operating costs and payments as like many others, they sold and moved north to take up a homestead at Goodrich. They moved with covered wagons taking what possessions they could, Jean driving one team. They had one small daughter, Maxine, at this time. Times were very hard here and the work hard, as the land had to be cleared and broken with horses. After clearing the homestead, they sold it and moved back to Meadow Lake where Elmer was trucking. This kept him away from home much of the time and Jean took over a share of Miss Bell for a time.

Three more girls were born into the family. Later, they retired at Calgary, where they still live.

Maxine is a stenographer, married to Ken Nellans and works in Calgary.

Marlene, married to Harold Scott, has a family of three girls, Debra, Shirley and Lynn and a son, Darcy. They are in a hog enterprise at Saskatoon, Alberta.

Myrna, before marrying Gil Burton, worked as a stenographer, now lives in Coquitlam, B.C., with a family of two girls, Lois and Deanna.

Merle, a daughter, died in infancy.

John Mcana married Ella Stubbs and started farming in the Keystone district in 1928, but with the depression years moved to Lake a homestead at Goodwell and to farm at Makwa and the Horse Head River district where they worked hard milking cows, etc., but gave up when times did not improve. They moved back to North Battleford in 1940 where he started working for Massey Harris, then turned to carpenter work with Miners Construction, building on the Capitol Theatre for 50 cents an hour.

Ella went back to nursing at the Necro Ontpo Hospital, as well as caring for the home and family of three girls (twins Elaine and Evelyn and Lilajean.

With the closing of Miners Construction in North Battleford, John took work with the City Parks, where he worked until his death in September, 1966.

Ella is retired and living in North Battleford.

Elaine taught school before marrying Darrel Gamble in 1964. She is living on a farm in the Prince area. They have a family of five boys, Darrel Douglas, Donald Darryl and Craig.

Evelyn worked at secretarial work before marrying Gordon Thompson, a teacher, in 1964. They have a family of Robert, Brian, Cathy and Sherry and live in Edmonton.

Lilajean married John Hopton in 1966, who is employed in Burns Packing Plant in Calgary. Their family is a son, John and two girls, Debra and Dianna.

Amelia Mcana married Jasper Spence in 1924. They first farmed at Bright Sand district. Times were hard, but with hardships, there were also some good times with good neighbors and social gatherings.

Selling their land here, they moved into Meadow Lake where Jim went into the water business, but when the sewer and water was installed, he sold out and bought land at Semvere Lake, north east of Meadow Lake. Times were better here, but with Dell's failing health, they sold the farm and retired to Tabor, Alberta where Dell passed away in October, 1975. Jim is still there.

Thomas J. their son, married Isabelle Armstrong. He lives in Calgary, was a plumbers trade, worked as a pipefitter for the schools in Calgary and now inspects and orders repairs needed for same. They have a family of two sons, Ross and Guy and a daughter, Lynne all at home.

Ruby, married to Gail Fitch, worked as a secretary in Calgary. With Gail receiving the dealership for

Canadian Fire, they moved to Taber where he had a livery and work shop. Two boys, Gary and Grant, are both in school.

Thomas E. Moore married Annie Spence in 1934, first farmed on the family farm, later moved to St. Walburg working with his Dad but with hard getting harder to rent he sold the land they had, to run the livery barn and draying business in town.

For a time they had a pool room and barber shop in Middleton but again left Chet to move to a small orchard in Salmon Arm, B.C., while here he was repairing a roof when a shower of rain came up, he slipped off and injured his back, so sold this and went into the taxi business. After selling this they managed the Eisenhower Motel in Calgary until ill health of Scott brought an early retirement where they still live. Their family consisted of three boys, Earl, Armand and Wayne.

Earl married, had one daughter Candy. He worked at different jobs, mostly as a salesman, and passed away in 1974.

Armand worked for a short time with his Uncle Clarence Read at Maymont, from here he went to work in Calgary and married Della in 1950, worked with sheet metal and roofing then as a roof inspector, lives in Edmonton with a family of three girls, Judy, Carol, and Karen all at home.

Wayne married to Bonnie MacIsaac in 1976, worked at different jobs but always kept busy, now works with building of Mobile Homes in Calgary. Has a son Gerald in school and a daughter Candy at home.

Although this story all appears gloomy we all had some good times too. Every one made good times the best we could, had berrypicking and other picnics, having basket lunches and games for all. School dances and house parties were held. All who could sing or play an instrument of any kind were always welcome.

Blankets were laid on the floor of the school desks and the small youngsters slept till the party was over sometimes at daybreak.

Baseball, football and basketball teams were made up in the school districts and competitions held. School Fairs also made a chance for each child to show their ability in all parts of handicraft etc. 4-H clubs were formed and many exhibits and cattle were shown, by young folks, going to the Agricultural Fairs at Saskatoon and Regina, winning watches, trophies and scholarships.

The Andrew Melrose Family

submitted by Norman Melrose

The Andrew Melroses moved from Leeds Village Quebec to Maymont in the spring of 1907. My father took a homestead north of town, where we lived while Paul was in the livery barn business. My brother Allan was a baby, and I went to Bloom School, and my first teacher was Mrs. Alec Brydon or (Miss Ashley). After the homestead duties were over, my dad bought land south of town. He built a small house, for us to live in, and carried on farming until 1918, when he decided to build a larger house a little farther north. Allan and I kept going to school. I stopped school to help farm when the First World War was on. My brother went on for more education, and had a job with the Grain Exchange in Winnipeg for years. Allan served in the Second World War. When he came back from the War, he married in Winnipeg and they had one child. Some years later Allan passed away, in 1988.

My father enjoyed raised farming, and especially horses. Both my father and mother were active in the community, and in church work.

I married Grace Hitchens in 1930, and I bought the farm, and farmed until 1977 when we sold to Murray Gray and moved to town.

We had three children. They are married now, and have children of their own. We are grandparents of nine children. Dr. Scratch was our family doctor for years.

Mr. and Mrs. Archie Melrose

Margaret Macdonald, a nurse from Welsford, New Brunswick, came west about 1909 and was one of the first nurses at City Hospital, Saskatoon. When her sister, Agnes, and brother in law, Fred McCurdie, were hospitalized with typhoid fever the bodies plagued their home in Maymont. She married Archie Melrose in 1913 and they resided at Maymont for several years. Archie owned some valuable horses which he loved out, also did carving for the doctor and others. When the livery barn burned, he lost his horses, and as the livery trade was declining, tried to buy land at Maymont. None was available. He purchased a farm at Chevron where they farmed until retirement to Saskatoon, about 1945. Archie passed away in 1966, at 78, and Margaret in 1971, at 82.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Melrose

submitted by Winnifred (Melrose) Dunn

William Norman Melrose was born in 1884 at Les Mesurier, Quebec. He married Annie Elizabeth Gray, born in 1885 in Portsmouth, England. The Melroses family were born of Irish parents, the father being in the Irish Army.

The family came from the east to Maymont in 1906. Andrew Melrose, Will Melrose and Andrew Reid had a livery barn known as Melrose Bros. and Reid. Will homesteaded west of town, sold it and bought the farm where Murray Gray now lives.

Nan Gray came from Binscarth, Manitoba, in approximately 1910. For a time she worked in Bain's Store. She married Will Melrose in 1913. Their family were: Alice Eileen, Jean born June 1915 died 1934, Muriel Gertrude born Sept. 1914, Winnifred Mary born Sept. 1916, Keith Gray born Oct. 20, 1920 died 1984; Velma Jean born Nov. 1926.; Doris Isabel born Feb. 1927, William James born May 1928.

We have fond memories of Ed Behr, engineer for Turner's steam threshing outfit (later known as the big four Turner, A. Reid, A. Mairess, W. Mairess) chasing us around stooks, greasing our necks and ears. Every Saturday night we would go to get chocolate puff candies from him.

The old gray mare, known to the community as "Fan" was our mode of transportation summer and winter with the jingling bells in winter. She was called by Mom her "Gray Dort"

Bill, our Shetland Pony, educated us all with a little four-wheeled buggy.

Dad died of polio in 1917, leaving Mother with five children. The funeral was held outside at our home, as we were all in quarantine and no one was allowed in the vault.

Mom rented the land and moved into town (the old Kerr house) and started a maternity nursing home. She moved into North Battleford in 1918, took an apartment, nursed in the maternity ward at Notre Dame Hospital.

The Bob Merrell Family

My husband and I arrived in Maymont about November 1, 1930 shortly after our wedding in Winnipeg. We lived in Saskatoon about three months, where Mr. Merrell had gone to University and worked part-time for Reiders Drugs. In the fall we bought of the Mawhinney Drug Store in Maymont and in November we became residents of Maymont and owners of the drugstore. At first we occupied two rooms in the hotel owned by Bill Sowden. Then Mr. and Mrs. Taylor decided to go to their farm and we were lucky enough to rent their house, next to the post office and opposite the station. We enjoyed our years in Maymont. The people were nice and friendly and sport-minded so we danced and skated and had baseball and hockey teams. The orchestra had Hazel Patterson or Ethelwyn Flesh on the piano, Brian Kerr and Ernie Sykes on violin and Bob Merrell on the banjo. We also had a tennis court one year and many of the mothers had a game on the afternoon while the babies slept in their buggies nearby.

There were three active churches in Maymont while we lived there, Anglican, United and Roman Catholic. Of course, each church had a Ladies Aid which worked to raise money for their church by way of handwork and cooking sales and suppers. Prairie towns are always busier than they look from the highway or passing train. They are good fun and a handy place to live.

We started our family while in Maymont. Mary Louise arrived August 2, 1931 and William Lorne on April 11, 1933.

Dr. Screech was the doctor in Maymont then and he and my husband got on well together; and Doc drove many miles, summer and winter, to look after sick people. We couldn't have wished for a better doctor than he.

My husband's sister came to Maymont to start her teaching career, and lived with us for the few years she taught in Maymont. She was Mabel Merrell and eventually left to go to Normal School. We enjoyed having her and she liked Maymont and the other teachers who taught there.

At this time my mother died in Winnipeg so my young brother, Lewis Jackson, came and spent a couple of years with us before going back to Winnipeg when fourteen years old to be with his dad and brother.

About this time we moved to Prince Albert and Bob worked in Mitchells Drug Store. They had a music department in their store at that time and Bob became interested in that. When he had a chance to go to Mason and Rische Piano Company in Edmonton in 1937 he took it and we have been here ever since. While in Prince Albert, our younger son, Bruce, was born on January 25, 1938.

When the war came, Bob enlisted in the R.C.A.F. as a pharmacist in the R.C.A.F. Hospital in Calgary. Lorne became a pilot in the R.C.A.F. in Eastern Canada and England.

During the war Mary married Harry Cochrane a navy lieutenant, went East for a time, then returned to Edmonton with their baby daughter Bobbie. After Lorne came home he decided to go to B.C. and settled in Powell River where he married and had a family of two girls and a boy. He died suddenly in January, 1978. His family still live in Powell River.

My son Bruce, now lives in Kitchener, Ontario with wife and son and the rest of his family is in B.C. and Alberta.

Bob came back from Calgary and began a drugstore which he operated for sometimes years before getting bone cancer from which he died in 1957.

Mary and Harry still live in Edmonton and at present, I live with them. Their family is scattered too — three in Edmonton with four children; one in Ottawa with two children, and one in Brandon, Manitoba with two children.

Mr. Merrell's family came originally from England and France via U.S.A. to Canada, where their large family have scattered. My parents originally came from Ireland and England, to the Ottawa Valley from where they went to Eastern and Western Canada. We both have a fair record of the family.

The Jack Miller Story

Jack Miller was born February 13, 1903, at Lucknow, Ontario. His father was a road builder, gravel contractor and farmer. They lived a few miles from Lucknow. There were five boys and two girls in the family — one of these boys was Samuel Miller — a long time resident of Maymont and Fielding District.

Jack grew up an average teenager, working piling wood for fifty cents a day, while still going to school. There were always lots of chores — cows to be milked on the farm. He enjoyed playing ball with his friends.

Jack Miller.

Mrs. Jack Miller (Florence).

Their farm team was strong enough to haul the Lucknow High School boys which pleased them very much.

Sam had already gone west and established his home in Maymont area. He went home to see his family and urged Jack to come west to homestead; this was in 1911. The homestead Jack came to was about twenty-six miles north of Maymont. It meant a long haul for wheat, so many farmers travelled together, it took all day. They put their horses in the livery stable to rest and travelled back the next day. What a change from 1913's modern trucks!

Jack proved up this homestead, then traded it for one near Maymont, the SW2-43-12-W3. He worked for brother, Sam, and stayed winters up North, so it worked out better for him to be closer. Also he had become interested in getting married, which he did, to Miss Florence Northcott: her father was a blacksmith, George Northcott. This event took place on March 19, 1914.

Their first son was born on April 5, 1916. His name was Allan. Another child, a wee daughter, was born during 1918 and she passed away with the 'Flu epidemic'. Jack has nothing but praise for "Old Doc Scratch" who gave so much of his time to everyone during those trying days.

Jack remembers there were many trips over the river in the winter for wood: prairie fires had been hard on small bluffs.

Another son, Robert, was born on November 28, 1918. Laura was born September 19, 1921 and Margaret, November 28, 1926.

Jack never worked with oxen but used two five-horse outfits for several years. Ernie Andrew always threshed for them with a steam outfit, though at one time he owned a small gas tractor, and Hummingbird Separator.

The children all went to Keystone School, it being north of their farm. Allan remembers going to school with a horse pulling a small stone boat with a box nailed on for him to sit on. He stayed with his grandparents to go to school at Neepawa as Keystone was too far away in winter time.

Jack was Master of the Orange Lodge for some five years. At one time there were ninety members in the Lodge. July 12 was Orange Day. There were many good Sports Days on Orange Day. They had their own Band, also.

Jack had the dubious honor of being president of the Maymont Telephone Company during the "dirty thirties": he remembers threatening phones to be cut off, if back taxes were not paid. People started working on setting up poles, etc., until their bills were paid.

Son, Bob, joined the army in the spring of 1941, then after a few months he switched to the airforce, being so it until the end of the War. He came home to farm: he married Mary Garrett of Fielding; they have three daughters and one son. They now live in Saskatoon.

Laura trained as a nurse in City Hospital nursing for several years. Then she went to Toronto to take training as a Public Health Nurse. She is now Mrs. Lloyd Sheppard of Barrie, Ontario. They also live in Grenada during the winter months. They have no family.

Margaret trained as a teacher. She taught in Bromley School and several others. She is now Mrs. Bill Hallat of Holden, Alberta. — a farmer's wife. They have three boys and one girl.

Allan is still at home with Jack.

Mrs. Miller passed away in April 1958; Jack remembers the children's growing up years to be the happiest times. They had good times together.

Allan and Jack live now in a suite of rooms upstairs in Maymont. Jack celebrated his eighty-sixth birthday at a Come and Go Tea in his honour in the Senior Citizens' Centre.

History of the Sam Miller Family

S. R. Miller came from Bruce County, Ontario in 1903, with ten dollars in his pocket. He still had the ten dollars homestead filing fee and he and four others walked the seventy miles from Saskatoon to his homestead.

He married Edith Fitzell, who was also from Lucknow, Ontario. In 1917, they built their brick house, which is still standing and a landmark. When the No. 5 Highway went by the door, it was a stopping place for many motorists travelling from North Battleford to Saskatoon.

They raised a family of three boys and two girls. All remained in the communities of Fielding and Maymont and were engaged in farming.

Sam Miller's Harry B wins first heat — Maymont, June 21st, 1912.

Chester and Shirley Miller family. L. to r. — Gary and Marlene Swain with Craig and Kelli, Shirley and Chester, Glenda and Eugene Pidwerbesky, Kay, Cornis and Dean Hofer.

The oldest boy, Frank, is now living in Creston, B.C. and is married to Coty Heller of Maymont.

The oldest daughter, Reta, is married to Bill Brown and is now residing in Radisson.

The second son, Walter, who was married to Olive Thompson, passed away suddenly in 1962.

The other daughter, May, who was married to Francis Ducharme passed away in 1977.

Chester, the youngest, ran the family farm, taking over in 1956 from his dad. He moved to Maymont in 1977; but still actively farms with his son-in-law and daughter, Garry and Marlene Swain.

Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Miller retired to Maymont in 1950, where Mr. Miller passed away in 1964 and Mrs. Miller in 1967.

During their life time they were active in many community projects, mostly all connected with the agriculture aspect and their church. Sam served for twenty years as reeve of the Rural Municipality of Mayfield. His hobby was horses and at one time he owned race horses and did a lot of racing in many parts of the province. Enclosed is a picture of races being run in Maymont in 1912.

Edith O. Mills

A Brief History of my Life in Canada

To begin with 1939 seemed to be a turning point in history.

The Duke of Windsor abdicated the British Throne in 1936.

The blueprints were drawn up for World War II in 1936, and I came to Canada in the spring of 1935.

There was much talk of war in 1934 and 1935. Hitler was blaming the Jews and saying they were in all the good positions and were wearing the silk shirts while the Germans were wearing the cotton. Many Jews were getting out of Germany and coming into the city of Manchester, England and some going to the U.S.A.

On the boat "Antonia" On my way to a new life and land. Where I thought nursing could be done and some was.

At that time I was a nurse attached to a nursing home in the city going out on call to the sick. With talk of so much trouble ahead, I decided I could nurse in Canada. I must say coming to Canada from a big commercial city felt like dropping down into the wilderness

Well, I got married to Ernest Newton Anderson and inherited two young stepdaughters. Both did well in school and married happily.

I liked the farm for I was brought up on one. Mr. Anderson passed away in 1934.

I remarried in July 1968 to A. D. Mills and have been a widow now for many years.

My nephew, Marshall, came out to farm, also his mother

The Milman's

submitted by Joan (Milman) Longstaff

Grandpa Milman and three sons, Charles, Arthur and Harold came to Canada in 1903-04 from Thorne, Yorkshire, England. They landed at Montreal, and came by train to Saskatoon. It took approximately twenty-one days to come across on the boat, and a week to come to Saskatoon by train from Montreal.

A small house was built in Maymont in the area near where Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Thurlow had their houses. It was a low two or three room house.

Later Grandpa homesteaded the quarter section where Mr. and Mrs. John Thurlow lived. This land is approximately eight miles north and east of Maymont. Lionel Milman is farming this land now.

Our Dad, Charlie, did considerable land breaking for various people, including some for Melrose and Reid. All land breaking was done by oxen in those days. Dad was eighteen years old at the time. He took any job he could get to work at. Finally he was able to file on a homestead, Sec. 33, T 43, W 3rd nine miles north and east of Maymont. Uncle Arthur and Uncle Harold were able to obtain their homesteads northwest of Richard.

Grandpa Milman died at Maymont about 1934

Dad, Uncle Arthur and Uncle Harold, harvested together for many years, using an old separator and a large Fairbanks-Morse engine.

Our Mom and one of Dad's sisters, Aunt Emily (Mrs. Williams), came over, leaving Liverpool in August or September the same year. Mom and Dad were married at Barlow Anglican Church in March, 1918. Mom sang a solo at her own wedding reception.

Dad's sailing ticket was a 'return' and that called for him to return to Canada shortly after the wedding. This was during the First World War when passage and tickets for civilians were at a premium.

Our Mom played the piano and the violin.

Dad liked farming, and farmed as many others did, with horses. Four or six horse outfits were used on most of the machinery. A John Deere tractor, an A R, which gradually took the place of the horses, is still at the farm and used occasionally by Rae or Dick.

Our Dad served as school Trustee on the Etonia School Board for some 21 or 23 years. He was also an original member of the Sask. Wheat Pool, hauling most of his grain to Richard, five miles away

Seven children were born to Charles and Henrietta Milman. The oldest son, Dick, and the youngest son Ronald, still live on the original homestead.

Five of those children still survive. Stanley, the second boy of the family, died in Oct. 1978.

Dad was born Oct. 21st, 1885 and died March 3rd, 1975. Mom was born June 26th, 1894, and died Jan. 4th, 1974.

The Milman Story

Mr. Charles Senior came to Canada from Selby, Yorkshire England in 1901 with his two daughters Nellie and Connie and two sons Arthur and Harold and settled on a farm about eight miles north of Maymont, Sask.

Charlie Milman Junior, at that time a Bank Teller, attracted by the ideas shown by the Canadian Pacific

Railway about the many opportunities in Canada, decided he would come to Canada in 1909. He stopped off in Ontario where he was told there was lots of work. The job he got was hauling logs with a sleigh and team of horses. Working conditions were hard and the weather was very cold. Living conditions were much worse and food consisted of mainly potatoes. He

Charles J. Milman and Henrietta Mary Milman's passport pictures — March 22nd, 1916, one week after their wedding.

Dick Milman's 25½ pound fish caught at Meeting Lake.

walked thirty miles to get flour to make bannock. Not being accustomed to the cold and poor living conditions he became ill.

When he had recovered he went west and located on a farm near his father. He built a small house and worked his land with his first team, a team of oxen. He had a garden and grew enough vegetables to last the winter. He walked to Redvers for his mail and supplies.

In December 1915 he went to England to visit his sisters and a friend who was Postmistress at Barlow, Yorkshire. In March 1916 Henrietta Mary Wilson and Charlie decided to get married and go to Canada to live. He returned to Canada and his wife and sister Emily came over on the next boat. Charlie and Hettie had five children — Winnie Hawkes of Abbotsford, B.C., Dick farming near Maymont, Mary Brake of New Berlin, New York, U.S.A., Stanley — deceased October 1978, Joan Lanegraffe of North Battleford, and Ronald of Maymont. Dr. Scratch was the only doctor in that area, and he spent many long cold nights and days travelling by cutter in the winter to care for his many patients scattered around the country. He was a very wonderful person, always willing to help and often never sent any bill for his services.

Nellie stayed with Mr. Milman Senior until she married Donald Schofield, who was Rector of All Saints, Maymont. He left the ministry a short time later to join the staff of the Technical School in Moose Jaw, Sask. Mr. Milman was unable to look after the farm on account of his age so moved into a small house in Maymont. He passed away in the spring of 1932.

Connie left to go teaching at Bellevue, Alberta. She later met and married John Thurlow. They returned to take over the farm formerly owned by Mr. Milman Senior. They lived there until John's death, then Connie moved to Maymont. She passed away in 1970.

Emily married Dick Williams. They lived near Fielding where he farmed and raised purebred Clydesdale horses. Dick was very fond of music, had a good singing voice and played the violin so was very popular in various ways around Fielding. They had a son Owen of Campbell River, B.C. and a daughter Ruth deceased March 1979. Emily passed away in May of 1968.

Arthur and Harold married and both farmed north of Richard, Sask. Arthur and Jennie had four sons Dean and Bob of Kamloops B.C., Arnold of Calgary, Alberta and Lionel farming near Richard, Harold and Pearl (McDonald) had a son Lloyd farming north of Richard and a daughter Margarita of Calgary, Alberta.

Ronald Milman is farming north of Maymont. He met and married Bonnie Jessie Beach of Vancouver, B.C. They have three children Glen, Denise and Neil.

Dick is farming the Charles Milman Jr. homestead.

Hettie Milman was an active member of the A.C.W. of All Saints Anglican Church and played the organ for the Sunday Services for quite some time. She passed away January 4, 1974 and Charlie March 1975. They will both be dearly loved and remembered for the important part they played in the home, school and community. They suffered many hardships as did so many other immigrants but you only heard of the good times from them.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Moffat

Joe Moffat was born on the farm of the late Mr. and Mrs. William Cook of Maymont and moved with his parents in 1916 to a quarter section in the Bromley district north of Richard. Here he attended public school. At age 15 he had to take over the management of the farm as his dad had a serious illness. Active in both Boy Scouts and Farm Boys' Camps (as both leader and participant) — he gained much useful information from both. In 1941 he married Mary Welford of the Lilac district and they lived on the Bromley farm until 1969. A short experiment with Co-op farming left them at loose ends until they moved their new house, barn and other buildings to the former J. E. Bulmer homestead one-half mile east of Lake (SE 4-83-13). In 1961. Here their two daughters — Marion and Jean — went to school until Grade 8 and then boarded in North Battleford to complete their Grade XII at N.B.C.I. Marion graduated from University of Saskatchewan with her Bachelor of Education in 1964 with great distinction and was the top student in the graduating class. She married Bill Droage of North Battleford in 1965 and they live in Swift Current with their young sons. Jean took two years of the degree course in Nursing at the University of Saskatchewan before marrying Jon Harren of Penzance in 1964. They have a boy and a girl and currently live in Calgary.

Joe and Mary Moffat have taken their part in community affairs. Joe was a former councillor of the R.M. of Douglas, a trustee of Bromley School, a director of the Mayfield and Douglas Agricultural Society, on the United Church Board at Bromley and later at Ruddell, on Saskatchewan Wheat Pool Committee, being Secretary for over 20 years, a director on the Speers Co-op, and on the North Battleford Co-op Board for 21 years — all of them as president. Being a real handy man, Joe is "Mr. Fixit" for many neighbors in his well equipped shop and has been of assistance in minor veterinary cases.

Mary taught school at Ruddell and Ruddell prior to her marriage and at Hollingsdale (Borden) and Lilac during the teacher shortage. She has been a member of the Lilac Ladies Guild since coming to the district and a member of Lilac's C.G.I.T. during its brief history. Now a life Member of the Richard Women's Institute she has served as Secretary at local, district, and provincial levels. She is currently (1979) 1st Vice-President of the Battlefords' District W.I.

Now strictly grain farmers, this couple have travelled extensively during the winter months and have shared their experiences on six continents through slide presentations.

Joe and Mary Moffat — 1979

The Mohler Story

by Franklin and Betty Mohler

In February 1871 a young wife in Saxony, Germany, died giving birth to a son, the first and only child, George Moritz Mohler. His father was a Captain in the German army occupying Paris, during the Franco-Prussian War, at the time, but soon after he emigrated to the United States to get away from army life. The young wife's parents looked after the young child. He went to school from 7 a.m. to noon and worked in a garment factory in the afternoon. While his grandparents were good to him they prepared him to be as independent as possible and to develop initiative. There was a well equipped gym and a swimming pool at the school, and unless a doctor gave a certificate prohibiting it both were compulsory. This helped develop strong bodies and self-confidence. He was blessed with an excellent memory, and in later years often amused his family with the information he remembered from the reading he had done in the excellent school library. In his later years at school he was assistant librarian and learned about the movements of people from Biblical days on, as well as geography. He was intensely interested in History. He read German translations of literature that he later re-read in England.

His father repeatedly asked for his son to come to the United States but the grandparents would not let him go until they felt he could look after himself. In 1886 his father lost hope of him coming and sold his farm in Nebraska and moved into the town of Hebron, he also re-married.

In the spring of 1887 his grandparents finally decided to let George go. He came over in a ship that was sail as well as steam. It was a very rough passage and late spring on the U.S.A. The young boy landed in New York with bare trees and snow here and there. This dampened the spirits of the newcomer and there was less enthusiasm for the Statue of Liberty. The weather continued cool on the long train ride to Nebraska. It was very discouraging because he had

left an area where spring had come. Abe Zeller's move may have been fortunate for the young immigrant as it gave him more time at school than he might have had if they had been on a farm with chores to do. Years later he was to find himself farming close to that location a brother for she was Miss Fry and her parents are in the Maymont cemetery. It's a small world.

The new home life did not work out for young George and six months later he left home forever. He started working on farms mostly in a Scottish settlement. These people gathered frequently for sing songs and his love for good music was increased. There were also Irish and German settlements there and he noticed some of the prejudices that grew in some of the communities that were predominantly of one nationality and he decided that he would settle in a district where there was a multinational population. This we believe he found at Maymont, an area where people of many different origins are all "CANADIANS".

In 1886 he bought a razor and an Elgin watch for the Wagon were $15 a month. The watch still keeps perfect time.

In 1888 he went to the World's Fair in Chicago. He saw the famous Alpine Cyclist shoot darts backwards from different positions including backwards and using a mirror. He struck hands with Buffalo Bill after seeing his show. He rode on the original horse wheel which many said could never work. He rode over an foot a distance and was hooked.

1889 George Weber and three friends went to the fair at St. Louis. There was a large auditory with many booths. One was a fortune teller. The friends decided to have their fortunes told and persuaded George to have his told too. Reluctantly he agreed. The woman told him that his grandfather was dead that she saw his spiritual body beside George. George protested, saying he had just had a letter a week before saying Grandfather was in good health. She then repeated the day that he had suddenly passed away. She also told him more other things that later came true. In due course George received a letter telling of his grandfather's death on the day she told him. So the Webber family have a confirmed belief in the spiritual body.

In 1888-89 on the recommendation of the local bank manager he was hired as manager of a large feedlot. The stockman bought 800 Texas longhorn steers and 1000 wrestling pigs. In the spring as one steer was looking at the bank another spied it and broke its neck. George was there and used it tremendously as it made good meat. Otherwise all the livestock came through fat and healthy. On the evening of July 4, 1888 the railroad spotted enough cars to hold the 600 steers and 1000 hogs. They were hauled into town with the help of many neighbors. They all grazed well and the stockman made a good deal of money. It was surprising that it was very many years before there were large feedlots in Saskatchewan.

About the time a friend of his was interested in a nice looking young lady. It was mutually agreed that he would come to her home at a certain day to meet the family. When in the girl's correspondence he arrived the day before and found her busy helping her mother prepare for the next day. He was very pleased. He then knew that she was industrious as well as beautiful.

Dad then went to work on a mine near Denver, Colorado for the next four years. When he started mining there were many men from the Maritimes in Canada who were working to pay off mortgages. He surprisingly many could not read and write. Dad helped by writing letters for them. At the end of his four years he and another man were the only miners that were not Welshmen.

While in the mine there were some incidents that were worth recording. For some period of time a Man was made the dynamite used for blasting at their particular mine. He made it down by, in a large kettle, heating the mixture which had to be constantly stirred by a helper using a wooden spoon. The foreman pointed that the helper was becoming scared, so he warned him to continue stirring vigorously and not to try to run away for if it boiled over the blast would kill him. Others he could get far enough away. "He stirred" but when it cooled down he left for good. The liquid was then mixed with sawdust and wrapped in waxed paper forming sticks. Since it freezes at 8 degrees Centigrade many of the mixers would warm the sticks up by the heat of a candle. Often one could see the liquid in the paper cylinder as you moved it back and forth. The mine was not far from Denver so over the years Dad got acquainted with many different people. One was a private money lender. One time when visiting him it was pay day for Railroad men. The man suggested that he prevent reading the paper and listen. First the customer came in, repaid the loan, then borrowed it back again. Then the Trainman came in and did the same. Then a third man paid and borrowed again. After they had gone the lender remarked "Some of them really needed to do that, but instead of saving are trying to keep up with the Joneses. If they are willing to pay me the interest, I will continue to lend it to them." It appears that millions of people are and have been doing the same thing and is increasing nowhere. When and how will it end?"

Another acquaintance was the Warden of the Penitentiary. He invited Dad to watch the records with him and taking a good look at the prisoners. When they got back to the office he asked for his comment. "They are all young good looking fellows." "Yes, they are." Their only fault was that they were not as smart as they thought they were."

Early in the spring of 1904 Dad and five others came up to Lanigan Township 33-11-W3 had been surveyed in 1903 and opened for homesteads. Dad, Frank Hutchinson, Bill Schmidt, Oscar Breadbaugh and Henry

Chesterfield wrestled around the area in a league with a team of horses. They horse was owned by Henry Chesterfield, the other by Wm. Holman. Dad decided to apply for N.E. 4, Outer Bromhaugh the S.W. 4; and Bill Holman the N.W. 4, Outer Bromhaugh the S.E. 4. When crossing water they were sometimes near where Bridport is now. They made camp under the stars. Some days they always hobble the horses at night but the night the Misses Chesterfield was sure the horse would not leave him. In the morning no horse was in sight. Wm. Holman and Dad started hunting straight and thinking that as they were bought in Pendleton they might both head for home. They walked south of Bellevue Lake until they reached the North Saskatchewan River at Petrolia. Here are they south to the Edmonton crossing and Lavell's ferry but to right of the horses. It was night by the time we were alight on the river bank. In the morning they heard a rooster crow across the river. They crossed the river and found some Czechoslovakians living there who gave them breakfast. They passed a bucket of the ferry offering a $2 reward for the horses and began the long walk to Battleford as far as these homesteads. There weeks later a man named John Swain found the horses and got the reward.

On the way to Battleford Frank Hutchison developed blisters on both heels. Despite the pain when they broke, the pair continued their journey. They crossed the river on a steam driven ferry. They were able to file on the homesteads of their choice at Battleford and the main Land Titles office and had not received entries from other offices on that land. They were pleased that their great effort had paid off.

While in the United States, these many years they had gone along with some of the trade of associates with the Americans were ready. There were a love for their flag, the bands and the stirring music that play. The fireworks and lots of noise in general. Conditions on the wheat do not appear as encouraging though their findings may be just as strong. For example July 4 1894 dawned clear and calm. Suddenly a loud shotgun blast came from one quarter on Section 6 then another. Dad the men. That hastily they heard "God Save the King", by Alfred Hawkins whose homestead was the N.W. of 33, where the present cemetery is.

The land was good with plenty of moisture but only 10 to 20 acres of each 160 acres was clear of brush and trees and these acres were into where most of the shacks were. Dad bought a new harrow making plans with a breaker between which turned the virgin sod over flat. Keeping the shacks and neighbourly wounds and sheep especially as in later years when planning the fields for crops these areas such as Pembroke Area that was heavy clay, were bypassed till the other places were brought in because ordinary plows would not clean.

While the horses were eating and running Dad would go out and dig brush and small trees with a grub hoe or walk up stumps with a crow-bar, to add a few more horses to the field. Some of the stumps were too large and had to be left to be dug out later. Many low large to be rolled had to be chained off. Some with a wrapper behind hard wards others with a shovelling.

Until wells were dug they used water from the many sloughs. For household use the water had to be strained through a gauze sack or cloth to get out the wigglers. Several stages of the many development that were present a great deal of the time to bother both man and beast. There were houses or barns as well as stables. Most were built of logs, but many with sod. Frank Hutchison built his of sods, including the roof and chimney over poles with some clay spread over top to help run off rain and melting snow. The Sod-shed's were usually quite warm but darker because of the thick walls and generally leaked during heavy rains. Frank's house stood on the hill until the late 30's when we tore it down and burned over the year.

In 1907 I was seeding experimentation with a grain drill. Coming to the end of the field west of the big slough I turned over the drag chains and drills to see if I had picked up some staples, which stopped the disks turning resulting in poor seeding. I found a bent spoon in one of the chains and threw it into the tractor and box. Bridge was made through this hand, who was named after my Dad. It was named after the Lathey's name to visit from Pennsylvania U.S.A. While we were visiting I remembered the spoon. I got it and they recognized it as part of their mother's silver, which they sold. Many, many years. It was a strange coincidence that the one that been between were for 30 years but the spoon turned up two weeks before their first and only visit.

In the summer of 1906-07 there was very little snow and Dad hauled gravel and stones at the height for the first grain elevator at Maymont, "The Western". He picked some of the stones from fields that had been broken in 1906. One morning when he stopped to ask permission to pick stones the man invited him in for a cup of tea. He said only just up and the kettle was frozen on the stove. It took quite for the wood fire to produce enough heat to boil the kettle.

Dad and my Uncle Henry hauled freight between Battleford, Battleford, Lashburn and Edmonton. They travelled west of Saskatoon on the south side of the North Saskatchewan the same route that the Hart rebellion took. There was one very bad hazard - the many banks of the Battle River. That necessitated rough-locking the hind wheels going down the bank, then in the river getting down to take the chains off before climbing the other side. They did not have log wagons, just drags off as they continued.

In December 1908 Dad married Anna Malmgren J. C. Mahill, the Presbyterian minister at Maymont officiated. In the spring of 1908-09 after sowing the crop he left his young bride at the homestead while he went with his father-in-law to build railroad grade.

That fall 1908, their first child was born, a son.

Frankiw, in the log homestead house. Our Pastor, Dr. Bertsch assured us he did for hundreds more in his lifetime service to the large area from Maymont to Prince Albert across the river. He travelled by ferry or on horseback in winter on the ferry cable or river the ice when it got thick enough. Many of his labours and where can say how much we appreciated his ability, knowledge and readiness to serve to prayer & aid when needed. From Oct '13 Dr. he only had one patient. Rev. Gerhart.

By 1911 Dad had the most acres to date ready to harvest. He was going to start cutting on Monday. Sunday night there was a terrific hail storm. There was terrible thunder and lightning besides the pounding hail. I can still remember it. We were glad to be alive! But the crop was a total loss. Dad tried to make cattle of it once found but it wouldn't dry up enough so it all spoiled. As it was the first hail storm he hadn't any hail insurance. It was a terrible shock to lose such a promising crop. He did find some good friends who helped him get seed and food. He borrowed money for other needs. I also sold my first cow(s) by one of Dad's spoiled steers; it was fatally castrating steer.

I would also like to record one of our neighbour's experiences in that storm. He was S. F. Johnston. Familiarly known as "Sam on the Corner". He saw the enormous cloud approaching as most spectators and as his horses grazed that the hail would not fall on his crop. The hail did fall over his fields then dropped causing further damage.

Soon Dad & Jack bought quarter was the S W of 8 and Bill Schmidt's the N W of 8 they had the west half transferred to Maymont S. D. from the Grey S. D. since Maymont was closer. Our parents took turns taking us to school till we were old enough to drive ourselves. Schmidt's school burns was Old Hall and ours Maymont. We had many a race along the trail across the C.P.R. Section 8. that we hoped our parents didn't hear about.

During the other part of the First World War able men were scarce. The Government gave bonus symbols to boys old enough to help on the farms and leave school during them. Students of the Hall Three I remember were Frank Butterfield, Joseph Reid, Bill Schmidt, and Henry Wilson. Some went back to school but Lyman Reid went to 11 of 8 to get his "Bonus Papers" which he used to run steam engines boilers on oil well sites and buildings.

The original pattern of settlement in the Maymont District was small farms. To the East and West were larger farms in general. With many families we had a larger school population which continued for quite awhile making it possible to teach Grade 12. Later as the rural population dwindled coupled with the consolidation between Rosthern and North Battleford smaller schools closed and started coming to Maymont for High School. Then all grades came. With better all-season roads school buses started. Many small steam plough units were formed until eventually in 1 that is some plowing with a wing grader I was done by the R.M. majority on the school bus routes, then other roads.

There was a transition from the one-furrow walking plow to a walking gang. One day when Dad and our neighbour, Bill Schmidt, were hill plowing, they met at the line fence. Dad asked him if he didn't get cold riding the plow with an iron seat. He replied "I'd rather shiver like a dog than walk!" Before long Dad bought riding gangs too). After the switch from horse to tractor power there were 3-gang 6-furrow plows. The make of the first walking gang was a Flora. The first riding gangs were Oliver and Massey Ward. The next were two 14 inch John Deeres. The first tractor was a J-30 Mc Cormick Deering and International Harvester three furrow plow and packer. I drove that pipe-wheel, angle-plate clutch for 38 years before the first J.D.A. on rubber. We also found out the first day that the rubber tired tractor would not pull the same implement through wet ground as the steel-legged M-35 Mc-D would.

In 1936 we bought our first 14 inch Case-Oliver which was used instead of plows. It did hundreds of acres of working the soil and seeding and fertilizing at one operation. Then came the power reach the thousands of acres well. Then preparing the soil with cultivator and rodweeder then a double disc press drill in the sections that deposited the seed and phosphate fertilizer together for the greatest benefit. We seeded a half bushel to acre and reaped a forty bushel crop of Marquis this way.

The trees in this Parkland country presented quite a problem in the earlier years. Dad and Mr. Alfred Hawkins bought a grub machine. They anchored it in two or three stumps. They unrolled a cable with hook on the end, then after fastening around tree or trees, fastened a horse to a sweep on the drum winding away till the trees were where they grew them by hand to be burned later. When this method was hard work the roots usually came clean, compared to bulldozing where quite a bit of earth went into the piles with the roots, but it used less personal labor. Then we got many acres of brushland with the aid after freeze-up or snow got too deep. After the brush piles were burned we plowed it with our first "Brush Plow with Wood Beam". We used twelve horses hitched six and six. Dad drove the road six and I the rear horses pulling the plow in the ground and using it out with a lever. We plowed about fifty acres that way before started one. Then we rented a pull brush cutter which also required shovelers, of which was to move the brush out of the way before the next round. We exchanged quite a bit of the work with neighbors.

Then we bought a steel beam high-clearance plow and pull brush cutter. Harold Curry an excellent welder and machinist built a push brush plow which saved a lot of manpower. Then we had the pull and brush bulldozed into windrows and I then used the brush plow.

Frank Butterfield and I bought Ford Model T utility from our town at last, sharpening saw and file made an entrance at last for lumbers placing the axles about saw-span apart. We used a two-man crosscut saw to work the trees out of the bush while plowing and breaking the soil. We parked all the cuts by hand putting them in piles to burn or hauling them off on a bobsled. We used the Fraser River Mills where they were receiving thousands of acres of wood brushwood with a root digger pile pusher on a drum driven by tractor power take-off through a three tab clutch and to reduce the speed thus adding power to shake dirt off the roots and scattered them. There have also been many surrounded stone pockets that used to clear land. They required more expense and pleasure labor.

Land was also a Mercantile Orchard Tractor from the 30's to the 50's. On that were a mail and several rooms had been added to the original orchard. Each was located with a surveyed Canterbury road that plays to church square grid and pipe brought coal oil into jacket circles and opened between the stamps in the four door farmhouse age. They kept rats air under the floor to prevent so we kept our feet off it as much as possible when sitting at double desks which we had in those earlier years. The windows were kept along the west wall. The view was up at high drifts from the open field west of the school yard and also where roads flank the school buildings. Many young children become ill from wet going there that suggested a better second learning should be provided for health and comfort sake. The orchard said. All we had both East was a pole or the bush. Across a new school was built grudgingly. When a joint room was occupied the basement of the then Presbyterian Church was used till high when the two old rooms were moved to about the present school site. A third room was added over a fuel basement and a large furnace to heat it all. There were no hydro days wants gas in the apartment. Log which was a great change for the better. Also with the addition of a third room Grades Twelve has been taught ever since.

We were proud of our Branch for the Top Team which consisted of Leslie Stephen, Audrey Harris, Brian Spence and Linda Vaagen. Although they were in grades ten eleven and twelve they competed against teams of grade twelves and made a commendable showing in both knowledge and sportsmanship. When they reached the finals against Aden-Stevenson Collegiate which were televised in the new Auditorium in Saskatoon made of us from Mercantile there there to support them in spirit.

Land Use Rules. When that I instructor for Extension Farm in the 30's and 40's. The latter years were very trying times for everyone. It was much worse on the prairies in the south of the province. Finally many left taking just what they could get on a bogeyed or two. When they got to the parkland areas in the North they had no experience or equipment to deal with clearing the brushland. Some did use the grey wooded variety and cropped variations that they didn't have enough to pay for. There were also many urban people transported there who had no idea what to do. Also in those early days practically every farmer had some chickens, pigs and cattle. That also meant they had to have a lot of fences. Some were not looked after very well so cattle often got out into neighbors' crops, which led to lawsuits all around. Strangers asking back room or the stalls were reserved for the town men, but not in the residence. The open naturally drifted off the cover fields and piled into the roads through the fences. Repairs or re-operations with reconstruction of A. Johnston Inc. Brandon Page on road down our house on the north and south side of our road running west a half mile. The R.M. Engineer pushed the brush and trees back about forty feet. Then I plowed and worked it down and seeded it. This was under the name long distance use as well as a social part of town. The height is was considerably better than before but the brush was not pushed back quite far enough. Then we got together and planted four ½ miles of evergreens back on the fields along what was later to become a grid road running north from the Mormon Cemetery. It has proved to be of great value in keeping the snow off that road. There had been further plantings further north and along other roads. Also a group work on Conquest hundreds of miles of hedges running north and south opposite our prevailing east and west winds. It keeps the drift off the ground thus preserving enough moisture to produce profitable second crops, and stops soil drifting which was very serious before and still is on bare land because the hard surface. Later it has been found that if the road grade is gradually sloped and a broad shallow ditch and also very important, the slope to the fence is gradually sloped, the wind that usually blows during a snow storm will keep the road fairly clear for traffic.

In the earlier years and then lacked a long time for some businesses there were few ways to keeping food for any length of time. One exception was meat that was salted brine of sprinkled or canned in quarts - some - put a hanging - generally done under protection.

Then we had a Beef Ring that lasted over forty years. We all took turns taking a good steer to the Beef Ring butcher on Thursday so it would be starved till Friday evening when it was killed and hung till Saturday morning. Then it was cut up in wholes or half sheets as a planned manner so each got a different piece each Saturday. For some of the years the butcher was Tom Sawyer who used four miles north of town sometimes when I went to pick up our meat I rode horseback and took the ways to the new range each side the farm of the saddle. The time on the way home I stopped at Gifford's farm which was the section just north of our land (now owned by Walter Sadowsky). They had a large slough south-west of their buildings and a short flat-bottomed boat on it. Clarence and I went for a boat ride and sometimes spent the time

Mistymble was very patient with us. The last the owner of her husband's station for me to ruby home with. To keep the meat and other things cool, we put up ice from the North Saskatchewan River for 27 years. Hooking it up the 300 foot slope that faced south and often required carrying water to put on the winding road to the top where there were usually plenty of short still. Only one year, 1933, was it hauled in wagons. The last three years we hauled it from open deposits. The last time it was only a few yards from our house deposit to the ice house. There since we had 110-220 Refrigerator. Power we bought a refrigerator. On June 7, I took the ice saw and tongs to the "Western Development Museum at North Battleford. I also took Dad's three-horse plow that he used to help build railroad grades and move earth around the farm and to the present Maymont Cemetery sometime in the early years.

This was the main part of the story, as the memories

On November 30, 1881 in North Loup, Nebraska, Anna Amanda Malmgren was born. Her parents had emigrated from Sweden earlier. She was the first of a family of six children to be born in Loup. School days came and went and she taught school until her parents decided to move the family to Canada. Her father Frederick H. Malmgren filed on a homestead east of Richard. It was later part of West South 1 farm. In September, 1910 the family arrived. Anna drove a team of horses on a democrat from Wyoming. They forded rivers when necessary.

Through the years she talked very little about those early years.

While the family lived on the homestead at Richard she often rode or drove a horse to Great Bend post office north of Redberry. During the summers of 1914 and 15 she stayed with her youngest sister and brother on the homestead while her mother went with her husband to cook for the crew. Mr. Malmgren was a contractor and built railroad grade in different places. Those known to us are Maxville, Alberta; near Meeting Lake (south of Marsden); Bruderheim and Acworth. The work was done with horse teams moving the earth. Quite often the route was through fairly level, wet low-lying areas which held up the work. One idea he developed was to cut a number cutting-log to three feet in length and move the brush off to allow the ground to dry. One year as the crew was moving home Grandma Malmgren strapped buckets to her feet to walk across the thin ice of the river south of Maymont and then walked the fourteen miles north to get home to the family while the men went in the railroad bridge at Cut Knife to cross.

Their first home was built of sod.

The story was told that one day after Miss Mahler arrived in the Richard area he saw a young girl on a horse on a large slough and said to his friend "There's the girl I'm going to marry." She later was standing on the wheel and to punish him for his audacity she pushed him into the water. Apparently the dunking didn't discourage him as they were married in December 1905 and lived on his homestead N.E. 6-46 (3 W) where their first two children were born.

In 1908 the Rosenbaughs decided to move back to the States (they later returned to Saskatchewan) and the Mahlers bought their homestead and moved to the S.W. 6. There Mildred and Marguerite were born and there they lived for almost forty years.

They built up the farm and landscaped the yard. Mother did most of the work in the yard as well as beautifying the house herself for the men were busy with the farm work. If she wanted a cupboard she built it (of a very modest paint or paper she did it). The yard became a beauty spot with well clipped lawn, shade trees, ornamental shrubs, perennials and of course a large vegetable garden all fenced to keep out the chickens.

As growing up girls of the fashion was born as was usual then, the new mother stayed in bed for quite a few days after delivery. This meant that help was needed for some time. On one occasion Bessie Cook (later to become Mrs. David McKay) was helping. One day she played a trick on Harold Cumming. She baked a wonderful looking pie — filled with potato peelings and hashed it to him when he was ready for dessert. He had the last laugh. He took a spoon and ate it without a word or change of expression, much to Bessie's surprise.

All of Anna Mahler's time was not spent in the house. She was a charter member of the Maymont Homemakers Club (now the Women's Institute) was at first secretary and went to many district and provincial conventions. In later years she was given a life membership and a few years ago an award of merit. She helped with Homecraft and Farm Girls' Camp, taught young girls how to sew so well as sewing for her own family. She belonged to the U.F.W.A. and Ladies' Aid and also made that her life member of the U.C.W. in recognition of her work in them. She was an active member of the quilters group and worked with the ladies committee of the Memorial Hall for many years. When a group of ladies took a class in weaving in the 30's she was among them and created beautiful rugs on her loom. Until she was in her 80's she enjoyed doing embroidery work. While she could knit and crochet, she did not enjoy it like embroidery work. In all of these activities were of interest to her in her retirement.

In March, 1941 they were given a great blow when their farm home burned. Thanks to the quick response of friends and neighbors to a fire alarm via a general ring by Mrs. Cassidy many men were soon there in spite of the cold northeast wind. They saved most of the furniture from the downstairs but all their clothes and bedroom furniture were gone. It must have been a devastating experience for they were not young and many treasures were lost. Living on a granary and

cooking for carpenters as well as family would tax the strength of most people to the limit but she carried on.

In 1947 when Franklin married they built a bungalow in Maymont to retire there but George never retired. His heart was on the farm and for the next few years he spent most of his time helping there during spring, summer and fall. When the snow came he was content to stay in town. At age 81 he would walk the one and a half miles to the farm, if he was not fetched early enough - in the morning. "I can't do a day's work if you don't feed me until 9 o'clock," so trying to cut his hours by fetching him late didn't work.

Then in February, 1981 he suffered a massive stroke. The family came home and were with him for five days when he quietly slipped away. He had always said when he heard of someone going quickly, "That is the way to go," and as the years went by we agreed. We were thankful Dr. Scratch was there to care for him.

His wife continued to live in their home until she was well into her eighties. In Maymont as on the farm she had made the yard a beauty spot with trees, lawn and flowers and she cared for them until her daughters persuaded her to move to the Centennial Lodge, Rosetown in 1971. It was hard to leave her home but she was happy to be near her two eldest daughters and for six years made herself a good life there. In December 1977 failing health made it necessary for her to have more care than the Centennial Lodge could give so she moved to River Heights Lodge, North Battleford where she has lived since and celebrated her ninety fifth birthday there in 1978. The pioneers had to be hardy to survive the hardships they faced and they continue to take each day as it comes.

What of the family?

Alice Mildred and Marguerite all trained to be teachers. They have most their stories to this project.

Franklin carried on the farming until retiring in 1975.

With the exception of (a) a short course at the University as farm mechanics in 1939 (b) a brief period at Outlook with the Battleford and Prince Albert volunteers (c) a winter at Ahuhki pulp camp in Ontario in 1941 (d) a winter at Britannia Beach copper mine in 1943, he was farming. He was is and I suppose will continue to be, active in many organizations.

Franklin says he is grateful to his parents and family for making it possible for him to join various organizations where he has been able to meet so many interesting people. From the local and district organizations he went on to wider fields. The late J. D. Blacklock and N. W. Symonds both encouraged him to join the Agriculture Society and through it attend Farm Week at the University. There he got interested in the Field Husbandry Association. As a registered seed grower he went to the Saskatchewan branch meeting of that organization. So through the years he was a director then president of, first the Field Husbandry and then the Saskatchewan Branch of the Canadian Seed Growers Association. From there he became one of two Saskatchewan directors of the C.S.G.A. and through the Saskatchewan and Canadian Seed Growers he was enabled to visit most provinces in Canada and met many people.

Locally he was actively involved in the work of the United Church for forty-five years. He is still on the manse committee and represents the Presbytery on the Chaplaincy committee. He is a loyal member of the Masonic Lodge, as well as being involved with other organizations. A year ago he enrolled in an oil painting class through the Community College and has enjoyed trying his hand at that.

In November, 1947 he married Betty Gurney of Kindersley and they lived on the farm. See the Gurney story for their daughter's story.

In 1973 they sold the farm to Ken and Shirley Moore and retired to live in a mobile home in Maymont.

Retirement does not mean lack of activity. The days pass quickly in a routine of activities. The pace, of necessity, is slower and the days do not start as early as in former years, but there are still many things of interest waiting to be done.

Registered Seed Production

written by Betty Mehler

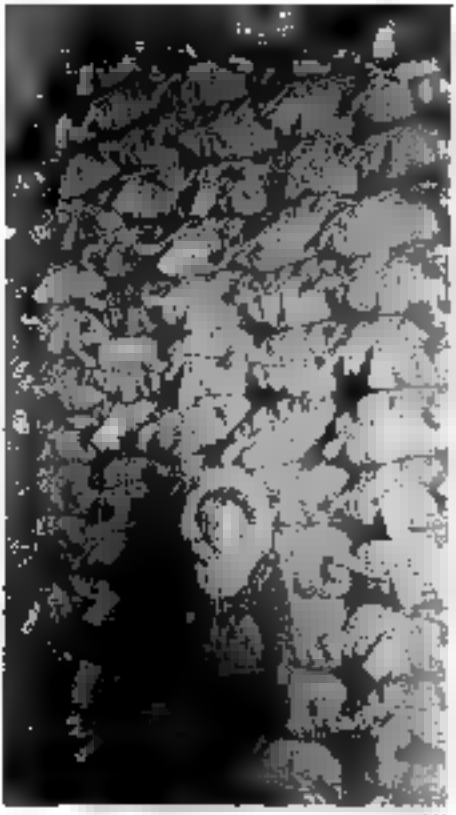
1980 was the first year the Mehlers grew registered seed. Because of the drop in prices it was not a paying project but they continued to grow registered seed from then on.

Growing registered seed and cleaning it for market is a painstaking business. Anyone who has not been involved with it does not know the extra work that is needed. One must be a perfectionist by nature and derive satisfaction from a job well done.

First the fields must be weed-free. The machinery must be free of all other kinds of grain. If a few kernels of wheat are in the drill when you start to sow barley for instance, you will find yourself walking through that field pulling wheat out of it in the summer.

Before harvest an inspector from the Plant Products Division, Department of Agriculture, inspects each field of seed being offered for registration or certification. There must be isolation from other fields, there must be few, if any, weeds or other grain, there must NOT be any other variety of the same grain. When it has passed inspection the department issues a crop certificate.

At harvest time care has to be taken not to carry grain of one kind into another field on the swather or combine. Every nook and cranny of the combine and bins was cleaned, using the vacuum cleaner. As the grain was combined a handful was taken from each load and put in a pail to have a representative sample of grain from each field. A sample of this went to Plant



Jean Mohler and stack of sacks of sealed grain, 1956.

Products for germination test. Seed must grow well, not just sprout, but produce healthy plants.

In 1966 Franklin built a seed cleaning plant on the farm, with elevated bins, dust-free electric motors, augers and two and sometimes three cleaners. Compared to the way they had cleaned seed for the years before it was a speedy process; compared to many of the big seed growers it was small. The seed was sacked for a great number of years. An inspector came from Plant Products, this time probing each sack to get a sample which he looked over very carefully. When it reached the required standard he printed a tag which went on each sack with a seal. So long as this seal is not broken the customer knows the grain meets the required standard. In later years bulk certified seed was permitted, enabling the customer to get it in his truck without sacks. It could not be re-registered as the sealed could. A seed grower would buy the sealed grain.

Cleaning plant in Mohler yard.

To start the cycle the seed grower has a small quantity of seed from a plant breeder. This is sown in rows in one to one and a half acre plots. It is carefully rogued (i.e. you weed it and walk through it looking for any heads that are not true to type). These plants must be pulled. It took many hours to rogue this small plot.

Franklin and his father grew wheat, oats and barley for seed, keeping up with the changes in varieties over the forty-three years.

In 1963 George Mohler was given the "Robertson Associate" by the C.S.G.A. This is an award given to only a few growers in Canada each year in recognition that they "Have fulfilled with conspicuous fidelity and success his obligations as a member of this Association". In 1988 Franklin received the same honour and he wears his button with pride.

This is an example of how much work may be involved. In 1963 we saw barley in a wheat field. After four people had walked the field for some time we realized that the barley plants we were pulling were in clusters in paths running to an opening in the trees. We decided that deer had been feeding in barley swaths on the north side of the road during the winter (that was the year the rains came in the fall and much crop was out over winter). Heads of barley must have stuck in their hooves and fallen off as they crossed the field to shelter.

Franklin and his father never seemed to mind the extra time they spent on cleaning the machinery and bins. They derived satisfaction from knowing that good, clean seed means better crops; uniform variety means better quality grain; and the more good quality grain the country produces for export the better Canada's reputation in the world markets. I am sure this must be the philosophy of seed growers everywhere; certainly there is not enough difference financially to pay for all the work.

Personally, I am far from being a perfectionist and my patience would have been short lived.

The Sidney Moore Family

submitted by Vi (Moore) McIntyre

My Dad, Major Sidney Moore, arrived in Canada from Ponty Pride, South Wales, in 1912, just after the

Tramic went down. He went to work for a farmer in the Eagle Hills district. My Mother, Bessie Moore and I arrived in Sept. 1912. They moved to the John Parkinson farm for awhile. My sister, Ivy, was born in Saskatoon in April, 1913. They then moved to the Ruddell district and farmed for George Robinson until Dad joined the army in 1916 and left for overseas.

My mother, Ivy and I followed soon after and arrived at my grandmother's home in South Wales.

My Dad was wounded in the war and as soon as he was well enough they came back to Canada. They farmed in the Ruddell district until 1929, then moved to a house in Ruddell. The crops were never very good while they farmed.

In 1940, during the second World War, he joined the Reserve Army and moved to Prince Albert for a time. He then moved to North Battleford where he worked in the Unemployment Office until 1953, when he had to retire because of a bad heart condition. He loved gold, and made two holes in one the year before he passed away, in 1964.

My Mother is ninety years old and lives in the River Heights Lodge in North Battleford.

Mr. and Mrs. John Morgan
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Davidson

by Irene (Davidson) Dallaway

When the John Morgan family came out from England to settle in the Spinney Hill District, it was to a very different life!

Joe had been a police detective working with Scotland Yard and was inexperienced at farming. But many were the same way — with a lot of study, with help from neighbours and a lot of ingenuity they stuck with it. With his wife, Angie, sons, Walter and John and daughters, Margaret (Daisy) and Gwen, John started out in a sod shack at least for the first year. That spring when they looked in on Gwen (four months old on arrival) they found a garter snake curled up on her neck — a nice warm spot!

Joe and Daisy Davidson.

Later they built a log cabin and they made tools and utensils. Having little money for toys they would use string from groceries to crochet dolls' clothes while small animals and axe twigs and string for the "fences". There was often logs and boards floating down the river which were well utilized.

It was a lovely spot for their homestead, tucked in at the foot of hills in the fork between where the creek ran into the river, and surrounded by trees, shrubs and wild flowers. Not too far away were the Saskatoons, pincherries, chokecherries, bi-bush cranberries and wild raspberries — for jam and jelly — and wild fowl to grace the table.

It was not an easy life, but along with the hardships were sing-songs around the piano with Angie playing (as she occasionally played at the church) and Johnnie on the violin. There were picnics — and a telegraph along the fence wire that the boys had fixed up. There was photography with the snaps developed at home — and artistically arranged in paper cut out frames.

When Daisy was in her curiosities a jaunty young bachelor moved into the home across the river; where the new C.N.R. gumpasse was built — and that was it! Joseph Roy Davidson had come from Ontario. He was born at Olisprings, Ontario. He had a sister, Annie, in Bothwell and his dad stayed in Olisprings. Joe left home very young and had been on merchant boats out of Vancouver. He had travelled with cargoes as far as the Orient. But now it was time to settle down. So Joe and Daisy married in 1914.

It was a busy life for both with cows, chickens, huge garden (watered by water from pipelines) and a C.P.R. farm.

Even then the piped water was brought into the house — hot and cold running water. Later a wind-jammer gave electricity for lights — This in the Thirties.

That thick cream from Jessy, the Jersey, and Susie, the Holstein, was a real treat with the strawberries and raspberries.

But it was quite a distance from town and even neighbors were one and a half miles away — a far distance to walk — uphill. At times in the long winter, Daisy didn't leave for four to five and one-half months. There was nothing easy about that.

At that time in summer there were visitors — friends and neighbours. Some to get fresh water — some to share berries — grown and wild — most right in the yard.

Eventually a daughter, Irene, arrived — delivered at home by Dr. Scratch and Mrs McLennan in the middle of winter!!!

Almost all of these years until he retired, Joe supplied Maymont with their drinking water. No one ever thanked Joe really but perhaps they didn't even know. Mr. Fred Porter, the station agent, would phone down and say, "Darling Tom, Joe". and these times between filling the C.N.R. water tower, he would start

the engine for a half an hour and fill the pipes up and Maymont would have water. Most people were not even aware where their good water came from. When asked one person said, "Well, a well of course." But there were problems with well water — so behind the scenes was a real asset. It really did keep the town.

I remember my dad getting typhoid fever and Mrs. Elsie Young coming over to nurse him.

After that a chlorine gas machine was installed in the pumphouse. One time it sprung a leak. There were men there with gas masks to fix it and two kittens died from the poisoning - so it was pretty dangerous.

I also remember during the war having guards patrolling on top of the pumphouse all night, as it was an essential service to keep trains running.

Then I remember some kids at school saying my dad sure drove fast over the Midvale Hill!" It was 40 M.P.H. but he did always get a real pleasure out of his car.

And I remember catching fish — Goldeye by fishing reef, and Pike or Pickerel by night-line - one was thirty some inches long and weighed six and one-quarter pounds. They did taste good — with a dessert of homemade butternut.

And I remember when the C.N.R. automated the pumphouse to an electric pump. The old engine lay in pieces on the side of the hill and it nearly broke my dad's heart. He dearly loved that engine. Anyone who relieved him for holidays had no easy time keeping it going as it was (I believe) the second largest semi-diesel pump in Canada.

Then the folks retired to Maymont and set about with composting and plant old elbow grease to make a most lovely yard. Mostly the yard and the plants were my mom's love. They also joined into the community activities. My dad enjoyed people, Mom was busy with Homemakers (W.I.) Anglican Ladies and Hall and Quilting.

So many people in this area contributed so much. When I was young Mrs. Mahler, and Mrs. Johnston, Mrs. Butterfield, helped teach sewing and embroidery to Jean Steele, Dorothy Gray, and I got Grand Aggregate at the North Battleford Fair (Homecraft) and Jean and Dorothy the top marks.

So many people influence us, in good ways, Doc. Scratch, the Myers, the Armstrongs, to the teens — and even Jack Whitacher. Jack Wong and Ed Buhr who just liked us as kids. How important that was!

My folks had an awful lot of friends — the fallout has come back to me in so many ways.

Since the pumphouse was so far from town I had to board "uptown" to go to school. In grade 1 staying with the Knights and later with Uncle Mike and Aunt Molly Burns — How lucky we were!

I also remember the Christmas concerts — the excitement and the fear!

The tragedies — Mom's brother, John Morgan, would swim across the river and pull his boat. But one Sunday at a picnic he was drowned. It was meant to be as he did love the river.

My dad particularly enjoyed people and my mom especially understood nature. Between them they didn't have too much formal education but they had a lot of knowledge and down to earth sense.

And me — Irene — went on as so many did then to train at City Hospital — married a druggist and lived in Rockglen and Central Butte. Joe and Daisy had two grandsons, Brent, now a pharmacist in Thunder Bay and Keith, working in Calgary with plans to go to SAIT (Southern Alberta Institute of Technology) in Calgary taking electronics.

Irene lives in Saskatoon now and is at present working part-time in a Health Food Store, things come full circle — as I learned from my mom about natural foods.

It was a good district to grow up in and I especially appreciate those lovely river hills.

Memories of Bill Pickford and Mike Hunt

by Irene Galloway

There are a couple of bachelor neighbors that I would like to mention. Bill Pickford lived past up the road from where Bob and Vera Gray lived. I was quite small but I remember I was impressed with the neatness of the yard. He always used to tell us he was related to Mary Pickford, the actress. He was probably 'pulling my leg' but a wee portion of my mind still says — I wonder if he might have been?

I also remember Mike Hunt — such a nice, nice gentleman, rather quiet and shy a round face with a gentle smile—.

He lived on top of the river hills, half way between the pumphouse and the south (Johnston) ferry. He would walk over the hills and come to our place for supper and a visit every so often — Usually when the moon was full so the walking was easier. Dad would say, on a bright eve. 'I bet Mike will be over tonight.' I would sit on his knee and admire an opal stick-pin he wore. He even gave it to me, and the special thing about it was the gold it was set in. He had got it by panning for it himself in the gold rush. (Klondyke, I'm assuming.)

When we went to visit him, he had a real cuckoo clock that seemed pretty special to him. I suppose how it may have come from the old country. He told my mom where to find the wild cacti growing on the hills. He had a relative or two that were contacted after his death but I believe he was pretty much alone.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Myiren Family History

I am Ivy Myiren Elling, daughter of Edward and Jessie Myiren. My dad and mother had thirteen children. They lost two girls when they were infants. They raised eleven, six girls and five boys. I made the even dozen. I had a brother Fred born two years after

me. We were all born in London, England. My father and his father before him were organ builders. My dad had charge of the Westminster Abbey for thirty-five years and worked on all the Royal pianos and organs. I think the first abbey organ was built in the thirteenth century. Dad put in two manuals and two or three new pipes. I understand they are still using the pipes but have a new console. Mother kept a maid at this time. My parents thought that London was no place to raise children, so they moved to Canada, about 1904. We travelled to Canada by ship. That took thirteen days because we were held up by fog. We sailed into Halifax, from there to Manitoba, near Winnipeg. There my older brothers and sisters got jobs on different farms to learn everything they could about life on a farm.

Mrs. Myres 1917

Frank Beal Myres. 1884-1942.

My parents stayed in Manitoba for about one year. They left Ed, Reg, Phil, Ruby (now called Muriel) and Elsie in Manitoba, to be sent for later. Dad, Mother, Bass, Doris, Carrie, Fred and I went to Saskatoon. There Dad and Bass left us to go file on a homestead. We lived in a house near the river. All I can remember are the coyotes howling and the thunder storms. It seemed that Dad and Bass were gone so long. Finally Bass came and said they had found a farm. Dad had stayed there to dig a well, etc. Bass soon put all things right. He bought a cow, chickens and other farm needs. We started out in a covered wagon with the cow tied behind and some chickens in a coop. I don't remember how long it took us to go the one hundred fifty miles, but I do remember on late afternoon Bass would tell us to listen for frogs and this means water, where we would spend the night. Bass would put hobbles on the horses so they wouldn't go too far. We'd start out early the next morning. Finally we got to where Dad was living in a tent. He had dug the well, but it was so full of alkali that we couldn't use it. There was a ravine with a nice little stream and also a spring on the quarter section they had filed for Phil. They had a quarter section for Dad and a quarter for Ed. Reg and Bass got a quarter section each somewhere north of our place. I remember going down to the stream for water and always expecting some wild animal to get us.

We soon started to build the sod house on NE 19-42-14. When they had the walls up and started on the roof (just the poles) Mother moved us younger ones into the sod house. That night, there was a big thunder storm and rain. We got soaking wet. Dad and Bass were staying in the tent and came after us. Dad carried me and was very near the well. Luckily for us there was a flash of lightning and we were saved from falling in the well. The next morning was a beautiful sunshiny day. We had clothes hanging everywhere to dry. Mr. Dillon, a bachelor, came over to see if we were alright.

They had just put the Indians on the reservation. I remember there were many old boxes of wild animals all around. We were twenty-five miles from North Battleford and as Bass and Dad were anxious to get to work on the fields, they would only go to the store when we were out of everything, as it took two days to go. Mother would cook wheat for us and we had the cow. Mrs. Huggus lived near us. She lived with her son, Percie. Her daughter married Mr. Hill.

One day we saw a lot of men working, they were

building the restroom. They started a gun salute about three miles from us. I don't remember the man's name, but we all liked him. He had candy and things to barrels and would give us some.

Dad sold his Flat Rag and Elsie Ed and Vesta stayed in Moosejaw a while longer. They came in town and brought a pedigree Collie named Lady Lassie. We were so proud and happy with her. It seemed like no time at all before people started to move into town and around us. Then Aunt Ann Hutton and a baby and a friend Enid and our closest neighbors started a school about nine miles from us. They named the school Harringay after a street in England. We also named our farm High Gate after the street our home was on in England. We went to school with the neighbor children, I don't remember all their names. There was Mary Bobbie, Herb Mabey and his brother. The school was near Dillman house and during our lunch hour we used to go and visit them. We left and when he moved away. He left a fine collection of butterflies which he spent most of his time collecting. One day as he was out after butterflies down the big ravine near our house, he saw something big and brown. Thinking it was an old rusty stove he came over to investigate and found it was a bear. He rushed to our house out of breath.

Mr. Messers Doris and Carrie went with our brothers to the river to get wood. Doris and Carrie were tired of waiting so they started home. On the way they saw a big animal and two small ones. They thought at first that they were large gophers but as they got nearer they found out it was a mother bear and her cubs. One day Doris was also the house and said there was a cat with wings in the corner. It turned out to be an owl. Enid saw a little black animal with a white stripe and thought it would make a fine fur piece for Mother, but the skunk got here first.

They used to take a load of wheat to Battleford to be ground into flour. One day we went to the river to pick berries. We saw bear tracks, but went on picking berries. The horse started to make a big fuss so Charlie thought it best to go home. We told the men about it. They went out and shot the bear. The Rose Brothers were good hunters and good carpenters. We all had a piece of bear meat. Another day Carrie and Mother went to pick berries and when they got down to the river Dusty Brown stopped them. His wife was having a baby. His wife couldn't be left alone so mother stayed with her while we went for help. We went into Marjorie's but Dr. Scratch was not in. We went for Mrs. Steele. When they all got back Mother had the baby all dressed with the help of their small daughter who told her where to find the things she needed. Dr. Scratch thanked mother to help here with other patients but she said she had all the work she could do.

After a while they built a log granary. When it was finished Mother moved in with a saying her family was more important than the wheat. I remember Phil would go hunting, and come home with rabbits, prairie chickens strung on his shoulders back and weapon his waist. When we would run out of money Dad would go away to town papers. I remember him going to Moose Jaw, Swift Current, Lethbridge and other towns.

Dad bought a threshing machine and steam engine. It had a wide belt that would often break. We had a team car and a caboose. My mother and sisters did the cooking. They would thresh our neighbors grain and then move anywhere there was chaff. They would start about September and finish about December. It was always so cold when they came home.

Mr. and Mrs. Kitchen had a store in Paddell. They had a piano. Mr. Kitchen died and Mrs. Kitchen later married Ed Young. Ed ran the ferry across the river. Dad traded some cattle for their piano. As we had the only piano around every time there was a chance or any entertainment we would haul the piano and all go. Reg, Phil and Ed played it. Ed also played the violin. Mom, Ed and I would sing, sometimes the whole family would sing together. Dad was so attuned with the dog they would call the square dances that he would have the pigs by banging on the pail and hogging. Mom and left with the grand right and left all swing. The pigs would come running from everywhere.

There were many hardships who after working in the field all day would be too tired to make bread. Mother would often give them a meal. They would make a bannock dough and put the whole thing in a pail and call it Bannock. The bachelors came to our house a lot because there was always something going on. We would have as many as fifty people for Sunday dinner. Mother had very good help with turkeys and my sisters were all good cooks. We had lots of music and they would play baseball, tennis and croquet. One year they decided to have a parade in Paddell and came to our place of pasture. As they were practicing a stranger came around the bluff. Frank Murphy met the man and told him he wasn't trespassing on our land. The stranger said he was looking for a job. He stayed for a few days and left. He was a big farmer.

He moved up to Napier where Jack Fox had a big farm. Elsie bought the store from Mrs. Kitchen and put in a brick oven where he could bake lots of good things. Elsie also got in a telephone. Both the telephone and the oven were the first in Paddell and in that part of the country. Elsie ran the switch board, Reg ran the pool room over the store.

The Indians used to come about and they wanted to take them to the old Indian burial ground. They came to Paddell. It was not allowed. There were women and small children but the hotel wouldn't let them in. It looked for awhile like they would all have to sleep outside and it was very cold. Elsie and Reg let them stay in the pool room. After that the old chief wouldn't let the braves buy from anyone but them. Elsie never had to buy any more wood. The Indians would bring her big loads of wood.

Mr. Steele and his daughter moved to Paddell. She married a dashingly dude. When Elsie and Larry Boot married, Reg moved his pool room to another building. Phil and Art Young bought the hardware store. Ed

moved to Vegreville and became freight manager. Reg later joined the North West Mounties

It was a dark and stormy night
When Phil woke with an awful fright.
"Go! Go!" it was his cry
To get mother, doctor and a nurse
And hire the best horses in Mike's barn.
Phil dressed himself in record time
And from High Gate Farm made a beeline
Ewing ran to Maymont town
And brought out Scratch in his night gown
The doctor nearly swore a swear
When from his warm cot he had to tear
Into the damp and midnight air
To Ruddell town.
He arrived at Bass' bakery shop
Through the pickles, Lard and pots
And up the little winding stair
And flopped down on the great arm chair
To regain his breath
The doctor soon put all things right
The twins arrived with great delight
They called them Margaret Jessie, Russell Jimmy Bass
They would have given them more names
But forgot the rest.

Every May 24, Queen Victoria's Birthday, they planted the potatoes in the morning and then would go to Ruddell for a picnic and a baseball game. We had a fine team. We used to rout the boys on by singing a little song to the tune of "There's a Happy Land". Here is the song

There is a little town not far away.
Where the Ruddell boys play baseball every day.
Oh you should see Maymont run,
When they see Ruddell boys come,
Three cheers to Maymont's nine,
Three times a day.

When the boys would clear the fields of stones they would bring the boat in the yard. Later we had a stone mason put in the foundation and cellar for our real home. It was going to be a very nice one. One Sunday night everything was ready to start cutting the wheat and the carpenters to start the house. The lumber was to come out first thing Monday morning. That night we had a great thunder and hail storm. It took down all the wheat, everyone was so heartsick. All the boys had all moved away from the farm, Dad just rented it and moved into town. He bought the big livery barn. At first we lived in the station house. Mr. Smith was a bachelor and lived with us. They transferred him and sent a married man so we moved to the section house. There mother boarded all the men that worked on the railroad. Dad bought a house in town where we lived until we moved to Calgary about 1914. Dad took care of the organs and pianos in Calgary.

While in Ruddell Corrie, Fred and I went to school. They would put on Christmas programs in the church. All the children would practice for weeks and Dad would play Santa Claus.

Dad took the mail across the river once a week when the river would freeze and the ferry couldn't run. They had a hard time trying to get the mail over until the river was frozen so the horses could cross. The same thing in the spring.

They made Dad Justice of the Peace and we held the first election on the farm.

Ed Mylrea married Margret Britton in Vegreville. They had one son and two daughters - Edward, Peggy and Laurine. From there they moved to Mountain View and his family still live there.

Bass married Grace East and had four children, Jim and Margret are twins, William, and Dorothy. Bass died of heart trouble, Grace died also.

Reg married Violet Donage in Victoria. They had two boys and one girl, Jack, Frank and Vi. Jack was lost in a plane over France. Frank is in Vancouver and Vi is in Southern California. Reg died in Los Angeles of cancer.

Phil married Margret who worked in the Ruddell Hotel. They had three boys and one girl. Reg was captain of a ship and is now in Victoria teaching college. Douglas is retired in Victoria. Russell was last seen during World War II. Phyllis is living in Victoria.

Ruby Mabel was married to Dr. Dowell a veterinary doctor. Doc died of cancer. Mona came to California where she is now living at the age of eighty-seven. She lives in Terrance, is in good health and has no children.

May married Herb Hornbrook and they had three children, Jim, Bob, Doris. The boys own their own tool and die shop in Michigan. Doris took care of her mother in Long Beach until she died in 1978. Doris is still living there.

Elsie married Carl McFarlane and had five children, three boys and two girls. Elsie died in 1977. The children are all living in Southern California.

Jessie died of cancer. Cliff and Ronald are both roofers. Ruth works for the government.

Dora married Thorp Sweetman and had seven children, four girls and three boys. Edward is living in Trail, B.C. and is a farrier. Ray was wounded in World War II and passed away in 1976. Vi is living in North Battleford. Geraldine and Marian in Victoria, Doreen in Saskatoon and Ken in Ontario.

Dora passed away in 1980.

Corrie married Earl Hudson. They had no children. Corrie died in 1971.

Ivy married Wade Elling and had two children, Jane and Walter. Jane is an real estate. Walter works for Air Research.

Fred married Grace Bass and they had two children, Mona and John. Fred died in 1977. Mona works in an office.

Dad, Mother, Corrie, Fred and I moved to San Francisco in 1915 where we lived while Dad rebuilt the Civic Auditorium. Fred helped him. Now John and

Fred's sons live in Los Angeles and take care of many of the organs in and around Southern California.

Enid died at the age of seventy-two and Mother died when she was one hundred and two

Mona and I are the only ones still living.

The Myers Family

by Ruby and Frank Myers

(Recollection and changes we have experienced during thirty-eight years as minister and his wife on the Maymont Pastoral Charge of the United Church of Canada — 1937 to 1975).

Reverend Frank L. Myers arrived with his bride, the former Ruby Earle, on the morning train from Edmonton, the first Saturday in December, 1937. December the fourth to be exact. They had been married at the farm home of the bride at Adanac, Saskatchewan on November 30. Ruby was a registered nurse having graduated in 1932 from Saskatoon City Hospital and the following five years served at Unity Union Hospital.

It was —30F, the morning we arrived in Maymont.

Rev. Dr. F. L. Myers and Mrs. Myers, taken in the Holy Land — July, 1966

United Church float in 1967 Centennial Parade. Rev. F. Myers, minister, the organ at the front of the float is the first organ used in the United Church.

According to tradition, this particular Saturday was the United Church Bean Supper and Bazaar, so this was the bride's first event to attend in Maymont. The Ladies Aid had worked hard all year, doing fancy work, pillow cases, table cloths, dresser scarves, aprons and knitting socks and mitts. They were all beautifully arranged in decorated booths in the church basement, with the Christmas theme and colors predominating. Supper of baked beans, brown bread, pickles and pie was served for seventy-five cents in those days. We received a warm welcome and made many new acquaintances, even though Frank had been in Maymont since July first.

Thinking he was going to be a bachelor for awhile, he had arranged for Bill Love, the Pool Elevator man to live with him — Bill's family having gone to the Maritimes for the winter. Bill was with us until his family returned in the spring. At that time we lived in the old manse, presently owned by Bill Reid. It wasn't very warm, as a pipeless furnace with one register between the livingroom and diningroom was not adequate to heat the upstairs bedrooms too well. The coal and wood stove in the kitchen as well as the furnace, made it necessary to chop a lot of wood, carry coal from the coal bin in the basement and carry out a lot of ashes. As the kitchen was built on later than the original frame house, it was very cold in winter and even when fires were well built up at night, the kettle would be froze on the stove in the morning on coldest days. The walls were covered with tar paper over lath before being papered with wall paper. It looked nice but did not keep out much cold. Also a lot of cold came in around the windows, even with storm windows on. With the help of some ladies of the congregation it was always quite a chore to re-paper the front rooms as cracks in paper had to be first closed with strips of cotton. The kitchen had V-Joint up four feet, then a plastered wall which was calcomined in your color preference. However it was a lovely homey house with a bright bay window to the south. It wasn't long before the decision was made to put wall board on the two rooms and they were painted. Also the kitchen was lined with wallboard. Several other improvements were made such as cupboards instead of the kitchen cabinet and a small bathroom off the kitchen and windows changed, which all made for more comfort and convenience which we always found the congregations ready to supply. We were fortunate to have a galvanized water tank in the basement to supply soft water with rainwater rains, and a pump on the sink to pump it up, however, the supply ran out quickly so melting snow in winter and having a barrel beside the kitchen stove supplied our winter water supply except we had to carry drinking water from the town pump.

We had an outside biffy in summer but we did have an inside chemical toilet in the basement for the winter.

This life style was very typical of all families living in the community, even better than some, so we felt

very much at home in these surroundings and enjoyed it. We had a lovely yard with natural trees as the bush and a good garden spot, and there is nothing today that compares with the good old clothes line outside.

Our two children were very small when we were at Hay River. Donna Marlene was born at Fahrenheit 17 1956 in Smithers (B.C.) Hospital. The nurses at the maternity had surprised me with a lovely baby shower which included a pram and high chair as well as many needed items. I think this was the first baby born to a minister's family.

The next born on June 1 1958, coming a month ahead of time so we did not get to hospital. Dr. Hornbeck was in attendance and Mrs. Mark Jamieson generously gave of her time to nurse and assist. We were indeed glad when to our mother and sister Jessie.

Ted and Donna both took their schooling in Maymont. Both took up to Grade Two music, sang in the choir and played the organ for church funerals and some weddings as well as taking part each year in the Battleford Music Festivals and all the younger group organizations in the church where we were very fortunate to have and we thank those who gave leadership over the years to the young people.

Donna pursued a career in nursing, graduating from Saskatoon City Hospital in 1976. She then went to Burns Lake Hospital in Northern B.C., which was then a United Church Hospital. She met Martin Matthews there, and they were married in May 1980. They have two children, Scott Edward born in May, 1981 and April Marie born in April, 1983. Martin is an electrician and comes from a pioneer family whose history goes back many years in the Burns Lake area. A very scenic part of B.C. with many lakes and trees, as lumbering and mining and tourists is important are the main industries. Although some areas are open for ranching land. Martin and Donna live two miles south of Burns Lake on one of the lakes on a gravel road to a town that is on Francois Lake stretching up the arm to the north and Tweedsmuir Park Area. Many people love among the lakes and mountains in the area. Donna still remembers our morning service part time at the Hospital as well as being very active in church and community.

Ted took his B.A. at University of Saskatchewan followed by a year of Arts and one year Theology. His summer work during university was at the Provincial Hospital at North Battleford and Psychiatric Centre in Prince Albert. In 1971 he graduated from the University of Manitoba with a Masters in Social Work. The next four years he worked with Provincial Social Services in North Battleford. He then went on to the United Church Home where he in 1975 he went to the University of Bristol, Canada graduating in 1976 with a Master of Science Degree in Health Services Planning. His thesis being on the non medical use of drugs and special research into alcohol as it affects industry. In the fall of 1977 he prepared a paper which he presented at the International World Health Organization in Puerto Rico. He received a Fellowship in the fall of 1978 from U.B.C. and is presently at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital of Psychiatry, in Edinburgh Scotland doing research on alcohol studies as it affects violence, human resources and criminology. After a short holiday with us in private Correctional at U.B.C. and is here back in Scotland as at June 1 where he will be involved with rehabilitation and training in matters of the prisons and future up with females. This could mean another few years in Scotland.

While retirement made it necessary for us to leave Maymont, it is still home to us and we travel. On going to Scotland and leaving the cold as much. Ted never knew a cold here back a few years to think he was a country boy, and could understand going to bed cold and getting up in the cold to practice his music lessons.

Of course this all changed when we moved into the beautiful new manse provided for us and which we enjoyed for fifteen years. Maymont will always be part of us as we look back on the many good memories and happy experiences during the thirty-eight years we were privileged to be on the Maymont Pastoral Charge.

Now Frank's Story

I was born at Yorkshire England. We came to Hamilton, Bedfordshire in 1913 where my father operated a butcher shop. He wanted until they had eight children, and then decided to go into the ministry. My father's last year in St. Andrew's College, Saskatoon was my first year and we graduated together. During my college years I served on many summer mission fields – mostly in the North. My first student field was in the Lean Lake Area and my second around Meadow Lake. There I covered the whole route. Circuits on horseback visiting families and keeping services up each night of the week in different homes. It was the Dirty Thirties and hundreds of people had moved north to escape the drought. Homes were of log construction and small. I ate wherever I could at meal time and slept wherever I landed at night. People were desperately poor but hospitality and friendliness were not in short supply. One of my summer fields was Swanzie, Strasbourg and Aylsham. There I travelled by bike. Having been at Strasbourg, coming to Maymont in July 1947 was like coming back home. I arrived in Maymont by bus after hitchhiking from my first ordained charge at Fleetwood to Lean Lake. The Post Elevator read: Bill Love left the get off the bus. I heard years after that he went running over to Mrs. Knight's (the barber wife) and said, "The new preacher has arrived." Mrs. Knight said, "What does he look like?" Bill replied, "I was took a short gun waiting for fellows that looked like preachers he would be the one you would shoot." I kept the story to myself and used it at a farewell we had later for the same "Bill Love". Incidentally Bill Love lived with us for a short time there was Love in the manse.

Coming to Maymont in 1918 and retiring in 1955, I saw a lot of changes. I consider myself highly privileged to have shared in so many peoples joys and sorrows. To start with — 1921 was about as all time low as far as crops were concerned. Drought, Weed, and Drought - only the Russian Thistle flourished and some of it was put up for feed in August 1921 I bought my first car - a 1920 Chevrolet. I called it Sharon and when asked why that name I replied "The Rose of Sharon" She hasn't - has gas etc. Travelling in 1921 and for a few years after was no different than today. There were hardly any gravelled roads. The term "all weather road" was unheard of — so "Sharon" and I had some tough trips. In the winter all roads were blocked, so I borrowed a team and sleigh to go to Fielding. In the winter, or sometimes the section foreman, Mr. Squires, took me on the Jigger Letting in Semmingdale, Spenney Hill and Saltcotes in the winter months represented a real challenge. Even summer travel was adventuresome at times. Once I was going to a funeral in Spenney Hill in summer and the ferry got stuck on a sandbar in the middle of the river. Since the ferry always had a rowboat, Miss Johnston rowed me to the south shore and Mrs. Johnston drove me to the funeral, just five minutes late. Sometimes travel to that area would driving by the Harden Bridge - a long way compared to the fifteen minute drive today by Maymont Bridge. I have gone to funerals in Semmingdale in winter when the road was drifting in behind me and the only safe way to try to get home was to follow the undertaker back to Saskatoon. It was all a part of the game and I loved it, especially since I had such a good example in our late beloved Dr. Scratch.

One of the biggest changes in transportation was the abandonment of the passenger train. It was a daily ritual for people to meet the train when it came in around 4 p.m. The platform was loaded with people. The young people spoke to the passengers. I know this because when I was a young student riding on the train on the way to mission fields I had the window open and a young teenage girl came up to me and said — Hi, Honey. When I returned to Maymont in 1927 I would have given anything if I could have remembered her face. The train opened up and we all followed Clara Coleman to the Post Office where we waited hastily for Clara to sort the mail.

I must not forget crossing the river at times in the Aerial Basket. I never like his heights and this experience never deepened my love for such heights.

The church was another area of change. Services were held in Gray School, Keystone School and Anglicans had a service at Calder School. One of the big hassles in the Maymont Congregation arose when the Gray and Keystone people started to come to church in town. In the winter months, because of roads, few people were able to make it any distance to town for services. At our services in town in the winter we used to open the service and then the Sunday School classes would go to the basement, and I had the whole congregation at Bible Study. This was followed by the regular worship service.

In my early years there we always had a senior choir. Later we developed a Junior Choir. There are many who look back on their years in the Junior Choir as really happy times. We usually took the choir to Semmingdale for a Christmas Service. The young people looked forward to that trip and many of them hoped we would get stuck in the river hill — that spoiled fun for them. Semmingdale always provided a lunch after church and the young people ate heartily. You can tell by looking at some of them today, that they still eat heartily.

The area that I served was large. Sometimes I felt like John Wesley who said, "The World is my parish." There were many years when I was the only ordained Uniting Church minister between North Battleford and Saskatoon — north as far as Maidel Lake, south to Saltcotes, Spenney Hill, Strasa and Arlee. My first field included Maymont, Fielding and Easthourne. Easthourne was a Leslie Church in the Wildwood area and east of Fielding. Later the field was changed to take in Paddell and Easthourne was closed. Presbytery in consultation with the pew formed the present day Maymont Larger Parish with a minister in Maymont and one at Spenney.

So as I sit in my easy chair and reminisce I think of the hundreds of funerals and the funerals that I was enabled to serve. The many hundreds of weddings where I was privileged to share in the happiness of two young people. I think of the friendships of earlier and other goodies that we use in fellowship on these occasions. So many in fact where we ate turkey and I proposed the toast to the bride - that when my wife served turkey at home, I automatically got up and proposed a toast to the bride. Ruby must have liked it, because she served cold turkey the next day.

I think of the number of sermons I was privileged to preach to faithful, loyal and devoted people. I think of the many times people came and said — we need you". I think of the many times in different ways the people showed their heartfelt thanks and appreciation. In living among you I saw the meaning of the word community at its best.

I seem to be getting a little nervous as I better tell you about the time I drove a local fellow home at two o'clock in the morning. Arriving at his home he was heard that I go in. I asked why. He replied with tears — I want the wife to see who I have been out with. I am almost persuaded that he must have been out with women.

Rev. Frank Myers D.D.

Citation given to Dr. Frank Myers on his retirement at Saskatchewan Conference in 1976

Frank was born in England, and at an early age came out to Canada with his family. He attended

school at various places throughout Saskatchewan, as his father was a lay preacher. In 1930, he entered the University of Saskatchewan. His father's late year at college was Frank's first, so they roomed together for that year. In 1934, he received his B.A.

He took his theology at St. Andrew's College, graduating in 1936. He was ordained at Moose Jaw the same year. (39 summers ago)

From July, 1936 to July, 1937, Frank served at Pierceland, and in 1937, came to Maymont where he has been ever since — until his retirement in June, 1976.

He was chairman of Presbytery three times, has been Home Missions Convener and held various other offices. At the Conference level, he had been President of Conference, secretary of Settlement Committee, convener of Home Missions. Four times he was a commissioner to General Council. He served on the executive of General Council and on several special commissions. He spent seven years on the Board of Governors of St. Andrew's College. Frank received the doctorate degree in 1962 from St. Andrew's.

He married Ruby Irvine of Adanac in 1937. Ruby was a nurse. Their two children are Ted (with the psychiatric social services in North Battleford), and Donna, also a nurse (Mrs. M. Harrison of Burns Lake, B.C.). In 1960 Frank was chosen as citizen of the year for North Battleford.

Rodney, Joyce, Carilyn and Stephen Munn.

The Munn Family

by Mrs. R. (Joyce) Munn

On September 28th, 1968, Rodney and I were married in Zion Lutheran Church in North Battleford. Rodney is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Munn of rural North Battleford. I am the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wakelin of North Battleford. We resided in Regina where we were both employed when we were first married. We lived in an apartment in a new building — we were the first ones to move into that new building.

Rodney worked for the Crown Lumber Co. and I was employed at McNeill's Drug Store Co. Rodney worked at Crown for a year, then went to work for Revelstoke Lumber Co. I worked at the drug store for a year and a half, then I went to the "Bay". I enjoyed working at the "Bay", where I was clerking. One day I was hauled up on the red carpet, so to speak, and offered a job in the ordering office. I took that position and really enjoyed ordering stock for my department. We moved into a house for the remaining two years we were there. There we were able to have a garden and a yard.

We moved to Maymont in October of 1971, to work for George and Gordon Gray. We lived at the Bill Reid farm. While we were there we had a litter of tame bear cubs in our car. We had quite a time trying to get rid of our little pets.

We spent a year there, and then Ted Saunders' store came up for sale. We did a lot of serious thinking about it, and in November of 1972 we moved into Jack Thrower's house, next door to Bill McCready's, and Rodney worked with Ted Saunders until the end of 1972. In January, 1973, we bought the store and went into business. That spring we moved to the R. M. house and did some remodeling on the store.

On June 18th, our daughter Carilyn was born. With all the moving and remodeling that had been done we were glad when Carilyn arrived a healthy baby.

Carilyn grew up fast, she started skating when she was three years old. She has taken figure skating lessons for the past three years, she has also taken swimming lessons at Glenburn Park pool for three years. She attends Sunday School at Maymont United Church where we are members.

We try to take an active part in the community. I was president of the Women's Auxiliary to the Sports' Centre for two years. Since I resigned, I still try to do my part in the Sports Centre and in other community activities.

Rodney is also very active in the community. He is on two or three committees in the Sports Centre, he is on the school board, the Church Board and a volunteer fire fighter.

The summer of 1975 we built our first house. It was

a very busy summer, but we had lots of help from relatives and people in the community, which was greatly appreciated. We lived in my brother's fifth wheel trailer for two months while our house was being built. Rod said, "it was our holiday", the only thing was we weren't parked by the lake. While we were in the middle of building, Rodney took sick and ended up having surgery, but it wasn't too long before he was back pounding nails. We moved into the house the beginning of November. It was nice to be in at last. We spent most of the next year finishing the house and working in the yard.

On June 15th, 1978, we were blessed with a son which made us all very happy. Steven made quite a change in our household.

In the fall of '78, Corilyn started to Kindergarten, going every other day. She was very excited about it and enjoyed it so much she wished she could go every day. This year she got her wish, she's in Grade one and goes every day.

We have enjoyed our six years in the state beekness. Rodney found this poem and hung it in the store. It has brought a lot of comments and laughs:

TO ALL OLD GROCERS

A man knocked at the Heavenly Gate,
His face was scarred and old
He stood before the man of fate
For admission to the fold.
"What have you done," St. Peter asked,
"to gain admission here?"
"I have been a grocer, sir,
For many and many a year"
The Pearly gates swung open wide.
St. Peter touched the bell.
"Come in and choose your harp", he said
"You've had your share of Hell."

C. W. Morrison, 1878-1955

In June 1902 a big Scotch lad, tired of living on the railroad in Scotland left his home at Peterhead — north of Aberdeen to walk down the gangplank onto the "S. S. Sardinian". It brought him to Canada, Australia was the other alternative country at that time for immigrants. The boat docked at Montreal, his train fare brought him as far as Deloraine, Manitoba, where he got work and after three years joined with the crew there who had the homesteading fever and followed the newly laid C.N.R. further west. Their destination was Ruddell. Charlie in July 1908 walked to Battleford Land Title Office to file on a homestead five miles west of Ruddell on NE ¼ 22-43-24 W3rd. The settlers made much merriment amongst themselves as well as hard work clearing and breaking the land, which was covered with brush and plenty of stones to be moved. A team of oxen were bought. One Sunday the congregation at church was very small and the reason was, "one of Morrison's ox had fallen into a well" and all hands were helping get it out. Wrestling with neighbors Get

Early snow Sept. 9, 1914. Chas. Morrison and Milton is Kenny Kemp.

Blair. Ole Arnold boys Bill, Jack, and Dave, logs were cut at the river and skidded up for their buildings. One time when Ernie Whitlow was with them they met up with a black bear which was killed and bear steaks supplemented the winter's meat.

Charlie smoked a pipe and was never too particular about what all was in his pockets, while standing visiting with friends, a loud bang followed the lighting of the pipe, the bowl was blown off by a misplaced bullet leaving Charlie with only the stem in his mouth and a grin on his face.

Charlie, Bess Morrison and Jean, 1921.

In 1918 he married Bess Turnbull in Glen Morris, Ontario. They continued to farm till their retirement into Ruddell in 1945. During the years Charlie enjoyed helping in community affairs. Ruddell Telephone, Wheatpool, church and giving his neighbours a hand at wood cutting and butchering beef. When they returned his help the pigs and beef on butchering day were done up in jig time and the cards were got out and a rousing games of '500' finished off the day.

For 26 years the same threshermen Charles Pethick made his rounds of the Arnold, Blair and Morrison farms. Until the day Charlie left the farm he continued to use horses and the log barn that had stood the years.

Neighbors of Morisons

To the south of NE ¼ 22-42-14 W3rd over the railroad tracks were Harry and Mrs. Ryan with a family of Carl, Stanley, Bert and Dorothy. Mrs. Ryan and her sister Cecile who married Alex Brown were daughters of one of the first settlers in 1908, Mr. McLellan.

Further south were the Irish boys McCallden brothers: Billy Ellison, with a Scotchman Bob Gordon.

To the southwest was Bob Peoples, his father and brother Frank came up from N. Dakota. The boys stayed on — Bob at present is a resident of Silver Heights Lodge in North Battleford.

West was George and Mrs. Anderson with a large family.

One of Charlie Morisons horse-breaking buddies was Bill Arnold — the oldest of the brothers, he met with an accident injuring his leg. Dr. Scratch was called and with help and on the kitchen table Bill's leg was amputated and buried on his land.

Elizabeth (Bess) Turnbull, 1889-1980

She was the youngest of a family of six. Along with her mother and brothers Graham and George, they came west from Brantford, Ontario in 1905. They brought in a large outfit, amongst the horses were a pair of standard bred Clyde mares which had taken prizes at the Toronto Royal Fair. The Turnbulls continued to show and win prizes at the local fairs with their horses.

The Turnbull house was a stopping place. Sundays saw the furniture pushed around in order to get seats in for church service. They helped get the church built, Presbyterian at first, then when Union came in 1925 it became Ruddell Cove United Church.

Bess helped the brothers farm and often was called on to drive supplies with "Old Dick" and the buggy to the cook on the second threshing outfit. Dances were held above Lowreys store to the tune of Jack White's fiddle.

Bess and Charlie were married on February 1918. One daughter Jean Elizabeth was born, who now is Mrs. Frank Kingwell farming near Herschel, Sask. with a family of two boys and 3 grandchildren.

Both Charlie and Bess are buried in the Ruddell cemetery.

Peter Nakliski

Peter Nakliski immigrated to Canada from a small village in Poland. He journeyed and worked his way across the country, spending much time working in bush and railroad camps in British Columbia. He worked on crews that built tunnels near Revelstoke, B.C. The time spent in the mountains was an interesting part of his early life.

He was in later years employed on farms in the Speers area. He later lived on his own farm in Aberdeen, Sask. for many years. In the early 1940's he purchased land near Keystone School. S.E. 13-43-13 W3rd. the former Tom Meeks farm. He retired later from farming but for many years enjoyed his life on that farm, close to nature, tending his little garden and strawberry patch. He was happy to have his son Eugene and family come to Canada from Poland in 1962. There are two daughters and their families still living in Poland.

After spending two years in Kelowna with his son Eugene, Peter passed away in December 1978 at the age of 96. He was predeceased by his wife the same year. His brother John and family lived at one time on a farm at Speers and later at Fielding. A niece, Mrs. Walter Peden (Wanda) lives on a farm at Maymont.

John Nakliski

John and Annie Nakliski moved to the Hillsborough School district in 1947 from the Tillotson School district north-west of Speers. The land they moved to was owned by Mrs. Stewart. They had a family of three. The eldest, a daughter Wanda, was at that time employed at Speers. She is now Mrs. Walter Peden, residing on a farm near Maymont. They have three children, Pat, Tom and Sandy. Joe and his wife Marilyn and two children, Denise and Sheldon live in Calgary. Joe and Marilyn are employed with the Alberta Educational System. He attended Hillsborough Public School and High School in Maymont. Jean also attended Hillsborough School. She and her husband, Clark Tryburn live in Kelowna with their two children, David and Linda. Jean is employed with the city.

After farming, raising cattle and shipping cream for nearly 9 years, John became ill, so it was necessary for them to retire from farming. They had a farm sale and made the big move to Kelowna, B.C. It was hard to leave the farm and friends and neighbors, but the move was good. For a number of years Annie enjoyed working in the Sun-Rype factory until she was told she was too old to work there, much to her dismay, as she never felt younger or more capable, as the work was a pleasure compared to milking cows,

fighting black flies in the summer and snow drifts in the winter.

John passed away in Kelowna in March of 1966 after a lengthy illness. Annie still resides in Kelowna keeping busy with her vegetable garden, fruit trees and grapes. She enjoys city life and the mild Okanagan winters. But like all prairie people that have moved to B.C. she never tires from visiting with people from Saskatchewan.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Neild

We were both born in N. Ireland, Bob at Downpatrick, Co Down and myself at Knock Killen, Co Fermanagh. He served on the Police Force for 5 years and when the police were disbanded in 1925 we got married and emigrated to Canada and landed at Quebec City on July 6, 1926.

Travelling was not too good around that time, as we spent one week on the boat and another week before we reached Saskatoon. It was a very long, boring trip, especially the train trip, as it travelled at a snail's pace all the way. Most of the immigrants at that time had to work on the farm. We decided to come to Maymont and started work on the Scott-Dudley farm where we stayed for seven months. Then on to Mr. and Mrs. Bill Cooke, Jim Reids, and finally Percy Bowhill's.

We had enough of farm life by this time, so moved into Maymont where Bob worked on the C.N.R. for 3 years and was town policeman for about 5 years.

By this time the depression years were upon us, and we went through some real hard times. When I look back on it all we were all in the same boat, so we just took it in our stride and made the best of what we had. We held card parties in our homes, put on 3 act plays and concerts, etc. for entertainment. Today most of these forms of entertainment just don't exist and are sadly missed by oldtimers. The Chautauqua was a yearly event which we all enjoyed. Church work kept us all busy as well, and we had quite a struggle to raise enough money for the minister's salary. We did have some real good times along with all the other disappointments but I don't think I want to go back to cleaning stove-pipes, banking houses, coal and wood stoves, and moving with flat-irons on a hot summer day, as well as having to chop wood for the fire and carrying water for washing.

Our children were all born at home with Dr. Scrase in attendance. The mid-wives at this time were Mrs. McClelland, Mrs. Holmes, and Mrs. Dawson. Iris (Mrs Elwyn Weber) was born at Percy Bowhill's on December 19th, 1926. Cyril was born in Maymont on October 27th, 1931. (married Norma Crawley) and Valerie (Mrs Murray Gray) in Maymont on June 25th, 1935. All attended Maymont School and graduated from here. As of now Iris lives in Edmonton, Cyril in Rocky Mountain House, and Valerie on the farm south of Maymont.

Bob joined the army on September 3rd, 1939 and served overseas for 7 years in the last war. He also served for 5 years in the First World War. When he returned home in 1945 he started work at the Mental Hospital in North Battleford, and worked there for 15 years. He retired in 1955 and died in April 1964.

Our mode of transportation during my earlier years was by horse and cutter or wagon box. In 1930 we purchased our first car. It was second hand at that, but served the purpose. The homes we rented left a lot to be desired, no insulation, frost on the nailheads on the floor, frozen water pails, etc. We purchased our first home in Maymont in 1948 and I lived there until 1957. I sold my home and moved into one of the Senior Citizens Units where I now reside.

Fifty-three years is a long time to spend in one district, but we have made a lot of good friends here and I will probably spend the rest of my days in my adopted home town. I do miss all my relatives in Ireland. I did visit them in 1966, but one visit in 53 years isn't a very good average. I am both proud and delighted to have 4 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren all residing in Canada.

Edwin Joseph Neumeyer Family

Edwin Joseph Neumeyer, a young musician with the Brandon, Manitoba City Band and Margaret Mary Eagleton, a nurse from Longford, Ireland were married in Brandon on July 10, 1906 and moved directly to Fielding, Saskatchewan.

They settled just north of the railroad tracks on an improved homestead. There they remained until 1917 when they moved to their newly built home about 8 miles north east of Fielding.

In addition to being a hard working farmer, Edwin formed a small orchestra and always found time to play for the entertainment of the young people, both local and the surrounding communities.

As their family grew, so did the activity at the Neumeyer farm — community picnics, horseback riding, tennis, skating on the lake, skiing — but always music for dancing and fun - a treasured memory to all who shared! Each of their eight children received their basic education at the Fielding school.

Their eldest, Marcella Marie travelled to Tacoma, Washington to attend Nurses Training school, met and married Leo A. McGavick, a local attorney. They raised three children. Marcella passed away in 1979.

Joseph married and has one daughter in British Columbia. He spent his last years in Ontario, Canada where he passed away in 1979.

Charles remained on the farm for some years, married and raised five children. Now retired and living in Indio, California where he operated White's Steel & Welding for five years. Charles keeps himself very busy keeping everything in good repair for everybody - 'the man for anything', but he and Helen

take time for many community activities and oil painting.

James graduated from the University of Saskatchewan Law School, migrated to Los Angeles, California where he entered the insurance business. He married and raised eleven children.

Maureen joined Marcella in Toronto to finish her high school and then continued on to Seattle University. She met and married Doctor Harvey Samuel Johnson, a young naval officer, raised six children. They are now enjoying retirement in Lee, New Hampshire.

Margaret chose Vancouver, British Columbia, where she met and married Charles Edward Sanderson and raised eleven children. They are now retired and living in Los Angeles, keep busy travelling the world visiting their children.

Florida joined James in Los Angeles, married Doctor Leo J. Adelstein, neurosurgeon, and raised Doctor's own children. She has kept active in the medical-surgical field and is at present administrator of the Neuro Sciences Institute and serving as an officer in the Women's Auxiliary to the International College of Surgeons. After Doctor Adelstein's death, Florida married Charles Albert White, pioneer of Indio and since his death manages their ranch and business in Indio. Lillian also moved to Los Angeles, married Lawrence Ford, an engineer and raised four children. She entered the banking field and at present is serving as an officer with the California Federal Savings and Loan in Los Angeles.

Elgin and Margaret Neumeyer spent their last years in California near their children who will always treasure and be grateful to the memory of life on the farm in Fielding; but most of all Elgin's music and the joy he gave to all who knew him.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Nimilowich

told by Elsie

Ruddell's present postmistress is Elsie Nimilowich. She had a University education and was trained for the post office right here in Ruddell by the former postmaster, Bill Buttrey, who still resides in this fair, quiet village. It is still possible to mail a letter in Ruddell without driving 8 to 10 miles to the nearest town to mail one letter. The elderly find it convenient to get their mail in town because some don't have their own vehicle to go out just to pick up their mail.

In the spring before coming to Ruddell she married Alex Nimilowich of Mullingar and they both make their home in Ruddell. They have one small girl to complete their family.

In 1967, Mrs. Nimilowich's mother, Mrs. McMillan and her son Alvin, moved to Ruddell from Saskatoon. Mrs. McMillan lives in the remodelled Mrs. Murison's house. Alvin attends Maymont Central School.

Elsie, Alex and Ann Nimilowich.

Guy Niven

told by Evelyn Bame

Guy Niven was born to Benjamin, lived in Spinney Hill until the family moved to Saskatoon in 1947. He attended school there until they moved to Maymont on May 1, 1954. He finished his Grade XII in Maymont and worked in T.C. Saunders' Store. Then he worked for Power, Potash and finally moved to the Yukon for six years, working for Cassiar Asbestos at Clinton Creek, Yukon Territory. While in Maymont he played hockey on the Senior Team after the new rink was built; also played fastball.

A Partial Biography of Allan Neilsrown's Grandparents

by Marjorie Neilsrown

We shall begin with Allan's great-grandparents, Thomas Neilsrown, and his wife, Anne Colton, who came to Canada in the year 1830 from England with their nine children — eight boys and two girls, the youngest girl being born in Canada but she did not live very long. The family arrived in Quebec City and proceeded overland to the sparsely settled areas of St. Sylvestre and Leeds, Megantic County, Quebec.

The children's names were Thomas, John, George,

William, Robert, Elizabeth, Septimus Henry, Octavia and little Frances was the one born in Canada and died. They were all born between the years of 1853 and 1870.

Henry who was born in 1853 became Allan's grandfather years later. In the year of 1878 on December 6 he married a girl by the name of Elizabeth Beattie. They lived on a farm at Craig's Road, Province of Quebec. They in turn had six children — John, Henry Octavius, William, Elizabeth and Ann, also Thomas George who became Allan's father.

Thomas George was born November 17, 1880 and on May 31, 1902 Olive Agnes Hagens became his wife. They had four sons by this marriage — Charles Henry, called Harry, Stewart and Allan, all four born between 1903 and 1908.

Allan's father passed away on October of 1951, at the age of seventy-seven years with a heart condition. He had been a hard working man and was still making rows and doing chores around the farm until up to a month before his death. I believe it was in 1964 that Allan's mother passed away. She was in her eighties. Both are buried in Maymont Cemetery. Allan's three brothers have also passed on as have all his first cousins on the Ross family, that mother having been Allan's father's sister Ann.

Allan's father and mother lived on Craig's Road, after they were married, for almost years. During that time Allan's father's parents died then Allan's parents with their four young sons moved to another farm in Lawrence mill, in Quebec.

The farms were small, about one hundred acres. On this they made their living by making cows. They had around sixteen all milked by hand. The milk would be taken every day to the cheese factory a mile away.

They did not grow any grain crops for sale except for a little wheat which they sent in the mail for flour. It was soft wheat and made dark bread. The flour was put in bags which had to be kept near the kitchen stove and turned often as it dried. They also bought what they called white flour as well.

They would also keep twenty some sheep. Every spring these were sheared and the wool put in bags until later on when a man would come around either to buy the wool or take it in trade for cloth of different weights whenever the farmer wanted. This man also sold overalls.

Lots of turnips and potatoes were grown. Turnips would be fed to the cows in the winter time after the morning milking was finished. They had good gardens — pumpkins, marrows and cucumbers cucumbers in pots. They also had and grew their own apples and hazel nuts. The nuts (or would have to be dried in bags before eating. Having maple trees there was no shortage of maple syrup from which they made their maple sugar. In season there were lots of large wild strawberries, raspberries, pin and choke cherries.

The lady folks made their own soap, butter, bread and canned some chickens.

They had some head but mainly pork as had lots of home-made lard for cooking and soap making. Washing was all done with the scrub board in a tub. A lot of sewing was done by hand. Allan's mother was the eldest of a family of twelve children and she learned dressmaking. The Sewing Machines had brought a Williams Treadle sewing machine which she still have and which I used the first years I was married. It still sews very well for all its one hundred and some years old.

The country in which the Motherwells lived in Quebec was very rough, rocky, lots of hills and ravines, little brooks, much swamp, and bush, a natural place for lots of birds, some deer, lots of bush rabbits and fox and many rats but not any coyotes. There were many very lengthy and bad thunder storms at times, but they spoke of dry years too with poor hay crops — crops which they depended so much on for the cattle's winter feed. They kept some horses. Plowing was done with a walking plow and still is in many parts which Allan and Avon saw when they were down East a few years back.

In 1907 the Motherwells had a farm sale and sold everything in the East excepting six horses, a sleigh and a buggy which came out on the railroad. Charlie rode on the car with the horses as they had to be attended. Very little from the home in the East was brought West, just an organ, parlor set of three pieces, two chairs made without any nails, some beds and quilts and family pictures. Mr. Motherwell had his violin having played for dances when he was younger. Some dishes came too with the iron cooking pots.

Prior to 1913 Allan's father had come to Maymont where the Ross and the Motherwells were already established having come from the same parts as which the Motherwells lived in the East only they came a few years earlier. I expect Allan's dad wanted to see the country for himself. The next year Charlie and Uncle Bill Ross came out. A section of land on 8 Township 41 Range 12 west of the Third Meridian was purchased from Alex McClean which was five and a half miles southeast of Maymont town. Two hundred acres of good bush broken. Allan's Uncle Bill Ross bought land on the south side of the river.

The Motherwells arrived at their new property on March 11, 1913. There had been built a small house on the land with a log barn and log granary which was made to do until some years later they had a very large house built, also a large barn, a well drilled 250 feet from which they had all the water required. This was pumped up into a cistern by a wind-driven mill and from there hand pumped into a trough for the animals to drink out of and in pails for the house to be used for cooking and drinking. It was rare water but very hard.

The first spring in 1913 they bought a twenty-run Massey Harris seed drill and some oats and wheat seed to sow on their two-hundred acres. They bought a plough, broke up more land, cleared out bush and

brave, parked stones. bought a tractor and Mr. Turner did the threshing. As the years went on for them as for all other farmers more land was cleared and bought, more and better equipment in farm with more horses raised, cattle bought and increased also pigs. . . . Harry and Ruth were started on farms on their own in the 1930's when they decided to get married. Allan and Charles carried on with their dad on the home farm. This is as much as I know from what Allan had been able to tell me.

Our Married Life In Part

by Marjorie Watkinson

When Allan and I were married on January 31, 1928 Allan continued living with his parents. Charlie was married a year later and had a new home to live in. Allan felt he had to stay home to do the work for his parents, so he bought himself a quarter of land making three quarters to work on. After six years the big house was divided and I was happy to be able to cook and do for ourselves, with our two little sons Nelson and Ronald.

I planted a nice size garden every year and for all we were there in the drought stricken years of the thirties, the garden growth was always good being protected on one side by bush and with good soil, not too heavy.

My Dad gave me our first start of chickens, a large young brood. Mom Guest here with her cause thirteen eggs, and three weeks later there were thirteen little chicks. Most of them were pullets and proved good layers and a nice size for eating. In three days many people advertised their roosters for sale or trade in the winter time for breeding purposes. From that time on my chickens increased with the years.

By selling hens I eventually raised over two hundred chicks every spring. We were never without eggs or meat and traded eggs for groceries.

Surprisingly there would be considerable wild fruit in season — saskatoons, raspberries, just a few strawberries, choke-cherries and high bush cranberries. We grew our own strawberries, raspberries and small fruit and lots of rhubarb. Preserving time was a busy time for many years I did up seven hundred quarts in all consisting of bought, and garden fruit which were made into jams and jellies and preserved whole. These quarts included pickles of many varieties, tomatoes, chicken, beef and fish. Pork would be put in brine for a few weeks depending what part. Then taken out and dried off wrapped and stored in the grain to be used when needed. Whitefish and trout were bought from River Fisheries and kept frozen outside. What was left by spring were put in sealers. Vinegar was put in the sealers with the fish to soften the bones.

Before the Radisson Flour Mill burned down Allan and those before him took a wagon load of wheat to the mill where it was ground and made into flour. You could buy shorts and bran, too, to feed the pigs. Mixed with milk they had the best of food. That was what my father fed his few pigs. Neighbours had a grain chopper for grinding the different grains for the pigs and the cattle. It was called chop after being ground up.

By 1947 we had seven children, six boys and a girl, including twin boys. Most mothers did not go to the hospital when their children were born. I never did. Dr. Scratch was still the attending doctor and with good midwives we managed. His only other doctor at the time Marilyn was born was Dr. Merrifield. He substituted for Dr. Scratch while he had a well-earned holiday.

Our children all attended Calma School until they were ready for High School. When that time came they went to Maymont School. That was quite a long drive in the winter because it was five and one half miles over some pretty rough roads in some very bad weather. There were no rest rooms in those days in the country. Several of the school teachers boarded at our home which was very nice for us too as they brought new interest. There was a Miss Jean Downey, Miss Heather, Miss Pinsker, Miss Penrice, Mrs. Brady, Marion Hodgins & Mr. Balich, Miss Saunders, Miss McCartin, Miss Brownell, Miss Matthews and Miss Lenek.

Our family are grown up now and married with homes of their own. I will put in a few lines how some of them will be able to carry on from there. Now being young men now it is not very likely they will write up something for themselves. They may leave it to their wives as their dad has done. It would be nice if the men would write their part. How can we know what they might have to contribute — more than we can say.

As you know we have a Nelson our eldest son was more or less lost his life at the age of forty-seven years in a dreadful cave in accident on a farm in the Ukraine District near Marsden, Saskatchewan on September 10, 1973. Nelson was a Electrical Contractor, a member of the Lorach Lodge No. 182 at Marsden where they lived. He was also a member of the Neilburg Flying Club and owned his own plane. Sometimes he would go on mercy flights.

When he left the farm at Maymont he was nineteen years of age and went out to Vancouver where his friend Paul Hamilton lived. He had work at the shingle mills out there for awhile but it was pretty rough so he went into the watch repair business. While was there he married his girl friend, Helen Sherman, on December 4, 1947. Nelson still had farm like in his blood which brought them back to Maymont where he bought the Sweden farm just east of Maymont. Some years later they moved to Marsden after selling the farm where he continued the hardware work which he began on the farm. They had three children Cambell, Richard and Deborah.

Ronald came next on October 17, 1928. Ron and Elaine Gray were married on December 28, 1955. Ron

was wanted as cook for the University Hospital in Saskatoon since the hospital's beginning twenty-five years ago. He is now manager of the laundry for the University Hospital. Ron and Elaine have a son and daughter Allan and Shelley. I will leave them to write anything further.

Brenton our third son was born August 13 1923. He was married to Ruby Mitchell on April 1, 1944. She was a girl from Fort St. John. They met at the Air Force Station and he was in the Air Force for many years. After he left there they moved to Dawson Creek and from there to Whitehorse in the Yukon to continue his work as Trucker Maintenance man until he had the misfortune to freeze both his feet which necessitated amputations of both feet, followed shortly by both legs just below the knees. He has had considerable difficulties with the artificial limbs but given time he walking will become easier for him. Only two years have gone by since this tragedy happened. They have three children — Maureen, Cheryl and Tim.

Marilyn our daughter whose husband is James Reed celebrate their wedding year of July 20, 1955. They have three daughters: Cindy, Elayne and Tana, also a son, Steven. I shall leave the rest for her to write.

The twins Alvin and Earl were born on May 6, 1928. Earl and Velma Carlson were married in March, 1952. Alvin married her sister Irene in May, 1954. After a marriage came to a end and with a divorce in 1971, however, he remarried Ilse Lutz in Meglan Pastor in 1971. Alvin and Irene had two girls: Roseann and Dawn. Earl and Velda have four children: Wanda, Gerry, Linda and Timothy. Earl lives in Nanaimo where he does plumbing etc. Alvin and Gerry live in Marsden where they carry on the business work since Nelson's death.

Gerry our last child was born on his brother Nelson's birthday twenty-one years later to the hour on November 18, 1947. He and Mary Jones from Marsden were married in November, 1971. They have three children — daughter, Jackie, and sons, Christopher and Michael.

We must go back in memory to the days of our early childhood and to those of our children, but first I must say that I still have the baby cradle that my dad traded his English sight unseen for to a farmer by the name of Mr. Knowles. A Mr. Wilmot had made it from wood and willows gathered from the river banks. This little cradle was 35" long, 20" wide and 18" deep. It stands on legs with rockers underneath. The top and bottom ends are scooped. There were no springs just a nice leather belt and leather pillow with flannelette blankets and a leather comforter. It made a very cozy little bed for we children and our own years later.

When old enough to sit up and play in the carriage or whatever, their play toys in our home were such things as rimless pegs, saucepan lids or pie plates, rattles and a ball. Later for the little girls dolls and dishes, picture books, crayons. The coloring book were often Eaton's catalogues. The little boys had farmyard with sticks and bricks and little toy animals. In the summer time their farming was done in the bush. Some old iron wheels he dragged around to make their roads, etc. Machinery was made as the only way they knew how but they had fun.

Outside in the summertime the little girls had play houses in the trees with mud and water and berries. Saskatoons and rose hips made their mud pies. Cakes had red sand for icing sugar. For tea we used their dishes with the odd cracked one from Mom's kitchen. Their dolls would be the children in their family.

As they grew older there were the farm chores to help with: bringing in the cows, pumping water, helping to milk and run the hand-turned cream separator, feed the calves and pigs, help some in the garden. The pre-schoolers could always help with the packing up sticks for Mom at night, the fire with in the morning, and to stoke for the kettle of water as well as kept, ever small fir wagon loads of wood for the stove and box. There was always something that each could do. When radios came on the scene they all enjoyed listening to the children's programs.

We had some ministers come to Calais School Sunday afternoons. Reverend Saunders and Reverend Cousins. Our children all had Sunday School lessons by mail, and evening prayers at bedtime. We also attended the United Church in Maymont for a number of years. Reverend Myers took the services at that time.

Time out as I sit and type these pages is almost unreal. Those times never were and yet now almost finds the people mannequins were living it over again. We are now living in such vastly different times with almost every comfort. Even so we were happy then with what we had. We knew no deformity, and never expected we ever would have the city conveniences with electric lights and running water.

I do remember my sister Dorothy and I visiting our grandparents in Saskatoon when the waterman came around once a week with horses on a large water tank. He would fill a large barrel in the kitchen which was used for everything drinking as well. The grocery man drove around taking grocery orders to be delivered later. The butcher, the baker, the milkman, and farm women rolled here with their eggs and poultry in all.

No inside toilets then in the city, just little houses at the bottom of each lot. No below underneath, they had a board floor and once a week very early in the morning a man would drive around and lift a trap door and clean these places out. In the country a hole would be dug underneath and when filled up, another hole would be dug and the outhouse moved over. The earth from it covering the first one, quite squeezy. A more private place any other time than winter time. There it would be too cold to stay and read the old papers or look at the catalogue.

In the early days of our marriage, and before the

seed worked the land with horses, some with oxen. When we were married they had two or three outfits of horses. Allan had two outfits, after Charlie left, to work with so he had hired men until Nelson was old enough and by that time Allan bought his first tractor, a Massey Harris. I was very thankful to see that tractor come into the yard as I always felt so sorry for the horses and the men. Long days were put in sitting on those hard iron seats of the different implements, and many weary miles the horses went over.

Going back to the years in the thirties, the field crops were very poor everywhere. From one year to the next the farmer's hopes never died and with each spring with renewed hope the land was prepared and the seed sown. With almost every new day the winds never seemed to go down until sunset. The dust would be so thick in the air that often it obscured the sun. I have had to light the lamps sometimes in the afternoons and often during the day little piles of dirt heaped up under the doors and windows. Our houses simply dried out. There were many bush fires too. When we didn't have dust it was smoke so thick at times that the sun or moon just looked like a red ball. We do not see that anymore, thanks be.

Feed for the cattle became less and less. The pastures dried up as did the water in the sloughs. Prices for livestock became practically nothing. The Nutbrowns had been pastured out in the north country where there was supposed to be more and better feed. After buying them out for those years there was very little left to go back for. What there were, were very poor and skinny. Allan had kept a few milk cows back for our own use. Feed being so scarce they would go over the other side of the river and bring back loads of Russian thistle. At least it kept the cows alive and we had our milk, cream and butter and sold some cream to the creamery in Lloydminster at that time.

Allan had many nice cattle in later years after the rains came. He also had many horses as the years went on. Some were taken from the pasture with their calves which he tried in vain to trace. Others met their fate in the dugout and the river. Another time seven heifers went into a muddy cavern in the pasture and died because they couldn't get out. That was a sad night. Lightning also took its toll. That was the way it was. Finally Allan gave up and sold them all except one that was to be our milk cow. A few days after the rest had gone, this young cow was found dying with froth and blood coming from her mouth. We wondered what happened but never found out. Really one must never give up hoping.

With the coming of the smiles more rains came. Farmers had many successful years with better crops, better prices, and were able to renovate and paint their buildings, and buy more and better equipment making farming easier.

This also meant more conveniences in the home with running water and electric appliances. Allan's health began to break down in 1970 but he never gave up until 1973 when we had a farm sale and sold the farm to Dick Clayton. Marilyn thought it better that we move to Mannville, Alberta. She was nursing in the hospital there and there were two doctors and a pharmacy. For us it seemed the sensible move to make and which has been greatly to her dad's benefit. We have a very comfortable home here, good friends and neighbors, good garden, grounds and lawn. The town's population is seven hundred. There are stores to supply every need, five churches, large Agroplex, very large school, five elevators in a good farming district. It lies one hundred miles slightly southeast of Edmonton, fifty miles northwest of Lloydminster and fourteen miles west of Vermilion. The hospital is new and the doctors are good. So far so good.

Nelson Nutbrown Story

told by Helen Nutbrown

On the farm South of Maymont, Saskatchewan, on November 18, 1926, Nelson Herbert Nutbrown was born. He was the eldest of Allan and Marjorie Nutbrown's seven children.

I was born in June, 1929 on a farm south west of

Nelson and Helen Nutbrown, Deborah, Cam, Rick and Shannon

Nelson Nutbrown getting ready to fly

Fielding, Saskatchewan. Annie and Charles Sherman had eight children of whom I was the youngest.

We received our early schooling in a one room school. One teacher taught all the subjects to all the grades. The "Social High Light" of the year was the Christmas Concert. All the children worked very hard to memorize their part in a play, a recitation and of course Christmas carols. The Christmas carol singing would be an unmet but Nelson that it was for me because neither one of us could carry a tune at a number. The desperate teacher must have had a hard time getting enough pupils capable of doing all the items that she wanted on her program because on the different occasions she had Nelson and me singing duets. I think the names of them were "Sunbonnet Sally and Overall Jim" and "My Sailor Boy". I only remember one part of the song where My Sailor Boy says, "What is your fortune, my Pretty Maid?" She answers "My love is my fortune my sailor boy." His reply is "Then I can't marry you, my Pretty Maid." The Pretty Maid becomes very indignant, stamps her foot with all her might and says "Nobody asked you to. My Sailor Boy." It was about ten years later on December fourth, 1928 that we were married in Vancouver B.C.

Dances were not the only activity that went on in the one room school in the 1910's. When the weather and roads permitted, a preacher held church on the Sundays. Several Saturday nights in the winter saw the school jumping with dancing. Nelson had the habit of having his Uncle Harry Anderson teach him to dance while he was still a young boy. Nelson always told it this way. He stood me up off the floor and stretched out over the top of his big huge overcoats and away we went. My feet didn't touch the floor again till the dance was over. That would be some dancer lesson. What fun it must have been to be riding so high while Nelson was so small.

Nelson moved from his parents home on the 5th of 10th in Saskatchewan. My mother Mrs. Annie Sherman had already moved some of her family to Vancouver in 1918 after she had been widowed in 1915. So we had been neighbours of Nelson's family in Saskatchewan. We looked up when he arrived in Vancouver. Nelson became an apprentice watchmaker while in Vancouver.

Living in a large city was not the sort of life style Nelson wanted, so in the spring of 1918 he tried to persuade me to try out both of farming. I had been only ten years old when I left the farm. I had actually grown up in the city and had become very fond of it. I had learned my housekeeping skills with running water, sewer and electricity at my fingertips. Could anyone go to a farm and make a home without those things when they had been used to them? I knew that Nelson liked our friendly prairie people so I felt I should agree for his sake.

It was at Easter time that Nelson and I gave up our small city apartment and drove by car to Saskatchewan. My brother Ralph, and his wife and their two young boys were returning to their farm at that time so we were able to ride with them.

I had forgotten how cold the prairie wind could be in the spring. I did remember that the days started had killed many of the trees and bushes but all the trees appeared to be dead. I looked and looked for some that had life in them but I just didn't see any leaves on any of them. I remarked to Muriel that it was such a pity that all the trees had been killed in the dry years. She kindly explained to me that they were not dead, they were still just grass yet after the long winter months. We had left the green of the evergreens and the blue of the mountains way and away for the grey of the prairies. My nephews, being the good travelling companions that they were, tried to cheer me with their jokes and stories.

After many days we were able to locate ourselves in the land near Nelson's family home.

Our first child, Deborah Anne was born on September twenty-eighth, 1930. When she was twenty months old we discovered she was a diabetic. For this reason we felt we should be closer to an all-weather highway so we might have easier access to the hospital. We were able to buy a farm beside the town of Maymont. This farm had a comfortable home that had the ultimate of all luxuries, electric lights. After being without power for so many months I was truly happy to have it once again.

Nelson had always been a friendly outgoing person, so once again he could enjoy the company of his relatives and friends. He was also able to make new friends as we were so close to town.

The crops that Nineteen in the future were not as good as they should have been. The year of the "rust" we had three bushels of wheat to the acre. Some people had been out early planting their crops under the were fortunate that Nelson had a diesel tractor so he could harvest the crop more economically. However after the seeds and land and machinery payments we didn't have anything left but our growing family. It was our family but an ideal situation for someone who was just starting to farm. It was even hard on people who had been farming for some time as those who had taken over the family farm.

In the meantime Nelson became interested in erecting and the installation of water and sewer lines. He had a friend who was interested in this work also. They decided to buy a backhoe and other equipment needed for construction work. They were for months to get the government contract to install water and sewer lines for farmers in the Eastmore area. This sometimes took Nelson into the Marsden area as well.

Nelson became more and more interested in the people and the beautiful country around Marsden. The people were kind and friendly and thus appealed to Nelson's sociable nature.

The first few moments the children and I enjoyed at Maymont. Nelson and his sons went to Lashburn after

meeting that date in the spring. The rest of the farming operations were contending with the reconstruction work. Nelson realized that a decision had to be made between farming and his business. It was not much a difficult decision for him to make as he was happy with the work he was doing and he enjoyed being with people. The farm never did pay as it should have so he wanted to sell it. I decided his decision was the right one when we were driving through the picturesque Manitou country. Nelson told me that this was the part of the country he loved and he wanted me to see it too. The trees and rolling hills were very beautiful but I couldn't help but think it was centered that Nelson had found his place and work in life.

It was after the beginning of June 1968 that we made out decision to move immediately rather than wait till the next year. Nelson and his partner divided the equipment between them and each one went his own way.

As we were unable to find a house in Manitou we had to take one in Nothberg for a few months. While we lived in Nothberg we bought a house and moved it into Manitou. I went to the large mercantile that I could and painted, papered and put down floor coverings. On December [illegible] 1968 our fourteenth Wedding Anniversary we moved in our house in Manitou. The children changed schools at Christmas time.

We didn't have to wait long for the water and sewer lines to come to Manitou. I was overcome felt the same thrill that I did when we were able to turn on that taps. It was years since I was able to do that as I was indeed pleased.

The installation of water and sewer lines on the farms was one of the things that revolutionized the farms for all the people in town. Nelson felt his job was a rewarding one because everyone was so pleased to have running water. His customers became his friends and he always enjoyed himself with them.

Ever since Nelson was a small boy he wanted to fly. When the Nothberg Manitou area started a flying club and started flying lessons Nelson was one of the first to sign up for them. He finished his lessons passed his flight test with flying colors and received his pilot's license. Then inspired our son Clare and he started flying with his father when he was of age. Rick, our youngest son thought it might be a good idea to learn to fly so he could get home quickly from his hockey and ball games.

Nelson also liked books and records that had a lot of humour interest to them. He liked to let others enjoy them too. In the fall summer he liked to set up a road discussion room and listen to his records. If his friends came to see him, they had the pleasure of joining him in his discussion retreat.

In the spring of 1972 I developed for the family that the outside of the house needed painting. It became a family project with everyone spending all the spare time they could on it. When September came and we still weren't finished with the painting of the house Nelson felt we could push the job in order to be finished before the first snowfall.

Nelson was at the stage had reaching as high as he could with his brush, with paint from his ball past running down the front of his clothes. The boys, their friends and I being very helpful, stood around and laughed at him. When people we knew drove by, they saw us at work and came and we called to give us words of advice, encouragement or advice. I had such a hard time trying to get anyone to come over my paint brush. However one friend became brave enough to try after I put on mine. Tom Sommer sort. He had had major work done there in the past but this was the one we were to have with Nelson.

The next day on September [illegible] 1973, Clare and Nelson had moved the digger to a new job. Nelson had several things he wished to see to, so he left Clare digging while he came to town. He stopped at home to let me know what he was going to do. I remained Nelson of his lunch meeting at the meeting, and told him that I would have an early supper ready when he wanted it. Nelson went to several business places and talked with many of his friends. He also went to Nothberg and then arrived back at the job in time to install the new material. Clare had just finished the new trench which joined an old trench and was about to help his dad by getting material from the trench. Clare heard a rumble and turned to see that the old trench had caved in on top of his father. He quickly started the digger and dug inside where he knew his dad was. When he got close to him, Clare was upset to the with his hands. Clare's quick thinking and fast work had Nelson out of the trench in [illegible] but it was too late. The nurse who lived on the farm and the ambulance attendants were unable to help Nelson. The coroner told me that the boulder-like material of the old trench was very damaging and that its work was quick. He also told the old trench had been weakened by rain that we had had several days before.

When I was told what happened I was like many other people I talked to, I found it very hard to believe. Nelson had always been so careful with the machines and operators. He understood the soil well enough to know what would cave in and what wouldn't. We all knew that if Nelson thought the first trench was weak he never would have gone near it and neither would his son. Nelson loved family, friends and life as they loved him but God had something better for him to do.

The children and I moved to Manitou for over a year but I found I had to sell our digger and maple ply with living. We moved to Saskatoon in November, 1974 where I started my home into a small day care centre. This was not an ideal situation but I was able to stay home with my youngest daughter. Shannon. After she experienced the loss of her father I felt she was important.

After 3 and been a widow for a year and a half I was able to gain control of my life.

I met my present husband in Saskatoon and he

helped me accept life without Nelson. We were married on August 17, 1975 in the presence of our families and a few close friends. The older children were working away from home so Shannon was the only one left with me to move to Bev's home in Kindersley. My husband, Beverley Murdoch is a farmer in this area.

Our daughter Deborah is married and living in Lloydminster, Alberta. She has two lovely children, a boy Dean and a girl Crystal.

Campbell Nelson is working in Lloydminster and living in Marsden. His interests are still flying and hiking.

Richard Allan also works in Lloydminster after taking a Water Science course in Saskatoon. He lives in Marsden and plays hockey and ball with his friends.

Shannon Michele Ruby still goes to school here in Kindersley. She has many interests.

Although Nelson Nothbrown is no longer with us and we have started a new life, his influence and memory remains with each of us.

Charles and Mary Nothbrown

Charles Nothbrown grew up on a farm near Leeds Village in the Eastern township in the province of Quebec.

In the spring of 1911, as a young man he came west to Maymont where friends and an uncle lived. He worked on a farm during the year and liked what he saw. He found land for sale. Section 9-41-12 W3rd. He went back to Quebec and in the early spring of 1912 the Thomas George Nothbrown family had a sale to dispose of those items not required in the west and which could not be shipped with the car load of settler's effects. Charlie rode in that car to care for the animals and I know if he were living, would have interesting stories to relate. His father Thomas, mother Agnes and three brothers Harry, Sam and Allan arrived about the same time by train.

Early in March, 1915 Mary Miller arrived in the district to teach Calais School No. 3664. Trustees were T. O. Nothbrown, George Sloan, W. Hill, chairman of the board and Frank Collins – secretary. It was a small rural one room school with double desks and a pot belly stove for heat. There were twenty-seven pupils and grades one to seven inclusive. Their teacher was born at Centre Point, Indiana, U.S.A. and emigrated with her parents to Saskatchewan, Canada arriving on March 19, 1911. Her father homesteaded sixteen miles east of Hanley. In 1912 she and a brother drove with horse and buggy seven miles to school for 2 months. In 1913 their new school was built and opened for two months. Completing public school she continued her education at the Hanley High School, the Saskatoon Normal School.

February, 1920 Charles Nothbrown and Mary Miller were married in Kamsack, Sask. and took up residence four miles from Maymont on the NW ¼ section 9-41-13 Wtrd. In the fall of 1920 Charles had drilled a well nearly 200 feet deep and was rewarded with an ample supply of good drinking water. He built a house and barn that same year. He built up a herd of good Shorthorn cattle, fed his cattle well and enjoyed seeing them well finished. The dry years came and in 1932 some cattle were let out on shares to a farmer at Spruce Lake. At this time the Quaker Oats Co was selling "Sun" feed. This was ground oat hulls with a percentage of oat shorts and middlings which came off the product when they are rolling rolled oats. Russian thistle grew when nothing else would and that was used for feed. Grain and hay were shipped in and sold to farmers.

Charles and Mary Nothbrown — 1953.

The Nothbrowns breaking sod with a gulley plow, 1913. Sam on plow seat. Charlie standing beside him, Tom Southbrown Sr. standing with the grub hoe.

In the spring of 1946 we received through the P.F.R.A. 1,375 trees to be planted for a shelter belt. It was still quite dry and they had to be watered. Some did not survive, but many did.

Two daughters — Lillian and Muriel; and a son Murvel were born in our home on the farm with Dr. Scratch as attendance.

Dugouts were being dug to store surface water on the farm and ours became a reality in the fall of 1948. The power line was built through Maymont and by 1952

we had electricity. Water and sewer were installed in 1957.

Charlie has served on the telephone committee, the Calais School Board and was keenly interested in the Bank, Wheat Pool — he served on that committee many years. We were members of the Anglican Church.

Mary served on the Calais School Board and became a life member of S.W.I. We enjoyed neighbours and neighbors. Entertainment during the years were Chautauqua, concerts, dances and picnics.

Charlie loved the soil and spent the 60 years he was resident in the district on the farm. He passed away in January, 1973. Mary now resides in an apartment in Saskatoon. She enjoys travelling, concerts, S.W.I. church, and visiting with family and friends.

The Sam Nutbrown Story

by Bethune Lang

My father Sam Nutbrown, came to the Maymont District in 1912, from near Sherbrooke, Quebec with his father and mother and three brothers. They had purchased a section of land the year before, located three miles south and one mile east of Maymont. My mother came with her parents and family about the same time, coming from Hebron, Nebraska. They farmed three miles south and two miles east of Maymont, for a time, then moved west of Maymont three miles. My parents married in 1916 and Dad had his farm three miles west of Maymont. There were nine of us in the family.

Bethune (myself), Dora, Kenneth, Norma, Eddie, Della, Helen, Don and Larry. The five older members of the family started school at Monero and the younger members at Calais and Fielding. My father served in the Air Force Transport Division from 1941-1945 spending this time at Macdonald, Manitoba. During this time the family lived at Fielding.

After the war Dad and Mother and Larry moved to Marshall and took up a farm under the V.L.A. The others in the family by this time were working in other areas. In 1950 they sold this farm to Jack Gallan and retired to the Coast at Burnaby near my brothers there. My mother passed away in March of 1960 and my father fourteen years later in March, 1974.

The family are very scattered now and live — myself (Mrs. Ivor Lang) at Lloydminster, Sask. I have two children. Dora (Mrs. Donald Shelton) at Victoria, B.C. She has four children. Kenneth (married to Cervia Bragg) at Burnaby, B.C. He has five children. He passed away in August 1972 at age 51. Norma (Mrs. Roger Lee) at The Pas, Manitoba has three children. Eddie now living at Surrey, B.C. has two children. Della (Mrs. Tom Scott) at Flin Flon, Manitoba has six children. Helen (Mrs. Joe Moyer) at Taber, Alberta has four children. Don, living at Richmond, B.C. has three children and Larry living at Lloydminster, Saskatchewan has five children.

The Pains

Harold Pain, oldest grandson of William D. Dow took over the Dow farm in 1939.

A brief history of Harold, born at Vonda, Saskatchewan on February, 1911 the oldest son of Thomas and Marion Pain. He took his public and high school at Vonda, then went to McGill university at Montreal in 1929 hoping to become a civil engineer. Due to the great depression, could not continue so returned to the farm in 1931.

In 1939 his dad purchased a half section of school land, raw prairie, paid 20% down and turned it over to Harold and his brother Gerrie, who broke nearly acres that same year. 1940 was a very dry year, resulting in only six hundred bushels of wheat being taken off. They continued farming the land until 1950 and then gave it up. There was no crop in 1952 so they sold what wheat there was for nineteen cents a bushel.

In the fall of 1939, Harold arrived at Lilac and worked for Bill Agar with a wage of ten dollars a month, a far cry from the present wage. He also worked for John Swan and David Alexander over the years.

In 1947, Harold's father died in an accident and he returned to Vonda to help his brother and mother. The first crop in that year was one hundred ninety acres of wheat. Threshed sixty two bushels.

In 1950, Harold moved back to Lilac and took over the Dow farm. The only building on the farm was the house. The first thing he do was to build a barn for the horses.

Harold remained a bachelor until October 21, 1950 when he married Mary Prescesky. They raised a family of three children. Tom born in 1951, Harvey in 1953 and Dianne in 1956. They attended school in Lilac and high school in Maymont.

Harold and Mary and their family were active in the community. Harold was a warden for St. Mary's Anglican Church, school trustee for seventeen years, worked at the curling rink, a director on the Rural Ruddell Telephone Company for twenty years and on the Lilac Wheat Pool Committee for thirty years. Mary was also a member of the Lilac Ladies Guild for many years and also a member of the Ruddell Homemakers when they organized in 1948. Tom, Harvey and Dianne were very active in 4-H with the beef club being the main project.

Tom, Cheryl and son Stephen live in Battleford. Patrick, Dianne and daughter Stacey Beattie in North Battleford.

In the fall of 1978, the Pains moved in their new home in North Battleford. Harvey and his wife Beverely and son Adam moved on the farm. Harvey is the fourth generation of the descendants of the Dows to live in the same house on the farm. Maybe Adam could be the fifth.

Mr. and Mrs. William Parent

by Edna (Parent) Rowley

William (Bill) Parent was born in Range, Wisconsin, June 2, 1881. His wife, Jennie (Saurie) Parent was born in Quebec, Canada, February 18, 1883. They were married in Conway, North Dakota, 1902.

Three children were born in North Dakota: Walter Leo, William Eugene, and Edna Catherine.

They moved to their homestead at Medicine Lake, Montana, where they broke land and farmed. During this time there were many hardships, such as using cow chips as stoves for heating and cooking. Coal was hauled for winter fuel from the mines, twenty-five miles away. Drinking water was hauled from pot holes and boiled for use. There were few neighbours but they helped one another.

Jennie and William Parent.

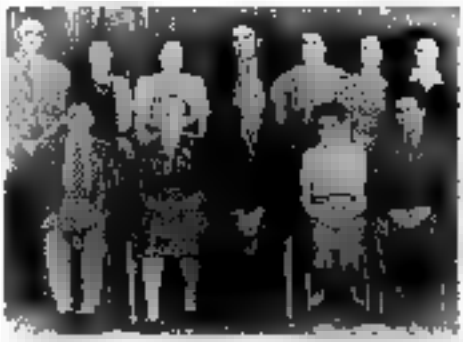
Bill Parent and Frank Frichoitz — Medicine Lake, Montana, 1910.

Five children were born in Medicine Lake from 1908 to 1917: Mabel Anna, Guy Arthur, Marie Agnes, Lucille Martha and Vivianne Margaret. Jennie, being a trained seamstress, did all the sewing for the family, using (dyed) sugar and flour bags for much of the material. There were good times as well as bad. Neighbours got together for house parties, with music and dancing. William played the violin and Jennie the organ.

The family were always afraid of cyclones, which came up unexpectedly. They took shelter in the cellar.

William and Jennie and family of eight emmigrated to Saskatchewan, Canada, in February, 1918, arriving in Denholm, Saskatchewan, where there was no hotel. A kind family in Denholm put them up for the night. Next day, they travelled to Richard, Saskatchewan, by train staying in the hotel there for a week while waiting for their cattle, horses, machinery and household effects to arrive.

All nieces and nephews of Bill Parent



William Parent family (l-r) Back — Eugene, Edna, Mabel, Guy, Marie, Lucille, Vivianne Front — Bertrand, Jennie (mother), William (father), Yvette, Harvey (missing — Walter Parent).

They moved to the W. J. Davis farm, one and a quarter miles north of Lilac Village. Here was born Harvey Lawrence. The children walked three and one-half miles to school in summer and drove by team and bob sled in winter. They sold the farm there and moved to the Sam Sample Ranch (near Goose Lake) where they stayed till 1926. Barney was the school pony, having faithfully served three families in this way. He was terrified of cars, rearing up and breaking shafts often.

They stayed until 1935, moving then to Vermilion, Alberta for one year and back to the Sample Ranch where Bertrand Lloyd (died in infancy) Yvette Marguerete, Bertrand Joseph, and Edith Rose (died in infancy) were born. They moved to J. Sharpe farm, (NW 16-43-13-W3rd) four miles north of Lilac, where a home was built and they farmed there till 1946. They retired to North Battleford.

In 1956, a niece of Bill Parent celebrated her Silver Jubilee as a religious nun. Her name was Sister Publola. At her Jubilee were two priests and eighteen other Sisters all of whom were nephews and nieces of Bill Parent and cousins to the Parent children. All of the twenty-nine were serving in Canada or the United States.

William Parent passed away in 1968. Jennie Parent, now ninety-seven years of age (1979) resides in River Heights Lodge, North Battleford, since 1976.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. William Parent:

Walter Parent, eldest of the family, passed away in February, 1979. He was married to Frieda Holmes. They had two sons.

William Eugene, married to Leona Burgerian; 7 children.

Edna Catherine, married to Les Rowley, Battleford; 3 children.

Mabel Anna Clifford, a widow in North Battleford; 2 children.

Guy Archer, married Kay Nanson, North Battleford; 6 children.

Marie Agnes, married Wert Reid, North Battleford; 4 children.

Lucille Martha, married Bob Wright, then Glen Nelson; 5 children.

Vivienne Margaret, married Gordon Munger, North Battleford; 4 children.

Harvey Lawrence, married Jean Degenstein, Stettler, Alta., 3 children.

Bertrand Lloyd, died in infancy.

Yvette Marguerete, married Jim Barbour, Winnipeg, Manitoba, 4 children.

Edith Rose, died in infancy.

Bertrand Joseph, married Jean Radelnik, North Battleford; 2 children.

William and Jennie Parent: 13 children (2 died in infancy), 41 grandchildren, 85 great-grandchildren, 2 great-great-grandchildren.

The William G. Parker Family

In 1904 a covered wagon arrived bringing a family to their homestead on the Southwest quarter of Section 18, Township 43, Range 12 in what was the North West Territories.

William Parker family — early 1900's. Standing — Olive, Percy, Eva. Seated — William Parker, Laura Elizabeth Parker.

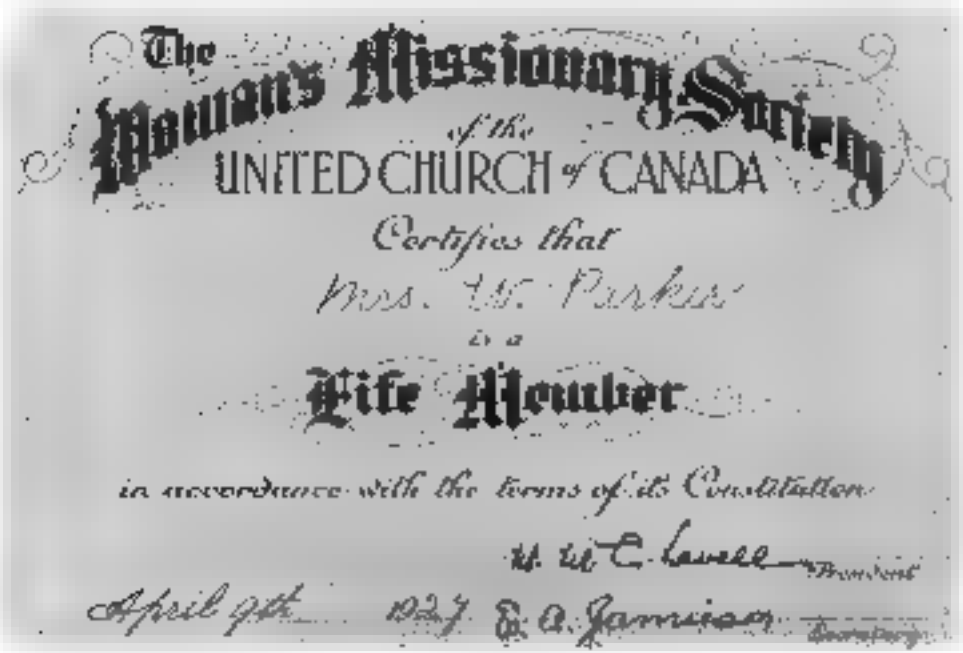
This was the family of William Gibson Parker, born in Durham County, England in February, 1871, and his wife Elizabeth Duncan (Hird) Parker, born in Arbroath, Scotland in February, 1881, and their four children, ten year old Percy Valentine, eight year old Mary Olive, Millicent Francis Eva six years old, and Laura Elizabeth four years.

Bill and Lizzie Parker came first to Manitoba from the old country. Here their four children were born, Percy in Winnipeg and girls at Rosendale. Bill's brother Jack Parker had come out in 1902 and at that time one could obtain a homestead by proxy, so Jack filed for a homestead for Bill and in 1904 it was on this 160 acres of virgin soil the family came. They came as far as Saskatoon by rail, but since the railroad had not come any further as yet they made the rest of the trip by horse and wagon.

There was no home of any kind for them to come to so they stayed in a little sod shack owned by Mr. Billie Dawson who's homestead was kitty-corner to theirs. Billie Dawson had been away fighting in the Boer War and was then working on the railroad to get himself established. This was their home until Bill Parker built a small log house. A frame addition was later added making a more comfortable home.

Some of the people here when the Parker family first came were Mr. William Andrew, Sr., Mr. Mantill who was a Presbyterian minister, and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Williams.

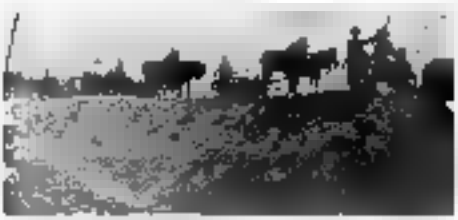
In 1905 three important events took place which



The Women's Missionary Society
of the
UNITED CHURCH of CANADA
Certifies that
Mrs. W. Parker
is a
Life Member
in accordance with the terms of its Constitution
W. W. C. Lowe — President
April 9th 1927 E. A. Jamieson — Secretary

Life Membership in W.M.S.

were to shape the future of these brave people. First, the railroad went through the area, and their daughter Eva many years later, recalled how people came for miles just to see the first train go through. What a wonderful link to the outside world for these early pioneers. Secondly, the Province of Saskatchewan came into being and thirdly, a school district was formed. There was a growing population in the area and the people decided they should have a school, so in 1905 the Grey School District No. 1256 was founded. Bill Parker donated two acres of this homestead quarter to the district for a school and schoolyard. On November 1st, of that year Grey School opened with Miss Annie Ardley (Mrs. A. C. Erskine) as teacher. Laura Parker started school when she was five years old so to make up enough pupils enrolled to open the school. The first school board consisted of Mr. Bill Parker, who was also Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. William Andrew, and Mr. J. R. Rogers.



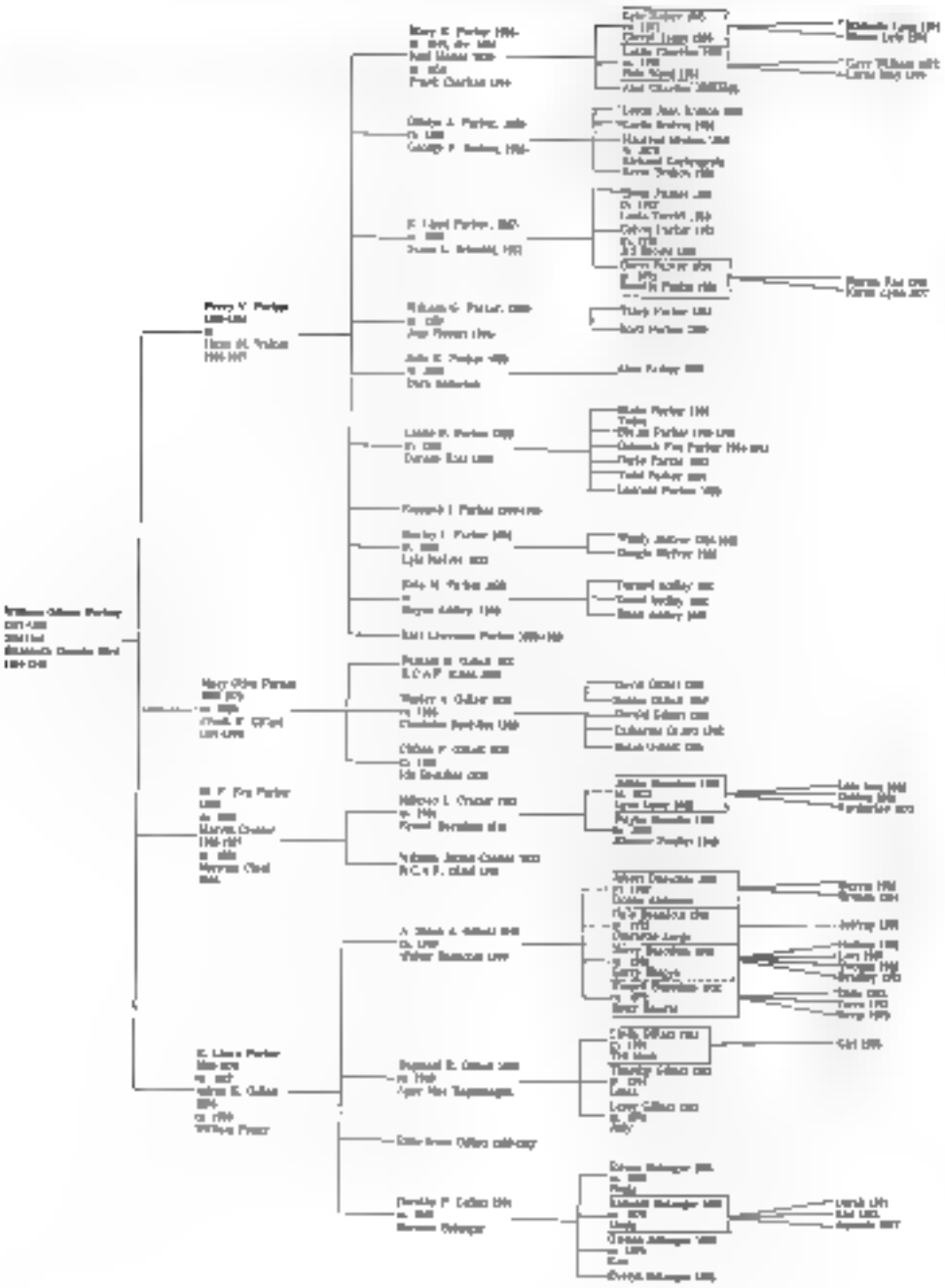
Building roads with wheel scrapers in the early 1900's.

The four children took their early schooling there. Later Percy, Olive and Eva went to the Collegiate and Normal School in North Battleford and graduated as teachers. It was shortly after this the Normal School was moved to Saskatoon.

The Honorable George Langley who was M.L.A. at that time asked Bill Parker if he would take the job as supervisor of road construction, as for several years he worked "on the road". Under his supervision roads were built north of Richard, in the Redditon area, down at the Saskatchewan River where the Floodup bridge now stands, and also further south.

It was while he was busy working on the road and the older children were in school in North Battleford, that their house burned down. Everything was lost including a lovely piano. This was a terrible blow to the family.

Bill Parker was one of the settlers who assisted in building the first Presbyterian Church. It stood on the lot east of what is now the Memorial Hall. In 1908 Bill Parker was "elected, ordained and inducted as an Elder in the Church."



He was on the Grey School board for many years. He helped organize and was a Charter Member and County Master of the Maymont Orange Lodge, an organization which was very active at that time. In 1914 owing to a lack of suitable meeting places the Orangemen built a hall which was used extensively for many years. Lizzie Parker was an active member of the Women's Missionary Society for many years and was presented with a life membership in the organization in 1957.

During the flu epidemic of 1918, Dr. Scratch often called on Lizzie Parker for help. He would call her to a home where the whole family was ill and she would go wherever she was needed. For some miraculous reason she did not catch the flu herself.

She was a great cook and her Scotch Shortbread was famous. She would never use butter with salt, when she churned she always set aside some butter unsalted for Shortbread. The dough was carefully worked, and divided in large round patties. When served she cut them in pie-shaped wedges.

Some of their close friends were Mr. and Mrs. Irvine Mr. and Mrs. Jim Pickett of Richard and Mr. and Mrs. F. Butterfield.

Bill Parker died in May, 1929 at the age of 68 years. Lizzie continued to live on the farm with her son Percy and died November, 1948 in her 86th year.

Percy Parker Family

Percy Parker was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba on December 31, 1898. He came to the North West Territories in 1904 with his parents and sisters. From Saskatoon they travelled with the George Walton family who were also coming to their homestead. During the long ride from Saskatoon he helped to amuse the youngest member of the Walton family at that time, a baby girl called Hazel. That little girl several years later became his wife and he often teased her after they were married of how he had held her on his knee and helped take care of her during the journey.

Percy attended Grey School, North Saskatchewan Collegiate and Normal School and became a teacher. In 1918 he taught at Bluebird School which was East of the Village of Mayfair. He boarded with the Lafreniere family. A terrible diphtheria epidemic swept through the area and several children died. One German resident of the district lost a child and when a neighbour sympathized he said, "Well, we are sorry, but it was one less mouth to feed!" Times were very hard then, no money, no conveniences and people worked very, very hard to keep food on the table and clothing on their backs.

In 1923 he married Hazel Maud Walton who was born in Manitoba on February 27, 1904. They lived on the farm 3 miles North and 1 mile East of Maymont with his parents. Ten children were born to them. Mary, Gladys, Lloyd, Bill, John, Leslie, Kenneth, Shirley Hats and Earl. Kenneth and Earl died in infancy.

Kenneth died in 1934 with spinal meningitis. At that time the disease was thought to be very contagious so the whole family was quarantined. Dr. Scratch would not allow the funeral to be held indoors so it was held in the fairground. This must have been a terrible time for the family as Hazel was still in bed recovering from the birth of a little daughter. The cost of that funeral was $25.00. Earl died when he was four years old in 1940.

Percy was a member of the Orange Lodge along with his father. The Orangemen held picnics on the 12th of July. The fun would begin with Orangemen parading down the street to the picnic grounds. The ladies would have packed huge baskets of sandwiches, cakes and lots of other goodies and everyone had a picnic supper. There were big events in the community and large crowds attended.

Percy and Hazel were both students at Grey School and all their family went to school there. At one time or another Percy was a student, teacher, trustee and caretaker of the school. He was always willing to lend a hand with anything that had to be done at the school. He always helped put the stage up and the trestles in for seating for the Christmas Concerts. Hazel was a quiet home-loving person and took great pleasure in her children. She went out very little but always enjoyed visits from neighbours and friends. She especially enjoyed meeting each new teacher as they came to Grey School and was always happy to make a cup of tea and have a visit with them. She made coffee at her home for years for various entertainment at the school as there were no facilities there. If one of the children from the school forgot to bring their lunch they simply came over to Parkers and had their dinner there.

The depression years were very hard on everyone. They worked long hours under difficult circumstances with no reward whatsoever. Percy and Hazel seldom got to Church until later years when Mr. Myers began holding services in Grey School, then they both attended regularly. Percy later became a member of the Maymont United Church Board and was also an Elder.

Percy and Hazel Parker – married July 2nd, 1923.

Lloyd and Grace Parker family. L. to r. — Cal, Elwin and Linda, Grace and Lloyd, Annette and Darryl — 1978

Hazel died at the age of 43 years in 1967. Percy shortly after left the farm and retired to Maymont. He enjoyed his family and visited them often. He died following a heart attack on September 13, 1981 at 88 years of age.

The Lloyd Parker Story

as told by Lloyd Parker

I will endeavor to tell some of the story of ELWIN LLOYD PARKER, born the third child and first son of Mrs. Hazel Maud Parker (nee Walton) and Mr. Percy Valentine Parker, of then Maymont, Saskatchewan.

I was born on June 24th, 1927 in Maymont. In the years to follow I lived at home with three other brothers and four sisters where we all lived and all are married with growing-up families.

In my childhood days, things were much different than they are today. Money was something some people had but our family were always short of, although our family was rich with love, and admiration of our elders.

There was no elaborate social life, no travelling, no drinking and lots of respect. We had a battery-operated radio but T.V. — they weren't invented yet. We had kerosene lamps, and a wood stove. But we did have our own ball diamond; we used to go horseback riding, sleigh riding, etc. We trapped gophers in the summer and snared Jack rabbits in the winter. Our only swimming pool was a slough that filled with water in the spring when the snow melted. It used dry in July.

In the winter we went to school, helped with work around the farm and played 'Shinney'. Shinney was a game like hockey played on hard-packed snow, a small field approx. 40 X 80 ft. We used wooden pucks and curved sticks cut from willow trees with no axe and hewed to your own fancy. We played this game nearly every night (for two or three years) and usually had a game Saturday or Sunday also. Everyone played, I, my three brothers, some sisters, my Dad and Bill Penny. Every night we would be playing Shinney, it would get near 6 o'clock and Auntie Laura would phone up, "Tell that Bill Penny to get home for supper!" Walter Beaudoin was a wicked Shinney player. He spent some of the game riding on Dad's back. Dad always played goal (and on his knees).

Now I lived there on the old farm until 1950 when I married Grace Lillian Schmidt, eldest daughter of Mrs. Ruth Schmidt (nee Ruth Barratt) and Mr. Roy Schmidt of Maymont, Saskatchewan.

After being married July 15, 1950 we lived for a short time at the Roy Schmidt farm, then moved to live in a rented house in the Village of Maymont. Then was in the fall of 1950, we rented a house from Arthur Malman for part of a year. Then we lived in several other houses in Maymont.

I began working in a General Motors Garage in January, 1951 where I stayed and worked for 7½ years. During that time we had the pleasure of having three sons of whom we are especially proud.

Our first son, Elwin Keith was born January 14, 1951; our second son Calvin Lynn was born April 15, 1953; and our third son Daryl was born July 1, 1954.

At this time while the boys were going to school, and playing hockey and growing up, we had bought and were running a Service Station in Maymont. The Texaco Woods Service Station and Bulk Dist dealership (it was called "Lloyd's North Star Service"). Grace and I worked and run our business from 1950 to 1960. 10 years in business and many long hours, as the business had to be looked after as well as three boys to raise and a home to keep together.

While running the Service Station and with all the long hours and the poor economy in our area in 1960, we had to give up our business, as we were finally forced out. We closed up our business in April, 1960 and the changes that took place following were enormous, adventurous, and heart breaking. Grace and I had many exciting moments in Maymont, while the boys were playing hockey, at which they were all good skaters, also good ball players and all other activities. Each of the boys sang in the choir as they got old enough. Both Grace and I were members of Sharon United Church in Maymont of which I was an usher for many years. I was a member of the Board of Trade, a village council man for some time and for a period of time I was Village Overseer. I was also the Fire Chief as well as being Secretary for the Maymont and Community Sports Centre.

Now all the Joys and Tribulations of living in Maymont, Saskatchewan came to an end on June 28, 1960 as Grace and I and sons left there and moved to Surrey, British Columbia.

One of the hardest things in our married life was to leave the place where we were all born. Grace and I, Elwin, Calvin and Daryl — we were all born, right there at Maymont or North Battleford. The agony of leaving the old home and searching for a new one, was the toughest thing we had ever undertaken in our lives up to that time.

On July 9, 1960, I got a job as a General Motors Garage in New Westminster, B.C. called Westminster

Chev-Olds Ltd. We lived for one month with Mr. and Mrs. Roy Schmidt, then bought a house in the Municipality of Surrey, B.C.

After the first three years it took the boys to finish school, we also became climatized, then soon, one by one, our sons began to get work and soon everyone became self-supporting, taking some of the load off Grace and I.

When we first moved to B.C., Cal and Daryl came, but Elwin remained in Maymont for a few years but then later joined us in B.C.

We now have three sons, three daughters-in-law, and to date, two grandchildren. Elwin married Linda Turrill. Calvin married Jill Brown, and Daryl married Annette Poulin. Daryl and Annette have two children, Martin Rae Parker, four years old in April of 1979 and Karen Lynn will be two years old in October, 1979.

We are very proud of our sons and daughter-in-laws and especially proud of our two grandchildren, Marty and Karen.

I am also especially proud of my wife, Grace, as we have shared many happy hours together, also our share of trouble and hardships and this July 18th we will mark our 39th wedding anniversary.

It is a nice springtime (May 16, 1979). We have our garden all planted and have many flowers in the yard. The winter is much shorter in B.C. especially here at the coast. We have very little snow, lots of fog and rain in the winter time. The climate is not extreme, like in Saskatchewan. There is a lot of rain, but the ground seems like a sieve and the water just disappears (quite fast).

Now everyone is in fairly good health and all are working, as of May 16, 1979.

Thomas Patterson (Ruddell 1979)

by Elizabeth (Patterson) Wood

Tom Patterson came from Belfast, Ireland some sixty years ago with Sam Semple, Dave Alexander, and Tommy Caldwell, all three now deceased. He stayed with the Semples for some time, then started working for William John Davis and Harry Welford. Shortly after he started farming on his own in the Lilac District.

In 1923 he married Dora Skinner of Lilac who came out with her family as a small girl with the Barr Colonists from England. They raised a family of three: George of Lilac, Elizabeth (Mrs. Hollie Wood) of Ruddell, and Robert of Maymont. To date they have seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. In 1966 they retired from Lilac and moved into Ruddell where they still reside.

In the early days Tom was a community veterinarian. He was sometimes called during the night to attend a sick animal.

He had many hardships during his farming days, what with the depression in the early thirties and losing cattle and horses. One time he lost five horses in the spring when the horses lifted the lid of the seeder box and ate treated wheat. Thanks were given to his kind neighbors who lent him their horses so he could get his crop in.

He was a true member of the Masonic Lodge and this year (1979) he received his sixty-year pin for being a loyal member.

Now at ninety-four years of age he still likes to get

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Patterson of Ruddell.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Patterson's first home at Lilac of "Uncle Tom's Cabin".

out and work around in his garden. He enjoyed his days as a farmer and can see many changes in the way farming is done today from when he first started, but with all the changes he still says back then, those were the "Good Old Days."

Robert and Thelma Patterson

told by Thelma (Rogers) Patterson

I, Thelma Irene (Rogers) Paterson am the eldest child of Oliver and May Rogers. I have one brother, Dean Oliver Rogers, who is 3½ years younger than myself. We attended Grey School for our elementary grades. The school was in walking distance of our farm. All our school mates were relatives and the school days at Grey School are looked back upon with fond memories. Dean and myself attended school in Maymont for several years. With our trusty pony, Ginger, we managed to travel to school by buggy and cutter. Dean and I decided to discontinue our education and help on the farm.

It was our job to bring in the cows for milking and

Thelma and Robert's 35th wedding anniversary, June 18, 1978. L. to r. — Heather, Brenda, Marion, Patricia, Thomas, Thelma and Robert.

to gather the eggs, a job which neither of us enjoyed. Every Saturday the family went to town with the eggs and butter which Mom had churned. Allan and Sally Dean bought our eggs and butter which helped to buy the other groceries we needed.

After keeping company with a handsome young farmer from Lilac for 5½ years, I became the bride of Robert Patterson on June 18 1953. Our wedding was held on a Wednesday afternoon in Sharon United Church with Rev. Frank Myers officiating. The reception was held at my parents farm and a dance followed in the Rudsell Hall. We made our first home on a farm called Sunshine Hill three miles east of Lilac. We had a three roomed honeymoon cottage which lacked plumbing, electricity and a telephone. We had poultry, cattle and pigs along with our grain which kept us busy.

Our first baby, Marion Dora, arrived in May 1954. She was followed by two sisters Heather Irene, in November 1957 and Brenda Lee in September 1960. In January of 1961 our only son, Thomas Roger was born. Many times the happy memories of our children — now that most of them have left home — fill our quiet evenings.

We farmed at Lilac for nine years and then moved to my parents farm. The farewell party that our Lilac neighbors gave us is a happy memory to us yet. With Marion in grade three and Heather about to start school we were anxious to have our children attend the larger school in Maymont. At that time there was no bus route so when my parents decided to retire Robert and I bought their farm in July 1962 we moved back to my childhood home with our four small children.

In May 1967 our youngest child Patricia Lynne, was born. She is the only girl at home and she keeps us busy taking her to her music lessons and church group meetings. Marion graduated from high school and then went on to take a Food Service Management Technology course at Kelsey Institute in Saskatoon. After completing her course Marion became the Supervisor of the cafeteria in Regina. Marion has a wedding date set for June 30, 1979 when she will become the bride of William Smith of Cupar. Heather graduated from high school in 1973 and became a cashier in the UK Economy Store in North Battleford. On November 15 1975 Heather married Dennis Prescesky. They live eight miles west of us on their farm. In February 1979 their first child, Leon Dwayne, was born. Brenda graduated from high school in 1977. She married a farmer, Charles Horrell of the Shoal Hope District, and lives 14 miles north of Denholm. Brenda worked for Bill Pelech Food Services and for UK Economy in North Battleford. In November 1978, our first grandchild, Beverly Dawn was born to Brenda and Charles.

Tom is still at home but is employed at Kindersley Transport in North Battleford. He plans to take up farming at a later date but thought it best to try the working world for a while.

Since the children have left home, I have taken up several new hobbies including ceramics and Ukrainian embroidery. Robert and I have always lived a quiet life and enjoy entertaining family and friends. Our door is always open for those who care to pop in for a friendly chat and a cup of tea.

Mrs. Earl Pattison nee Muriel Brehon

Muriel Margaret Brehon, elder daughter of Alec and Anna Brehon, was born at the farm home. Jack Langley often told her how her father came to tell them about this daughter after having two sons. He told she was always going to be dressed in blue, his favorite color.

One day Muriel decided to go to her Dad who was ploughing on the homestead. Unfortunately she picked out another farmer on the northeast quarter. When she was missed, her mother ran through the trees, around the yard looking for her. The pegs were pulled from her long hair and great bunches left hanging on the branches. Then Mrs. Brehon decided to go to her husband. Just as she got nearly there, she remembered the big water trough so turned around and ran home to watch it. Alec had seen her, so took the plough out of the ground and trotted the team home. They found the small tracks to the north east and found Muriel in a slough, with reeds and grass over her head, waiting to be rescued.

Muriel took grades 1-10 at Keystone and 11 and 12 at Maymont. Muriel loved the outdoors and sports. She helped get points for the two small trophies that Keystone school won at Field Days. Many were the good games of ball that used to ensue at school and on Sundays. Hide and go seek was another favorite with everyone taking part. When the geese moved south in winter, it did so to the detriment of their mother's usually clean house. Conversation still remembers the time at Roy Schmidt's when her mother hid Barnaby in a big milk pail and hung it up on the kitchen wall. That holding place had everyone looked for some time. Our

mother spent a lot of time with us playing games and doing exercises. She was able to bend over and put her hands flat on the floor while the rest of us couldn't even touch the floor with our fingertips. Our parents encouraged us to read which helped pass the long winter nights on the farm.

When growing up we got 1¢ an egg for crow's eggs so after school Cobies, Dick and I would be off to bust them down. Because I was the lightest, I had to climb the slender poplars. In the process, my dress was often torn and always covered with the white off the trees. My brothers made sure they let me off at the house first to get the scolding from our mother while they put the horse away. One time when playing football, unfortunately Muriel got there first. A boy, who wore boots with steel toes, kicked her foot. When she complained at home her Dad said "If you weren't such a tomboy you wouldn't get hurt". Gone were her Dad's illusions of a daughter who was a lady!

Muriel went on to become a teacher. She taught at Harringay, near Ruddell and at Grey School where her mother had been the first teacher. Here she taught children of those whom her mother had taught. Unfortunately her career was rather checkered because, like her Dad, she developed tuberculosis and had three sessions in the Saskatoon Sanitorium. In 1954 she married Rev. Earl Pattison. They have a family of two — Sheila, Mrs. John Nixon of Battleford and Don, also of Battleford. Earl and Muriel are moving to Kindersley on July 1, 1979 after seventeen years in the Battleford charge.

Walter on homemade stilts.

The Pauls

written by Jessie Pauls

We came from two different places. Henry immigrated from Russia into Canada in 1926, and I was never out of Canada. I was born on the southern part of Saskatchewan, north of Rush Lake, on my father's homestead.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Pauls were married at Lucky Lake, Saskatchewan on January 5, 1941. We lived our first years of married life in the irrigation country of Alberta for awhile. Then came to Maymont in the fall of 1942. We lived that winter in the house that Dave Penners lived in for years.

In the spring we moved into the house Pete Nakiski later bought. Mr. Penner had this land rented and we lived there 1943-1944-1945. In the spring of 1946 we moved to the Malcolm McNaughton farm. Henry worked for Mr. McNaughton that year. We lived on McNaughtons 1946 summer and 1947 winter. In the spring of 1947 we moved to Speers and lived on the Ripp farm one summer and winter 1947-48. That was a long winter and lots of snow and spring came late in April 1948.

In the spring of 1948 we again moved back to the McNaughton farm. We had bought the N.E. quarter of 1-43-12-W3. We bought one quarter and Dave Penner

Henry and Jessie Pauls, Fred and John — 1948 or so.

bought the quarter west of ours which Dave Penner sold later to Jesse Wood. We built our home on our quarter in 1948 and in 1949 we moved in. We moved on a beautiful sunny, spring day in March.

By this time we already had 5 children. At last our moving days were over! But we moved one more time to the Charlie Neumeyer farm, but that was a mistake.

Our children mostly went to Keystone School, a short while in Fielding School. Esther, our youngest daughter went by school bus to Maymont. Some of the teachers were Lilah Brahon, Mrs. Meyers, Mr. Donegher, Mr. Brown, Mrs. McCready, Elizabeth LeGallais, and some of the teachers in the Maymont School were Miss Waters, Mrs. Howes, Mr. Sloan.

We raised seven children. Four of our children were born in a hospital. The three that were not in hospital were one born on a farm just south and west of Maymont, with a Mrs. Melrose who took in ladies and their new babies and Dr. Scratch attending, the second one was born in Pete Naklicki's farm home with a Doctor from Borden attending, the third one in Fielding at Mrs. Harnett's home and Dr. Scratch attending. The time at Mrs. Melrowes at Maymont. Doctor Scratch had just left her place for town. She had to phone him and tell him to come right back with his little black bag.

Our closest hospitals were North Battleford, Watrous, or Borden. In many cases Borden was without a Doctor.

We did not belong to any organizations, or clubs. We mainly visited our neighbours. Church do's in our homes, Whist Drives at the country school and Christmas concerts at the school, and some very good concerts were put on by the few pupils the country schools had. My children had no baby-sitters; I looked after my own.

In the summertime, Henry worked out and I cared for my children and home chores. When we lived on the Pete Naklicki farm we had a chimney fire. Henry was away working, I took my children out of the house, lucky it was summer time. The baby was only a few months old in a blanket. I laid him down away from the house. The other one already walking, I took him up the road a short distance and told him to stay there. I ran as fast as I could to Penners, told him of the fire, then ran back to my children. The fire was put out and nothing burned down.

We always thought it could not hail at our little farm, all around us people got hail now and then, never us. One Sunday we went to church. As we were coming home we saw the white cloud. One mile from home we noticed it had hailed. The hail stones were the size of a quarter, sharp and rough. This was early August in 1974. My tomatoes were mostly spoiled that year. Some people got drenched that day as they went motorcycle riding and were caught in the storm. One of them ran in the bush under cover of the hailstones. But all three were wet, I gave them dry clothes to go home with.

We still have Christmas at the farm just about every year just like old times.

In 1976 we really retired. We gave our little farm to our son, Walter, the "Ever". who owns it now. If I had not been able to get spouses allowance, with just one old age pension, we could not have gone to live in low rentals in Radisson.

Joseph Henry Peden

Joseph Henry Peden was born in Listowel, Ontario on September 7, 1875. In 1878 he moved with his parents to Balmoral, Manitoba. Here he spent his childhood and teen-age years with a short time spent working in northern Manitoba at various jobs including surveying and logging. After a short stint at farming near his father's farm at Balmoral, he decided to head west to greener pastures.

The area that caught his eye was a piece of land with gently rolling hills and sloughs surrounded by willows after filing for his homestead, N.W. 22-41-12 W3rd in 1903, he returned to Balmoral to collect his settler's effects.

In 1904, he arrived in Saskatoon by rail from Winnipeg, then loaded his belongings on a wagon and finished the last sixty miles by wagon train.

The first sign of life on the homestead, other than the gophers, was the erection of a sod barn for his horses. The initial homestead year was busily spent

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Peden, July 28th, 1910.

getting things in order — this included many long trips to Saskatoon for additional supplies.

The scenery changed a little in 1905 with the arrival of the railway. As well as homesteading chores, Mr. Peden worked on the railway grade that ran across the northern part of his land. The town of Maymont was established at this time.

Now all was in readiness and he decided the farm needed a lady's touch. In Balmoral, Manitoba on July 20, 1910 he married Ellen Irvine Scott, whom he had known all his life. The same year they returned to the Maymont homestead.

On May 15, 1911, their first child Edwin was born — now of Wetaskiwin, Alberta. A second son, Elwood died in infancy.

Wilbur was born August 3, 1916 and is presently farming on the original homestead.

Irvine, now in Calgary, was born June 15, 1917.

So there were many changes on the homestead over the years. Mrs. Peden was a member of the Ladies' Aid and enjoyed sewing in her spare time. She passed away June 2, 1966.

Mr. Peden was a member of the Wheat Pool and director of the local Telephone Co. After retiring from farming, he kept busy as he was an avid gardener. Following a lengthy illness, he passed away on May 3, 1968 this ending 60 years of history in the Maymont area.

Wilbur Peden

Wilbur Peden continues to farm on the land that his father, Joseph Henry Peden settled in 1903, 2½ miles south east from the town of Maymont.

On August 3, 1951, he married Wanda Naklicki of Spears. They have a family of three children, a daughter, Patricia Ann born August 2, 1953. Pat is a Registered Nurse and has been employed in various parts of British Columbia. Thomas Elwood was born on January 25, 1954. Tom is presently employed with Mr. Wayne Acuster of Ruddell, and Randy William was born on June 27, 1961. Randy will be graduating from High school this year. 1979

The family are members of Sharon United Church, having attended church and taken part in its many activities. They also took an active part in 4-H for many years and also sports.

The family have enjoyed living on this farm, at this location, as there were never quiet or dull moments. The reason is the close proximity to the Canadian National Railway and what used to be the old gravel No. 5 highway that ran on the "square". In the mid 1950's it was reconstructed to run along the railway tracks and was paved. At present it is called the "Yellow Head Route", Highway No. 16, again it is being reconstructed and widened to accomodate today's heavy traffic. Also gone are the days when the family would run out to watch the huge steam locomotives with their great billows of smoke putting skywards on

Wilbur and Wanda Peden — wedding day, Aug. 2nd, 1951

Randy, Pat and Tom Peden — 1971.

a cold winter's day or watch the passenger train in the evening with its shrill whistle.

Be it the old steam engine or today's modern diesel, it's still nice to hear the engineer whistle or toot to say a friendly "Hello" as they go by.

Edwin Peden Family

I, Edwin John Peden, was born May 15, 1901, eldest child of Mr and Mrs. Joseph H. Peden. Dr. J. A. Scratch attended at the birth, which took place on the couple's homestead. I was baptized in the Presbyterian Church by Rev. J. M. Fisher. My first school teacher was Miss Mary Carter, now Mrs. Wilfred Langley. In my first years at school classes were held in different locations — the old school consisted of two rooms — classes were held in the basement of the church -- and the new three roomed school was opened in 1925. My grandparents Mr. and Mrs. John Scott lived in Maymont at this time and I stayed with them while attending school.

I had completed Grade X in 1922 and at this time my father purchased a new 15-30 McCormack Deering tractor, Three furrow plough, a packer and five barrels of gasoline for $1,365 and I was given the job to farm with this outfit.

I spent the winters of the 1920's in logging camps at Prairie River, Sask. and at National Mills in Manitoba. Our neighbor, Joe Pano, went with me for several winters. When there was little crop to harvest at home I would go to Alberta to work. I started farming for myself in 1933 on S.E. of 29-41-12.

Ed Peden family — l. to r. — Grant, Ronald, Mary, Kathleen, Edwin.

On November 15, 1940 I married Mary Steele. We were married on the John Robb farm, where her parents lived, by Rev. Frank Myers.

We had a family of three. Grant born January 20, 1942 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Andrew, Ronald on August 25, 1944 at the home of Mrs. Nan Melrose and Kathleen on July 13, 1948 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alex Garratt, Fielding Dr. J. A. Scratch attended at all three births, Kathleen being one of his last maternity cases.

All three received their education at Maymont school, they all had Miss Audrey Page and Mr. J. N. Armstrong for teachers. They were among the last children to drive a horse and buggy to school.

Times were hard in our early years of marriage, but it was a busy and rewarding life. One incident which caused considerable interest was in 1951 when an oil well was drilled on our farm, people came for miles to see it. I served on the municipal council, rural telephone Co., Chairman of the school board, during which time the present school was built, member of Home and School, assistant leader of 4-H Grain Club. Mary helped with Mission Band, was a member of the W.M.S. and U.C.W.

Our children were all baptized and confirmed by Rev. Frank Myers. All were members of United Church choir under the leadership of Mr. J. Armstrong. Grant and Ronald were members of the Mayfield 4-H Grain Club and attended Farm Boys Camp at North Battleford, Saskatoon and Regina Exhibitions. Kathleen was a member of C.G.I.T., 4-H club and the Figure Skating Club.

I became agent of the Searle Grain Co. in 1950. We moved into the Searle house in town and still farmed until Ronald finished grade XII. We then rented the farm to Dennis Van Der Hagen later selling it to John Beseco.

When Grant completed Grade XII he went to Alberta to the Innisfail area where he and his wife Marilyn now live. At present he is a heavy duty mechanic with Peter Kiewit & Sons Construction.

Ronald and his wife Leona live in Baron Lake, B.C. where he is employed by Pacific Western Gas Co. as a welder. They have three children Rhonda, Lesley and Richard James.

Tragedy struck our home August 28, 1965 when we lost Kathleen in a highway accident.

We moved to Weyburn July 1, 1966 where I was employed by a machinery and auto Co., Mary worked in a Variety Store until we retired, June 1, 1976. We are enjoying our retirement — keeping active. I am a member of Session of First United and A.O.T.S. Club, a member of Masonic Lodge. Mary is a member of Weyburn Horticultural Society and U.C.W. of First United.

We are most thankful to have had the privilege of living and raising our family in the Maymont area, the memories of those years are the most precious of our lives.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Penner

told by Dave

I, Dave Penner, came from Russia to Canada in May of 1930. I came to the Mayfield Municipality and stayed with Katies' uncle, Corny Hiebert, for three weeks; after that I got a job with George Haller working on his farm. I worked for twenty-five dollars a month in the summer and in the winter I got five dollars a month.

In the spring of 1933 I met Katie Redknapp. Her parents migrated from Ileana in the year of 1925 and farmed in the Keystone School district where Katie went to school. She had to walk two and one half miles to school every day. Miss Louis was her teacher at that time. In the harvest time Katie and her brother got five cents an acre for stooking. In November of 1932 Katie and I got married. The first year we stayed with her mom and dad and helped on the farm.

After that I worked for Jack McNaughton at Fielding on the farm for one year. I rented old Tommy Meena's farm for a few years. In 1943 we bought Johnny Meena's farm where we stayed until 1974.

We have two daughters and one son, Erica, Hilda, and Henry who all attended Keystone School. Our family doctor was the traveller Doctor Scratch.

In 1954 Erica married Joe St. Denis. They had a son, David, and one daughter, Cathy. Erica's husband was a painter. One day in late July of 1956 while painting he fell off a roof and shortly after he died in the hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Penner and family

In 1963 she married Les Baker who is a purchasing agent for a Chemical Plant in Saskatoon. They have one daughter, Cindy.

Hilda, our other daughter, married Erwin Hamp from Radisson where they are farming. They have three sons Lyndon, Darren, Jason and are presently attending school in Radisson.

Our son Henry married Patricia Antonuk from Saskatoon. They now live in Medicine Hat, Alberta where Henry is a superintendent at a Fertilizer Plant. They have two sons and two daughters; Cory, Julie, Christopher and Karen. They all attend school at Medicine Hat.

Katie and I sold the farm in 1974 and are retired. We bought a house here in Saskatoon where we live now.

The photograph included was taken at our forty-fifth wedding anniversary.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Petty (Nee Vera Cooper)

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Petty live at Paynton, Saskatchewan. What is so special about that, is that Mrs. Petty is the former Vera Cooper, who was Calais School's first teacher in 1916. 'A lot of water had gone under the bridge' for Mrs. Petty since then.

Mr. Petty came to Paynton in 1906 with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Petty and he had resided in this and the Breastyler Area ever since.

Vera Cooper came to Paynton to teach in 1918. She stayed two years then returned to Saskatoon to further her education, returning to Paynton as a bride after she married Hugh Petty at Delisle on June 22, 1929.

The couple have two daughters Barbara, Mrs. Jim Haines, of Unity and Margaret, Mrs. Dick Wilkins of Edmonton. They lived on the Petty farm for twelve years then moved to Breastyler where they owned and operated Petty's General Store for about eighteen years, this also included the telephone switch board, lunch counter and garage. Vera also taught school wherever her services were needed.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Petty have been active members of Christ Church Anglican at Paynton for many years. Vera has been organist, choir leader and continues to be deeply involved in all levels of Women's Institute work. She especially loves singing and organizes others to sing at W.I. Conferences. She has travelled to Australia, Scotland, Norway and throughout Canada in her various offices within W.I. work. Vera also has become a member of Saskatchewan's Embroidery Guild in a branch of the guild near North Battleford.

Mr. Petty, not to be outdone by his energetic wife had the honor of being the oldest practicing electrician in the province, this before he retired.

Mr. and Mrs. Petty celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary in June this year, 1979. They are well and enjoying their eight grandchildren and their retirement.

My First School

Submitted by Vera (Cooper) Petty — First Calais School Teacher)

The first week in July, 1916, sixty-three years ago I started out on my teaching career at Calais School about three miles east of Fielding. I boarded at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Colton about one-quarter of a mile south of the school. They had two pre-school children, Freddy and Edith, if I remember correctly.

My enrolment was small and because of it the children had individual attention and so were able to progress quickly. We had a happy time together.

I used to love to play ball with them. The day the Inspector (Superintendent in modern language) came, he walked over to where we were playing and said, "Where will I find the teacher?" Imagine his surprise when a little girl (I was smaller than than I am now) with her hair falling down (I had a terrible time keeping hair pins in it) said, "I'm the teacher". I do remember he gave me a very good report.

I wonder if any of the children that were at the school remember the Red Cross Hospital we built, complete with tiny dolls for wounded soldiers, little beds we made, etc. Then how a dog was left in the school one Friday night and completely ruined the whole project. When we arrived on Monday morning and saw the devastation everyone cried -- even the teacher.

When I think of the months of training given now to a person before she even has control of a classroom I wonder how we and the pupils survived. I guess it is quite true that "Experience is a good teacher". My love for children and teaching is still with me and gives me many happy memories.

Mr. and Mrs. George Plews

told by Evelyn Eaton

Mr. and Mrs. George Plews came from England, with their baby daughter, Laura, in 1906 to Ontario for three years, before homesteading in Saljennie in 1909. A son, George, was born in Hamilton, Ontario, in 1907; also a daughter, Evelyn, in Saltcoats in 1909; also Jack in 1911, and Winnie in 1913. Their first little girl, Laura, died in 1914. Mr. Plews went overseas for three years during World War I and Mrs. Plews ran the farm herself. She was such a good manager, that she was able to devote her time to church, Homemakers, school caretaker, and mid-wife. She helped Doc. Scratch bring many babies into the world. Mr. Plews joined the service during World War II and was stationed at Sardis, B.C. Mrs. Plews ran the store and Post Office at Spruce Hill, until after the war and they bought property and settled in Sardis, Mr. Plews died in 1957, so Mrs. Plews batched until the fall of 1968. She took sick while visiting her daughter and family in Maymont. Her first pacemaker was inserted on January 7, 1969 and she has had five more since. She is nearly-one years old and has spent the last two years in River Heights Lodge in North Battleford. She is still cheerful, interested in her church, family, world affairs and fellow guests.

The Porter Story

submitted by Dolly (Porter) Marlatt

My mother and father came to Maymont in October, 1918, where my father served as C.N.R. agent for thirty years. Their family at that time consisted of Finley, Sheridan (Bud), Josephine (Jo), and Freddy. Teddy and I were born out west.

Mr. Fred Porter on Main Street, Maymont.

Mrs. Fred Porter

Life in the station was never dull. With the coming and going of friends and railway passengers, we seemed to be enjoying a cup of coffee or lunch at any time of the day and, of course, many nights all night hours.

We also had celebrities in for meals. The T. Eaton family from the east would come to visit their brother and his wife who lived at Richard. Mrs. Eaton always reminded me of a beautiful Dresden doll. After the visitors got off the train, Mother would give them breakfast of homemade bread toast, coffee and lovely thick cream, bacon and eggs. Dad then drove them to Richard and returned to pick them up again in the evening. Mother would have another big lunch ready for them and they would board the train and return to the east again. We thought Toronto must be a million miles away until Mother and Dad started taking us on train trips. The passes on the train certainly gave us trips that we never could afford then.

Mother also felt she had to feed all the poor men who travelled the open box cars and flat cars during the lean years. She always tried to give them some homemade bread and a tin of milk. The men put a big white cross marked with heavy chalk on the end of the station to show others they could always get something to eat there. My Dad never took it off all the time the workers passed by Maymont in the lean "thirties".

We also had gophers, but we weren't allowed to leave the yard or talk to them when they came to the door for milk

My Dad had a hobby, as well as his station work. He loved to fix and build radios. After work finished at five, he would travel around the country fixing radios, as far away as Radisson, Richard and as far south as Stoughton. He was also Overseer of Maymont for twenty-five years, so he was active at all times.

Our neighbors in the early years were Mr. and Mrs. Jim Taylor, Mr. McLaren was in the Post Office followed by the Philpott family but the Coleman's were the ones we knew best. Our family doctor over the years was Dr. Serjeant who was also friend and adviser

Our teachers were the best, all through school, as far back as Miss Murrell, Miss Mary Martin and on to Miss Mather, Mr. McDonald and many more fine people

My Mother had seances and I always felt it put a nice finishing touch to an afternoon or evening social. I don't know if any of her predictions ever came true but she did it for pleasure until one day a gentleman gave her a very bad scare. It wasn't funny at the time but she tells it now and can laugh about it all. We had C.N.R. building crews on the sidings a lot when we were small. One boss of the crew used to come over to the station a lot and one day Mother read his teacup. She told him some stocks he had invested in were going to drop. He laughed and said he had nothing but solid stock, and all was forgotten until a week later when the passenger train stopped one Monday, the station door banged open and the gentleman came running into the house yelling Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Porter, come quick" Poor Mother nearly fainted as all she could think of was poor Dad lying on the track somewhere, so she ran to the office to be grabbed by the crew boss telling her he had sold his stocks and they fell a short time later. He could never thank her enough. He kept coming back to have his tea leaves read but Mother had gone out of business so to speak and never did do any reading again for outsiders, but would if the family really coaxed her

We also had a good friend who lived across the highway from us — Ed Bahr. Ed knew more about engines than anyone we ever knew. He could tell the type of engine just by hearing it go by. He also used to chase us and try to put cotter pins in our ears — he never disappointed us as he always had a cotter pin in his pocket whenever we came near him

We had good times and sad times in Maymont, but like everyone else we are remembering the good times.

My family are all living in British Columbia. My Mother and Teddy live in Chilliwack, my brother Bud at Sardis and Jo in Hope. I am living in Maidstone, Sask. two of Porter get-together we remember the Dunnings, Kerrs, Fields, Melroses, Johnstones, Travers, Beaudoins, Andrews and the MacLennans, all dear friends, and, of course, Ed Bahr and cotter pins and things. There are so many, and I am grateful for the Maymont book as it will sometimes bring us closer together

Joseph Prechil (91)

Tribute from a newspaper clipping.

Joseph Prechil was one of Fielding's earliest and most enthusiastic pioneers, who had worked for a living since the age of 12, emigrating from Germany to the United States and from there to Saskatchewan to work on the construction of the Saskatoon-Edmonton C.N.R. line. He pioneered in bringing his parkland homestead into a fine farm, in testing hardy fruit trees, flowering shrubs, hybrid poplars, evergreens, new varieties of field crop seeds, new methods of cultivation recommended by Seager Wheeler and other agricultural experts and in using up-to-date farm machinery which included silage equipment for filling his cement-lined silo. The slogan "Good machinery makes a good farmer better" he often quoted and consistently put into practice. For years he headed his herd with good Hereford bulls. He followed good farming practices until he had a farm, buildings and home grounds to be proud of

He acquired a fine grasp of the English language and thereby became able to satisfy his desire to read deeply mind-stimulating books. He also thoroughly enjoyed classical orchestral music

Three times during his long life he visited his relatives in Germany

He served on the Beckwith school board, the rural telephone company, the local farmer's union and Wheat Pool Committee

After retirement to Radisson he wrote his life story in German, and kept fit up to the time he was 87 by walking the nine miles to the home farm operated by his son Richard.

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Prescesky

submitted by Laura Prescesky

Stephen Prescesky's father, Stefan, and a son, Peter, immigrated from the Ukraine to Montreal in 1908. His wife and sons Leon, Stephen, John, Paul, Mike, and Ephraim followed in 1909. A daughter, Mary, joined them in 1913. The family moved west to Rudsdell-Lilac area where they purchased two quarters of land (320 acres) broken on each quarter. They settled on the NE Sec. 13-43-13 on a one-roomed shack. The only transportation was horseback and the coyotes howling broke the vast prairie silence. In 1916 a large lumber house was built. It was finished in natural cedar stain with the lumber being purchased from the Rudsdell lumberyard. Mr. and Mrs. Stefan Prescesky lived here until 1924 when they moved to Saskatoon and are now deceased.

The farm then became the home of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Prescesky. In 1931 a misfortune struck: the house that was built in 1910 burnt down in February due to overheating and chimney fire. There was only time to grab the quilts off the bed, wrap the children in them and toss them out. Nothing was saved except the potatoes which had been stored in a pit below the cellar. A cook car which held seed for spring planting was then emptied and became their home until a new house was built. This house with an addition and some renovations is now the modern farm home of Phil Iverson, Henry.

They raised a family of five sons: Peter, Paul, Edward, Henry, William and two daughters, Mary, (Mrs. Harold Pain) and Nellie (Mrs. Bill Welford).

They took an active part in community affairs and still enjoy coming out to meet old friends and neighbours. They retired from the farm in 1963 and now reside in North Battleford.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Prescesky

Peter and Laura M. (Penkita) Prescesky were married on June 12, 1943 and settled on the Dave Alexander farmstead of S½ 28-42-13-W3. The Alexanders who came from Ireland returned to their native homeland in 1945 taking with them all their goods. For this reason they were unable to return to Canada despite the longing to. Ireland had undergone a vast change during the War years and the Alexanders were not prepared for such a change.

Peter and Laura raised a family of five children and it is in their children they take their greatest pride. Sonja works as a Comptroller for a Saskatoon firm; Jacques an office manager for a North Battleford implement dealer; Kenneth a parts manager and work supervisor for a North Battleford Sports Centre. Linda and Elaine are attending Maymont Central School.

The Paul Prescesky Family

Paul was born on April 4, 1939 to Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Prescesky of Paddell, Saskatchewan. Dr. Schaich (Sc I was there to give him his first spanking.

Paul has five brothers and two sisters. He attended Wavie Bank School and helped his dad on the farm, later started farming for himself. In 1964 he met and married Dorothy Hampton on December third. It was lucky for Paul that he could cook, because the only thing Dorothy could cook was potato soup and potato soup served twice a day for a week or so gets tiresome. So Paul with the help of his brothers, Henry and William, undertook the task of teaching his new bride how to cook. Soon Dorothy had even mastered the art of baking bread. (I won't bother telling about the first batch.)

Dorothy was born on October 3, 1937, the daughter of Dan and Nora Hampton. On October 1st, 1965, (Dorothy's birthday) Paulette Judy Lee was born. She

Dorothy and Paul Prescesky — 25th anniversary — July, 1976, Polly and Stephen Prescesky

is now married to Michael (Tim) Wayne Dwinnell who is in part ownership of Wy-Lee Trailers. Tim and Judy have one little daughter, Amy Dawn. They live in Battleford.

Danny Paul, Dorothy and Paul's first son, was born on September 30, 1968. Danny lives in Maymont and farms with his dad.

On September 6, 1961, Donny Rodney Perry was born. Perry now resides in Lloydminster and works for Husky Oil.

On August 28, 1966, Brenda Joyce came to make her home with Paul and Dorothy. She then became their chosen daughter in 1971 — a sister for Judy. Brenda attended Maymont School where she met Michael Clifford Yakimchuck. Brenda and Michael were married July 27, 1974. They farm at Speers and have one little son, Leon Ronald.

Paul and Dorothy have many interests. Paul has been on the Wheat Pool Committee for many years. He was on the Wavie Bank School board until it closed in 1968. And he has been a councillor in Mayfield Division Six for five years.

Paul and Dorothy are Fire Arm Safety Instructors, and Paul is a 4-H Junior Sportsman Leader. Dorothy is an ardent gardener and has won many first prizes for her garden. She is a coin collector and loves sewing at which she is quite active.

Through fostering children Dorothy was chosen out of eighty foster parents to work for the Department of

Social Services on the planning committee for children under sixteen years. Dorothy and Paul over the years have helped raise twenty-six foster children and are always glad to see them again.

Paul and Dorothy like to fish. They also like to curl for which Paul has won many trophies. Paul enjoys a good game of golf and even tries a little pool. While Paul is doing this Dorothy is usually swimming or just relaxing in the sun at their cottage at Aquadeo Beach on weekends.

December 3, 1979 will be their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Prescesky

Henry, second youngest son of Stephen and Polly Prescesky was born Sept. 23, 1934 on the farm homestead N.E. 15-42-13-West. He took all his schooling at Wavie Bank School. He married Irene Phillips of Richard on Nov. 3, 1956. They lived in Nanaimo, B.C. until the end of December, 1956. They returned to the farm homestead and have lived there for the past twenty-two years.

They raised a family of three: Douglas Wayne, born Sept. 16, 1959; Jo Ann Marlene born Nov. 1, 1961; Kevin Henry born Oct. 25, 1964

Douglas married Colleen Kristine Bulmer on Feb. 3, 1979. They are making their home on N.W. 16-42-13-West.

Jo Ann married Trent Lee Jordan on Aug. 18, 1979 and they are residing in North Battleford.

Kevin is presently at home and is attending Maymont Central School.

The William John Prescesky Family

William John Prescesky was born July 5, 1938, the youngest son of Stephen and Polly Prescesky and lived in the Wavie Bank School District. William received his schooling in the Wavie Bank School. In 1966 he married Elizabeth Mary May Phillips who was born June 6, 1937, daughter of Percy and Janet Phillips of the Bramley School District and Richard District. Elizabeth came to live in the Village of Ruddell in Aug., 1958, attended the Ruddell School taking Grades 10 and 11; she lived with Jack and Marjorie Thresher who operated the Ruddell Telephone Exchange.

William and Elizabeth were married in the Anglican Church in Richard on Oct. 26, 1966 with Dr. Frank Myers of Maymont United Church officiating. They rented the farm land and home from Stephen, William's father, along with brother Henry, and they later bought the family farm.

In 1968, born to William and Elizabeth was a daughter, named Brenda May, who attended Wavie Bank School from 1969 to 1968; then was bused to Maymont General, graduated from Grade 12 in 1978. From there she went to Kelsey Institute, Saskatoon and graduated as a Registered Nurse in June, 1978, and started to work at Borden Hospital in July of 1978.

A second daughter, Barbara Ann, was born Oct 17, 1962, who started to Maymont Central School in 1968 and as of June 15, 1979, received a recommend to Grade 11. In 1979 Barbara received a bronze medal as an award having competed in a Math Contest which covered Canada.

In the spring of 1966, William and family moved into their newly built home which was built just a few yards south of the family yard, prior to this they had lived in the basement suite of the family home.

Born on May 28, 1966 was their son, named Myron William, who now attends Maymont Central School and is finishing Grade 7.

William took over coaching of Ruddell Ball Team in 1968 and is still coaching the team. Prior to 1968, the team was coached by Edward Prescesky. Three original players, who started with the team and are still playing, are Hal Robinson, Ron McIntyre and Tom Pain.

Leonard E. Prystalit

told by Leonard

I was born September 9, 1921 in Watrous Hospital to Dorothy and Edmund Prystalit.

I began grade one at Maymont School in 1927 with Miss Butterfield as teacher, and carried on through school with Miss Page and Mr. Armstrong.

I left school and Maymont in September 1939 to begin a three year stint with the Royal Canadian Signals as a cryptographer.

On October 6, 1942 I took my discharge in Vancouver and started a job as purser with Union Steamships which serviced the British Columbia and Alaska coast with mail and supplies. One month before leaving the ships I met Beverley Luck, who later became my wife.

On March 22, 1947 I started a new job with a building supply firm which later became part of Canada Cement Lafarge. For the past ten years I have been Steel Erection Superintendent.

Bev and I have a twenty-one year old daughter and two sons twenty and eighteen years old.

As I look back on my youthful days in Maymont, I recall a community active in sports and community events and populated by some very fine people.

The Colin Ramsay Story

In 1907 an adventurous young lad of 17 left the home of his clergyman father in Wyfordby, in Leicestershire, England to seek his fortune in the promising land of Canada. This lad was Colin Ramsay. No doubt his decision to come to Canada was influenced somewhat by the fact that his older brother Ernest had emigrated to Canada four years earlier. The first year or so in Canada was spent at St. Mary's,

Ontario. Then in 1909 Colin came west. He took a homestead on the south edge of what was called the Belgian Plots in the Wanguard District.

Then came World War I in 1914 and once again Colin found himself on European soil. He was wounded in the right arm and while convalescing he contracted mumps. Like many other soldiers, the effect of that war remained with him a long time.

After returning to Canada Colin sold his homestead and bought a half-section four miles north of 40 Highway between Speers and Richard. In 1923 he married Margaret Day. They raised a family of five girls and two boys. One daughter Phyllis passed away in 1957 at the age of 28 years.

In 1948, the Colin Ramsay family moved to the Ernie Ramsay farm at Maymont. Colin having purchased the half-section NW-16-43 formerly belonging to his brother. The three eldest girls Ellen, Ethel and Phyllis were away from home by this time. Stuart, the oldest boy farmed there until 1955 when he moved to Vancouver. He worked in the Yukon for sometime before moving to the United States where he became manager and owner of Reno Bus Lines in Reno, Nevada. He now resides on a small ranch at Snohomish near Seattle, Washington. Pat who took most of her schooling in Maymont now lives in the Langley area of British Columbia. Sybil the youngest in the family is the wife of Norman Walker a minister from Valemount, British Columbia. Dennis, the youngest son in the family took his high schooling in Maymont by riding to and from school on his pony, Lily. He has lots of tales to tell about those days but I believe his favourite is the one involving Mrs. Neal and her power. It seems Dennis had given Valerie a ride home and as he was leaving the house noticed the main power switch. Being of a mischievous nature, he pulled the lever and headed for home. The Neals spent most of the evening in the dark believing the power to be off until Valerie went to the church and found the power was on. A few days later Mrs. Neal saw the culprit in the cafe and greeted him with "There's that young Ramsay who shut our power off. Let me sit in the dark half the night." They still laugh over that one when they get together. Dennis now lives in North Battleford.

In later life, Colin Ramsay by his own admission was a drunkard through a clergyman's son. He had never found any reality in religion. When he got to the place where he had to quit drinking or die, he one day stumbled into the Foursquare Church and was drunkenly playing hymns on the old organ. With the instruction and prayers of Pastor Floyd Bloom he became a staunch supporter of the Foursquare Gospel Church and a total abstainer.

The family moved to North Battleford in 1960 where Colin remained until his death in 1971. Mrs. Ramsay died in New Westminster in 1977.

The Dennis and Trudy Ramsay Story

A Sunday evening in the spring of '58 saw Dr. Ronnie Scratch delivering a baby at an old farmhouse north of Maymont. The baby was that of the midwife Katie Holmes and I was that baby — the first child in the family of Ted and Evelyn Bloom. (They named me Trudy.)

As a small child, some of my earliest recollections of Maymont include Bean's Store, the drug store where I got my first book and the livery barn and the hot pool. Since we were farm folk, a trip to town was always a highlight. I remember Bean's Store as a fascinating place with many things to see and many people coming in and stopping to chat. I vividly remember the day Ed Bain came into the store. Taking special notice of me, he declared he would make dill pickles out of my ears. I ran for cover behind my dad much to Ed's amusement. Later on, we purchased my school supplies in Bean's Store and I started in school in the town of Maymont where I learned to read about Jerry and Jane under the teaching of Miss Jenkins.

Alot of new experiences were waiting for me the fall I entered the third grade in a one room country school called Keystone the same school my mother had attended years before. Starting to practise for the Christmas concert in October was hard to understand but it was more fun than arithmetic. It was also fun to listen to the higher grades reading letters. It was different to have everyone regardless of age play the game which usually was softball. The reason we usually played ball was that every school year ended with a picnic and some very keen competition amongst the students of Keystone, Grey and Eatonia schools as we practised like crazy every recess and noon hour. In fact it was at one of these picnics that I first saw the

Dennis and Trudy Ramsay and family

man I would someday marry. I wasn't too impressed with him that day. I was 11 and he 15. The Colin Ramsay family had just moved into the Grey School District. Dennis was catcher for the Grey School team and Lee Parker was pitcher. They really didn't need any other players as they mostly took care of us little Keystone kids right at the plate but we tried hard even if it was in vain. Five years later I found this curly red-head made a better friend than an opponent. Our friendship blossomed and grew during my last two years of high school. Mel Curry could verify this — as I boarded at her place. After graduation it seemed logical to join Dennis in Bible College in British Columbia so that we could prepare for a future life together. The rush of weddings amongst our friends seemed to have an unsettling affect on us so it was that year we decided to go our separate ways. I returned to Saskatchewan to take up teacher training and Dennis continued his studies in British Columbia.

After graduating from Teacher's College, I found myself back in a one-room school called Hopewell in the Radisson area with 17 pupils in nine different grades. In spite of keeping busy, I did find it a bit lonely as my teachership so the next year found me teaching Grade Two's in Lawrence School in North Battleford. After two years of teaching in the city, my feet again began to get itchy so I resigned to further my education. I got one class at summer school completed and suddenly that curly red-head appeared in my life once more. With his appearance on the scene, education didn't seem so important after all so we decided to make up for lost time and planned a wedding for the fall. I was very glad to be a Maymont girl at this point in my life as I believe the Maymont bridal showers are second to none. There is more than household gifts given at these. The worth of community spirit and a sense of belonging cannot be measured.

Most of our married years have found us close enough to be regular visitors to the Maymont area. Dennis and I spent nine years in Wilkie where Dennis was minister of the local Foursquare Gospel Church. Another three years of pastoring in Delta, British Columbia followed. During this time we became involved in Successful Living of Canada an interdenominational organization that promotes good wholesome reading as an alternate to today's pornography. We feel we are making a positive contribution to our community in this way. Dennis is a journey-man painter by trade and helps to brighten up the world that way too.

It is said that you take the boy out of the prairie but you can't take the prairie out of the boy and it seems like it must be true. Here we are back on the prairie only thirty miles from where we began and we're happy to be here. It is a good place to raise our family of four, Denise, Marlow, Colleen, and Vance. We are close to the place where many of our forbears memories lie — a place that will always be home.

The Ernest Ramsay Story

Ernest Wulfric Ramsay was born in Castle Douglas, Scotland in 1862. His family moved to the village of Wyforday in Leicestershire, England from whence he emigrated to Canada in 1903. He homesteaded 4½ miles north east of Maymont. When the railroad came to Maymont he found employment building the road bed. He married Mary Green, an English woman. They had only one child, a boy who died at or near birth. Ernie went to the First World War and was wounded twice — once in the leg and once in the head. Ernie and Mary Ramsay were well-known for their good short horn cattle which at the time were some of the best in the area.

They were plagued by all the usual problems that beset Saskatchewan farmers in the early days. There was an intense shortage of water which was overcome by hauling a tankload of water from the village of Maymont very early every morning. Ernie's usual time for rising in the summertime was 3 or 3:30 a.m.

Mary Ramsay was secretary of Grey School for many years. She was noted for being extremely careful with the finances especially during the thirties. Because they were only a half mile from the school, it was an ideal boarding place for the teachers. So even if they did not have children of their own, they were still able to keep abreast of the happening of the school.

Mary Ramsay.

Mr. Ramsay was a person able to laugh at himself.

Ernest Wulfric Ramsay and Mary Ramsay.

Spring — Mr. E. W. Ramsay on his homestead — NW/ 36, 42, 12, west of the 3rd.

which was fortunate considering there were times when there was little enough to laugh at.

His accent was a source of amusement in the community. He was raised in the home of an Anglican clergyman however his mother being part French hired French nannies. Thus the children learned to speak French before they learned English. While they lost the ability in later life to carry on a good French conversation, Ernest especially retained a French accent.

When it came time for them to retire, they found it a rather wrenching procedure. Ernie said to his brother Colin who later purchased the farm, "It seems that I know every fence post on the place and its hard to leave but I can't do the work." Mary said "It seems that we have only just now gotten the place fit to live in and we have to leave it." They moved to North Battleford and the farm was rented for sometime by Jack Holden. Later his brother Colin Ramsay bought the half section with the buildings.

Their happily married state came to an end when Annie Mary passed away July 27, 1957 at the age of 81 years. Several years later Ernie remarried. He found the Biblical admonition "It is better to dwell in the wilderness, than with a contentious and an angry woman" (Proverbs 21:19) to be true. When he could no longer take the abuse he departed. He said to his nephew " All I want is some peace."

One day the doctor told him that he should have surgery to correct a certain condition. When Ernie was reluctant the doctor said "You will have to eventually". Uncle Ernie showed his sense of humour when he said to me "I don't know that he is right, I can die without getting it fixed can't I?". With his accent it was very funny.

He took more than one European tour which included a stop at the Vatican and a visit with his sisters in England. He said "I had a feeling that I could not die in Europe but had to return to Saskatchewan". He passed away in North Battleford at the age of 84 at which time it was discovered he had made all his funeral arrangements and so it was according to his wishes that he was buried next to his first wife Mary.

Mr. and Mrs. William Ralph

Mr. and Mrs. William Ralph were married in 1915 the same year that Ethel had come west. They lived on Section 12-43-14-W 3rd in the Battleford municipality. At that time many of the roads were just prairie trails. They raised a family of four; Howard, Manly, Bill and Elaine. The children attended Barleston School. In World War II, Howard served in the Canadian Army and Bill in the R.C.A.F. Mrs. Ethel Ralph was one of the early members of St. Mary's Anglican Ladies Guild. When Mr. Ralph's health failed, Mrs. Ralph moved to North Battleford where she had a house and took in boarders. When Davidson Manor opened, Mrs. Ralph moved in there. She enjoys visitors and one can always be assured of a friendly cup of tea.

Margaret Reed (Nee McLaren)

I was born in Maymont, Saskatchewan 3rd July, 1916 to Robert and Margaret McLaren. I moved with my parents from Maymont in 1918 and after living in several provinces we settled near Ponoka, Alberta in 1925.

I was united in marriage to Philip Reed in 1934. We have four children. They are Mrs. Sylvia Hardy of Abbotsford, B.C., Mrs. Carol James of Ponoka, Alberta; Ronald of Leduc, Alberta; and Graham of Ponoka, Alberta. We have seventeen grandchildren.

We farmed east of Ponoka until 1975 when we moved into the town of Ponoka, where we now reside.

Archie Reid and Family

I was born of Andrew and Elizabeth C. Reid at Maymont on April 2, 1912, and delivered by Dr. J. A. Beraten.

I left Maymont in June, 1938, but have been back very often.

In November, 1946, I married Nellie Innis of Adanac, sister of Mrs. Ruby Myers. We have two daughters, Linda, born November, 1947 and Sally born November, 1950. Sally was married in June, 1977, to Rick Wurtz, and they have a son Seth Daniel Wurtz — our grandson.

I have a few fond recollections of the old days and will touch on the sports angle.

My earliest recollections of Sports Days are when they were held inside the race track, now part of the school grounds and part of the old Blackbeck farm.

I can remember the horse races and Sam Miller and George McIver were two of the horse owners.

The baseball diamond was just inside the north part of the track. Players in that period were Bob McPherson, Cy Davis, Dr. Scratch, Walter Mawhinney, Jim

Brady, Jackie Campbell, Edgar Reid, Cann and Frank Lehner. The main opposition in those days was the Denholm team, who had several paid players.

I will never forget the three-day celebration of fifty years of Confederation. I was fifteen years old and J. D. Blackbeck, team manager, told me to go in and play second base for Frank Lehner who had to play in the band.

Other players in that era were Alan Bean, Norman Melrose, Noel Crawley, Bill Kerr, Roy Gray, Jimmy Gray, Blacey Smith.

During the depression years, some players besides myself were Ron and Norrel Scratch, Jim and Roy Gray, Norman Melrose, Alan Bean, Jack Bates, Harvey Johnston, Albert Eichman and sometimes Lefty Arnold of Kuttail. J. D. Blackbeck was still manager.

I also have fond memories of two swimming holes. One was Andrew Melrose's dam and the other by the C.N.R. tracks about opposite the Foster home. Many were the 'skinny dips' at school lunch break.

Mr. and Mrs. James J. Reid

told by Wendell (Derby) Reid

Mr. and Mrs. James J. Reid came to Maymont in 1905 from Leeds, Quebec.

His homestead was on a quarter section 1 mile south and ½ mile east of Maymont, which they lived on in summer and moved into town in winter. Their first house in Maymont was just south of the Pool Elevator.

Derby Reid family — Derby and Binky, Derby Jr., Melinda, Susan and Leah.

Later he bought ¾ section of land on S½ of Section 30-41-12-West and S.E. of 25-41-13-West.

They had 4 daughters. Stella (deceased), Viola of Salmon Arm, Bernice of Penticton B.C., Irene of Lytton, B.C. Three sons, Edgar (deceased), Lyman (deceased), and W. Derby of Maymont.

Dad ran the butcher shop in Maymont for some years. He had a contract with a firm in Winnipeg for Beef and sent many carloads of meat in winter.

Wendell (Derby) took over the farm from his Dad and farmed until his retirement in Maymont in the lots formerly owned by the late Dr. J. A. Scratch.

Derby married Edith (Binky) Saunders in July of 1942. They had 1 son Derby Allan now in Coleridge. He is a teacher and was married to Elaine Harris (deceased in 1979) and have 2 children, Norrie and Brennan. Derby and Binky also have three daughters — Maxine now of Saskatoon, Susan — married to Alvin Reichenberger of Radisson — 2 children Carl and Chad; Leah of Saskatoon — married to Allan Nichol of Broderick in 1979.

Binky and Chad have a beautiful life down on the farm on outskirts of Maymont. We love the people and our church and community which fill our lives so much, and are proud of our part in it.

I would like to relate a story of my Dad and his first Model T car. He got the car started from home and went up town and when he got there he didn't know how to stop it, so he drove around and around, hollering for someone to show him how to stop it!! Finally some kind soul jumped on the running board and obliged. Needless to say he still preferred the old horse and buggy.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Reid

by Bernalea (Reid) Strudwick

Jim Reid, my father, and Donna Reid, my mother, were born in Quebec. They decided to move West and start a new life so they moved to Saskatchewan with four children — Stella, Elsie, Edgar and Lyman Reid. My dad had a cream business for awhile and a farm one-half mile west and south of Maymont where he farmed and raised cattle. I was born in 1908 on the old homestead in a log cabin. Irene, my sister, was born later and then Wendell of Derby was born on the farm.

Butchering day on Jim Reid farm.

So there were seven of us — four girls and three boys. We attended school in Maymont and were active there in sports and church and other organizations.

Stella who was the oldest girl and worked in the store and post office later married Gordon Auckland. He ran Galvin Lumber Yards to Speers, Saskatchewan.

Edgar attended high school in Regina, was a great hockey player and later took a Pharmacy Course.

Elsie taught school and then went to training for a nurse at Toronto General Hospital. Later she married Ralph Sparkes of Saskatoon.

Lyman Reid farmed and worked on Steam Engines and later married Evelyn Foreman.

Irene Reid taught school and later married a fellow by the name of Al Ruckman.

Wendell (Dooley) Reid worked on the farm with his parents and married Ricky Saunders, an Anglican minister's daughter.

I attended Business College in Saskatoon and later worked for the T. Eaton Co., Ltd. I met Henry Strudwick, teller of the Imperial Bank at Maymont and we were married in 1930. We lived in Maymont and Henry worked in Freeman's Store. Our daughter, Janice, was born and Doc Scratch brought her into the world. Mrs. Downey and Mrs. Kerr were the midwives. We moved to Rabbit Lake and Henry clerked in a tag store, post office and general store and undertaking business. He worked for Art Dowse. Jerry was born there. Dr. Story was the doctor.

We moved back to Maymont and then to Marwille, Alberta — managing a Co-op Store — Ruth was born in the Marwille Hospital. Then we moved to Edmonton and Henry worked as bookkeeper for the Social Credit Government. We bought an acreage and raised chickens and a big garden. My dad helped us finance it. Ken or "Butch" as he is often called, was born there. The four children attended school. I worked in Eatons part-time. We bought a second-hand car.

Janice is married now to Ross Chamberland. They live in Naramata on an acreage, nine miles from Penticton. They have a son, Mark, and a daughter, Lee, Mark has a cat, little Rags.

Ruth lives in Penticton on an acreage and is married to Marcel Gagne but they have parted recently. Ruth has three sons — two working and one going to school — and a daughter, Cindy, going to school. They have a beautiful home and apple orchard.

Jerry Strudwick is married and living in Edmonton. He is with the Parks Department of the Provincial Government and has a good job. He is married to Doreen and they have three girls — Debbie, Bonnie and Cindy — and a son, Wayne. Bonnie married recently.

Ron (Butch) is married to Gail, a Japanese Girl and he is a traveller and First Aid Man. Gail is a lovely girl — no family yet.

Henry retired and is living in Edmonton. We are separated but not divorced. He has a girl friend. I moved to Penticton and stay at Raven Hill Rest Home where I'm very happy. I'm diabetic and in good health otherwise but a bit overweight. I have nine grandchildren and one great-grandson and am very happy. Penticton is a nice place to live. I go on holidays every year to Edmonton and Salmon Arm.

The W. H. Reid Family

In 1907 William (Bill) Reid came to Maymont from his birthplace of Leeds, Quebec with his parents, Mr and Mrs. Andrew Reid and their five children. His brother and sisters were Marjorie, Mary, Elton, and Ada. Four children were later born to the family in Maymont. (See Mary Rogers' story.)

Bill went to school in Maymont and worked with his father on the farm until he married Maria Harkness in 1917. Maria had come to Canada from County Antrim (Northern Ireland) in 1913. Her mother having passed away in 1913 her father, Hugh Harkness, brought with him to Maymont a family of four sons and two daughters. They were Jim and John (both deceased), Hugh Crawford, Maria, and Grace (Mrs. Norman Melrose at Maymont).

Agnes and Norman Reid

Bill and Maria were married in 1917 at the St. Thomas Wesley Manse in Saskatoon and came back to live in their little log house across the yard from the Andrew Reid house. Here they lived for nine years and were very happy with their growing family of five children.

In 1927 Bill bought the Jack Spalus farm, two and one half miles south west of Maymont. They lived on the farm until 1954 when they turned it over to their second son Jim and moved to Maymont where they purchased the former United Church Manse. The manse had only recently been vacated by the Rev. Frank Myer's family. Bill and Maria are still at home to everyone at this residence.

For more than 10 years Bill was caretaker of the Maymont Village School where Maria often assisted.

him with his work. He enjoyed this position very much and they both enjoyed the contact with the students and teachers.

In the meantime their family had grown up and left Maymont to continue their education and vocations elsewhere.

John (the eldest) and his wife Jewel (Kernan) and family, Douglas, Rodney, and Kenneth live in Saskatoon where John is assistant city treasurer and Jewel who is a registered nurse works part time at City Hospital.

Jim and his wife Marilyn now live in Mannville, Alberta having sold the home farm in 1968 to George Gray. Marilyn is the only daughter of Alish Nulbrown, formerly of Maymont and is a graduate nurse from the Saskatchewan Hospital in North Battleford. Their family consists of Cindy, now Mrs. Warren McLaughlin and the mother of two, Zana, now Mrs. James Harper of Viking, and Tess and Steven, still at home. The farm in Mannville has now been sold and Jim is working for an Oil Company.

Norman and his wife Maxine (Rotherham) and children Jeff, Calla, and Patrick live in Kelowna where Norman is in business as a Chartered Accountant and Maxine is in Real Estate.

Hugh and his wife Delores (DeLong) presently live in Spruce Grove with their family of Mark, Heather, and Allison. Delores is the daughter of Ken DeLong who operated Maymont Locker Plant for several years, and she also served as church organist during her school years in Maymont. Hugh formerly a teacher is presently with the Dept. of Indian Affairs in Edmonton and Delores is selling Real Estate.

Margaret the youngest of the Reid children and the only daughter is now Mrs. J. W. Kylin of Saskatoon. She has been employed by the Bank of Commerce for many years in several different positions, including being the first woman Bank Manager in Saskatoon. Wally is a graduate of the College of Law, U. of S. and is now retired. He served in the second World War as a paratrooper.

Bill and Marie have kept in close touch with their family which has expanded to include thirteen grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. They are still active in community activities and are members of the United Church at Maymont.

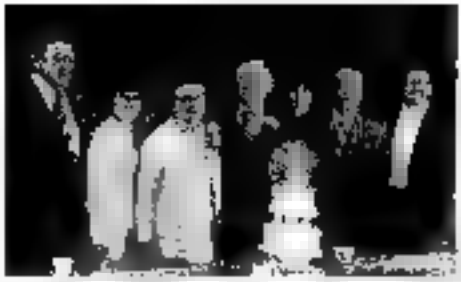
The Lyman Reid Family

submitted by Evelyn Reid

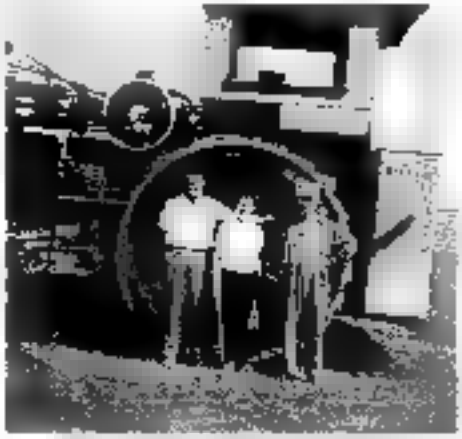
In 1906 two special people were born, Lyman Reid in Leeds Village, Quebec, and Evelyn Foreman in South Shields, England.

In 1905, I (Evelyn) came to Scottsdale, Sask. with my parents and one sister. In 1906, Lyman came to Maymont, Sask. with his parents, one brother, and two sisters. Both families took homesteads and began farming with oxen, later changing to horses.

In November, 1920 when after walking across the



Reid 50th anniversary — 1974. Eric, Cathie, Evelyn and Lyman, Art, Cal.



Eric, Evelyn and Lyman Reid — early 70's.

river ice, following a wagon load of wheat, the ice bending under the weight of the load. I was to spend the winter with my sister, Hilda. I met Lyman at a skating party at the river.

The next few years I worked at the phone office, farms, and post office. Lyman worked with his father, breaking cattle in his school days.

Always interested in tractors, cars and steam engines, he became one of the first mechanics in the district.

We were married in March, 1926, this time crossing the river in a buggy through a stream of water two feet deep and sixty feet wide, on top of the ice. (Now we have the bridge.)

We tried farming about nine years, steadily heading into the depression of the Dirty Thirties. Then we went to Stallinger, Sask. where Lyman served as a grain buyer for the Searle Grain Company for eight years. He began at $90.00 per month but very soon wages dropped to $50.00 per month. Rent and insurance took

$1.00, so we didn't have too much for food and clothing for three boys and ourselves, but we even managed to run a car occasionally.

The best buys I can remember were a twenty pound turkey hen, oven-ready for eighty cents, and a hind quarter of beef for three cents a pound.

Then came World War II and Lyman joined the Air Force at $1.10 per day.

As a child I began dressmaking and haircutting, later adding babies' haircreasing which I continued until recently. Many women remained at home housekeeping and raising their families in those days.

Near the end of the war two girls came along to complete the family we have always been proud of.

After the war we returned to Maymont to farm, which still was not too profitable, so Lyman worked away from home every winter, with oil drilling companies in Alberta, Saskatchewan, and North West Territories. As he got older he was janitor at the Federal Building, North Battleford, and finally eight attendant at Sallows and McDonald Funeral Home, North Battleford.

We celebrated our fiftieth wedding anniversary in 1974.

As Lyman's health began to fail he was at home in Maymont the last two years. He still kept up his great interest in steamers at Pioneer, Saskatoon, and the Museum, North Battleford until he was confined to bed at Eric's in Saskatoon and called home to Glory, September, 1978.

Our children live at Saskatoon, Sask.; Slave Lake, Alberta; Penticton, B.C.; Delta, B.C. and Victoria, B.C.

The Temple Reid Family

Temple Reid, a rancher from Lincoln, Nebraska, moved north to the Lilac district in 1904. He chose a location north of Goose Lake or about six miles north of Lilac. A Metis named Nolin lived on the east side of the lake at that time and was the closest neighbor.

The family of nine spent the first winter in a sod house. Deer shot in the Whitewood Lake area and a few vegetables were the families diet. The younger members had no chance for an education, of course.

The first crops sown were broadcast by hand and the seed covered by dragging a green tree over the planted area.

Ephriam Reid was detailed one summer to keep the heavy gopher population down by snaring them and drowning them. His brothers, by necessity, all became great hunters.

They spent a few years in the Radford area, but returned to the Lilac district where the father passed away with cancer.

Russell, the older brother, took over. They bought mules from the south for farm work purposes.

Mrs. Temple Reid.

Maybee Lake: Grover, Wilmetta, Mrs. Ephr. (Jessie) and Wilbur Reid.

They operated steam threshing outfits in the early years.

The five brothers Russell, Grover, Wilbur, Ephriam and Wert all settled and farmed in the Lilac area and were lifetime farmers there.

Russell farmed the original Reid homestead. His son, Clarence, carried on after his death. Cliff Gillett presently operates and lives on the farm. Wert Reid is the only family member left and is retired in North Battleford. His wife Marie Parent, was the daughter of a long time Lilac resident.

Two of the girls, Laura and Bess, married and live in the U.S.A. Frances married and lived in Saskatoon. Gertrude married the former Bill Reisinger of the Lilac district.

The early years for the Reid brothers, as for other

settlers, would be rather uneventful by our standards. They however, enjoyed hunting deer and ducks and trapping muskrats.

Family gatherings and house parties were common. Ephraim and Wart were old time fiddlers at these affairs.

Grover Reid married the former Wilmetta Jones and owned very few early school house dances.

The Reid Family

told by Kenneth Reid

Temple and Fanny Reid with their nine children farmed in Shelby, Nebraska. They lived on a small farm bordering the Elbo River. The parents had been concerned for many years about the future of their children. Certainly their small farm could not be divided nine different ways. When the stories were heard about homesteads and a golden future in the north west, Grandpa and Grandma Reid decided to take a chance on this land of fortune. In 1908, part of the family arrived in Saskatoon, later going to their homestead in what is now known as the Lilac area.

Grandpa and Grandma Reid and the younger children arrived in 1909. There were nine siblings — Russell, Laura, Bess, Grover, Gertrude, Eph, Wilbur, Frances and Wart. Laura stayed in Fremont, Nebraska where she married Frank Custer. Bess also stayed in Nebraska where she attended Teacher's College.

It was many years of hard work. However, the Reid boys were very never sorry for having made the decision to come to Canada. They looked back on these early days as exciting and adventuresome. The Reid Brothers were very proud of their steam engine which they operated: doing their own work as well as custom work for their neighbours and friends. Perhaps the girls were disappointed at times and certainly Grandma Reid had her blue days when she would have liked to have returned to the little home in Nebraska. Grandpa and Grandma Reid later bought a ranch in the Radford area. It was on the ranch in Radford that Temple Reid died of cancer in 1918.

The family married one by one. Russell married Lyda Showaldice and they had 2 children Hazel (deceased) and Clarence, presently living in North Battleford.

Bess married Jim Ryan and they had three children — Patsy (deceased), Thelma and Donald both living in Wyoming.

Grover married Wilmetta Jones and they had 2 children, Kenneth and Audrey, both married and living in Saskatoon.

Gertrude married Bill Reisinger of the Lilac district. Gertrude died at a very young age leaving a little daughter, Gertrude who lived with Grandpa and Grandma Reid.

Eph married Jessie Duff and they had three children. Grant who farms in the Lilac district. Helen who lives in Vancouver, B.C. and Marjorie who lives in Quesnel, B.C.

Wilbur married Nellie Lovelace and they had one son, Clifford. Nellie died at an early age and Wilbur then lived the majority of his life as a trapper in the Cheadle area.

Frances became a school teacher and later married Hugh Spring. The couple had no children. They lived most of their life in the city of Saskatoon.

Wart married Marie Parent and they are still living in North Battleford. They had four children. Iris living in Edmonton, Myrna living in Rocky Mountain House, Lois living in Edmonton and Edwin living in Calgary.

The only surviving members of the original pioneer family are Wart and his wife.

Wilmetta married Grover Reid and they remained in the area the rest of their lives. Both of them loved Canada and after their marriage, had no desire to ever return to the United States. They would take a quick look at the American flag on July 4th (which Grover always kept in his trunk) but their hearts were always loyal to this land. They had two children, Kenneth and Audrey, both married and living in Saskatoon. Grover died in 1950 and Wilmetta died in 1966.

During their lifetime, W. B. Jones was very active in community life and particularly in politics. He was an ardent Liberal and spent all his life working for this party. He was often our campaigning with his pals, Harry Sharp and Will Langley when he could have been on the land. W. B. Jones was idolized by the members of his family and he will always remain in the hearts of the descendants who had the privilege of knowing this wonderful gentleman.

The Heikie Story

by Mary Grasby

James Heikie homesteaded the S.W.¼ 34,42,14,West, in the year of 1908. John Kitchen homesteaded the N.W.¼ 34,42,14,West, a year or so later. He died in 1968, willing his homestead to his sister Lucy (Mrs. Jim Heikie).

My father James Heikie was born in Bruce County, Ont. His Grandfather, who came from Scotland, had received a grant of 100 acres of Ont. Secret land, after serving in the Boer War in Africa.

As a young man James moved to Michigan, where he worked in the lumbering trade as a "scaler". This was the trade of measuring the board feet a log would yield.

In 1908 he married Lucy Kitchen and came to Saskatoon, N.W.T. There he got work at his trade in a lumber yard. Saskatoon was then the end of the railway. My parents saw the arrival of the Barr Colonists, and like them travelled to the homestead by horse and wagon in 1909. By that time they had their 8 month old daughter, Mary. Three years later the family was increased by the birth of a son, James Peter.

I can remember when the area around Hudson was

mostly prairie. There were few trees or bluffs. This was due to the prairie fires. As the land became broken fires were not so common. I can remember two big fires going by our home.

A problem for homesteaders was water. Often a well could not be found where a home had been built so water had to be hauled. The "water boat" with barrels of water on it could be seen in many yards. A pail of fresh cool water was a real luxury.

My father died in 1935. We remained on the farm, which was rented to Charlie Morrison, until my brother James was old enough to farm it. James lived there until his health failed. He rented the farm out and moved to Saskatoon, where he lived until his death in 1978. He had sold the farm in 1951. James had no children of his own. He had one step-daughter, Sylvia (Mrs. Charles Hawbeck) of Saskatoon.

I have three sons, Jim, Harland, and Arthur. Two of the boys live in Saskatoon, and one in Asquith. I have a daughter Marian, who lives in Winnipeg.

My father, James Riddle was the first person to be buried in the present Riddell Cemetery. My mother and her aunt are also buried there.

John Ritchie was buried in the first Riddell cemetery, two miles south of Riddell overlooking the river. John had one step-son Norman Buckley. Norman went under the name of Ritchie until he married. He lived around Saskatoon.

Pearl S. Reiley Family

by Arthur H. Reiley

Pearl S. Reiley (my father) second son of Arthur and Eunice Reiley was born on January 4, 1887 at Grant, Michigan, U.S.A.

Dad's early years were spent working in the logging camps in Michigan, both in the upper and lower peninsulas. Most of the time he was working in the cook's shanty and as a cook. He also attended school when possible attaining the grade of three or four.

Dad entered the Michigan College of Chiropractic at Grand Rapids early in 1912 and graduated as a Doctor of Chiropractic on June 4; later that year he set up his practice in Cleveland, Ohio.

During the summer of 1913 the family decided to come to Canada as Dad closed up shop, and he and his brother, Fern, headed for Saskatchewan on a harvest excursion. They arrived in North Battleford by train on August 2, 1913 and they both agreed that the best looking country they had seen around was just north of Fielding. The following morning Fern and Dad returned to Fielding and were able to get work harvesting — stooking for Frank Saurmann.

After fronts-up they went into the bush between Big River and The Pas, Manitoba and worked for the Pas Lumber Company the winter of 1913-14.

In the spring they returned to Fielding to await the arrival of their dad and brother, Emmett, with their three carloads of settlers' effects.

Pearl and Sadie Reiley on their 48th anniversary — 1948.

Eleanor, Arthur and Stuart Reiley — 1948.

With the arrival of Grandad the search for land began and they subsequently purchased the south half of Sec. 12, Tp. 7, Rge. 3rd, nine miles straight north of Fleming in the newly formed Speers District. During that summer they were joined by Grandmother and the two children, Elton and Thelma.

It was at Fleming while Grandad and all the "boys" were unloading their household effects that one of the natives was heard to remark, "They must be a lazy family, they have five rocking chairs."

Aunt Thelma attended school in North Battleford boarding with Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong in 1919. At the age of nineteen she contracted the flu and passed away that summer. It is said she had the dubious honor of being the first person to ride in a motorized hearse in Battleford. Dad took her body back to Michigan for burial.

Uncle Elton returned to the U.S.A. after a few years and joined the Marines, eventually retiring in California.

During the summer of 1915 Aunt Lou and her husband, Alfred Bouchard, and daughters, Pauline and Eunice, arrived in the district.

In the early 1920's Aunt Lizzy, a widow with three small children, joined the rest of the family.

In 1922 Grandad and Grandma returned to Michigan to stay. Aunt Lizzie kept house for Dad.

On December 12, 1923 Dad married Sarah Agnes (Sadie) Cunningham of Saskatoon. Later that evening they boarded the train for the U.S.A. on their honeymoon and to Jess Tad's family for Christmas. They returned to the farm at Speers for the spring of 1924. During the next four or five years Uncle Emmett, Uncle Fern and Aunt Cassie all returned to make their homes in Michigan. Aunt Lou and Uncle Al had purchased a farm near Mullingar, so Dad and his family were the only ones of the Ridleys left in the Speers District.

Mom and Dad had three children, Eleanor, born on December 3, 1924; Arthur, born December 24, 1926; and Stuart, born September 21, 1931.

In 1943 Eleanor attended Normal School (teachers' college) in Saskatoon and after six months of training accepted a teaching position near Mullingar at Ringsdine Flat. In 1950 she married Kelly Newton of Allan, Saskatchewan and they made their home at Flin Flon, Manitoba where Kelly was employed; two years years later he was killed in a mine accident. In 1953 Eleanor returned to the teaching profession and in 1958 married Bill Thomas. They are presently making their home at Hodgson, Manitoba with their four children: Margaret, Robert, James and Susan.

In 1945 Dad sold the farm at Speers and we moved to the Lilac District, purchasing the farm from William Agar. Stuart and I completed our education at Lilac and Richard Schools. Stuart went to Regina to make his living. In 1956 he married Jeanne Rock of Lashburn; they have a son, Michael, and a daughter, Janice. Later he attended University, getting his degree in Education. He has been teaching in the Regina School System.

I have continued to live on the family farm at Lilac. In 1950 Ruth Golden of the Kenaley District and I were married in the United Church at Speers, Saskatchewan. We have three children: Neil who at the time of this writing is finishing his Grade Twelve, Marlene is in Grade Eleven and Brian is in Grade Nine.

Dad passed away May 3, 1971 and was laid to rest in the New Ottawa Cemetery, in the school yard where his children and some of his nephews had attended school.

Mom still lives in her own home on the farm and will be celebrating her eighty-seventh birthday on June 5, 1979.

Arthur H. Reid

Principal, Ruddell School, 1948-49

Prior to enlisting in the RCAF I was Principal of Dorchester School.

While going through the process of getting my discharge I was offered the Principalship at Ruddell. The cottage that went with the position had a direct bearing on my acceptance.

Lois, baby Jody and I moved in during the month of August, 1948.

During the school year I was informed by the Department of Veterans Affairs that I would have to take my gratuities in cash or use them for furthering my education. The fact that I had fourteen years of teaching service was the deciding factor in my return to the University of Saskatchewan the following year. My room-mate at St. Andrew's College was Allan Wrensehall.

Our son, Scott, was born in North Battleford in February, 1948, the worst winter on record; and me without a car. Mr. and Mrs. Grover Reid lived next door. One day I mentioned my concern to Grover. He said, "Don't worry about a thing. When the time comes my car will be ready." His preparations commenced shortly after the New Year. Everyone in Ruddell knew that Grover's car was plugged in each night, his mitts, overshoes, and warm clothes within a moment's reach. Needless to say Lois and I didn't have a care in the world.

I might add here, that a few years later the Reids' son, Ken, married one of my Grade twelve students, Joyce Jones. I was given the honor of proposing the toast to the bride. I guess I have done an excellent job because twenty-five years later I was given the honor of proposing the toast at their 25th Wedding anniversary party.

During the University break, 1948, I entered a rink in the Ruddell bonspiel. Ken Reid 3rd, Alan Wrensehall 2nd, Joyce Jones, lead, and I skip — all university students. After several days of curling we found

ourselves in the play off. We had last rock and the game in the bag. However, spectator pressure caused me to throw my last rock poorly. When the smoke cleared we were one down. Second prize was 24 Quarts of Esso No. 30 oil. Not one of us owned a car.

Mr. and Mrs. John White lived across the lane. Mrs. White and I were very competitive each Monday morning — "Whose washing would be on the line first". Before going to school I would help Lois with laundry. All we could afford at that time was a tub and plunger. I did the plunging and the hanging out. Darn cold job during the winter months.

In 1947 I moved Lois, Judy and Scott to Laird, Sask. to operate the hotel which my father owned and operated. Since Mother was quite ill at that time, she and father moved to Saskatoon.

I also took on the principalship of the four room school. We sold the hotel in 1948 and moved to Saskatoon. Daughter Shirley arrived that year.

I returned to University and completed my B. of A and B. of Ed. degrees. While working on my Master's degree in Education I did some subbing at the Technical Collegiate and joined that staff in 1951. After 31 years in the High School System both as teacher and administrator, I retired Jan. 31, 1975. During my 1972-73 sabbatical leave, Lois and I enjoyed a trip to New Zealand and Australia where I made a study of their High School system based on the British curriculum.

Judy and her husband Les Hofer live in Edmonton with their son and daughter.

Scott and wife Arlene live in Thompson, Manitoba. They have one daughter.

Shirley married Ron Stewart. They live in Saskatoon and have two sons.

After the family left, we sold our home and moved into an apartment. For the past few years we have spent the winter in Mesa, Arizona. During the summer we enjoy our cottage at Manitou Beach, Watrous.

Lois and I still visit our Radisson friends, Charlie and Margaret White.

Mrs. Helen (nee Harber) Hemmen

written by Helen Hemmen

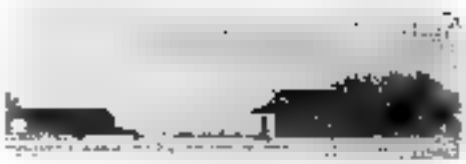
I arrived to teach at Keystone School No. 1144 in January 1944 and remained until June 1955. I sincerely enjoyed my teaching time there.

I especially remember "Arbor Days" with the grass fires; the ball games with Grey School that we never won because the Harbor boys were so good, and my appreciation of the fire, janitor, Mr. Dave Penner, had going when we arrived in the winter time.

I also remember fondly the Christmas Concert which was such a memorable part of a country school.

I spent June 1944 living by myself in a greenery because of scarlet fever in my boarding place, the Cornelius Epp home.

It was while I was at Keystone that we celebrated



The ad in the Saskatoon Star which Helen Harbor answered: Keystone School District No. 1114 requires a teacher. Duties to commence January 17. Salary $850 per annum, 12 enrolled. C. A. Brohon, Sec.-Treas., Maymont, Sask.

Grades one and two, Keystone School, 1944. Hilda Penner, Bernice Schmidt, Norman Voegeli, Danny Andrew.

with such relief V.E. Day. A special program with all schools participating was held in Maymont.

In 1954 after teaching in various places in Saskatchewan, Holt Hemmen and I were married. We have six children, two still at home. We live on a farm fourteen miles from town in summer and in Hanley in the winter.

We have especially enjoyed having Lilah Brehon and mother, prior to her death, as our dear neighbours in Hanley.

The Tom Richardson Family

by Jessie Ferris

My father and mother, along with brother Tommy, sister Nancy and myself, came out from Scotland to

Saskatoon. After a few years sister Ella was born. Dad served in the First World War but due to a heart condition was sent back to Saskatoon. Having been in the grocery business for years Dad bought the R. B. Harris General Store in Fielding.

We all enjoyed the life of a small town where adults and children alike had to make their own fun.

A few highlights, for me at least is all I can remember. Like the first time at school when BERT and NOAH Simmons were the welcoming committee amid a bunch of giggling boys at the gate. Bert tried to kiss me and Noah, Nancy. But a hard slap across the face to Bert stopped him and Nancy was left bawling her head off. Bert never came too near me after that.

Another highlight for me was on Hallowe'en night. After having exhausted all the homes and business places we came to the forbidden place – the pool hall. A few brave men with me in the lead and "I'm going to tell Dad" ringing in my ears, we entered. In those days you had to perform to get a treat. Everyone shrunk back but me and for my singing effort got fifty cents. It was like a million dollars but on reaching home not only did I get a reprimand but my new earned wealth was taken away from me.

We lived in Fielding the last two years of the war 1917-1918 when things were tough all over. I can remember at the back of the store there would be cans, eggs or pigs at any given time in payment for groceries.

We lived upstairs and it was there when I was seven that the Santa Claus myth was shattered. I saw my father bring in Ella's little rocking chair and put it beside the bed and later said it was from Santa.

It was in the same bedroom that Dad woke us girls up to say we had a new Baby brother. Dr. Beratch had delivered brother Jimmie on the kitchen table.

When we lived in Saskatoon my father belonged to a Pipe Band where he played the big drum. It was only natural that he led any parade that Fielding had those days. When the men came back from the war he always organized the reception.

He also played the roll of a gallant husband when he reached over and squeezed the life out of a mouse that had crawled up inside my mother's long skirt. This happened in church and everyone kept right on singing and never knew it happened but my poor mother nearly fainted.

When the men started coming home from the war and the trains didn't get in till after dark a number of us school children were handed long poles with sacks on the end dipped in gasoline. We then formed two lines so the soldier and his wife or relatives could proceed down the middle. One incident that happened was an over enthusiastic female grabbing one soldier with such zeal, they overturned and rolled down the embankment.

We only lived in Fielding about three years before moving back to Saskatoon. But brother Tommy and I spent the best part of our summer holidays going back to Fielding, either to the R. W. Ferris or R. B. Harris farms. The family then all moved to B.C., to find our niche in life. Tommy joined the navy and Jimmie the army in later years.

Now as I write this in 1978 my father passed away when he was age sixty-seven and Mother was ninety-one. Both my brothers are now deceased. Sisters Nancy lives in Kelowna and Ella in Powell River. I came back to Saskatchewan and married one of my Fielding schoolmates, T. L. Ferris. We live on a farm at Borden.

My parents had six grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

We visit Fielding quite often and although it is now but a ghost-village, the spirit of the descendants of those hardy pioneers is still alive and the people are down to earth and wonderful. Fielding brings back to me three years of childhood memories which I will always cherish.

Tom Roberts

In 1913, Dave and Charlie Roberts left Dundee, Scotland to immigrate to Canada, the land of promise and hope. They worked in the Radisson District before returning to Europe for the war of 1914-18. Dave was killed during the war and Charlie returned to the Fielding District to farm. In 1920, their father, Alexander (Sandy) and sister Mary came to Charlie's. Mary was married to William Pennycook of Perdue the same year. The rest of the family joined them in 1921 coming by boat-train. The family lived on the McClintock farm. (later Roy Kiepers). Meg and Bill attended school at Fielding and Beckwith. Later Tom purchased his farm two and one-half miles west of Fielding. During this time Tom ran a steamer on a threshing outfit and one fall when crops were poor he went to Lloydminster to harvest where crops were better.

Dorothy Flath and parents Ethel and Tom Roberts.

On November 4, 1908 Tom married Ethel Maud Keeper, second daughter of Charlie Keeper. In February, 1908, mother Jane Milne Roberts passed away. For several years Tom's father lived on the farm until his passing in 1940. On March 14, 1937, daughter Dorothy Noreen was born. She attended school from 1941-45 at Calais. The teacher was Jean Downie of Fielding who lived with Roberts and drove Dorothy to school. Dorothy's classmate was Bob Long. In 1945 Dorothy began attending Fielding School with teacher Betty Darling (Mrs. Cecil Ferris). Farming activities ranged from a laying flock of one hundred leghorns, later to purebred Shorthorn cattle and always grain. Custom combining in the 1940's with Cockshutt's first combine was a real challenge. Later Tom left the combining on the farm for Joe Hunchak to do with his larger outfit. In 1949, Tom purchased thirty acres of land north of the township of Fielding and moved his buildings to this location bringing the cattle in winter here. A store purchase was the poolroom from Alex Garnett which was converted to a cafe and run by Edna and Morley Wager for a time, later by Sid Johnson and Chet and Carrie Marshall.

With construction of the new highway through his thirty acres, the cafe building was moved north of the highway and set up a cafe and gas service. With the closing of Fielding's only grocery store, Tom converted the cafe portion into a grocery-confectionary, travelling each week to Saskatoon to purchase supplies.

Ethel was a constant helper in these adventures. Their location gradually became a lovely garden of trees and flowers, a tribute to the many hours spent in gardening. The service station was known far and wide as a stopping spot where service was available at any time and many a stranded motorist was aided.

Ethel was active in church activities, being a member of the Women's Missionary Society and president for a number of years. She served as leader of the Canadian Girls-in-Training for the last twelve years of that organization in Fielding, holding the meetings in her home.

Dorothy was a member of the C.G.I.T. when leaders were Ruby Martens and Florence Phillips, local teachers, also Audrey Deering. Who recalls the Fielding "Fun Frolicers" led by Florence Phillips when local teenagers met for fun? Ballroom dancing, three-act plays and such. And then the day you were twelve and could join Mr. Bill Brown's church choir which met every Thursday with organist Mrs. Annie Roberts. Later Edith Brown and Dorothy Roberts.

Dorothy and cousin, John Roberts, Jean Baker and Edith Brown were the first students transported to Maymont School with Mr. Ryan, school janitor, as driver.

Following graduation, Dorothy attended Teachers' College, teaching in Leon Lake and North Battleford before her marriage in 1960 to Rudolph Plath of Radisson. They moved to their farm in the Stoughton Area and have a family of five.

For many years Ethel suffered from rheumatoid arthritis and required medical aid as she coped with the disease. She managed to keep up most of her activities until her passing in 1977. Tom has continued to operate his service station.

A Tribute to a Great Lady (Ethel Roberts)

from a newspaper clipping

With the passing of Ethel Roberts, Fielding lost a faithful recorder of all U.C.W. and C.G.I.T. meetings, a work that was dear to her heart. Her hand crippled with arthritis, she faithfully wrote detailed accounts of the meetings and work of these organizations so that their achievements would be an inspiration to other branches in other districts. Her leadership in C.G.I.T. inspired the girls to lead useful and Christian lives.

She loved and shared her garden and flowering shrubs with everyone — was very artistic making lovely creations from dried moss, weeds and other dried flowers.

History of the Charles M. Roberts' Family

Charles M. Roberts came from Dundee, Scotland, where he worked on the "Shield Hill" farm. He came to Canada on the advice of a man from Saskatoon, who was back home in Scotland on business. He gave Charlie and his brother, Dave, a letter of introduction to his father-in-law in Saskatoon. The two young Scots left Dundee for Saskatoon early in March, 1913, arriving in 40 degrees below Fahrenheit weather. The letter of introduction was the reason for them going to Fielding to Mr. Bill Reyes' home which later became Charlie's own farm. But that's another story.

In a short time Dave was hired by a farmer Martin McGrath north of town and Charlie was hired by Al Nutting, a farmer near Radisson. Mrs. Nutting told how she had Charlie apples when he was in the house to keep him from talking and asking questions — it was so difficult for her to understand his broad Scottish accent.

That winter, Charlie a bit lonely for his old folks went back to Dundee but with the understanding he would return to the Nuttings in the spring, which he did. The next summer war broke out and in 1916 Chester Nutting and Charlie enlisted. Charlie did his training in Radisson and Prince Albert. Eventually he got to England and Europe. He spent eleven months in the front line and was wounded at Passchendael in 1918.

Charlie returned to Radisson after the war was ended and through the D.V.A. bought the farm N.E. quarter 32-40-11-W 3rd previously farmed by Mr. Reyes. In August, 1920 his father Alex (Sandy) Roberts and his sister Mary came from Dundee, the latter to

marry Bill Pennycook of Perdue who was also from Dundee. In 1911 Charlie's brother three brothers Alex Tom and Bill and a sister Margaret (Meg) arrived in Fielding and for a time lived with him. Later his sister and family moved to what was then known as the Mel Tunstead farm.

In the fall of 1911 Miss Annie Bigelow of Saskatoon, Sask. came on the scene as the teacher in the second room of the Fielding two-room school. Ruth Pooley of Grenadier, Sask. was engaged the same year as junior teacher. R. B. Harris, J. E. Kasper and L. E. Iverson were the trustees with Mr. Iverson as secretary. In those days the Christmas concert was the highlight of the school year and the program, which was presented in the Fielding Community Hall, involved each pupil in some item. The next year another teacher, Mary Carmody of Framingdale, Sask. was added to the staff. For lack of space the senior students (Grades VIII, IX and X) were moved to what was then the Presbyterian Church now the United. It was fitted with blackboards and desks "no laboratory, no library, etc." - a far cry from the beautifully furnished and well equipped classrooms of today. The pupils were adjusted to study and the co-operation I got was wonderful. There was a feeling of respect and understanding. I can recall no serious discipline problem. Those students have made a mark in the world. I take no credit for this as teachers, nurses, governments and farmers. One boy paid the supreme sacrifice in World War II.

In the winter of 1917 Charlie and his brothers under the supervision of carpenter W. D. Evans built a two-storey house on the farm. Plans were in the making. I was teaching in Westmount School in Saskatoon. Many trips were made from Fielding over the old CanPac Ferry. Finally on Christmas Day 1920 we were married at Saskatoon. A week later we started our new home where we spent the next thirty-four happy years. Retiring from the farm in 1955 to Saskatoon. Though we were happy on the farm and had wonderful neighbors and friends, life was not all "pie in the sky". All will remember the "Hungry Thirties". We never went hungry but certainly made very little money. We always had a good garden, for which we thanked God. No electricity on the farms meant much canning of vegetables, meat and chicken, and jars or crocks of bread pork packed in fat.

For wedding gifts we received a cow, five wee pigs and a few hens from friends and neighbors. These stood us in good stead and were the start of our livestock population. We named our cow Alverna in honor of the donor, Alex Gates.

In summer we did much walking — you were a number we often walked to town. Gasoline was rationed as also was sugar. At that time Highway No. Five went by our door. It was a common occurrence to have truck loaders stop in for a lunch or a meal. I always hoped they would 'go easy' on the sugar. It took a lot of planning and saving to have enough of that rationed staple to do a lot of canning and to make a rhubarb or saskatoon pie for a treat.

There were some bright spots in those hard years too. Most important to us was the birth of our first child, John Charles, born January 28, 1927 and our second son, David Alexander, July 31, 1929. Dr. John Scratch and Nurse Patricia McGrath were attendants at both births.

John trained as a teacher but after a year at Grey Bruce Movement he decided to switch to X-ray work and entered St. Paul's Hospital as a student. At present he is Chief X-ray Technician in that hospital. He married Marlene Dueck of Cromach, a Lab Technician at City Hospital. They have two sons and a daughter - Cameron, Darin and Jenna. David chose farming as his occupation and took over his father's farm. He married a teacher, Myrna Harris, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Harris of Fielding. They have three sons and a daughter — Kent, Bradley, Craig and Carla.

About five years ago David and Myrna decided to go ranching. They built a beautiful home in a picturesque setting on NE 33-41-11-W3. They sold the farm at 33-40-11 to Brian McNaughton. At present they have a large herd of cattle on "Shield Hill" stock farm. Their interests are also in Quarter horses and all the family are riders.

During their years at Fielding Charlie and Annie were active members of the Fielding United Church and were community minded folk. Charlie was active in the local telephone company. Wheat Pool (being an original member), Radisson Co-op, the Fielding Hall Co., the curling club, the Radisson Masonic Lodge and the Fielding Legion. When he retired to Saskatoon he became an avid horse shoe player and carpet bowler. They became active members in the Mayfair United Church and its various organizations.

Charlie died in July, 1972. He was predeceased by his parents Mr. and Mrs. Alex (Sarah) Roberts, his brother Dave who was killed in the First World War, his brother Alex of Vancouver and his sister Mary Pennycook, Medicine Hat. His sister Margaret (Meg) McMillan of Saskatoon died March 1978. Tom, who operates the Northside Service Station at Fielding, lost his wife (the former Ethel Kasper) in 1957. Bill, a veteran of World War II lives with his wife, the former Leslie Thompson, at Cloverdale, B.C.

Mr. and Mrs. James William Robertson

James William Robertson was born in 1894 and grew up in Barrie, Ontario. As a young man he travelled west to Winnipeg where he spent a time working for the J. H. Ashdown Hardware Co. It was the lure of the West that brought him and his brothers Archie, to Southern Sask. where they operated a store. During that period they received contracts to supply goods to the N.W.M.P. post at Battleford. They freighted these goods by horse-drawn vehicles cross-

country to Battleford. Later in the fall of 1903, they moved on to Fielding and took up homesteads and engaged in farming.

In 1908 J. W. Robertson married Mabel Bishop who came west in 1903 from Greenwich, N.S. to teach school, first at Saltcoats, Sask. and then at Fielding where she was one of the first teachers at Fielding school.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Robertson were active in community affairs. Mr. Robertson was a member of the Board of Session of the United Church when the Methodist and Presbyterian congregations united in 1918. Mrs. Robertson was an energetic member of the Ladies Aid of the Methodist Church before union and of the United Church after union. In 1918 they left Fielding to reside at Chilliwack, B.C. and a few years later to Nova Scotia. Always a westerner at heart Mr. Robertson brought his family back to Saskatoon in 1926 and resided in Saskatchewan till his death in 1947, after spending some years buying grain in St. Walburg and a short while at Tisdale.

Mrs. Robertson passed away in Saskatoon in 1971.

Mr. and Mrs. Robertson had 3 children: Ann, Mrs. George Burgess of Victoria, B.C., Kathleen, Mrs. Malcolm McNaughton of Saskatoon, and James Lovell a lawyer practising in Saskatoon. Mrs. Robertson's two daughters both succeeded her as teachers in the Fielding school.

The Bern Robinson Family

George O. (Bern) Robinson was born in Ontario, raised in Michigan, then returned to Ontario when about 18 years of age. He kept moving westward, to Manitoba, then to Saskatchewan. In 1903, he and his uncle, Charles Robinson, drove by horse and buggy from Wadena, Manitoba to Ruddell, Sask., where he bought N.E. 1-42-14-W.3rd from the C.P.R. on July 16, 1903. He hauled lumber from Saskatoon in 1905 and built a house. Here he brought his bride, Hannah McMahon, in the spring of 1906. He filed on S.E. 2-42-14-3rd for a homestead and by 1908 had broken 140 acres. Not content with farming only, he went into the business of selling Cockshutt and Deering machinery and Grey buggies in the village of Ruddell. Later, when Ford cars were available, he became a Ford dealer, and sold many of the first Fords in the area. In 1919 they moved into their newly built house in Ruddell and there raised their family.

After the implement business was sold to the Grain Growers, he dealt in insurance and Delco products, and later operated the general store with Oswald Harper as partner. He retired from business in 1938 but remained active and managed his land till his death in 1950. His wife had a smaller house built across the street from their former home and lived there till the age of 97, when she moved into North Battleford. She died in January 1979, just two months before her 103rd birthday.

There were four children in the family. Fern and Ruth attended school in Ruddell, North Battleford and Saskatoon, and became teachers, making Ruddell their home until they married. Fern now lives in Vancouver, B.C. with husband Bob Orchard and family, and Ruth in Portland, Oregon, with husband Bill Wilson and family. Marie died at two years of age. Lance received his education in Ruddell and also graduated from U. of S. with his Bachelor of Agriculture degree. He then served in the Armed Forces from 1941 to 1945. He and his wife, Betty Rogers of Maymont, and their family, made Ruddell their home and farmed from town from 1946 to 1973, when they moved into North Battleford. Lance died in 1974 and Betty in 1976, but three of their family,

Oct., 1956. The G. O. (Bern) Robinson family. Left to right — Ruth Wilson, Hannah, Bern holding Colleen (his Granddaughter), Fern Orchard, and Lance.

Oswald Harper on left. George (Bern) Robinson (by tree).

Archie, Hal and Colleen and their families are still in North Battleford. Brenda and her family live in Calgary, Alberta.

The Robinson house is still in Ruddell. Two generations of Robinsons grew up in it, but there is no one now in the district with the Robinson name.

George C. and Emily J. Robinson

by Edna E. Gibson

My father, George Croft Robinson, and my mother, Emily Jane Warne, were born in Ontario — my father in 1849 and my mother in 1853. They were married in 1887 in Oakland, Ontario and went over to Michigan where they lived until 1905. My brother, Warne, was born there in 1888 and I in 1896. My father was a blacksmith in Michigan. In 1905 he came to the Ruddell District. His homestead was the farm now owned by Norman Soule who is the third generation to farm there. During that first year my father started to build our house which was completed the following spring. The mail came to Saltcoats from Saskatoon in 1905 and my father often rowed across the river to get it and told of the good dinners he would have at the Megaffin home. My father spent the winter of 1905 and 1906 in Michigan and made arrangements for my mother, Warne and I to move West which we did in May, 1906. I can remember the prairie was yellow with wild pea blossoms. A remarkable coincidence occurred, when by chance I happened to be in the washroom on the train and met Mrs. James Lowrey who was also going to Ruddell. Her husband had gone out to join his brother, Edward, who had the Post Office and General store. Mrs. Lowrey could not adjust to the hardships of pioneer life so they did not stay long. My father had a blacksmith shop on Main Street for several years. He sold it to the McKenzie Brothers and bought Mr. Lowrey's Store.

My brother, Warne, had the Post Office until he left for Officer's Training during the First World War. He married Cora Robey first and then Irma Mitchell. They had three children. Their two daughters are still living but their son died in 1945 at the age of thirty-four. Warne died in Vernon, B.C. in 1954. Irma now lives in Oliver, B.C.

My father died in Ruddell in 1918 and was taken back to Oakland, Ontario for burial.

In 1920 I married Hugh W. Gibson and came to Victoria. Hugh had farmed in the Lilac District from 1908 to 1913. In December, 1920 my mother came to Victoria to make her home with us and died here in 1943. My husband, Hugh, died in 1964.

At one time there were six Mrs. Robinsons living in Ruddell.

W. O. Robinson and Jack Robinson

In 1913, our father, Arthur William Robinson, arrived in Ruddell, having come via Tisdale, where he had homesteaded, and Radisson, where he had farmed for a time. He rented a farm two miles west and a mile south of Ruddell, which was later known as the "Wallace place" and still later as the "Scott place".

In 1915, he returned from a trip to Berlin, Ontario with a bride, Claire May Armitage. Their first son, John, was born in 1916 and William in 1917. Dr. Scratch attended William's birth in the log farm house. Dr. Scratch, having stepped on a nail the previous day,

Mrs. Art Robinson and sons in a Hup down near the river about 1918.

The Art Robinson farm overlooking the dam about 1938.

Robinson family gathering about 1927 or 1928.

Bill Robertson (1938) driving the first rubber-tired tractor in the Rudell district. This photo was for advertising the Cockshutt Plough

arrived about in one bedroom slipper and one rubber boot. Mrs. Asmussen (our maternal grandmother), recently arrived from the east, and, accustomed to doctors clad in morning coat and top hat, was most reluctantly persuaded to allow the doctor's admittance

A year after William's birth, they moved a mile west in the north half of section three where the following year their first daughter, May, (Mrs. W. T. Buttrey) was born and where their last child, Frances (Mrs. J. A. Bolen) was born in 1906

In 1910, the south east quarter of section 16, having become available, he sent for his wife's parents Agnes and John Asmussen, who came out and bought it. He also acquired the south half of section 11, and a quarter, section of pasture land east of the Maple Grove picnic site

Grandfather Asmussen, a skilled bricklayer and stone mason, built himself a brick house next door to ours. In the following years he used his craft to good advantage. He built a large stone-walled barn, a stone-walled implement shed and gravel driveways edged with spot rock, connecting the houses, the road and the barnyard, as well as many improvements and additions to our house. Dad contributed a 32-volt light plant which serviced the houses and the barn. In contrast to this, we still had two old "soddies", one of which was used for a chicken house.

Dad was a good farmer, who enlisted his family on evening walks for the purpose of rock picking, which served to protect the equipment while providing a family outing. Those rocks too large to handle manually were hand-drilled by Grandfather, charged with black powder and blown into manageable chunks. These were then piled in long rows which are now blown-over with the dust of the 30's.

I sometimes wonder, in the distant future, some archeologist may dig into those long mounds thinking he has found an ancient burial ground. I hopes and dreams need a final resting place he may be right. For the drought and wind and grasshoppers took the soil and the crops from the land Dad called "Long Acres" and for which he had, on three successive years in the early 30's, won the title of "Best Farm" in the North Battleford Agricultural District, and eventually, when he could no longer buy feed, his prized herd of Aberdeen Angus which he had increased to eighty head — at the worst possible time. I remember him coming home from the Saskatoon Exhibition with the first prize ribbons for a pen of baby beef calves for which he got four and a half cents a pound.

By 1943, the family had scattered. Dad, Mother, Grandfather, and Grandmother were in Victoria, where Jack had been since 1940. May and her eldest husband, Bill Buttrey, were in Newmarket, Ontario. Bill remained in Rudell on the farm until 1948, when he too went to Vancouver Island. On returning from the war Bill and May Buttrey purchased the home place N½, 3, 42, 14 and lived there until 1958 when they took over the post office at Rudell.

The years 1944, 1945 and 1946 saw the deaths of Grandfather, Grandmother and Dad, in that order. In 1947, Jack and Bill bought adjoining pieces of land on the Oyster River in Black Creek near Courtenay. Mother, now alone, sold her Victoria home and built her new home on a piece of Bill's property. Frances and her husband came to the area in 1961.

Mother died in 1966, and Frances in 1977. May is in Rudell while Bill and Jack are in Black Creek where Bill has built a man-made lake that bears the family name.

My earliest memories are of a bustling country town, the main street lined with hitching rails, and another long line of hitching rails beyond the high lumber fence where the horses got protection in the winter. In the winter, when farmers south of the river hauled their grain to the elevators, a youngster could "hook a ride" on a toboggan attached behind their sleighs going out of town, or behind the dray with which Donald Campbell delivered freight using a team of Turnbulls beautiful Clydesdales, or he could stand in the door of the blacksmith's shop and watch the sparks fly as the MacKenzie brothers shod a horse or forged a tool.

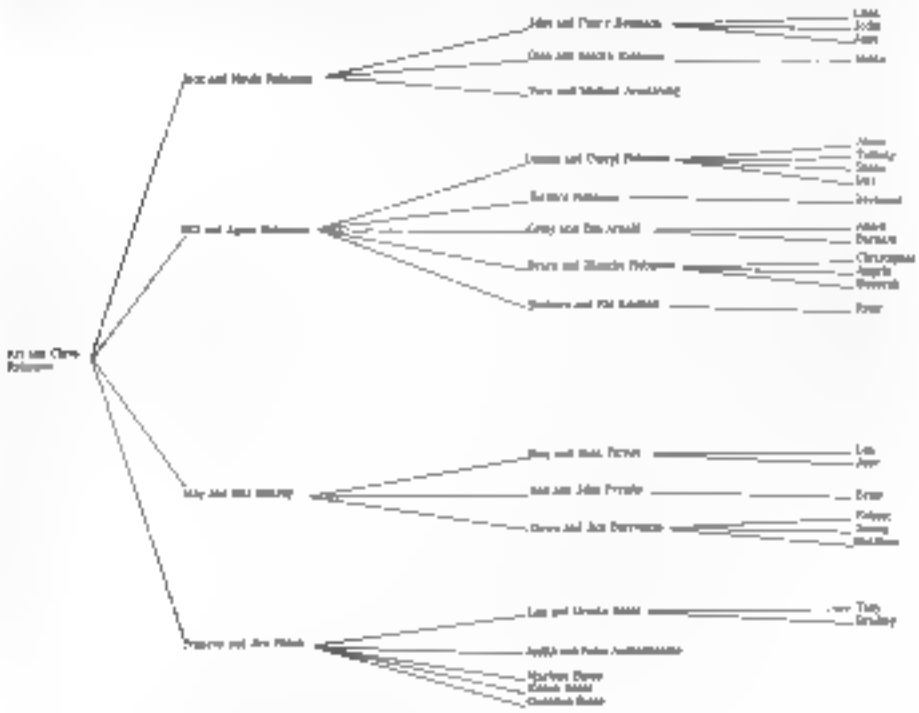
In our early days the local "Hot Stove League" was located at Lawrence Robinson's harness shop on the corner of the street but as horses became passe the harness shop closed and the League moved to Mah Lee's grocery store. One of the regulars was a short, round man, named Bill Kennedy. He lived at Charlie Johnson's Hotel and morning and night helped Shorty Mallows with the mail. He also helped the ladies carry groceries to their buggies or later, cars. And that was his daily work. The rest of the time he spent listening to the local chitchat, but saying very little.

Our home when we were young was open house for young people who came for skiing parties on the river hills, Young People's Meetings, and just plain get-togethers. Our farm truck was always available, but as no one had much money, the group would "chip in" for gas and take us a show at Battleford or, with lunch and supplies stored a week at Ashytuck's Resort on

Meeting Lake. In the winter, there were concerts, card parties, and dances, at the town hall. Entertainment, food and dancing were provided for a 10 cent admission. Music was supplied free, or very nearly so, by local young people. In these days of high costs, it is hard to credit that we got so much for so little.

My personal memories are many. I remember the crisp moonlit winter night when I was walking home from play practice and a snowy owl swooping silently snatched the toque off my head, nearly scaring me out of my wits. I remember the night of the school Christmas concert to which Bill and I decided to take Mother and the girls, wrapped in blankets in the bottom of the sleigh box, through a raging blizzard. Dad wasn't feeling well enough to go, but it must have been an agonizing four hours for him before we made it — due, mainly, to the courage of our horses, rather than our good sense. And I remember the hands that were there to rub our frost bitten faces with snow and take our tired horses to the barn and care for them. I remember the picnics at the Maple Grove all through the years, and which are still continuing. I was there last year to see many of the old timers, which now includes me, and was saddened to see only a few of those old timers of my boyhood. I remember the spirit of young and old, the ability to enjoy life in adversity; and the thoughtfulness. I remember Bill While, later Professor Bill White of U of S, taking a group of us youngsters, eleven to thirteen years old, on a trek, with a horse and democrat loaded with tents and food, to explore the old Hudson Bay Northwest Company Trading Posts (still visible at that time) up the north side of the river to the RCMWP barracks, then abandoned, now restored, and back down the south side of the river. I remember a station master, whose name I have forgotten, who developed a group of farm boys into a very fine choir. I remember the great threshing crews of the late 20's and early 30's, their teams hauling in the loads of sheaves, the four-horse grain wagons, and the big steamers, or Jl cases or Rumleys racing along the road between farms at 4 miles per hour. And I remember in the late 30's the freight trains moving east and west, their tops loaded with men for whom there was no work, nor money for food or shelter. And I remember with some sadness that when the war came, there was money to feed and clothe them and send them to do a job that no man wants — destroying other men.

It was not, perhaps, the best time, but the place was wonderful to grow up in.



Roche Family of Ruddell

Michael J. Roche with his wife Gertrude and family, Mamie, Ivy, Lee, Waldren (Pat) emmigrated to Canada from North Dakota in 1914. They settled in Ruddell, Saskatchewan, where he was section foreman on the Canadian National Railway from 1916 till his death in 1933. Woodrow (Mike) was born in July 1918 in Ruddell.

Left. Norman Mathieson; right, Waldron Roche

Following Michael Roche's death, his wife stayed in and around Ruddell until 1941, when she moved to Saskatoon. She passed away in 1962 at the home of her daughter Ivy, Mamie, married Gordon Patterson of Maymont in 1922 and passed away in Chicago in 1935.

Ivy, married W. S. (Bill) Turnbull in 1924 and died in 1976 in Saskatoon

Lee, attended Ruddell Public School and on finishing started working with his father in 1924. He was married to Mary Parkinson of Saltcoats in 1930, retired in 1974, after fifty years continuous service with CNR. He passed away in 1976 in Chilliwack, B.C. He is survived by son Kenneth, born in Russell in 1931, and two daughters Sharon, in Swift Current and Judy in B.C. and his widow lives in Chilliwack, B.C.

Waldren (Pat), attended Ruddell Public School and he too went to work on the CNR in 1928, retiring in 1972 and passed away in 1973.

Woodrow (Mike), born in Ruddell in 1918 attended Ruddell Public School, left Ruddell in 1940 and lived in Saskatoon until 1954, now residing in Vancouver, B.C.

Michael J. Roche's eldest daughter Agnes, while never immigrating to Canada, lived in and around Ruddell with her husband for several years, finally moving to California in 1933 where she died in 1971.

Muriel (Nuttgrave) and Roy D. Rodgers

Muriel was born and grew up on the farm at Maymont. She attended Calais School and High School at Maymont.

She worked at the Provincial Hospital and the Royal Bank of Canada in North Battleford. It was at the bank that she met Roy Rodgers whom she married in 1954. Roy grew up at Quill Lake, Sask. Roy and Muriel have lived at several locations — North Battleford and Regina, Sask, Toronto and Sudbury, Ontario, Montreal, Quebec and are currently living at Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. Roy is in charge of Systems for the Atlantic Provinces (Royal Bank of Canada).

They have four children; Carol and Wesley — both attending University; Brian and Jeff who are in High School.

Muriel and Roy enjoy bridge, travelling and entertaining their many friends and relatives from across Canada.

Mrs. Jimmy Rogers

written by Mrs. Jimmy Rogers

My parents were born in Quebec. They were married in 1900 and went to live on a farm near Leeds Village

The new province of Saskatchewan was formed in 1905 and like many of their neighbors the fields thought it would be a good idea to "go west" and try pioneering in the new province. In 1907 they made the move. The family included the parents, five children, Marjorie, Mary, Bill, Ellen, Anne and the Grandma and Grandpa Reid arrived in Maymont in June of that year

Our first home was on the homestead southwest of Maymont. Clarence was born while we lived there. Our next move was to Maymont where the Melrose Brothers and Andrew Reid went into business. They ran a livery, dray and feed business for a number of years. Archie, Dorothy and Wilfred were born in Maymont.

The family moved to the farm south of Maymont in March, 1917. They lived there until 1945 when my father passed away and my brother Clarence took over the farm

Ellen passed away in 1965. My mother in July, 1956. Anne and Clarence passed away in 1973.

In 1921 a pumping station was put in at Morgan's Crossing, Saskatchewan River. It was used to supply the CNR trains with water. Jimmy Rogers was the stationary engineer on the job.

In 1924 Jimmy and I were married. He was employed with B & B so we spent the next four years travelling from place to place wherever his work took him. During that time three children, Betty, Mary and

Mary and Jimmy Rogers.

Dick were born. We decided it was time to settle down permanently. We returned to Maymont, bought a house from Syd Fricker and four children, Alice, Ines, Ellen and Murray joined the family. We raised and educated seven children while living in that house.

Jim took over the Imperial Oil Filling Station in Maymont and operated it for over thirty years, until his death in 1970.

The children have all married and have their own children. Betty married Lance Robinson of Paddell She had four children, Archie, Hal, Colleen and Brenda. Betty passed away in January, 1978. Lance died in November, 1974.

Mary married Bill Pinkell of Victoria. She had two daughters, Lynne and Lee.

Dick married Olwyn Stocks and they have three children Garth, Brenda and Lanis.

Alice married Jack Robinson. They live in Calgary, Alberta and have four children. Courtney, Bradley, Patti and James.

Ines married John Carrier, Saskatoon. They have four children, Richard, Sharon, Marlene and Roger.

Ellen married Charlie Thibadeau. They have three children, Faye, Allan, and Ryan

Murray married Rose Ware. They live in Calgary, Alberta and have three children, Norine, Karen, and Lance.

There are twenty-three grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren to date.

Oliver and Marion (May) Rogers

by Marion (May) Rogers

Oliver Rogers came to Saskatchewan with his parents, Ransom and Rachel Rogers from Stonewall, Manitoba in 1904.

I (Marion) came to Saskatchewan with my parents, William and Rosetta Gray, from Bracebridge, Ontario in 1908.

Oliver and I were married in North Battleford, Saskatchewan April 11, 1929 by Reverend F. Fisher.

We lived in Paddell District the first four years of our marriage. Then in 1933 we bought land near Maymont, and made our home on N.E. ¼ of Section 9-43-12-West. This land is in what was then known as the Grey School District.

We had two children, Thelma and Dean, who attended Grey School until Thelma had to start high school and they were sent to Maymont. Grey School

Oliver and May Rogers — April 11, 1929.

has been closed for a number of years now and was moved to the North Battleford Museum.

The depression years came in the early 1930's. With it came dry weather, dust storms and grasshoppers. But we always managed to have faith in next year.

Our two children are now married. Our daughter, Thelma, married Robert Patterson, and they now live on our old farm. Dean, our son, married June Clayton and they also farm near Maymont.

Oliver and I retired in 1962 and bought a home in Maymont. Oliver passed away April, 1977, and I still live here in the village. I have eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

I enjoy needlework and gardening, belong to quilting club, Senior Citizen's Club and the United Church.

In Memory of the Pioneers

by Mrs. Marion Rogers

In memory of the old pioneers who spent their last days in Maymont District. In the early years of the district there were many good old couples who had immigrated here. They were unlike the younger settlers who came; they did not come to make money, neither did they come to build up a great home. They came to get settled with their families around them. Many of them left better homes in the east and south than they ever hoped to have here. They were the pioneers who accomplished their purpose. They won the race and finished their work. That is why so many of our old pioneers had that satisfied smile. They are the people who had built their own monuments, grander monuments than can be built with granite or marble. They were built with kindness, sympathy and loyalty to their neighbors and any strangers who came their way, and by a never tiring help and devotion to their families. Those were the people who laid the foundation for our own families and for our own districts; let us all try and live up to the standard they set.

J. Ransom and F. Rachel Rogers History

On March 3, 1904 Ransom and Rachel Rogers arrived by Immigration Car in Saskatoon, the end of the railway, having left their home at Balmoral, Manitoba to go west and make a new life for themselves and family. They had four small children: Oliver, Elmer, Esther and Emerson (a baby six months old). They came on to Maymont by horses and sleigh, spending the first night at Cee Pee, then at Walters, Great Bend. Also coming at this time were the Andrew Family. Grandma Andrew being Ransom's mother. Grandpa Andrew had filed on the East half of Section 4 in 1903 and Ransom settled on the North-East quarter of Section 4, Range 12, Township 42. Their house was built of logs, hauled by horses, from an island in the North Saskatchewan River five miles south of Maymont. The house roof was made of poles covered by sod with the grass side down. Rachel

Roadmaking.

Washing clothes at Ransom Rogers — summer, 1924.

Ransom Rogers in front of his shop on Main Street, Maymont.

covered the ceiling with cheese cloth and then whitewashed it. The first windows were large picture frames they brought with them.

Ransom's first job was at Emil Richard's ranch where the town of Richard now stands. His job was breaking horses, breaking land with oxen teams. While working there and coming home to see the family on a weekend he walked nine miles, he carried enough small potatoes to plant for the coming year. Uncle Bob Williams had broken a garden patch on the Homestead, which Rachel worked up by hoe and planted potatoes and a garden, which proved to be a good crop.

Ray Rogers hauling water in a wooden tank for the Maymont engine, 1928. Rogers home in the background.

The first change the family spent at the Richard Rhoeb, returning to the Homestead in the spring of 1905, where Rachel put in the Homestead Duties with the children. In October a new baby, Howard, was born. Mrs. Kark from Great Bend was the midwife. There was no doctor available.

The first Church services were held at Grandpa Andrews home.

At that time the trail ran past our homestead, many new settlers stopped in to enquire the way, asking for water for themselves and livestock. The mosquitoes and mosquitoes were so plentiful the men had to wear kerchiefs, etc. on their necks to ward them off.

In 1905 Grey School was built by a Mr. Chambers. The first teacher being Miss Annie Arkley, who lived at home and walked five miles to teach every day. Oliver and Elmer being two of the first pupils, walking two and one-half miles to school across the prairie. One boggy morning they got lost, and arrived at Madill's farm, then walked from there to school arriving late for classes. Mr. Parker ploughed a furrow across from the school to the prairie trail, so the boys would not get lost again. Ransom Rogers was one of the first trustees.

In 1906 Ransom worked for Rev. J. C. Madill on the Barn N.W. quarter of 4-42-11, and also ran a well drilling machine, digging wells in the surrounding area. Some of these wells could not be finished as there was too much gas underground. These were tested by lowering a lantern in the hole, if the flame went out, no further digging was done.

In 1907 he worked in the harness shop owned by Rev. Madill. Leather was bought by the side and then cut to desired length for harness traces, etc., hand stitched, with hand made wax thread. Also recovering horse collars, mending and re-soling shoes, this being his trade. August 16th, Greta was born, being the first baby born in Maymont under Dr. Scratch's care.

After Grey School was closed, to save costs, the family moved to Maymont so Oliver, Elmer and Esther could attend Maymont school. In winter Ransom worked in the harness shop and took on the job of hauling water for the town by horse and sleigh. When spring came, he went out breaking land while Oliver and Elmer took over water delivery by horse and democrat, as well as attending school. One lady who was very particular made them scrub the barrel out with a broom before they delivered her water.

In May 1909 Ray was born, Mrs. P. Long being the mid-wife assisting Dr. Scratch.

Ransom buying and trading horses carried on farm work with very small wages.

In these times help was hard to find and Rachel being in poor health, the family laundry was sent out to a farm neighbor lady, Mrs. Bone, who had a family of hard working girls and boys. Stanley still lives in Maymont.

In 1910 Gladys was born with Mrs. H. Jess and Dr. Scratch attending.

The family moved back to the homestead that spring. Ransom, Oliver and Elmer worked building roads in the district. The road work at that time was done with horses, scrapers and graders. Furrows were ploughed with a walking plow, the soil was loaded on the scrapers and hauled up onto the grade. This work continued for the next few years, to raise money to carry on. In 1913 Ransom and Oliver continued road work under the Government plan and supervised by William Parker. Ransom running the grader machine, and Elmer did the farm work at home. Roy was born in August of that year.

In 1914 the First World War broke out closing down a lot of work. Oliver returned home and worked with Dobkins threshing outfit that fall. Ransom returned to work in the harness shop taken over by Harry Martin.

In January, 1916 Ada was born and in March the family rented the former Rev. Madill farm and moved to live there. The crops looked good but frost and rust lowered the grades so there was a shortage of feed and money. Much of the children's clothing was hand me downs and made over from adult dresses, coats, etc.

1917 was not much better with dry weather, short crops and high prices for seed. It was hard to compare the operating expenses with higher prices and in 1918 hard times prevailing, and an outbreak of a Flu epidemic many lives were lost.

A very poor crop failure prevailed in 1919. October came with a blast freezing potatoes in the ground and a hard winter followed.

In 1920 with poor crops, oats had to be bought at $1.20 a bushel to be used for seeding. Farmers formed a beef ring of 20 families each had 1 share of 20 lbs. Each family supplied a steer and Tom Sawyer did the butchering. It was planned each share got one roast a week, and other cuts divided equally. Some families arranged a half share. This project carried on for twenty weeks in the summer. As there were no deep freezers in that time, the meat would be hung in a pail in the well or some had an ice house, which was packed full of ice blocks taken from the river in winter and packed in saw dust, under ground.

A ploughing match was held on the farm of Tom Sawyer, that summer, by the Agriculture Society. Elmer won a Silver Cup for the Championship of ploughing. This cup was donated by the Canadian Bank of Commerce. The ploughing was done with a tandem team of horses and a gang plow.

Ralph worked at custom threshing for Sam Miller at $20 a day running the separator and the boys doing team work.

In 1921 they bought their first threshing outfit, a Waterloo Boy engine, and did some custom work.

By 1924 had bought Section 4 and Section 9 and Section 3 which needed cleared and broken and produced good crops so in 1925 they bought a steam threshing outfit, with cook car and sleeping car. By now the family were ready to help so the girls helped Rachel with the cooking which meant long hours of hot work preparing meals and washing dishes for as many as 12 to 18 men. The cook car was moved from farm to farm and the farmers supplied the potatoes and milk. The sleeping car had bunk beds with straw filled ticks for the men to sleep in and also followed the machine.

Depression Years

1930, 1937, 1938 took 9 lbs. twice per acre, and only received 45 cents per bushel for wheat. 1929 was a dried out year, poor crops. 1930 wheat sold for 30 cents a bushel. Cost 4 cents a bushel to thresh oats, and sold some for 8 cents a bushel. 7 cents a pound for butterfat for cream. $8.50 for a dressed hog. 5 to 14 cents for a dozen eggs. Some of these years there was a Relief Board, who shipped in vegetables and apples from Ontario by train.

Oliver – married Marion (May) Gray in Battleford in 1929. First lived in Ruddell-Maymont area. Later moving to Maymont where he lived till 1962 then retired in Maymont. Oliver died April 22, 1977 in Union Hospital, North Battleford.

Thelma — their daughter married Robert Patterson at the farm home in June, 1951. They first farmed at Lilac then on her Dad's farm at Maymont. They had four daughters and one son.

Marian – a Food Service Manageress working in Regina. Married Bill Smith on June 30, 1979.

Heather — married to Dennis Prescesky in November, 1975 and have one son Leon Dennis born in February, 1979. Farming in Richard district.

Brenda — married Charles Hocrell in October, 1977, a daughter Beverley Dawn was born in November, 1978. Farming in North Battleford district.

Thomas and Pearlena are still living at home.

Dean — their son married June Clayton January 30, 1954 at Maymont, and farms the former Ernest Ramsay land with other land in the district. They have two daughters and one son.

Margaret — married Raymond Thompson in Maymont April 7, 1973. Now living in Maymont where Raymond has a trenching service. They have two small daughters Roxanne born 1976 and Cheri born 1979.

Yvonne — married Scott Gray in Maymont October 25, 1975. Now lives in Battleford, works at secretarial work and Scott with Sask. Power.

David — lives at home farming with his Dad and has purebred Hereford cattle.

Elmer — married Jean Meema in Saskatoon April 3, 1938, started farming in Grey School District, with hard times coming moved to Goodsoil, homesteaded there after growing up on it, sold it to move to Meadow Lake and went trucking. Later moving to Calgary, Alberta where they still live. Their family consisted of four girls.

Marion — a stenographer works in Calgary. Was married to Ken Nadeau in February, 1957.

Marlene — married Harold Scott in Meadow Lake October, 1955. Their family is three daughters and one son. Live at Bashaw, Alberta and own a Hog Enterprise.

Deborah — married Morley James at Calgary, May, 1967 where they still live.

Shirley — married to William Wetrenko at Calgary, July, 1977 where they still live.

Darcy — is living at home and has an interest in the Hog Enterprise.

Lynne — still at home going to school.

Myrtle — married Gilbert Burton in Calgary August, 1959. Lives at Coquitlam, B.C. where Gil is a chartered accountant. They have two girls Laurel and Deanna both still in School.

Merle Fay — died in infancy at Meadow Lake.

Esther – "Betty" married to Edward Minable at the farm home Maymont in July, 1954. Ed had a farm at Maymont which he rented out and worked at the Saskatchewan Hospital from 1960 till he retired in 1986 to live in North Battleford. Passed away in Union Hospital July, 1988. Betty still resides in North Battleford.

Allan — after leaving school in Battleford joined the army in Spring of 1944, and went overseas from Regina. He served in England, Korea, Germany and Cyprus, and won the Queen's commendation in Korea, for bravery in 1953. He was married to Evelyn Stahl in North Battleford November, 1952 and lived in Calgary, Alberta. From Calgary to Germany in fall of 1958. Evelyn and their two children Debbie and Marc went two, and stayed for three years, and returned to make their home in Calgary, and is now retired after 33 years service.

Deborah — a graduate from University of Calgary (B.Sc.) married Tony Lumsden at Calgary, January, 1977. They moved to Richmond, B.C. where they both work.

Marc — worked in Calgary after finishing school then moved to Richmond. Works for Hudson Bay Store.

Leslie – their daughter trained in City Hospital in Saskatoon and received her R.N. degree. Married

Douglas MacDonald in November, 1960 at North Battleford, who was an R.P.N. working at the Saskatchewan Hospital later transferring to the Battlefords Regional Care Centre. Douglas retired in April, 1979. Leola is still nursing at the Union Hospital, North Battleford. Their family is 3 boys and two girls.

Diane — married Wayne Allen at North Battleford on June, 1975, who is office manager for B.E.P.T.E.B. and living in Surrey, B.C. They have two girls Kimberley and Nicole both under school age.

James — and Cheryl Yee were married in July, 1973, and have three little girls Carey starting school and twins Krista and Karen. Jim works in the Co-op Lumber Yard and lives in Battleford.

Hugh — after finishing school worked for a Recreational Director and works at Melfort, Saskatchewan.

Douglas — is going to University in Regina.

Jacques — is studying for a Veterinarian Assistants at Vermilion, Alberta.

Emerson — married Maybelle Charlton, June, 1937 in Saskatoon. First had a harness repair shop in Richard, then Singer Sewing Machine agent, Watkins agent, farmed at Mildred, Sask. Sold out and went to Flin Flon, Manitoba to work in the mine. This was hard and dangerous work but he liked it and remained there until he was stricken with a heart attack and died in July, 1967. They had a family of two girls and one boy. Maybelle married George Zimmer in October, 1969 who was a trapper and a guide. He died in September, 1973, and she is now retired and living at Cranberry Portage, Manitoba.

George — and Patricia Beadle were married at Mildred, August, 1962. Works in the mine at Flin Flon. Have a family of three sons and one daughter.

Donald — married to Heather Sauer November, 1974 at Flin Flon. Have a small daughter Tamara Lynne (Tammy) born January, 1978.

Brian — married in July, 1978 to Kathleen McCormick at Flin Flon.

Kevin — and Maureen are at home.

Frances — married to Gordon Brown at The Pas, Manitoba, January, 1968. Gordon works for Manitoba Telephones and they are living at Carmen. They have a girl Joni born 1969 and a boy Kenneth born 1972 and a girl Kimberley born 1977.

Jean and Jack Howard married in Flin Flon July, 1955. Jack works in the mine. They have a family of two boys Greg and Brian and a daughter Carolynn.

Howard — first rented the Ed Mantle farm at Maymont, when the Second World War broke out he joined the Canadian Army and went overseas in 1941. He served with the army in both Holland, etc. While there he married a Dutch girl Alice Kuntz in December, 1945. He returned home after the armistice was signed and she followed later with other war brides. The ladies of Maymont gave her a welcome party in the form of a shower and she was the first bride to receive a quilt from the "Quilters". Alice was killed in a car accident in October, 1963, leaving two small boys and a girl.

Allan — lives and farms with his Dad who has bought more land in the district.

Harvey — finished school then attended University in Saskatoon taking a course in Physiology. Later working in archaeology. Married Shelly Burgess in Edmonton August, 1977 and now lives in Calgary.

Fay — attended University in Saskatoon where she met and married Terry Anderson at Maymont August, 1975. They are now living at Kindersley and farming. They have one small son Christopher.

Greta — married Jim Loughrey in May, 1932. He was employed at the Saskatchewan Hospital and later as a ward director at the Irrigation Farm. After a short illness he passed away in December, 1968. Greta then moved into North Battleford and was employed for a number of years by Craig's Dry Goods then made her home with her nephew Ronald Moore, his wife and family, where she took care of the children and Lauriane R.P.N. returned to nursing at Saskatchewan Hospital and then at Battlefords Regional Care Centre.

Roy — worked at farm work with neighbors till he passed away from a heart attack in March, 1979. Leaving a family of four girls.

Darlene — became Mrs. William Cumpsie in May, 1962 living in Edmonton, having a son Darin and a daughter Karen.

Donna — married Walter Leverbek at St. Walburg June, 1962 now living in Calgary with a daughter Shelley and a son Kenneth.

Diane — now Mrs. Gordon Sterling lives in Calgary, has a son Gordon and a daughter Andra both under school age.

Winnifred "Joy" — married to James Watt June, 1953 at Saskatoon is living in Vernon, B.C., having a girl Tammy and a boy Steven.

Gladys — married Everett Moore in Saskatoon April, 1952 then farmed at Lilac, then St. Walburg, Baljennie and Paddell. This was in depression years with lots of hardships. Everett returned with ill health and the farm took over the farming and he passed away in the Union Hospital in March, 1976. A family of four boys and a girl.

Ronald — married Lauriane Dore at North Battleford on April, 1968, is an engineer with Saskatchewan Hospital and Lauriane an R.P.N. at Battlefords Regional Care Centre. They have 2 boys and 2 girls.

Everett — married to Heather Wensley at Meeting January, 1977. Have one son, Justin, live on an acreage in rural North Battleford.

Lois — finished school and taking further studies at Kelsey Institute, Saskatoon.

Grant — studied Auto Body work at Kelsey Institute, Saskatoon.

Marilyn — taking Grade twelve at Comprehensive High School, North Battleford, 1979.

Kenneth — and Shirley Acaster married at Ruddell August, 1956. First farmed at Ruddell then moved to Maymont district to farm. Have 2 boys and 2 girls.

Colleen — married to Ronald Caldwell at Maymont in November, 1978. Are farming in the Maymont district. They have two sons Gregory and Gary both under school age.

Sharon — taking a two-year course to nursing at the Kelsey Institute in Saskatoon.

Murray — married to Donna Prescesky at North Battleford September, 1978, where they are living Murray working for Crown Mart Lumber. They have a small daughter Michele.

Lyle — is still in high school in Maymont school.

Harold — and Treva Miller were married at Fielding July, 1981. They are farming at Ruddell with other land at Maymont. They have a family of two girls Gwen and Carla and a son Ken all at home.

Eileen — was married to Vernon Carey at Ruddell August, 1960. Eileen is employed at the Court House in Battleford as a Deputy Local Clerk-Deputy Sheriff and Vernon as a carpenter at the Saskatchewan Hospital, and live in Battleford. They have a boy Terry and a daughter Sheila both in school.

Ray — married Irene Barrett at North Battleford in October, 1959. They live on the home farm which was the original Rev. Maddi farm, and Irene has many hobbies to work with. They have a family of 4 girls and 1 son.

Elaine — married Ronald Bohn at Maymont August, 1956. Ron works in a paper mill at Campbell, River, B.C. Doing the repairing of the mill machinery. Their family is a daughter Connie who was married to Henry Nicol in August, 1976, who is a mechanic. Living at Black Creek, B.C.

Dale — a son works with a Marcus near Courtney.

Lawrence — still attending high school.

Christine — married to David Gamble November, 1973. Lives in Saskatoon and works as a secretary with S.R.D.

Carol — married Wayne Bright September, 1982 who is teaching at Plenty, Sask. Has a daughter Tammy and son Jeffrey both in school.

Louise — married John Doering July, 1978. John does carpenter work in and around Plenty where they live with two boys Darryl and Michael in school. Louise does secretarial work for the town.

Brian — was employed by a ready mix cement company driving a truck in Saskatoon and is now working in the office.

Ada — and Tom Bates were married in April, 1937 at the farm home of her parents. They farmed north of Grey School, later moving the house to Maymont where the children would be closer to school. There was a daughter Beverley and a son Barry. Thomas passed away suddenly in October, 1966.

Beverley — married Clifford Roberts in October, 1980. They farmed in the Battleford district. Their family was four girls and two boys.

Patricia — just finished school Valerie and Nancy still in school. Joan died July, 1964 (3 months) Clarence in school and Christopher still at home.

Barry — married Peggy Daoust November, 1982. Is a mechanic and works in a garage in North Battleford but lives in Battleford where Peggy works. They have two girls still in school Judy and Maureen.

Ada married Ralph Owen in March, 1973. He had farmed in the Eagle Hills district but was retired. He passed away in Union Hospital, North Battleford from cancer in April, 1977.

The Dean Rogers Family

written by Jane Rogers

Dean Oliver Rogers, son of Oliver and Marion Rogers and June Clayton, daughter of Frank and Marjorie Clayton were married on the cold winter day of Jan. 30, 1954. We lived with Dean's parents for a while. In August 1954, a daughter, Margaret June was born. During November 1954 we moved into a small house in Dean's parents yard. This we called home until the late fall of 1956 when we moved to the former Ernie Ramsey farm having bought this ¼ section in the spring of that year. Also in May 1956, another daughter Yvonne Marie was born. In June 1958, the last of our family a son, David Dean arrived on the scene.

Eventful years followed, raising a family and struggling to get ahead. The children all attended Maymont Central School. being transported there by

Dean and June Rogers — Jan. 30th, 1954.

school bus. When Margaret started in fall 1960 the old school was still there, but when she started grade two, it was to a new school which is presently there.

Margaret graduated from high school in June 1973, Yvonne in June 1974 and David in June of 1976.

Margaret married Raymond Joseph Thompson on April 7 1973. They now reside in Maymont and are the parents of two little girls, Roxanne Margaret age 3 and Cheri Lynn – 18 months.

Yvonne married Kenneth Scott Gray on October 25, 1975. They lived in Prince Albert for a while where Scott was employed by Sask.-Power as a "trouble shooter". Yvonne who had taken a secretarial course after graduation worked at Sask.-Tel. doing secretarial duties. They moved from Prince Albert to North Battleford when Scott obtained a transfer with Sask.-Power to become a "meter man". He is presently doing this. Yvonne is employed at Battleford Community College doing secretarial duties. They are now residing in a house in Battleford.

David decided he was going to stay on the farm. He has now been through school for three years. He is school bus driver for this district with his mother and father acting as spare drivers. David purchased a Y sanction in spring 1978 from Gordon and Walt Johnston, so along with raising registered polled-hereford cattle he manages to keep busy. At present David resides with his mother and dad.

Last January (1979) Dean and I celebrated our twenty-fifth anniversary. Twenty-five eventful years that have gone by so fast. So many changes. Makes one wonder what the next twenty-five will bring.

Wes Rolfe Story

Mr. and Mrs. Wes Rolfe came from Cadell, Kansas by train, together with his brother John Rolfe, John's wife Fanny, and his tiny daughter Chloe. They arrived in Maymont on March 28th, 1913. The two families lived together while John's house was being built. In 1918, Mr. and Mrs. Wes Rolfe had a daughter Viola Rose, who died as an infant. They farmed their land west of Maymont until 1936, when they moved to Saskatoon.

In 1942 they returned to Maymont but not to the farm. They ran a cafe for a few years and after their retirement, they resided in Maymont until their deaths. Wesley died in 1955 and Celia in 1967. They were reported to be great neighbors especially in time of trouble. They were very community minded and Mrs. Rolfe was one of the first Quilters.

The Rolfes had an adopted daughter Terry. Mrs. Leo Dorochenko. They live in Roxboro, Quebec, a suburb of Montreal. Terry's family are grown and two are married. Lorraine and her husband live in Edmonton, Michael and his wife live in Kitchener, Ont. Laurie is still at home.

The Rolfe Family
John and Fanny Rolfe

by Chloe (Rolfe) Purdy

Two brothers and their wives, Wes and Celia Rolfe and John and Fannie Rolfe left Kansas, U.S.A., to come to Maymont to work on the railroad. But it was finished when they arrived in March, 1913. They brought their horses, mules and household goods in a freight car. They bought land from Mr. Melrose, west of town. John had a girl, Chloe, seven years old, and Zadee was born the year they came to the Maymont area. They lived in town until spring to be close to school. Then bought a farm south of town.

As time went on lanes became better so they bought more land. Getting to school was the problem. Chloe walked the first year and rode a horse after that. During the winter months she lived with Andrew Kerns for one year. Andrew Reids and the Brumbaughs other years. She drove a horse when Zadee started school.

John was very good with horses. He did doctoring and dental work and shoeing them as well as traded horses.

Fanny worked outside some in haying time but mostly did odd jobs and chores. She was a very hard worker and she was a good mixer. Their home was usually a meeting place on Sundays. In the winter friends came to skate on the pond or play Five Hundred.

Zadee married Lloyd Taylor. They lived with her parents for a year, then they both left and left their baby Lorna there.

Fannie worked as a cook (a very good one she was, too,) on their threshing crew. The girls did the chores. There were a dozen milk cows at that time.

The Rolfes took a trip to California down the west coast and back by Kansas in 1935. In the fall of 1936 they had a large sale and moved to Oregon. They stayed there for three years. Fannie passed away while visiting in Maymont. Chloe had married two months earlier and gone to live in Vancouver.

John sold out in Oregon and went back to Maymont to live until his death in 1956. Zadee had moved to Vancouver and married again. Chloe took Lorna after she was married and raised her.

Leona is now married for the second time as her first husband was killed. She has a girl twenty-six years old and a boy of twenty-two. She lives in Chilliwack, B.C. They have a large broiler farm.

Chloe lost her husband in 1969. She lives on their small acreage in Surrey, B.C.

Wess and Celia Rolfe

Wess and Celia Rolfe traded their farm for some property in Saskatoon. While in Saskatoon they adopted a daughter, Terry. They moved from Saskatoon to Biggar. They later moved back to Maymont and took over a restaurant, the former White Cafe.

They bought a house and retired in Maymont after the cafe work became too heavy for them. They lived there until their deaths

Terry married Les Dorenbenbro. They have two girls and a boy. They moved from Saskatoon to Winnipeg and on to Montreal, where they now live

Their eldest daughter is married and lives in Edmonton. The other girl lives at home and their son is married and lives in Ontario

There was a brother Ralph Hollis who came up and lived with Wess at Biggar. He spent one year at Maymont and then moved back to Kansas

A brother Bill came with them but only stayed one year

A brother Al came in 1907 and lived with John Hollis and then went to Biggar where he lived until his death around 1967

Marguerite (Mohler) Ross

written by Marguerite

I, Marguerite was born in Maymont, Sask. The first three years I attended school in the basement of the then Presbyterian Church. I remember on dull days how hard it was to see the writing on the blackboard (No electrification then). My teachers were Miss Price and Miss Bean.

Most of the children from the country either rode horseback or drove a horse and buggy. "Major" was our school horse, taking all four of us to school. By the time I was driving by myself, he had slowed down considerably. As we had to drive through town to get home, I didn't always drive down the main street. If some boy would holler, "Whoa, he dutifully stopped and was hard to get started again. Needless to say I was embarrassed by this and often drove around north from the Post Office which was located at Coleman's. Major was very gentle and was never known to kick anyone — even when we children climbed on his back and slid down over his tail.

Grade Five was taken at the "new" school. The intermediate room seemed so light and airy after our basement room. Miss Paterson was our teacher. For grades Six and Seven it was Miss Bellwood (later to become Mrs. Allan Bean.)

By the time I reached high school, Grade Twelve was taught in Maymont. Mr. E. W. McDonald was our teacher. Some considered him strict but we got along fine.

Four of us from Maymont attended "Normal School" as it was called in those days. We rented a few blocks away. Lillian Martin was my roommate and Muriel Butterfield and Genevieve Bates were next door. All too soon the seven sped by

My first school was north of Mullingar, called "Hartertoo". I boarded with Hansfords and walked to school with Aimee. There were all the grades so I was kept busy. Mr. Hansford played the cello and we had many pleasant times playing together on Sundays. Other schools followed but none were quite as interesting as my first year teaching.

Thomas Read Ross and I were married on June 28, 1917 by Reverend Frank Myers in the United Church. So I went to Stony Beach where we farmed. My husband is also an electrician. It was a busy time when the power came to our district in 1954. He certainly got to know people's houses in the surrounding districts — from basement to attic. One time as he was climbing into an attic, he moved the lid and down crashed a sad iron, hitting his shoulder and big toe. That poor toenail turned white and remained so for twenty years or more.

We sold the farm in 1972 and retired to Creston that October. The roses were still blooming when we arrived - which really appealed to me. There are many retired prairie people here so we felt quite at home from the beginning. Through church and O.E.S., and Masons, we have met many new friends. We belong to New Horizons where we enjoy dancing, oil painting, carpet bowling and cards. We both play the piano on Tuesdays for dance days. Read plays the trumpet also. We are also organist at O.E.S. and Masons. We attend Round Dance classes from October to May.

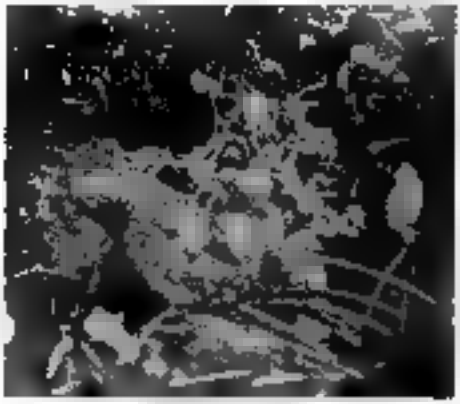
We think Kootenay Lake is as beautiful as any lake we have seen and are happy to live near it. However, we still have a soft spot for the "Prairies" and enjoy our visits there from time to time.

Mrs. Gwen Ross

It will be fifteen years on the 7th of November since I came to Maymont. There have been lots of changes in that time. There were sixteen of us, all close relatives when I came here, now there is only me. I remain. I then bought my house from Mr. R. Smith. I have been fixing it up ever since. There are lots of improvements I would make yet, but us old folks cannot pay the big wages so things will just have to sit. I used to grow a lot of bedding plants, raspberries, strawberries and flowers — I still do but on a smaller scale.

I came with my folks from England in April, 1905. I was six months old. I don't know how we got to Saskatoon, but we stayed there long enough to buy a tent and provisions to continue on our way. We hired a man with a team of oxen and a wagon, and with what we had brought with us, there was only room for one person to ride and hold me — the rest had to walk. We got as far as Rudell and the oxen played out, so we came back to Maymont. I guess the Maymont people didn't like the looks of us green English folks, so put us over the river in a boat, bag and baggage! We set up a tent and there we stayed. Dad homesteaded that same quarter — N.E. 2-41-13. Mother always said we took root and stuck it through thick and thin. We kids grew up in a very secluded place, and not having any school to go to we had to amuse ourselves. We didn't really

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Ross. Lorna and Doreen, 1928.



Strawberry grown by Gwen Ross — 7½ inches in diameter.

belong to Maymont but did all our business there. We hauled our grain there until Saskatoon got elevators.

Dad was a Police Inspector and carpenter. Mother was the daughter of an Anglican minister and was organist in the big cathedrals. She also taught Sunday School and music and being Welsh she was a good singer.

Well, we borrowed oxen and a walking plough and broke up sod for a sod house. By November 2nd, we had moved in. Did it ever leak! We had pans all over to catch the drips!

The men cut wood with axe and bucksaw for our tin camp stove. One of our neighbors had a box stove with a door in the front. He was so lazy, instead of cutting his wood, he would just poke in the end of a long pole and when it burned so far he would poke it in a little further.

Every year we would build another room on our house, we got more land, a team of oxen, a pony called "Kid", a milk cow and bees. Dad, being a good carpenter, built our table, cupboards and beds. We used to sew flour bags together, fill them with oat chaff from the threshing machine. They sure made swell beds. Guess there was no Russian Thistle in those days! We ground wheat in the coffee grinder for porridge. The good Lord provided us with lots of wild game, wild fruit and fish from the river, and dishpans full of mushrooms.

We had lovely lace curtains on sod walls. Good silver cutlery with tin mugs and plates. I asked my folks one day what a chair was. The best sale they went to they bought four. In 1905 butter was 25¢ per pound, beef was 20 pounds for 1.00¢, flour was $3.25¢ per 100 pounds — some difference now!

We got a boat and from then on our place was known as Morgan's Crossing. My brothers put folks over the river morning noon and night - - groceries and mail, too. Mother and us girls spent all our time cooking and washing dishes. The men would sometimes get 5¢ or 25¢, if they were lucky. We would feed the horses or oxen whichever it would be for days. We're we ever glad when the west ferry went in!

We got more land and built a six room house of logs from the river. We got a dandy bunch of planks in one flood — a lot of us got some. Later men came and collected for every foot of it. We put a rubberoid roof on our house. When winter came it frosted up so bad we had to put a second one on, then it was o.k. In 1914 we used horses in place of oxen. The men fixed up a telegraph to the neighbors about three miles away. It was run on the wire fence. We all learned to tap out the Morse Code, then the Continental (another code). We then changed it to a phone by using big jars of bluestone, copper and zinc and water for batteries. When the other phones came in ours had to go. Our home was saddened when our boys joined up in the first World War. John joined up with the 79th Cameron Highlanders. They fought to save our country. Do we give them enough credit in this day and age? Dad left us three months later with a heart attack. The doctors in England gave him six months to live — he lived eleven years. The change of climate had done him some good.

Mother had many sleepless nights when we heard John was wounded. We used to pack so many boxes for the lads overseas — fruitcake, puddings, gum, candy, cigarettes. Mother put on social entertainments in the school to raise money for the Red Cross.

John came home and took over the farm. Walter married Mabel Edenborough. Daisy married Joe

Davidson, I married David Ross, second youngest son of Bill and Ann Ross, in 1932. We had tough going with hail rust and drought. Our milk cows and hens kept us going.

We had three of a family — Lorna, Doreen and Murray. When David was not to work owing to heart trouble, the girls took over the field work. When they got married Murray was old enough to take over. Three years after David left us, Murray was killed in a car accident. My girls were such a help then, they would come week about until I put on a sale. I stayed on my farm until the harvest was finished, then I came to Maymont.

Lorna married a farmer, Phil Baker, from Baljennie. They have two sons, Dwayne and Gregory. Doreen married Leslie Parker of the Maymont district, now in the Esso business in Radisson. They have two sons Blake and Todd and two daughters Darla and Laureen. A son Blaine and a daughter Deborah, who we think of so often are not with us anymore.

Our Spinney Hill neighbors were really a great help when we needed them. When David was not well or anymore, everyone brought loads of wood. We had a bigger pile then than we had ever had, we could hardly get out the door. When our bin burned down with over 100 chickens and 25 turkey's in it, all the women brought two chickens each — big ones small ones, all colors. Were they ever cute! When Murray was in the car accident the men did all my summerfallow. Those are things we will never forget. I have good neighbors here, too. I guess I am just plain lucky.

I will ring off with a wee poem:

Here's to miss Gwen
As she was but then,
A child in her dear mother's arms.
In those frontier days
With their fussy ways
As the emigrants looked for farms.

Her eyes were as blue as the ocean,
Her voice like the little wood wren,
When you listen to the song
Of this sacred bird
You listen to the voice of Gwen.

Composed by a neighbor, J. C. Stephens

The Ross Family

Mr. and Mrs. W. Ross with sons John, Henry, Orpheus, David, Charles, Lyman, and Tom came from Quebec to the Spinney Hill area in 1912. They were relatives of the Rathgrove family of Maymont, Allan, Harry, Charlie and Sam.

The Ross's all farmed near each other in the Spinney Hill area. There were some Ross homesteads in the Maymont area in the early days also. George Brehon now farms a "Ross" quarter.

Tom and his wife Sarah, raised three children — Alvin, Beatrice and Louise. After Tom died, Sarah

The Ross boys and their wives. L to r — Dave and Gwen; Charles and Alice; Henry and Margaret; Tom and Sarah; Tivey and Beulah; Lyman and Ethel.

came to live in Maymont. She loved a game of cards and was always delighted to have company. She lived in Maymont until her death.

Henry married a widow, Margaret Fraser. They had a family of three also — Edwin, Enid, and Irene. Henry and Margaret farmed and upon retiring took up residence in Maymont for several years.

Tivey Ross and Beulah Rose were married in 1922. They farmed and also lived at and ran the Spinney Hill store for thirteen years. They had eight children — Lloyd, Audrey, Grant, Dean, Beverly, Steele, Gordon and Glennis. Beulah still lives on the home farm during the summer and in Saskatoon visiting sons and daughters in the winter. Tivey lived in Maymont for several years until his death.

Charles Ross married Alice Johnston. He farmed near his brothers and also ran the Spinney Hill ferry. After Charlie died Alice moved to Maymont and lived there for several years before moving to North Battleford.

David married Gwen Morgan. They farmed two miles west of the store. David was very handy with animals and would go day or night to doctor an animal that was sick or in distress.

David and Gwen also raised a family of three — Lorna (Mrs. Phil Baker) of Baljennie; Doreen (Mrs. Leslie Parker) of Radisson and a son Murray, who died accidentally in his early twenties. After Dave died, Gwen sold her farm and now resides in Maymont.

Walter and Jean Sadowsky

Jean and I became residents of Maymont in 1948. I was born and raised in the Torbeville School District, north of Richard, my parents having settled there in 1919.

Jean, the former Jean Francesky, was born and

Sadowsky family — 1973. Standing — Eugene, Nadine, Wally. Seated — Walter and Joan.

raised on the Rockell district for parents having settled there in 1915.

We were married in 1948, and in 1949, bought the farm known as the Gilliard place, previously farmed by James and Ethel Steele.

In April, 1949, we moved to our new location, into the large, old house built by the late Mr. Gilliard, and since then have farmed in the Maymont district.

We have two sons, Wally, born in 1951 and Eugene, born in 1953. Both boys attended Maymont Central School, with Wally later attending the University of Saskatchewan, convocating with a Bachelor of Education Degree.

We continued to farm and live in the old house until 1957, when we moved into a new house that we had built in Maymont, and tried farming for a time from town. This didn't prove too satisfactory, so in 1959, we tore down the old house on the farm, and started to build a new one on the same spot.

The house in town we sold to Jack and Helen Armstrong and in July, 1960, moved back to the farm into a partially completed house.

Through the years we continued to improve the farm by clearing up the willow and poplar brush growing there and replacing the old buildings with new ones.

We also purchased some pasture land north of Richard, and built up a herd of Hereford cattle.

Some of the years in the 1950's and the early 1960's, were dry years with the crops being very short and fodder for cattle hard to obtain. Since 1962 the district has experienced good years and the crops have been excellent.

For many years we enjoyed Jim and Henry Bohn as neighbors across the road from us. Since Jim passed away and Henry moved away, we have missed their coming and going, and their house light in the evenings.

We also recall Jim and Henry driving, for a time, their old 1918 Model T Ford car, with no rooftop and its lantern type lights.

We have enjoyed our life in the district, as well as having made many friends.

At present, Wally, Nadine and family reside in Pierceland, Sask., where Wally teaches school. Eugene is employed by Sentex Developments at Lloydminster, Sask.

Mr. and Mrs. Basil Saunders
Mr. and Mrs. Ted Saunders
Mr. and Mrs. Derby Reid

written by Binky Reid

My Dad and Mother, Rev. and Mrs. Basil Saunders, came to Maymont from Lashburn, Sask. in 1938.

They served in the Anglican Church here for three years.

Probably, since Isabel and I were the youngest, and

Rev. Basil Saunders.

spent most of the three years here, we have more to remember, about those years.

Dad and Mom enjoyed the people of Maymont. They were kind and good to them

Mrs. A. R. Bean lived where the Bill Paul's are at present, and Mom and Mrs. Bean were good friends.

Dad took services at Fielding, over the river and of course at Maymont.

We lived in the parsonage, now owned by Merle Cooley.

As a young girl, I have memories of Jack Foster delivering milk, of Mr. Alf Andrew on many very cold winter mornings, picking Bessie and I up in a "recovered to" sleigh, to take us to school, as he and Kay passed by, of Mr. Bob Neill being the town policeman, of the good school and town dances in the Orange hall, of my courtship with Derby Reid

Dr. Myers and my father were friends and always respected each other

I have a sister in Bonnyville, Alta. who has two children, Betty Mitchell and Ken Vesper. Ken stayed with us in Maymont. The late Earl Currie was a friend of Ken's.

My brother Ted operated Saunder's Store for at least twenty years. He married Jean Martin of Maymont and they had two children, Judith, Mrs. Merv. Crowe of Saskatoon and Sandra, Mrs. Eric Salt, of Saskatoon.

Ted loved the people and his work in Maymont, but ill health at an early age forced him into retirement. He died at age 53 in 1978

My sister Gwen taught school at Calais and Shantro country schools

She walked to Calais school some very cold winter mornings, meeting Andrew Melrose often. Mrs. Tom Turner and Mrs. Allen Nutbrown were very kind to Gwen.

Don McCorkle and his family were also good friends. Gwen married Bill Friend of Windsor, Ontario to Newfoundland and they have three girls, Pat, Glenna and Cathy. Pat married Dave Anderson of Swift Current, Glenna and Cathie are in Saskatoon, Sask.

My brother Jerry was never in Maymont for any length of time. He taught school at Speers, Sask for a short while, had a stint in the armed forces, then graduated from the Saskatoon University with an Accountants Degree.

He married Rose Gidluck of Biggar, and they had two girls Marsha, Mrs. Allen Early of Nelson B.C., and Clay of Calgary, Alta.

Jerry and Rose live at present in Calgary, Alberta.

My sister, Isabel took 3 years of High School here. Her and Joyce Coleman were good friends. Though handicapped with infantile paralysis from the age of two years, she always enjoyed Maymont.

Usually she and I walked the distance from the parsonage to the school, winter and summer. Her spirit of determination then was as great then, as it is now, and she is an inspiration for all the family.

It married Larry De la Ronde of Moose Jaw in the early 1940's and had one son Greg now of Saskatoon. Larry died in 1963.

It was at Maymont that I, Edith Saunders, now Reid, better known as Binky, met my husband Derby Reid, and were married in Wilkie, Sask. by my father in 1942. Derb and I had four children. Derby Allen, Maurice Edith, Susan Myra Rothenberger and Leah Michal.

Derb had a Model A car (coupe), when we were courting, and sometimes when it started up it made a real cackle

Dr. Myers used to kid us, saying he couldn't sleep a wink, until he heard that Model A start up and go through town

Some thirty years later, we moved across from him in the village, and he had just as much concern over our youngest daughter, Leah.

I would like to thank all the people of Maymont for the kindness shown to the Saunders family — and our own family, the W. D. Reid's. They helped us to bring up and nurture a family we are proud of. I hope our family will always remember Maymont.

T. C. Saunders

Ted Saunders joined the army in February, 1941. Quite soon after his marriage to Jean Martin in January, 1944, he embarked for England. He received his discharge from the army November 14, 1945. Ted and Jean decided that they would like to make their permanent home in the village of Maymont. Ted was able to buy the general store from Mr. E. Harper and he became our storekeeper for more than twenty years. He was always very busy in the store but never too busy to serve in any way in the community. For recreation he enjoyed sports, fishing, gardening, and many other things. He sold his store when it became necessary for him to lead a less strenuous life

Ted had several hobbies. A favorite one was ceramics. He finished many objects of beauty that will always be prized by his family and friends. Ted Saunders died suddenly May 20, 1978.

Judith and Sandra, daughters of Ted and Jean were both educated in Maymont. They had a childhood similar to that of other children in the district. They attended the local school, studied music with a competent music teacher belonged to the youth organizations, took part in all activities suitable for children and usually spent part of their holidays traveling with their parents

The girls have always been interested in music Sandra was organist and Judith a member of the United Church Choir for a number of years before they completed their education in Maymont.

Judith and Sandra completed their education in Saskatoon. They both got secretarial work at the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon where Judith is still employed.

Ted and Jean Saunders — 1944.

On the left — Judith, Mrs. Mary Cross. On the right — Sandra, Mrs. Eric Salt.

Sandra worked at the University for three years. She decided it was time for a change so she went to Ottawa and found employment with the Olympic Sports Organization. Two years later she returned to Maymont and was married to Eric Salt on August 14, 1974. They lived in Ottawa for one year. In 1977 they decided to make their permanent home in Saskatoon.

Merv. Cross and Judith Saunders were married in Saskatoon on August 16, 1976. They reside in Saskatoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Schaefer

written by Mrs. William Schaefer

Frank Schaefer was born 1894 in North Dakota, U.S.A. and came to Canada in 1904. He farmed in the Cavalier District before joining the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool as Agent in 1928. He bought grain at Ruddell from 1933-1953.

Beatrice Adamson Schaefer was born 1900 in England and homesteaded with her family in the Denholm District in 1908. She lived in North Battleford and Cavalier before coming to live in Ruddell.

The Schaefers were married in 1928 and had one son, William, who is now residing in Saskatoon. He attended public and high school in Ruddell from 1940-1954. He married Jeanine Parkinson of Saltcoats. She attended high school in Ruddell and resided with Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Thrower at the Telephone Office 1950-1953.

Mrs. Schaefer was secretary of the Village of Ruddell for many years. She taught Sunday School and was involved with Red Cross Work during the war.

Mrs. Schaefer passed away in 1965 and Mr. Schaefer in 1975.

The Schmidt Story

William Schmidt was born in Ontario in 1871. Kate Orth was born in Ontario in 1879. They were married Dec. 8, 1900 in Hebron, Nebraska.

They came to Canada by immigrant train in the spring of 1904. Travel was very slow as on the way the train got stuck in snowdrifts. They finally arrived in Rosthern and spent the night. The next day they drove 20 miles by team and sleigh in forty below weather to Bill's brother John's homestead. Bill rented land at Laird and seeded his crop.

Bill, Oscar Bumbaugh, Bill Holmes, George Mahler, Frank Hutcheson and Henry Christfield set out from Laird in June of 1904. They got as far as W. Smith's farm where they spent the night. One of the horses they were driving was blind so they staked him out and let the other one loose. The next morning the horses were both gone as during the night a bunch of wild horses came up and had taken their horses with them. They were a long way from home and the only way to travel was on foot. So off they went. They met Ransom Rogers who at that time was working for Mr. Richard. He told them where they could get some

Bill Schmidt's Homestead

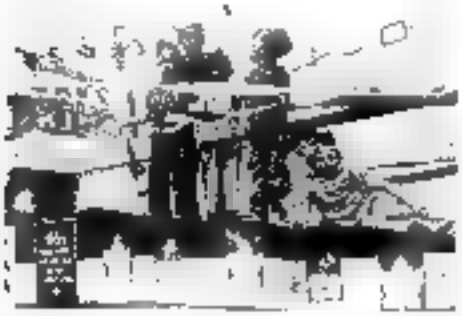
Bill and Kate Schmidt, December 6, 1900.

maps to tell them which was homestead land and which land belonged to the railroad. They spent the night at Mr. Andersen's place. The next day he drove them around and each man picked a homestead. The following day they walked back to their wagon. The next day they set out on foot for North Battleford to file on their homestead. Bill filed on N.W. 6-43-13 W. 3rd. Oscar B. on S.W. 6. After they returned to their wagon they set off again on foot for Laird.

Bill, Oscar and Mary Breitenbach and their family

Grandpa and Grandma Schmidt and Grandchildren. Back row, left to right — Ron Schmidt, Norman Curry, Earl Curry, Cliff Schmidt, Bill Schmidt. 2nd row — Vernon Curry, Don Schmidt, Doreen Schmidt, Ken Zalaschuk, Wes Schmidt. 3rd row — Grandpa holding Gerry Schmidt, Mary Zalaschuk, Grandpa holding Lynn Zalaschuk.

Kate and Bill Schmidt on their 60th wedding anniversary.



Wm Schmidt, Bill Bean (behind) Don Schmidt, Vernon Curry, (Unknown), Doreen McLeish. Parade in Maymont about 1940.

Harvesting on Schmidt farm, 1978.

came back to Maymont at the end of June. They all lived in a tent until Bill built his barn and did some breaking. Brumbaughs then moved into his barn until they had their log house built. Bill then returned to Laird to take off his crop there.

Edwin was born in April, 1905. Later in the spring Bill returned to Maymont bringing his family with him. They lived with Brumbaughs until they had built a one room frame house of lumber which Bill hauled from Redvers. They built a box house of sod and a log chicken. Their machinery consisted of a fourteen inch walking plow and three horses. They didn't have any crop in 1905 just some potatoes and garden. Bill broke all the land on his homestead with the walking plow.

Three more children were born Vern, Ethel (who died as an infant) and Hazel.

Clara, Nellie and Ed started school at Grey School. Vern and Hazel started school in Maymont. On the first day of school Vern along with five others were sent home because they were not yet seven years of age.

Kate drove the children to and from school with horse and buggy. She often carried a 22 rifle with her. She was a crack shot and many a supper of rabbit or prairie chicken came from her precise aim.

Kate was a great helpmate. She sold butter and eggs to the railroad crew when they were building the grade in 1905. She also helped on the farm where ever she was needed. It didn't matter whether it was feeding cattle or pigs or doing field work. Kate loved to garden but her greatest love was to drive her car. Most people will remember how she used to blow her horn when she went around corners. It was her way of saying "Look out here I come!" Kate drove her car until she was 80 years of age.

Lawrence and Clara Curry. Vernon and Earl.

Ed and Vern helped on the farm and more land was accumulated. In 1928 they had a record crop of 30 bus. to the acre on new breaking. At that time wheat was priced at 45¢ per bus.

The children grew and married and had children of their own. Ed moved to Toronto but the rest stayed close to home. Clara passed away in 1943.

Bill and Kate celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary in 1950 and then their 60th anniversary in 1960. At this time they were still living on their homestead. They had 13 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren.

Bill passed away in 1961 at the age of 88. Kate joined him in 1970 at the age of 91. They are buried in the family plot at Maymont cemetery.

CLARA married Llewellyn Curry in 1925. They farmed in the Maymont area. They had two children Earl and Vernon. After Clara's death in 1943, Laurie turned his hand to carpenter work. Earl married Marjorie Reid and had four children Rea, Laurie, Brian and Helen. Earl passed away in June 1979. Vernon married Eileen Meens and they have two children Terry and Sheila.

NELLIE married Harold Curry in 1925. Harold was an excellent machinist, electrician and welder. He also built the first motor driven winding cable for the Maymont ferry. Many people of the Rudsdell, Maymont, Flatding area will remember them for his fine work. Harold passed away in 1966. Harold and Nellie had one son Norman. Norman took his schooling in Maymont and Rudsdell. He retired after 28 years of service in the Air Force. He passed away in 1978.

ED married Leona E. Anger in 1929. He farmed for a few years. He joined the army during the war years. He then went to Toronto and went into the garage business. Ed and Leona had two children. Cliff and Doreen. Cliff and Dorothy have two girls, Mary Ann and Janet they reside in Toronto. Doreen married Don Brown. They have two children Gary and Debbie. Doreen passed away in 1975. Ed passed away in 1978.

Back row, left to right — Bill, Ida and Vern, Ron. Front row, left to right — Wes, Garry, Don. Taken day of Ida and Vern's 50th wedding anniversary.

Lee, Bill, David, Karen, Debie, Mandy 3½ yrs. and Wade 6½ months.

VERN farmed with his father for a number of years. He married Ida Beesbuin in 1938. They built a small house on S.E. ¼ 1-42-43 W3rd. They have a family of five sons: Bill, Rod, Wes, Don, and Garry. In 1942 they bought the Turnbull farm and moved to the Rudsdell district. As the boys grew old enough they each in turn started farming with their Dad. In 1954 Vern, Bill and Ron branched out into earth moving equipment. Vern can still spend a full days work on the cat at the age of 72. His love for machinery takes him quite often to the museum in North Battleford to work on the antique machinery there.

Vern and Ida celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary in Feb., 1979. They still have time to give love, attention, and advice to their 15 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

BILL — I am the first son of Vern and Ida Schmidt. They named me William Ernest after my two Grandfathers. My first memories were when I was about 4 years old. we lived south of Grandma and Grandpa's. I was sick and Grandma fed me sulphur and molasses. This straightened me up quickly. I can remember going to our neighbors and staying until dark and then I was afraid to go home, so Art or Alec Wohlberg would carry me on their shoulders. I was afraid of the old turkey gobbler and that was the reason that I always waited so long to venture home.

It was about 1928 that we moved our house into Grandpa's yard. It was loaded on a couple of old wagons. Ron and I walked behind, not being a very long distance, about a quarter of a mile.

I started school in the fall of 1938 and stayed with Aunt Nell. Uncle Harold and Norman Curry in Maymont for about three years. When my brother Ron

started going to school, we stayed at both Aunt Clara's and Aunt Nell's. I made a lot of friends in town and learned to skate. In the fall when Mr. Sykes, who ran the livery stable had our sleighs stacked for the winter all of the kids would play hide and seek in them. We were to be home by 8 o'clock, which to us seemed too early.

When more of my brothers were of school age, we no longer stayed in town, we acquired "Old Fred" a horse, and drove to school in the buggy. Being the oldest, I was the driver, which made me feel very grown up. I still have many fond memories of those old days.

Debra, Dwight, Darlene, Ron and Thelma Schmidt.

Wes, Doreen, Rick and Shelley.

In the fall of 1942, we moved to Rockhill, where I finished school. Then I took a short course in Mechanics at Saskatoon Technical Collegiate.

In 1945 I met Della Bayerstock who had come to school in Rockhill, we had a good and long friendship and courtship (5 yrs.) with our old model A. Ford car, we were married in 1950. I worked on the farm here with my dad, later I rented some land from him for a couple of years. In 1953 we started the construction business with a nice new T.D.18 A tractor and scraper and dug water reservoirs for the P.F.R.A. One thing led to another and we are still in this business, but today we have three generations of Schmidts as operators on our machines.

Della and I have two sons, Lee, born in 1952 and David born in 1956. In 1972 Lee married the former Karen Clark and they have two lovely children, Mandy and Wade. David lives at home with us, both sons work with Dad and I in the earth moving and land clearing business.

Already it is 1979, a lot of water has rolled under the bridge since my old Grandfather walked here from

Leona and Ed Schmidt married Dec., 1928.

Laird, the homestead is still in the family, their big house is still standing. Aunt Hazel, Uncle Mat and part of their family lived there. Farming has been good to our family, a lot of tough years, a few good ones, these are the ones we remember.

I have a few hobbies, but don't have much time to spend with any of them. I like to work with old machinery, as well as the deer, the old cars and play around with airplanes once in a while. I'm proud to say that there are four generations of us here at Bethel, three working at farming and construction and little Wade looking on.

In concluding, I express my deepest gratitude for my heritage. I'm proud to have known my Grandparents, who weaved the frontier and had a part in molding this community. I'm grateful for the help, love, and guidance received from my parents and Grandparents to whom I'll be forever grateful.

Ron -- These were depression years for the family at Maymont where I was born in 1931. I started school in Maymont. In 1943 we moved West to Ruddell. These were the war years. You would think that at the age of 10, this would not affect your life but lying on your back in a bayfield watching the English pilots train out of North Battleford must have had its effect as 4 out of 5 of we boys have our pilots license.

At Ruddell I finished my school years. Being interested in Agriculture I attended University for 2 years studying Agriculture. I then returned home to live and farm with the rest of the family and working to own my own land.

In 1953 I met a farm girl from Fielding. Her name was Thelma Marie Ann Spence. She was the youngest of a family of 4 from the marriage of William Spence and Hellen McGrath. She was born at Fielding in 1934. At the time we met she was a telephone operator in North Battleford. We married in Notre Dame De Lourdes Catholic Church in North Battleford.

Mat and Hazel Zalaschuk's 40th wedding anniversary.

On March 5, 1957 our first child was born, a girl named Darlene Ann. Two years later Debra Lynn was born. Finally on Oct. 31, 1960 a boy named Dwight Ronald.

The kids got their education at Ruddell and Maymont. At this time of writing August, 1978 we are fortunate to have all our children living close to us. Darlene married Bill Melrose a Maymont boy in 1973. They have two children Lori born in 1974 and Mark born in 1976. Darlene is Post Mistress in Maymont and Bill is farming with us. Debra married a Maymont boy as well, Greg de Strake and is living at North Battleford. They have 1 son, Eldon Allen. Debra is a dental assistant and Greg is a heavy duty mechanic. Dwight is at home farming with me.

Up to this time my life has been devoted to farming with close family ties. All my brothers are still farming together: other than Bill who has sold his land and has gone into the construction business.

Our field of achievements may not be that great, since we have not moved very far from the place of our birth, but we feel that we have had a very rewarding family life.

WES -- I am the number three son of Vern and Ida Schmidt. I started school in Maymont in 1940. The first year of school I spent most of my time in the hall. The older boys would match me up against other boys and I was always game to fight. Of course this got me in trouble with the teacher and earned me the name of the "Fighting German."

We moved to Ruddell in 1942. I finished my schooling there. There are many fond memories of school days. One school day Buck Meers and I decided to hitch hike to North Battleford. Who should stop and pick us up but Pete Matiyasa member of the school board. There was really trouble for me when Dad found out about that. I continued my education with one year at the school of agriculture in Saskatoon.

I started farming the year of the rain 1954. I farmed with my brothers Ron, Don, and Garry. We each own our own land but jointly own the machinery.

In 1956 I married Doreen Evonne Webb who had been teaching at Grey school. We built our house at Schmidtville in 1958. We have two children. Rick was born in 1956. He took his schooling in Ruddell and Maymont. After graduating he spent five years with the Dept of Highways and is now farming with me. Shelley was born in 1961 and spent her school days at Ruddell and Maymont. Shelley's future is undecided. Both kids live at home with us.

I have a few hobbies, but don't have much time to spend with any of them. I like to go out and find arrowheads and sometimes even go out and look for old coins, rings, etc. with my metal detector. Of course this can not be done in the winter on the cold winter days so I spend my time with rock cutting and polishing.

Ken, Marion, Stewart, Sandra, and Lorne Zaleschuk.

Don came with his parents and brothers to Ruddell in 1942 from their home at Maymont.

He started school in Ruddell but was not allowed to continue because he was too small. He went back the next year and continued his schooling until a few days into Gr. XI when he decided that wasn't for him and went farming instead.

Don and Carole (Ranger) were married Aug. 09, 1957 and lived in a small house they moved into his father's yard where his brothers Bill, Ron and Wes had their homes.

Their oldest son Reid was born Aug 7, 1958. In the spring of 1960 they moved to the farm that Carole's grandfather, Russell Reid, had homesteaded on. They were renting from her uncle, Clarence Reid.

The spring of 1960 when they moved was very nice, as the yard was all dry by the 1st. of April, but that's the way it stayed the rest of the year — nice and dry! Don had established a small herd of cattle and had lots of feed to see him through the winter and as always when farming, spending the winter planning for "next year" and hoping things would improve.

1961 was hot and dry just like the previous year and hot dry winds in May took their toll of the cereal crops and they were bare of leaves the rest of the summer. A good part of the crop was cut for feed.

Mark was born June 15, 1961.

That winter Don decided he'd had enough of that kind of farming, sold his cattle and feed and by the end of March they were on their way to Calgary. It had been 80 degrees for several days before they left so heading in the City of Chinooks was a pleasant change.

He got a job with a lumber yard and used his own truck to deliver lumber through-out the city. He remembers one occasion when a delivery took him to a hilly area of the city and the load slid out of the truck and traffic having to stop while he reloaded.

Every week-end they travelled the countryside with an eye on farm land.

Sept., 1962 they were back in Ruddell as the urge to farm was still there and it was harvest time!

The next spring, they built a house south of Ruddell and are still farming.

Their 3rd son, Lyndon, was born Nov. 30, 1965 and 4th son, Aaron, was born Feb. 2, 1968.

Marvin and Carole Zaleschuk. Darren 12 and Carmen (5).

Lynn and Judy Zaleschuk, Krishin Zaleschuk (1 yr. old July 19).

Reid attended school at Ruddell for Gr's I-V, VI-XII in Maymont, took Radio, T.V. and Communications course at S.T.I. in Moose Jaw, and is presently employed as a Gen. Tech. with C.N. Telecommunications in Thompson, Man.

Mark took Gr's I-IV in Ruddell, and as the school closed, took Gr's V-XII in Maymont and Gr. XII at *N.E.C.R.S. in North Battleford. He is employed in North Battleford.

Lyndon attended Ruddell School for Gr's I and II and then to Maymont where he is now taking his Gr. X.

Aaron started in Maymont and is now in Gr. VI. *North Battleford Comprehensive High School

GARRY — I was born February, 1944 at Ruddell in my house. I was brought into this world by Doctor Scratch and Mrs. Martynes and my two grandmothers. I went to school at Ruddell and got my grade 9.

When I was 17 I decided to go to the navy and travel around the world on a ship. I stayed in the navy for three years, then I began working for my brother Bill.

I married Carolyn Elliot from the Scottsdale district. My first child was born September 19, 1964 we called her Sherry. Two years later my second daughter arrived on February 18, 1966 who we named Catharine Ida Ann. She was named after her great-grandmother Schmidt and her two grandmothers.

I then began farming with my 3 brothers. But I didn't think this was for me so I took my family and moved to YellowKnife in 1969. I worked at numerous jobs in YellowKnife for three years. My son Robbie was born in YellowKnife in April, 1971. I decided I would rather go back to farming. We moved back home. In 1972 my last child was born a girl on July 26, 1972 we called her Kelly.

Today I am still farming with my brothers and I do off and on construction work for my other brother Bill. I am the president of the Legion in Maymont. And my hobbies are Hockey, baseball, and I also like to play pool and go ski-dooing in the winter time.

HAZEL — Hazel married Dmytro Zaleschuk in 1965. They live on Kate and Bills homestead. They have three sons Ken, Marvin and Lynn. The boys took their schooling in Maymont.

Ken married Marion Pour and have three children, Stewart, Sandra and Loren. They live in their home on their grandparents homestead.

Marvin married Carol Custer. They have two children Darren and Carmen. They live in Saskatoon where Marvin works for Sask. Power.

Lynn married Judith Zbrunner and have one son Kristen. They live in Saskatoon where Lynn has his own trenching business.

Roy Schmidt Family

Ruth Barrett and Roy George Schmidt were married in 1930 and lived on the Martin homestead for approximately 5 years. The first two children were born there, Grace Lillian in 1931 and Beruice May in 1933.

Roy Schmidt family — Eddy Wutke, Bernice (Schmidt) Wutke, Ruth and Roy, Harold. In front — Carl, Dennis, Wayne.

After Stanley moved to Vancouver, they moved on to the Chambers homestead where they farmed until 1952. Four more children were born, Harold George 1939, Carl Percy 1942, Wayne LeRoy in 1943 and Dennis in 1951. The children took their schooling at Keystone School while they lived here, usually walking in the summer and driving with tobaggan or cutter in winter.

Farming was done with horses and the only transportation to Maymont, a distance of seven miles was with horses and wagon the first years of their marriage. The main income was cream cheques, they milked cows and raised a few pigs.

Grace was married to Lloyd Parker in 1950.

The crops were poor and so in 1952 they decided to sell out and go to Vancouver. Stanley had a house picked out for them in Burnaby when they arrived by train.

Roy started working on tug boats with Stanley and had various other jobs, the last one before retiring was with the City Works Department.

The boys had paper routes while finishing their education.

Bernice married Ed Wutke and they have three children and four grandchildren. Bernice has taken a cake decorating course and decorates cakes in a bakery. Eddy works in a plywood mill, their home is in Surrey.

Harold took training in Electronic Engineering and

is presently selling mobile homes. He was married in 1964 to Thelma Gollaby and they have 3 children, 2 boys and 1 girl all very specs minded.

Carl works in a plywood mill and lives in Surrey.

Wayne was married in 1963 to Theresa Chalbe and they have 2 boys. He is a foreman in a lumber camp at Williams Lake.

Dennis lives at home with his mother and is a sales man for Scead.

Roy passed away in November, 1975.

Gordon Scott Family

Gordon Scott and his wife, Nellie, came from Petrie, Ontario. He left in March, 1919 with a carload of settler's effects, including four horses. He arrived in Ruddell intact, having made up a bed in a horse manger in one of the box cars. Mrs. Scott was a second cousin to G. O. (Born) Robinson. Gordon rented a quarter section down near Maple Grove picnic grounds where he farmed for three or four years. He then moved up to a farm near town which was on the winter sleigh road for the wheat haul from Saltcoats. There was no rail to Saltcoats and Ruddell was the focal point for sale of wheat from Saltcoats and also Likar. The nearest neighbors were Ross and Lottie Stolly, the Soules family and also E. Waitlaw.

They had two children, Ruth, born in 1918 and George, in 1921, both having gone to Ruddell School for twelve years. Ruth was a great athlete and runner and Bern Robinson took five dollars off Mr. Blacklock at a Maymont Field Day as Bern had bet on Ruth in the runs.

George went from Ruddell School into the Airforce and overseas where he was married. He returned in 1945 with his war bride and attended the University of Saskatchewan for two years and completed his university at U.B.C. in Vancouver. George and Bon have two children, Christine and Ray. They reside in Vancouver. George now lives in Toronto and visits Saskatchewan regularly.

Ruth married Phil Drouet from Gravelbourg and they have three children — Peggy, Annette and Eugene, all living in Ruddell and Battleford. Peggy has two girls, Judy and Maureen.

Gordon Scott was Secretary and Trustee of the School Board for many years and he and Ross Stolly engaged in filling the candy bags for the school concert on many occasions and always needed some spirit-like assistance for such a tedious task.

Gordon and Nellie moved to Alberta "Westward Ho!" in 1944.

Mr. and Mrs. John Henry Scott

parents of Mrs. J. H. Peden

John Henry Scott born Oct. 11, 1848 and Eliza Ann Mitchell, born Jan. 22, 1853 spent their early years near Listowel, Ontario.

They were married June 24, 1875. They moved to Belmoral, Manitoba where they farmed. Here their three children; Peter Graham, Ellen Irvine and Andrew Wall were born.

Later they sold their farm to their youngest son and moved to Maymont, living on the property where Glen Boyd now resides.

Mr. and Mrs. Scott were great gardeners. Their grandchildren were able to stay with them in their early years while attending Maymont school.

When Mr. Scott passed away Mrs. Scott went to Radisson to live with her son Graham (Bachelor).

She spent her last few years with her daughter, Ellen and family. Both Mr. and Mrs. Scott were laid to rest in the Maymont cemetery.

Dr. Scratch

No pioneer settler rendered greater service to the community than did the country doctor. And no doctor was ever more worthy of the love and admiration of his people than Maymont's own Doctor Scratch, familiarly known as 'Doc'.

Dr. Scratch was born January 25, 1882, in Amherstburg, Ontario. He attended public school there and high school in Toronto. He graduated in medicine from Toronto University in the year 1905.

After graduation Dr. Scratch was offered a position as doctor on an ocean liner or a pass to Vienna to continue his studies but in Sept., 1905 he decided to come west and on Sept. 23rd he left Windsor, Ont., by harvest excursion train. He intended to spend only three weeks in the west but either through lack of funds or love of the west, or both, he stayed eleven years before returning east, and then not to stay.

He looked around the west and was advised by Mr. Kirby of Winnipeg, who was in charge of C.N.R. townsites, that Fleming should be a good point for a practice. He looked it over but did not stay then, instead took up a position as doctor for the C.N.R. construction; and was stationed at the bridge west of North

Dr. Scratch

Battleford. While working there he also had a private practice at North Battleford. He had plenty of typhoid fever cases that were taken to a very primitive hospital in North Battleford. After completing work with the I.W.H. reconstruction, Dr. Scratch settled in Pinning in 1908. He stayed there for that year and in the winter of 1909 he moved to Maymont which seemed to be more central for his practice. Dr. Scratch had operated a drug store while in Pinning. When he moved to Maymont he had his office and drug store in a pool room. He resided in the hotel and private bedroom while he purchased a site for his home on part of Lot 18 Block 3 on the north side of Second Avenue where he erected a small house which also served as an office. He sold his drug business to Mr. Mawhinney who lived with Dr. Scratch until such time as he had his own dwelling. In 1910 Dr. Scratch erected a house which stood until 1972 when the lots were purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Read who moved a modern mobile home onto the site.

Dr. Scratch's practice was large, extending to Richard, Spears, Lilac, Allisons, Meeker, as the north as there was settlement and south to Semlinghsin, Spinney Hill, and bordering the Pardoe country. To cover such territory with horses in the early days meant patient hardship, discomfort and sacrifice as long drives were taken in foul weather and late and at any hour of the day or night. In order to care for patients south of the North Saskatchewan River it was often necessary to cross the river in the Rosthern area where the ferry was not operating during the spring break up and the fast ice wasn't safe. This meant climbing a six by four ladder, pulling himself across a fifteen hundred foot expanse of river being met by someone on the other side and driven to his patient. One time when the ice was breaking up in the spring it was only by sheer good luck that Dr. Scratch arrived back safely. The ice was rising about a foot an hour and struck the Rosthern about twenty feet from shore. Sometimes Dr. Scratch had to walk across the ice. For safety he and one of the ferrymen carried a plank to hold them should they go through the ice. They were fastened by a rope in case of accident. In one instance Dr. Scratch did get a ducking but dare not drive home. He borrowed a pair of overalls and continued to the home of the patient where he dried his underwear on the stove.

Distant calls meant absence from home for two or three days at a time with little opportunity for sleep or rest. He snatched a wink of sleep where he could on a floor or a table or a chair or on his travelling along the road. The fare that he had across to his home and another far in the district helped to ease the strain of his arduous task. On one occasion while attending a patient about forty miles north of Maymont he left his horses tethered. The mosquitoes which very plentiful bothered the horses most they broke loose and disappeared. It was about four weeks before he recovered them when they wandered up to the gate of a farm yard. The farmer's wife saw the horse found them very friendly put them in the stable and advertised the find in the Rosthern Chronicle. During the flu epidemic of 1918 Dr. Scratch gave himself unstingly and was rewarded for his efforts by the recovery of almost every patient. In the early days and also during the depression money was hard to come by and the services of the doctor were paid with barter. Eggs, wood, meat and even wedges were in the odd case the doctor had to lend money to pay for the medicine he prescribed. Though there were many hardships, life had it's humorous side also. Dr. Scratch enjoyed his professional work and never regretted his decision to come west. Now and again an amusing incident is recalled by those who knew the doctor best.

While not yet very well known in the district Dr. Scratch was riding on an urgent case. I pon arrived he handed the reins to his companion and went in the door. He was met by the grandmother of the house who said, "Boy, you go and look the mare and tell the doctor to come in right away."

In another instance he was called to see a young lady at the home of her employer. He examined her and could find nothing wrong. When left alone with him she said "There isn't anything wrong with me, Doctor. They won't pay me and I'm going to stay here until they do" to which he replied "Cripes, move over and let me in too".

In August, 1928 the people of Maymont, to show appreciation of the faithful services rendered by Dr. Scratch for twenty five years, planned a picnic in his honor. People from every corner of his large practice contributed and gathered to see him presented with a new eight cylinder coupe, a chequa and a buffalo coat. Doctors from Saskatoon, North Battleford and other towns were in attendance. Dr. Alexander of Saskatoon spoke on behalf of the medical profession as tribute to Dr. Scratch. The dietary worker and nurse came from Armstrong, Ont. to be present at the celebration. The Honorable George Langley was the main speaker of the day and Mr. Emil Richard made the presentation.

On November 1st, 1956, the people of Spinney Hill showed their appreciation to Dr. Scratch when at a gathering in his honor they presented him with a log and a Skwah sweater, accompanied by a scroll bearing the names of babies born or attended at birth in that community. To my beloved Physician Dr. John A. Scratch from his children whom he has lovingly attended during their short lives. The feelings of those present were summed up in the words of a poem composed and framed for the occasion as follows:

THE COUNTRY DOCTOR

Day in, day out for thirty years or more
Up the river hills and down he went.
His black square case upon his buggy floor
I've seen him give the weary team the rein
And overcoat, sleep and white they nodded home

His eyes were set in crinkled lines of mirth,
Cheer was personified with father-interest
He was the arbiter of death and birth
The go-between of heaven and hell
Tender as woman, steadfast as a rock
Small wonder that we country folk all love —
"Our Doc".

On August 16, 1957, these communities again gathered to honor Dr. Scratch for his 50 years of service to the area. Again they came to pay their respects to the little fellow with the ready smile. They presented a suitably inscribed watch to Dr. Scratch, and in his honor established a $1,000 scholarship to a graduating high school student in the area to be applied on further studies. Two popular platform guests present for the occasion were the doctors sons, Dr. Ron Scratch from Cutknife, and Dr. Norval Scratch of Stratford, Ontario. The presentation was made by Mrs. Tom Young who assisted Dr. Scratch in his work in earlier days.

On January 25th, 1963 our pioneer doctor celebrated his 88th birthday. To help him mark the occasion, his friends met on 'Coffee Row' in the local cafe in the morning, and 'Doc' had a real surprise party! Mrs. Lakstrom, of the cafe management at that time, had baked a birthday cake, which the guest of honor cut and shared with all present. In the afternoon he was a guest of the Friendship Unit of the U.C.W. at the home of Mrs. G. McIvor and was served tea and refreshments.

Dr. Scratch died November, 1963, at the age of 87 years. His burial service was conducted by Rev. Dr. F. Myers from the United Church and he was laid to rest in the Maymont Cemetery.

So wait for him Lord, as he nears the gate
Be gentle, give him rest
Bless him, oh Lord! he has earned his reward
He was truly one of the best.

(From a poem written in memory of Dr. Scratch by W. C. Brown of Fielding, Sask.)

Alice Mohler Scrivens

After Grade Twelve at Bedford Road Collegiate in Saskatoon Alice attended university for a year, then spent a year visiting relatives in California and Montana before attending Teachers' College.

After five years teaching she was married to Ted Scrivens, and they lived in their new bungalow on the farm at Rosetown. Five years later Kathleen arrived. She attended Cambertey School until Ted and his brother built the duplex in Rosetown. After graduation Kathleen took Nurses Training at City Hospital. While attending a university class she met Ken Stangland, a young Engineering student. In 1962 they both graduated. After their marriage they made their home in Ontario and later in Regina where Ken worked for Saskatchewan Power and Kathleen worked at Regina General Hospital. Joel was born in 1965, and Cameron in 1969, after they had moved to the farm. They were in partnership with Ted from 1968 till 1973 when Ted and Alice retired.

Ted was a R.M. councillor for twenty years, and served on the Rosetown Hospital Board and Board of Stewards of Rosetown United Church. Both were Library Board members. Alice is a Session Member with hobbies of oil painting and golfing.

They have enjoyed trips to California, Florida, Europe, Hawaii, Australia, the Caribbean Islands, Spain and the Bahamas.

John Seib History

John and Fryda (Schultz) Seib, along with their children, Art (10), Elmer (8), Lillian (6), and twins Eleanor and Raymond (3), moved into the Wardle Bank district on May 9, 1937. It took two days to move from the North Battleford area, bringing all their belongings in a car, wagon and hayrack. The hens were penned up on the hayrack and Mom managed to salvage a few eggs for breakfast.

They camped for the night by Webbs. There was a slough on both sides of the road; the cattle drank their fill and bedded down for the night. The family slept under the stars and a tarp. In the morning the mist was so thick the blankets were all wet. Mom boiled a syrup can of water with the lid on tightly for tea. The can boiled dry and went boom, scaring everyone half to death.

The twins (age 3) rode on the rack from time to time, and played tricks on Mom as usual. They set the alarm clock then placed it in a tin dish, the alarm went off, and Duke, one of the team horses Mom was driving, pranced smartly.

Arrival on the place, the house was four walls and no roof. Dad used two walls for gable ends, the other walls were made of logs. He mixed straw and mud to plaster it, using old Shang to walk back and forth to mix the paste. The house had a lumber roof and with log walls and mud plaster it was very warm. The

John Seib Family — 1944. (Front) — Lillian, Art, Elmer. (Back) — Eleanor, Erma (mom), John (dad), Raymond, baby Vivian.

cellar was dug with bronco and pick, the ground was very hard.

A disastrous loss, hams that were stored in a barrel were stolen, the meat was very hard to come by in the summer as there was no refrigeration known and everything had to be cured. This was their summer stock of meat.

The dugout was built by Dad and Mom working the frame in before sleet, Mom got thrown a number of times.

The land had many stones, many long hours for Mom and Dad, and family. 70 acres were broken up when the folks moved on. Dad had 7 acres brushed by Thompson's, also breaking another 30 acres himself.

Children, Art and Elmer started school at Wayne Bank. Lil started in the fall. It was a real treat having only one mile to walk instead of four miles. Their first teacher was A. D. Smith. The school yell: Chickalanko. Chickalanko. chow, chow, chow, Boomeranka, Boomeranka. bow, wow, wow, Who-a-who-a. who are we? Wayne Bank, Wayne Bank Yes Sirree.

The winter of 1937-38. Dad had to return to North Battleford to get the horses, which had decided to go back home.

The first tractor they bought was a John Deere Model D. Dad traded one team of horses for it.

The relief years were bad, the snowplow that which Mom had to work for three days before cooking. Potatoes and apples never reached 40 and turnips and beets were like straw and were very bitter.

About 1941 the horses went down with sleeping sickness. Two were so sick that they had to be hand fed and the pail lifted to water them, as the horses could not lower their heads down to drink.

Dad had a threshing crew in 1943. There were six teams. Elmer hauled the grain. Art, Tommy and Bill Caldwell, Jack Taylor, Jack Thompson and Les Taylor hauled the sheaves. Mom did most of the cooking, when threshing for the bachelors. This was a gigantic undertaking, feeding eight to ten hungry men three meals a day plus lunches. She also milked nine cows and slopped the pigs, besides doing all the driving to get the food to the hungry threshers while it was still hot.

Dad and Art played the accordion and violin but Ray was the one whose talents led him further afield. He started playing the button accordion at dances with Vic Prescesky in 1946. He got his first piano accordion in 1947. Although he no longer plays for dances he still plays for pleasure.

In 1943 the family was blessed with another baby sister. Vivian was born in barley cutting time.

Our farm yard seemed to be the neighborhood gathering place of young people. In the summertime our field was the scene of the baseball team, later some of these players became known as the Wayne Bank Kippers. In the winter time our big dug out was the scene of as hard fought a hockey tournament as any N.H.L. game is nowadays.

Mom did a lot of baking when the neighbors were over. She would bake a cake and ice it, place it on the roof of the porch to cool. Along would come some of the boys and eat it. Then they would try to tell her she forgot to ice it in the first place.

Dances were held at Wayne Bank School, everyone came young, old, big and small (even babies). These dances were for everyone. What a get together, many a youngster learned to dance there — there was no age barrier. Coffee was cooked in a wash boiler in the basement, everyone brought some sandwiches, cake or cookies. Lunch was pooled and everyone had a wonderful time. Door charge 25 cents.

The Christmas concerts were a high-light of many long hours spent on perfecting lines, acting as we never had before, doing things guaranteed to bring tears to your eyes one minute and "split your sides with laughter the next."

Oh the glorious memories of growing up on the farm in the Wayne Bank district. Even the time when mumps and measles let the school go so hard that actors were hard to come by and boys played girls' parts.

Sandy, our dog, was as much a member of the ball team as any person, he could jump up and catch a ball with the best.

Come milking time we would head for the barn rattling the pails. Sandy would go and get the cows, bringing them in at a mere slow walk. He was almost human.

In 1948 Lillian married Tom Caldwell, they raised six children.

Art bought the Abbot place, farmed it until he sold it to Elmer. He moved into North Battleford where he is now working for highways, operating a road maintainer, and driving taxi.

Elmer bought a half section at Denholm in 1951. In 1954 Elmer married Thelma Wood and they raised one son, Richard. Elmer bought the home place from Dad in 1957 and another ¼ section in 1962.

John and Erma moved into North Battleford in 1952, what with Wayne Bank school closing Vivian would have had to be driven to Radisell for school. No roads in winter time.

Ray started work at the Saskatchewan hospital at North Battleford in 1952, where he graduated as a Psychiatric Nurse in 1957. He married Vicki Karloff in 1960 they raised one son Dale. Ray is now working out of Saskatchewan hospital as a District Psychiatric Nurse.

Eleanor married Alfred Wappel a Prince district farmer. They raised three boys, Leonard, Garry and Lyle.

In 1961 Vivian married Don Sich of Edmonton where they lived for a couple of years, moving back to North Battleford in 1964. They have two children Brenda and Darryl. Vivian works as a nurse's aide at the

Saskatoon Regional Care Center. Dan works as a mechanic for Boyd's.

John and Emma Seth quit farming in 1968. John found more time was needed to devote to his houses in town. They finally retired in 1977. They are both in reasonably good health and are still living in their own home. Hobbies are looking after their fairly large garden and dad does wood working.

In 1975 they celebrated their golden anniversary: all the family came home.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Sherlock

by Wendy Sherlock

The Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce transferred Bill Sherlock from Saskatoon July 4, 1978 to manage its Maymont branch. Bill commuted from Saskatoon while repair work was being done on the bank's residence. The Sherlock family of Bill, wife Wendy, and daughter, Vicky, became Maymont residents on September 24, 1978.

Bill and Wendy had been raised in communities similar to Maymont. With their move here, Bill was able to pursue his interests in hunting and fishing he'd largely given up while living in the city. He joined the Paddell Hunting Club and through its membership developed an interest in trap shooting. Bill reloaded his own hunting shells and now did hundreds of trap loads for himself and others.

Wendy, who had been employed as a registered nurse in Saskatoon became a full time housewife with the move to Maymont. She was able to increase her interest in horticulture and especially that of growing gladioli. The Sherlocks also raise exhibition fancy pigeons and rabbits. From July '78-June '79 Wendy served on the local community college committee and was the local co-ordinator. Other community work was in 4-H.

In August of 1978 the Sherlocks purchased the thirty foot lot south of the Legion Hall. Once the lot was levelled and filled, Bill and Wendy constructed a two-car garage there and used the remaining space for additional garden.

Kenny Sherlock was born July 30, 1979 completing the family. Vicky had started school in September, 1974 with only a few introductory hours of kindergarten available at that time. Kenny will attend Kindergarten over a ten-month period starting in the fall of 1979.

The bank's business continued to show a steady increase since Bill's transfer. Phyllis Johnston was the only other staff member besides the manager until March, 1979. At this time Bill hired Jan Sanders as full time bookkeeper/clerk.

On December 1, 1979 the bank moved into new rented premises in the R.M. Building. The old bank was purchased by the village and renovated into a town office and a rental suite.

The bank authorized part time help in March '79 at which time Bill hired Lorraine Stevenson from the Scottsdale area.

Wendy went back to work as a full time R.N. at the Borden Union Hospital in April, 1979. With her employment the hospital now had employees from all areas of its service region from Langham to Maymont.

Charles Sherman Family

Charles Sherman was born on January 4, 1857 at Christabeln Hessen in Germany. He came to Eastern Canada as a young man, there were members of his family living in Ontario.

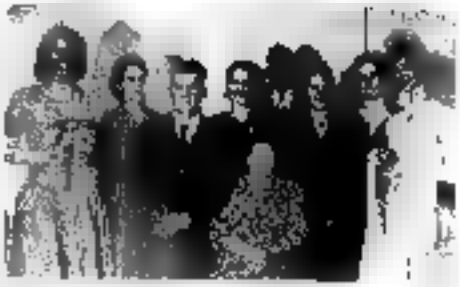
He wrote to these relatives from Winnipeg in 1903 where he was working at a Paint and Glass Company — it was already 27 degrees below and he said "In the spring I am going out west to look up a homestead" — On talking to people in Winnipeg they told him the best land would be about forty miles west of Regina. He worked in Winnipeg awhile longer, the wages were $2.50 a day and it cost him $4.00 a week room and board.

In the spring of 1904 he left Winnipeg for work on the railroad going west and to look for some homestead land. He wanted to go to Melfort to look for land but as the railroad wasn't running trains due to frost, he and his companions had to walk 105 miles and shoulder heavy bags besides. The land there didn't appeal to him as it was swampy and had too much brush and scrub on it. He kept looking for good land there, and found some he liked — at $5.00 to $8.00 an acre — obviously he didn't prove upon it as he came farther west, going to Edmonton, working on the telegraph line as it went west.

On December 31st, 1906 he wrote to his relatives from Fielding, Sask to say "the telegraph line was up to Edmonton. — he had gone back to Winnipeg but soon came back to his homestead at Fielding – this being NE 34-40-13-W3rd. He and his neighbor Archie Ashby put up a shanty on Ashby's homestead and then they made a shanty for Charles. He says "I like this country

(Mrs. Charles) Anne Sherman.

Charles Sherman.



Charles Sherman family in 1918 — Doris, Irene, Albert, Lillian, Rudolph, Emma, Ann, Helen and mother Annie Sherman.

very much, our winter was mild with six inches of snow — but homesteading is very lonesome."

Mr. Sherman kept on this homestead building a log barn — working on the railroad during the summer months, raising what crops he could, selling cream, but still finding it very lonesome.

On January 1, 1910 he was married to Anna Scharstamm, who had come from Germany to work and live in Baltimore, Maryland, U.S.A. They went by ship to Germany for their honeymoon returning to the homestead at Fielding. He still had cows but bought a team in 1912 - he had good crops in 1912, 2300 bushels of wheat — 500 of oats and 500 of barley.

Rudolph their first son was born in the fall of 1910 — then Emma in late 1911 — Albert in 1913. There were five more daughters born — Lillian — Annie — Irene — Doris — and Helen.

The children went to Calais School — then at Beckwith also as the family had moved to the quarter known as the "Shirer place". They kept many horses and cattle — the boys learnt to work hard when they were very young, using horses and pitching sheaves along with hired men.

The family moved to their permanent farm one half mile, north of the original homestead. A large house and granaries were erected, with outbuildings and barns. The children were musical so had house parties with friends around.

Charles Sherman passed away in June, 1938. He had been a hard worker and a good neighbor, he had served on the school board for several years. Anna Sherman continued to farm with the help of son Albert until he married in 1938, then she moved with her family to Vancouver, B.C. She continued coming to Fielding for many years to visit the farm and friends and relatives. She told of coming as a bride and being so very careful to water the beautiful wee blue flowers growing around the yard — only to learn that they were blue burrs — in later years she hated them as they would get in the stockings of the children and her own. Anna passed away in Vancouver in 1955.

The Sherman family have increased in number from two in 1918 to slightly over a hundred in this year 1978. They now live in many places all in Sask., Alta. and B.C. with one member Dora married in California, U.S.A.

Rudolph and Muriel Sherman

written by Muriel Sherman

Rudolph Charles Sherman, first born son of Charles and Anna Sherman was born September 27th, 1910 on the Sherman homestead at Fielding — he stayed and worked at home until he was 23 years old, and then decided to branch out for himself, so he moved a house onto the farm known as the "Shirer place", he batched there for one year before being married in 1933 to Muriel Castle of "Ringleton Firs", Mullingar, Sask.

In 1934 his first son Everett was born and in 1936 his second son Gordon was born. He farmed at Fielding for eight years all through the dirty Thirties and decided he would like to try blacksmithing, so answered an add in the paper, which was a shop in Mullingar, he had an auction sale and netted enough to buy the shop — so in the fall of 1941 moved up to Mullingar. He also had the dray business there — it was also very handy for the boys to go to school, "one big reason" for moving from the Fielding farm. He blacksmithed in Mullingar for thirteen years and then sold the shop and bought one section of land three and one half miles from Mullingar, where he still resides, still real active at 68 years of age, and farms for the love of it, and for something to do, we have seen grasshopper plagues, russian thistle, and now tent caterpillars by the billions. Through all the trials of life we are both well and active — we have three grandsons — four granddaughters — and two great-grandchildren 2½ yr. old Jeffrey and 2 week old Laurie.

Rudolph and Muriel Sherman.

Four Generations. Rudolph Sherman holding Grandson Jeffery, Everett, and Ron.

Mr. and Mrs. Everett Sherman
Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Neill

by Jean (Crawley) Sherman

My sister Elnora (Norrie) and I are the only grandchildren of JOHN and Dora Foster and they were the only grandparents we ever knew. We were born in the so called "dirty thirties". As I look back now I have no memories of ever being hungry or poorly clad. I'm sure dad would have taken food from his plate rather than see Norrie or I hungry. The fact that my dad had two well-to-do sisters in the east accounted for many a parcel of clothes and extras at birthdays, Christmas, and Easter.

School presented no problem or hardships as far as attending. We lived close enough to walk there each day, home at noon except on the coldest winter days we took lunch. Both Norrie and I have fond recollections of the excitement and preparation for the annual Christmas Concert. Dressing rooms weren't always adequate so we often had to run from the Orange Hall to the nearest home to change into crepe-paper fairy costumes! One teacher in particular, Miss Audrey Page, felt it wasn't a Christmas Concert without a Christmas Pageant. I think at times we must have had some odd-looking Josephs and shepherds, etc. especially when there weren't enough boys to take those parts.

We made our own fun after school. It was a time of rafting on the sloughs, building tree-houses, large snow forts and tunnels, make-shift play houses, picnics in Hecklock's pasture. I remember one play house in particular. One spring, Dad had intended to buy a pig so he made a pen from old railway ties in the far south-west corner of our yard. We found out the town didn't allow that so he turned the pen into a play house for us girls. We spent many hours with friends there making mudpies by the dozens decorating them with wild rose petals and wood violets.

When we were old enough to go to dances, the highlight of the spring season was the Print Dress Dance — it was one time when we knew for sure we'd have a new dress. It was a colorful and happy time attended by everybody young and old. Also, in those days there was still a Sports Day Dance. It was a time to go "as you were" so many went right from the ball diamonds to the dance hall.

All in all we had a happy childhood and growing up years.

We are both married now. I married Everett Sherman of Mullingar. Norrie married Cyril Neill. Everett and I have lived in Maymont 15 years. We have five children, two sons Ron and Glen, who live in Mackenzie, B.C., three daughters Diane, Donna, and Denise. Our oldest son is married to the former Judy Thompson of Richard and they have a son and a daughter so we are grandparents. We have one girl, Denise left at home going to school. The other two girls live in North Battleford. Norrie and Cyril have two children, Randy who is also in Mackenzie, B.C. and one daughter Wendy at home at Rocky Mountain House, Alta.

Norrie and I both will always think of Maymont as home and so will all my family. The girls are home every week-end and our sons still look forward to three weeks holiday each year when they can see old friends and family.

Neal Crawley, Norrie and Jean — 1944.

Gordon Charles Sherman

sent in by Norma (Oliver) Sherman

Gordon C. Sherman was born in April, 1939, on the N ½ section of N.W. 36-40-19 W3rd, and he is the second son of Rudolph and Muriel Sherman. When Gordon was two years old, his Dad and Mom moved to Mullingar, where Rudolph operated a blacksmith shop. At Mullingar Gordon received his education. After leaving school, Gordon turned his hand to many different types of work. He worked on the MacMillan Bloedel plywood mill, in B.C. Back in Sask. he was a farm hand, and he also worked on a road survey crew. For awhile, he worked with Sask. Wheat Pool, and finally became a Helper for Pioneer Grain Co. After several months of being a Relief Agent at different points throughout Sask., Gordon was promoted to Elevator Agent at Hillmond, Sask. in Dec. 1963.

Gordon and Norma Sherman, son Barry, daughter Rhonda.

An interesting note here is that when Gordon worked on the survey crew the crew surveyed a grid road in the Hillmond area. At that time Gordon had been considering accepting a position with Pioneer Grain Co. One of the crew members asked Gordon "what would you do if you were dumped into a HOLE of a place like this?" Gordon's answer had a negative attitude.

BUT . . . Gordon did some positive things in Hillmond. In 1963, he married a Hillmond girl Norma Oliver. In 1964 they had a son — Barry Dwayne. Gordon was manager of the Hillmond All Stars Hockey Club for the years of 1962-63, 1963-64, 1964-65.

In July, 1965, Gordon, Norma and Barry moved to the farm at Mullingar. Also that year a daughter — Rhonda Yvonne — was born. That completed the family.

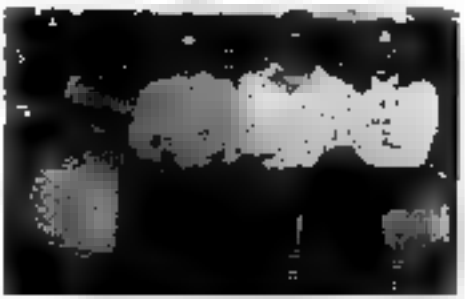
While still farming, Gordon and Norma are active in community activities. Gordon has been Relief Agent for Pioneer Grain Co. at Whitko, Maidstone, Turtleford, Sandwith, Hillmond, Spiritwood and Rabbit Lake. He has also been a Helper at Rabbit Lake. He served for two terms as councillor for the R.M. of Meeting Lake No. 466. He has served on the Rabbit Lake Central School Board since 1976. In the fall of 1976, Gordon became a school bus operator. He has taught Mechanics in 4-H for two years. Norma is involved in 4-H too. She has been a leader for six years, — one year as an assistant leader, — one year as a craft leader, — two years as a Let's Entertain leader and two years as a Sewing leader. Also for the past eight years she has been either President or Vice-Pres. for the Rabbit Lake Home and School Asso., and has also been the Local Co-ordinator for the Rabbit Lake Community College Committee of Battlefords Community College of North Battleford for four years. Norma cooks part time at the Rabbit Lake Union Hospital.

Both Barry and Rhonda are active in the 4-H program. They both carry two projects a year and they usually hold an executive position. At school they take part in the extra-curricular activities.

The Albert Sherman Family

written by Gertrude Sherman

Albert was born in May of 1913, the second son of Charles and Anna Sherman. They were living on a farm on the Shirar Hill in Paulding community. Albert took his early schooling in the Beckwith school, going there with his sisters and brother. They used buggies in the summer and cutter in the winter time. One of his teachers was Miss Violet Laidlaw, who lives in Maymont yet; she is Mrs. William Fast.



Albert and Gertrude Sherman with daughters Lucille Wynn, Elsie Carnahan, Patricia Carnahan, Helen Fields.

Their near neighbors were the Archie Spences, Jim Prestels, Charles Klepses and Dick Williams' who all had families to raise.

Albert's family eventually moved from the Shirer Hill farther west where they owned more land closer together. They built a large two storey family home in the Calais school district. This house was built of lumber, lathe and plaster; the carpenter was Mr. Worcop of Fielding. It was finished in 1927. Two more children were born here, completing their family of eight: six girls and two boys.

Some of the near neighbors here were Collins', Cameron's, Hodges, Edge's, Patterson's and Lough's as well as others — every quarter seemed to have someone homesteading and living on it. During the 1930's, many families sold land to other farmers and moved further north.

Albert's father Charles passed away in 1936 after a lengthy illness with hired men to help. The boys kept the farm going — pigs, chickens, and cattle were always kept for butchering, eggs and milk, as well as trading butter for groceries. Albert's father taught them to be good with horses, taking good care of the animals, harnesses and machinery, taking care of what tools they had, putting them away again where they belonged.

Albert and J. Gertrude Kritchke were married in September of 1938. I was born in the Spencer Hill Community Guinness School District, across the river from Maymont. We met at school dances, some broomball games on sloughs throughout the winter when the Turner, Dennery, Skinner and other local Maymont boys played Guinness School boys. We travelled to dances in the winter in covered cutters with a heater in it. It was fun but dangerous if it had tipped over.

I remember one time in the early part of April, my brother and I had come with a friend to visit Shermans and Longs. We started on the sloughs during the day and lingered longer than we should have. On going onto the river, the horses stopped to take a drink. Needless to say, we were glad to reach the farther shore safely, as it was very dark and the ice was cranky.

Also, in the summer when Albert came to see me, it cost 50¢ after ten o'clock to cross the ferry, on the way home before ten o'clock. Soon after that the ferry rate went up to twenty-five cents at midnight, then to a dollar per car -- so inflation has been around a long time. How many people have watched a ferry being built, then people had a gala evening dancing on the new floor, before it was put into service. These were our fun times.

Albert's mother and sister, Lena married, moved out to British Columbia during the first two years after we were married. We had our first of four daughters the year war was declared. Prices started improving, crops also, though there were cycles when army worms or grasshoppers came along. It was strange to see army worms go up and over the high grain elevators in town: they went up and over, not around objects.

We had many good times with our friends, there were 500 card parties, box socials and school concerts — Anglican church services were often held in the Calais school. We always took our children in things - no baby sitters — the children went to sleep on available space — teacher's desk, spare benches or most often on quilts and robes in the cloakrooms.

We had our troubles too, concussion, broken legs, horse's kicks, as well as one time, one of the children was watching me pumping gas into the tractor from a barrel on the truck, it was a hot day and Dennis rising up soon gave us an excited child — out in the field — miles from help.

Books were always a part of my life. We had a travelling library box of books in my home, so we applied for one and had it for many years as our home for use in the district. It was always looked forward to.

The children were taken to Sunday School, Messengers, Explorers, C.G.I.T., 4-H, skating, swimming, softball, choir and all kinds of events, as with Ladies Aid and Women's Missionary Society and later UCW, we led a busy life along with farming.

Schools were Calais, Fielding and eventually being bussed to Maymont. Chester Ferris of Fielding and Harvey Deneny of Maymont were the capable friendly bus drivers.

Our eldest daughter, Lucille, is Mrs. Marshall Wyan of Hanna, Alberta. She has 1 daughter and 3 sons. Edna, a teacher, is Mrs. Allan Carruthers on the home farm. Patricia, a teacher, is Mrs. James Carruthers of Battleford, Saskatchewan. She has 1 daughter. Helen, a secretary, is Mrs. Ben Fields, of Banff, Alberta.

Albert and I had a wonderful trip for a month to Fiji, Zealand and Australia. We have now moved from the farm to Maymont where we built a new home. We are interested in many organizations, have hobbies and are enjoying our retirement.

Rev. and Mrs. Floyd Sloan

told by Floyd

My earliest recollections of early days in Maymont and Fielding Districts are mostly in the Fielding Area, as that is where my parents and both of my grandparents on both sides homesteaded. My parents homesteaded on SW ¼, 41, 11, located two miles northeast of Fielding.

The first four years of my life we lived in a sod house where my two older sisters and I were born. Our buildings were just across from Mr. and Mrs. Philip Brack, now known as the Flynn farm.

My father came to the area in 1903 and mother's folks came in March of 1904. My parents were married in March of 1906: my mother was the only daughter of

Mr. and Mrs. Gerhart Frei who settled in the Neapoma School District on N E Section 36, 31, 12.

Building a large sod house on their homestead, and being a friend to all who came along, their house soon became a place of many activities among which was the first church services of the area which were held there. Members from various churches rotated and ministered as Riding Ministers as they were riding by. Many a lonely homesteader and weary traveller found a warm welcome and a bond of love shared to them. This included the Royal Mounted Police who often found a night of rest there. Among the earliest settlers I recall were: Tom Miller, Sam Miller, George Northcott, Dave McKay, Jack Miller, Herman Renner, Schlossers, Tyhurst, Dick Wilson, and the Burgesses family; Albert one of the boys returned and living now in Aldergrove, B.C.

Many interesting factors come to mind but my point only highlight a few. Although there were many hard times, neighbors and friends meant much to each other.

Fielding remained our chief shopping place. The town of Fielding was a booming place at one time when wheat haulers came from Spears District and even north of that, and from across the river to the south as straight of Seattle came for miles bringing their grain and produce to market.

Among the earliest storekeepers and businesses were Smith and Shaw whom my father hauled groceries for from Spalding before the railroad came through. We are now Saskatoon although a supply route that had only a hotel out for a station. Other businessmen in Fielding were McGregors, L. W. Stott who had a harness shop, R. H. Harris, a store; Nelson Elder and Lumsden and later George Dennery were Blacksmiths.

Fielding had many fires throughout the years and many places were never rebuilt. The one that really destroyed the future was in late July, 1921 when nine buildings were totally destroyed; Shanks Garage, Post Office, Livery Barn, Hotel, Meat Market, John Deere Office, Telephone Office and two general stores owned by A. Gass and C. W. Dickinson.

A spirited struggle from the town well was the only fire equipment at that time, and with a strong northwest wind there was little that the huge crowd could do. Much gallant effort saved the hall which if not gone much more of the town would have been wiped out. Many of these places were never replaced.

As it is Saskatchewan's Seventy-fifth Anniversary, I should like to mention the Jubilee Centenarium of 1867, the twenty-fifth Anniversary of Confederation. Parades and Sports Days were held in each town. I have a picture each of a float in both Maymont and Fielding. The Maymont float was directed by Mrs. R. F. Johnston and Mrs. Butterfield sponsored by the ladies of the area. The six grey horses on the float of which four belonged to J. J. Hines and two to Angus Taylor were driven by Mac Taylor and myself. In 1955 Maymont celebrated the Fiftieth Anniversary of Saskatchewan. A sports day was held and many locals floats made up a very interesting parade. The Maymont Presbyterian Church sponsored a float depicting fifty years progress as places of worship. I was pastoring the church at that time. My wife and I have many precious memories of the years we served there.

Leaving Maymont in November 1956 we spent four years pastoring at Campbell River, B.C. where we also did Indian work on Quadra Island. Then in October, 1960 we moved to Surrey, B.C. where we pastored seven years also held services in three West Coast Missions at Coquitlam and Hazen Arms. In the fall of 1967 we moved to Langley, B.C. where we were assistant pastors at the Pentecostal Church also worked in Sherwood Missions at Vancouver during week nights.

I believe that my brother Ted was giving an account of our family but I should say that Rose Mrs. Wiley passed away on January of 1970 and Bert also passed away in February of 1977. Audrey and her family live at Aldergrove, B.C.; Walter and Norma Wiley in Burnaby, B.C. Bill and Velma Bjerkness live in Coquitlam. Betty and Joe Pimenoff in Squamish and Ralph Wiley in Campbell River. Mr. Wiley who has remarried lives in Whalley, B.C. The rest of our family still live in the Maymont area.

Our three children are married and live nearby. We have nine grandchildren. Bob, his wife and four children live in Surrey, B.C. He has a transport truck and hauls for Overwaite Motor. Marlene and her husband and three children live in Coquitlam; they both work at Woodland Schools in New Westminster. Margaret and her husband and two children live in Chemainus. they also have a transport truck and he hauls for Co-op Stores at B.C.

We moved to Chemainus, B.C. in May of 1973 we retired hoping we seemed in bad shape a bit to do but are thankful for health and strength to do it.

V. W. (Pete) Sloan

I now take the liberty of writing for your 1980 book on behalf of my wife, my two sons, myself and my eighty-one year old uncle George Sloan who lived in the area for many years. He did a lot of custom land breaking as well as his own and some of Ben Sloan's using his four oxen, making three ditches daily, sleeping and eating under his wagon. This was when he was a teen-ager and in his twenties.

I can't go into great detail as much has happened in these many years in the district. Of course, I can't write very much on the past thirty-three years because I left the area in 1948. I kind of regard this as like writing the Home-Loving Hearts page. It's true it's home-loving or I would make an effort to help with the record of the past and I realize many folks will be reminiscing as if you them I refer to myself too much, excuse me. It's true I certainly don't want anyone to think I'm taking advantage of the dear ones who are long gone. My writing, spelling and grammar are ab-

George Sloan's first birthday. Floyd Sloan, George Sloan and Pete Sloan

Ruby Sloan and Mrs. Holmes.

mind due to not writing much. Just don't blame it on my teachers because I'm going to tell you who they were and where they came from and I don't want them to be embarrassed.

Miss E. C. Nelling was one of our first teachers. She was raised in Fielding. Miss Lucille Gifford of Maymac was followed by Miss Lydia Ballard who stayed two and a half years. Then another Fielding girl came — Miss Muriel Elliott. We also had Miss Muriel Harris, Miss Irene Reid, Miss Ellen Reid, and for a short time Miss Ellen Reid was a relieving teacher. When I quit school we had Dorothy Dean of North Battleford.

Now I would like to draw to your attention that these girls all drew my greatest respect and I can only say they were the best. Not one ever gave me a licking and those were the days of law and order, at home, at school and in court. Truly I believe we all missed Mrs. Allan Bean more than any as she was there two and a half years and she had a wonderful sense of humor with us all and kept the ruling hand with love. We had perfect discipline in the school those years. I am proud to tell you that among very few keepsakes I have are five different Christmas cards from Miss Ballard. Even though she left to teach elsewhere she sent Christmas cards. So I really appreciated that and must remark about our wonderful relationship. I only speak for myself, but I am sure the rest that remain will verify my statement. I am glad to be able to say she became the wife of one of the best personalities to be raised in the district, Allan Bean, a friend to all.

Our school district, Neepawa No. 1870, consisted of eleven sections, so I believe it was relatively a small district. My dad (Lew Sloan) was quite constantly on the school board and so was S. R. Miller, and J. H. East was the secretary for over twenty years. There was always a third trustee who was someone from the district and as their children grew to school age took more interest. In the case of my father, having ten children probably retained his interest longer. But that's not the point I want to make. It was this: I know for sure about Sloan and Miller, they were both firm believers in giving the local students first chance if they applied for a job. They both had farm connections that the daughters of the men they knew should have first chance since it was only up to Grade Nine and it gave young girls a chance to be home the week-ends. Usually the teacher boarded at S. R. Miller's. The list of local girls didn't stop because I left school. It still continued and I'm sure when you read the list you will say, "Well done, Neepawa and God bless you all for this beautiful trust you had in your neighbor's daughters." I'm sure not one of them let you down. I'm sure each one left of their own free will.

I'm like a voice crying in the wilderness as since 1948 I've spent very little time in the area. Due to circumstances I left for various other parts of the world or I should say country as I've only made one trip to

Thorpe in my life. My father moved to move to the Fielding district for some time after the end of the [illegible] moved up there here. He were almost mid-way till 1936 when the old highway was put along side the track cycling down our grain load proving trains. We could wave those cops to stop ahead of time so this was the reason we changed part of Nose. But my father's old friends from early years were Fielding people so we began a difficult to change. It's true Fielding had served him well as a town. He had had a butcher shop there at one time in the early years as he did homestead on SW 30-11-42. Fielding was badly burned out in 1931 and most of the business buildings burned and also never were replaced. The fire started in the [illegible] stable owned by Miss Burns at that time but due to a strong wind blowing sparks across the street it spread all the surrounding district and took both. Mike could be done to save the town.

I recall as a small boy seeing a circus and parade that I believe I do not think the like ever in the large [illegible] sure. The first aeroplane I recall seeing and going there [illegible] was the south of Fielding in the fall of 1912. One of the boys here Charlie Ross in Fielding. My dad had, my eleven engine in and with Tommy Thompson and George Downey helping him they greased it to the standard of the track. Wet are probably not aware of what Fielding had. They had some of the farmers and boys [illegible] to that part of Saskatchewan. S. R. Miller and Tom Young the storekeeper. A black stallion that always made so much humour as Tom Finch. This horse was trained and jockeyed by George Smith. This horse cleaned up in Chicago in the Middle Tremblers [illegible]. Another had a good stallion of Marchmont called Prince. Another horse was Our well-known horse John Fraser. Besides also there was so many a lot of horses that hit the race tracks from Fielding that I'll not recall. I remember Wet Summers having a horse there called Long Tarman and S. R. Miller had several. He also raised fallen and another was [illegible] Bob Hodge had a fourth horse and also R. R. Hanna. Old Georgie Anderson had one he called Baby Bobby which was not [illegible]. I believe Grover Platts owns an Arabian horse and having a [illegible] and [illegible]. To tell you the publicity of Fielding's sports, these horses were driven up from Aberdeen, Saskatchewan to participate. Names we have now one of those drivers. He used Fielding as that he started up and spent many years on the district. So where I can say that what it as Fielding he had reasons to love it. He had a lot of friends throughout in the early years as the Fielding District. Maymont and Fielding also lost much of their business when the rail line was laid north on the Spears line and there appear in 1928 and 1929 when the C.P.R. put the line up north of the river from which a lot of grain and business came. So it was progress that moved these towns down considerably. At the Annual Fielding picnic, we have at Queen's Park, New Westminster, a lot of remembering goes on during the day as he has Charlie Rennison who left Fielding in 1928 [illegible] a prosperous business man and local district of [illegible] Fielding, Maymont, Rumsey and Speers. Although, even a few from Maytag that I know. I worked one year for him myself along with a brother to the Dean of Saskatoon University. So you can never or what there the for the better area. You [illegible] a man. Now as a Salesman from Spencer Hill working there and Charlie had loved them for many happy years. I met at Vancouver Airport. He was commenting on the Fielding fire. He said he had recently been visiting in a home in Vancouver and he related the [illegible] that was badly over-[illegible] so was able to make further enquiries and found it was the [illegible] that started in the back [illegible] at Fielding. So he could go by [illegible] the significance of the event was that he and Walter Thompson, both boys in their early [illegible] [illegible] in that apartment and pushed the pieces to the wall and with the long rope and [illegible] what was going with [illegible] saved it down past the flaming wall. That a boy of course to be burned up in it is also due to the risk of a conflagration. Most of the business [illegible] and [illegible] it is safely as the rest of the [illegible] showed. I believe that last spare I saw at Fielding was after the horse racing days were over. It was a [illegible] of town against country. And with what appeared to be a mighty effort — the country guys won!

There was the occasional time when a real [illegible] circus having elephants, camels, lions and almost all kinds of animals paraded around down the various streets of Maymont, Fielding and Radford a circus attending a circus at each one of these towns. It's hard to feature that such events took place on these streets. Even though we did have board walks, we had good entertainment. On the Twelfth of July the Orangemen would put on a [illegible] of the big events. I believe the best part of it was the parade. George Lowery playing the flute. Mrs. Nicol played the drum like was Mrs. S. R. Miller and and a fine drummer he was; Bill White of Fielding on the bagpipes. It usually drew a big crowd from the various towns.

Not much the crowd however that there was around some years later in August of 1933 at Dr. Barnard's picnic. I'd like to make an unusual statement about that complete [illegible] rope. No doubt many everyone has heard about the [illegible] of Dr. Barnard in the [illegible] of horses he owned at that time. What [illegible] some who weren't was great help by every [illegible] as easily make the [illegible] of his ability to serve his people and his true [illegible]. In the winter of 1932 I was driving [illegible] of Maymont. I lived on the south side of town and had no phone so I used [illegible] to appear into the [illegible] that she [illegible] made it as cold [illegible] as they could. Under ordinary circumstances they would send [illegible] on behalf of Doc. It was a Sunday morning [illegible] A.M. about 30 degrees below Fahrenheit and a northeast wind blowing. I was awakened by a [illegible]

[illegible] hands are tied saying. Pete never as we got to get to Maynard. It's a downtown case so let's get started. I never used to turn me down as I never knew where he'd have to radio for me. We were on the road a big time and by daylight we were quite a way past Spence. However, we were back in Maynard before 8 P.M. that night. We took us there from our cutter into his car and off for Middleton and got stuck in the snow, had to wait on banks and had to get him to drive by team to Piedmont and back down to dig us out the car and get it started. He returned to Maynard and a shot was starting to take him six miles up on the road by to see his wife that and at 9 P.M. I was just home with home. He stopped and said, "Crigan, Pete, he not been home since we left Mayfair yesterday." It must be remembered that he was no doubt past sixty at that time. People have to often said to me "That Doc always on the road." You try it. Very often I stopped hanging about going fifteen miles an hour on roads that were quite hungry. In one we were two guy were twisted than he was. Dr. Ainsworth made a remark to me I'd like to pass along and I'll certify it at the court. He said "That Maynard has the most hated I know of that there the bit often to the wrong room and please had a more warm fire and advise a midwife to come in any or night and enjoy the heat from that and get helped there." So I thank Mr. Hall Bowden has much to be commended on his hospitality and what it meant to many through the years that he owned that hotel.

You know the queer ways I the warmest place in the world but it was a real asset to the town. The one story that brings a laugh to even the most solemn is the part of a traveller who spent the night in there. Miss Andrews was a very good cook, waitress for here often and they don't come better than Annie was. He ordered had summers and mushrooms. Then one read letter coming in Clarendon he had brought the children in to school. He drove back, tied up his team. Then covered them came over to the house where he knew the old stove would be roasting off a good heat. He came in from by the cafe and the traveller who had stayed all night was standing by the stove when all of a sudden he noticed this post coming by the maternity with ice in his hours and moustache. He popped a hat there with amusement he said "Good grief, what's come over you sir?"

Well you may or may not believe it but there is a house north at Flatsburg that S. M. Pete had built that might but that company. Yes I know I worked there and don't get me wrong. Those people were two of the best folks in the world but circumstances beyond their control made it difficult. It was on the McNaughton farm. It was a house that was built only for a summer house by a real estate company only to be lived up in the summer time but Bill and Patty McNaughton had moved up there as there was a good well and good source grain and fed many carloads of cattle off there. The house was a nice house with hardwood floors and the best fireplace I'd ever seen around but I don't remember why they didn't use it. Likely it smoked but don't think I ever saw a fire in it. And all this big front room and no fire in it and our bedrooms above it, no chimneys to put up a stove. So I think I'd have a board it would have white from me it. Sometimes really pretty even to pass it was pleasant responsible to start making conversation. Bill gave a toast from I wrote a picture of a car of the young cattle at four cattle a pound and there were seven hundred to choose from and he returned to pay more than three and a half cents a pound. The cold conscience I have trouble saying I that hurts but Bill and his wife to this there was no Mr. Bylaw.

Bill was born 2000 years ago Vienna coat. Pick up your pants and shovels get on your job and not for the Promised Land. And now since I think Mr. Lawrence King had them to get off runs and grab your pants and shovels way to on the Promised Land but I really mean it. It was just Lucinda is suppose conditions but really no inflation. You know I don't what you to feel I am complaining on my job, not a bit. We were getting rather as much as the government was paying. They paid five dollars a month and three of us were getting ten dollars a month. Wage a pyramid. It was hard to decide which dozen [illegible] worthless pegs and cattle everywhere you passed. We ate good anyhow.

The summer of 1927 was hot and very much like 1936 when it began to rain in summer. It made good breeding conditions for grasshoppers. They didn't pack and certain people or sections. Hon Leah we all realized good to be sure they took more but it per or possum crop got out to at least try to cut them down but it just seemed to be in vain. I was up at Bill's that fall again helping to thresh. McIver ran the rig and a half dozen fellows pulled in the stooks harvest. A decision was made for the first time to thresh the stook at the [illegible] hay mow. The day was hot of course the wind was in the perfection making the weather ideal for the work. After about seven hours threshing we had two [illegible] bins several hundred yards out from the rig and I heard a peep peep sound like a baby chicken and then all I looked I could see Bill on top of the separator calling for and a male bellowed get water water. My lower was running with the straw back to get [illegible] on the separator so I started in that as I could go with part of a load on. At the whole I was going like mad screaming for water. Bill Buckingham had been trying his best to drive attention to the two pails he had and was reaching one to him. When the water was poured on the burning the smoke ceased. We rested and threshed as before. That evening as we were having a pit over supper with our supper it was then morning as near that say, "I've always maintained that in case of fire you get in hand cool and don't get excited." Even big wife laughed about that one because she heard him at the house. But we all liked Bill and his wife very much.

I had left in the end of October to go to Oliver Rogers for the winter where I'd be able to look after stock. I had come by the evening of November or early December. I went to [illegible] to thank them folks, Cliff and Mrs. McNaughton. She told me that that his blood pressure was very high and he was to keep go to Saskatoon or the Army doctor or to the next War I [illegible] but I knew it was no use I just went where I'd go there with Annie. About two days later Mrs. McNaughton phoned to have them tell me her husband had had a bad stroke the night before. So I immediately rode over to the farm. As I sat by that bedside my friend and boss was fighting unconscious for [illegible] there was little hope that we would ever speak to each other again. The thought occurred to me. What I got up to go home then who is looking to them? No one. So there was no remedy. I felt so sorry for her to have this by herself. I wished I could just have been there and to help her face what the next few months held before her. A few days later he was gone at about fifty-six years of age.

These people had been very good neighbours. I recall a few years previous when I was there. We came in for breakfast and Bill said "How cold is it this morning?" Someone said it must be forty anyway. Bill said "[illegible] let me ask Jack's from to decide that." He got up from his chair, 7:30, and started ringing the phone. Soon we noticed the serious expressions come over him. He grew pale as no one answered the phone. It was more than obvious that Jack Ridley could be frozen to death. He hung up and turned to me where I was eating breakfast. "Pete, go hitch up Barney and the bluebell horse and we'll get over there." To be sure we lost no time and I was not dark pressing that as we were approaching the log shack home. No sign of smoke. Bill remarked "No smoke, I guess he's dead alright." Before the sleigh was stopped Bill was out and almost ran to the door while I went to get the team in the shelter as they'd range the three miles at jig time. I was severely cross frog dead as well as the horses in the barn and a few cows there were poor and hungry and looked very bad and no hay did I see. I then noticed Bill coming kindling as by now I was well convinced in my mind the man must be alive as I went over to where he ran the wood yard + up and on approaching the house I saw that dear old man his eyebrows sitting with his head facing down, propped by both hands as his elbows rested on his legs, not a sign of a move. The box stove he sat by had failed to burn when he'd last tried to make a fire. A baking powder tin of unmelted snow sat on top of the stove. We moved him back. When I made a fire, Bill commenced rubbing his hands and after getting the fire going I helped him and finally he commenced to look as if life was coming back to his body. He wouldn't have been much longer till he'd have just never woke up. We made him a cup of hot tea. Found some food and put some cows in the stove for him as both feet had been previously frozen badly. We went back home. Bill phoned the Rovers at the R.M. & R. Miller and he came up, took Jack to the Maybank hotel all spring. Dr. Bennett attended him in the hotel.

It was in 1923 when I was working for J. D. Sheridan's near the Maybank School when a car came and take the field. As it drew closer I made out it was J. W. McNaughton and Jean Paddy in the car. J. W. said

Pete Paddy is leaving for Penticton B.C. and she would like to say good bye to you before she leaves. I was glad for her as I knew she would no longer be living in the snowbank house. R. M. Pete had built. I was glad for her as she'd now be with her own sisters where the weather would be much nicer. But as I shook hands to say good bye my eyes filled with tears. I was afraid it would be the last time I'd see that lady who'd been like a mother to me that I'd like them to go on record, too, as being very worthy citizens of the district.

I made harness a lot and as for weapons and it seemed all years who I worked with was a Liberal. That weren't my concern but I just was further to the left I guess. So one day I said to a local Liberal, "How come every most of the trades I have are with Liberals?" The gentleman laughed and replied, "Pete, if we can take a chance on MacKenzie King for four years, we can take a chance on a horse trade with you." I heard many of those harness now and then that I remember the horse Pete. But the year was so short. That's me my name anyhow.

One of my boys Eugene who went to Maybank School for one and a half years were his own teaching business. Three years ago he went to Penticton on retirement driving our happy travels on Vancouver Island. He came to normal and the Brock boy from Port Alberni came here. All twelve children of these have many grandchildren had lived across the road from me attended for several years while Joe Brock was a young man breaking up the Ryan farm. Dad's buildings were across the road on the west neighbours. Joe Brock was owner of the Maybank municipality for many term in the 30's. He lived one mile north of the Pribbing Cemetery then.

Ron, another of my boys, who was born at Maybank went to school was there for awhile. He was inspecting antiques and had his own store location working for C.P.R. as was often in various parts of the world. He got acquainted with me and always sometimes in Vancouver through an antique connection. He found the enemy of the Royal Hudson. The man told him he had an offer for $500 as was a sovereign as King returned to Prince George got three shots and thought that is interested. The four of them planned to purchase it for a honeymoon train in the North. But the Harriet governments was in power and he said "There's no way we're going to waste that train. There had applied for permission to move it by B.C. Rail and a report to government ministers. So he never ruled his calendar and bought it as he had a nice B.C. boxcar. It is [illegible] the greatest tourist attractions we have. It's been in the Western

[illegible] last year concerning sources. This year down to Eastern Canada and another two expeditions added for daily runs to Squamish all because another boy born and partly schooled at Maymont could use a future in one of the very few resources left.

This year my oldest son, Bill, who was born at Maymont won the B.C. salmon derby. His cousin, Ralph Wiley, who received for his subscription to Fishing was running for runs boat that Bill was in so he got the 40 lb. line trip. His prize was $1000 in an inboard motor and a fishing rod and reel, as a prize.

Now my wife and I are pensioners and as we enjoy some of the beautiful spots in the

George Simm celebrated his ninety-first birthday March 11. He has very good health and loves to get to Fishing picnic every year where everyone is reminded that he doesn't get any gray hair or use a cane or glasses.

Mrs. Brown from Maymont, has a new grandchild born last night across in the war depot cafe. Her daughter, Margaret, is the head nurse in Tofino Lodge (about the same as Whitehorse here). Allen Brown teaches at Lagoon, B.C.

My grandson, Robert Simm, has been in many countries including Japan and the Soviet Union in Judo competitions. He has won much fame and recognition on this continent as well as abroad. He didn't go to school at Maymont but spent considerable time with Ted and Evelyn Simm when he was a boy.

I spent the last six years of my working years at Agassiz Travel Lodge - well known to all railroad fishermen. I got well acquainted with John Wayne, Bob Hope and many more of the holidayers from the Western States, also all over from Calgary, etc. It was a very interesting place to work as mountaineers climbed. A lot of the work was in the dorks. Fancy hotels and all-season building summer homes for the carriage folks who worked to remain all summer. Many of these houses are years ago were worth forty thousand dollars. I worked on schools for several years. One of the most interesting jobs I was on was the junior town of Kitimat where I worked for Johnston and Crosby of Portland as a carpenter. I was a working partner to Oscar Haggen, a North Saskatchewan man who had worked for them in construction. The black bears would come under the shanty but as it was built on a hill side for drainage, (not exactly a hill but sloped to a ravine) and the shanty was ground level at the front but four feet at the back above ground. Kitchen, storehouse, loading platforms and sometimes room at the back and so this was not noticed but kept debated. The conference was four hundred and fifty men. There were six hundred at supper. It was first come first served as on the fall grew up and days shorter the last shift would run into darkness and it would have been much better if the bear had been white ones. They didn't only thump around under our feet, as we ate supper on the doors could smell the food and there seemed to be dozens of them. They were apparently of the same mind as the men were when it was suggested. I saw three different men, and when I say different I mean it - one got fat and were used spreading in their black hours. [illegible] one of them suddenly take on a rubble smoke run had it. When we were on a supper run day we made work. Jim Marsden a painter was on a long ladder painting the large board over white paint. He had most of a gallon when a big bear came around the corner so, he soon got on the roof and dumped all the paint on the black bear. We heard him laughing and he was yelling for us to see the new bear, it was but the bear was using no care to get back into the bears Hemlock forest from where he'd just come. The company finally brought in the security wardens to shoot the bears off as at that time already a couple of hundred families were dwelling there. We put up three hundred houses for Kitsa Aluminum Company then numerous Straits owners and schools businesses all went up in a few short months. I was on the housing contract. I worked on three dams as a carpenter. In the last dam in almost three years I was there four years and three boys one an apprentice. I was a safety director. Our jobs were to take the carriage complaints to management. Also to take a tour over a day to check for safety. One day when one of our subcontractors was calling on about losing a man, and about several accidents, the management shouted on a report on a smaller job and many had been killed in the Orient construction. I suppose there are advantages in being a member.

My son Ron has prepared an old fashioned map from 1913. It gives all the surrounding towns to date and their present populations. Maymont and Fielding were over 200 and less than 300. I can't recall the exact figures. I rather believe not of seven differences. Ron has a wonderful collection of antiques and collectors items such as a Valentines' tag of the day the World Flag [illegible] and another with a report of V J Day. Another poem is a poem now and a half inches long that shoots bullets smaller than a lighter flint. It was designed for gambling men many years ago. He has some old chairs four hundred years old. He was importing from many parts of Britain Japan and Europe. I flipped my top when he told me over the phone and week he bought a hundred planes in Glasgow.

George Simm has told me several times that the Rose Orangemen's Lodge meeting was in a house of his great-grandfather. He was not sure but it was an ancestor and we really burning was on as I had little concern as it may and may not be old but to keep the records straight. A Mrs. William Simm who is a nurse in Chilliwack, B.C. and her husband, a history teacher who is a grandson of my father's cousin who has been doing some historical research came to see me this year and the year. Just last night as I was looking through some old news clippings my dad has brought from Ireland, I noticed an account of the first Orangemen's meeting held in a Simm house." She also

told me that she had traced the Sloan name back to Oliver Cromwell's invasion when the Irish escaped, many to Scotland, some to the bogs and forest. But when the skirmish was over the name Sloan was one out of twenty names left that had been in Ireland before the invasion. So according to her findings it was originally Irish. Even quite a few Scots have the name and England the same. Now don't get me wrong. I'm not trying to get out of being Scottish or English. Kind of nice to know where you came from, even if Oliver Cromwell won the battle. Can't win them all. I guess the Irish are still trying to get even. Glad I'm in Canada.

I remember back, when I'm not sure of the date but is of no significance anyway, but I'd asked a churn of men to come to church with me and I tried explaining to him the need for all men to worship the Creator. He put up a good defence, one excuse after another. Finally he said, "I'll go if you say the preacher won't be preaching on Naiman being a leper he said that most of the times he went that was it. So I assured him there would be no danger. He came the next Sunday and the preacher was doing it on liquor and bootleggers, etc. Finally he said, "I think it should all be dumped into the river." Then he said in closing, "Anyone got a favorite song?" My brother innocently spoke up and said, "Shall we gather at the River?"

The Sloan Family

by Ted Sloan

The Sloans originally came from Ireland. William Sloan and his son, John, settled at Lindsay, Ontario. In the 1850's, John's son, Benjamin, moved to Neepawa, Manitoba.

In 1902, Benjamin Sloan drove with a team and buggy from Neepawa to the Fielding, Saskatchewan area and filed on his homestead, SE¼ 20-41-11. The following year they transported their goods by rail, and built a log house on the homestead near Fielding. Ben's wife, Elizabeth, soon became known as a midwife in the area and was also involved in the beginning of the Presbyterian Church in Fielding. In 1908 she took a trip to Ontario to visit relatives. She was killed in a train wreck on a bridge that crossed a river near Chapeaw, Ontario, at the age of fifty-six.

Ben and Elizabeth Sloan — picture taken about 1900.

Mr. and Mrs. Les Sloan — married March 13th, 1929.

One of Ben's sons was my father Les Sloan. In 1926 he and my mother, Mary Yost, were married.

(It is interesting to note here that both my mother's family, the Fasts, and my father's family each brought five sons to the community. Today not one descendant from either the Sloan or Yost family is in this district to carry those names to the next generation.)

Of Benjamin's children, only my father settled here permanently. Some of the others stayed here for a number of years but later scattered to a variety of places. George left 4-41-12 in 1926 for Birch Lake, Saskatchewan and then moved to B.C. Wes lived on 36-41-11 until 1965 when he moved to Lloydminster. Vince lived at Mayfair and died at an early age. His children moved to B.C. In 1937 Hart went overseas in world war I from 1914 to 1918 married in England. Hart eventually settled north of Edmonton. Minnie married Harry Dawson and lived on 20-41-11 and later moved to the United States. Another sister, Ida Plackett lived on 29-41-12 until they moved to Australia.

When my parents were married, my mother's

Ted Sloan, his pup 'Tony' and 'Spot' the cow in the camp on the homestead N.E.¼ 26-60-27

father helped them build a 16' x 20' sod house on SW¼ 26-61-11. It seems that my father usually found additional ways to make money besides working his own farm. At this time he worked for the C.N. Railroad, became the section foreman, and travelled back and forth on the hand car.

For one year they lived at Warman where he served as section foreman.

In 1911, he quit the railroad and sold the homestead. He then bought S½ 26-61-13, three miles east of Blaymont. The buildings are still at that location, beside the old highway.

From 1911-1917, my father owned and operated a steam threshing outfit.

My parents studied books and pamphlets to learn the art of taxidermy. Together they did a considerable amount of this work from about 1910-1918. The largest head they did was a 17-point moose which was sold to someone in Ottawa. Coyotes, moose, deer, prairie chicken and antelope were some of their projects.

As another sideline job, my father later shipped cattle for the Pool.

To start their own cattle herd, my parents bought a six week old heifer and raised her on soft porridge. This accomplishment must have given her a good start in life as she lived to the age of twenty-one and had her last calf when she was twenty years old.

Windmill power was used to pump water, along with gasoline power. Years later, in 1936, while work was being done on the pump, my father's thumb and parts of several fingers from both hands were cut off.

His first team of horses cost $300 and they travelled by horse and buggy until 1917 when he purchased his first car. It cost $900 — a second-hand McLaughlin Buick, which burned in the Fielding Fire, 1923, while in the garage for repairs. My Grandfather, Benjamin, was known for his preference for walking. It is said that he often walked from Fielding to Saskatoon to buy a plug of chewing tobacco.

My parents raised a family of five girls and five boys: Kate (Wiley), Floyd, Adeline (Williams), Ted, Pete, Hazel (Beaudoin), Mabel (Wood), Roy, Bert, and Audrey (Wood). We attended the Neepawa School near our home. The first school was located on NW 35-

Sloan family, 1917. L to r. — Bert, Roy, Ted, Floyd, Dad, Kate, Audrey, Mabel, Hazel, Adeline.

61-11. This school burned in 1920 and the new location was just ¼ mile south of the previous school. We often walked to school carrying our lard pails or took the horse and buggy. In winter we used the team and sleigh.

I once imprisoned my brother, Floyd, by shooting a Hungarian Partridge without the use of a gun. We were just finished our chores when a flock of partridges flew up in front of us. For no reason, I pointed a finger at them and said, "Bang!" One of the birds fell to the ground. "I got one!" I yelled, and my brother had a hard time believing me. I don't know who was more stunned — Floyd or the bird! Apparently, it had hit the telephone wire but was not seriously hurt so we released it the next morning.

Lightning struck our yard several times. In July, 1915, I was outside putting the little ducks in the pen before a rain. The family was sitting down to dinner when lightning took the chimney off the house and scattered stove pipes all over the house. It did not start a fire but there was a great deal of excitement as everyone left the table of food-covered food to run outside. Frightened by the commotion my young brother in the high chair called out, "Get me, Mama!" Lightning rods were installed on the house the next week. After that on four occasions lightning struck the yard and killed a horse, a pig and a duck, and many years later demolished a power pole.

Our family enjoyed playing music and singing together. It was a usual practice to have music after supper in the evenings. Even now when family members get together, music is a highlight.

Our home became a gathering place for neighbours

The buggy we made from our first car — Trudy Sloan, Danny and Lew Andrew. Spring, 1942.

40th wedding anniversary, 1976 L to r. — Shelley, Charlotte, Sharon, Ted and Evelyn, Elmer, Trudy Larry.

we started with a few relatives and a hired man, and soon a very large group gathered regularly on Sunday afternoons. This continued for several years.

In the early days churches usually began in a home. The Evangelical denomination came from Northern to hold their first meetings in the Pasts' home. Later, they met there a month at the Neepawa School.

In 1926 the Foursquare Gospel began to hold services in my parents' home and often forty or fifty people crowded into the house. A pool hall was later converted to a church.

We had our share of supper guests off the highway. Most of them dropped in during 1929 and in the early thirties, and Berness Heard was one of them. He hailed from Barrie, Ontario and was pushing a barrel from coast to coast across Canada.

During the summer of 1931, my brother Pete and I ventured north to Pierceland, Saskatchewan, where we each filed on a homestead. Dry land there was already looted and the future in that area held little promise for us. When we returned to the fall we had some interesting experiences and memories behind us: hauling logs out of muskeg, mosquitoes that Pete said were part sparrow, my dog bowling to the music of my mouthorgan around a campfire and a faithful cow who returned from grazing with range cattle to give us fresh milk each evening. One homesteader said he was doing alright he came there 3 years ago with nothing and he still had it.

I began a much more eventful and successful venture on October 17, 1936. Evelyn Andrew and I were married in her parents' home. We started our marriage living three miles east of Maymont, and in subsequent years we completed a circle around the town. Through renting and buying land we lived east, south, west and northeast of Maymont.

During the 1930's money was hard to come by. I was fortunate to have a resourceful wife. She sewed good-looking shirts for me from dyed red flour sacks, and she even captured an egg-eating magpie in the hen house with the use of a saucepan!

At this time politics were often discussed and my nephews, Walter and Ralph Wiley, listened to some of this discussion. They had also been told that if they licked the cow's salt block they may get T.B. One day Walter ran to the house yelling, "Quick, Mom. Ralph is licking the salt block and he's going to get C.C.F.!"

Another day their father had a frustrating experience. He had a three month old pig in his shed and when he looked out the window, he saw the pig running around the yard. He began to chase it and several hours later he returned to the shed to find his own pig safely inside where it belonged! He had exhausted himself chasing someone else's pig.

In the fall of 1948 we disposed of our cattle and horses and made plans to move to Campbell River, B.C. for the winter. This long train ride was an interesting one for us as we managed to keep track of our three girls. I found work for part of the winter doing general construction work at a dam; however, it was a happy day for us all when we headed home to the prairies at the end of April. On this trip we were accompanied by Elmer Sloan, our first son, who was born during our stay in B.C.

Although we knew we had to start over again from two head of cattle when we returned, we were excited to know that a man John Deere treasur, lordered the fall before! awaited us.

Our children attended the Keystone School located 2½ miles north of our home. This was the same school their mother attended. When it was moved from that spot, the old Neepawa School that I went to was moved to in its place. On summer mornings we sent them off with the horse hitched to the buggy shafts and a sheaf sticking out the back of the buggy for the horse's dinner.

Transportation in winter was a different story. I drove the children to and from school and this was a

very time-consuming job. A small stove inside the timber usually kept us hot water and there was always an extra stick of firewood to throw at our slow moving Daisy when she refused to pull her share.

Our oldest daughters took some correspondence courses and then boarded in Maymont in order to get to High School. We anxiously awaited their weekend visits. The roads were completely blocked one Monday morning when I took Trudy back to Maymont. We picked our way through the fields and spent the entire three hours. I left home at seven a.m. and finally returned at 2 p.m.

All this changed in 1950 with the coming of the school bus. This was a great boon to us. Roads were kept open and the responsibility of transporting the children to school was no longer mine. Our small country school was closed and the Maymont School enjoyed their first bus driver, Les Parker, who unfortunately perished and was an excellent driver.

During the 1940's other areas of our life style also changed. We got the power in 1946 and our coal oil lamps were placed on the shelf. A common past time among the school children was to count up all the electrical appliances each home had acquired.

In 1951 we gained another measure of convenience - the telephone. About this time the T.V. presented a new dimension. However in spite of these changes and those of our children growing up we still enjoyed family evenings playing music and singing together. The smaller ones who did not know how to play a musical instrument were through a comb and tissue paper and so contributed their share music.

We welcomed progress but neighbouring, as we called it, was no longer the necessity it had been. The big wood sawing bees were replaced by electric stoves and oil burners. Threshing crews were replaced by combines and in some cases T.V. substituted for visiting. In the past a common get-together hall was provided. Regular ball club meetings were necessary and we scheduled these during the evenings when our families could enjoy a gathering with the neighbours. We could count on a Russian dance from Henry Pauls and some good singing from his wife. "Froggie Went A-Courting" was always a favourite.

Our six children have grown up and married. We are fortunate that they all live within a one hundred mile radius of Maymont, (with the exception Leroy who is presently in Alberta.) The lifestyle of our grandchildren is very different from what ours was. In my lifetime I have seen men powering twelve and I have also seen man walking on the moon. In just a few years we have seen almost everything accepted as change and develop. Faith, family and friends are things that never change.

Elmer Sloan

Elmer Leslie William Sloan

With three girls making up their family, my parents, Ted and Evelyn Sloan moved to Campbell River, B.C. in the year of 1940. The change in climate must have been what was needed, for it was there they had their first son. I came into the world and in order to keep peace in the family I suppose, I was given a good choice of any of several names from both sides of the family. Perhaps my folks feared they would not perform the task of producing another son but in any case I was dubbed Elmer Leslie William Sloan. Although I am now known to most as Jon, a name compliments of my sister Charlotte, I am sure I have been referred to by many other names as well. I would be naive indeed to count the hundreds of nicknames I have taught, called and Mr. Sloan all the time even when I wasn't present. Regardless of my Christian names I bear the surname Sloan with pride.

I have many memories of growing up in the Maymont community. The most treasured memories are those of growing up with my four sisters, Trudy, Sharon, Charlotte, Shirley, and my brother Leroy. Many of our good times were enhanced by and shared with the Beaudoin and Pauls families, each only one mile away.

My first four years of school were at a one room school called Keystone, 2½ miles from home. Our main form of transportation was horse and buggy, and I recall the first day I went to school, I sat on the shovel at the back while my eldest sister Trudy drove old Dolly and with that my career in education began. Some days when I have had to put up with certain people involved in education I can't help but remember those restless old Dolly's ahead which also gave out a good nearby in the same location.

When my sisters went to board at Maymont to school, Jim and Wayne Beaudoin used to pick Leroy and I up with their old buggy. Leroy and Jim usually rode in the seat while Wayne and I sat in the back. Wayne had the habit of trying to speed up old Dot when Jim wanted to slow or stop her when Jim signaled her to go. It was on the way home one afternoon, I had the misfortune to fall out of the aging vehicle. I landed between the wheels and Wayne pulled stop. As we had just merely got going and were on our way home to boot, Jim could not be blamed for ignoring the shouts coming from the back. It was when he felt the bump as the buggy wheel went over my head that he realized what had happened. Mrs. McCready kindly gave me a lesser ride home in her car that night. Other than a bad headache I suffered no other ill effects, although some folks feel some change I did later on the way have been from something still loose inside from that accident.

A favourite time of year for all of us kids was the fall, for that is when the threshing and wood sawing bees were held. I remember watching Henry Pauls standing beside the stow, pitching blocks onto the pile and wondering what he would do when the pile got a little higher, as he was already dwarfed by the growing stack of wheat bad. Shortly everyone resided to a new position and my worries were over.

Threshing was a busy time for both and hard work for both. Some of the tasks were done by machine and some by horses. George Williams and the newest tractor and all of us kids fought to see who would get to drive it for him. My uncle, Bert Sloan, kept life on a threshing crew from ever getting dull. We always kept our eyes open for a shout on the band a mouse on the tractor seat or any other practical joke he might reveal in the middle of a thirties field.

Life on a farm meant many chores and nothing more than one of the least desirable of such jobs. We learned the dubious skill at an early age and as it was a daily routine the Mackenzie's of it required that one invent various diversions to make it slightly more palatable. We taught the cats to sit up and lap a well directed stream of milk straight from the cow and when the kids weren't around more than one calf was roped across the manure strewn soil of the old barn. The most enjoyable activity always came when our cousins, at which we have an ample supply, from the city would come. Sending them over to milk the bull was usually our favorite old suggestion. The best, of course, was to entice them into a summertime pastime with stories of mumps and lice or whatever, and then delivering a forceful stream of sticky white milk squarely between their expectant eyes. Strangely enough they always seemed to return but they avoided the barn with a passion.

After eight long years of school in Maymont I went to the University in Saskatoon before taking my first teaching job in Abbey, Saskatchewan in 1970. It was while at University that I met my wife.

Marilyn Hollowell and I were married in 1969. Our first home was a small two room apartment in Saskatoon while I finished University. In 1970 we moved from Abbey to North Battleford where I have taught ever since. Marilyn's father, Jack, and brother, Ron, were very involved in hockey in the 1-60 League when they lived at Speers. They since have moved to Saskatoon.

In 1973 our oldest son, Curtis was born. Our youngest, Devon was born in 1977. They are the only two Sloan boys from our family now left to carry on the Sloan name in this area. However, if they continue to have the same amount of energy they now have, I am sure there will be many more Sloan boys in the future to replace me.

It would seem one of my main problems in life was usually having my mouth in gear long before my brain was engaged. At times this led to physical altercations and the Maymont Sports was usually as likely a time as not for that to occur. One time I recall pacing above one punch in before my opponent returned what seemed like two blows. When the dust had cleared, my face was rather the worse for wear, but standing there to my relief was my brother. He looked down at me, shook his head and said, "That's the last time I bail you out of my shirts." I was a little more concerned about my jaw than his shirt at the minute, but he didn't use it quite that way. He couldn't have kept me mad though, for in four or five years he broke down and did bail me out of his shirts again. I took care that time though to return it and my body in good shape.

Our family has always been a very close one. My parents, above all else, gave us a family pride and love. Their home on the farm near Maymont is still the favourite gathering place of all the grandchildren. Both Ted and Bev have always had time for kids and kids know it. Grampa Ted is always good for a tractor ride or a trip into Maymont for treats. Grandma is probably one of the best story tellers a child could hope for. My grandfather, Billy Andrew, was the only one I ever knew who could hold a candle to her.

Music always was and still is a favourite pastime in our home. Ted started almost all of us off on our musical endeavours. The girls began playing the piano and Ted taught me to play the mandolin when I was eleven. Jim Saunders started me on the guitar a few years later. Although we all played "by ear" and didn't know a B flat from a hole in the ground, we enjoyed our own music and the good times it contained around. Today Lacey and his wife, Shirley do a great deal of entertaining with their unique abilities, as does my sister, Shelley. Each of us will always treasure that gift our father gave us, the desire and opportunity to enjoy a talent like music. I have heard my parents say many times that they wished they could have given us more when we were growing up. Many of the things which our parents gave us were not wrapped in ribbons or were not bought in stores, but are gifts which have lasted through the years, long after the paint would have rusted from many toys. With the love, love and encouragement they gave us, who could have asked for more?"

It seems when I return to Maymont it is with mixed emotions. The people of the town are new and I do not recognize many of the faces. Lennox Hotel, the best beer I ever worked for, is gone. Ted Saunders and his cheerful greetings are lost forever. The kids in the cafe have new faces. Sebastian, other than Harvey Johnson and Chuck Coleman are coaching the little league team. In many ways I am a stranger in my own home town.

Yet there still prevails the intense community loyalty, which in spite of all odds, binds people of the past, present and future together. It is my hope that I can give to my community what Maymont people give to them. It is the strong communities of Canada which make it a strong country. May the thousands of places like Maymont hold on to their traditions so our children can enjoy the kinds of lives that we have been lucky enough to have.

Tribute to Archibald "Archie" Spence (84)

From a newspaper clipping

Archie came to Fielding in 1904 from Ballymena, County Antrim, Ireland, where he received his educa-

tion. In 1917 he married Cassie Neat in the Presbyterian Church Belfast. Ireland and returned with her to the farm where he spent 36 years.

He retired to the village of Fielding in 1956 and revisited Ireland in 1962-63. In the midst of a host of relatives and friends, Mr. and Mrs. Spence celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary in 1967. Archie was a keen curler and gardener. From miles around people came to see his beautiful flower garden. For some years the Village's neatly trimmed caragana hedges were a tribute to his care and attention. He served as village councillor, Beckwith School Trustee, on the Telephone Board, and Hall Director; he was a faithful United Church member.

Mr. Spence's grandsons are the fourth generation on the family farm. He was of a quiet and unassuming nature, respected and loved by all who knew him.

Tribute to Mrs. (Archie) Cassie Spence

taken from a newspaper clipping

Mrs. Spence was a friend to all who knew her and in times of trouble, was always there with words of comfort and willingness to help.

During the second World War Mrs. Spence organized the Comfort Club. The Fielding boys will long remember the food parcels and good cheer she was responsible for sending

Mr. and Mrs. Archie Spence — Golden Wedding anniversary.

She was without exception the district's most noted correspondent. Besides a long list of friends in Canada and Ireland with whom she corresponded regularly, she seldom missed sending a card or an encouraging letter to folks in hospital.

For many years it was left to Mrs. Spence to decorate the Fielding Hall for special events. This she did with care and enthusiasm.

She promoted every community project that she felt was good. She was interested in drama and directed many skits and plays in the early days. Her fresh wit and her genuine hospitality will not be forgotten.

She was a member of the U.C.W. and a faithful member of the United Church in Fielding.

Don and Laura Spence

In 1973 Don Spence married Laura Small, formerly of Craven, Saskatchewan and rented the E. K. Turner farm. They have three small children, Jeffrey born in 1974, Angela in 1976 and Scott in 1978. Don and Laura have been active in the 4-H Beef Club.

The Bernard Spence Family

told by Mrs. Eleanor Spence

I was born and raised at Maymont, the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Johnston. I started to school at Ebenezer with Mrs. Wilf Langley as my first teacher and later Blanche Racine from Madison.

I attended Wayne Bank from Grade 1 to Grade 10. Our transportation was a Shetland pony and cart, horse and buggy and horse and cutter, which our children laugh about now.

I'm glad I had the opportunity to attend a country school, because I have been left with many fond

Bernard and Eleanor Spence wedding June 22, 1954; (bridesmaid) Nena Johnson — (bestman) Chester Free."

memories, some of which have children mine out on to a big school.

Getting ready for the Christmas concerts were almost as exciting as the big night itself. Hallowe'en and Valentine parties, nature hikes, school picnics and for many of us, we learned to dance at these country schools with local talent as the orchestra.

Wayo Rank school has been moved to Everett Sherman's here in Maymont and made into a workshop.

I attended Maymont School for one year with Jack Armstrong as Principal. It was a big change coming from a country school and taking correspondence courses.

Bernard is the eldest son of Bill Spence and the late Nellie Spence (McGrath) of Fielding. He has one brother, Walter, in Battleford, two sisters, Kay, Mrs. Maurice Hurst of North Battleford and Thelma, Mrs. Ron Schmidt of Ruddell.

He attended Hopewell and Beckwith schools and took his High School at Fielding. He worked for Jim Nutting and various farmers, later farming with his dad, until he was employed by the T. Eaton Company in North Battleford. He was there from November, 1953-56.

We were married June 25th, 1954, in the Maymont United Church by Reverend F. Myers. The first month we were married I came down with the mumps, red measles and virus pneumonia. When the Tuberculosis survey came to North Battleford in May of 1955, it was found I had Tuberculosis. I entered the Saskatoon Sanatorium on July 5, 1955, and stayed for fourteen months. I had lung surgery in March of 1956 and came home in September. With two ten day passes (one at Christmas!), visitors, cards and letters, the time seemed to pass quickly. Bernard only missed coming to see me one Sunday and that was on account of a blizzard. I have many fond memories of the people there, also, often thinking of those who weren't as fortunate as I was.

Bernard and Eleanor Spence — 25th Wedding Anniversary — June 22, 1979; children: Darrel, Karen and Lana.

Darrell was born June 24, 1957, in North Battleford, while we were living on the E. Frances farm at Redberry. We moved to Wilkie to work for Don Phelps in the spring of 1958.

While we were there, Lana was born, Jan. 31st, 1960. That fall we moved to Battleford where Bernard was employed at Western Grocers as shipper and receiver. In May, 1961, he started as a helper at National Grain at Holbein. He went to Biggar as a helper with his uncle, Hugh Spence. In November we moved to Aberdeen where he was agent for two years. We liked it there very much and Darrell started school there. But it was time to move again and this time we were transferred to Lilac. In April, 1964. That was home for five years and happy years for us all. Lana started school there, coming to Maymont in Grade Four. Darrell and Lana, too, feel it was a privilege to have attended a country school, where they could all play together at noon and recess, make huts, or listen in while the teacher taught another class. They really missed this when they came to town, as I imagine others did also. The big highlight of the year for them, also were the Christmas concerts and Hallowe'en. One year Bernard and Ebney Orsel dressed up to go out tricking or treating. I wonder which kids had the most fun?

Our household experienced many changes when Karen arrived January 31st, 1969, one of the coldest days of the winter, and with more snow than I care to remember. I had stayed in North Battleford for two weeks ahead of time because of the weather, so by the time these weeks were up, I was content to come home and stay there for the rest of the winter.

In April, 1969, Bernard decided to resign from grain buying and go into farming full time. We had bought a half section of land half a mile north of the cemetery from L. Karpan a year earlier, and the necessary machinery. We moved to Russell Krake's farm until October, when we moved into Maymont, into the Mac Taylor house, then owned by Margaret Szeluinko.

Bernard rented Karpan's farm, north of town to raise pigs, as we had no cattle then. He also worked as one of the representatives of the risk for a few winters.

Meanwhile we bought the half section of Norman Johnstone (Uncle Rob's) and Stanley Bohn's half section. In 1973, we bought the farm we are living on from Dick Clayton, just east of the town limits, once known as Saunder's Park. On October 30th, 1973, we moved out of town and hopefully it will be our last move for a few years.

We have acquired a large herd of cattle over the last six years, specializing in Simmentals.

As for community affairs, Bernard is more involved than I am, as he enjoys being out in public. He

served on the Church Board at Bernards for twelve years, as a school trustee, on the Park commission, rink committee, and is a hockey representative for the Maymont team. He is an avid hockey fan and believer, enjoys curling and golf.

I help at the rink on Sports Day and regular weeks through the winter and I am the Sunday School treasurer. We are all members of the United Church where the children have given to Sunday School, and where all three were christened by Rev. F. Myers.

We celebrated our twenty fifth wedding anniversary this year with all family members able to be here.

Our family is gradually growing smaller. Darrell, who is 21, graduated in 1975 from Maymont Central School. He worked in North Battleford for a term and is now apprenticing as a plumber in Lloydminster. While at home he was a 4-H beef Club member, Gem Club member and played hockey for eight years.

Lana graduated this year and is now working in Saskatoon. While at home she was a 4-H Beef Club member who took crafts and home nursing. She was a member of the C.G.I.T. for one year, took figure skating and was on the 5 K.T. She enjoys sports and is an avid hockey fan also.

Karen is eleven years old and in Grade Five. She loves school, enjoys sports but is unable to be as active as she would like to be on account of an asthma condition she has had since she was two years old. Much of the time in her pre-school years she spent in the hospital. She attends Sunday School, was in Messengers and enjoys figure skating having won the trophy for the most improved skater in 1976. She attends Explorers now, and on September 8th, she felt quite honored and happy to be one of the bridesmaids for Kirk and Lorraine.

Grandpa Johnston was always special to her and, of course, he helped to spoil her, too.

My Family History

by Elsie Sparkes

In the year 1911 or thereabouts, a young man living on a poor rocky farm in Leeds, Quebec, trying to support himself, his wife and four children, decided there must be somewhere in this land where he could make an easier and better living. He packed his bag and set off for the West. The railroad had gone through the previous year and many were seeking new homes. He arrived at Bleeker in Alberta first, but finally landed up at a little "siding" named Maymont in Saskatchewan. It was named after a popular young lady whose name was May Montgomery.

That young man was my father, James Alan Johnston Reed. His wife Minnie Dunn and his four children, Stella Ellen, age 9, Edgar James age 7, (me) Elsie Bessie age 5 and a little curly red-headed chap named Lyman Dunn age 3 made up our family at that time.

The following spring the farm was sold and Dad and Mother picked up the few belongings they had which included Mother's piano and went first to Montreal where Grandmother and Grandfather Stephenson and son George were all packed ready for the journey as they were going West too. A lot of food had been prepared besides blankets and pillows. I faintly remember that train ride. The car was equipped for making meals and the seats could be pulled out for sleeping accommodation. There was a fairly long stop at Winnipeg where stocks of food could be replenished.

Upon arrival at Maymont we went to a boarding house run by Mrs. Eby where we were served a very nice dinner after which we were driven out to the home of Mrs. Arkley by one of her sons either Bill or Jim. It was not too long before the men had a house built. It was pretty much in the rough but provided a home for us. Seventeen people lived in that house that summer until they could build homes for themselves.

Friends and relatives started arriving from Quebec and from other places. Many of them brought their household effects as well as machinery and farm animals. The railroad made this possible by providing suitable cars and other conditions for that purpose. Dad's brother Andrew Reed his wife and family, the Maymont family Grandfather and Grandmother Reed all arrived the following year. They soon had houses built as most of them were good at carpentry work.

There were not too many businesses in Maymont at that time. There was Hoar's Store and McCorkle's Lumber Yard. The hotel was built and we thought it was a huge building. One of the early proprietors was a Mr. Gillespie. Lyman and I were always pleased to deliver milk to the hotel as sometimes we received an extra nickel for ourselves. Dad had bought a real good Jersey cow so we supplied many with milk at 5 cents a pint pail. We were so sad when the Gillespie's lost their tiny baby. Mawhinney's Drug Store came into existence and Dr. Scratch started to practise medicine. Ransom Rogers ran a Shoe and Harness Repair Shop. My father, his brother John and Jim Patterson entered into a partnership to establish the Maymont Trading Company which was a general store. Mr. Patterson was a silent partner as he had a large Pool Hall and Barber Shop of his own to handle with living quarters above. He had a family of eight but little Archie died at an early age which almost broke his mother's heart.

Some additions was built on the store to serve as a meat market. Dad handled this part of the business while Uncle John looked after the general store. I believe Dora Morrow worked in the store at that time. My sister Stella assisted Dad in the meat market as he was away quite often buying cattle.

Dad had filed on a homestead in the meantime because about one and one quarter miles south east of town. In order to gain possession of the land "homestead duties" had to be done. That means we had to live on it so many months each year for three years besides certain other improvements. Each spring

we moved to the little log house on the homestead then back to town in the fall. We children looked forward to this every early spring even though things were a lot on the rough side. When the patches of snow disappeared from the knolls where we worked for Father we looked down from a nearby rough. It was strewn and looked wet had rotted at certain spots. We passed the short days up at the shack we occupied. The mosquitoes were a big pest. Even though mother tacked mosquito netting over the windows they found their way in through the cracks between the logs. The only relief was to make a smudge in an old pail and throw the smoke in the windows where they could be circulated. The evenings we all came down with mosquito and retreated to the house when a prairie fire started raging along toward the house. Across the creek would see it then look and more able to head it off in another direction. One night we were awakened in the middle of the night and noticed all in June Bennett's house which made an outside. Next morning we were told we had a new baby sister. This was Barbara Emily better known as Bonnie. A neighbour lady, Mrs. Tait came to see after mother and the new baby. When she was not we learn she read stories to us that made them real to us. Three Times plays and The Lassie Shepherd of Kingdom Come were our favorites. When Stella and I learned enough manners during the potato work at the school to have a party we asked her there after the party in one of the books. Arthur Morrison brought Dixie from Alberta for us all, quite often he brought in carloads of horses to sell. By this time a Jersey Bern had been bred and was a cow and she was needed as people coming from a distance needed a horse for their horses. Grandfather Reid kept his cow in the Jersey barn. About 8 o'clock one cold winter's day he was hurrying across the railroad track on his way to work. He saw what he was afraid to be the evening passenger train. He was taken to North Battleford on the train but died on the way.

My first brother was Ira Sherman was later married Ada Morton. Then came Miss Irene Laing for two of these years. Some of the others were Miss Ruby Wood, Miss Walker and Mr. Porter. When the time came for us to move our family still owned Northcott Wrigley grew large land and due to finishing work did not write our names. The three of us all passed the exams. Later the Presbyterians and Anglicans Churches were built and were used in the school. Of course the Presbyterians church later became the United Church. Many evenings were also held in the school as it was really good use of.

My grandparents Stephenson took up a homestead about eight miles from Maymont. It would probably be at the Hanson's now. I believe grandmother was very lonely. They lived in a fair degree of comfort in Newmarket among friends and relatives. Here is a sad thought as the prairie so far away from everyone. Would make anyone so be lonely. Their only means of travel was by horse and buggy. But the horse was a mare and was part. Old Larry had been an excellent saddle horse but objected to being driven with a buggy behind her and quite often balked and would not go at all. Of course a short was suppose around who could pony on her back she would be all, but that was out of the question for grandmother to do. Grandfather got the job of running the Maymont ferry so that helped them financially as they then were able to build a better dwelling. Oxen were used for cultivating the land. They did grow a marvellous garden. Even cucumbers and tomatoes were grown with success. This was astounding to me was rough pioneer.

The Richard family had built their home on the land at the point named after them. Richard. They made a very nice, refined family. Mrs. Richard came to Canada from Quebec as Mrs. Richard never spoke very little English. Christmas day stays with Richard with cards and horses. And a mile south and west of them lived two Ingram brothers. There were related to Timothy Eaton the founder of the now famous T. Eaton Co. There were two more fine girls of beautiful Northern horses, carriages and other paraphernalia which were the envy of those of us who were horses. Many summers evenings we rode with Doris Andrew Richard homesteaded on that northern plain. There were all daughters of a grandmother at taking her grandsons and her aged which she looked forward to so much.

Dad finally gained possession of the homestead then sold it and bought a Russell Thompson quarter three or town then the quarter west of it where he built a brick, more permanent home. Another baby girl however had been born in that house a week. This was Irene Grace, seven three years younger than Barbara. A few years later, one night about midnight, little Wendell Derby, now known as Derby, gained his little nose out into the world. He was a cute little duffer and we all loved him dearly. In fact he discovered all three to have been in the most scrupulous long dress to nurse mother and look after little Derby. She was a very fine patient and did a real service in the community. Doctor could have been spoiled as we all made a fuss over him. We enjoyed three years, had come to like with us from Vermont to see if the change of climate would improve her health. She was about my age and we got along well even together. When Mother was away one time Dorothy was left in charge of Olive and me. When she returned she asked him if we had been good. He had to admit he remembered that Addie and Olive gave them an cup of tea. Those were the times he called to and the cup of tea was really with a little sugar added. Of course mother was very sympathetic and recommended at which pleased little Dorothy. Have a healthy impression and she worked at the time. Olive and then at the Hotel. She later married the cowboy Carl Reed. They had lived a short and another moved to Saskatoon where they now live though Carol and her parents died some years ago.

In this manner Addie married Gordon Hazlewood and

[illegible] to live in Spears. Unfortunately Caldwell died of [illegible] and went to Penticton to have surgery for kidney removal. He was really never very well but they bought a little farm on the edge of Spears and both worked very hard to pay for it through the lean years of the depression. Gordon died in 1941. Stella sold the livestock and machinery etc. and rented the farm. She went to Ontario and Detroit and after the sudden death of John her second husband she moved to the West coast. First to Vancouver, then to White Rock where she lived until her death on February 3 1971. She married the third time, Claude Radley an old neighbour she had known in Spears. He had fought in World War I. He was laid to rest about a year after Stella but had been in poor health for some time.

Brother Edgar attended the University of Saskatchewan where he obtained his Degree in Pharmacy. He later joined the Forces in World War II in the capacity of pharmacist. He later operated his own store in Neilburg. He died suddenly from a perforated gastric ulcer at the age of 48 years.

Our brother Lyman pursued farming after the marriage to Evelyn Fetterman. They brought up a family of five who were all a credit to them. After farming for some years Lyman bought grain for one of the elevator companies before joining the forces in World War II. After five years in the services he again took up farming for several years but suffered from [illegible] so sold the farm and worked for a funeral home in North Battleford. Soon after his retirement, he developed cancer and passed away last September in Saskatoon (1971).

Bernice took a business course in Saskatoon then married Henry Kendrick. They lived in Maymont for some time, then in Meadville and eventually in Edmonton. They have four children all married. Bonnie now lives in Penticton where her two daughters Ann and Ruth live.

Irene went to Teachers College and taught school in and around Pembina for some years. She was a great help and comfort to Dad after our dear Mother was taken in December, 1936. She married Al Richardson and went to Ontario with him when he joined the Forces. When they returned to Saskatchewan, Al worked for a time in a garage then they went to B.C. and are now retired and live at Lytton.

Derby ran the home farm until recently, when he was forced to sell out on account of a heart condition. He married Edith Hinkley Saunders and they have one son and three daughters. Their son Derby suffered a very severe loss recently when his wife died suddenly.

As for me, I attended Normal School in Saskatoon, the last of the four month terms — taught in Blaine Lake, Rosthern, Lemsy and a short time in Mayer. But my heart was set on nursing so I took my training in the Toronto General graduating in 1923. I worked at Watrous and Maidstone then entered the Public Health field to do school nursing. However, I found it to be rather a rugged life so when Ralph Sparkes said "will you I said "I Will" and we were married December 30 1927. We lived in Kamsack first then Wadena and Saskatoon. We moved to Saltcoats Area in 1938. I lost my husband in 1954 from a severe heart attack. I went back to nursing until 1960 then retired to the town of Saltcoats.

His son Robert Kenneth works for Ontario Hydro as Physicist at their Nuclear Plant at Deep River. He served in the Navy for twenty-two years. He married Lillian Wolgemuth and has four children. Gary who is now married Susan Sharples and Lisa.

My daughter Yvonne Elaine is teaching Biology in a high school in Calgary. At first she worked as a Lab Technician but after her marriage to Lee Meisner and their two children, Barbara Lynne and Gregory Lawrence were well on their way in school. Yvonne decided to go back to University to get her degree in Education.

Stella Jean my youngest daughter took a business course. She was employed as legal secretary for quite a number of years then became office manager of a leasing and accounting firm. She married Glenn Hershey in 1960, has one little boy Gordon Ralph who I am sad to say is crippled with Cerebral Palsy.

In looking back over the years many people came to my mind as making contributions to the good life we enjoyed even though we had little money to spend. Just to name a few whose many of you may have forgotten. –

Mr. and Mrs. Bean, Ethelwyn Catherine and Alan. The first store was established by Mr. Bean and was carried on after his accidental death by Mrs. Bean assisted by Harry Martin for several years.

The Fry Family whose farm was a little west of town. Dr. Fry, dentist, cared for the dental needs of the community. His son, Elias, with his wife Ruth (Eby), managed the farm. Two daughters Margaret and Beulah who married two brothers, Robert and Ernest McLaren. I named my Karen Beauty (all Scottish) so we were to fond of Beulah Fry.

Percy Knowles, Notary Public, his wife and children. The Fred Longs, and not forgetting Grandmother Long. Charlie Ride, the Shoemaker. Henry Carmichael who owned the first car in the district. Mr. Guy Trouse first Bank Manager. Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Cook, and nephew Dean Crossley. Mr. and Mrs. McCorkle. Margaret and Helen and Aunt Margaret. The Duncan McLennans. Also the Summerfields the Pedens, the Mahlers, the Lallards, the Rubes, the Johnston families, the Levy family, the Bramhalls Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Kerr. Sam, Dot, Cora and Edna. I hear could we have over managed without Mrs. Kerr to do our sewing.

These are only a very few of all those who contributed so much to the history and the good and welfare of Maymont.

I submit this "history" as loving memory of my dear Mother and Dad for their courage and determination, to give us, their children, a good life

Mrs. George Smith — "Little Mother"

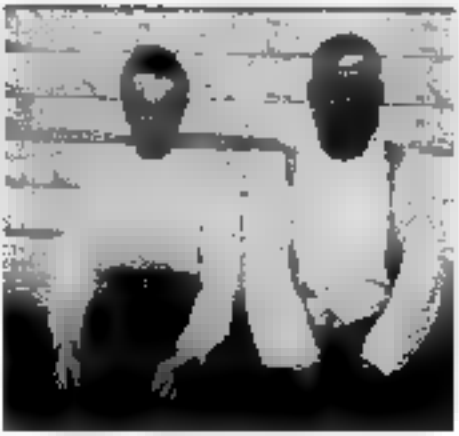
by Mabel (McKeen) Heber

My grandmother, Mrs. George Smith, was known as "Little Mother" by many of the early pioneer men. Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Smythe were the only two married women in the school district for a time. Grandma did baking and washing for a number of the men — Alex and Tom Brehon and the McKeen Brothers — to name a few. Each Sunday that they had service at the school house her alto voice could be heard leading the singing. Grandma's wonderful sense of humour and a song kept her going in very lonely times in those first years in the Keystone District.

Mabel (McKeen) Heber and her mother Mrs. Jack McKeen taken on Mother's Day, 1963.

The George Smith and Jack McKeen Families

Hello! I'm Mabel, eldest of Jack McKeen's family. I have two brothers Ron and Bruce. The three of us are married and live at Sperry.



Mr. and Mrs. George Smith, Mrs. Jack's McKeen's parents.

Our dad was a member of Keystone's first School Board. In those days lumber for the school was hauled from Saskatoon. This was a wintertime job. The erection of the building and its maintenance were jobs where the whole Board and Ratepayers got involved. Our mother (Bertha Smith) first saw our dad when he was down plowing the fire-guard. The teacher asked him in and he met the students.

Bertha, Smith, as a member of the class of Harbert Elliot helped to plant maple trees as a shelter belt for the school. Bertha was janitor of the school for a while. She would walk a mile to school, light the fire and tidy up while the fire 'got going'. Students placed their lunch pails close to the fire so as to not have frozen lunches.

I attended the same school that my mother had. I went in 1921, '22 and part of 1923. We had the original school but with a porch added. In later years when the North Battleford School Unit No. 36 was operating this building was moved to the Badger Hall school yard and remodelled for a teacherage.

Keystone School District No. 1144 and Grey School used to have a school picnic complete with parade. I remember the parade of 1922 when we all went dressed like characters of the comic strips. "Tom Sawyer" had a "Becky" — that was me.

Harold M. Smith

told by Harold Smith

I, Harold M. Smith, taught at Maymont from September, 1939, until the end of Sept., 1941 when I left to attend the U. of S.

I taught the intermediate room comprising Grades V-VIII inclusive. Miss Edith Butterfield and Mr. Morgenroth were the other members on the staff.

H. M. Smith, teacher at Maymont School, 1939-1941. Picture was taken by Dolly Porter.

Pyramid building.

I boarded with Mr. and Mrs. Gray whose home was just across the road from the school.

It was a fine experience. I enjoyed it very much.

Curling, hockey, and baseball were well-established sports in which I took part. At school I organized and trained a group of boys in pyramid building. They performed locally, in neighbouring towns as well as at the Provincial Normal School in Saskatoon.

Ramona McLaren Smith

I was born in Maymont, February 18, 1926 the oldest child of Robert and Margaret McLaren. I left with my parents when I was 10 years old. I have many happy memories of friends and good times there.

I remember: picnics by the River and, at Picola, when coming back by train from there, lost a very pretty hat out the train window. I loved to go to the Gifford farm to visit and to parties. I went to Sunday

Home of Robert McLaren, Post Office on right. Aunt Ruth (Fry) on porch with Kathleen. Ramona in rocking chair, Lynn Fry and John McLaren.

L. to r. — Ramona and Joan McLaren, Grandpa Fry, Lynn Fry, Gertrude McLaren.

school once and came home with frozen fingers and mittens in my pocket. I remember vividly watching the troopboats of soldiers going to war and people waiting at the Post Office to get the latest news of the war when the mail was sorted. The night the livery barn burnt caused me to fear fire for years. I remember driving very fast with my parents in the buggy to reach our homestead shack the day of the great tornado at Regina. The sky was a dirty yellow and the wind very strong.

I took my high school at Waterford Ontario and Normal training at Camrose, Alberta. I taught for one year and married Robert Paul Smith in 1950. We have four children, three of whom live near Ponoka and our oldest son at Jarvis. We have fifteen grandchildren. We farmed for 30 years west of Ponoka, moved to town in the fall of 1964 and built our home at 6304-44

ave., where we now live in very good health and celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary in 1979.

The Soule Family

by Nora (Agar) Soule

Tired of trying to make a living clearing the stumps in Michigan, Ed Soule moved to Oregon and on to Ruddell where he settled on the old George Robinson farm.

We had three sons and one daughter. Era who married Bob Thrower in 1918. Guy who was second, worked around and moved to Port Angeles. Luther and Cecil went to school and there I met Slim, as Luther was known. I attended Ruddell School for nine years driving seven miles.

We worked at our respective jobs. I taught first at Clarksdale School at Rabbit Lake. Then for several years at Bathgate School at Lilac.

I was married on July 16, 1925 to Luther (Slim) Soule and lived near Richard for five years and came to the river farm in the fall of 1929. Cecil and Doris (Lillie) Soule had come to stay on the old Stolly farm carrying mail. We had one good crop then drought set in. Pigs, cattle, wheat became worthless as the depression deepened. Feed became very scarce so we stopped riding and turned to the river for diversion. Many a picnic we had, fishing, hunting and walking. Often friends joined us.

The air would be sweet with wildflowers, lilies, honeysuckle and fruit blossoms. Later in the year there were berries to can and jell. Fishing was a pleasure and sometimes we had extra to share. There were Goldeyes and Jacks not to mention the chubs the kids got.

In order to get a decent price for our cattle Slim began to take community carloads to Winnipeg. So we all realized at least half again as much. Somewhere here we bought Trixie our Shetland pony, a lovely grey. Thereafter she shared all our work and play.

Our first child, Larry, was born in 1926, followed by a second son Len, in 1927. Twin sons, Alan and Norman, were born in 1931. Our first daughter, Lorna, came on the scene in 1933. Herman was born in 1936 and in 1940 Aggie came "to be the prop of my old age" as a neighbor said.

Larry and Len left home about 1948. Larry finally graduated from U.B.C. by his own efforts. He met Vivian Palmer from Surrey, England at U.B.C. and married her there later. They both studied and attained their Ph.D. and a family of three girls. They are in Africa now in the Sudan. Larry also had published several books and also a book of poetry to which he is ably assisted by Vivian.

Len did many things around B.C. working for the C.P.R., later foreman on a ranch. He married Alma Barnes, returned to Edmonton and worked as a heavy duty mechanic. In 1970 he lost his family of four and in 1974 Len passed away. We miss him.

Alan married Edna Friedenstab, who is organist and secretary at the Lutheran Church. He, too, is a welder and mechanic in North Battleford. Alan and Edna have a daughter, Kathy, who enjoys figure skating and swimming.

The twin brother, Norman, was married to Ellen Gilchrist who works at Eatons in North Battleford. They have three children, Kelly, Darin and Carry — all busy all summer.

Lorna, born in 1933, a year after the twins, took teacher training. Was married to Ben Bender. Later she turned to making pottery and teaching it. Ron is a chemical engineer at Fort McMurray, Alberta. They have two sons: Ron, Jr. in college and teaches skiing, and Geri who makes photography his hobby.

Herman stayed at the home farm and married Colleen Lee who brought us her lovely music while Herman ably farms. They are helped by daughter, Erin, who practises music and both she and her brother, Everett, have their diaries. He will start school in September 1979.

Aggie married Steve Worech from Tilley. They have two daughters, Marian and Stephanie, who are stalwarts as softball and shows and very proficient at Ukrainian dancing.

Slim was fond of his family and tried to instill in them a love of work and to strive for perfection. He was plagued with diabetes, then was thrown as his horse stumbled which necessitated two operations. During this time we had scores of cards and letters as well as many other kindnesses. He recovered, but could not really work hard anymore. The family really took over about 1955. Slim died in 1962. It is lonely without him.

On the farm I have a cottage with the view of the river and Saskatoon's elevators across it. At first they weren't there and in winter long lines of sleighs crossed the ice, sometimes thirty at a time, and through the years hauling grain to Ruddell elevators.

But through the years what changes! On seasons to harvest to care. Old Sykes of Lilac came with his effects in a wheelbarrow from Prince Albert, sleeping under it at night.

An ex-neighbor remarked recently that to him Ruddell was Sodom and Gomorrah. I enjoyed him. It was so only in his mind. To me they were the best friends and neighbors.

Mr. and Mrs. Ross Stolly

written by Eyemace (Stolly) Paleson

My father, Ross Stolly, was born in Falkland, Ontario in 1886. As a young man he worked on the Pequegnat mills and in a grocery store in Paris, Ontario. In 1908, he and some friends decided to see the prairies and went out on a harvest excursion. They spent the harvest season in Deloraine, Manitoba, then returned to Paris. They travelled most by train, so sleepers are pullman cars. Just slats seats and a stove in the back

where they made their nests. The call of the west was strong and the next year Dad and his brother Martin returned to Deloraine where Marvin took a homestead and Dad worked with him until he left with Edwards who were going farther west to Ruddell. Here he worked for Charles Robinson (father of Lawrence and Grace who later became Mrs. Oswald Harper) for the next two years. In 1908 he took a homestead a mile and one-half west of Ruddell.

In 1913 Dad went to Ontario for the winter and while there met and married my mother, Lottie Barker. Mom, her mother and two of her sisters had come from Bullwell, Notts, England in 1912, to Paris where they hoped their work was plentiful. The girls all got work in the Penman mills. My grandmother and one aunt returned to England in 1914 but Mom and Aunt Adelpa (later to become Mrs. Ernie Anderson) stayed. After their wedding when Mom and Dad were leaving for Ruddell, Mom persuaded Aunt Annie to go with them. Since neither of the women could cook, they told many stories of their cooking failures, particularly with bread making. Luckily they had good neighbors who gave them help and advice, one often mentioned as being a friend in need was Mrs. Ed Soules (mother of Cecil and Luther).

Later in 1914, Mom and my aunt took a trip to England to visit their parents. While there my sister, Vera was born, because of the war, travel was precarious and they were not able to return until late in 1917. Vera died during the "flu" epidemic of 1918. I was born in 1920.

In 1921, in order to be closer to school, Dad rented out his farm and rented the "Caddie farm" just north of town. Being close to town and school, and having a large home, Mom over the years had many boarders, girls from outlying districts who were taking their high schooling in Ruddell, eg. Muriel (Swan) Johnston from Lilac, Maxine (Jones) Tuttle from Lilac and Grace Templeton from Ballyrenie. Several teachers stayed also, eg. Mary (Welford) Mottart, Blythe Harmston, Agnes Walters, Dot Paterson, Jim Baldie and Earle Simmonds. Often there were station agents and elevator agents as well. After they moved to town, George Pringle, an old friend and early Ruddell settler stayed with them until he moved to Chatchill to live with a sister. Mom is remembered by all for her kindness and happy disposition.

In 1944 Mom and Dad moved into the station house. After buying the "Bill Caddie" house and Dad worked his own farm until selling to George Acuster in the 1960's.

After completing school I attended Normal School in Saskatoon and taught at Swanlodale and Lilac. Married Don Paterson in 1943 and we spent a year at the R.C.A.F. station at Coal Harbor, B.C. Our twins Ross and Thora were born in 1944 and I returned to stay with Mom and Dad until the end of the war. We then moved to Calgary and in 1948 to the Goldstream area just north of Victoria, where Don taught at the Saanich High School until he retired in 1978.

Mom and Dad spent several winters with us. Mom was afflicted with asthma the last three years of her life and died in Victoria in 1968 at the age of 80. Dad moved to Victoria in 1969. He enjoyed the grandchildren and great-grandchildren and liked to help with the garden, but was always lonely for Ruddell and his old friends. He died in Victoria in 1971.

Of our children, Ross works as a commercial artist in an advertising agency in Edmonton. He and wife Penny and daughters Becky and Kate live in Ft. Saskatchewan. Thora and husband John Hoban and daughters Karen and Leigh live next us in Goldstream, as does Janet, her husband Mark Ward and daughters Tiffany and Johanna.

Teachers I had while attending school: Mary (Hanna) Thrower, Miss McDonald, Grace (Wall) Jess, Vivian (Perrie) Nelson, Ruth (Robinson) Wilson, Harriet May, Ralph Wemley, Jim Vanpatten, Dot Paterson.

Dr. Scruton was practising at Maymont while I was growing up and for many years after. Sullens Mrs. Johnson, Grandma Johnson to most, acted as matron to many. She and her husband Charlie ran the Ruddell Hotel. Many of us have fond memories of Grandma Johnson's annual "Hot Cross Bun" tea.

Although I love my B.C. home, I feel glad I was fortunate to grow up in Ruddell and have so many happy memories of friends and events which took place there and in the surrounding towns.

The Steeles of Ruddell

by Viola M. Boland

To begin the history of the Steeles (the name was originally spelled Steel) I must go back over 200 years to the earliest known date, June 11, 1776, when John Steele was born in the New England State of Connecticut. Years later he married Catherine Lang of Pennsylvania. Six children were born to this Pennsylvania Dutch family before they left to begin a new life in Canada. They entered the country somewhere near Niagara Falls. By March 1800 John and Catherine were settled on a farm in the St. George area of Ontario.

It was here, Joseph, their twelfth child was born February 5, 1817 and where he would later farm. On December 5 1838 he married Mary Howell. At first they lived in a log house, but around 1850 built a frame house that is still on the farm. In 1853 the Great Western Railway was built through the Steele farm, spoiling the southern view. A beautiful arched bridge was built to allow the farmer to get to his fields across the railway. Years later the line was straightened but the stone arch was spared. Joseph did not like the railway cutting off his best fields so he sold them to his younger brother Jacob, and a brother-in-law. The hilly, stony fields were then sold and the family moved to

Florence Steele in 1942, who provided most of the information for the Steele history.

Brantford Township. That year the Grand River had a big flood which washed away all the bridges in Paris. All the hay and moveables had to be forded across the river. Before they moved into the new place near Brantford, the house burned down. A relative three generations later related, "Grandmother said her mother sat down and cried after leaving the other new house."

Joseph and Mary had four children: Edwin, Lydia Ann, Sarah Jane and Margaret Amelia. Edwin was born July 28, 1846. He married Sarah White of Kentville, Nova Scotia on June 15, 1870. Two children were born to them: Mary Lowe, born July 16, 1869 near Paris, Ont.

Albert Edwin, May 24, 1870 Paris.

Albert was not quite ten when his father died February 22, 1880. The following excerpts were taken from a newspaper clipping now 99 years old. "The only son of Joseph and Mary Howell Steele . . . Brother Edwin Steele was a large, strong, active man, giving promise of many years with his happy family . . . a most affectionate husband and father . . . amiable disposition . . . high filial regard for parents . . . godly life . . . sharp's shared . . . won for him friends on every side. . ."

Albert Steele was about two years old when, on a nearby farm, a baby girl was born to George and Sarah Jane Barker Midgley on February 12, 1872. The Steeles and Midgleys were great friends from early years; so it was to be with their children. Albert and Minnie attended the same school, which with an addition, is still being used.

Following the death of her husband, Mrs. Steele took her children to town where they finished their education which included part of high school.

Back in the country they lived with a neighbor so that Albert could be trained in farming. By the will he received 100 acres and Mary was given 50 which included the orchard and a wheat field. Another training, masonry, was to stand him in good stead at the Ruddell farm. He also found out that masonry in the east was stronger than in the west. Saskatchewan alkali water for mixing was at fault.

Albert Edwin Steele married Minnie Jane Midgley at Paris, Ont. on November 12, 1896. Their children: Grace Ethel — March, 1903. Lawrence Albert — June,

Golden wedding of Grandpa and Grandma Steele, Nov. 18, 1941.

Albert Steele Sudden (1931) I wheeler visit Parr 15-30. Kerosene engine, seeding with 3 devils.

1894. Florence Alice — December, 1896. Elsie Wilhelmine - August, 1900, Eva Muriel — June, 1902. About this time, Albert and Minnie decided to move West. West at that time was Manitoba. Relatives and friends begged them to stay and it was not until 1907 that Albert left the family, the first step on the Great Adventure!

The following is taken from a letter written by Florence Steele, which she calls "Recollections of our Pioneer Past — The Steele Family".

"In March 1908 we came west from Ontario to Saskatchewan. Father coming with a car of stock and settlers' effects and Mother with us five children on the train. Moving and travelling so far away seemed an exciting adventure — The vastness of the rolling prairie dotted here and there with dwellings of log or frame and sometimes sod, smoke curling from the chimneys skyward on a cold bright morning with lots of snow yet, greeted our eyes on our first day after arriving. We had come too soon so a kind neighbor took us on a load of hay down to his home until Dad arrived some days after. Then we hurried to our home."

Sad to say as we had played with others on the train, as due time we became sick with scarlet fever, one after another. Mother was a brave woman and could rise to the occasions in an emergency, and only for her good nursing, some of us might not have survived. Neighbors were kind, one bringing a dressed chicken, another offering to come and help even though she had a big family, but then, Mother refused kindly.

In the early years Mother was often called on to lend a helping hand when accidents, sickness, childbirth and even death happened at the community.

Exploring the ravine on our farm or watching the North Saskatchewan river at the foot of our place, in flood was interesting to us young ones. Father enjoyed to enjoy the wide open spaces and the change of farming methods. Cramped rooms with furniture unpacked, bush beds for a start didn't dampen our spirits as yet. Mother was heard to say many times how she missed her old friends in Ontario and the fruit, which we had in abundance of there.

In August around 1911, I believe, we had a terrifying hail storm with terrible winds which flattened the grain ahead of the hail frozen together in golf ball size, that pounded ripened straw into the ground and carried the grain over into the ravine which later sprouted and grew. Summer crops were a tangled mess. Before then they were a picture. Luckily for us as the storm swerved and cut across one corner of a lower field, though badly hailed it still could be threshed yielding 25 bushels to the acre, to give us our seed and flour. Good sized chickens still in coops were battered to death. Mother, Dad and my brother worked out that fall on threshing outfits in other areas to earn money for needed supplies of food and clothing.

It was the old sod shack behind and against the frame of our house that saved us all from being swept into the deep ravine near by. The frame part creaked and shook and we had to hold pillows against the window panes to save them from crashing in completely. The awful roaring noise made it necessary to shout to be heard. After experiences like this, one began to realize just how much we had left behind in Ontario to come out here."

"The sod house was turned into sleeping quarters with bunks in one corner for the children. These partitioned off from the remainder bedroom with a beautiful carpet tacked to the rafters, the same which had covered the parlor floor back in Ontario. Later the sod house was joined to the frame house by an annex. That frame house was later to serve as a dining room for Lawrence and Violet Steele. After their own house was built in the fifties, the old dining became a garage, still bearing the signs of the terrible storm of 1911."

The first garden was planted on the closer of two firebreaks surrounding the buildings. The pole barn was practically demolished. In 1910, Albert, with the help of Lawrence, built a beautiful home on S.W. 2, 42, 14, W3. They also helped the mason in stone cutting for the foundation, and wired the house for electricity. Grandpa got his patents for steam heating which enabled him to install it in the new house. Grandpa had long yearned to be a railway engineer in the days of steam engines and probably would have become one if Grandma hadn't persuaded him to keep to farming as a safer way to raise the family.

To make ends meet, Grandpa Steele sold on the Grain Grower's Store in Rocketl and also sold Waterous and Farmer's Mutual Insurance. During the flu epidemic following World War I Mr. and Mrs. Steele went together by buggy to Rocketl, where he handed his business. On the way there they stopped at each farm, he to do the chores and she to cook, clean and tend the sick. On the way home did the same, and continued until the epidemic was over. Neither took the dreadful disease. The family at home took over farm chores and housework. Many a time Grandma acted as midwife and sometimes assisted the farmers

processor, Doctor John Scratch of Maymont. "I remember one time when he was giving my children their shots how easy it was now to make the rounds in his patients. he told me. How did you manage with no hair to slick back?" He smilingly replied "Drop the reins, roll under the fence and take ten minutes." On another occasion Grandma stood the life of Harvey Peoples son of Frank Peoples. The lad had mistaken strychnine for cocoanut. By the time she arrived at their farm home the lad was already stiffening. Having pried his jaws open she carefully dipped in a solution she had made from wood ashes. Harvey never did recover completely from the stiffness.

HARRINGAY SCHOOL No. 1004

Harringay School was built by Tom Cleaver and Edward Mylrea, opening in 1908. Perhaps rather unusual for early western country schools, it boasted a hardwood floor. The school grounds covered two acres. When the Steele family began attending there in 1909 there was no barn for the pony and no fence around the grounds. To prevent it from getting away a tethering chain and stake was used.

Their first teacher was a Miss Stacy then Helen Ford from Ontario. Helen's sister taught at Ruddell. Their third was Miss Gilliland who left after a short time. Teachers at those days came about spring and left for college in the fall back East. In that way Miss Helen Ford got her B.A. and M.A. One winter Albert Steele rented a room in the Ruddell station house and the family stayed there to attend the village school. Their mother sent food as it was needed. All Harringay teachers boarded at the homestead of Frank and Elizabeth Wirsch. Peoples as all nearby farms were run by bachelors. They said the Peoples sons Harvey and Bessie walked the load-mile south to the school. (The Peoples came from North Dakota.)

While still on the farm Frank Peoples sold Hail Insurance. Fire Insurance and Life Insurance. In the winter he sold Watkins Products. While still working on the homestead he ran a Butcher Shop in Dunbolyn. His last move was to Meadow Lake where he died a few years ago.

In 1915 following the erection of the Steele house, their daughter Grace married Lorne Henry Stack. The wedding took place in Ruddell December 29. Their minister was Reverend Robert Morgan. Lorne was the son of Henry and Carrie Stack, their home being west of Ruddell which later became the Art Fuhrmann farm. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Stack and children, Alfred, Ivy, Lorne and Bertha left there to live at Dunbolyn sometime before 1909. Henry and Carrie died there.

Lorne and Grace homesteaded northeast of Dunbolyn on which is now the Peters place. Their children were born there. Their next move was to the Battyenne District, living in a log house on the farm. Six children were born, Hazel Grace, born October 31, 1914. Floyd Edwin, February 11, 1916; Laverne Ernestine, August 27, 1917; Howard Alton, May 11, 1919; Orville Leonard, August 19, 1920. Baby Hazel died shortly after birth, his mother Grace following him not long after, January 11, 1921. Hazel and Howard lived with their Steele grandparents getting their education at Ruddell School. Laverne and Floyd went to Harringay School with their cousins, children of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Steele. After the marriage of Lorne to Emily Weaver the children were returned to their home. Harriett and Gordon were born of the second marriage. Three more were to be born following their move to a farm near Melita, Man. Born in Manitoba helping his father on the Ruddell homestead from 1908 to about 1909 when his folks, Henry and Carrie Stack moved to Dunbolyn. "They lived in the house now known as the United Church Manse. I . . . Lorne's own homestead near Dunbolyn . . . to Battyenne . . . to Melita. Man Lorne, the homesteader/farmer trader had come full circle! He and Emily live there yet.

Hazel — married Jack Pitcher — children: Doris Lorne, Brian Nelson, Evelyn Grace, Beverly, Gordon John.

Leone married Arlo Nast — children. Fay, Randolf, Cindy, Rodney, Valerie, Linda.

Brian m. Peggy Ott — ch. Audrey, Laura.

Evelyn m. Jack Osborne — ch. Lori, Judi, Jacqueline, Christopher.

Beverly m. Douglas Amos — ch: Gannette, Crystal.

Gordon m. Lorraine Smith — ch. Tracy, Trina.

On April 8 1978 Hazel married Louis Ann at Bitterne Lake, Alta. They live on his farm near there.

Floyd — m. Melba Steele of Ruddell on October 18, 1947 at Melita, Man. They worked on his father's farm for a short time before moving to Rainy River, Ont. ch. Laurence Wayne, Kenneth Marshall, Evelyn Gwen Laurence m. Linda Scott, of Rainy R., June 15, 1974 at Rainy. The couple live in Winnipeg. Ch: — Shannon Lee born May 23, 1979.

Lorne — m. Leslie Woodland of Melita, Man. ch. — Kenneth Alvin, William Albert, John Lorne, Joseph Carol.

Kenneth m. Rose Marie Rock — ch. Cheryl Dawn, Jeffrey Scott, Raylina Rose, Wanda Marie.

William m. Janice Ethel Cobb — ch. Marion Gordon, Tracy Ann, Michael James, Thera Doreen.

Lorne m. Sigrun Aase Ferguson — ch: James Lorne, Kimberley, Jodi Florence.

Joan m. Donald Edward Duncan — ch. Terry Lee, William Leslie, Tammy Ann.

Howard — m. Anne Zechmeister — ch. Murray Howard, Grace Elizabeth, Melanie Hope, Bradley John.

Murray — m. Doreen.

Orville — m. Dorothy Elizabeth Ramsay — ch. Robert Leonard.

Robert m. Thelma Enjold — ch. Justin Leonard, Anthony Paul and Nathan Robert — identical twins. Born May 1979.

Reverting back in the second decade of this cen-

tary when Lawrence Steele came of age he took up a homestead on the south side of the N. Saskatchewan River where Edmonton is now growing. To read the letters of Annie Thrower as young boys began trying out their step-brother, William Thrower, style and facility on the typewriter at the Steele Graham and Company's lumber yard. William was born at Norwich, Norfolk, England. Mother told us the story how father had had her at new year's party we got off the boat he bought a bag of beautiful red fruit, the likes of which he had never seen. She has quite fierce reminiscences of the gales!

Following the death of his wife, Will Sr. married Rebecca Leonard. Violet was born August 31, 1886 at Saskatoon, Saskatchewan before her marriage to Lawrence Steele. Violet graduated in Detroit, Michigan where she had worked in a private home, also where she pursued up her personal belongings. The couple were married February 27, 1907 by Joseph A. Vance, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan.

Arriving by train at Dunbarton to escape their friends, Lawrence hired a horse and rustler for the trip to their new home. Lawrence had previously sold his homestead to Jim Magoffin and had bought Wm. H. 16.14.7W3 from Bernt Robinson. It was here their children were born and raised.

Norman Lloyd was born May 28, 1908 to Annie Maybel - born September 28, 1910 Marion Elaine - Feb 8 1913 Mother Violet - Feb 13 1914

As the family grew Opal was forced to add a grocery from Grandpa Steele's. One morning I stood up in my crib to look out upon the trees and the noises which heralded the dawn's people as close to my window. The room was dark and the wind was gone. I HATED that sound. Watching the sun rolling through the mist until it made a window was fascinating until with horror I watched the sun start its leg through the bedroom chair! It is still among the highlights of our early years was Christmas with Grandpa and Grandpa Steele at Grandview Farm. Excitement ran high as the sound of bells announced the arrival of other relatives. The parlor doors closed to the children's hearts beating fast as Aunt Kate slowly opened the sliding doors from the parlor side. The glittering tree ornaments, mysterious packages, wrapped up knife and a doll carriage under the tree. Santa arrived from the carriage. Adults coming together children following the leader through the swinging door from the kitchen into the dining room. From there through a door into the pantry, out of the other pantry door into the kitchen, around again and again. Going backward to the carriage leading to the upper stairway . . . listening up to the first landing, then to the second. One step more up toward the third landing would bring a parent on the scene with a command to come down and stay down. The smell of roasting turkey browning and at last — the call to supper. Over the table with the lamplight chandelier shed sparkling lights to enhance the occasion. While the women cleared away and washed up, Uncle Lorne lay on the couch in the sewing room and sang over and over the song about a blue tailed fly. Time to go home. Instruments with charcoal kettle glowing were placed in the bottom of the sleigh. Horse blankets, horse robes and buckets over, under and around for warmth. Too sleepy for talking, watch the stars play among hills and sleet with clouds, the sound of runners on packed snow, bells jingling. Wake up children, we're home.

Home where in the 20's Opal made her own radio. It had a galvanizing empty fruit jacket with a total of seven disks and a plug in for two ear phones. The loud speaker was horn shaped and the aerial wire was attached to two 30 foot poles. Dad had spent a good many hours wanding and rewinding the blue copper wires on the making of a coil. Run by a car battery. I'll batteries and now - in winter we enjoyed the programs on KDKA, WJR Lansing, and WLS, Denver also the World on music from further south. The best thing about radios then were again when the neighbors heard on her short programs and when the soprano ladies reached the higher notes, rattling and the voice. Later dad built a wind charger to recharge the car battery and also for electric lights.

As the children of Albert and Minnie Steele were sent to Huntingdon School first then to Dunbarton to finish their education just as did the children of Lawrence and Violet Steele. A Miss Jenkins and Mr. Ingram were the last two teachers before Norman started school with Mr. Grant. The names of the rural five were not in correct order. Miss Mary Hannah, Mrs. Martha Hudson, Miss Annie Martindale, Miss Greenhough, and Miss Pierce. The following is proper order: Miss Margaret Nolan retired from teaching the spring of 1916 to get married 1916-17 Miss Madeline Martin 1917-18 Miss Marie Reeves 1918-19 Josephine Woods 1919-20 Miss Edna McIntosh 1920-21 Ingraham Moore 1921-22 Miss Nelle Hartwick 1922-23 Mr. Jos. de Margerie 1923-24 Valley Jones 1924-25 Mr. Earle Dunn Mills 1925-1926 Miss Norma Jean Bird 1926-27 Mr. J. J. Hannah 1927-28 school closed 1928-29 Mrs. J. Bradley Carpenter 1929-30 Mrs. Ruby Stanton Huntingdon School's highest record of pupils was 36 when Margaret Nolan was teaching. The school was closed for the second time and for the last time the end of June 1930 Mrs. Hanson the last teacher. It was also the end of parties and games. Remember a Date at 8:00 at possibly at the spring. Hop to work. Spin I Over. Duck on the Rock. Marshall which gave relief to tease to settings. In 1930 Mr. V. Brown purchased the building. He used the lumber to build summer cottages at one of the northern lakes. A few maples mark the south boundary of the two-acre grounds.

As the eve of high school terrors helped with farm work and when the call came for overseas volunteers in the Reserve army. He served two terms at Dunbarton

Army Camp, returned home to farm work and helping Dad build a new house there.

On November 14, 1941 friends and relatives gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Albert E. Steele to celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary. On July 13, 1948 Grandpa died shortly after entering hospital.

Many changes occurred through the years. Grandmother home was closed, the family lived above the hardware store which Albert sold to Mr. Bragg of Ballantrae. Then for a short time the Steeles lived over the Imperial Bank before settling permanently on their property just outside the village limits. Albert erected a shop for his John Deere Agency. Minnie soon learned the names of the various parts when her husband was busy on the land. Eva took over the housework and in spare time kept busy making quilts and doing embroidery work that brought many prizes at the fairs in North Battleford.

Elsie and Florence had gone back East. Elsie got her certificate for Home Nursing which she did until she married Eric Reed where she had known from childhood. After Uncle Eric retired they moved to Whitby, Ont. They adopted little Rose Marie. Rose Marie married Grant Armstrong. They have three children.

Florence's work was caring for the elderly in their homes. Her work brought her back eventually to Rudsdell to nurse at home.

Lawrence took over the John Deere Agency following the death of his father. He moved the business to Rudsdell across the street from the hotel. When the Company sent notices that they were withdrawing their agencies from the small towns Dad decided it was time to build a new home on the farm. He had drawn blueprints to build back in 1929 but the Crash came first.

During World War II the call came for teachers. Viola and Marion took the short course in the summer at Normal School in Saskatchewan. At the end of it Marion was given Ellerton School where she taught for two years, then one year at Badger Bluff School. I taught two years at Blenheim School near Denholm.

On July 26, 1944 Viola Steele married Joseph Boland, son of Mr. and Mrs. Treffle Boland of Denholm, at St. Catherines R.C. Church in Denholm.

On July 11, 1946 Marion Steele married Clifford Underwood at Rudsdell United Church.

On October 18 1947 Mollie married her cousin Floyd Black at Mollie, Manitoba. Their children are listed in the Black history.

Viola and Joseph Boland children: Eva Muriel, Jean Marie, Pearl Rose, Orval Eugene, Gerard Hubert, Cora Anne, Edwin Karl, Stacy Carl.

Muriel married Mario Fior August 31, 1968. Children: Rose, Irene, Vernon, Rhonda and Michael.

Jean married Gordon McNeil May 28, 1972.

Orval m. Beverly Hooke April 21, 1979.

Gerard married Linda Oberowsky July 27, 1974. Ch: Karla Leigh, Trevor Gerrard, Joey Troy.

Marion and Cliff children: Janice Lynn, born March 28, 1955, Susan Mary b. Aug 23, 1959. Lynn married Donald Gregg Scattrall July 1, 1972. Ch: Brent Clifford Stacy, Phillip, Ruben Charles.

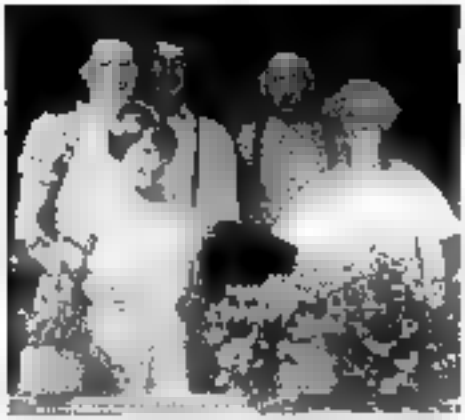
Mother (Violet Steele) died April 18, 1985. A lover of the outdoors. Mother enjoyed milking cows, raising chickens and gardening. During the dry years we helped her haul water from the dam for the vegetables and flowers. In those years Jasper Highway no. 5 went straight west of Rudsdell, passed our house then turned north along the west side of our property. Many strangers would stop to look and some dropped in to express their delight to see such beauty in a desert-out land. They were the people from southern Saskatchewan heading north to Meadow Lake. Mother enjoyed these brief visits.

Dad (Lawrence Steele) died April 6, 1970. He was enjoyed gardening. I remember how he used to follow behind Mother while she pushed the cultivator he talked and she current. Dad was very good with flowers. When the Rudsdell Fund dissolved, he stored the instruments in the new granary he had just built. Vernon was the only one with enough wind to get a bit of sound out of them. Grandma cut up Dad's uniform to make a coat for Marion. I think she used Grandpa's uniform to make a coat for one of the Slack cousins. I shall never forget the day Dad sat grinning on Tony, our Shetland pony. A split second later landed on a peaked stone. He never cried it again; neither did I!

Grandma - Minnie Steele - died April 18, 1979 at the age of 98. She fulfilled a wish from many years, dancing the jig on her sixteenth birthday. In the hard times, though many men stopped for food and drink she never turned anyone away. As she often said, "Some day we may have to walk the roads too." Grandma and Aunt Florence both told me the following story which took place some time after her marriage. She was driving to town to do her shopping when a young gentleman driving a horse and buggy caught up to her in her buggy. The young man invited her to race to see who would win. Grandma couldn't say no to that. She leaned forward and spoke to her horse. Right there the race was on. What the gentleman did not know was that here was a retired race horse. Dad it was a cross between a Welsh and Standard Bred horse. He was quite put out about it. Grandma sailed down the hill and had to pull back on the reins as she was entering Paris and could be caught for speeding.

J. S. Steele Family

James Stewart Steele was born February 6, 1880 at Dundee, Scotland. He left school at an early age and worked as a farm laborer. He emigrated to Canada in 1906, with his parents, two brothers and one sister. They settled in the Battleford area where a sister of her husband had arrived with the Barr Colonists in



Mary, Jean, Jimmy, Mr. Steele. Taken at the John Rolfe farm, 1927

1905. One of his first jobs was working on the building of the Battle River Bridge. His parents took up a homestead on part of the land where the Saskatchewan Hospital now stands.

He took a trip back to Scotland but decided Canada was to be his home so returned and took up a homestead not far from his parents along the Sask. River.

On Sept. 27, 1911 he married Thirza Mary Swaley who was born Feb. 7, 1888 at Norwich, England. They started life together in a one-roomed shack. A few years later they started another farmstead on the opposite corner of the quarter section.

Dad was a great lover of horses and raised Pure Bred Percherons — winning several ribbons and medals at the North Battleford Exhibitions. Mother had a Shetland pony and buggy which she drove to North Battleford to sell eggs and butter with which to buy the groceries. During World War I it was difficult to get hired help so Mother worked along with Dad, doing most of the stooking.

They had a family of three Mary, Jim and Jean.

In March of 1929 the family moved to Maymont and rented the John Davis farm. During their years in the Maymont district they lived on several rented farms — the Scott — Dudley, John Rolfe, Clifford and Norman Andrew. It was not easy during the Dirty Thirties — a lot of hard work and hauls ashes. Water for both humans and livestock was a great problem — there were the years when the "Relief Cars" arrived from Eastern Canada with fruit, vegetables and fish.

Money was scarce but we had good times to remember — card parties and dances at the school house and the neighbors in the winter and picnics at the River and along the creek at the Mike Byrnes farm in the summer.

Dad was a member of the Sask. Wheat Pool and served as a committee member for many years. Mother was a member of the United Church Ladies Aid and the Homemakers Club. She did a lot of knitting for the Red Cross during World War II. Dad played the accordion for many social gatherings.

Mary married Edwin Foden in November, 1940 and lived on the John Davis farm where our family lived when we moved to Maymont.

Jim married Ethel Barrett in November, 1945. They have one daughter Lucille, now living in Edmonton.

Jean married Alder Greenslade in August, 1949. They lived in Edmonton for a few years before moving to Wetaskiwin. They have three children. Diane married Brian Mullen, they have two children and live in Fort Saskatchewan. Alan is in Edmonton working for Alberta Government Telephones. Darlene is at home and attends school in Millet.

Dad and Mother moved to Wetaskiwin, Alta. in 1962. They grew a large garden, specializing in gladioles and strawberries. They were able to live in their own home until 1973 when they came to live with us. Dad was in and out of hospital and passed away in October, 1974. Mother is in a Nursing Home close to us and celebrated her 90th birthday February 7, 1979.

Ethel (Barrett) Steele

I attended school at Keystone School. In the early years I got a ride with neighbors and later walked in the summer time as the horses were being used in the fields. In winter I walked a quarter mile to my brother-in-law's place, there got a horse and toboggan or team and cutter and took their oldest daughter on to school.

In 1945 I married James Steele, Jr. We lived first on the Gelford farm north of Maymont, now owned by

Jim, Ethel and Lucille — May, 1970.

Walter Sadowsky. Then we farmed the Alfred Andrew farm and in 1968 moved to the Chamber homestead which we had purchased from Ted Sloan.

One daughter, Lucille Ann, was born in 1950.

Jim farmed and raised a herd of purebred Red Poll cattle until his sudden death in January 1978.

At the present time I am in North Battleford.

Lucille Steele

Maymont was the scene of my entire 'growing-up' years and where I received all of my formal schooling. In 1968 I graduated from high school and left home to attend the Olds College for a year of fashion merchandising classes. Following, began my 'weeking-days' at Hud Deer, Saskatoon and now for the past seven years at Edmonton. I am presently employed by Woodgate Canada.

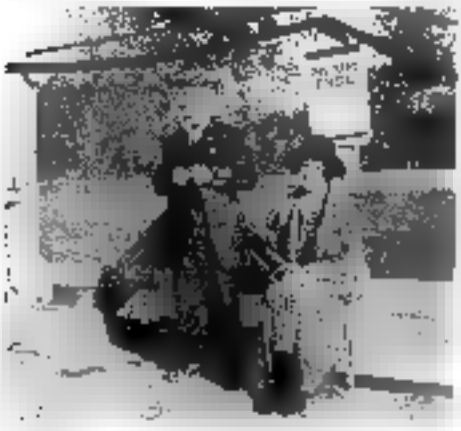
September 1 of this year (1978) I will be married to John Riddell, a former Hamilton, Ontario resident. We will be making our home in St. Albert just northwest of Edmonton.

Lawrence William Sloan Family

by Betty (Sloan) Fair

Lawrence William Scott, known to many as L.W., was born in Peterborough, England, February 19, 1855. He passed away December 29, 1952. His wife, Florence Annie, was born in London, England, April 28, 1858. She passed away November 14, 1939.

They came to Hamilton, Ontario with two of Lawrence's sisters and a brother and their families. It was their wish to live near each other. Dad's first job was in a horse-buggy factory and he found the climate in summer too hot and humid. They couldn't sleep at night so he came West to Fielding in 1910 after ordering an ad for a harness maker and shoe repairer by trade. In the early spring of 1911, he moved his family, wife and two daughters, Betty born in London, England and Molly in Hamilton, to Fielding. Our first home was the upstairs of the C.N.R. Station.



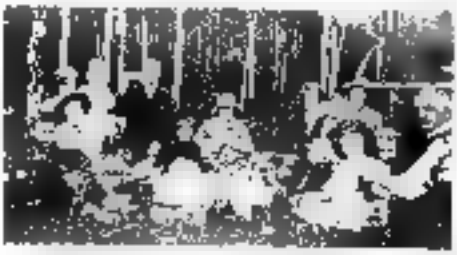
Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Sloan taken on the Fielding ferry in 1927.

Donald Sloan and Jack Allen.

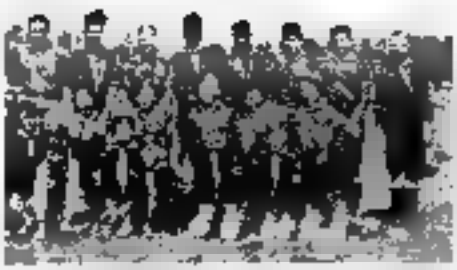
After a few years of making sets of harness by hand, he found he could not keep up with the demand, so purchased a large harness machine also a smaller machine for repairing shoes. I, being the eldest, served many traces, martingales, etc., on the machine for him to assemble. With farm machinery gradually taking over, the harness business slackened so he put in hardware.

After the big fire which took nearly half of our town, he enlarged the store about 1925 and added groceries and dry goods. The store was known as the United Store.

He was always interested in new inventions and was the first at Fielding around 1918-19, to own a radio, an "Atwater Kent", (two dials with earphones.) Saturday nights many hockey fans would gather at the store to take turns at listening to a game. Later he got the



In the early 20's family picnics were arranged. It was a long ride by team and wagon to the picnic grounds at the river, but always had a good time and looked forward to a treat of homemade ice cream made by Dick Williams. The freezer was always carefully packed in ice. The group consists of the Williams, Chorneyhew, and Sloan families, also Mr. Allman Sr.



Archie Evans, back row with boy scouts. L. W. Stott — front row with the cubs. At Meeting Lake camping in the late 1920's.

three-dial with a horn. I was always sorry he didn't live to see the T.V. As well as sports his interests were also community affairs and his church — the Anglican Church. For many years he served as warden. In the early days he belonged to the Fielding football team. They travelled to various towns for a game by horse and buggy.

Mother and Dad always kept the English tradition — a cup of tea at 5 P.M. It was said by the neighbors, especially Mrs. George Downie, you could set your clock by L.W. going for tea.

Mother, though she was busy bringing up a family, played the church organ for many years and was a member of the Church Guild (now A.C.W.). She was a great lover of plants. Her windows always displayed many blooms.

In the earlier days she taught piano to the three eldest McClintock children. She also played the piano for an orchestra which consisted of Jock Williams and Tom Dinsenshaw, on their violins, for local dances.

Every Sunday evening after dishes were done we children with Mother at the piano and Dad with his piccolo or flute gathered round the piano to sing our favorite hymns.

Mother and Dad made one trip back to England the same way they came to Canada — by boat.

They with some of we children witnessed the three bad fires in our town. The first was on Main Street across the street from Dad's business and our home. It took the bank and its living quarters at the back as well as a double store with groceries and hardware and the drugstore. Mr. Richardson had the groceries; McKay (I believe) hardware, Mr. Wright the drugstore. Both these buildings had living quarters upstairs. Doctor Muller had an office at the back of the drugstore. The only building replaced was the Imperial Bank with living quarters upstairs.

The next fire was around 1921 and took most business places. It started in a small building behind Shank's Garage. The garage used, the post office, livery barn, large ice shed, the hotel, a three-storey building, telephone office and butcher shop, and across the road, Gunn's and Dickenson's Stores. The latter two had spacious living quarters.

Dad played a big part in saving the town hall and probably the balance of the town east and south, as a strong west wind was behind the fire. He opened his store to the many who were helping to control the fire to let them get anything that would carry water. He first took a large pile of horse blankets and mattress sacks which were placed on the north side of the hall roof. A water brigade was then formed, carrying water from the two large cisterns in the bank basement and from the town well. The blankets were kept soaked with water. He suffered a tremendous loss, as so much was lifted besides water carrying utensils, such as pails, copper and galvanized boilers and tubs. They were never returned. A few days later kegs of nails, not opened, were found in a bush south of town. But he was thankful his store was still standing.

Later, the then Brackwell Garage and living quarters burned. This building was of special significance to us, as it had also been our home. The garage portion was first a Massey Harris machine shop, operated by a Mr. Wilson. On the east side was our living quarters. The west side was Dad's first harness shop.

After a short time upstairs above the C.N.R. station, we moved to a home, where the Pool house now stands. It was bought by Mr. Kaefer and moved to his farm. This farm was later owned by Chas. Kieper. Later it was sold to Leo Gelinas and was moved to his farm. It was the house that burned. From this home we moved to the above.

Our last home, a large two-storey house built in 1918, still stands on the corner across from the town well.

Dad's last place of business, after being vacated by son, Don, was sold to Charlie Neumeyer and later to H. C. Baker, who moved it to his farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Stott brought up a family of nine children.

Ruby was born in London, England in 1903.

Mary Annie (Molly) was born in Hamilton, Ontario. In June, 1930 she was married to Archie Evans of Fielding, who was employed at the North Battleford Post Office. He later passed away with pneumonia. They had one daughter, Alice, who married Allen McGregor of North Battleford, now of Nanaimo, B.C. They had a son, Robin, and a chosen daughter, Leslie.

In 1939, Molly married John Hagerman of North Battleford who was manager of the Metropolitan Stores for twenty-three years. He was transferred to the store in Kelowna, B.C. where they are now enjoying retirement. They had a son, Jack, who is employed in Kelowna and a daughter, Heather. She took up dentistry, teaches the subject at the College of Dentistry in West Virginia, U.S.A. and is married to the Dean of the College.

Charlie was born in 1911 at Fielding.

Kathleen was born at Fielding. She was most interested in music. Both she and her sister, Molly took most of their lessons from Jim Evans and his mother, who came to Fielding from North Battleford. They both received their A.T.C.M. Later Kathleen trained as a Registered Nurse at City Hospital, Saskatoon. In 1938 she married Robert Hart, Port Alberni, B.C. He passed away in 1968. They had one daughter, Karen, who also is an R.N. She married Larry McKinnon, of Victoria, B.C. Kathleen had three children by a previous marriage: Charlie and Terry, and Joyce who is married to Walter Bauer. They have three children. Kathleen passed away in 1972.

Merle - born at Fielding, married Don Flynn of Vancouver, B.C. in 1940. His dad had been a station agent at Fielding. They had three children. Sharon - of Charlotte in North Carolina, U.S.A. She has two daughters. Her husband passed away a few years ago.

Michael who is married and lives in Port Coquitlam, B.C. Paul who is still a bachelor is employed at Port John, B.C., with a fleet operating business.

Merle after her divorce is now Mrs. P. Grams of Delta, B.C.

Steve - born at Fielding, assisted his Dad in the store until joining the Canadian Army. After serving time overseas returned home and in July, 1946, married Mabel Ruvelt of Radisson. They took over a general store at Sonningdale, Saskatchewan. Mabel being an R.N. was called on often for advice and assistance. Later they moved to Vancouver, B.C. where they took over a dry goods store. Steve passed away in 1980. Their daughter, Shirley, born at Sonningdale, now lives at Kamloops, B.C. They have two children, Susan and Bobbie.

Mabel, 1970, married Lloyd Norris and now lives at Langley, B.C.

Gertie - the youngest daughter, assisted at home also took secretarial training at the North Battleford Collegiate. In 1939 she was married to Jack Gleed of Radisson. They have three children, daughters Barbara and Jackie and a chosen son Randy. All lived at Radisson. In 1962 due to ill health Jack was advised by his doctor to move to a milder climate. They took over a business in Rutland, B.C. Later they moved to Salmon Arm, where they purchased a variety store. Gertie and Jack are now enjoying their sports, curling, golfing and old time dancing as their recreation. Gertie wins many prizes and trophies at their fair and at Armstrong's for her hobbies — sewing and knitting.

Barbara trained as a registered nurse in Vancouver, B.C. was married, now divorced. At present is R.N. at the operating room at the hospital in Clearwater, B.C. Jackie has two years University in Vancouver with a secretarial training. She worked in Vancouver until her marriage to Paul Easy, a school teacher. While in White Horse, Yukon they adopted two little Indian babies, Jason and Raleen. They are now at Greenview, Alberta, where they had two children, Andrea and Andrew.

Randy is a sign painter, had his own business, gave it up to be a salesman for the signs which he created. They have a family of three, Johnathon, Jeremy and Millilla. After his marriage he lived in Kamloops but is now at Vernon, B.C.

William - Bill joined the airforce and was sent to Fort William, Ontario, for special training. While there he found he was color blind. The only way he could serve was with the Airforce Band, so was stationed at Edmonton, Alberta. While there he married Kathleen Street of Olds, Alberta in 1944. After he served overseas they settled in Olds where he had a jewelry store and watch repair.

They had three children, Trudy Lee, Trevor and Kathy. Bill passed away suddenly in 1980 at their twenty-fifth anniversary celebration.

Ray has since married Dr. Jenkins and resides in Calgary, Alberta.

Trudy Lee married a school teacher in 1967 Brian Walker. They have two children, Christy Lee and Kevin, and reside in Lethbridge, Alberta.

Trevor - a chartered accountant, was married in 1972. They reside in Calgary.

Kathy was married in 1974 to Art Reimer. They have a little daughter, Stefanie, and reside in Calgary.

Bill was known for his love of music and played several instruments — guitar, violin and saxophone. George Downie the town blacksmith and Scottish, remarked, "If I could get bagpipes I'm sure he could play them." While stationed in Edmonton we listened to him by radio play these and parade solos in the Air Force Band. In Olds he played saxophone in an Orchestra.

Ella - Our little sister was born in a nursing home in Radisson. She was stillborn.

All nine Stolt children attended the Fielding School. My first teacher was Mr. Edwards in a large one-room school.

Donald - the youngest was born in Saskatoon in 1909, spent most of his life in Fielding, and in later years assisted his Dad in the store. In October 1934 he married Joyce Kerrigan of Saskatoon.

Their four children, Gerald Kenneth, Sheila and Raymond were born while their parents resided in Fielding.

After the passing of his Dad in 1942 Don took over the store until 1956. Then they moved to Radisson where he operated his own Red and White and sports store there, until his sudden passing in 1976. Joyce is carrying on the business.

Don was an avid sportsman and hunter and was best known for his love of Conservation of Wildlife. He always took an active part in the Fielding Branch of Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation. He was member of the Radisson B.P.O. Elks Lodge No. 388. Joyce is a member of the O.O.R.P. No. 167 Lodge.

Their four children live at Radisson. Garry purchased the Milo Brookman acreage. He has a business "Radisson Sand and Gravel."

Ken is employed with Process Sales and Service as mechanic. He is apprenticing for his journeyman's papers.

Sheila was employed as secretary with Smiths Rollex Service in Saskatoon. On November 8, 1975 she married Wayne Boklaschuk of Hafford. They now live in Redvers. Their daughter, Shannon, is seven months. Wayne is a trucker.

Raymond is employed with the Saskatoon Government Transportation Company in Saskatoon. He commutes.

The boys love sports, especially hockey and softball, and have taken part since young. They also curl. Ken has taken up golf.

Sheila and her mother enjoy curling and are avid sports fans and seldom miss a hockey or ball game.

Charles Harold Stott

Submitted by Dianne (Stott) Hawlyk

Charles Harold Stott was born in Fielding on December 12, 1912. As a young man he enjoyed hunting and trapping, and also worked around the district on farms.

He married Mabel Jeanette Wragg on October 22, 1938. They farmed north of Fielding until 1940 when he joined the air force. He worked as a mechanic in the air force in St. Thomas, Ontario and was later stationed in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

In the spring of 1945 he bought land six miles south of Fielding from Joe Hardy and lived there until 1952. Due to Beckwith School closing in 1952 he wanted to get his children nearer to Fielding School. There were no school buses then so he bought more land from Mrs. Laycock a mile east of Fielding. He moved his house and barn onto the new land and planted trees to make a new yard. Due to heart trouble the doctor advised him to stop farming so in October 1958 he sold his farm. He moved his family to Sicamous, B.C. where he had purchased a motel and service station which he operated until 1965. He had suffered a heart attack in 1956 and was advised to retire so bought a home in Salmon Arm, B.C. where they lived until 1968. He then bought five acres of property in Canoe, B.C. which consisted of cherry and apple trees. He enjoyed living there until his health became poor in the fall of 1971. It was discovered that he had cancer and he passed away in Kamloops Inland Hospital on January 14, 1972. His wife, Mabel, still resides in Canoe, B.C.

The couple had three children. Dianne Jeannette was born on December 22, 1940. She graduated from Fielding High School in June 1958, and from Canadian Vocational Training School as a Certified Nursing Assistant in 1960. She married Edward James Hawlyk on February 16, 1963 and lives at Borden, Saskatchewan. They have two children, Douglas born December 12, 1963 and Michelle born June 7, 1965.

Lawrence Walter (Larry) was born August 28, 1943. He attended Fielding School until Grade Ten and graduated in Sicamous, B.C. He apprenticed as an electrician and holds his A electrician's papers. He is employed by B.C. Hydro. He married Cheryl Moore in September, 1965. They have three children, Angela, 1966; Rodney, 1968; and Trena, 1972.

Judith Marilyn was born January 2, 1950 and attended school in Fielding until Grade Two, then attended school in Sicamous, then Salmon Arm. She later worked at Skagland Inn Springs, B.C. until she married Ivan Doucette on January 13, 1968. They live in Enderby, B.C. and have two children Jade, born in 1969 and Carla born in 1970.

History of the Garry Swain Family

Garry Edward Swain, son of Mrs. Irene Swain and the late John Swain of Radisson, Saskatchewan was born September 21, 1947 at Turnstead, Saskatchewan. His first five years were lived at Lindsay, Saskatchewan before moving to Radisson where for eighteen years his parents owned and operated what is now the "Truck Stop Restaurant" on Highway No. 14.

Patricia Marlene Swain, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Chester Miller of Maymont was born November 8, 1949 at Saskatoon. She lived in Maymont until graduating from Grade Twelve in 1967.

Garry and Marlene were married on August 23, 1969 at Sharon United Church in Maymont. Following this they lived in Saskatoon for two years where Garry worked as a plumber and pipefitter and Marlene as an elementary school teacher. In May of 1974, they returned to Maymont to live on the Chester Miller farm where they now reside as full-time farmers.

Garry and Marlene have three children, Craig John

Marlene and Garry, Kelli, Craig, Michelle.

Swain who was born April 10, 1975 had just completed Kindergarten. Kelli Marlene Swain was born March 8, 1977 and Michelle Patricia Swain was born June 22, 1978.

Mr. John (1858-1940) and Mrs. Ella (Shouldice) Swain (1874-1940)

by Muriel (Swain) Johnson

John Swain was born on a farm on the outskirts of Ottawa, Ontario. His parents had come from Ireland to Philadelphia in 1855, a voyage which took six weeks on a sailing vessel. His oldest sister was born in the U.S.A. but the family came to Canada in 1858.

As a young man he worked in the forests of Northern Ontario, did some prospecting and worked on the farm.

In 1903 he came west to British Columbia arriving back in Saskatchewan just as the surveyors were leaving the area. He took a homestead the SW quarter of Section 16, Tp. 43, Rge. 13, W3rd, two and one-half miles northeast of Lilac; there he returned to Ottawa for the winter.

The following year, 1904 he, along with my mother's two brothers, Harry and Walter Shouldice, returned to the homestead location and proceeded to cut logs in the Whitewood Lake Area to build a house. My two uncles also took homesteads. Walter Shouldice later sold to S. A. Johnston and it is now farmed by his son, Ray Johnston. Harry Shouldice's homestead was located due north across the road from Wayne Bank School. He taught school in the Maymont Area.

Mr. and Mrs. John Swain and Muriel — 1936.

My father was one of the few homesteaders who had horses, having bought four horses at Maple Creek. Consequently he freighted supplies for Mr. Fred McCockle's Store from Saskatoon. This store was located about four miles north of Maymont on the east side of the road. Mr. McCockle was the father of Mrs. Alex (Helen) Spence of Fielding.

In the spring of 1906 he returned to Ottawa and on March 14, 1906 he and my mother were married in the parlor of "Fairview", my mother's home on Carling Avenue on the western outskirts of Ottawa. They came west to the homestead at the end of March. Although my mother had come from a large brick house to a one-room log shack she said she was never lonely. The second day she was here they drove to Fielding in the wagon to buy furniture, some of which is still in use today. To get some water to wash her hair she walked to a slough south of the buildings and in order to dip her pail she stepped out on three buffalo skulls.

Church services were held in various homes until St. Mary's Anglican Church was built in 1916. This church is now at the Western Development Museum in North Battleford.

From the team of horses on the wagon they graduated to a fast-driving horse on a buggy. They used to drive to North Battleford and cross the river on the steam ferry to do their shopping in the Old Town.

Some time later they bought the SE quarter of Section Ten from Mr. Rob Johnston, a brother of Mrs. Albert Poulston.

By 1914 they had saved enough money to build the house and barn and furnish the house with new furniture. The next year they dug the well, 203 feet deep. This well created quite a bit of excitement in the area as just as the drill apparently hit an underground river and the water rose, so did natural gas. It could be heard hissing and if a match were lit at the top of the well the air would burn a blue flame. The following morning the hissing had stopped and after pumping all night the level of the water stayed constant at fifty feet from the top. This well continued to supply all our needs as well as some of the neighbors and steam-threshing outfits in the fall until February of 1973 when the casing probably collapsed and closed off the supply of water from below.

I was born in 1915 and I remained the only child my parents had. I was never lonely and I still enjoy my privacy.

The northeast quarter of Section Ten had been homesteaded by an Englishman named George Sykes. He walked to Prince Albert and bought a wheelbarrow and a one-hundred pound sack of flour. He proceeded

to push the wheelbarrow home with the sack of flour in it. At night he unloaded the flour and slept with his head under the wheelbarrow. My mother used to bake bread for him and he rode a big ox named "John" which he rode over to get his bread carrying it home in a flour sack.

My father bought George Sykes' quarter of land about 1928. He bought it with the standing crop on it and that crop paid for the quarter of land.

My father bought a car, his first, in 1928 — a McLaughlin-Buick touring car. It cost $1800.00 cash. Our first radio was bought in 1928.

About 1925 my father travelled throughout the area selling shares at two dollars each to build another elevator at Lilac. It was felt that competition was definitely needed for the elevator company which already had an elevator in Lilac, so it was decided to build an elevator under the name of the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company. This company sold out to the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool. The Lilac elevator closed in 1978.

My mother died on April 12, 1940. She died in her sleep and my father died on November 23, 1949, of Arterior Sclerosis, hardening of the arteries of the brain.

My father's farming career has to be a very hard success story. He had arthritis so badly that I don't remember him ever being able to do any work. He employed one man for twelve months of the year and two men for six months during the summer. We came through the thirties intact. He refused to take relief and would not apply for the old age pension. As I look back on the thirties they weren't so bad. Gasoline was three gallons for a dollar and we bought three gallons a week. The early thirties were good crops but very low prices. Some wheat sold for seventeen cents a bushel. The poorest crops were in 1936, '37 and '38, no rain and grasshoppers ate what did grow. The rains came again in 1939.

My father and mother are buried in Maymont Cemetery. My mother always liked Maymont and its people.

Mrs. Betty (McKercher) Thompson

I first came to the Maymont district on May 14, 1943, as a teacher for Gray School. I came straight from Normal School to finish the school year, as the former teacher, Anne Funk, had been called to the Armed Services. I finished that year and completed the next 1943-44 school year.

I was the youngest child and only daughter of John and Marion McKercher of Wapella, Sask. I was christened Marion Elizabeth but had been called Betty all my life.

I boarded at Ernie Ramsay's. She was the former Mary Green, a secretary in London, England, before she came to Canada to marry Ernie. He was the son of an Anglican minister and a veteran of World War I where he was wounded (stomach or abdomen). He was also very fond of cattle and raised purebred Herefords.

In 1948, I married Lawrence, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Thompson of Dinsdale. We had two children, a girl, Lois, and a boy Douglas.

After a few years I resumed my teaching career and in 1960 came to teach Ruddell School No. 1858. When it closed in 1971 the children were bussed to Maymont School. I was moved right along with them.

I taught the grade two and three room in Maymont School for two years until June, 1971. Then I came to Prince Albert to join my husband and son, who had a paint store in the town now mall.

In 1975, I went back to teaching, this time, teaching kindergarten every other day and I am still busy at it.

Larry and Doug now have a trucking company that Doug manages. Larry does the books and sells real estate for United Agencies.

Mr. and Mrs. (Scotch) Bill Thomson

as told to by Rev. Leonard Schaefl

Bill and Freda Thomson farmed three miles south of Fielding. Freda was my first cousin. She was a daughter of my mother's brother. Freda came to Saskatchewan in the fall of 1912. She spent some time with her sister, Laura (Mrs. Louis Durand — the Durands lived south of Fielding on the road to Radisson). While at the Durands Freda met Bachelor Bill Thomson. They were married and had two children, Robert and Iris. The children went to Fielding School. Lance Robert joined the Canadian Air Force in World War II.

Bill and Freda Thomson

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Thomas

by Nellene (Jensen) Thomas

Bob Thomas began teaching in the old Maymont School with Grades 7, 8 and 9 in 1958. When the new school opened he continued in the high school until 1961. He boarded with Mrs. Nellie Covey for the school term of 1958-59 but moved to the teacherage in 1959 after marrying Nellene Jensen who had taught in Rudsell the previous year.

Nellene taught Grades 3 and 4 until 1961 in the old Neepawa School which had been pulled into the school yard as an extra classroom.

Heather was born and lived in Maymont in 1961 and the family moved to Vernon, B.C. in 1963. Bonnie was born in 1964 at Vernon where they still live in 1979.

One interesting item which occurred in these years was the organization of a square dance club called by Al Osborne and continued by Bob and Nellene the next year.

Mr. and Mrs. Ira Thompson

Ira Thompson, was the youngest member born to Walter and Ida Thompson. He was born in Sacremount, Ontario, on February 1, 1913. He had three brothers and two sisters. When he was two years old he came west by way of horse and buggy with his family, where they settled and farmed north of Fielding. He received his schooling at Neepawa School. He worked on a threshing crew from the age of 13 on and helped on the home farm.

In 1937 he married the former Katherine Kunow. He met her at the Tiebar farm north of Maymont where they were both employed. Katherine having come from Glenlyn where she was born on May 3, 1916.

They set up farming seven miles north of Maymont. Until 1951 they farmed using Belgian horses as their means of power. They had a small mixed farm. Horses were also their main mode of transportation for a good number of years.

They raised three children, the eldest a daughter. Winnie who was born at Maymont received her education at Grey School. She is married to Allan Monk and resides in Roselown. She has a married son, Ian, of Saskatoon and daughter, Kelly, of Roselown.

A son, Ken, who was also born in Maymont and received his education at Grey School. He is married to the former Peggy Thomas from Speers. They reside at Holbein where they farm and Ken is a crane operator at the Pulp Mill. They have two daughters, Patty and Kathy, and two sons, Kenny and Wesley, all at home.

The youngest daughter Lillian, who was born in North Battleford, she received her education at Grey and Maymont schools. She married Arthur Robinson from Rudsell. They resided in Rudsell for five years where they farmed. Presently they reside in North Battleford where they are both employed. They have a daughter Debbie, and a son, Shawn, at home.

After having raised their family they left the district and moved to Saskatoon to find employment.

They currently reside in Prince Albert where they are both employed.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Thompson

On April 7th, 1973 Raymond Joseph Thompson, son of Reginald and Margaret Thompson from Richard, married Margaret Jane Rogers, daughter of Dean and Jane Rogers of Maymont at Maymont.

The first three years of their married life was spent in Lloydminster, Sask. where Raymond was employed with Meridian Trenching. Margaret worked as a store clerk for awhile and then went to Reeves Business College there where she obtained her secretarial course and then was employed by the Dr. Cooke Nursing Home. In the meantime, Raymond had gone to work for the Lloydminster Gas Co.

Raymond had often talked of having his own trenching business and in the spring of 1976 we moved back to Maymont where Raymond started his business. Things have all worked out for the best and business has been reasonably successful in the last four years.

On June 23, 1976, a daughter, Roxanne Margaret was born to Raymond and Margaret. On February 1, 1978, a second daughter, Cheri Lynn was born.

At present, Raymond, Margaret and family are residing in Maymont where they take an active part in the community. Raymond has been one of the caretakers of the Maymont Sports Centre for the last two years and plays with the Old Timers Hockey Club. He is also a volunteer fireman. Margaret takes part in various community activities and has been a C.G.I.T. leader for two years.

The History of the Tommy Thompson Family of Fielding

by Olive Miller

Thomas Thompson (Tommy as he was better known), Emil Christian (a half brother) and Morris Tobie came to Canada from North Dakota, U.S.A. in 1903. Tommy took up a homestead north east of Fielding, which is now the Clayton Clark farm. He returned to North Dakota in 1908 and married Gertrude Sandbek at Edmore, North Dakota.

Their first home was made of logs and clay. At the time there were no stores in Fielding so they had to go with horses and wagon to Saskatoon or Prince Albert for supplies. Sometimes they would walk carrying a pack sack, a trek which took several days.

In 1914 they moved into the town of Fielding to be nearer the school. Their home was what later became known as the McNaughton House. They then bought a

Tommy Thompson Wedding Picture. November, 1903.

Tommy Thompson family about 1928. Front row (L. to R.) — Lizette, Otto, Olive. Back row, L. to R. — Gladys, Tom, Alfred.

farm from Alex Garnett one and one-half miles south of Fielding and farmed there until 1929.

Tommy and Gertrude had a family of two girls and two boys. Gladys born in 1905, Irene in 1906, Olive in 1908, Luella in 1910, Elvina in 1912 (she died at two weeks of age), Alfred in 1914 and Otto in 1918. In the family there are now 32 grandchildren, 30 great-grandchildren and 6 great-great-grandchildren.

Tommy was one of the first in the district to have a threshing machine and did custom work for the neighbors. In the winter he would saw wood and he lost two fingers doing so. Tommy passed away in 1938 at the age of 63 as a result of injuries suffered while operating a municipal grader. Gertrude stayed on the farm until 1939 when she sold the farm to Willis Scott. She then moved north of Fielding to keep house for Tommy's half brother Emil Danielsen with her two young sons Alfred and Otto. Later she moved to Saskatoon where she lived until her passing in 1973 at the age of 88.

On November the 24th, 1926, Gladys married Martin L. McGrath of Speers. Their farm was located Southeast of Speers and about ten miles north of Fielding where they attended church. They had good and bad years on the farm, some dried out, some hailed out, some terrible winters and the depression years of 1936 and 1937. Having survived them all, they were happier and wiser with the experience it gave them.

They had four children, three girls and a boy. Agnes was born October 31, 1927, Noreen December 7th, 1929, Thomas June 26th, 1932 and Patricia March 17th, 1937. All of the children went to public school at Hillsborough School. After finishing public school all of the girls entered the Convent in North Battleford. Tom had no desire to go on with his schooling.

Agnes entered the religious life and is a Sister of the CHILD JESUS and is a teacher. She has taught in Vancouver, Williams Lake, Leader, Saskatoon and is now in Prince Albert.

Noreen, after graduating, went to work at the bank in Rochard, Sask. She then had several transfers with the bank to Blaine Lake, Tramorne, Man. and then to Saskatoon. On August 2nd, 1958 she married a young man from St. Walburg, Sask., a carpenter and cabinet

Martin L. McGrath Family, 1961

maker by trade. They have four children, two girls and two boys and live in Lloydminster, Sask.

Patricia after graduating from Highschool entered the religious life but it seemed to much for her so after a year at home she thought she would try Nursing. Working at it so hard caused her to have a nervous breakdown. It seemed everything she tried to do was against her. After her recovery she worked for a Doctor in Cutbank for awhile. She then moved to Saskatoon where she now resides and had been employed by a jeweller for the past twelve years.

Thomas had no desire to go to school so he worked out. He worked with Larry's Electric, North Battleford on road construction, he worked on an elevator in Biggar and was then placed in charge of the elevator at Lilac, Sask. On June 4th 1960 he married Angeline Deplonnah of Richard, Sask. They had three children, one boy and two girls. When Tom's Dad had to quit farming due to ill health, Tom decided he would like to take over the farm. Unfortunately Tom's farming career was brief and ended in a tragedy. Tom was killed in a tractor accident on June 5th, 1965.

Gladys and Martin moved to Fielding where Tom took over the farm. After Tom's accident they sold their farm and the machinery and moved into North Battleford in Sept. of 1966.

While they were on the farm, Martin served as a Trustee of the Rhinsborough School District for many years. He also served as both a Councillor and a Reeve for the Municipality of Mayfield No. 406. After retiring, Gladys and Martin enjoyed their home in North Battleford where Martin spent his spare time carving things out of wood. One special one of which he made a good many, was a team of horses pulling a sleigh.

Martin passed away on Feb. 25th 1975. In 1976, Gladys sold the house and is now living in an apartment. She keeps very busy and is active in many senior citizens activities such as The Golden Years Club, carpet bowling, darts bowling, Old Timers Card parties, the Catholic Women's League and the I.O.D.E. She says she hopes she will keep going for a few more years yet.

Irene married Fred Hodge in 1938 and for six months they worked for George Akman on his farm a few miles east of Saskatoon. They then bought a half section of land seven miles north of Fielding and began on their own. It was tough going at times, but with their own meat, milk and eggs they were able to manage. Because of the drought during the dirty thirties, almost everyone was on relief. Their family of four children at that time each received nine dollars a month, later twelve dollars. They farmed there until 1960 when they moved to the Kent Dairy farm, which was about three miles further east. In 1965 they sold their C.P.R. land to the Melver family. Fred joined the Credit Union and was a Director for 17 years. He was also 8 years on the telephone board. For

Fred Hodge

8 years on the Wheat Pool and 8 years as a Director on the C.O.P.

In 1965 they sold their farm to the government for a community pasture and bought a home in Saskatoon. Fred worked as a janitor at the C.N.R. yards until 1970 when they sold their house and moved to Kamloops B.C. They stayed there for 5 months, came back to Saskatoon and bought another home in 1971. He then found work as a janitor with the Post Office.

Fred and Irene had a family of seven, six girls and one boy. Florence, the oldest received her schooling at Keystone and Hillsborough, finishing at Fielding. In 1946 she went to Moose City, B.C. and worked for a year with a dry cleaning firm. She married Howard Beharrell in 1947 and farmed on Howard's Dad's farm for a couple of years. They then bought a farm in the Deerfield District of B.C. about fifty miles north of Kamloops where they still farm. They have a family of four sons, two boys and two girls all living in and around the Kamloops district.

Lorne also received his schooling at Keystone and Hillsborough. He quit school after grade eight and worked on the farm. He married a neighbour's daughter, Olga Lesko. They lived in their own farm until Lorne's eyesight began to fail him as a result of the diabetes which had stricken him at the age of fourteen. Lorne and his wife moved to Saskatoon in 1960, where he worked for the C.N.I.B. instead observing and working in the canteen at Saskatoon City Hospital taking the magazine, cigarette and sweets cart around to the patients. To help out his wife Olga worked at the Travelodge Motel for seven years. She was a great help to Lorne until his passing in 1985. They had one daughter Brenda who is married and working with a Telecommunications firm in Saskatoon. Olga sold the farm in 1988. She remarried and

she and her husband Ron Bakker live in Saskatoon where he is a piano tuner. Olga has been working at Simpson Sears for the past eleven years.

Bernice also started school at Keystone then went to Hillsborough where the family moved to that district. She finished her highschool in Speers. While she was there she picked up a virus which left her handicapped. She took a course at Heterleaves Secretarial school in Saskatoon but was unable to get up her proper typing speed due to her handicap. She went to the Hallelujah meetings where she met Alex Nazarenko. Alex was also slightly handicapped as a result of osteomyelitis. They were married in 1954. Alex was in partnership at Western Bowsers Machine for 22 years which he sold in 1975. He is now employed at the Army and Navy Department Store as a security guard with Balfour Services. They adopted three children two girls and a boy. The oldest girl passed away at the tender age of seven as a result of an allergic reaction. They also still living at Saskatoon.

Lucy went to public school at Hillsborough and highschool in Speers. She enrolled in Teacher's College in Saskatoon and following graduation taught at Grey school near Maymont in 1953 and then at Acken School near Whitkow in 1954 and 1955. Lucille was married to Louis Sherra in 1955 and lived on his Dad's farm 30 miles northeast of North Battleford until 1974 when they moved into their new home a mile west of the homestead where they are still farming. Louis also drives a school bus from North Battleford. They have three children two boys and a girl who still reside at home. The son helps his father with the farming and both daughters at the North Battleford Union Hospital.

Louise went to public school at Hillsborough, then worked as a waitress for two years in Saskatoon. She married Peter Kubasy a barber by trade and lived at Lanigan for awhile. Then they moved to a farm at Watson for a couple of years after which they moved back into Saskatoon where Peter established his own barber shop in Cleve Scott while working in the French rooms at Calloway and Wilson. He also worked at the Mills at Stewart Hill for a time. They have a family of six children three girls and three boys. Louise and her family moved to Saskatoon in 1973 where they still reside.

Carol took her schooling at Hillsborough and her last three years at highschool at Watford where she graduated in 1964. After graduating from highschool she took a position with Canada Permanent Trust in Saskatoon as a posting machine operator. She married Lloyd Johnston of Redmond in 1968. They lived in Saskatoon where Lloyd went to plumbing school and worked as an apprentice with Arrow Plumbing and Heating for six weeks each trade for four years. In 1969 they moved to Kamloops where Lloyd worked as a plumber for a construction firm. In 1971 they came back to Saskatoon where he worked for Quaker Oats for one year. Lloyd had to give up this job as a result of an allergy to the dust. He then undertook a trucking job for MacCutcheon Van Lines until 1975 when he returned to a plumbing job with Action Plumbing and Heating in Saskatoon. Carol worked at the Permanent for three years. They have three children two girls and a boy.

Joyce received her schooling at Hillsborough until grade eight when the school was closed. She took grade eight and three years of highschool at Watford and finishing her grade twelve in Saskatoon in 1968. She worked for two years with the Associated Radiologists in the Canada Building in Saskatoon. In 1968 she moved to Kamloops and took a position as a bookkeeper with McCall's Garage where she kept until her marriage in 1970 to Jim Millikin of Kamloops and formerly of Big River, Sask. He worked at the Rae Tire Co and was promoted to manager 2 years ago. Joyce also held a position as a supplies bookkeeper at a Motel in Kamloops. They have two lovable little girls who are three and four.

ALFRED started on the farm until he enlisted in the army (World War II). He went overseas and after the war returned with a war bride. He lived in North Battleford for a while and then moved to Edmonton where he was employed by the V.L.A. until his retirement. They had one son, Terry who now resides in Edmonton.

Ali was remarried in 1971 following a divorce from his first wife Betty. Ali and Ruby (nee Prouty and also formerly from Edmonton) are enjoying their retirement in Cloverdale, B.C.

OLIVE was born at Fielding and took both her public and highschool there. In 1956 she married Walter James Miller and lived on a farm one mile north of the Sam Miller farm which was known as the Anderson farm. They had one son Robert, born in 1961. In 1968 they bought the Jack Thompson farm one mile west of Fielding. Robert went with his public and highschool at Fielding graduating in 1980. In the fall of 1980 he entered the College of Pharmacy graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy in 1985. He worked as an application for Pioneer Drug Stores in Saskatoon for one year receiving the license to practice PHARMACY in May of 1986. He then joined the staff of the Pharmacy Department of Saskatoon City Hospital and worked as a staff Pharmacist until Sept. 1976 where he was appointed Assistant Director of Pharmacy. In Jan of 1978 he was appointed Director of Pharmacy a position he held until Oct. of 1979. In 1976 he enrolled in the Canadian Hospital Association Health Care Organization and Management Program from which he received a Diploma in May of 1978. On Oct. 1st. 1979 he was appointed Western Support Services Administrator at Saskatoon City Hospital. In 1986 he married Victoria Gabrysh and they have two children. A girl, Carrie born in 1987 and a boy Trevor, born in 1988. They live in the River Heights District of Saskatoon where the children attend school.

Walter passed away suddenly at the age of 48 in 1958 at which time Ilene moved to Saskatoon where she still resides

LT.T.L.A was born in Fielding in 1916 and took her schooling there. She married Hal Roberts who was born in 1913 in Scotland and came to Canada at the age of nine years. They were married in Saskatoon Hamilton at Fielding where they both raised on a farm. They have a family of six. Two daughters Marlene and wife and a son Leonard were born in Fielding. Hal joined the army in 1940 and returned from the army in 1945. Then they moved to Saskatoon where they had two more daughters and a son Sheran Audrey and Donald. Bill returned from the army in 1945 and then lived in Saskatoon until 1959 when they moved to Calgary. They remained in Calgary until 1970 when they moved to Cloverdale B.C. Four of the family are married and they have nine grandchildren including Andrea a step-son, Leonard and family live in Saskatoon. Marlene and Selvin and their families live in Calgary. Sheila lives in Vancouver. Don lives in Calgary and Audrey lives in Surrey B.C.

Otto

Otto was born in the year 1910. went to school in Fielding and at that time the teacher was Miss Annie Blakely who later became Mrs. Charles Roberts and in the primary grades one very and cute that had the old-fashioned school desks where two children sat together and at that time most of the children walked to school. This would be quite excited when his uncle Knut Danielsen would come to pick him up at school in his Model T Truck. His many companions and Lucille would walk home with three other neighbor children namely Scott, Addie, and another Thompson family.

The years passed and then all grew up. Then Otto went to live with his uncle near Sparta where he lived until his marriage in December 1938 to Evelyn Scott who was also born in 1918 and went to Fielding school. At this time Otto had worked hard until his enlistment in the armed services. The 16 12 Saskatchewan Horse in September of 1940 where he started his training at Camp Dundurn from there to Weyburn where they were housed in the Exhibition Buildings for the winter. Then, in the spring of 1941, were transferred to Vancouver B.C. where they were stationed at the Vancouver Hotel. Then spent some time at Lumb Nanaimo on Vancouver Island, and after some months they were all shipped to Eastern Canada and, of course, many of the young wives went along too. At this time they had their first baby girl Then from the ramps in Ontario, to Quebec and the Maritimes and after close to three years of service Otto received his discharge from Active Service. After having seen a great deal of this country he and his wife decided to go to B.C. to live where two sons, Tom and Dale were born and a daughter, Judy Ann. Along came another son, Robert, while they were living in Mission City. The years spent there were spent as he being a salesman. Then later he went into partnership with Don Saunders from Radisson. The store was meat and grocery which was doing real well. Then Otto took a trip to Northern B.C. through Williams Lake Quesnel and Prince George and that day I. The Cariboo as it is called is very much like good old Saskatchewan so then made the move in January of 1952 and, what a change — no highway — it was the old trail when the early settlers used to drive their 8 and 10 horse teams and were quite warm hearted people.

Like all things time changes many things. At this time, they were finishing off the railway to Prince George. Otto had work to do as he was then working on the P.G.E. Railway and when Princess Margaret's Royal Train came through from Prince George on its way to North Vancouver he was the patrolman for the stretch of track surveying like 30 miles North, shortly after all this excitement he became a veteran foreman. Also at this time a daughter Nancy Jean was born and so almost the children grew up. At this time, Beverley as a telephone operator and is long married with 3 children. Tom had graduated from High School, now married with 3 lovely girls. Dale is at Revelstoke and has his own Hardware business. Judy Ann who worked many years for the B.C. Forest Service planning forest, is married and has a little girl. Robert is married and has one little girl and is working for the Dept. of Highways East but not keen is Nancy who is doing very well working in the Plywood Plant at Quesnel.

Then experienced a sad event in July of 1982 when Otto came to an untimely death while directing traffic at a car accident. Evelyn now resides in Radisson.

Mr. and Mrs. John Walter Thompson

told by (Lily Thompson) McDonald

Mr. and Mrs. Thompson moved west from Calgary in 1913 buying from Jim Robertson the farm that is now owned by Bill and Hattie Brown. Their granddaughter and her husband. They brought their four boys: Trueman, Dawson, Herbert and Roderick with them and their daughter Lily was born at Fielding.

Hard times and the depression were common to everyone but the contentment spirit never died. Social events in the town and visiting neighbors was their form of entertainment. Homes shared borrowed, and repaid. Work was exchanged rather than hired, produce traded for other produce. There was no refrigeration so meat was always treated as people would kill a pig or beef at different times so when your turn came you always owed some of the neighbors home at the fresh meat. Winters were very hard and a couple of winters Dawson and Herbert went to Lacombe to work in logging camps. Trueman left in about 1911 to work in a bank in various places in Saskatchewan.

The other boys stayed on the farm and when their parents and the three other boys all married and were well overseas with one of the first contingents. Had

enlisted in the Air Force a couple of years later and he was the only one of the four that did not return.

Mr. and Mrs. Thompson stayed on the farm until ill health caused Mr. Thompson to sell. They moved into the town of Fielding and Mr. Thompson died in 1968. Mrs. Thompson stayed in Fielding a number of years and then moved to Saskatoon where she passed away in 1974.

Trueman and Dawson and their families were in Regina, both with Prairie Gas Co. Trueman died in 1977, his wife and family still in Regina, as are Dawson and Pat. Herbert and his family are in Pleasanton, California where he is a machinist and has his own business. Lila and her husband live in Swift Current where her husband, Keith McDonald is parts manager at a local garage.

To date the Thompsons have 13 grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren.

W. J. Thrower

written by W. J. Thrower

Dad and Mother were born in Ontario, Dad at Goderich and Mother at Listowell. Dad worked on the Railroad going into Calgary in 1883 before the Riel Rebellion, when Calgary was in tents. Dad had a Barber Shop in Hamilton, North Dakota, where I was born on February 4th, 1888.

Dad came west in 1904 and my father filed on a homestead 4½ miles southwest of Ruddell. He built a sod shack and barn, then went back to Hamilton in 1906. He brought back a car load which consisted of four horses, one Jersey cow, chickens and machinery.

Jack Thrower Ruddell and Maymont's Gladiola King.

Mother, Louise, Fred, Delbert and I came one year later.

We lived in the sod shack for two years. Then decided to build a new home. In 1908, Louise and I started to school (walked) 4½ miles, Mrs. McKellar being our first teacher. I can remember running along the buffalo trails which all led to the river. We didn't go to school in the winter as the snow was too deep and temperatures often went down to —50 degrees below F.

I can remember in the spring of 1907 we nearly lost our sod shack and barn by a prairie fire, which started south of Denholm and went right to the river.

The early years were the best years. Every neighbour helped one another. If one was late putting in the crop and your neighbour was finished, he would come over and help you finish. Every spring they had "bees" (which they called it) to help cut up wood for the summer.

The first year Dad had a crop Mr. Megaffin had a portable steam engine and separator who threshed our grain. It was brought from Baljennie by ferry with horses.

Duncan McKellar had the first automobile, chain driven most of the time. Dad had the next Barber Shop in Ruddell.

In the first years there were thousands of ducks and prairie chickens, both partridges and deer.

In the early years the neighbours put on dances at their homes and would dance till the early morning. Music was supplied by whoever could play a violin.

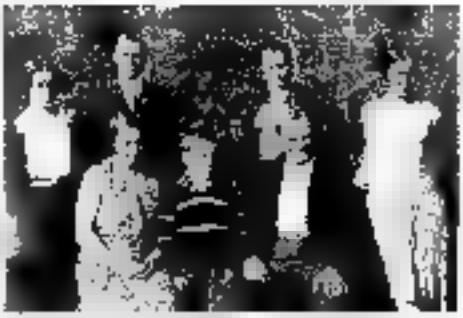
I can remember one Hallowe'en, the older boys took a buggy apart and put it on top of the livery barn. That was in 1911.

Turner History

THOMAS EDWARD TURNER left his native England at the age of twenty-one and travelled to Canada with the Barr colonists, arriving in Saskatoon in April of 1903. The group carried on to Lloydminster but TOM TURNER left the group in Saskatoon and proceeded to Prince Albert where he worked as a lumberjack until 1905 when he filed on a homestead south and west of the present Village of Maymont. He walked from Prince Albert to that location in the spring of 1905. By the time he arrived at the farmstead of George Heller, northeast of Maymont, his eyes were badly swollen and he was practically snow-blind. In the following years Tom was joined on the land location by his brother, Bert, and sister, Molly.

BERT, with his wife, NELLIE, farmed in the district until when they moved to British Columbia and operated a market garden near Vancouver.

MOLLY married MICHAEL BYRNES and they operated a farm which is the present location of Glenburn Park. They had no children but were commonly known throughout the Maymont and Spinney Hill districts as "Uncle Mike" and "Aunt Molly" and their



The original Turner family. Back row, l. to r. — Joyce, Tom, Wife and Bv. Front row, l. to r. — Jessie, Ted and Tom Sr

farm was a favorite stopping place for travellers going to, and coming from Maymont via the South Maymont Ferry which was only a half-mile distance from their farmstead. In 1938 they moved to the Village of Maymont where they resided and ran a boarding house until failing health forced them to move to North Battleford where they passed away in 1951 and 1953.

TOM TURNER married JESSIE BOUTHEAD QUAILE OSLER of the Spinney Hill District. Jessie had come to that area with her parents, two brothers Robert and Alex, and one sister, Cecelia. Jessie's father sought a drier climate than Edinburgh, Scotland for health reasons. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alex Osler, farmed in the Spinney Hill District for a great number of years before coming to live in the Village of Maymont where they passed away in 1941 and 1945. TOM AND JESSIE were married in 1911 and established residence where the present "TURNER" land is located — SE¼ 17-41-25 W3rd. The farm continues under "TURNER" ownership and is the home of Don and Laura Spence at this time.

Tom and Jessie were always active in the community. Tom was reeve of the municipality for many years, always a sport enthusiast, he enjoyed hunting and fishing and was an ardent promoter of all agricultural activities having been instrumental in organizing the first Wheat Pool committee. Jessie knew everybody and was dearly loved by all. She was a life member of the Homemakers, for many years she was a member of the W.A. of the United Church, a tireless worker at the public health clinics and her friendly hospitality was well known throughout the area. Tom and Jessie raised five children all of whom received their primary and high school education in Maymont.

THOMAS ALEXANDER worked with his father on the farm until 1941 when he enlisted in the Canadian Armed Forces and was discharged some four years later, in 1945, having served in England, North Africa, Italy and the Benelux countries. Tom returned to Maymont following the Second World War and operated the farm with his brother, Ted, until 1949 when he left to work with his sister and brother-in-law on a ranch near Lloydminster. He remains in that district today.

WINNIFRED ELLEN completed her high school in Maymont. She then took a hairdressing course in Saskatoon following which she worked in Saskatoon for a few years before marrying WILLIAM WILSON in March, 1939 and moving to Rosetown. She opened a beauty salon - "WYN'S BEAUTY PARLOR", which she operated for a number of years before joining her husband in "WILSON AGENCIES", an accounting, in-

This J. I. Case threshing outfit was purchased by the Turner Brothers and used extensively throughout their community. In later years, about 1924-25, it was operated by the "Big 4", Andrew Melrose, Billy Melrose, Andrew Reid and Tom Turner. During most of these years the steam boiler Case was operated by Ed Butler, until combining made threshing obsolete in the area.

vocation and real estate business in Rosetown. The Wilsons have two children. DAWN ELAINE DELAINEY, who completed her B.S.N. at the University of Saskatchewan and is living in Saskatoon and THOMAS WILLIAM who is a partner in the business at Rosetown and also operates a recording studio.

EVELYN MARY completed her high school in Maymont and a few years later graduated as a registered nurse from the City Hospital in Saskatoon. She worked for a short time at City Hospital before going to nurse at the hospital at Weydminster. In Lloydminster she met and married WILLIAM MITCHELL in April, 1946. They lived on a ranch in the Unwin District, south of Lloydminster. The "MITCHELLS" have three boys: ALEXANDER ARMSTRONG (ALISTAIR) who ranches with his parents, JAMES ROBERT who owns and operates a ranch at Swan Hills, Alberta, and THOMAS IAN who is also ranching with his parents and brother Alistair.

JOYCE CECELIA also completed her high school at Maymont following which she took a hairdressing course in Saskatoon and then joined her sister Win. in the beauty parlor operations in Rosetown. It was in Rosetown that she met and married WILLIAM EVANS in October, 1946. They operate a farm in the Rosetown District. The "EVANS" have two children: VICKY MERLE a registered nurse, who is married to DAVE KONDRA and lives at Victoria; and TIMOTHY WILLIAM who lives at Moose Jaw.

EDWARD KERR (TED) completed his high school at Maymont and graduated from the School of Agriculture in Saskatoon in 1943. At that time he was farming with his brother, Tom, and took over the farm operations by way of a rental agreement with his father in 1950. Ted married MELVILLE BRIGHT of Maymont in July, 1950 and operated the Turner farm from then until 1958 at which time the family moved to Regina as Ted assumed responsibilities as First Vice-President of Saskatchewan Wheat Pool. In July, 1960 Ted was elected President of Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, the position he still holds. The "TURNERS" have three daughters: JANICE has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Social Studies and lives in Regina. JOY has a Bachelor of Arts Degree with a major in French; JILL has completed three years of studies towards her Degree in Agriculture at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon and plans to marry MURRAY WALKER, a classmate and farmer in the Langham District. Mel and Ted assumed roles of responsibility in the Maymont community where they were active in social, church and sports activities. They have been most fortunate to have had the opportunity to travel to many countries of the world as a part of Ted's job. While in Maymont, Mel played an active role in the Young Women's Service Club, as a C.G.I.T. leader, Sunday School teacher, and as a Homecraft leader. Mel played softball and was an active curler. Ted played hockey, a great deal of baseball, was an ardent curler and participated in clubs as an officer of the Young Farmers' Club, Secretary of the Board of Trade, President of the Curling Club, served on the Board of Stewards of the United Church, was active on the Wheat Pool Committees and as a delegate. He was also Secretary of the Dr. Scratch Appreciation Day in 1967 and Secretary of the Dr. Scratch Scholarship Fund as well as an original member of the Horse and School Association.

Graham Turnbull Story

told by Bess McNeil

The Turnbull family emigrated from Scotland and settled in Brantford, Ontario. After the death of his wife in 1903 my father Graham Turnbull came west. In 1908 he and his brother George filed on homesteads — north quarters of Section 6-42-13 West Meridian and purchased section 5 directly west where the original family home still stands.

In April, 1906 his mother, his sister Bess and his children, my brother Bill and I came to join them. The Turnbull Brothers were well known for their registered Clyde horses and Shorthorn cattle — winning major awards at Regina, Saskatoon and Battleford fairs. They also donated a corner of their land for the Ruddell cemetery where Graham, George and Bess are buried.

I married Russ McNeil and live in Calgary.

During the summer of 1908 the Presbyterian Church service was held in our house — Mr. Madill of Maymont being the first minister. People came in many conveyances — some with oxen pulling the stone boat accompanied by the family dog who helped liven things up with the occasional dog fight in our front yard.

Graham and William Turnbull History

by Dorothy Cook

Michael Graham Turnbull born in Brantford, Ontario moved to Stella in the east but only as Graham when he moved west.

Graham came west alone in the summer of 1903 after the death of his wife who had passed away in the spring of 1903.

In 1905 Graham shipped his possessions and enough lumber and material for a small house. This probably took two railroad cars! He also brought a wagon, plough and horses and a cow.

Since Borden Bridge was not completed, that is as far as his effects could go by rail. They were unloaded, taken by ferry across the Saskatchewan River, and then by wagon to Ruddell, some forty miles further west.

Graham set up a homestead in Ruddell in the summer of 1905 and built a small two-storey house on the south west edge of the townsite.

The same summer, land agents were coming out

Turnbull house, Ruddell, formerly known as Caddies.

by team and democrat selling a section of land for 4m dollars.

Spring 1904

Graham moved his family from the east along with the remainder of his belongings. His family came west on one of the first passenger trains from Brantford to Winnipeg and there to North Battleford. This was a steam engine train with about a half dozen passenger cars. The cars had slats for seats, a cook stove at the end of the car for the passengers use — and were known as Colonists cars.

One car of these first passenger trains (which took four days and four nights from Winnipeg to North Battleford) Graham's mother, sister, son and daughter came to the Ruddell District.

William Stephenson (son of Graham) — age 7½ years

The rest of this information is recollections of William Turnbull.

He arrived with his sister, Bessie, his Aunt Bess, and his Grandma Turnbull.

They arrived (1904) in Ruddell around 1500 hours on a beautiful spring day in April. There was no snow. Everywhere crocuses bloomed and the gophers were running around by the hundreds.

When the family arrived, thirty or forty acres had been ploughed, oats planted for the stock, and a small garden was put in. The small house was built, also a shed for the stock.

William remembers vividly walking over to this little house. His father had just baked bread.

In the summer of 1908 there was a building boom in Ruddell. Other stores came into existance. The hotel was under construction as well as the church.

The basement for the house was dug and by September or October the house on the knoll was completed (one-half mile south and one-half mile east of Ruddell on Section 6). So in the fall the family moved from the little house to the home house. It was all finished on the outside. The downstairs, which was all one room, was lathed and plastered. There were no stairs, so William and Bessie used a ladder to go to bed.

William remembers how his Grandma got up several times in the night putting wood in the cook stove and heater to keep the house warm. It was a terribly cold winter and recalls how mails were sticking through from the shingles and they were covered with frost. And when it was really cold they would 'sing' or make eerie sounds.

Turnbull Bros. Farm about 1911. Photographed by P. G. Barrett, Maymont.

Going back to the summer, church was held on the lawn outside the little house. Reverend J. C. Shields was the minister and served Maymont and Fielding as well.

There was no school, as the few children around did not attend school until the following year, making it one long holiday. William recalls how he and his sister scared gophers. The beauty was one cent a tail.

In October, 1908 the church was opened. Grandma Turnbull donated the pews.

1907

The hotel was open, complete with bar. There was also a livery barn, hardware store and several more stores.

School was started in the fall of 1907. Mrs. McKellar being the first teacher. William and Bessie walked to school when the weather was fine but used a horse and cutter in the winter.

By the end of 1907 and the spring of 1908 there were a lot more people. Charlie Robinson had opened a furniture store and Mr. McCann had come from the States and was the harness maker.

1911

On the same land a big house was built expressly for Grandpa Turnbull.

George Turnbull and Sons Turnbull

1912 — Graham re-married, Elsie Vanderkin from Brantford

1917 — The big house on the edge of town was bought and in 1918, Graham, Elsie, William and Bessie moved from the farm home into this big house.

Graham bought a Clydesdale stallion from Scotland at a cost of two thousand dollars. He then had Clydes, which he showed at fairs, etc. in Battleford. He did this for many years and won prizes every time he showed his horses. The harness was made by a harness maker in Brantford and was beautiful — with brass buckles.

William recalls how it was his job to take a load of feed up to Battleford for the horses. It took him all day, sitting up on a big haystack.

William remembers how many people stopped at their home for dinner. It was nothing for a N.W.M.P. to stop regularly.

Grandma Turnbull passed away in the spring of 1918.

William bought his first car in 1918 — naturally a Ford — price $540. Father he returned from Saskatoon.

William attended business college in Saskatoon 1915-1916 for ten to eleven months. The banker offered him eighty dollars a month and Imperial Oil offered him one hundred dollars a month.

In the spring of 1916 he went back to Rudsell and since farming was booming he decided to go back to the farm. His father suggested he take over a livery barn, and that he should have a car (this was mentioned before). He had a team for livery and he hauled everything from ashes to garbage. He was paid one dollar and fifty cents to plough a garden. William also drove the weigh-scale inspector for one month steady, receiving twenty-five dollars a day plus room and board. The scales weighed eight hundred pounds. He also drove N.W.M.P., loan inspectors and all sorts of travellers.

Local people who needed to go to Battleford, were driven in the Ford at a cost of ten dollars.

This car he drove from 1916-1924. He also drove Dr. Scratch hundreds of miles in the winter, driving a very fast team.

William married Ivey Jane Roche on August 2, 1922. The marriage took place in Saskatoon.

Ivey Jane Roche moved with her father, mother, two brothers and two sisters from Bowesmont, North Dakota in 1906.

Her parents were Michael and Gertrude Roche, sisters Agnes and Minnie, brothers Lee and Pat. After moving to Rudsell they had another son, nick-named Mike. Ivey's father was a section foreman.

William and Ivey were blessed with five children — Marjorie Adelaide, Arlene Wilma, Dorothy Anne, Michael Keith and Betty Jane.

Their first home was the little house that William's father had built when he first came to the West.

William, Ivey and family lived in Rudsell from their marriage until 1942. William joined the R.C.A.F. in May of 1941 and the family moved to Saskatoon in 1942.

As for the years in Rudsell, William had continued with the livery stable, later farming.

William served Canada in the R.C.A.F. from May, 1941 to September, 1945. On discharge, he worked for a Construction Company and later a farm implement company until his retirement. They bought their home in 1946.

Ivey served as a house mother at Saskatoon City Hospital from 1963-1968.

In 1972 William and Ivey celebrated their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary.

Ivey Turnbull passed away May 24, 1976 and their daughter, Betty Jane, passed away on April 18, 1978.

Of the Roche family only Mike is left (living in Vancouver, B.C.).

William now lives alone in Saskatoon. He will be eighty-one years old on September 6, 1979. He has good health, maintains a clean and well-kept home, looks after his lawn, trees, shrubs, plants a garden and drives his own car.

He has thirteen grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

William's sister is living in Calgary and will celebrate with her husband Russ, their Sixtieth Wedding Anniversary in the fall of 1979.

George Turnbull Story 1878-1963

by Jean Kingwell

In 1905 George came west from Brantford, Ontario with his brother, Graham, sister, Bess, and their mother, Mrs. Peter Turnbull. They lived in houses south and east of the townsite of Ruddell.

George never married, his favorite saying was, "I'll just put on my hat and take my family with me." He farmed with his brother and lots of hired men working several sections of land which necessitated forty horses to be fed and harnessed every morning in the busy seasons. Overall there was ninety horses on the farm. Twenty-five or more would be broken in the spring. Each fall for a number of years George would take a car of horses to Ontario for sale.

Turnbulls, 1910.

The livery stable was kept busy in the early years. Land buyers and salesmen were either driven by cutter or buggy or rented a team themselves. Hot stones, footwarmers and blankets were kept ready at the office. Farmers hauling grain in the winter to the elevators would rent a stall, to be sure of getting their team undercover and fed before making the return trip home. With the coming of trucks horses were phased out, so the livery barn was sold and now sits on the Meeres farm west of Ruddell.

George was of a quiet nature but had plenty of dry wit and sayings for all occasions. Turnbull Bros. had the first Russell combine and tractor — a huge thing that required lots of muscle and manna to get it started. The company sent a fellow out to get information regarding it. George told him "the inventor should have been hung before he built it."

A wonderful well and good water was in Turnbull's pasture about three quarters of a mile from town. Ruddell had no source of water so George would haul many a tank of water and put it into the town well for the use of the residents.

The trains both night and morning had to be met with the dray and the express taken to the various stores, coal hauled in the winter, cows were milked and milk supplied to the town, cattle and Clyde horses were driven and led to be shown at the North Battleford Fair.

George spent his latter years with his sister, Bess Morison, and is buried beside his brother in the Ruddell Cemetery.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest (Ernie) Traves

Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Traves lived north and east of Lilac. Mrs. Traves was the former Gladys Russell. Ernie and Gladys had a family of five, two girls and three boys — Chris, Homer, Sidney and Edith (twins), and George. The children all went to Lilac School. Both Ernie and George are now deceased. Mrs. Traves lives in Alberta.

Norman C. Tyler

written by Edna (Tyler) Muirhead

Norman C. Tyler was born in Bowmanville, Ontario. Like so many young men at that time he looked to the west to fulfill his dreams and hope.

His first stop was Port Arthur, Ontario where he obtained work as a carpenter erecting the grain elevators. While there he heard that the railway was being laid in Sask. so he decided to push west to Winnipeg. When he arrived there his next step was to buy a demberat and a team of horses and then he loaded the buggy with suits, boots and shoes, watches, etc.: anything a railway man would need and proceeded to follow the railway line (C.P.R.) west.

By the time he reached Calgary, he was, as they say, "Well Healed" and made up his mind to return east to Kelliher, Sask. where he started, "The Pioneer Store". At that time there was no post office and they used to throw the bag of mail in the store and everybody helped themselves.

In Kelliher, Norman Tyler met his wife, Florence, from Brantford, Ontario. They were married in Naicamis, Sask. as Kelliher had no minister and they had the honor of being the first wedding.

Again, fortune followed him and after 8 years he got restless, especially after hearing a fortune could be made in wheat. He sold his business and bought a section of virgin land near Linlaw, Sask. He also bought half an interest in a saw mill. His wife and daughter spent 2 years in Yorkton, Sask. and then joined him on the farm. After 5 years it was one disaster after another. If it wasn't hail or drought, it was something else and so to make a long story short he realized he had better get out of wheat while he could.

Norman had dear friends in North Battleford, Sask. and they talked him in to buying a business in Ruddell, Sask. This was the year 1928.

Ruddell was a small, sleepy village about 25 miles east of North Battleford. Every year the village declined in population and businesses moved out or just folded. This was about the time of the "Dirty Thirties" when dust storms would come up and it would be so bad at times that visability would be almost nil. It was nothing to see wagon loads of household effects: cow or whatever tied behind going slowly

through the village coming from the south of Sask. on their way to the Peace River District.

Gypsies stopped once in awhile but never stayed long. They didn't spend any money, but just begged.

Norman and Florance Tyler had three children, Edna, Ronald and Gordon. After 10 years in Ruddell they all moved back east and settled in Brantford, Ontario. The parents were buried in Brantford. Edna lives in Nanticoke, Ontario and has two children named Dave and Don. Roy lives in Brantford and has two children, Ken and Bruce. Gordon is in Mt. Pleasant and also has two children named Brock and Scott.

"It is sad to think of these towns just fading away".

A Biography of my Parents Ernest and Emma Tyhurst

By Marjorie (Tyhurst) Nuttcombe

My father Ernest Tyhurst first saw the light of day in Lambeherst, Kent, England in the British Isles in the year of 1870. He was one of six little sons born to John and Jane Tyhurst. His brothers' names were Harry, John, Frank, Herbert and George. They were all less than eight years old when their mother died at the age of thirty-six.

Not many years went by before their father married again. Two little girls were the result of this marriage, Dorothy and Cis. However their father (my grandfather) died at the age of forty-two years from sugar diabetes. Little was known of the disease at that time. It has since been under control with diet and insulin giving longer life to many since the year 1920.

After my grandfather's death an elderly maiden aunt took over the care of the six little brothers, there being considerable money in the family at that time. The aunt whose name was Emily saw fit to give them all a good education. They were sent to schools in Germany and France following their schooling in England. It must be remembered that at that time little children began their school work at age three or four years. My mother learned her first lessons in knitting then and cried many times from her sore little fingers. Knitting needles were made from sasal and they were heavy.

When my father, or Dad, as I prefer to call him became eighteen years of age he ran away from his aunt as he wasn't happy in her home. The other brothers eventually did the same. They all came to Canada except George, the youngest brother, and he went to war in South Africa where he died at the age of twenty-four.

In the year 1886 when he left his aunt he decided to come to Canada. Not having very much money, he came over as what he called a "stow away" on the ship, which eventually arrived on the coast of the United States of America. By that time Dad only had the value of fifty cents in his pocket. He went to Detroit where he found work on a tobacco farm. From there he came to Canada and worked on a farm in Ontario. After he left there he came to Regina where he joined the Royal Canadian Mounted Police with two of his brothers. By this time another brother had started life as a farmer in the Regina District but he only lived a few years.

The Prairie Provinces were then called the North West Territories. Later they became individual provinces — Saskatchewan in 1905 as we now know it to be. In 1903 Dad decided to go further west and came to what is now the City of Saskatoon which at that time was a village of shacks and lots of tents in which people lived. It was from there that the young people obtained their food and supplies as it came in from Winnipeg as the railroad had been built as far as Saskatoon and was under construction to Lloydminster. So Dad managed to get a job with the construction crews. He was hired as what was called "a bull cook" in other words he was there to assist the chief cook.

Dad used to get quite a kick out of telling us about the time he was working there and the little jokes played on one another. The cook used to make individual little pies and put them on the window sill to cool. For several days one pie would disappear from the same place, so Dad decided to do something about this. He caught a mouse, cooked it in a pie, put it out to cool. It disappeared as the others had done but the mice never came back for another little pie.

As time went on a little village started up sixty or eighty miles north west of Saskatoon. It was then

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Tyhurst's second Sod Home. A prairie fire in 1906 left the prairie ground bare.

Mr. Ernest Tyhurst's Sod Stable and hen house. Marjorie and Dorothy standing by the oat shack.

called Shortcross or Village. Later it became known as Flushing after more pronounced person.

When Dad was working on the railroad he had a good view of the lands and decided he wanted to farm for himself. At that time anyone wishing to have 160 acres of land could do so providing they lived on the land for six months and broke up at least seven acres each year. The price to be paid for the 160 acres would be ten dollars but a register out of hard work had to follow. So Dad's choice was 160 acres on the south side of the railroad three miles west of Fielding. This was the Northeast quarter of Section 12 in Township 41 Range 13 West of the Third Meridian. The year 1904.

Dad started with the railroad crew as the go Lloyd manner. Then began his farming days on the Homestead as follows. He built himself a small one-room and shanty type shack and stable, also purchasing two horses, a walking plough and a wagon. With this plough he plowed the furrows to obtain the sights of sod for the walls and roofs of the shanty and the stable. These dwellings were very cool in the summer time and warm in the winter as the walls would be twelve to fourteen inches thick. Poles were put on the top to hold the slabs of earth for a roof. There had to be on a sloping position so the water from rains and snows would run off. Often the roof would blow off in a bad storm. The floor in the shanty had to remain as a dirt floor until lumber could be bought to cover it, which came quite later.

The shanty was lined inside with heavy building paper. There were frequent visitors and lucky ones were in great demand being good members. There and friends had to be content to rest good sleep storage pulled out with the horses wagon had to be dug and piled. Dad made a stable below on the side of the gap pen. With pegs were on the remaining sides. A rough work was very strong and hard. They had to walk behind these machines in those days. With love Dad bought another sweeper series. He never bought any more land but did rent a quarter across the way known as Section 11 for as long as he lived and farmed.

In the early days there was an abundance of wild fruit especially large wild strawberries but in the dry hot there came a drought which spread so long that strawberry picking ended. Many of the trees and bushes died. The country looked very sad and parlous - a very difficult time for everybody.

Dad planted wheat and oats grew his own vegetables and always plenty of potatoes. There was always the danger of losing part or all that was grown from early frosts, drought, hail, grasshoppers or army worms and there still is, but some years we were lucky enough to get through without any of these problems. There was always a weed problem in the fields, mostly Tansy Mustard, Blue Bur, Cocklebur, and pigweed the latter being very good to eat as greens when cooked, the correct name was Lamb's Quarters then but I believe has been changed since. Weeds were pursued by hand, then put on stony land and later burnt. As the crops were by any order. Usually and I spent most of our summer school holidays with our dad on the field pulling weeds that were growing among the grain crops. At time a man was hired by the municipality to drive around on his buggy which sometimes was pulled with two horses, sometimes just one horse. This man was called the Weed Inspector and it was his duty to check the fields to see that the farmer was pulling his weeds and for this duty he was paid, of course. For all this many farmers paid little attention which made it very hard for the man who did, for when the seeds ripened and the winds blew, where they do as the prairies and were strong with the result the clean farmer had to have the weed seeds from the farm where the man made it happened. Christmas holds however the quality of the grain and a farmer was a pat in discharge at the elevators.

In the early days of the 1900's I had friends and neighbors were the Fines the Hagers Spencers Lloyds and Harpers Eagles and the Richardsons the Sherwoods Proctor Walkers and Schulmans ...families. Cartmans and the Rogertons also the Ingo Brothers and the Collins Perriers and the Hinds and Robinsons. It seemed as if there was never one or more party quarter and the Tertiaries and the Dustin and Hoppers the Eagles left behind an issue of remembering. There were the Fedens and the Williams and the Andersons and the Brandsons. Everybody was busy but had time for one another.

By 1908 I had everything as comfortable as he could have in room a Regina to be married. My mother came from Bournemouth Hampshire England to marry her sister Miss Ellen Mary Avery and she was twenty three years old she was the eldest of three living sisters and two brothers. Four others had died in infancy. Her parents had a grocery store there and her father was a Baptist layman and Sunday school teacher. They were a very musical family and had a happy family life. Nevertheless my mother was willing to leave it all behind in search of a new and richer life in the great unknown. They were married on April 23 1908. From Fielding they drove in the wagon back to the farm. A year before their marriage a prairie fire swept through taking with it the dead grass, trees and bush. Mother came to a very bleak and bare rough, private which was very sad. When I asked her her first impressions she just shook her head and as long as she lived she never spoke of those years in any from. Dad and her sisters that I have been privileged to write their biographies and what I remember for myself. And I do remember running along the furrow behind the walking plow and I do remember the horse bush days the prairie fire that I had not to open out. I also remember living in the sod house which was demolished in 1913.

In October 1908 after they had been married about six months their little shanty burned down. Dad was working three-quarters of a mile away in the field

near the railroad tracks. A freight train happened along on its way to points west when the fireman noticing the fire stopped his engine and went over to ask Dad if they ought to let some burning down. Dad had just seen it until then. He scrambled his horses and hurried to the scene. By this time all was quite straight for one trunk which Mother had pulled out as it was near the door. Mother had been washing clothes and was hanging them on the line when the fire started. The day was very windy and a spark from the old stove pipe had caught in the paper around the chimney and set it alight. That was a very sad and tragic day for both of them.

From then on my mother stayed in the hotel at Flatding while the kindly neighbours came to help Dad put up another sod dwelling. This one was larger and had a bedroom at right. The one that was burned down had an addition of some sort in which he kept his oats. It was there to keep keep the north winter winds from the stacks and it never given a chance. They lived in the new dwelling until 1911 when the sod bedroom caved in, so Dad bought a one-room frame house that either Mr. Cavers or Mr. Stapler had left behind. This he moved and joined to the livable part of the sod house. That part then became a bedroom. Vic was my sister Dorothy and I were part of the family then. I was two and she was four years.

Finally that part caved in and was hauled away. Dad then began another part on digging it in half to make two more sod bedrooms. The front room was also divided to make an extra bedroom and storeroom. A lean-to was also to be built on. The frame houses were all very cold at that time as the new dry sod made home to hold them for warmth. Insulation then was unheard of. Just inside outside covered with tar paper and then shingled with cardboard inner which could be painted. All the floors were covered with linoleum, a poor quality by today's standards but the best they could afford but better than the bare floor of the sod house which was painted red. My mother was a good housekeeper and cook and made everything as comfortable as she could. Curtains for the windows were made out of scrim, a very thin material but with gay patterns on the edges like lace were cheerful.

In 1913-14 Dad bought an organ, a late fashioned oak sideboard with chairs and a table, this being the first thing my mother ever had any real furniture. She badly wanted a new cook stove as the one she was using had gone through the fire and was badly cracked. A new one came years later.

In the early thirties Dad had a nice new house built in which they lived until 1946 when the farm was sold for eight thousand dollars to Mr. Miller. Dad was very upset at having to sell the farm as he loved the life and all nature. He was a good manager and took great pride in his farm work. But for him at for all time came to course and we had to resign ourselves to the fact that as he was still farming with the prospect of harvest. On May 5 1918 Dad passed away following a number of severe strokes. He was only sixty-seven years. Mother passed away twenty-one years later at the age of eighty-one years. She had not been well for many years. There left to mourn their loss three daughters named Marjorie Lorraine and Olive and one son Norman Allan. Two little daughters predeceased them Kathleen and Marguerite in 1918 and 1919.

Now we shall go back to 1913 and 1914 when Dad finally finished breaking the prairie and was farming. I was not of school age then as that the school district had to be built in our district. However others who came and did go me went to Neepawa School which was three and a half miles from home, a long walk for beginners but I has driven in there in the winter time until we were able to drive ourselves.

Dad eventually bought more horses starting with eight two and finishing up the last twenty-five years with four teams to fifteen. Including one kept for driving purposes when supplies or coal were needed or repairs for the machinery. Plow shares had to be taken in the village blacksmith a Mr Downey to be sharpened. Then there were the pleasure drives around the fields to see the growing and ripening crops. Many trips were made to the Fairding Cemetery to see the little graves of their daughters and those of friends and neighbors. Dad and Mother kept the Sabbath Day as religious as was possible. Even after working on the fields all week with the horses they would drive the three miles to church and back most every Sunday afternoon except in the winter time. Dad was Church Warden for a long time and Mother played the organ. We children were in Sunday School where we sang the smallest part were and had a ride with the Sunday School teacher Mr Harold Baker the rest of the way.

After Dad bought more horses he also bought a larger plow. This had an iron seat on it which made it easier for his legs as he able to sit down, as he had very bad varicose veins. He also bought a set of harrows. These had sharp teeth and looked like spikes. These helped to smoothe the ground. He also bought a small sweep drill. This was used to plant the seed. A discer does a great deal but we it really helped to break up the sod. Four horses were used to pull that. It was a machine about seven or eight feet long. Underneath the framework were many large circular discs kept very sharp. A seed box was built in the middle for the drivers. On each end of the machine were iron wheels bound to be filled with stones to weight it down.

A binder was bought for cutting the grain at harvest time. When the crop year was good Dad hired a man to stook the sheaves of grain. One year the harvest was very poor so I binded and I drove the stookers.

Dad never owned a threshing machine but hired farmers who owned one to come and thresh his sheaves. Threshing was a very exciting time of the year, very interesting, starting very early in the morning and often into the late evening if the weather was

threshing. There would be a crew of fourteen to sixteen men. In those early years many of the farmers used flails to beat the heads of their corn, also to pull the machinery in the fields. I remember the days of the steam.

First would have a thresherman who would have a cook car and a sleeping caboose. Neither men only had to cook for the grain hands which would number five or six men. In the forenoon I hauled grain myself from the threshing machine to the granaries. It was fun then. The hardest part was shovelling it by shovelfuls through an upper window into separate bins. Dad was hauling too and often had to help me so I would be in the way. It was a time of all hurry.

Something that always fascinated Dorothy and I at threshing time was the cook car and the sleeping caboose. We could only glance as we were never allowed to go near as there we believed the cook. As for the caboose it was just childhood curiosity to see what bunks were and inside. Sometimes there would be a man cook. Other times perhaps a farm wife. The cook car was a long narrow building built of wheels. It contained two long narrow tables along each wall. Benches were used for seats. The cook stove, cupboards and table tables were all at the front end. I had the pleasure of seeing the inside of one once, it was no longer in use.

Our drinking water came from a square hole which Dad dug with a spade. The hole was set to receive boxes deep and was curbed inside and about three to four feet above the ground. A pulley was used so we could pail the water up in a pail. The water was cool and fine for drinking and always cool.

In the winter there would be a large wooden barrel in the kitchen at which stove was curbed in to melt. This was lovely for washing being very soft. The water was also used to water the cow and chickens. The hens were kept busy laying eggs. There was only one little window in the hen house which housed over very badly. Needless to say the more hens many to there. A hen would catch one very quickly. The highest price for eggs as I remember then in the winter would be one dollar a dozen so it paid to have the hens laying in the winter. They were five cents a dozen.

Dad never milked more than two cows and usually only one. She would be a good milk cow which usually gave a large pail of milk twice a day. This would be skimmed on a large milk can with a lid on it and from spring until the hard frosts came these cans were hung in the well where they stayed for twenty four hours. By that time the cream had risen to the top and would be nice and thick. It made the nicest butter whipped cream and table cream.

We also made our own ice cream in the winter time when we could make our own ice. The ingredients eggs, cream, milk, sugar, a little salt, and vanilla - would be put in a five or ten pound pail surrounded by ice and salt. The pail would with a handle on it was then turned round and round as fast as could be until the mixture was creamy. That was real ice cream!

Butter was made by hand. It was churned in a barrel churn or with a dasher which my mother used before the barrel churn arrived. Neither way were easy ways. compared to today's standards but it was the way it was and they knew no other. They were thankful for small mercies.

Butter and eggs were traded for groceries at the store in Mt. Clarkemore or Mr. Mortimer. Mr. Harris or Mr. Gunn. Only the essentials were bought in the grocery line such as tea, salt, cocoa, sugar, flour, baking powder, soda and icing sugar later on. Currants was a must for puddings, there being plenty of milk. What fruit was left over was given to the chickens in the winter. In the pigs and ruby chicks in the spring. Raisins, prunes, dried fruit, rice, macaroni and tapioca all added to the variety. A special treat would be a pail of bought jam and marmalade. I forgot to mention rolled oats for porridge.

Coal oil for the lamps would be bought by the gallon. Twilights were enjoyed during the age of the coal oil lamps. People just had to be very saving with everything. Later came the Aladdin lamps and the gas lamps which gave a much brighter and enjoyable light.

There was plenty of good fruit that could be bought in season. If the money was available which there was in later years. If the year was good without early frosts after the blossoms appeared on the fruit trees the wild fruit would be very good — strawberries, saskatoons, gooseberries, black currants, raspberries, pin cherries and cranberries. These were hand-picked of course and made into lovely jellies, jams and preserved in canners with a sugar water syrup.

We always looked forward to a new Christmas Day. As far back as I can remember Chris Cole always brought biscuits, some good cheeses, and candy. Mother made her usual nice Christmas cake and pudding with Eaton sauce and lemon cheese tarts. We children hung up our stockings. On which we would find an orange, some hard candy, a chocolate or two and a doll or some other nice little gift, ever so much appreciated. Other than at Christmas time a five cent bag of suckers had to last a whole week. We were never allowed a whole chocolate bar at one time as long as I was home. In those days people had to save up as well but those old ages of the hospital care of seniors as there were not any pensions or health benefits then.

Another night to look forward to would be the night of the xmas concert, in the school house in which every child took part, some with recitations, others in dialogues, duets, songs by little children, group singing, a real Christmas program. The parents would take lunch and a small gift. A dance would follow after hours. Of course Santa Claus came with his sack of toys, wondered what on his back. The tree was beautifully decorated, mostly with home-made decorations. Santa always had real bells around his

wear. Coal oil lamps lit the room inside. Lanterns were used in the barns. Everyone wore the best clothes they had. The school girls usually had a new dress while the boys had a new shirt and overalls or pants.

Everyone in those days dressed for winter with long fleece-lined or woollen underwear. They were mostly woollen socks, felt boots or overshoes. In the early spring they wore rubber boots and leather boots. When warm enough the children went bare foot even to school until the cold fall days.

In the first fifteen years of the 1900's snowstorms were not to be seen much as we thought about. The first one that I knew about was the one we young Dr. Scratch owned. Some one will know whether it was a blizzard. Allan seems to think it was. That was in the year around 1916. Before that Dr. Scratch drove a team of horses and a buggy. He lived in Maymont the years I knew him and had a little barn for his horses. Allan tells me. In the winter time people either went for him or the livery man took him. The liveryman was a man who kept a team or two of horses in the barn in Maymont and people would pay him so much to take him to their destinations if not beyond serving distances. Summer and winter whenever the weather the doctor always went to his patients. The closest hospital would be in Saskatoon.

Dr. Scratch was a good doctor. I must mean he would be maybe three or twenty four years old when I was born in the old house. I understand my mother was the third maternity case. She was very uncomfortable and nearly died before the doctor came on the 6th March where he was. Neighbors were many and word went from one to another. Fortunately it was late May and the roads were good. Some went on horseback to find him, others in their wagon or buggy. If ever telephones were needed it was in those early years when they hadn't any. Fortunate he was located and arrived in time to save her life and mine. Mrs. Long, Sr., who was Mr. Fred Long's mother, looked after my mother when I was born. We all children were all born in the farm home as most children were in those days. Some of the mothers did not live and many babies died but with none it was before there was a doctor. What a relief when a doctor did come.

Our water or out-house was a little log construction not far from the house which was used all the year around. An Eaton's catalogue or apple wrappings served as toilet tissue out there then. It's a wonder many people didn't have certain problems at that time but they seemed to live through it and there was no other way.

Our first school teacher was an elderly man by the name of Mr. Aldred Amos. He lived in a house within short walking distance of the school. He had a wife and two children, Bruce and Eileen. The school and house were on the land belonging to a Mr. Northcott who was a farmer and blacksmith. He had a smooth bell of lovely gold tones as I remember him.

We always had good teachers. We were taught to mind both at home and at school as were our schoolmates so there were few problems. The odd case would have a good strapping if thought necessary. Usually none was enough. Although I do remember one occasion when every pupil was strapped on the hand. This is how it was. Our first teacher Mr. Amos always kept a bag of real nice candy in his desk. He always went home for his dinner and one noontime somebody got the idea to taste his candy. It was passed around until when it came to we beginners we had to have the crumbs. When Mr. Amos came back from dinner and opened the drawer to have a candy they were all gone. He was very cross and wanted to know who had taken it but no one would admit to having done so. So Mr. Amos thought to punish every child with a few good hard strops on the hand. Some cried of course. When they all got over that and thought things all some days later some one had the bright idea one morning to surprise him by giving him the nicest bowl they had at their dinner pail. This was lined up on his desk when he came back at noon. The boys that day was two strappers. Others had given him cake or fruit or a sandwich. When he came back and saw all that on his desk his eyes filled with tears and he passed another bag of the same kind of candy around the room. But his was always safe after that.

Our school like all buildings then had not been built thermally and it would be very cold in the mornings in the winter time. So much so that often our lunches were not thawed out by dinner time. They would have to be warmed closer to the stove. We took our lunches in small three-pound lard pails, larger families pail. Some in those big syrup pails. Someone brought water for everyone. When the days of the open pail and dipper were no more we had water fountains much more sanitary. There were frequent visitors to our schools even the new Separate Schools that was built after the first one was burned down. No one ever seemed to know who was responsible for that happening but we did not mind as the new one was much nearer our place. I went on the corner of the land belonging to a Mr. Post.

Our school mornings began with the singing of "O Canada" and the Lord's Prayer and the day ended usually with "God Save the King" which was good. We learned respect for our Lord, King and Country and our teachers.

Our learning was strict and to the point. Our main subjects then were a good grounding in writing, spelling, reading, arithmetic, grammar, composition, geography, some art, algebra, English and Canadian history. We had to draw our own maps of the continents from the Geography books. No such thing as tracing them. Games played were football, softball and steal sticks. A good inspector would call at the schools so many times a year to see how well everything was going.

The days we children looked forward to the most

were our summer months. Christmas and Easter holidays and also one's birthday. As I grew older I enjoyed school with the different type teachers who were a Miss Lawson, Miss Ian (the redhead), Miss Hawthorne and Miss Eleanor Sterling. Miss Blakely was our High School Teacher at Pershing. She is now Mrs. Roberts and lives at Saskatoon.

I must mention the hauling of heavy logs and poles which was done with wood. As the fire of 1919 had burned so much of the bush and trees Dad would have to drive three or four miles south to the North Saskatchewan River banks where the trees had not been burned. This was done in the winter time when he could haul the poles on the sleigh bunks as they were too long for loading. He cut the trees down with an axe. There had to be lengths of twelve feet should never have gone under a cord of an accident but never had one. He would have to leave early in the morning as it was a day's work. When he did get it home it had to be cut with a buzzsaw in stove lengths for many years until a real sawing machine was obtained. One was later bought by Mr. Brickwell who was around sawing up people's wood.

When the railroad was laid to have new ties under the rails Dad would buy some of the old ones as, being dry, they made a quick fire and very hot. The nice part was that he did not have to go for them. As these were cut was able to be bought which made a more lasting fire with even heat. There were two kinds of coal: soft and hard. The hard burned the longest and I believe it came from Drumheller in Alberta. Some was mined there I remember.

Saturday nights were the all over bath nights when the kitchen was made extra warm in the winter time. We were some kind of other times of the year. The routine washing was swept for brought in. Each bathed in turn with pure warm rain water in the copper and that dried in the summer. Shampoo was much due. Mother never had a washing machine preferring to wash by hand as I do, too. We have been years after I was married but not in Ontario.

Pat would on the farm that would run into mile pigs every spring. When the weather would become cold enough in the late fall he would butcher them by himself. The hams and bacon were put in a large barrel as a brine made with salt, saltpetre, brown sugar and water. This meant to soaked and rubbed before a man pepped over the meat. In six weeks the hams were taken out and put in the smoke house for a given time. A special kind of wood chips were burned for that special smoke. After that was all over they were wrapped up and buried in the oat bin where they kept until until all used up.

The curing was done with the bacon only the time was shorter in the brine. The cured was done with beef which Dad bought from the farmers that sold their meat. There was a good butcher shop in our town of Pershing. One of the butchers was a Mr. Cassidy as we actually had all the fresh meat cured meat needed, as well as our own chickens all the year round. Fish came from the fisheries at Big River. One could buy all the fish that was needed. Dad bought whitefish and trout. There were large fringes outside until ready for the temperature we had reached and fresh herrings.

I remember going with Dad with the horse and buggy (before I ever went to school) in the fall of the year to the fields where the grain stooks were still on the ground and it was nothing to drive up to the stooks and see many prairie chickens around. Dad would shoot four or five at a time. They were heavy to eat fried in butter. The birds did not have enough to be afraid of man and ten gun a dozen years but they soon learned. We had lots of rabbits to eat too. In fact, when I had married farming and for some years after that was all the meat that had. The deer were moving the roosters at that time plus the antelope. The buffalo had all these parts in them but many dried heads and bones from those killed were still to be seen. In fact, before there were so many buffalo bones that they were gathered up and sold by the carloads.

Mother used to trade plums at our stockers. A man had come around driving a horse and buggy with Singer Sewing Machines to sell. Mother was pleased to have one. A dentist also used to drive around in the horse pulling with wagon equipment. There wasn't any freezing then so was suffered either way. There was a dentist too who came around checking horses teeth.

Another thing that could have been a little inconvenience especially to the women folks on the farm when at that time telephones weren't even thought of, was the men that were called tramps, receiving that name from tramping from place to place looking for food. I say food but none any that came to Dad's did not ask for work, just food. They were seldom invited into the house but they would sit on the front benches at the side of the house while a sandwich or something was prepared, after which they would wend their way back to the railroad track from whence they had come. You see the C.N.R. track was only half a mile north of the farm buildings.

One day when I was about twelve years of age and our mother was at the hospital in Saskatoon, Dad was churning the cream for butter. Every once in awhile you used to pull out a plug that was in the bottom of the churn to let out the gas, or else the plug would blow out and a mixture of cream would cover where it hit. Some more to have to clean up. This rarely happened but while Dad was churning one of these tramps came right into the kitchen. Dad had him sit down until he finished the churning. Of course the plug had to be pulled. Dad did this just in time, too, as it blew with a terrible bang. This made scared the fellow and he jumped off the chair. He thought someone had a gun. I shall never forget the state he was in as Dad tried to explain about the gas forming of the cream as it was being churned. They always churned sour cream. When washed well it made good butter. The tramps

who came as I remember were not young men. They usually had a very heavy beard growth. They did not look very clean and some were very much in rags. Sad when you come to think of it. They never mentioned money and all carried a little bag fastened to a long stick which they carried over their shoulder. Their head dress was a dirty cap or a raggedy straw hat.

I remember another time when Dad did not lock the door at night. I do wonder why as he knew anyone could walk in. And one night someone did although Dad never did see him or hear him, but the next morning when he went into the kitchen to light the kitchen cook stove, on the floor a bed had been made out of some of the extra clothes that always hung behind the kitchen door.

Another time a stranger found his way around outside the house in the dark of night and it was dark too as Mother had heavy green-colored blinds on all the windows which were pulled down before going to bed! He went right into Dad's and mother's bedroom first right round to Dad's side of the bed, perhaps hoping to find Dad's purse in his pocket but it wasn't there. Dad and Mother were both terrified but they never spoke. They could not see the person. Finally he went into the bedroom where my sister Dorothy was asleep. This caused double fear, but as luck had it he left as quietly as he had come. They never missed anything, so really men were not all that bad in those days, as bad they been, they had every chance to steal, murder, rape, burn buildings etc. I must say from that night on the door was always locked.

I also remember as a little girl seeing the Royal Canadian Mounted Police mounted on their lovely horses passing on the road not more than two hundred feet from the farm buildings. That was their duty of travel in the early days. They wore large Stetson hats, navy pants with bright red tunics and looked really smart here to anyone else then.

Mother was never very strong. She would have the yoga sometimes and she often had to carry pails of water up the hill to the house. I know it was hard for her by the times she had to put them down while she rested, which times she always enjoyed just looking around and listening to the many different songbirds. There was still a lot of prairie grass and new trees and bush growing up after the fire that had swept through some years back. She loved the prairie sunsets and the lovely scenes in cloud formation the same, many times at night with a bright moon and floating clouds.

My mother had been a very lonely little person for the first five years of her life in Canada. The closest neighbors at first were two miles away. They were Germans, hard workers and good neighbors but not much company as Mother could not speak their language. That's where my dad fit in with his knowledge of German and French. There were a few French families and later on were English mothers arrived. It was a blessing to my mother when her parents, sisters and brother came out from England in 1903 and made their home in Saskatoon.

Life went on much the same from day to day once Dad really began more settled with more and better equipment.

This must be the end of what has been a long story, more or less a life time of "as it was" as my parents came up to 1945.

Marmie (Andrew) Tyson

My father the late Oliver Andrew, came to Maymont, Saskatchewan with his parents, brothers and sister.

Dad married Lillian Lafreniere. I have two sisters, Olive who lives in the U.S.A. and Elena at Denaroma, Ont. Our brother Sunnee (Walter) was killed September 11, 1944 in Belgium. He was with the Tank Corps from Southern Alberta.

Many was always on call helping the sick and laboring in the new homes along with our dear Dr. Scratch. (I may add Dr. Scratch, brought my husband, Tom Tyson, myself and our three eldest sons into the world.

Nothing too exciting to relate. We were all just plain old "Gophers" as they call a Westerner here. We lived on a farm for years, rode horseback, played ball and the odd game of rumble sticks. I used to compete with my Shetland pony "Midget" at the Richard Fair for best girl on buy under ten on a Shetland pony. My grandfather gave the prize. I always won first place. When I got so age too he raised the age limit to twelve. One year I ventured in the Ladies Class and won first place. Needless to say the rules were changed the next year. In the year of 1941 my husband and brother left Denholm and came to what was the City of Fort William. They started work at the Canadian Car Plane building airplanes, etc. for the airforce and army.

Mom and Dad came the following winter, worked at the plant, and went back in the spring and had an auction sale. They came back and both worked at the plant until war ended and the huge layoff took place. Dad worked steady till age seventy-six, at the Royal Edward Hotel. He passed away in 1967 at the age of eighty-three and a half. Mom died in 1968.

Henry Prior Yoke

told by Mary (Wellgard) Mellad.

Henry Prior Yoke came to the Lilac district from Wales in 1908. His homestead was the S.E. ¼-10-23-15-W 3rd -- commonly known as the "Shaw Place". It is now owned by the Gallant Brothers. Here he built the usual pioneer's sod house but later replaced it with a two-storey frame house which he furnished but never lived. He bought the adjoining Alan homestead and later sold the half section to Mr. Shaw. Mr. Yoke then moved for a short time to N.W. ¼-27-23-15. At this time he was asked by a Trust Company to look after the

H. P. Volkes outfit.

H. P. Volkes threshing crew (1940); Pop Goldermen, Billy Welford, Johnnie Bulmer, Harland Johnson, Frank Ebach, George Patterson, Albert McIntyre, Harold Pain, Jack Patton, Alwyn Ebach.

Braelock on the Gregson place near Richard as Mr. Gregson had died quite suddenly. As payment for his services he was given ownership of the land. However, he sold it and moved back to Section 27 where he built a modest house and barn. He named his farm NEEDMORE and this sign was prominently painted on the west side of the roof of his hip-roofed barn. After several land deals he acquired the south half of Section 34 as well as the N.E. of 27 and eventually sold all four quarters to Mr. Harry Welford in 1944. It is on Mr. Volke's farm that Bill and Nellie Welford now reside.

Mr. Volke was a trustee for the first school board of Badger Shelf School District, as well as a trustee of Wavie Bank's first school board.

Henry Volke retired first to B.C. in 1944 but was unhappy there and came to North Battleford for his remaining years. He died in the 60's and was buried in North Battleford City Cemetery.

The Otto Voegeli Family

In March, 1907 two weeks before his seventeenth birthday, Otto Voegeli followed in the route of his brothers to Canada from Switzerland. Not knowing a word of English, he made his home wherever he might hang his hat; working for farmers in the Fielding, Speers and Maymont area.

Ten years later he met Beatrice James, one of the children of Ernest and Ada James from the Maymont district. They were married in 1918. That year Otto purchased the Harper estate north of Paddell for he and his bride to make their home.

The years brought seven children:

Dorothy Margaret, Leonard James, Ernest Otto, David Charles, Linda May Joan, Anna Marie, and Donna Alice.

With the help of their uncles after their father passed away in 1951, the three boys took over the management of the farm.

As a registered nurse, Dorothy moved to British Columbia and married a young mechanic, Sid Fournier. Sid and Dorothy have one son Duane Roger, born 1970, and twin daughters — Diana Marie and Denise Michelle, born 1973. They make their home in Nanaimo, B.C.

Dorothy was followed by her brother Leonard who married Sharon Lee. They have settled on Saltspring Island where they were bringing up their two daughters; Nadine, born 1970 and Erica Shane; born 1973. Leonard furthered his education in Victoria, B.C. to become a Ferry Boat Captain.

David married Gail Swanson a Registered Nurse from Crane Valley, Sask. and they built their home west of Maymont. There they are bringing up their two daughters; Kristie Fern, born 1975; Leah Faye born 1976, and their son Tyler David, born 1979. David along with his older brother Ernie, continues to farm.

Linda's husband, Barry Stolberg, started his own hairshop in Ogema, Sask. while she worked as a Registered Nurse in the hospital there. They are expecting their first child in December, 1979.

Anna became a Laboratory Technician before she married Blair Dearborn and they make their home in Saskatoon.

Donna works in North Battleford.

Levi Walden

Levi Walden was born in Northampton, England on June 15, 1900. After public school he started an apprenticeship as a shoemaker, but quit this in 1917, to join the British Army in World War I. In 1922 he was working on a farm in England when a nephew of his employer came from Canada to visit. Levi became interested in Mr. Alf Tyson's stories about this area of Saskatchewan and made arrangements through Mr. Tyson to come to work for Mr. Welford. The agreement was that Mr. Welford would send over the money for his boat, and train fare and he would work on the farm until the debt was paid off. Levi arrived by train in Lilac in the spring of 1923 — a year when the station yard and half the roads were covered with water. A team and wagon with four curious Welford youngsters met him and drove him to his destination. His first assignment was to harness a team of horses and this left him rather bewildered until he got helpful advice from Jack and Ted.

Levi and Jennie Walden.

Levi worked on the Welford farms for eight years and then married Jennie Welford on March 25, 1931. They started farming on land rented from Mr. Vokes — commonly known as the Carpenter place. In 1935 they rented the Albert Steele farm S.W. of Ruddell but hit the very driest years. Crops and prices were poor but they milked cows and sold cream, often putting up green Russian Thistle for a winter's supply of hay.

In 1939 when the World War II broke out, Levi enlisted in the army and spent a short time at Dundurn, Sask. But later became an instructor with the Engineers and was stationed at Sardis, B.C. On his return to civilian life in 1946, he and his wife bought the W. J. Davis farm (Ex 32-42-13 W3rd). They lived here until 1967 when failing health led to their retirement to North Battleford. Levi passed away in November 1967 and was buried in North Battleford City Cemetery in the Legion section.

I, Jennie Walden, was born in the Lilac District on July 10, 1908. I lived at home with my parents Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Welford and helped with lots of jobs in the house and outdoors.

I went to school at Bathgate school and got my Grade VIII. Then I went to Ruddell for a year and a half. I rode horseback or had a horse and buggy to travel back and forth everyday, a distance of seven miles each way. When the weather got too cold I stayed with Mousley's for 6 weeks.

I married Levi on March 25, 1931, and we lived on the Carpenter farm which was close to the Welford farm for four years. We moved to Albert Steele's farm near the coast and farmed there until 1939. Levi joined the army because we weren't getting any crops. Lots of times we only had a silver dollar in the house and we wouldn't spend that. When we were on relief I felt we had lots of money, although it was only $8 a month for the two of us.

Levi was happy in the Engineers but we weren't together. I stayed with my father and mother and helped them until Levi came home. We bought the Davis farm and moved back to Lilac. We stayed there for 20 years. When our health wouldn't let us carry on, we retired to North Battleford and bought a house. We lived there for ten years since we were both failing in health.

I had Multiple Sclerosis and had been in and out of a wheel chair for years, but between Levi and I we carried on.

Levi's health got worse and he had to go to the University Hospital in Saskatoon where he died on November 25, 1967. By this time I had got into the River Heights Lodge in North Battleford. It's nice here and I have lots of friends and I enjoy playing cards and carpet bowling. They have lots of entertainment because different groups of people come in. The Old Timers enjoy watching the Old Time Dancers. There is a lot of Bingo and the winner of each game gets ribbon. We save the ribbons and each month the person with the most ribbons wins five dollars. I've been lucky and have won more than once. I find I handle more money than I ever dreamed of but if it wasn't for the Government's help I wouldn't be able to manage for long. I get a lot of nice visitors and I get out to visit at my brother's and sister's twice a year so I'm happy. I try to smile at everyone I meet and I hope this cheers them all up.

Wallace Family of Ruddell

written by John J. Wallace

Both Ethel Margaret Wallace (nee Madill), and Charles Ernest Wallace came to Ruddell from Ontario, not far from Toronto. I believe they met and were married in Manitoba. They came to homestead in

Saskatchewan near Richard in the early 1900's. It was on a farm near Speers where I was born. We then moved back to Richard, then to Rudsell sometime to the early 20's. By this time there were nine children, Roy, Mary, Violet, Ked, Jack (so called then), Clifford, Ruth, Margaret, and Bill. (There was three more Lily, Minnie and Lorraine). I do not recall too much of the early years but when we were older and should have known better, I recall a straw stack just south of the Rudsell school where Andy Abbott and I climbed up to the top and stood facing one another. As the small kids came up we would kick them over the side and down. Later when we were in the big room, I believe again it was Andy and I, for some unknown reason took the Moore girls' (Vi and Ivy) buggy and laid it on its side. For our trouble, I think it was H. S. Robinson, strapped us in front of the class.

Rev. J. C. Medill — was my grandfather. I do not recall ever hearing him preach a sermon but I do remember him when he came to visit us on the farm. We all had to kneel down while he prayed for us for a long, long time. I understand that during one of these prayers, someone stole the gas from his car.

Nothing very spectacular ever happened to us except the kids kept coming and the older ones moved out. Strange to say, I do not recall all 11 of us being at home at the same time. I left home around 1933, I think.

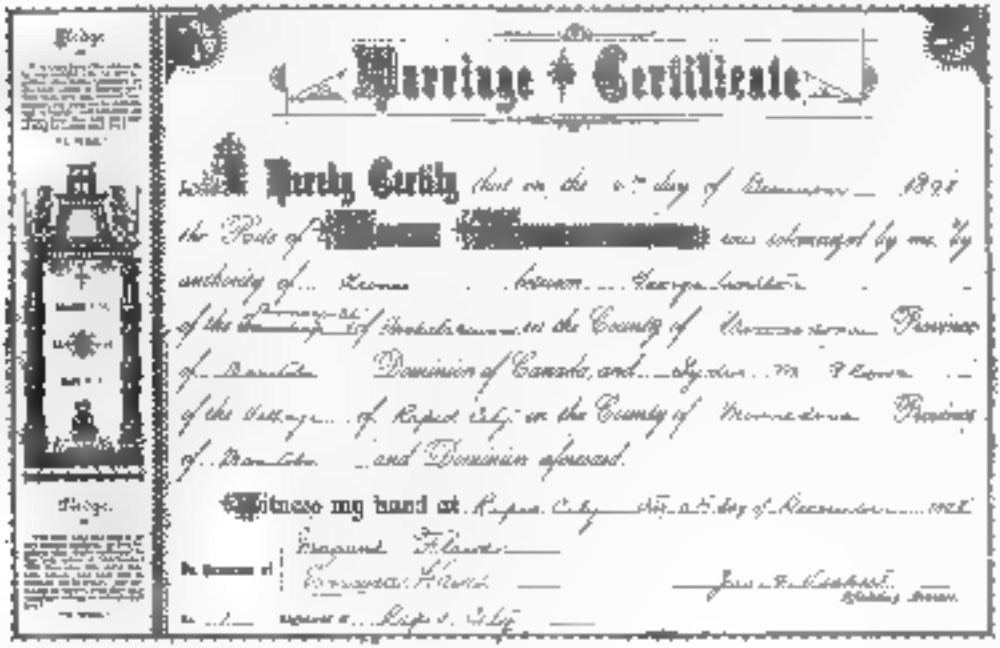
I will be retiring from the Ontario Paper Co., at the end of August this year. We hope to make a trip out west then if all goes well. My wife Moura and I were both born in Saskatchewan, both lived in B.C. and finally met in Ottawa in 1944. Our three off-springs (2 girls and a boy), are all married and the girls have 3 boys each. Our boy Wayne was just married last July — maybe there will be a granddaughter one day.

We have good memories of picnics in the Maple Grove by the North Saskatchewan River.

The George Walton Family

by Lois Bole

George Walton (Lois Bole's father) came with his parents from England at the age of four years to Rapid City, Manitoba. My mother was born in Guelph, Ontario. She also came with the family to Rapid City where she was married to George Walton. In the spring of 1909 they came to their homestead. This was before the days of the railroad and they drove from Saskatoon in their homestead by team and wagon. They brought their three children with them (Gerald, Roberta, and Hazel). Lois was the first baby girl born on the homestead and the first in Township 42. Beatrice, Raymond and Joan complete the family. We all attended Grey School built in 1905 and which is now


Marriage Certificate

Marriage

Marriage

Marriage Certificate

Marriage Certificate

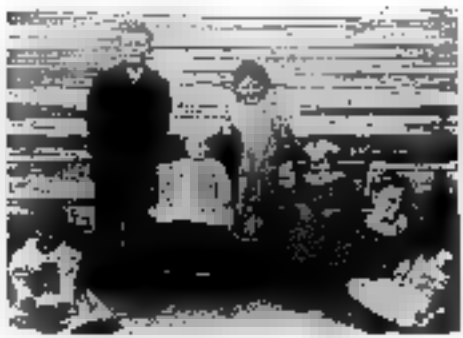
Witness my hand at Regina, Sask. this 20th day of December A.D. 1911

Registrar

Deputy Registrar

Mr. and Mrs. George Walton's marriage certificate.

George Walton and Lydia (Flaws) Walton wedding picture, 1899



George Walton family — 1910. L to r — Lois, Gerald, Raymond, Hazel, Beatrice and Roberta holding baby Jean. The little girls' dresses were made by Grandmother Flaws. Lace collars were the style of the day.

in the Western Development Museum in North Battleford.

Our parents saw to it that we did not lack in our early Christian education. One thing I remember was my mother singing hymns and my eldest brother playing the violin. Later on when we were going to Grey School I recall that once a week an Anglican minister, Reverend Panting, came out to the school (from Maymont) to talk to the classes. When we were old enough to drive ourselves by horse and buggy we four Walton girls would drive to Keystone School for Sunday School. The Grey School teacher, Mr. O. M. Patterson, got the two schools involved and I can remember good turnouts at the school.

My father kept sheep and one incident I well remember was walking along the barbed wire fences to pick off sheep wool. This was washed and teased preparing a large box of snowy white wool to donate to the Red Cross (World War II). Herding the sheep was also a job for us children and with the aid of the sheep bell it was much easier. I have the sheep bell to this day. I also remember the cradle, washing machine and the six-gallon dasher churn.

Saskatchewan became a province in 1905 and in 1929 the Saskatoon Fair Board invited all girls born in 1909 to attend the fair, getting passes to the grounds, grandstands and side shows, etc. I was one of those girls the fair board invited.

My brother, Gerald, served in the Air Force in World War II. Raymond served in World War I with the Royal Canadian Engineers.

In 1925 the Waltons rented the land and the family moved to Maymont where my father became a drayman. Gerald worked in a butcher shop, and sister, Beatrice, in the post office and Lois worked in the phone office.

Today the only surviving members are Jean Campbell and myself, Lois Bibb.

Jacob and Anna Warkentin and Family

Submitted by Anne (Warkentin) Ellis

I was fourteen years old when we moved away from Fielding and having been born on the Prairie I often go back to the area and try to recall the little things of which our life was made up.

My father's parents, Peter and Elizabeth Warkentin, and my mother's parents, David and Anna Redekopp, came from Russia in the nineteenth century although they were of Dutch descent. They settled around Plum Coulee, Manitoba. Both Mom and Dad were born in that area in the late 1800's and came with their folks to homesteads in Saskatchewan. Mom and Dad met in a church in Aberdeen and were married there on November 25, 1915.

Three boys Jacob, David and Henry were born in Aberdeen. After a move to Medeo for two years where Dad had a shoe repair shop they moved back to Hepburn where Sarah was born. In 1926 we moved to the Morrison's farm near Speers where I was born in the spring of that year. The boys had gone to school and Sarah had been sent to Aunt Mary's place. Grandma

was called in to the students once again as she had for most of the other births in our family. Having given birth herself to fourteen children, my mother knew the ordeal, she knew just what to do.

The baby seemed to be comfortable on the quilt. From there we moved to Manitoba's peace river Hylstown School where the boys did the pioneering chores — them on the north 1/2 farm in the Piedmont district where another boy, John, was born in 1923. The older boys went to Grandview School there.

In the fall of 1918 Dad finally bought a quarter section of CPR land five miles north of Fielding for twenty five dollars an acre and the balance to be paid with one-third share of the crop. But there were the depression years and most of the town lost only paid the taxes. George and Mary Prowse. Mary was my mother's sister) bought the quarter section just west of us. Dad in 1928 or 1927 they moved to Saskatoon. The names of their children were Ann, Sarah, George, Mary Margaret and Eva. some of which attended Neepawa School. They later moved to Missouri, B.C. where they lived till 1974. Mrs. Prowse passed away in there were homes around Ridgeway, Ogden, B.C. In the spring of 1919 George's wife came with his daughter, Eva and family.

After purchasing the land Dad and David built a small log house on it for us to move into when we did the following spring. A barn was built of logs with a sod roof and a well had to be dug by hand, which produced very hard water in limited amounts.

By now there were six of us so they built another log building next to the first where the boys and girls slept. Mom made a bed for me under the table every night. She had such a large family and such a small area that she had to have bread every day. Imagine one day and bake the next.

A year or two later they built the largest log building, house of logs, out of our own property by hand. Hauled home with horses drawn poured on. After the logs was built the cracks were filled with a mixture of clay and water for mortar. I remember the day we moved in. It was so exciting. We had two big rooms, a large kitchen and the other served as a bedroom till Dad and the boys added two bedrooms. The older boys shared one room.

The new home was not exciting and away from town most of the time. Dad, Mom, Sarah, John and I shared the other room. The floors were rough boards which after awhile dried out and shrank leaving spaces between the boards and we had to be careful not to drop anything or one might lose it. My dresser consisted of an apple box where held all my possessions and my closet was two nails above my bed which held both my dresses. Dad used to insist on us wearing our other shoes to school on each till we got a pair of ankle high boots. To go along with our black boots we wanted wear black woollen stockings held up with elastic garters. We had black buckle overshoes and of course mittens. Gauntlets.

We had to be dressed warmly for our three mile walk to Neepawa School. In the winter there were no short cuts. We had to walk the full three miles there and back. One winter while Henry was still going to school we had a horse and cutter to drive. Sometimes the drifts were so high the poor horse had quite a time getting through. One of those winters I missed two months of school because I did not have adequate clothing for the cold weather. That year Dad drove us to school for the December part and picked us up again after the only day I attended between Christmas and the end of February.

Valentines and cards were all homemade and given freely to everyone. Christmas concerts in Neepawa were the highlight of the year. We practiced for about a month, memorized, made costumes and really got excited. The last two weeks we all we dispersed with classes and just practiced. The teachers always bought gifts for all the students. The students exchanged names. Santa would arrive with bells and a sack of his toys and we wondered who Santa was this year. The only one I knew as our arrangement was brother Cloyd.

even the family didn't know who the chosen fellow was. Christmas holidays would begin as early as December ninth.

Christmas in our house though we were poor was always a very exciting time. We made our own decorations and our Mom would make home cooking cakes and Christmas breads. Dad and one of the boys would drive out into the country sometimes an all day trip and bring back a Christmas tree. Mom usually accompanied. Dad on the one day Christmas shopping trip to either Portage or Neepawa.

Our gifts usually came from Prowse to every one needs each. One year Sarah and I were given a white greeting kit consisting of cards, matter, envelopes and white paper in a case. I also remember getting a box of just the very special kind. I got a store-bought doll about twelve inches high with a china head. Mom used to make rag dolls for us. Instead of hanging stockings on the hearth on Christmas Eve we would all run a shoe box on our place at the table and in the morning we would find in it a mandarin orange, an apple, some peanuts, a few chocolates, cream candies and hard rock candies, maybe a variety of nuts and our gift. We were allowed to eat the goodies in our own will. We would have cake or cookies of every meal which was an extra special treat for us. Store money was scarce so anyone had needs and could not always afford them. Most of the family was home that day as well as a bachelor uncle or two in the evenings. Dad and Mom would light the candles on the tree and we all sit around while they harmonize away. The rest of the visited does always so long and hard.

All of our farming was done with horses. Dad never owned a tractor or a car. Our threshing was done by Ejay a threshing crew.

Dad made our living mainly by grain farming. Some winters we had potatoes to sell and all the eggs

and butter we could spare were sold or exchanged for groceries at Watts or Dumas store in Fielding. The price of butter at one time dropped to twenty cents a pound and eggs were sold for five cents a dozen. There were times they couldn't be sold at all.

All summer long Dad would be out cutting trees on our place and hauling them home. Then in the winter it would be cut with a buck saw, loaded on the sleigh and hauled five miles into Fielding or across to Mayment to be sold for two dollars per load. At times it was hauled as far as Hathaway. On occasions he would bring the load back home not having been able to sell it.

Mom would spend her spare time in the winter months making crepe paper flowers and on one of these trips to town with a load of wood one of us would go along with a box of flowers and sell them door to door.

There were the depression years and they were very hard. One year while hunting on Ice Arrow Brother Jake while trying to split a log, cut off a toe and badly cut his foot with the slip of the axe so of course had to be hospitalized and we had to pay Dr. Speight for his services.

When Dad took in a load of grain practically all of our harvest, the money was owed to pay the hospital and doctor's bill. I remember when we came home from school that day Mom was down town when she said "I don't know how we'll live this year. There was one pair girls for Christmas." But Dad again went trapping wood pole town after cutting it out of the bush and Christmas was about the same as usual. After a number of years of crop failure because of drought we finally went on relief and had our share of chicken but the salt fish called codfish which some folks were tempted to use for sandwiches. They may have been the object of many jokes but they helped to keep starvation away.

Dad and Mom worked very hard and we were poor but I have never regretted living through those years because though I didn't share in the responsibility and worry of it, I learned how to cope when times were hard for myself. Our parents taught us to be honest, to work hard and to have respect for God and for all authority. I will ever be grateful to them for it.

After Frances left the area and Dave grew up he built a house one mile east of our place where Ted Blain's house now stands and lived there by himself until one night while standing and talking outside at Andrew's place after a young people's meeting they noticed a glow in the sky in the direction of his home. Thinking one of his barns had up in the barn he ran all the way home to find the house and all his belongings were burned to the ground.

There was a time during the depression when jobs were very hard to. Brother Jake decided to travel his way to Alberta in look for work. All Dad had to give him was twenty-five cents and with a few belongings in a bag he started on his way. I remember him walking past the orchard and watched till he disappeared out of sight. He later told us of how he did chores and odd jobs for people along the way in exchange for a meal or a place to sleep and to hitch-hiked or rode the rails until he found work.

Jacob was later drafted into the army after his marriage to Agnes Brewer from Sand Beach, Saskatchewan and transferred to different points in B.C. and now lives at Sarnia. They have one boy and two girls. Jacob will retire in about three years after working as a factory for nearly thirty-five years.

David worked one winter for board and room for himself and his horse and five dollars a month pay. After the folks left the farm in Fielding David farmed it for a year or so before going to the coast for a few years. He had tried to join the airforce but was rejected because of an injured knee. He has married Dorothy Hutchings of Vancouver and they have two adopted children. David and Dorothy have ministered in the Turtle Lake mission for nearly twenty-five years.

Henry seemed to be the most talented. He learned to play the Hawaiian and Spanish guitar and played in the church services of those accompanying his own singing. One of his hobbies was wood carving. He had about fifteen sheet be handcrafted a miniature homestead in full detail. I remember the set of farm equipment consisting of a wagon with a hayrack, mower, horse complete with harness fences, cow stanchions and horses no more than two inches high, etc. These were his toys and that's how spare time was spent those days as well as hunting for wild game, catching gophers, playing checkers and so on. Henry's drawing abilities have become a profitable hobby for him today. Having taken a few lessons in oil painting he has enlarged his talents and has sold many of his paintings throughout B.C. and Alberta. You will find his scenic paintings in many art galleries and business places in B.C. Henry and his wife Ann have Anne Marmer of Sand Beach have raised a very talented family of one girl and two boys. Both boys play guitar professionally. The one has toured with Ronnie Prophet, Buck Owens and others. Henry was drafted into the army at age seventeen or eighteen and was discharged four years later because of paralysis. He has since worked in different departments of the municipality of Surrey and is presently with Parks and Recreation.

Sarah's first job was helping with the house work during the harvest season for a Mrs. Flint south of Fielding. From there she went to Mrs. McNaughton's one mile north of our homestead. She started out at seven dollars per month which gradually increased to ten dollars. With that she bought her clothing and personal articles and often bought things for the other members of the family. She later went to work for Gerda Wahlberg's near Sproat where she stayed for several years before going to B.C.

She married Alex McKinnon who was a dairy farmer but was semi-lame having a logging business near 108 Mile House B.C. There passed two girls and five boys. The boys followed in their dad's footsteps and went into his business. Sarah was widowed in November 1951 and was a married out in 1957. The two sons then opened a two-ch food store on 108 Mile House which is both a thriving business.

Through life around Fielding was hard for all of us and we were poor it had a lighter side as well. Many laughs were had over some of the foolish things that were done. There was generally no need to lock your doors when you went out and one day as I and Mona then teenage boys came upon Art Robb's bride home a mile or so east of our place and saw the door wide I ambled and no one was home that was clear. Then Mona were hungry that had lived and never Art was away so they put there on a plate and set the table. Then found an old rubber hose outside put it in the toaster and put it in the stove. When Mr. Robb came home being bitten home he at the fire and when the odor of roasted rose filling the house he remained something was cooking at the stove. He never knew who the guilty party was and it was pretty hard for Dave to act innocent when Mr. Robb told him about what had happened.

There were also the times when Mom would pack a picnic lunch. The family would climb into the wagon and go to the Salmon/Thomas River south of Maysmore. We'd take our picnic lunch and our shoes if we ordered any. The men would roll up their pant legs and we'd wade through to the other side to pick nighthawk cranberries. One time when half of the way through, I slipped and fell in and had to go back by the wagon and wait the rest of the afternoon till everyone returned and we then drove all the way home at the height.

Everyone many parts packing these days on the patches were known to all. The first one out in the patch got the first. There was a good raspberry patch on Art Robb's property as every year it was a race between us and Mrs. Ida Thompson who lived across the road from us. The one year we'd made up our minds to get there before her in the time we got to the patch around 10 a.m. There had been picked Mrs. Thompson had got to the patch first. So for the next picking we decided to go right after breakfast. Like the fool in the story of the three little pigs but about 5 a.m. when we were ready to leave we saw Mrs. Thompson already going home with her pail of berries and were enough when we got to the patch. I had been stripped.

One event I'll never forget and treasure to this day is the picture the McKay family put on for the children in the community. The whole family worked together and made craft items. I particularly remember the beautiful hand work done of which I still have one gracing my sideboard. They worked for months on them that they drove around the country with horses and wagon selling these items to finance the project.

Well the day we had looked forward to with great anticipation finally arrived and we were all so very disappointed for it was a smashing success in my opinion. We drank lemonade, adding a bit of soda to make it fizz, ate sandwiches and cookies and played games. Best of all they had purchased gifts for the children with the money made on the craft items. They did these with our names on them and we had to look for them at different times during the picnic. The one gift that stands out in my mind is a real genuine skipping rope. I used that skipping rope from morning till night. I'm sure if there had been a skipping marathon I would have come in first. That picnic was truly one of the most exciting events of my childhood.

I started at Swanson School when I was eight years old. My first teacher was Miss Harriet Bellerose whom I liked a lot. The students I more in school with were Jim Smith, Margaret, Elsie, Myrtle and Arthur Northcott, Pat, Bert and Audrey Shaw, Elsie Tyhurst, Vernie and Pearl McKay, Esther Orme and Maxine Post.

Brother David was taught by Mr. Miss Northcott, Henry and Gary were taught by Mr. Archibald and Miss Bellerose. Two other teachers that taught me were Hilda Reid and Lillian Murray both very well liked. One of them made Arthur Lee a very special dish for us. We would desperate with classes being our rulers to school and clean the school grounds. Then we'd have our lunch and the students as well as the teacher would get a taste and honest chance. The group that have would be given a twenty minute head start to go within a mile or so of the school marking a trail of scraps of paper. Later boys on the hounds would follow the trail which led to where we were hiding. The hare would spread out and hide in culverts behind stumps and buildings and when the hounds had trapped down all the hare we would go back to the school where we would complete the day with lemonade, cookies and lemonade.

During my first year of school the students were all saddened by the loss of Wilma Cameron who a first year student who died of a kidney disorder. Her brother Ken was also in Swanson at the time had the funeral service at their church also. They lived on a hay farm where house three miles north of Fielding. Walter McIver later bought that place I believe.

In 1938 brother John started school and being the only student in grade one the teacher could give him more than average attention and his progress was remarkable. He went from grade one to by 1942 he was in grade six at which time the family moved to B.C. where he continued his education at a much slower speed. He and his wife Jean have two lovely children who are married and have given them three grandchildren.

John has been very successful in a logging operation and now resides near the 100 Mile House, B.C. as a rancher's home. His contribution speak to the Pioneer and Immediately there is something the memories we shall go by for several minutes.

In May of 1936 the youngest boy, Peter, was born. The stork arrived without much notice and when we awoke in the morning we had a brand new baby brother. Dad had assisted with the birth. Peter never attended Sleepaway for in the year 1942 our parents Anna and Jacob Warkentin sold their possessions and moved by train to Mission City, B.C. where they bought an acreage, built a house and lived quite happily for nearly twenty-six years. When Dad became too ill with diabetes to care for himself, they bought a home trailer in Surrey, B.C. near where Jake, Henry and Peter lived. Dad passed away on March 13, 1970 and Mom followed on May 1, 1974.

I spent most of my early working years in Moosejaw City at various types of employment. I worked at the Co-op jam factory, the Aylmer Cannery. I pitched hay and did waitress work. Then I spent three years at Sharon Bible College in North Battleford, Saskatchewan. I worked as a nurse's aid in the Notre Dame Hospital there and later moved to Cranbrook, B.C. where I took a hairdressing course. I opened the Silhouette Beauty Salon there in 1960 and sold it in 1967 when my husband, Roy Ellis, and I made our home in Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta on an acreage. My husband is a radio technician for the Alberta Government and an ordained teacher of the Gospel in his time away from the job. We have five children. One is a chiropractor in Dawson Creek, B.C. One boy lives in Fort Saskatchewan and is part owner of a music store as well as being employed at a new Alberta Wood Processing plant here. One daughter in Edmonton is married to an automobile mechanic. One daughter in Meadow Lake is married to Bill Young, a plumber, and they have a foster boy still in school.

I will be eternally grateful for having lived in the Fishing, Maymont area at the right time, and for the two young ladies that came from a Foursquare Bible College to hold church services in Marpeena School and at Sloan's place for it was there that I found the way to become a Christian and it changed my life as well as that of several others of our family for always. It gave us a better outlook on life and a purpose for living. The two ladies were Ruby Rice, now Mrs. Pete Sloan and Gladys Nelson who married John Fast. I hope they will be rewarded for the good work done through their ministry.

Two years ago most of the family gathered on our old farmstead, now owned by Ted and Evelyn Sloan, for a reunion and had a wonderful time meeting old friends who came to see us and exploring the places that had been such an important part of our childhood.

We love the area and know that though towns deteriorate, homes are empty, and people are gone, in our memories it is ever beautiful and ever HOME.

The Herbert (Bud) Warren Family

The Herb Warren family moved to Lilac in February of 1943 where Herbert L. (Bud) Warren took the position of grain buyer for the National Grain Co. He took over from Jack Wright when Jack joined the farmers.

The family consisted of Bud, Beth, and their two sons, Dalton and Dick.

Beth was active in the Ladies' Aid and when Mrs. Ida Klassen moved to North Battleford she took over the post office. She was postmistress until leaving Lilac in 1950.

Dalton joined the Air Force in December, 1942. Upon discharge he became a locomotive engineer with the C N R and resides in Prince Rupert, B.C. with his wife Muriel and family.

Dick attended Lilac School from Grade 1 to Grade 9. He went to Melfort, Sask. in 1948 to work at Northern Auto Parts. In 1951 he left that job to work in the express department of the C N R. He now resides in Kamloops, B.C. with his wife Margerie and family.

Bud Warren was an active member of the Masonic Lodge in Rudell and maintained his membership until the Lodge closed.

Bud, Beth and Dick were active in the Lilac Curling Club. To the best of our knowledge Bud was the first president of the Lilac Curling Club and was ice-maker-caretaker for several years. Many happy hours were spent at the Curling Rink both on and off the ice. The lunch counter was a gathering place for all to visit and while away the cold winter days.

Summer spare time was spent with neighbours and friends at a lake.

Bud and Beth left Lilac in 1956. After a short leave of absence Bud again went to work as a grain buyer at Kaompa, Alta. He eventually became a Government Grain Inspector for the Federal Government. He retired in 1966 and bought an acreage at Kamloops, B.C. In 1967 Bud moved to Prince Rupert, B.C. as a Fisheries officer and Beth worked in the hospital. They returned to Kamloops in 1971 and retired on their acreage. Bud passed away in Oct., 1974 and Beth still lives in their home in Kamloops.

Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Walford

by Mrs. J. Moffat

"... Boarded the 'Canada' March 31, 1908 at Liverpool."

"The train came to a dead stop about one half mile from Lumsden. It was impossible to go further as the ground was washed away under the track about 16 feet long and over 6 feet deep. We left the train, and walking along the line carrying our hand baggage, arrived on the outskirts of Lumsden and found boats waiting to take us across the town. On the other side of the flooded valley, teams and wagons were waiting to convey us to the nearest point from where the trains could run. Here we found freight cars fitted up with temporary rough forms to carry us on."

"... After a short journey we arrived at Macdowall at

Mr. and Mrs. Walford.

1:30 a.m., April 30. It had taken me just a month having left home the 30th of March."

". . . We had to unload the wagon and carry all our luggage to the other side of the marsh, wading through knee-deep water part of the way with a muddy bad under foot. Just as we carried the last luggage over it commenced to rain."

". . . We got a good meal for 25 cents."

". . . It is amazing how easy it is to get lost on the prairies."

". . . Battleford is the nearest town and we have to go there for everything. The trip takes two days and means ferrying across the river."

". . . Mrs. Wm. John Dawe baked bread for us, and for lots more. She was baking bread every day and each of us had to get it on our allotted days."

". . . We were living in a tent and tied our horses up to a waggon until we got up a sod stable."

The above are excerpts from a diary kept by Henry E. Walford (commonly known as Harry) when he came to homestead in the Edmc district in 1904.

While working in the office of his uncle's WALFORD DAIRIES in London, England, he was lured by the get-rich-quick advertisements of taking up homesteads in Western Canada and decided to try his luck. A chum, Bob Brown, had come out the previous year, and it was arranged they would meet at Macdowall, near Prince Albert, North West Territories.

1904 was a year of much flooding and the trip to Macdowall had many unforseen delays as the above diary quotes reveal, but miraculously the two made connections on May 3. They agreed to pool their resources, work, and make their way to the district where Bob Brown already had filed a claim to the N.E. ¼ 2-43-13 West of the 3rd. Our dad later filed a claim for the N.E. ¼ 24-42-13 West of the 3rd. In 1905 their combined assets were as follows:

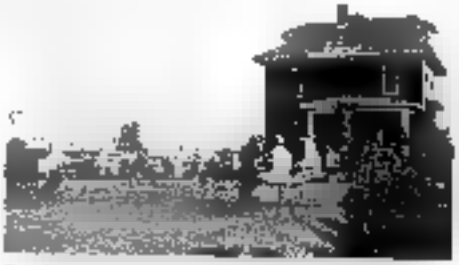
1 Black Mare (very old)	$ 40
1 Bay Pony	40
1 Team of Light Horses	100
2 Sets of Old Harnesses	30
1 Wagon	80
1 Set of Sleighs	15
1 Riding Saddle	5
1 Small Forge and Anvil	18
1 Sulky Plow	30
1 Wilkinson Walking Plow	30
1 Cowing Mower	50
1 Rake	20
TOTAL	$468

In the winter of 1904-05 Bob Brown went to Regina seeking work to get a little cash, but unfortunately he was killed in an accident there in early March. This was a cruel blow, but our dad was never one to give up easily. He made arrangements to not only prove up on his own homestead but also to do the necessary improvements and breaking for the Brown estate. This meant living the summer months on the Brown quarter and the other six months on his own land. Later he purchased the quarter from the Brown family. This land seemed well-suited to the growing of oats, and thousands of bushels of seed oats have been sold over the years.

Our dad was anxious to keep the land free from weeds. I recall in the 20's when he had the whole family out picking stink weed from a 40 acre field and removing it in gunny sacks! It was a futile effort but he did try. How pleased he would have been to see the clean fields made possible by today's chemicals! And he would have been one of the first to try them.

In 1907 our mother, formerly Lydia Stokes of Haddenham, Buckinghamshire, came by train to Ruddell to join him, and they were married in North Battleford on June 3. They had six children. The first child, a boy, died at childbirth but Jennie (Mrs. L. Walden), Jack, Ted, Mary (Mrs. J. Moffat), and Bill have lived all or most of their lives in this same area. Jack and Ted still live on the home farm.

In 1907 our parents were living in a 12' by 24' lumber shack. Then in 1913 a great dream was realized when a two storey brick house, complete with plumbing pipes and electrical wiring, was built on the hill and appropriately named "Hillcrest." This name hill caused untold backaches as it was a veritable rock pile. Neighbors will testify to the huge pile of stones once in



Tennis game at garden party at Walford home (1930).

the home yard -- approximately 30 yards long, 15 yards wide, and 8 feet high -- all laboriously packed by hand.

Food was plain. It consisted of salt pork, wild game birds and their eggs, and rabbits -- until they had stock of their own. In winter an animal was butchered, cut up, and frozen by Mother Nature. There was no thought of wrapping the meat. If the weather became very mild, or if there was a surplus by spring, the meat was preserved in smokers for summer use. When the Beef Ring started up at Tom Sawyer's near Maymont, the Welfords joined other local residents in getting a supply of fresh meat weekly.

With no refrigeration in the home, the meat was hung in a sack down a shallow well and later they made an ice well to keep perishable products cool. The "ice well" was made in very cold weather in winter. A barrel of water was poured each day into a cribbed well about 6 feet x 6 feet x 6 feet until a solid block of ice was formed. This was covered with shavings for insulation and usually lasted through the summer months. A small house covered the well. A trap door in the floor plus a small ladder let one down on to the ice surface. Homemade ice cream was a Sunday treat as one chipped out bits of ice for the ice cream maker.

Eaton's mail order service was used to purchase the necessary clothing requirements and in the earlier days they also handled staple groceries like tea, sugar etc. When a big Eaton's order arrived it was almost as exciting as the opening of Christmas parcels!

Wheat was hauled to the Mill in Battleford and exchanged for 100 pound bags of flour, wheat - the second section of the wheat kernel - and bran. In 1916 -- the year the house was built -- our mother baked a ton of flour into bread. At this time there were two hired men, the house builders, and a family of four.

Our parents attended church services in the Davis home until the little Anglican church was built at Eaton in 1908. Our mother told of walking 3 miles across the prairie to attend the organizational meeting of the Ladies' Guild. Also in 1908, Eaglegate School was opened and it was located just three quarters of a mile from the home. Many social activities were held there. There were also house parties in different homes with dancing until daybreak.

Always keen on sports (particularly cricket and football), our dad developed the one and only grass tennis court in the district. In the late 30's our lawn was the site of several summer garden parties. Here many of the young people of the area learned to play tennis. On Sundays it was not uncommon to have 16 or 20 for supper -- and there was always room for one more!

In 1935 a "Jiffy" lighting plant with storage batteries was installed in the house and then we had electric lights. The water system was not completed until the 50's when the power line came to the district.

In 1925 the Welfords became proud owners of their first car -- a Chevrolet touring model with removable curtains. On one occasion a long-distance call came for our dad and he was working on the other farm (1½ miles distant). In those days long distance calls were a rarity and were considered of great importance. Our mother had not yet learned to drive the car but she was always resourceful. We all helped push the car out of the make-shift garage since she did not know how to get it in reverse gear. With advice from Jack and Ted she got the motor running. Telling everyone to hang on, she bravely put her foot on the clutch, pulled the gear shift into low gear position, pulled down the gas feed lever, released the clutch, and with a jerk we were off. We travelled the two miles in low gear -- surely the slowest trip that car ever made. But we negotiated at least four corners without mishap! You can be sure that with my dad at the wheel for the happy-go-lucky journey the return trip was much faster!

Our dad took an active part in all progressive movements. He was an original member of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool and worked to get a farmer-owned elevator at Lilac. As a Justice of the Peace from 1908 till his death he was able to assist many local residents with minor legal matters. On one occasion the dining room became a court of law!

The following is a list of our dad's activities -- a list which he himself compiled in 1964 -- just four years before his death.

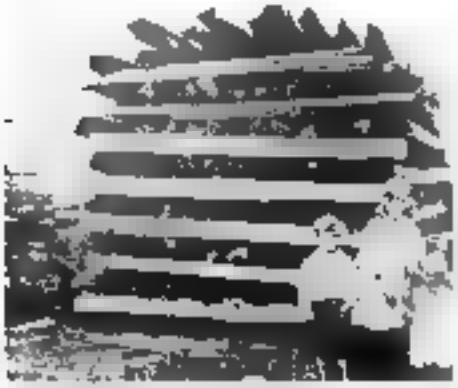
Appointed Justice of the Peace for Saskatchewan in 1908 -- 56 years

Helped organize and was first President of Riddell Rural Telephone Co. for 15 years and then director for another 15 years - 30 years

Member of Canadian Seed Growers' Association -- 36 years

President of Riddell Co-op Association -- 10 years

Chairman or Secretary of Eaglegate School -- 15 years



A pile of cedar posts purchased 1914 to fence the Welford Farm. These were all dug in by hand and lasted 50 years before being replaced.

Secretary of the Lilac Wheat Pool Committee — 18 years

Director of the Mayfield & Douglas Agricultural Society — 21 years

Member of the Saskatchewan Field Husbandry Association and made a life member in 1957 — 19 years

Director of the North Battleford Agricultural Society — 9 years

Ministers' Warden at St. Mary's Church, Lilac — 20 years

Statistical reporter — 36 years

Secretary of the Denholm Percheron Horse Breeders' Club — 10 years

Helped organize the Maple Grove Old Timers' Picnic starting 1965

Needless to say there were hard times and disappointing years when hail, drought, or frost destroyed promising crops. There were long, cold trips hauling wood from the Whitewood Lake area or grain to Ruddell. The depression of the 30's was another challenge to be faced, and while we had no money, we never went hungry. The biggest worry was meeting the mortgage payments on the farm, but our dad had the pleasure of receiving clear title to his land shortly before his death. He came to Canada as a "greeny" Englishman, but he watched the "experts," he asked questions, he was open-minded, and not afraid of work. It gave him great satisfaction to feel that he had played a part in developing one little corner of Saskatchewan.

Our dad died in 1949 and our mother in 1967. Both are buried in the Ruddell Cemetery.

Jack and Ted Welford

Not many of today's farmers can say that they live on the land which their father homesteaded, but this is a statement which Jack and Ted Welford can make. Both were born on the home farm at Lilac and are still actively engaged in farming. They attended Bethgate School which was about three-quarters of a mile from their home. Ted went to Ruddell for some high school and also attended a couple of six week winter courses at the University in Saskatoon. Both were members of the Lynx Patrol of the Richard troop of Boy Scouts.

Ted and Jack Welford.

Jack still keeps a small herd of the fine purebred Hereford cattle which he has built up over the years. He has also continued the production of good seed oats — oats which he carefully cleans on the farm. He took his father's place on the Ruddell Rural Telephone Board until it disbanded, and as a member of the Lilac Wheat Pool Committee until it folded up. He is interested in all sports and continued curling until a few years ago but now is content to be an enthusiastic spectator.

Ted won honors at Farm Boys' Camps and in later years has accumulated a number of curling trophies. He curls in the Battlefords and this past winter (1978-79) played 66 games. He has done some overseas travelling and enjoys yearly fly-in fishing trips to our northern lakes. He was a member of the Lilac Wheat Pool Committee for many years. His experience with deep wells enables him to help many neighbours with well problems and he is also a handy "Mr. Fixit" in the neighborhood. Indeed, both brothers are always ready to give a helping hand to their neighbors in a wide variety of tasks.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. H. Welford

Bill Welford and Nellie Prescesky were married on October 1, 1945, in Ruddell United Church. We started farming in the Lilac district with two milk cows, one sow, a team of horses and a few chickens, on a half-section farm. In the summertime we travelled in a 1927 Chrysler car, and reverted to a team and sleigh or cutter in the winter. Our cream and eggs were delivered to Lilac Station, and taken by train to North Battleford. Our mail was received at the Post Office, and our groceries were bought at H. Mabey's General Store in Lilac.

Curling in winter, and following the Lilac Softball Team in the summer was our chief entertainment. A

May 5, 1978 (l-r) Leon Kachmarsky, Ruth Welford, Anne Marie, Emil and Regan Wyrzykowski, Henry, Linda and Cristopher Welford, Brian and Pat Welford, Ross Welford, Bill and Nellie Welford.

trip to North Battleford was something special, and didn't happen very often.

Our life style changed somewhat in 1953, when the power came through — lights at a flick of a switch, a refrigerator, electric iron, and a toaster. We were living in "luxury". Later on brought the deep freezer, gas cookers, electric tools and a television.

Our horizons widened further when in 1958, our store and post office closed down. In 1971 the school closed and our children were bussed to Maymont.

Our oldest son Henry is married and farms in the Lilac area. Brian is married and is manager of the Co-op Pharmacy in North Battleford. Anne Marie is married and is a teacher in North Battleford, Ruth is going to Reeves Business College, and Ross is in Grade VIII at school. We have two grandsons — Christopher Wetteed and Regan Wasylowich.

Now we farm three quarters, keep 10-20 cattle, some 70-80 hogs and up to 300 laying hens. We still curl in the winter, watch our sons play softball in the summer; and have travelled up to 100 miles to attend an Oldtime Dance.

We've come a long way in 30 years!

The Wm. J. Whitehouse's Story

submitted by Mrs. Jessie Gray

Beyond the N.E. border of the present village of Maymont, Saskatchewan was located the Wm. J. Whitehouse's homestead — S.W. quarter 32-41-23-W 3rd. It had become their prized domain, when duly filed upon in Saskatoon, N.W.T., in mid June, 1903. Thereon lay their hopes of freedom and happiness in a new land. The Immigration Agent had assured Mr. Whitehouse of the area being well-wooded by aspen, willow and wild fruits. Other than a few cultivated acres little was altered or removed on the acreage, beyond that required to provide their home, fuel, and foods during their life-time. An intense pride in all pertaining to their home was dominant — nothing must be allowed to mar beauty or nature's pattern.

From the late Harold Coombs, close friend and neighbor, these few items of the early years of the William Whitehouse's were made available to us.

Born in Pennsylvania, U.S.A. in 1871, he was taken to Birmingham, England as an infant, where his father rejoined the family firm — pottery manufacturers. The latter remarried, later immigrating to South Australia with his growing family.

His own well kept journal traced Will's progress through schooling, apprenticeship, choir and church associations, implied a close family contact — described walking tours through lovely countryside.

A strong urge to return to England, culminated in setting out upon a voyage by sailing ship departing from the Australian port November 7th 1896 and docking at the port in England nearly five months later, April 17, 1897. The many gruelling, also equally fabulous experiences of those months, were recorded in some detail, within a lengthy poem he wrote on the ship proceeded Otra. Whitehouse could repeat it almost verse by verse.

While in Australia Will had corresponded with English relatives and friends, one of whom he married in 1898 — Miss Kate Sara Nichols, of Wallsend, England. She was proprietress of her late mother's "Draper" firm, which produced for sale all styles of ladies' white wear garments.

In 1901, Mr. and Mrs. Whitehouse became fascinated by the glamorous government offer of 160 acres of virgin land in Canada, this to be had for a ten dollar filing fee, plus specified improvements. Along with scores of Old Country families they too were advised and made ready to immigrate to Western Canada. It is notable that at thirty-two years, Will made his fourth ocean voyage — this time by steamship in mid June 1903.

After arriving by train at Saskatoon, N.W.T., with usual firm determination of pioneer folk, the two set about to assemble an ox team, wagon, tent, provisions and essentials. Some furniture was loaded, their cow tied behind the wagon — so the trek to their homestead began Saturday morning taking a north westerly route. By late afternoon they reached the ferry hall on the Saskatchewan River. A kindly manservice, driving a horse and two wheeled cart, assisted them to manipulate the steep descent, also gave invaluable aid in making the cow. On Sunday, there was a service at the store, picnic dinner and visiting enjoyed, before they moved on to their goal.

Eventually, the land was located, the true settlers, a start was made to make it "home". It was good news

Mrs. Whitehouse with Bridge and wagon, 1938. Mrs. Whitehouse was a great character. She loved anything pretty, could see beauty in things that the ordinary rush-in-the-street could not see. She had, all her life, a desire to paint. I have never forgotten her teaching, so much so that perhaps she would be pleased with my work today. Both she and her husband were well read and could quote chapter and verse from the Bible without any trouble. They were pioneers who helped in no small way the togetherness of the village and district. The above is a tribute to Mr. and Mrs. Whitehouse from a friend, Edith Shepherd.

that the survey for the proposed C N R. line was very close; indeed. Will with his six team assisted with the three mile grade west of the settlement. After that task was completed he later helped out as a clerk in Bess's Store.

The Community was growing rapidly — they were soon taking an active part in activities. Kate had a piano, both were musical and made new friends. Good reading was one of their hobbies, her great love was art for she was an accomplished artist. The walls of their modest home were literally covered by lovely paintings. Many friends and besides treasure tributes from her brush.

Each was firmly grounded in religion, faithful to their church. All Saints' in every way participating as long as health permitted.

It was unfortunate during the latter years, Mr. Whitehouse, through ill-health, became fanatical, not seeking medical care, living poorly, refusing assistance, becoming very withdrawn. Finally he was taken to hospital, very ill, where he passed away April 21, 1942 aged eighty-one years. His wife's death was in March 1953 in North Battleford Hospital, aged ninety-one years.

For those who knew them over the years — their appreciation of all phases of nature, keen interest in fellowmen, especially in war years; it will never be difficult to envision the God-fearing couple each of eccentric nature, pioneers who faced adversities with never a glance backward. For close to half a century Kate and Will had barely been more than a few miles from the precincts of their "homestead realm".

White History

John Grey White was born in Scotland in February of 1876, the youngest of a large family. His father passed away in early life. John came to Canada with his mother and other young members of the family to join the older brothers in Ontario. They settled in the Alvinston area. John worked in Manitoba on the Deloraine area before coming to Saskatchewan to file a homestead in the district which later became Reddell. He came with his friend Sam Cameron, in the fall of 1902. John filed on the NW of 13-42-14 W3rd and Sam on the SW of 13-42-14 W3rd. This quarter later belonged to Rose Stally. They returned to Deloraine for the winter to return in the spring of 1903. They lived together in a sod shack, the mound of which remains to this day. Many stories were told how many gophers used to be very close neighbors. They obtained their supplies and mail by walking or driving oxen to Battleford. Varied are the experiences they spoke of encountering. Springtime was had when the river ice was going out. John often spoke of jumping the ice blocks one time when the river jammed. Ernest Whitlaw had to find another way as he would not jump. On one occasion Sam Cameron came home with damp mail and it was much later that it

Friends of the Whites who came from Deloraine, Man. to live in Reddell. Back row — Rose Stally, Charlie Morrison, Mrs. Maud (nee Renton), Arthur W. Robinson, Mort Naylor, Sam Robinson, Lawrence Robinson, A. Ernie Whitlaw. Front row — Mrs. Lawrence Robinson, Mrs. Mort Naylor, Mrs. Renton (Mrs. Naylor's Mother), Mrs. Charlie Robinson, Mrs. Oswald Harper, John White, Mrs. Jean White.

was found out he had backed off the ferry at Battleford. These are but a few of the many experiences encountered.

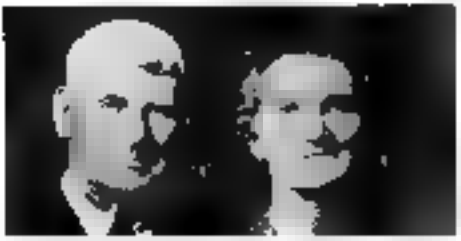
John took great pride in his team of white horses. In those days there would be gatherings at various homes throughout the area. Many dances were held to which John would take his fiddle. He could still fiddle a good tune up to the time of his death.

On January 1, 1908, John married May Elaine, eldest daughter of the family of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Morrison of Deloraine. He brought his bride to the house he had begun building on SW 13-42-14 W3rd in 1907. It is in this home that their youngest son, Charles, now lives. A kitchen on the north was added in 1929.

John and May White had two sons. The oldest, William John, born in December, 1908 and Charles Ivan, born in February 1910. John and May White were very strong supporters of the Church and active in church affairs. The church was built in 1908. John passed away in Saskatoon in January, 1949 and May in August of 1955, a great couple of pioneers who were always active in community affairs, always ready to lend a helping hand to those in need and always thoughtful of the needs of others.

History cannot be written without mentioning Dr. Schaich, the faithful family doctor who proved his worth many times in many ways.

How well we all remember the "Dirty Thirties". In those days everyone produced their own milk, eggs, chickens, pork and beef. Perhaps there are those who remember the local rings operated in different localities. Maybe you didn't have any money, but you weren't alone — neither did anyone else. Those were the days that our generation will never forget. In the '30's ' The Young Peoples Club put on many plays, pantomimes and parties with little or no expense. The



Mr. and Mrs. John C. White

charge at the hall was usually 10¢ or 15¢. For summer fun the Young People would load onto a big truck and go to Meeting Lake to spend a week or two. They stayed in tents and a luxurious time was had by all.

Bill (Wilbert) and Charlie walked 1½ miles to school in Ruddell. The school was one room but was soon expanded to a two room school. Their first teacher was Frances Reid, followed by Miss Jessie Duff, who became Mrs. Ephriam Reid.

School days were not without a few laughs. One episode that should be told is of the swimming hole south of the school. With 1½ hours at noon break the boys took their lunch pails to the swimming hole and had a swim each noon hour. One day the girls decided to go swimming too. The boys were ready to return to the school when about 3 or 4 girls came along. Being good boys, they went back to the school after watching the girls on the other side of pond undress and go in. The boys got to school just in time but the girls came straggling in about half an hour late. The teacher lined them up and asked where they had been. When they told the truth they all remained after school for the strap. When they got home their mothers gave them punishment and when the fathers heard more punishment was administered. Needless to say, the boys had no more visitors at the swimming hole. Anyway it made a lot of talk about town for a while.

School affairs were held with the neighbouring communities of Maymont and Baljennie. Charlie and Bill entered in several classes at these fairs. Silver coins were paid to the prize winners and success in a number of classes resulted in purses heavily weighted.

During World War I there was a great need for money for the Red Cross. Bill and Charlie had a small strip of ground which they cared for. They sowed rows and rows of wheat by hand using a tobacco pouch with a draw string to bear their grain while sowing. They cared for their plot all summer, cut the wheat by hand in the fall, hauled it to the threshing machine with their black dog pulling a small wooden wagon. The wheat was then hauled to the elevator and the money earned donated to the Red Cross.

Bill (William) continued his education at Battleford, staying at the Presbyterian school home. Some of the others at the school home at the same time were Ellen and Annie Reid of Maymont and Velma Anderson, Annie Martinson and Ena Foster of Denholm.

Bill won the highest aggregate prize at Farm Boys Camp in 1923 and again in 1924 which provided a scholarship to University. Illness occurring in January 1925, terminated his attendance at high school and delayed entrance to the University of Saskatchewan until 1928. When Bill became ill in 1925 a sun porch was added on to the house by Mr. Arrowsmith where Bill convalesced for a year after returning from the sanatorium.

Graduating from the College of Agriculture in 1933 he proceeded to post graduate work at the University of Saskatchewan and later to the University of Minnesota. He received an appointment to the staff of the Dominion Forage Crops at the University of Saskatchewan Laboratory in 1935 and became officer-in-charge of that laboratory in 1939 which position he held until 1966. In that year he was appointed head of the Crop Science Department at the University of Saskatchewan. This was followed by appointments in 1964 as Dean of Agriculture at the University of Saskatchewan, a post he held for ten years until his retirement in 1974. Bill also conducted important forage crop research both with the University and formerly with federal agricultural services.

Dr. White has published numerous scientific papers mainly on the breeding of forage crops. He has held executive positions in various organizations which include the following: President — Biological Science Association; President - Saskatoon Branch Agricultural Institute of Canada; Vice-President Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists; President — Saskatoon Y.M.C.A. and President of the Boy Scouts of Canada, Saskatchewan Provincial Council.

Bill married Edythe M. Amy of Saskatoon, who was born and raised at Greenfell, Saskatchewan, on December 18, 1934. They raised a family of four, Patricia Mae, William Harry, David Charles and Faye Elinor. They now have thirteen grandchildren. Bill and Edythe live in Saskatoon. They are and always have been very active in church work, community projects and devote much time visiting the sick at hospitals and the elderly and lonely. A good part of the winter months are spent travelling and enjoying warmer climates.

Charles remained on the farm throughout the years helping with the work that mixed farming entails. He was always interested in art work and through the years has taken lessons in oil painting, sketching, water color and art in all phases. In the last few years he has been keen on fabric painting or tube painting which has opened up a whole new list of possibilities.

Charles married Margaret Edinborough of Baljennie on October 28, 1938 in St. Bridget's Anglican Church at Baljennie. The officiating minister was Rev. G. B. Greenhalgh. (In the early 1940's this church was burned to the ground when struck by lightning.)

Throughout his days of farming, Charlie has been active in community affairs. He was a Sunday School teacher and superintendent for many years. He also held active positions on the church board and church session. He served as secretary of the school board for a period of time and later was a trustee for many years.

Charlie also spent many years as supervisor for organizers of Farm Boys Camp sponsored by Mayfield and Douglas Agricultural Society. He supervised boys from Mayfield going to North Battleford, Saskatoon and Regina exhibitions. He was ably assisted by Ken Moore and later by Gordon Gray. Charlie was also leader of Shepherd Multipet 4-H for six years.

He retired from active farming in 1975 but still lives on the original home farm taking a turn at field work when needed. He and Margaret has assisted with farm duties, being busy looking after cream, eggs, chickens and turkeys throughout their active years. She also plays an active part in the Ladies Aid (later to become the U.C.W. and the Homemakers Club which name has now been changed to the Women's Institute).

Charles and Margaret still enjoy being busy and spend much time in the garden among their vegetables, fruit and flowers. They travel in the winter months and are at home during the summer enjoying visits from friends and family.

Charles and Margaret raised two sons, Ivan Alfred and Bruce John. After the usual years and Rural school days, Ivan Alfred started his career working for a time in a garage and embarking on a mechanical course at Tech in Saskatoon. After completing his course, he returned to North Battleford to work for a short time as a mechanic.

In 1958 he took up farming, first on a part-time basis. He now owns and operates the home farm where his parents reside in the original John Wilson home.

Ivan married Elaine Sjoberg of Spears on May 10, 1957, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sjoberg. Ivan and Elaine now reside on the Albert Sjoberg farm at Spears.

Ivan is interested in aviation while Elaine is a music teacher and a legal stenographer.

Following school, Bruce John took several courses at tech and vocational institutes. He now is a fully qualified electrician and operates his own business in Prince Albert.

Bruce John married Yvonne Marie Cotnoir at Albertville, Saskatchewan, on September 6, 1958. They have lived in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Yellowknife, N.W.T., Weyburn, Meadow Lake and now reside in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. Bruce started farming with his dad but a serious accident in January, 1969 made it impossible for him to carry on farming. He is now an electrician, passing his class with high standing. Yvonne is a Certified nurse which has proved most helpful in raising their three children, two girls and one boy.

The History of the Wiley Family at Maymont and Fielding

by Velma (Wiley) Bjarkason and Betty (Wiley) Pannell

In the fall of 1934 my dad and my mother met two brothers, four-year old Walter, and three-year old, Ralph, moved to Fielding from the dried-out southern part of Saskatchewan near Kincaid. The government might move a farmer out of the dust bowl of the southern part of the province if they had a place to go to. We were given a box car on the train in which to transport our belongings. With the rest of the family quite ahead, my dad loaded it with household effects, machinery, four horses and two cows, one of them was milking, with enough feed for a week. He was to travel in the car with the animals. The train went through Saskatoon where it laid over a couple of days; so the duty of milking, feeding the animals and sleeping in the car with the animals became a tedious one. Finally the trip to Spiritwood was made and he unloaded the wagon, hooked it with the horses and things hitched up the horses and with the cows tied on behind was ready to make the last miles of the journey. Grandpa Sloan and Uncle Floyd were on hand to help him. The first trail of the trek was to cross the Saskatchewan River. The river had just frozen over but no one else had been across it yet so they were thankful when they had made it across safely and were on their way to the Lewis place, a mile west of Fielding.

It was on this farm in May, 1936 I came on the scene having been preceded by brother, Wilfred in 1935 and followed by sister, Betty in 1941. We were on this farm till 1946 when we moved to the Ardley place eight miles north of Maymont which Dad bought through Fowler Bretton, then-star of the stage.

Sorrow came to our family in 1938 when Wilf died four days before his fifteenth birthday. In the next few years Ralph and Walter both started their homes in B.C. and in 1950 I also left Saskatchewan to attend college in B.C. and after two more years of studies in B.C. and summers in Saskatchewan, my folks also migrated to the warmer climes in May.

My mother went on to her reward in 1974 but we're very thankful to have our dad still living in Surrey. Walter resides in New Westminster where they have also two of their children married. Marge (Mrs. Jim Sim) living in Surrey and Stuart married to Gail and living at Fort McMurray, Alberta. Laura is still at home when she's not away at college. Ralph lives in Campbell River and they have two married daughters close by; Bethene (Mrs. Herb Hall) and Beverly (Mrs. Bob Grant). Their oldest daughter, Brenda, resides in England. Blanche is in Kamloops and Brian in Edmonton. Betty's three children – Rick, Ted and Betty-Jo are also in school as are our three youngest – Tony, Ben, and Tammy. Tim and Becky are both working but still at home until late fall when we lose our eldest married.

Memories

by Adeline Williams

I was born on my parents' homestead, just across the road from where Hugh Ryan now lives. My Grandmother Fast and Dr. Scratch took care of us. In those days all babies were born at home with a midwife as nurse and usually a doctor at time of birth. The mother had to stay in bed ten days.

We had sod buildings, and a spring to get our water

SS No. 708914 Date 6/
PARTICULARS of SHIPMENT
BUYERS OF
CREAM—EGGS—POULTRY
INDIVIDUAL ATTENTION TO EVERY SHIPMENT
WE APPRECIATE YOUR PATRONAGE
Dominion Creamery
Co-operative

Cream cheque stub, March, 1941.

from. Many steam threshing outfits got their water from it over the years.

My parents moved to Waroona for a short time as my father worked for the C.N.R. He had been on the Grand Trunk Railroad in Ontario and was qualified to be an Engineer. He had a leather-cased certificate of which I was very proud. My brother still has it.

My mother did not want him to continue on the railroad so they moved back to the homestead, which they later sold to Tom Miller, and bought the south half of 26, 41, 12. I Dave Fast's and Everton Denham's homesteads. I I grew up there and worked there till I was twenty-three. Mother got sick in 1929 and was never really well again. I was christened in my Grandfather Fast's house by L. Amacher, minister from Rosthern. My folks also were married there as they had church in their home from the time it was built in

Georgie and Mary touching up the saw

Cook car, Adeline on pony.

1908. My mother was the organist, and I still have her organ which was brought from Nebraska.

My dad and Herman Hansen bought a steam threshing outfit, also an engine and gang plow, which my brother, Floyd, and I used to like to ride on when they were breaking up the southwest quarter of twenty-six. Also they broke the west half of Section 25 which belonged to Angus Smith. Later Herman went back to the U.S.A. and Dad bought his share.

My dad farmed with horses. the first years he did it with one outfit. After my sister Kate got out of school she drove an outfit too until my brother was out of school. When I finished school my dad was shipping stock for the Livestock Pool. so I drove his outfit when he was away, and I loved every minute of it. I really like horses and riding horseback. Ellie Brownridge gave me her saddle and bridle when she left the district in Fielding. Horseback, Bennett buggy or walk was the way of travel then. Also the closed in cutters with a stove in was a real luxury.

I went to Neepawa School, even in the barn which we used after the first school was burned till the new one was complete. My teachers were Mr. T. A. Amoss, Miss Dolly Larsen, Miss Emma Nutting, Miss H. Hawthorne and Miss Lucille Gifford. We walked to school in summer and were driven in winter. For awhile we drove with a horse and buggy. I liked the school fairs we used to have. The teachers and some parents made the banners for each school. Two of the big boys carried the banner and the rest of us followed in pairs, one school right behind the other. It was quite a long parade route. Each school had an identification yell. When one finished the next school started. Our yell was:

Ziliiky kye yre zip!
Neepawa Public School
Zip, zip, zip!
Canna, Keena, waa, waa,
Wah chicka, hoppa hop!
Neepawa! Neepawa!
Rah! Rah! Rah!

And another was:

Rhoda Rhoda, Rhoda, Rhoda.
Bow, wow, wow!
Chicka Rhoda, chicka Rhoda
Chow Chow! Chow!
Rhoda Rhoda, Rhoda Rhoda,
Rah! Rah! Rah!
We are the pupils of Pleasant"

We got prizes on many things -- scrapbooks, school work, fancy work, cooking and a lot more.

The Municipality used to pay a cent a tail for gopher tails and two cents each for crow eggs and magpie legs so kids made money that way. My sisters and I decided to make some money so with the express wagon, a cream can, a pail, and the dog we set off. All went well till we drowned out the first gopher. The dog wouldn't touch a wet one, and none of us would kill it, so it got a bath and we went home. Project ended.

We used to go to town on Saturday nights and watch the train come in and then walk the street by groups or pairs. "Lover's Lane" was very pretty then. Horses and rigs all the way up was the surest farmers west for those who might not know. At the end of the street was Mike Burns' house. Mrs. Burns kept boarders, three teachers and Miss Mildred Rutherford who clerked in Gunn's Store for many years. I think Mike Burns had the livery barn. They lived in Maymont later, also where the park now is.

This is a picture of the Orange Day Parade. I'm not sure if it is Mr. Walton or Mr. Parker on the horse. Following are Mr. George Lowery who played the flute or piccolo and Mr. Fred Fagell who played the drums and of course the Lodge members following. It was always a special day for us as my Grandfather Ben Sloan was a very enthusiastic member, also my dad was a member. Everyone was quite proud of the orders and he wore them with pride.

In the early thirties we had twenty-eight bobos at my parents' place in one day. They had no money so had to eat wherever anyone would feed them. We always felt sorry for them and never turned anyone away. In 1933 two of my brothers rode the rods from Lloydminster to North Battleford, and then walked the rest of the way home four miles east of Maymont. They had been threshing in the Lloyd Area. Of course by due time the war came on and they were not bums anymore as they were needed after all.

After Ted Glenn came back from World War I, he started showing picture shows in the towns around, a lot of which were real good.

Another thing I really enjoyed was the Chautauqua. They were all live talent and had programs all day each day for a week. The Swiss Bell Ringers were something to be remembered and one show Daddy Long Legs somehow stays at my memory. They had to be guaranteed a certain amount of money before they would come, so a committee had to sign to pay if the door receipts did not cover it. George Williams and Brian Andrew were two of the signers. I cannot remember the rest. The last year they were quite a bit short and had been home short before so they decided not to continue.

As we grew up Mother used to play the organ and we all sang hymns a lot which I did enjoy. Later my sister played the piano. Also she used to play piano and I the mandolin with her at the Fielding Community Club programs occasionally. Mrs. Bud Summers had a class of girls who danced the Sword Dance to Bill White's bagpipes and they were often on the program. We also had really good Club Swinging taught by Mrs. Archie Spence which was on the program often. Of course there were many other really good items.

Fielding used to have a Travelling Library from which I have read many good books. We also enjoyed the continued stories in the magazines. Some of my favorites were People's Popular Monthly, Hearth and Home (which was thirty-five cents for a year's subscription), Western Home Monthly and McLarys. There were many others too.

In 1930 the roads my dad hated for the cream car quit and there was no use else available so my mother went to do the cooking. My sister Frieda was three months old then so mother took me along to help her. We kids all got the whooping cough and of course Frieda did too. It was a long fall a threshing that year so it was getting quite late and cold. After we moved back into the house again Frieda got pneumonia and bronchitis, the doctor thought from the change in air conditions. She could not overcome it. I was by mother a chair as she held her in her arms as her little soul departed to be with Jesus. I looked after her for Mother as much it was really hard to see her go. Now I realize it was better for her and I'll see her again one day. I can still see that little white casket and "Gloria Agar" wreath my parents had bought for her. Her funeral was from the house as was Mother's in 1966. She had been an invalid for eleven years. I also remember the sad family gathering at my Grandfather Sloan's when Uncle Hart went to the First World War. He was in the fourth battalion. It was a much happier gathering when he came back in 1919.

We milked cows, raised chickens and pigs. The groceries were got the first years with butter and eggs taken to C. W. Dickinson's Store, which was the only way to sell them then. Later we shipped cream in eight-gallon cans which we took to town with a horse and buggy. Also eggs in thirty-dozen crates. The prices

1923 Orange Day Parade.

were not good, so in 1926 a Poultry Pool was started at Fielding. The chairman was H. C. Baker. The committee consisted of Mrs. W. Hill, Mrs. Joe Prechtl, Mrs. James Garnett. The secretary was Mrs. J. L. Skaga and the shipping agency was given to Mrs. Burt Brickwell. The date was March 23, 1926. They worked with the Wheat Pool for picnics, etc. The prices of No. 1 Northern cash wheat at Winnipeg for the month of December during sixteen years will be of interest perhaps.

1910	$ .98
1911	1.09
1912	.90
1913	.90
1914	$1.03
1915	.97
1916	1.34
1917	2.23
1918	$2.34
1919	2.09
1920	2.03
1921	1.15
1922	1.01
1923	.87
1924	1.56
1925	1.27

In those years the grain was all stored in the elevators and anyone who held it and paid storage on it (hoping the prices would go up) lost most of it. It was very hard to pay mortgages and some people lost their land. Others lived very sparingly so as to make the payments.

In the early thirties the crops were very bad so after my sister got out of school, in August 1930 I went to Alberta to work first on a farm for eleven dollars a month, later in a hotel for fifteen dollars a month, which I sent home to help out there. I liked the people and country up there but mother was failing and wanted me to stay closer by, so in 1934 I worked in the Fielding District for four dollars a month. In mid-summer two of my brothers were homesteading so I went home to drive an outfit in the fields. I had planned on filing on a homestead in Alberta a short distance from their homesteads so I had to spend six months there to qualify, but they did not go back so I did not either. In the fall I worked for Mrs. Williams doing housework and chores, milking cows, etc. during harvest and threshing, and also in the spring and fall of 1935. I was at a number of different places the rest of the time. Usually girls were hired to do housecleaning, painting, etc., chores including milking cows, for sickness, of which babies were born. People in most cases could not afford any help they did not have to have. In the spring, February 17, 1936, Geordie Williams and I got married. We did not have any special clothes or a honeymoon as there was no money. We came to Saskatoon on the morning train, got married at St. Andrew's Manse by Reverend Brown, and came back on the evening train. We've had a very happy life together but much too short. He was quiet and very kind. We both liked living things up, mountain and prairie, and always went places together and worked together. Yes, there actually were trains for passengers each way everyday at that time. Not only was it convenient for passengers but handy for shipping cream and eggs too.

In June, 1951 we bought our first car, a Ford Model A Roadster, using the money from three hundred and thirty dozen eggs. In 1952 we got the first tractor, a M.H. Junior Twin-Power Massey Harris. I was very sorry to see the horses go. We did keep four for putting up feed, doing the garden, and we hauled wheat with them until we got a truck in 1957.

In 1958 the boys sold two cows and a bull for a small a ground. Some change now! The best grade of cream, Test 42, brought thirty cents a pound.

Geordie had Tom Harris' place rented for three years — 40, 41 and 42. The Soldier Settlement Board offered him a chance to buy it for sixteen hundred dollars, but he did not want to go in debt for it so refused it. During the mid-fifties and early sixties he had Oliver Wiley's east quarter rented. He helped on building the first curling rink, also did volunteer work on the Memorial Hall. He was very fond of curling and curled for a couple years but with a lot of chores to do it was hard to get away so he quit. He also loved baking, but did not get going very often as the work came first. We used to go picking berries and have a picnic out of it too. For many years most of our fruit was saskatoon, cranberries and rhubarb. We used a lot of dried apricots and sodaberries for pies. We have grown a lot of strawberries and raspberries since.

Geordie came to this place N.E. 28-41-13, which he loved very much, with his parents who homesteaded here in 1903. I don't believe he was ever more than two hundred miles from here. He was born in Balmoral, Manitoba in 1899 December eleventh. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Robert Williams. Geordie often told me of his Grandfather Daniel Williams who used to come out to visit them. He was fond of books and Geordie used to read to him. He also read to me all through the years, and I made quilts, mats and knitted. We both enjoyed books, and I have miss those times now he has gone. Now the Maymont Library, thanks to Mrs. Brohon, gets me tapes from the C.N.I.B. which I do enjoy. My eyes are so I cannot read, the eyes used to read books in the closet (after chores and getting Mary from school. Of course, I did not need to go but we always were together when possible. We had one daughter, Mary Louise, born April 30, 1939. She was born on this farm. Doctor Scratch, Nurse Pat McGrath, and Mrs. Erma Andrew were in attendance. Mary attended Maymont School.

Geordie had four sisters — Elsie (Mrs. Bert Robinson), Janet (Mrs. Tom Harris), Vera (Mrs. Jim Shelton), Esther (Mrs. Earl Lewis) and one brother, Elmer, who had the same birthday only ten years later. He passed away June 14, 1980.

Geordie's father Robert Williams brought the 6 h.p. Rumely 12 from Walt Lewis who homesteaded N. Geordie and his brother used to tell me of the prairie fires they had fought. One time they saved the neighbour's house but could not save the barn and hay. There were a lot of fires when the prairie was wide open ploughed or burned easily. When it was the best of feed for it was still good even in the fall. There is no prairie now to speak of as most many wild flowers either. Geordie got a prize for bees wild flower collection when he went to school. He had his leg broken by a horse and was saved by a dog and had many scars for the rest of his life. His father passed away suddenly October 23, 1929. Geordie helped his mother with the farm and all that had to be done. His youngest sister was just starting to school also so he had two turns at taking children to school.

Those days taking out brush was done with horses and two people one to drive the team the other to cut roots. We farmed about the same for many years. Each winter Geordie got up nearly five to thirty loads and most of the time ended it with the tractor. Sometimes we had a crew saw and the last years we had our own saw - circular - and cut each load at night after he got home. He sawed and I packed the blocks and we cut our year's fence posts out of the straight ones. After we got the yard light in 1967 it was better. He always piled the wood when he split it. When Mary was little he made a room in the side of the pile and put a board roof over it for a playhouse. Needless to say that wood wasn't burned the wood stayed for quite a few years. He also made a snowshoe with an ice pick the width of the sled and small enough to hold it all. It took many pails of water which had to be carried a long ways but it was really used a lot.

In 1936 a golf course was made on the Williams farm and many people came to play. They had a tournament each year which was quite interesting. In May, 1938 Geordie was presented with a gold bag and five clubs.

In 1939 while mowing on the golf course Elmer Williams was thrown from the mower and cut his right hand off. It was one never to be forgotten day. His mother did all she could to help him. I ran to Ernie Andrews a neighbour. Ernie, then to Tom and Janet's place to get Geordie who was working on the land there. He left immediately. Janet and I washed back a bit later but they had already taken Jim to the hospital. Mary crawled up to the top step of the stairs and quietly stayed till I could get to her. It was a very hard time for Jim but he did get to use his hook very well and wrote with his left hand.

Geordie helped many people with sick cows, also was a bricklayer and made many chimneys, and a few basements also. He did carpenter work for many people as well as all our own. He and Tom built our house 24 by 28 - in 1948.

Peter, my brother, helped him dig the cellar. I helped on the rest of the building. He commercial, and cut, and I washed. We did not have a cow stable with a roof that did not leak until 1948 and we always milked cows. When it was to be shingled it was getting cold, and I being scared of high places told Geordie if he put a load of straw by it I would get up there, so he did but said if I did fall I would go between it and the barn. I did not fall and we got it done. The old stable did for many years. The plywood one was a treat.

He made all our cupboards even chrome top table. We always worked together and since I liked outside work I often helped on the land, also fencing, etc. Since we milked cows there was feed to put up (ha). He made rope out of sisal hands by breaking them together and twisted them on a rope machine he made. Many people got rope made on it but used harder twine which made it much easier. He worked in his workshop a lot and had things arranged conveniently. He made butcher knives out of steel files and pulling knives out of inner tube blades also many other things.

In 1971 he was in an accident and had expected to live. He was in the shaker room at the Lloydminster Hospital in Saskatchewan for two weeks. They kindly let me stay with him each day which I greatly appreciated. The doctors all said there was no hope but with many people praying and very good care he came through. Doctor Paine a very good doctor was quite pleased with his recovery though a blood vessel had been injured and pressed on a nerve so he walked with very limited. Doctor Cline told me he could have a cerebral hemorrhage any time. He farmed right to the end and shovelled grain the day before the hemorrhage came on. On December 7 1971 he went to the Alberta Home.

I farmed for two years with the help of my grandsons, who were both going to school but due to ill health and overnight fading I have had to rent the farm this year. However I would like to be out on my tractor I still have dreams to follow Geordie. Over all the years he brought me wild roses to their season as I roses there now. My little great-grandchildren love to play with me as often as she can and often brings me small pies she has made. We (previous) sat there together and they taste as good as they did when I was a kid. I have nine grandsons and two granddaughters, all whom I love dearly, and pray God will guide them through life.

Hoist and Dorothy (Reid) Wilson

I took my schooling in Maymont, then on to City Hospital School of Nursing in 1952 graduating in 1955. I spent my holidays always at Maymont.

Dr. Arvatch called on me to go out "to camp" with him — At times I was called to do a bit of midwifery when he was out of town.

I do recall going on a case with Dr. Arvatch to an Indian reservation. The Indian woman had a kidney condition. Doc instructed me to get a sample of urine — the woman couldn't speak English — after many

practical demonstrations and work to do. I was able to present the urine samples to Doc. He thought it was a great joke.

He had one rather serious psychiatric [illegible] something [illegible] on as a patient in the hospital in those days.

I married Gwen Wilson [illegible] CWS Cdian agent in 1941.

We had two children, Lorraine and Andy. Lorraine married Ron Wallace; both teaching in Collegiate in Saskatoon. They have two children. Andy married Valerie Parish. Andy works for the Bay — they have two children. We are all living in Saskatoon.

Battle died in October 1977.

Mr. Charles Wood

The following letter was written by the late Charles Wood in answer to a letter from Christabelle Bastiste, a student at Lilac School, as part of a Homemakers project to celebrate the Fiftieth Anniversary of Saskatchewan.

I arrived in Saskatoon on the seventeenth of February, 1903. It was lovely weather, thawing, and for hours at night until March 6. I looked around and I met Nels Dechbrennan and M. Hilbert. They were looking for homesteads so we looked around the livery barns. There were quite a lot of homeseekers and others came broke but pretty wild in the way they pushed on the land. They we found out where the land office was. It was on the side where Nutana is now. Its buildings on single land office and a small lumberyard shop. We started to cross the river on the railway bridge which was no place. As we got half way across the train came round a bend so we ran across the timbers. It just felt like we were going into the river. We got off as quick as possible, and found another bridge, and we got to land office and found out there was land at Rosthern. I bought a team of yearly Percherons mares and an old wagon. It had a broken up it so I did not have to hobble the horses when going down hills one pulled the other. When I bought the team it was my idea to move across cold, but it did not pan out that way as a storm was too light to break the prairie. We left Saskatoon the last week in February. When we got to Borden one of my horses went sick so we stayed for a few days and looked around at the land, but it was too sandy for my liking. At Borden they were unloading tiles and steel. We met Mr. Lovelace there and he said he was going west so we all stuck together and stayed at his place while we looked our land. Then on March 8 we started for Battleford. There were Dechbrennan, Hilbert, two Lovelaces and myself.

When we got to the river there was two feet of water on the ice so we saw a load of wood coming and asked the driver for the last piece to cross. He said to follow him, so his wife got in my wagon as the wagon got wet. He went across with the wood, and we followed and so we went into fifteen feet of water. The Lovelace came over the side into two feet of water and ran for the shore and shouted, "Leave the old man." I threw the woman out and Dechbrennan the old man. We were in three quarters of an hour before we got the team out. The man with the wood asked his side if that was right. The team have been as the shock like a log. The wagon floated out. By that time there were quite a few there that wanted to cross as they pulled the wagon out. They did not dare to cross. The blankets, maps, trusses etc. were lost. Then I had to help the man with the wood up the bank. I got some dry clothes and dressed. Then I got the team out of the barn, and a settlers load was just over down to the river to fish out the bark wheels. I stood on the front wheels and there was a bunch of men holding the wheels with logging chains. The water was spinning and the rims all round as ever, and let the wheels move, and so I went head first. I never could swim but it did not take me long to get out. By that time it was freezing and the wind was blowing. It felt a bit cold but I walked across the river and up to the Queen's Hotel. They knew I was coming, and as I entered the hotel I was met with quite a few glasses of strong stuff and then to bed, but never rang. I was fine. We went down to the river and it was frozen hard enough to walk on so we waited a long to get the wheels out.

After dinner I went and filed on the land March 8, 1903. NW ¼ 23-29-13 W 3rd. You know everybody seemed to be after your designs. This was evident as I bought things necessary for the wagon. There was a log shack about 12 x 12 at Duchbrennan's land so I stayed there until I got up a shack. We had the team in with us. We used to put the feed out in the daytime and back at night. There was not much room. The team ought not to down but they were quite a household using around your feet. I did not sleep much you can imagine how the bed and cookstove was in the morning. I got my shack built 16 x 20. I did not put a floor in the bedroom as I used it for the horses. Then I bought a load of hay and put it quite close to the shack. I did not think about fuel until later when I saw a prairie fire coming. I was eating breakfast and I thought I would stick onto the plow later on but it was there before I could do anything. I managed to find a spot and I beat it and believe it burned me happy enough. That was my first prairie fire. The smoke and heat was sickening.

I had never seen that had been broken before. I plowed. A gal wanted breakfast with whom I had boarded with in the old country. I had no instrument but I made them out of willows and poles they worked well. Then I started to break but the team was a little light to break steady so I traded Richard for three grown oxen. I got two to work first to get them broken in, but after a few rounds they were tired. They had long horns. They fought around until they got their horns stuck in the ground, and tied themselves in a knot. I knew I had to put the other plow on. I had to get a new hitch. You know in those days there wasn't anything around to make things with but I got them working and I broke for my neighbours and some for myself.

During the summer I built a sod barn, put up hay and bought a disc for forty-five dollars from Fielding. It is still in use. It was used by most of my neighbours for a few years. When the crop was ready I got Mr. Little to cut it for me. I stacked it and threshed it by Pritchard's outfit. I had one hundred fifteen bushels. My bill was five dollars. I think I have the bill yet. Then I hauled firewood and cut it up, banked the house with manure as I intended Mr. Hibbert to live in it and took what my room while I went to Prince Albert to work. I thought I had better get a little more wood so Hibbert and I started to get wood. When we were loaded there was a fire running, so we got in the open and started a fire and put a piece burnt. We got the team tied and lay down with our face to the ground. When the fire swept by we started for the home and when nearing home I saw smoke around the house. I burned and looted at last home the dry straw all my wood gone (two hay stacks, — one was saved by my neighbour's room as they were around it when I got home. Haystack, pig trough, and handles off my plow. I thought a lot of these things in those days. That was two fires in one year. The grass grew over them fast.

I started to Prince Albert in November. It was up upon hill. Was it rain. I got a job fishing, then a cook job I did not like, then driving a team with one hundred thirty miles hauling fuel to Prince Albert and stopped them to the States. I quit at the end of January, 1886 as I wanted to get some logs to build a barn and granary. I went to Mr. Little's to get my axe sharpened. I went on to back as I had broken one to ride. The shack was cold so I put on a good fire and then went to feed the oxen. When I got to the house the roof was on fire. I picked up the broom to beat it out but the broom made it burn better. Then I picked up the tent and when I got outside it was on fire. I saved one blanket and a coat. I took my axe and broke the wall where my trunks were but of no use. I had done a thing I never did before — took my watch and money out of my pocket and put them in a cupboard. I lost everything except what I had on. So I was broke again. I sat on a snowbank and watched the fire. It was forty below zero. So I picked up my bedding, coat, and six grain sacks that were in the barn. That was my bedding for the year. Then I went over to Hibberts with my bed and lay on the floor. I pretty near froze.

Next day I fixed up the barn, put tin on the roof from my trunks. Next morning I lit the fire and then went to feed the oxen which were tied in a straw shed next to the barn. Then I saw the roof was on fire. I at once took off my gloves to smite the caps and cut the roof and threw off the roof and then the front of the barn caught fire so I threw it away. With a swing and it did not burn so fast. But I froze all my fingers stubs. Then I hunted for my gloves, found them but they did not feel very good but I had nothing else to wear. Then I went over to Nelsons and stayed until I got lumber, on time, to build a shack — One pit of lumber and the old stoves after being through the fire were not very good. After a while I got a roll of tar paper and papered the outside which stopped the wind. Then I went across the river to get logs to build a barn and granary. Then were slow making those trips but I got the banking up that spring. Then I put in crop and then took a job breaking fifty acres and backsetting for Dunford to have some pay as soon as I started to work but no pay came. That was 1886. He thrashed me in 1887 and cleared me up. But I broke a few acres for other neighbours which helped out in grub. There was quite a few shack mates near to the shack so I used them and a lot of prairie chickens and rabbits.

I bought a gang plow and had Dickenerman's sang and I put a disc on the plow which was a sure load.

In the spring of 1886 I bought a pony, an mare, he was a running up the oxen. The oxen would stray away so I used to watch at the plow and they had a round where I had worked. In the fall I used to let them go to a slough north of me. At night I used to fetch them in to a place that was fenced. This night I went for them about 9.00 P.M. This pony had a cream colored colt and as I got to the slough I could see a colt on both sides of me and it stayed until I got home and let the pony go. It turned out to be a coyote. It followed me to the shack and made pathetic sounds. I took the gun and fired and missed. I followed it in a bluff and shot again. I went next morning but no coyote.

The first car I saw was a Ford driven by O. Harper.

The first radio was Miles Stalker's and W. Agar's with earphones.

The gas tractor I saw was Turnbull's. I don't know the dates.

Mr. Charles Wood

by Elizabeth (Patterson) Wood

Mr. Charles Wood arrived in Saskatchewan in 1903 and in 1910 Jessie Rowlandson came from England and they were married that year. They had eleven of a family: George (now deceased), Mary (now deceased), Peter, Edith (now Mrs. Carl Johnston), Jim, Jesse, Allan, Fred, Bertie, Henry and Thelma (now Mrs. Elmer Smith).

Charles Wood was a pioneer farmer and was an ardent gardener, keeping many families in vegetables during the depression years. He died in 1950. Mrs. Jessie Wood continued living on their original farm till her death in 1968. They had twenty-four grandchildren before their deaths and adored each and everyone of them.

They were true pioneers and in the early days held an open house for anyone who came along and were a word of help.

Tom Woods History

written by Tom Woods

Tom Woods arrived at Maymont, April, 1911 as agent for the North West Oil Company, Ltd. to manage the Bulk Storage Tanks and Oil Warehouse.

Tom bought a lot at the corner of Main Street and Railway Avenue, North, across the road from Bill Sowden's Hotel. On the lot, Tom built a gas service station, workshop and living quarters. He put in an air compressor for the tire repair trade and tools for the motor car and truck trade, putting in a good stock of items to keep the travelling public moving pleasantly. Now he was ready to open the business to be known as Tom Woods' Service Station.

For a month or two, things were quite slow, however, they started to pick up and kept moving along quite satisfactorily and Tom needed a partner.

Tom's girl friend, Isabel Baker, of Richard, was on the staff of the Provincial Hospital at North Battleford and not too happy to leave. Nevertheless Tom and Isabel were married in the Anglican Church, North Battleford, November 18, 1931 and after a brief honeymoon they returned to Maymont.

The 1930 years were hot, dry, and dusty. Wind, dust, and tumbleweed were blowing down the roads filling fence corners and ditches. The year 1937 was very bad. Lots of farmers were looking for work and a spot to settle.

By staying and being on call day and night, every day in the year, Isabel and Tom kept things on the move and ahead.

September 21, 1933, being a happy event — a daughter Kay, was born with the best of care from Doc Scratch and Mrs. Oliver Andrew. This made one more human to keep us busy.

Business was getting better each year and they started delivering to the farms at all times as needed: Gas, oil, grease, Massey Harris Machine and Implement parts and repairs, also weed spray and binder twine. Elvin Walton, motor mechanic, worked in the repair shop.

We had a musical group and played for dances, meetings and social events quite often loading our instruments on to a truck and driving down to the river bank for a church service or picnic.

Getting the 1930's out of the way with the wind, dust, tumbleweed and grasshoppers helped our feelings a lot.

The 1940's and 50's were very much better with business improving each year.

Tom served on the Maymont Village Council, was Fire Chief, and also Overseer for a number of years.

The big event of the Woods was the marriage of their daughter, Kay, to George Russell of Speers. The wedding being held in the United Church at Maymont, August 7, 1953 at 2:00 P.M.

In December, 1958 Tom and Isabel thought after twenty-eight years of being at the service station business it was time for a change. The business was sold to Lloyd Parker of Maymont. Tom and Isabel retired to North Battleford.

Jesse and Mabel Wood and Family

N.W. 1-42-12-W 3rd
submitted by Mabel Wood

Jesse is the son of Charles Wood and Jessie Robertson. His parents both came from England during the early years of the century. His dad homesteaded north of Ruddell, Saskatchewan. Here they raised a family, who went to Monaco School, which was quite a distance for children to travel to school on Prairie roads, especially in the winter months. In time a school was built in their own district called Wayne Bank.

Some of the teachers whom Jesse recalls were — Mr. McFarlane, Miss Shaw, Ken Doolittle, Miss Winters (Mrs. Wilma Gray), Harry Brolsy, Miss Bailey and Mr. Aldridge. This was during Jesse's school years of course. These schools are both closed and moved away. Monaco was moved to Bailey's farm and Wayne Bank was moved to Maymont and is now Sherman's machine shop.

Mabel is a daughter of Les Sloan and Mary East. The details of my parent's and grandparent's will be found in brother Ted's write up.

I got my schooling at Neepawa School. We walked one and a half miles to school during the spring and fall months and were driven during the winter by horse-drawn buggy, sleigh or whatever.

My teachers were Lydia Bullerod (Mrs. Allan Bean), Annie Dorsette, Dorothy Dean, Miss Ollen, Mrs. Harrysel, Muriel Elliot, Muriel Harris, Kathleen McKinnon (Mrs. Roy Keeper) and Max Braginolla.

We were a family of five boys and five girls who grew up with many precious memories of our childhood and home. My mother could sing nicely and she played the organ, so she sang a lot with us kids. My oldest sister, Kate, played the organ or piano too and I remember quite often on Sunday evening we'd have a hymn singing time which I enjoyed. Group singing and music was always a life style in our home.

My mother's faith in God was strong. That's how she managed to keep cheerful through twelve years of illness. Medical care was much more limited in the thirties than it is today. Today dropsy can be relieved greatly by use of medication.

Another tragedy in our family which I feel should be mentioned, was that of my youngest brother, Herbert, who became ill at the age of twenty-two. This was diagnosed by Doctor Garrioch of North Battleford as brain tumor and arrangements were made immediately for Bert to be transferred to the University Hospital in Saskatoon. Doctor McConnel did surgery and removed quite a large tumor from the brain. This was very possibly caused from a severe fall Bert had had when he was about two years old, which hurt his neck and spine causing him to start creeping again instead of walking.

From this surgery he was hospitalized for several months. His recovery progressed very well and Bert lived quite a normal life for eighteen years as each and

housekeeper for Dad and brother, Roy. But the cancer grew in again and Bert faced with dread further surgery. This time he was left more limited in what he could do. He used to play his guitar a lot before to pass time but now his co-ordination had no rhythm. During the next thirteen years the tumor re-occurred, also lung brain cancer. This tragedy certainly saddened our hearts. Bert was a very fine brother. He enjoyed life, was thoughtful of others, and he was kind to all children. And children liked Bert. He was quick-witted and jolly and kind-hearted.

My dad was a very good gardener. There was always enough and to spare of vegetables in his garden. During the years of the depression he grew watermelons, muskmelons like you wouldn't believe, also pumpkins corn. Last summer (1978) a guy, who had lived in our district as a child was visiting back here, and after all those years, she remembered the popcorn and watermelon feeds we had at our house. A treat was appreciated in those days.

One of the scenes of the thirties that lives in my memory still is that of the many movers who had given up in the drought stricken areas and had gathered their family, a few cattle, often a dog and a few other belongings and set out with horse-drawn wagons to find a place to start over again.

We lived along the main road and it was almost an everyday occurrence during the summer, for one or more mover trains to go past. These moving trains consisted of horse-drawn wagons, cattle being herded along behind, mostly by ragged, tired children.

Dad had a windmill to pump water from his deep well and I guess it signified water was plentiful. Often the movers would stop to camp in Dad's pasture while they'd water their animals and have their meal along the way.

I remember a mover wagon coming by in January (I'm not sure of the year but around 1929). I guess it was snowing hard and the road was filling in. This covered wagon-deal came in sight. The people were travelling from the northwest going to Manitoba. They were English people – there were six kids from two to fourteen years old and the mother and father. They stopped at our lane, the man walked in to ask if he could water his horses. It was snowing heavily and their wagon wheels were bogged in snow so Dad told him to bring his gear into the yard and bring his family in the house until the storm would be over. They did this and it was a couple of days before they could go on. Anyway they wrote a letter when they arrived at their destination to let us know they got there okay. Those were bad times but there was "goodwill" among people in those days.

People were also on the move by foot because they were unemployed, penniless and homeless. Very often one or more of these unfortunate people would call in to beg for a bit to eat, even a crust of bread.

In 1931 we came to live on our present home site – which we bought from Dave Foster. It was pasture land and needed a house to make it a home. Jesse bought a two-room house from Alex Beverly in the Lilac District. Relatives helped move this house on to this land and we were settled to make the best of what we had.

Darlene is nursing in St. Mary's Hospital at Camrose, Alberta. She is active in her church and community activities. She travels during her holidays in the summer so she has seen a lot of Canada from coast to coast and north to south and quite a bit of U.S.A.

Elaine is married to Allan Currie of South Battleford rural. They live on his farm and they have two sons – Scott and Curtis. Elaine was employed full time with the Bank of Nova Scotia for nine years. Since they have a family she works part-time. She is active in church work and active in their community. Allan has his own business in North Battleford – "Precision Business Machines, Ltd." Along with a lot of holiday travelling they keep very busy.

Orville is married to Bonnie King of North Battleford. They have a baby daughter called Orville. They live in North Battleford, where Orville is employed at mechanics work. He likes to ride horseback and one of his prize possessions is his fifty-seven Chev on which he has done a lot of work.

Leighton is still at home. He goes to Maymont Central School. He loves animals especially horses. He rides horseback a lot – has done ever since he was three or four years old. He likes to do mechanic work. His first project is building up a stripped fifty-seven Chev. Slowly but staunchly he plugs away at this project.

Our girls went to Keystone School until it was closed in 1958. Since that time our children went by bus to Maymont Central School.

This brings my remembrances to an end. I'm thankful for all the good things in life, for good friends, relatives and neighbors. May God Bless them Everyone.

Lucille and Marshall Wynn

by Lucille (Sherman) Wynn

I am Lucille Wynn, eldest daughter of the Albert Sherman family. I am married to Marshall Wynn. We live in Havre, Alberta. We have one daughter, Rosemarie, and three sons, Albert, Robert and Lucille.

I grew up on a farm in the Calne School District and took eight years of school there. I remember one day sitting on the swing waiting for my friends to come and I got careless, fell off and broke my leg. Dr. Resnick of Maymont put a cast on it, without a walking cast. I was home from school quite awhile.

I never liked riding horses, also disliked the cattle so kept away from them.

Dad took us to school when we were young, behind a team of horses. We had teachers boarding with us

for years and years, so had a ride through the winter months.

Some of my early teachers were Jean Downie, Amy McPherson, Irma Matthies, Walter Belyk, Mrs. Brady and Alvin Hamp. When we played ball, it took all of us to go on the team. We played against the other school teams around. We made bats out of tree limbs, straw and played without good equipment, but made up our own fun.

I remember once Dad was away and Joe Ducharme's hound dogs came prowling around the house, we were sure frightened of them. He used them to run down coyotes and then Joe sold the coyote hides.

I remember using coal oil lamps. We had to be careful carrying them upstairs at night — also all the indoor plumbing was outdoors — you had to put on all your outdoor clothes in the winter to just go 'to the bathroom'. My kids now say, "Tell me more of the old days, Mom".

Finally after a scarcity of teachers and pupils, Calais School closed its doors and we went to school in Fielding. Dad bought me a small 'Austin' truck. It was funny how I only needed gas in it every week or so but all near every day. In time a bus route was established from Rockwith District area and we had to catch it two miles away from home. I went to Fielding School for four years. Teachers were W. Stan Scott, and J. Weidner. I took a Comptometer course in Regina where I met my husband, Marshall. We were married in 1951 and lived in Saskatoon, Calgary and now in Hanna, Alberta.

Clifford Yule

told by Clifford Yule

Thanks to a Saskatchewan visitor to Ontario I became one of the harvest crew at "Alec Brehon's" driving a binder and helping with the threshing. We did not have a large set up — five wagons and seven men. I recall Emil Voegeli from Switzerland, I believe, who also drove a binder. Alec was a good boss, who smoked a crooked stemmed pipe and was determined never to let our "McCormicks" pass his "Massey Harris".

Mrs. Brehon was a fine cook. I was 21 so I really appreciated the good food. She went to Homemakers meetings. I think she was the local authority on cooking.

The school teacher boarded at Brehon's. Her name was Sophia Langham. Her presence made things more interesting. She and Mrs. Brehon's hired girl put bread crumbs etc. in our beds in the bunkhouse. That called for action. Colles' saddle horse was white. The hair from its tail, cut real short, was somehow put in the girls' beds by young Dick who was about eight years old. I don't think they slept very well that night.

Going to dances, at Maymont, about eight miles away, in an open buggy was quite an ordeal. It was worth the effort though. There were many good dancers.

We were done harvest by October 15 and I returned to Ontario. Happy to meet, Sorry to part, Happy to meet again.

In 1948 when my wife and I were planning a trip to the West Coast I decided I wanted to visit Maymont again. I contacted Colles Brehon and we were invited to dinner where we met Colles, Anna and their family. Anna too is an excellent cook like her mother-in-law.

Later, we visited the original Brehon home where Mrs. Alec Brehon and Lilah were spending the summer. Here we were served a delicious lunch and met George and his family who were on the home farm. Things had changed somewhat in forty-two years but the old bunk house was still there.

Last year, in 1978, we were overnight guests of Colles and Anna when we were passing through Saskatoon.

I feel I was very fortunate when I became a part of the Brehon harvesting crew in 1936.

Roll of Honour
CANADIAN ACTIVE SERVICE

Men's Legion and Auxiliary

Legion

Maymont Branch of the Canadian Legion No. 176 received its charter on April 25th, 1931. The first president was C. A. Coleman and the first secretary was Tom Woods. Charter members were Wm. Dawson, Stanley Thorstenson, Thomas Knight, John Morgan, S. Dolden, Robt. Dowling, Rev. R. W. Cowan, Robt. Neill and W. J. Cash.

After the formation of the branch the next problem was where to hold the monthly meetings. First, the municipal office was used, as well as the barn, and a booth on the sports grounds. As the membership grew larger, those places became too small, so it was decided that the branch should have a place of it's own. After considerable discussion the members decided to build a place large enough to accomodate a gathering which was too small to warrant the use of the Orange Hall.

Stan Thorstenson and D. Campbell were hired carpenters and with the help of other members the present hall was erected and opened on Armistice Day in 1933.

Though not large in numbers, this branch of the Canadian Legion has remained active through the years and played a useful part in community life. It has assisted it's comrades and their dependents through difficult periods and sponsored many activities for the benefit of others. It it's work it has enjoyed the co-operation and assistance of the Women's Auxiliary.

On November 27, 1933 a charter was given to form a Ladies Auxiliary to Branch No. 176 of the British Empire Service League in Maymont. The following were the first charter members:

Mrs. Minnie Coleman
Mrs. Ethel Neill
Mrs. Mildred Knight
Mrs. Lillian Andrew
Mrs. Alice Bean
Mrs. Grace McLeish
Mrs. Florence Cowan
Mrs. Margaret Cameron
Mrs. Ellen Cornish
Mrs. Dorothy Thorstenson
Mrs. Bertha Dolden

Minnie Coleman is now the only active member. She is also, of course, a life member who insists on always paying her dues. Mrs. Coleman has been and still is an untiring and inspirational example for all of us. From her, we have learned what it is to be a conscientious and dedicated member, working for the good and welfare of our disabled veterans and their families.

Our Auxiliary is very active, consisting of 14 members, two who have recently joined and two more who have made application for membership. We hold our meetings in our own Legion Hall which was built in 1953.

During World War 2 money was raised to buy wool for socks, bandages and cigarettes for our fighting men.

November 11 is of course still celebrated and our auxiliary get together with the Branch to enjoy a banquet meal to reminisce and sing the old songs familiar to all service men.

We feel that we contribute a service to our disabled and paraplegic veterans by donating to the veterans' hospitals. We also contribute to several other worthy organizations such as crippled children, rheumatism and arthritis, mental health and others.

Current membership is as follows:

Mrs. Sarah Saunders
Mrs. Janice Sander
Mrs. Merle Johnston
Mrs. Evelyn Bales
Mrs. Minnie Coleman
Mrs. Emily Hawkins
Mrs. Nellie Curry
Mrs. Jean Saunders
Mrs. Hazel Zaleschuk
Mrs. Jean Taylor
Mrs. Lela Bohn
Mrs. Cathie McLeod
Mrs. Alice Conkey
Mrs. Dora Plews.

Veterans of World War I

Fred Bohn
Harry Best
William Dawson
Robert Downing
W. Hunt
Tommy Harris
J. M. Martin
Colin Ramsey
Alfred Robb
(killed in action)
Richard C. Brehon
(killed in action)
Sid Dolden
Jack Cash
J. Lowery
Robert Neill
John Morgan
J. Spicer
Stanley Bohn
Clem Coleman
J. Doherty
Nathan Freedman
Russell Knight
W. H. Nethercott
E. Ramsey

Veterans of World War II

Hector Andrew
E. R. Andrews
(died overseas)
W. H. Andrew
(killed in action)
Maud Andrew
Myrtle Andrew
Harry Best
Fred Best
(killed in action)
Philip Best
E. J. Beaudoin
Mac Beckton
Stanley Bright
Glen Bright
Pat Brophy
Clem Coleman
Doug Colemith
Alan Coleman
Jack Cash
James Crozier
(killed in action)
Harold Curry
Burnel Conkey
(prisoner of war)
Robert Dawson
Everett Downing
Reg Gillatt
Robert Hawkins
Philip Hawkins
Albert Hickman
Carl Johnston
Harvey Johnston
(prisoner of war)
Tommy Johnston
Horace Knight
(killed in action)
Robert Miller
Stanley Mitman
Winnifred Melrose
D. McCorkle
Brenton Nethercott
Mary Parker
Wilfred Reid
Archie Reid
Lyman Reid
Eric Reid
Art Reid
Arthur Skinner
Ted Saunders
Tommy Turner
Edward Skinner
Alex Skinner
Doug Skinner
Sheridan Porter
Ted Porter
James N. Smith

Ruddell and Lilac 1914-1918

A. B. Ewing
T. Skidmore
L. Herchshift
R. Davis

T. Dow
T. Bulmer
T. Moore
B. Megeffin
C. Clark
T. Little
H. Spence
M. Montague
R. Davidson
F. C. Murphy
R. McCann
S. Tyson
C. Rogit
B. Ellison
T. Herchshift
B. Mabey
F. Smith
C. McFarlane
F. Daniels
A. Mallows
C. Caldwell
Rob R. Morgan
S. Dale
W. Reid
E. Ewing
R. S. Robinson
A. Dukes
M. Anderson
J. Burse
S. Markuson
B. C. Stewart
H. Turner
O. C. Harper
G. Geddie
J. Campbell
S. Little
C. Nagee
J. B. Arnold
B. Mabey
Those who were lost.
J. McMillan
S. Mabey
C. Pringle
R. Mather
H. Campbell
R. Brenner
C. Beesley
J. M. Beckett
S. Jackson
H. Roberts

Ruddell and Lilac 1939-1945

R. Abbott
D. Beierle
J. Caldwell
F. Gillatt
T. Johnson
R. M. Palsom
K. Reid
L. Thrower
L. E. Twittle
P. Wood
E. Schmidt
P. Agar
L. Beierle
C. Custer
O. Harper
W. Klassen
H. Parent
L. Robinson
W. Thrower
L. Walden
J. Wood
J. Anderson
W. Buttrey
D. Elders
K. Johnston
N. Lowes
W. Ralph
W. Roche
G. Topping
D. Warren
A. Wreadhall
R. Roberts
B. Carnahan
R. B. Firth
L. Johnston
S. A. Moore
C. Reid
G. Scott
W. S. Turnbull
W. Welford
G. G. Wreadhall
Those who were lost — W. H. Gillatt, J. E. Wright.

Honor Roll From Fielding — World War II

Austin Brant
Louis Cousins
Adolph Decharme
Delmar Evans
Chester Ferris
Walter Fast
(killed in action)
John Garnett
Gurney Garnett
Thomas Gollan
Harold Holmes
Desmond Johnston
Dennis McGrath
Samuel Nothrown
Orville Nothcott
Paul Reinhardt
William Roberts
Allan Smith
William Stott
Dawson Thompson
Alfred Thompson
Ross McNaughton
Kenneth Nuibrown
Richard Procht
Lawrence Ryan
James Smith
Charles Slots
Robert Thomson
Herbert Thompson
Otto Thompson
Roy Babcock
(killed in action)
Janet Downie
Desmond Decharme
Keith Ferris
Clifford Free
Elgin Garnett
Malcolm Garnett
Alva Garnett
Doug Hockley
Laurence Ivison
Miriam Long
John Bodie
Clayton Carr
Delmar Decharme
Russell Ferris
Wilfred Fisher
George Gardett
Clarence Garnett
Thomas Glynn
Robert Hepple
Harvey Larson
Kenneth McLeod
Clarence Northcott
Fred Reinhardt
Wilfred Ryan
Norman Smith
Stephen Stott
Trueman Thompson
Roderick Thompson
(killed in action)
Allan Tyburet

Veterans from Fielding area in World War I:

David Addley
Harold C. Baker
Max Deacony
George Downey
Arthur Elliott
Frank Glynn
Ed (Teddy) Glynn
Alfred Green
Elmer Hodson
William Hill
John Kinkaid
J. H. McNaughton
Bill McNaughton
John Nolin
Herbert Ryan
Charles Roberts
William Shanks, Jr.
George Stuart
Jack Thompson

WORLD WAR I
1914 to 1918

John Brise

Alfred Bond

Fred Bohr

E. Sloan Bond

Richard Brohon

Hector Campbell

Billy Gawain

Ed Ewing

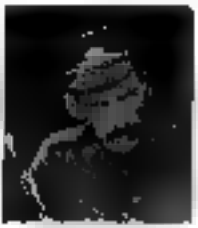
Walter Howes

Walter Marshall

E. McMahon

John Morgan

George Lowrie


John Kenney

VETERANS
WORLD WAR II
1939-1945

Elmer Andrew

Hector Andrew

John Andrew

Maud Andrew

Myrtle Andrew

Mac Beckton

Ernest Beaudoin

Fred Bell

Harry Bell

Phillip Neal | William Bulmey | Doug Coleman | Burse Conkey | Harold Curry

Jack Carmichael | Jim Crosier | Robert Dawson | Adolph Ducharme | Desmond Ducharme

Ron Elms | Elgin Garnett | George Garnett | Mac Garnett | Frank Gillett

Ray Gillet | William Gillett | Thomas Gollan | Philip Hawkins | Robert Hawkins

Albert Hickman | Carl Johnston | Harvey Johnston | Miriam Long | Donald McCorkle

Robert McCorkle

Bob Miller

Brennan Holbrook

Mary Parker

Sheridan Porter

Ted Porter

Bill Ralph

Arthur Reid

Edgar J. Reid

Eric Reid

Cyrus Reid

Fred Reinhardt

Gil. Roberts

C. C. Saunders

Gwen Saunders

T. C. Saunders

Edw[illegible]

George Scott

James Smith

Ivan Thompson

Tom Turner

Alan Tyhurst

Raymond Walton

Styles

SAFEWAY STORES

Prices Effective Wednesday Morning and Thursday,
April 15th and 16th, 1936

Tomatoes, No. 2½ size	4 for 23c	Mother's Chocolate, ½-lb. fillers	pkg. 34c
Gingers, Royal Cream	10 for 5c	Tea, Finest Bulk	lb. 39c
Yellow Sugar, 5-lb pkgs.	pkg. 23c	Coffee, Airway, fresh ground	lb. 29c
Dill Pickles, Novelade, No. 2½	tin 15c	Prunes, Newly	3 lbs. 25c
Flour Airway, 24-lb bag 75c	7-lb bag 25c	Ginger Snaps, Fresh-crisp	2 lbs. 25c
Sugar, Granulated	10 lbs. 54c	Graham Wafers, Honey Graham	pkg. 21c
Soap, A.T.C. Naptha	6 bars 37c	Tomato Juice, Aylmer	tin 5c
Peanut Toffee, Rum and Butter, Licorice	lb. 25c	Soup Tablets, Fifteen Bulk	6 for 10c
Jam, Loganberry	4-lb. tin 39c	Beans, Green or Wax	2 tins 25c
Shredded Wheat	pkg. 9c	Cherries, Lincoln Brand	tin 25c
Macaroni, Bulk	5 lbs. 25c	Peanut Butter, Fresh Ground	lb. 25c
Mixed Candy	lb. 10c	Cinnamon, Bulk	¼ lb. 10c

FRUIT

Oranges, Bubble, medium size	doz. 21c	Grapefruit, Seedless	4 for 25c
Lemons, Juicy	4 for 14c	Onions, B.C. Cooking	5 lbs. 15c
Apples, Rome Beauties	5-lbs. 25c	Spanish Onions	lb. 5c

MEAT

Sirloin or T-Bone Steaks	lb. 14c	Pork and Veal Rollies	2 lbs. 25c
Beef Steaks, Shoulder Cuts	lb. 8c	Beef Dripping, Fresh rendered	lb. 5c
Stewing Beef, Boneless	2 lbs. 15c	Cooked Corned Beef, sliced	lb. 15c
Pork Steak, Shoulder	2 lbs. 25c	Jellied Head Cheese, sliced	lb. 15c
Hamburger, Fresh Ground	lb. 9c		

We reserve the right to limit quantities. Safeway Stores Limited.

SAFEWAY STORES

Prices in effect in October 1939 in Comparative weights in metric

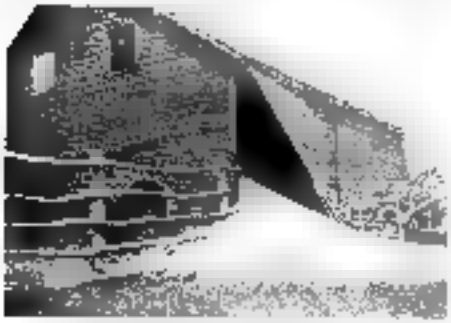
Tomatoes, 398 ml	.24	Chocolate ½ lb. pkg.	.48
Gingers, 300 gr	.49	Tea - Bulk lb.	1.38
Yellow Sugar, 2 kg.	.71	Airway Coffee, 454 gr	1.15
Dill Pickles, 908 ml	1.10	Prunes lb.	1.14
Flour, 13 kg.	1.35	Ginger Snaps, 400 gr.	1.45
White Sugar, 5 kg	1.45	Graham Wafers, 340 gr.	1.14
Swelgiw Soap (Habit)	.32	Aylmer Tomato Juice, 1.20	.27
Brazils Toffee	1.14	Soup Powder, 1.5 kg.	1.37
Shredded Wheat 430 gr.	.45	Green Beans 398 ml	.31
Macaroni, 9 kg	1.48	Cherries, 398 ml.	.71
Mixed Candy lb.	1.04	Peanut Butter, 908 gr.	1.35
FRUIT:		Cinnamon, 113 gr	1.04
Oranges lb	.59		
Lemons lb.	1.71		
Apples lb.	.48		

MEAT

T-Bone Steak	3.08 lb	Ground Pork	1.64 lb
Blade Roast	1.58 lb	Cooked Corn Beef	1.78 lb.
Stewing Beef	2.48 lb	Head Cheese	2.28 lb.
Pork Butt Steak	1.48 lb	Ground Beef	1.65 lb

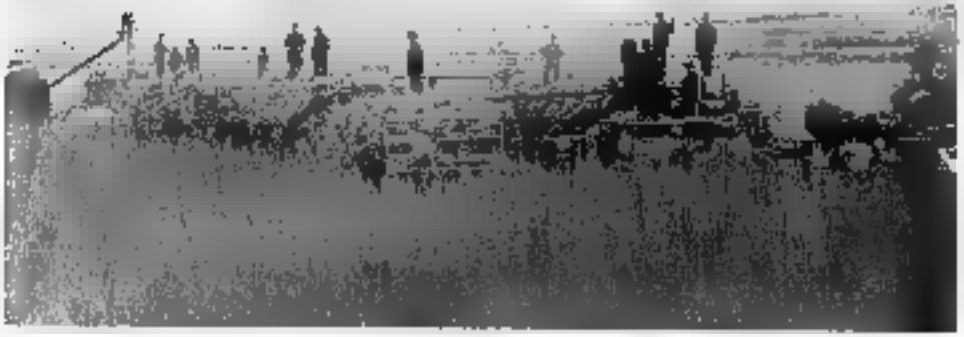
by permission of Safeways Store
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Farming through the years



That extra bushel did fits on A. Sherman's farm.

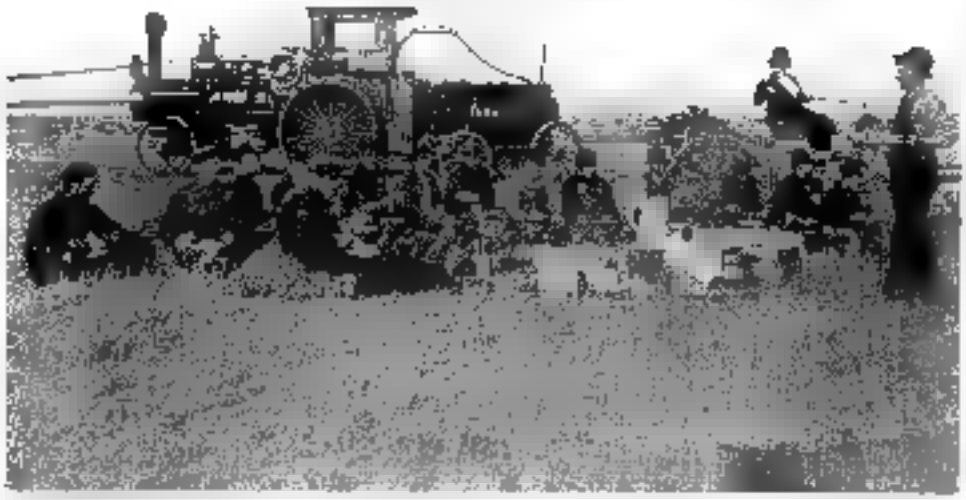
Russian Thistle — the Dirty Thirties.



Steam engine around 1904 or 1905. The engine had to be pulled by horses. Note the threshing crew of thirteen men.

Forking hay the hard way.

This is the threshing crew on the Joe Hardy farm December 20th, 1909. They couldn't move the separator so they had to move the bundles from the stack by sleigh. Tommy operated the steam engine. They had to burn straw in the engine.



A horseback grasshopper bait spreader.

NOTES

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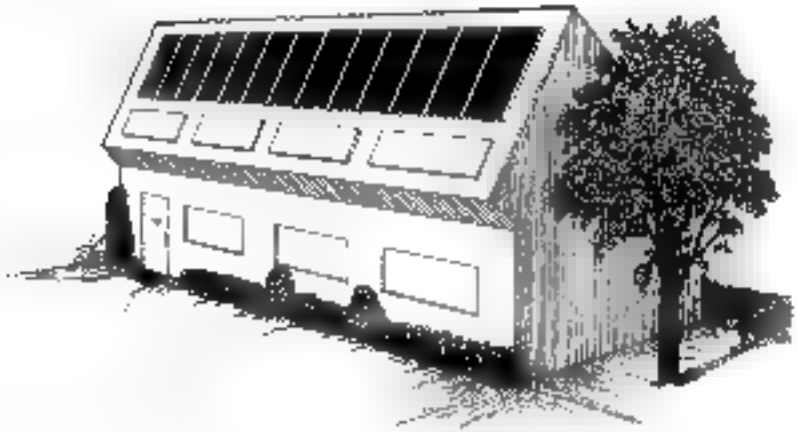

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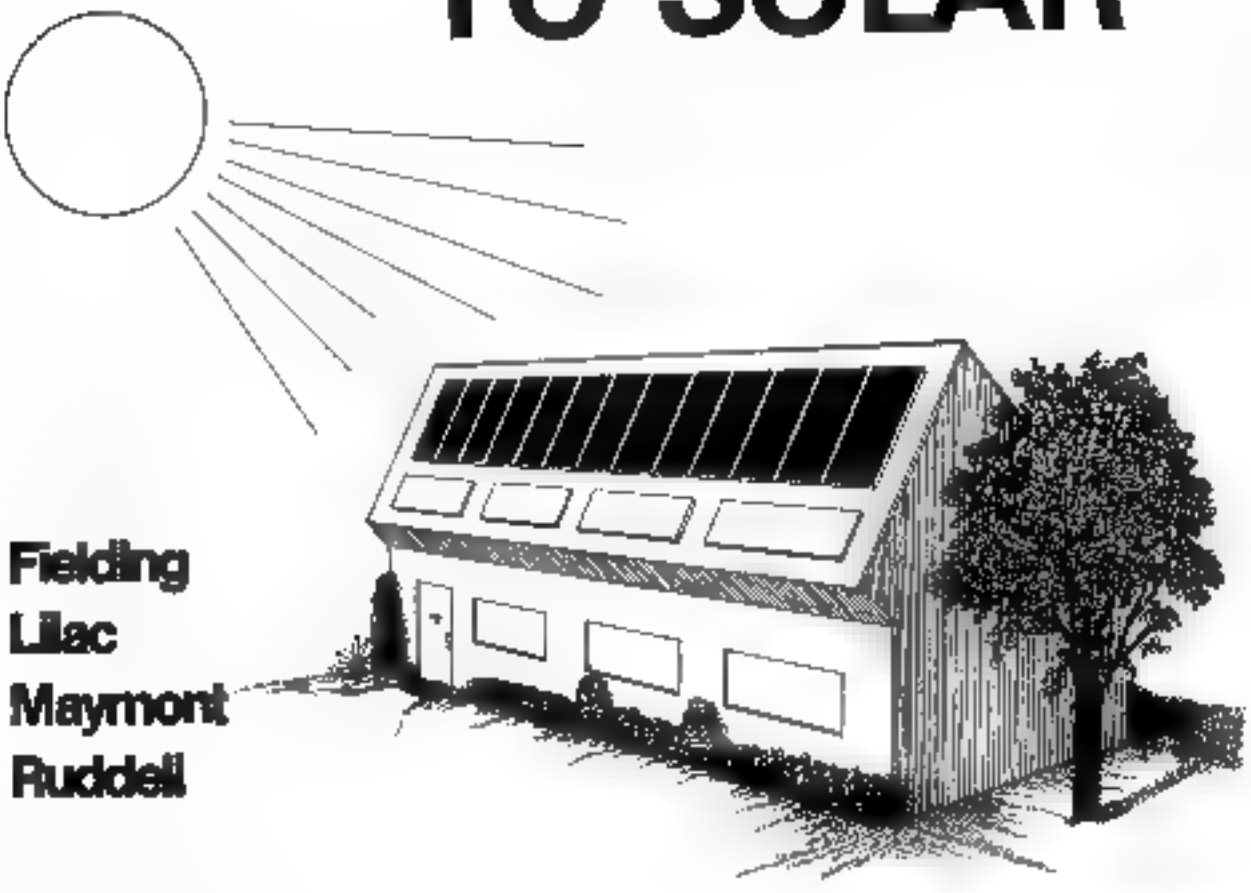

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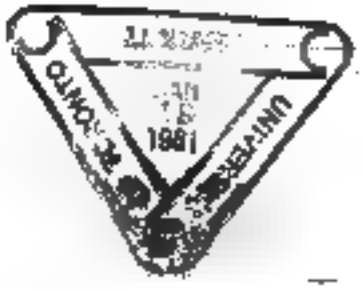

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Gladys Brehon

"That which was" history of Lilac

Sincere thanks to Mrs. Elaine (Belerie) Dearborn and Mr. Brian E. Welford, B.S.P., for excerpts from their 1967 Centennial histories of Lilac. Also for their help in the research of the Lilac history thanks to Mrs. Muriel Johnason, Mrs. Mary Moffat, Mrs. Norah Soule and Jack, Ted, and Bill Welford.

Some of the information was received from the Public Relation department of Canada Post Office, Canadian National Railways, and the office of the North Battleford School Unit No. 58.

It is regretable that some of the history is lost forever.

To all past and present Lilac families who submitted family histories, I thank you for your interest and participation.

Charlotte Gillatt

I wish to thank Mrs. Betty Ferris of Fielding for her help in contacting the many folk in the Fielding and surrounding area for their family histories. I also thank all the people who sent in histories and pictures from the Neepawa, Fielding, Beckwith, and Calais districts. Thanks also for the use of minute books and scrapbooks. We sincerely hope you enjoy your book, and treasure its memories. We enjoyed working on it. I for one consider it a privilege to have helped in a small way with this book.

Gertrude Sherman

I would like to say "Thank You" to those people who helped with this account. Russ McNeil, Charlie and Margaret White, Bill and May Buttery, John Birse and many others. Without their help this could never have been written.

Doreen E. Schmidt

MEMORIES

So often my memory still carries me back
And visions I see of the past
When round us the country unsettled and wild
With hills and wide prairies so vast.

'Twas covered with trees in places now bare
And deep ruts of buffalo track
All dotted with lakes bright gleaming in sun
And covered with game that we lack.

The prairies rolled on till earth met the sky
And land for the richest and best
A beautiful vision of forest and plain
Extending from east to the west.

For many long years we worked with our might
Through heat and through winter's cold chill
We started with nothing, almost we can say
And we have got most of it still.

Hard times for some years, the crops looking fine
Alas then some night came a frost
And then when to town you brought in your grain
You found that your profit was lost.

And sometimes in summer, when nature was fair
High hopes in our hearts once again
With marvellous crop, o'er hill and through dale
A wonderful promise of grain.

A sudden cold darkness spreads over the land
And bravest of hearts will quail
With lightnings fierce blaze and thunder's deep roll
And down come the torrents of hail.

It's surely a wonderful thing this hope
Without it, we're sorely bereft
For Faith is the anchor, and Hope is the chain
Without these there's nothing then left.

The swift flying years have silvered our hair
And still we are climbing the slope
We never can reach the summit without
This wonderful thing called Hope.

written by Thomas Parker,
brother of William Gibson Parker of Maymont.

Rural Municipality of Mayfield

Rural Municipality of Mayfield No. 406

submitted by Louis Karpan

Incorporation:

With the coming of the settlers some form of local government was necessary and on May 6, 1905 a committee met and formed the first council of the Local Improvement District No. 21-J-3. The members were Oliver Andrew, David Mitchell, A. E. Potter, James Little and Goldsborough Stockwell. Mr. Stockwell was named chairman and David Mitchell was secretary-treasurer. The Local Improvement District Administered the affairs until January 1, 1910. On January 3, 1910, the Rural Municipality of Mayfield No. 406 was formed with M. G. Turnbull as reeve, J. J. Reid, C. Dunford, W. G. Shanks, A. Brehon and G. H. Gates as council, with Percy Knowles as secretary-treasuror.

Administration:

It may be interesting to mention the secretary-treasurers and reeves who were responsible for the administration of the affairs of the municipality. Percy Knowles was secretary-treasurer from 1910 to 1916 with M. G. Turnbull as reeve. Harry Corolsh assumed the duties as secretary-treasurer in 1917 to 1924 under the chairmanship of reeves M. G. Turnbull. Richie Johnston, Thomas Turner and J. H. Bracht. Sidney Dolden took over the duties under the direction of reeves J. H. Bracht, S. R. Miller and Edwin Nelson from 1925 to 1953. Ivor J. Westerberg assumed the duties of secretary-treasurer in 1953 to 1967 under the direction of reeves Edwin Nelson, Louis Karpan, Martin McGrath, V. J. Schmidt and Richard Voegeli. Louis Karpan assumed the duties of secretary-treasurer in 1967 under the stewardship of Richard Voegeli and later under Victor Prescesky retiring in June, 1978. Don H. McLeod assumed the duties of secretary-treasurer in 1978 under the direction of Victor Prescesky and his council.

In the early years the municipal council were faced with organization. Herd laws had to be passed, pounds provided for their enforcement. Dog control laws to protect the sheep herds. Stone and rubbish control laws to prohibit of depositing stone and rubbish on road allowances.

Later the farmers were faced with noxious weeds and rats. The municipal council passed laws for their control, inspectors were appointed to enforce them. Grasshoppers created quite a problem, municipal council had to provide poison bait, bait stations, and distribution of poison bait to farmers and hiring outfits ■ spread it on road allowances and submarginal land.

The dirty thirties brought on drought, depression and unemployment. The farmers had no crops, no feed and no money. There were no social welfare or health care programs. Your municipal council was faced with making arrangements with provincial government and providing assistance in relief form to all in need.

War years brought many changes in social welfare, health care and education. Today your municipal council is faced with better system of roads, zoning and urban sprawl, equitable assessment, parks and recreation, libraries, lodges for senior citizens, hospital care, warble control ambulance, and fire protection.

The first office of the R.M. of Mayfield No. 406 was located on Lot ■, Block 8 in the Village of Maymont, the present Harvey Johnston residence location. In 1953 the municipality purchased the John Deere building from Mr. Jenson located on lot 14, Block 5, the present Pensioners and Pioneers building. This was the home of municipal administration until 1973. ■ 1973 under the Winter Works Program the municipal council under the leadership of Richard Voegeli built the present spacious municipal office and bank premises on Lots ■ and 16 in Block 8.

Farm Boys Camp

Farm Boys camp was a vital part of the summers activities of the district. The teams were sponsored by Mayfield and Douglas Agricultural Societies. Boys from both Municipalities ■ back to the 1920's attending camp at North Battleford, Saskatoon and Regina.

Farm Boys' Camp — Top Team Regina, 1962. Supervisor Charles I. White. L. to r. — Roy Krake, Jim Beaudoin, Charles White, Tom Gray, Dale Beaudoin.

Two of the outstanding leaders were J. Blacklock, Maymont and Mr. Japp, Speers.

There is a period that the writer has no records of but boys from this district I am sure would have attended camp at all three places.

In 1950 Charles White supervised five boys at Saskatoon: Ken Meena, Gerald Acaster, Dean Rogers, Murray Gray and Ron Schmidt. They won top team trophy and individual gifts for judging. In 1951 the same team and supervisor went to Regina. There they came home with top team and individual prizes.

Teams were reduced to four boys at Saskatoon and three boys in North Battleford. Then to four the following year in Regina.

1957 — Gordon Gray, Dick Clayton, Alvin and Earl Nutbrown went to Saskatoon bringing trophies and the top team honor. The same team plus Grant Peden went to Regina. They were successful in bringing trophies and top team honors home.

1958 — Norman Gray, Grant Peden, Glen Meena and Eugene Krake. Supervised by Frank Miller won many prizes and top team in Regina.

1962 — We sent Roy Krake, Tom Gray, Jim and Dale Beaudoin with Charlie White as supervisor. They brought home prizes from every competition also top team score.

1964 — Bruce White, Ken Prechil, Warren Ballarud and Dale Kelper — supervised by Charlie White. These boys went to Regina and won every competition. Top boy — Warren Ballstrud and top team.

1967 — was the last year for farm boys camp both in Saskatoon and Regina. Robert Caldwell, Don Spence, Russell Beaudoin, Wayne Acaster went to Regina. These boys did the honors with top boys in many competitions and they were the top team supervised by Charlie White.

Along with Charlie White, Ken Meena and Gordon Gray helped train the boys before going to these camps.

All these boys attended North Battleford at least twice and did very well there also.

Maymont Homecraft Club

submitted by Mary (Steele) Peden

I was a member of the Maymont Primrose Homecraft Club from 1937 to 1939. The club was organized before I joined.

Homecraft Club. L. to r., Back row — Mrs. R. F. Johnston, Cora Johnston, Joyce Coleman, Leola Johnston, Winnie Dolden, Joyce Turner, Margeurite Mohler. Front row — Evelyn Turner, Mary Dawson, Mary Steele, Edna Denomy, Beatrice Knight, Eileen Ehlin, Ellen Reid.

Mrs. R. F. Johnston was the Supervisor and Miss Ellen Reid was leader for the recreational part of our meetings. Our project for the summer months was the growing of a vitamin garden in which we grew yellow beans, carrots and cabbage. We studied the culture, insect pest control, cooking, uses and storage of the vegetables.

Required for the Achievement day were
one pint canned beans;
one pint bean salad;
one pint cabbage pickle;
cabbage casserole;
cabbage salad.

The 1938 winter project was Home Decoration No. 3, in which we made
a dressing table;
bedroom picture;
lamp shade;
hat box.

Meetings were held in the members homes and followed the pattern of the Homemakers Club which was the sponsor of the Homecraft Club.

Gene Andrew, Mildred Crozier, Clara Foulston, Dolly Porter, Isobel Saunders were also members not in the picture.

The picture was taken by Ed Buhr.

Mayfield 4-H Beef Club

In the following paragraphs we will attempt to bring back a few memories of the Mayfield 4-H Beef Club.

The Club originated in 1932 under the name of Mayfield—Douglas. The Saskatoon Board of Trade and Kiwanis Club sent calves out through the country for feeding and they went back to Saskatoon in the spring to be slaughtered. The first leader of the club was Douglas Japp. He was interested in young people as he also led the Farm Boys Camp at that time. The first Champion Calf was a Shorthorn calf shown by Joe Moffatt of Lilac. Mr. Japp led the club from 1932 until 1936.

In 1936 Bruce Butterfield took over the leadership of the club. The Achievement Day was held at the livery barn in Maymont. At that time it was known as the Sowden farm. First prize calf was shown by Jock Blacklock. From 1937 to 1942 the club disbanded because of shortage of feed.

■ 1942 Jim Ryan took the leadership of the club consisting of Schmidts, McIvors, Reids and Spences. Ron Schmidt had the prize calf in 1942, and Bernard Spence won in 1943.

From 1944 to 1950 the club was led by J. D. Blacklock, a local hardware business man of Maymont. The Achievement Day was held at the Maymont Park, near the sports grounds and the calves were housed in the livery barn.

In 1951 the Mayfield Douglas Club broke up into two separate clubs. The new Mayfield 4-H Baby Beef Club was now led by Earl Curry. Members consisted of Reids, Spences, Grays, Schmidts and Martynes. The top calf this year went ■ Don Schmidt with an Aberdeen Angus steer. In 1952 and 1953 the club was led by Earl Curry with 10 members. Calves were taken to North Battleford Fat Stock Show and sold after the show. In these two years a calf club rally was held at Mr. Iverson's and Mr. Miller Craig's farms respectively. Both years the judging competitions were won by Gordon Gray of Maymont. In 1954 Earl Curry once again led the club. During this year three members out of the North Battleford area won the right to go to Saskatoon Interprovincial Competitions as a result of the club rally ■ North Battleford. Gordon Gray won first prize in judging the class of four beef steers. ■ 1955, Earl Curry still leading the club, Ken Zaleschuk won the Champion calf when he showed a Red Angus steer. Gordon Gray won first, judging a class of steers at North Battleford Calf Club Rally and also first judging three classes of steers at Saskatoon Interprovincial Competitions.

From 1955 to 1966 there was no club because the leader moved away and no leader was available.

In 1966 the Club reorganized under the leadership of Gordon Gray. It began with 14 members. Achievement Day was held jointly with Speers in the town of Speers. Bruce White won the aggregate prize and Harvey Pain had champion calf. The calves were shipped to Saskatoon by McIvor Bros. to be sold. In 1967 the Achievement Day was held at the skating rink in Maymont.

In 1968 four members from Maymont attended Selections in North Battleford. Don Spence and Wally Sadowsky won there and went on to Selections in Saskatoon. At the local Achievement Day Wally Sadowsky had champion calf and Carol Ebach won first in showmanship. Once again in 1969 Don Spence and Wally Sadowsky won at North Battleford Selections and went on to Saskatoon. This time they won the privilege of going to the Western Seminar held at Camp Raynar. Wally Sadowsky also was chosen ■ be on the Saskatchewan 4-H Council. After our local Achievement Day our Club attended the Fat Stock

One of the Mayfield 4-H Beef Club Achievement days.

Show in North Battleford where we won first prize for Barn Display, third in best group of five steers and third in the group of eight steers.

In 1970, the Club still led by Gordon Gray, was very busy selling road signs and toured the Vet. College in Saskatoon. That year Don Spence, Brian Spence and Wally Sadowsky went to Selections in North Battleford. Brian Spence was able to go on to Saskatoon Selections and while there won a trip to Ottawa for a week. The Club once again took part in North Battleford Fat Stock Show taking first in class of eight steers and third in barn display. In 1971 Greg Ferris won Champion Steer and David Gillatt had the Reserve Champion. The year of 1972 began with an enrollment of 18 members. Diane Pain was selected to go to Saskatoon Selections. In 1973 Brian Rogers was chosen to go to Saskatoon Selections. Mr. Carl Ramsay was judge for our local Achievement Day which was held in the Dr. Scratch Memorial Curling Rink. Darrell Spence had Champion Steer. In 1974 we toured the Roy Blensch Charolais Ranch at Marsden, the Hutterite Colony at Baldwinton and the Carl Ramsay Ranch at Outlook. The leader Gordon Gray was assisted by Don and Laura Spence. Mr. Bill Small of Regina was our Achievement Day Judge. The Club went on to the Regional Livestock Show in Saskatoon. Audrey Voegeli received the gold watch in Saskatoon for Grand Aggregate in Livestock Judging. In 1975, Gordon Gray assisted by Don Spence and Norman Voegeli arranged a tour of Inter-Continental Packers. The Achievement Day was held at the Voegeli farm with Lynn Biggart as judge. Debbie Voegeli won Champion steer. In 1976 the club catered to the opening of the Maymont Bridge with a pit barbeque at which approximately 1500 people attended. David Rogers had Grand Champion Steer at the Achievement Day. Laurie Morgan had Champion Heifer. Audrey Voegeli once again won first in the Grand Aggregate in Saskatoon. The enrollment for 1977 was 31 members. Roger Harris had the Grand Champion Steer, this animal went on to be the 4-H Grand Champion Steer at the Saskatoon show. The Club also won first in Barn Display and several other group prizes at Saskatoon that year. The 1978 Achievement Day was held at the Voegeli farm with Dale Norheim as judge. Grand Champion steer was shown by Kent Roberts with Lisea Voegeli winning reserve. Debbie Voegeli showed the Champion Heifer and Kern Clayton had Reserve Champion. Audrey Voegeli took part in the judging in Agribition and placed second on the competition. Jake and Judd Wilkins of Dundurn were the judges for the 1979 Achievement Day. Champion Steer was shown by Kent Roberts with a Limousin — Angus cross animal. Ellis Clayton showed the Champion Heifer which was a Simmental. These were only two of the various classes which were members judging, showmanship, grooming, record books, breed classes and individual weight classes. In Saskatoon the club did well again this year with a first and third in the class of six steers, also first and fifth prize in the group of five heifers. The club also took first prize in the barn display. Gordon Gray led the club again this year with the help of Delores Hawkins, Don Spence, Norm Voegeli and David Rogers.

Our Mayfield members also did very well in the member judging sweepstakes. They judged beef cattle, horses, swine, sheep and dairy cattle. Many of the members received individual prizes. Maxine Chastney brought home the top aggregate honors and a gold watch. Tracy Clayton took third prize. Both Maxine and Tracy now go to Agribition in Regina this fall to compete in judging classes with members from other provinces. These members judge five classes of different livestock giving their placings and reasons written and orally. Good luck to both of you!

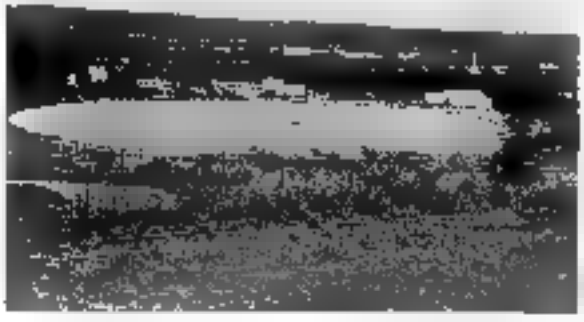
With the help and support of the many parents our Mayfield Beef Club has enjoyed many successful years.

Glenburn Regional Park

Back in May 1962, a group of interested people gathered in Maymont to discuss the proposed park south of Maymont, along the river. At that time Mr. George Rathwell Supervisor of Regional Parks of Regina outlined the way the park could be started, the possibilities in this location, and the financial assistance to be received from the Government. An organizational meeting was held on May 26, 1962. Officers elected at this meeting were as follows:

M. P. Vanderhagen..... President
Ken Delong..... Vice-President
Derby Reid..... Secretary-Treasurer
DIRECTORS: Myles McDonald
Chester Nutting
Fred Irwin
Gordon Leach
Wes Gillatt
Ray Parkinson
AUDITOR: Lawrence Schmidt

As the months progressed the committee nominated looked into starting such a park, and would meet later to let everyone know its findings.



Glenburn Park.

At a meeting in February 1963, Mr. Rathwell presented a rough plan of what the park should include. Also at that time a name was chosen for the park. After a lengthy discussion the majority voted in favour of Glenburn Regional Park. The "Glen" meaning a narrow secluded valley — also it is half of Glenside, the R.M. of Glenside who joined at that meeting, and "Burn" was after Mike Burns the original owner of the land where the park is situated. By June 1963 the R.M.'s of Eagle Creek, Great Bend, Mayfield, Douglas and Glenside along with towns of Maymont, Richard, Borden, Radisson, and village of Fielding had joined the Glenburn Regional Park Authority.

In June 1963, a meeting was called to draw up the Park Constitution. Soon convenors were appointed for each facility, playground, ball diamonds, and golf course.

In the spring of 1964 committees discussed the need for a swimming pool and it was decided that a saucer-shaped pool be built with the work being done by Schmidt Construction. Fresh spring water was and is still supplied by damming the creek to the pool. Evergreens were brought from Meeting Lake and each year an additional number of trees are added to the park from the nursery at Indian Head.

In 1965 a change house was built and a building to serve as a concession booth was moved to the park from north of Maymont. Four ball diamonds and a 9-hole golf course were set up at this time.

Ed Broom was the first caretaker-manager of the park and held this position for several years. The Harold Greenslades operated the concession booth for several years.

In 1966 swimming lessons began and have continued each year since then for a period of two weeks in July or August. Children attending range in age from 3-16 years and come from the surrounding areas.

It was a happy day in 1967 when the grand opening was held. Official ribbon cuttings and flag raisings took place.

Over the years from then many new additions were made — picnic tables, B.B.Q.'s benches at the pool, shuffle board, registration booth at the park entrance, horse shoe pitch, 2 kitchens, power, and playground equipment.

In 1971 the teacherage from Ruddell was purchased and moved to the park for a caretaker's residence. Later they electrified the campsites.

Glenburn Regional Park continues to be a busy place each summer with a variety of activities, ball tournaments, golf tournaments, family re-unions, church services, school picnics, visits from campers in groups, dozens of campers who spend long weekends. Numerous organizations have held "pit barbecues" in the park.

In 1976 we had the official ceremonies for the bridge opening held at Glenburn Regional Park. All committees worked together to make this a successful and rewarding event.

The golf course has been enjoyed by many old and young. A golf club was also formed and has sponsored many tournaments.

During the excitement of the Summer Games of 1978 the park was the central point for many events and the presentation of awards. During the Regional Winter Games the skiing event was held at the park. Each winter skiers and snow tobogganers make good use of the hills.

In this year of 1979 the present officers are:

Chairman ... George Radchenko, Sonningdale, Sask.
Vice-Chairman ..... Ron Schmidt — Maymont, Sask.
Secretary-Treasurer Bryant Fletcher — Ruddell, Sask.
DIRECTORS:

Jack Bates ..... Maymont, Sask.
Harvey Johnston ..... Maymont, Sask.
Dale Beaudoin ..... Maymont, Sask.
Ken McDonald ..... Richard, Sask.
Ernie Corris ..... Sonningdale, Sask.
Ed Ross ..... Sonningdale, Sask.
Murray Gray ..... Maymont, Sask.

Many favourable comments come from visitors who enjoy the scenery and facilities available at the park and hopefully there are many more to come.

Fielding Community Pasture

The Provincial Government community pasture program in the Fielding area came into being as a result of cattle herds in the area becoming larger and a demand from the farmers for more pasture land. Thus the Fielding Community Pasture was started.

The Provincial Government owned some of the land and were able to purchase more in the same vicinity. The first cattle went into the pasture in 1964. The pasture manager was Mr. Charles Large, who still holds that position.

An Advisory Board was set up to assist the manager if necessary.

Cecil Ferris of Fielding was the first chairman.

The 1979 board members are: John Moore, Chairman; Henry Prescesky, Secretary; James Tebay; Cliff Gillatt; Crawford Baker; Bernard Spence.

Since the pasture opened it has almost doubled in size. There are now 88 quarter sections — 10,880 acres included in it's boundaries, with 1800 to 2000 cows and 1100 to 1200 calves now grazing. The pasture has all been fenced and cross-fenced, much of it has been broken and seeded to grass. There are extensive corrals, a manager's office and living quarters. Cattle are moved from one grassed area to another when conditions necessitate. The season is from early May to the first week in October.

There are 11 patrons from Prince, North Battleford, Denholm, Ruddell, Fielding, Radisson, Speers, Richard, Lilac and Maymont, using the pasture facilities at present.

There are 8 deep wells from which the water is pumped using electric power. When the pasture first opened windmills were used. This method proved unsatisfactory as there was not enough wind at times to maintain an adequate supply of water.

There is an A. I. breeding and a natural breeding program in the pasture. The first A. I. Technician was Walter (Chimny) Beaudoin. His son Dale, followed and is still doing the A. I. work.

Charlie has had a number of assistant riders. The first year the pasture opened he was assisted by three young ladies — his daughter Charlotte, Florence Long, and Susan Reid.

Other riders have been: Sid Foulston, Russell Beaudoin, Jim Funk, and the present rider is Bert Rudyck.

Charlie's family all help at the pasture if needed — his daughter Charlotte (Mrs. Dale Beaudoin), his young son Rodney, and last but not least his wife Myrtle. As Charlie puts it "it's a family affair, even Ma gets into the act".

The Community College

The Saskatchewan Provincial Government passed the Community Colleges Act (1973). Twelve community colleges were founded. Mistikwa Community College is the one in this area with head office in North Battleford.

A branch of Mistikwa Community College was formed in late 1974 with Maymont as its centre. One representative from each of the thirty-five or more organizations in the Maymont, Ruddell, Richard, Lilac, and Fielding areas are the committee.

From this over-all committee a board of ten members (Maymont — 3; Ruddell — 2; Lilac — 1; and Fielding — 2) are chosen. The first members were: Denis Dube, Judy Kjargaard, Sandie Long, Betty Mohler, Art Reiley, Doreen Schmidt, Ron Schmidt, and Gertie Sherman. Mrs. Cheryl Palko was the first local co-ordinator followed by Mrs. Wendy Sherlock. Denis Dube was the first chairperson.

Community College is a new approach to adult education. If you are looking for a new building to house this college, you won't find it. It may be held in your home, garage, garden, your community centre, hall, church, school, or park. The students are people wishing to take a course in academic up-grading, arts and crafts, farm skills, recreation, general interest, community development, homemaking, and handy man skills.

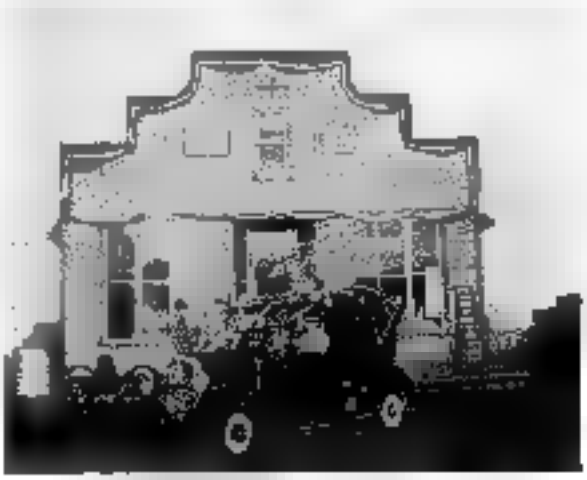
The first programs held were bobbin lace, re-upholstery, art classes, and many more. The ceramics, art and sewing have brought out talents people didn't know they had and it is something others enjoy viewing at shows.

As often as possible the instructors are local people or brought from nearby towns or cities. In all thirty-eight different courses have been held. The present chairperson is Mrs. Doreen Schmidt from Ruddell.

The Village of Fielding

Fielding came into being when a homesteader called Peter Shack lived on SE¼ of Section 8, 41, 11, W 3rd. The Canadian National Railway eventually reached this area in 1905 and a siding was built on Mr. Shack's land. The first name given to this young town was "Shack Town", but it wasn't for long as it was soon changed to Fielding, probably in honor of a politician of note at the time, namely William Fielding who was Minister of Finance in the Laurier Government.

The young town grew like a mushroom and in a matter of three or four years boasted all the necessary business places for a thriving farm community. The Main Street boasted of a blacksmith shop, two general stores, Chinese laundry, a large hotel, a poolroom and barber shop, as well as a shoe repair and harness shop. The other business street, Railway Avenue, had a lumber yard, livery barn, and several machine agencies. There was also a stockyards and the railway station. A school was built, plus a bank and three



L. W. Stolt's General store taken in 1927.

'Mac' on the dray at Fielding.

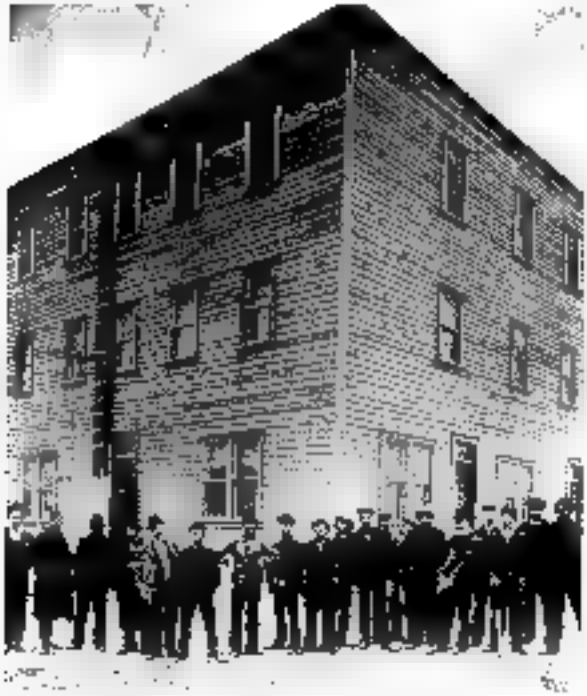
churches to look after the learning and spiritual needs of the community.

The two business streets were always a hive of activity while many teams stood at the hitching posts as Fielding took in a large farming area in the early years.

Picture taken July 13, 1927 of J. M. McNaughton garage in Fielding.

A ferry south of Fielding and a road up over the hills ■ the elevators for farmers south of the river to dispose of their grain gave many opportunities for the town's business people to maintain a growing trade.

Of course there was the "Town Hall" where much entertainment was available. People made their own entertainment with plays and concerts, chautauqua, bell ringers and small circuses.

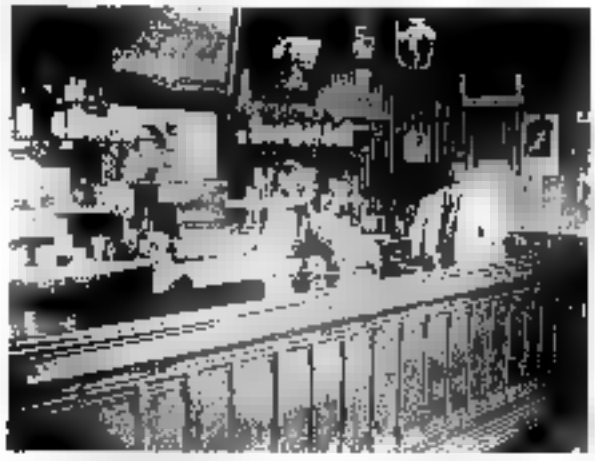


Fielding Hotel burnt in fire of 1922.

Two disastrous fires, the first in 1922 levelled almost the entire business section of the town destroying eleven of the town's business places, including the hotel which was never re-built. The second fire also took a few more buildings thus starting a decline in population.

Fielding continued in spite of it all and after the First World War a garage and implement business was established. There were many things happening in town — a three-room school was built, the three churches were well attended, the Ladies Aids of the churches and the Women's Missionary Society provided local ladies with opportunities ■ get

Alex and Frances Garnett long time residents ■ Fielding who were married in Maymont in 1907.

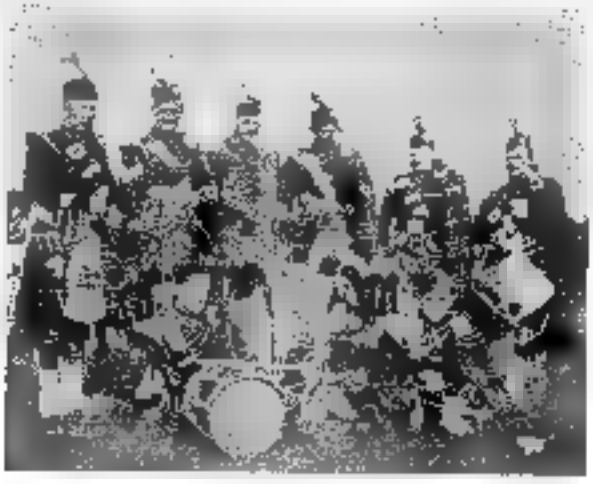


Inside Fielding Hotel.

Keefer's Livery Stable at Fielding. Phil Keefer holding dray team, Dan Woods, Rev. J. C. Madill.

together, often called by scoffing men as "do-gooders". These same ladies put on fabulous chicken suppers, bean suppers, bazaars, and thus kept their churches in repair and provided many hours of friendship that to this day still remain.

Fielding Picnic Sign, 1979, in Queen's Park, New Westminster, B.C.



Fielding's Scottish band.

The Fielding Roman Catholic Church now has been taken to the Western Development Museum in North Battleford where it continues to be visited by former members and the general public. The Anglican Church was taken to Borden, Saskatchewan as an addition to their church. The United Church stands lonely in its grassy plot in town, still cleaned and painted by loving

The Livery Barn at Fielding, 1926.

Fielding Station and Railroad, 1912 (No. 2 on Brochure).

hands, although no services have been held there for several years. Two of the young ladies of the community were recently happy ■ take their marriage vows in this church — namely Karen Clark (Mrs. Lee Schmidt) and Melanie Kieper (Mrs. Allan Kerpan).

The school which had a short span of large attendance now rests out of town — a shed, on the William Brown farm.

Fielding today still has one elevator, the post office, a small gas station and grocery outlet on the edge of town, a town hall where the people strive to maintain the spirit of Christmas with a happy gathering and "Santa Claus". The girls' showers that were held and will continue are almost the best in entertainment around.

The post office continues ■ give service by the Chester Ferris's. Chester received his twenty-five year pin for service with the post office.

There was a telephone exchange for years in Fielding. The building was bought and used as a home and antique collection by Mrs. Edna Wager who still lives in town in the former Walt Evans home. Mrs. Wager has an antique collection worth anyone's visit.

The years rolled by, slowly filling up the cemetery located north of Fielding with — early pioneers. The gravestones give such names as Ducharme, Englisbee, Sloan, Cassidy, Green, Carman, Castle, McGrath, Prechil, Kieper, Harris, and oh, so many more.

Many people have celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary. Some remembered are: Mr. and Mrs. Jim Scott and the Harold Bakers. The Alex Garnetts of Surrey, B.C., formerly of Fielding, have celebrated their seventy odd anniversary. The Torrence Frees now of Radisson, and the William Fasts, now of Maymont have all been married more than fifty years. Also last but not least Mr. and Mrs. Archie Spence.

The former Stott Store was purchased by the H. C. Baker's, Canada's and Fielding's "honey king" and it has been converted into a honey house where Mr. Baker continues ■ add trophies and ribbons from Toronto's Royal Winter Fair to its walls.

Though Fielding has felt the crunch ■ modern schools in other towns, the paved highway running through and easier access to cities, it continues to have a spirit of friendship and goodwill.

■ would be remiss not to mention the Fielding picnic held as a yearly reunion in New Westminster's Queen's Park in B.C. This picnic has been held for ten years, started by Mrs. Eric Eriksen (Freda Garnett) and the Earl Lewis's of Maymont-Fielding Area. Many people come to re-unite for a brief time and reminisce about "the good old days" when they were on the prairies in and around a good old town, Fielding.

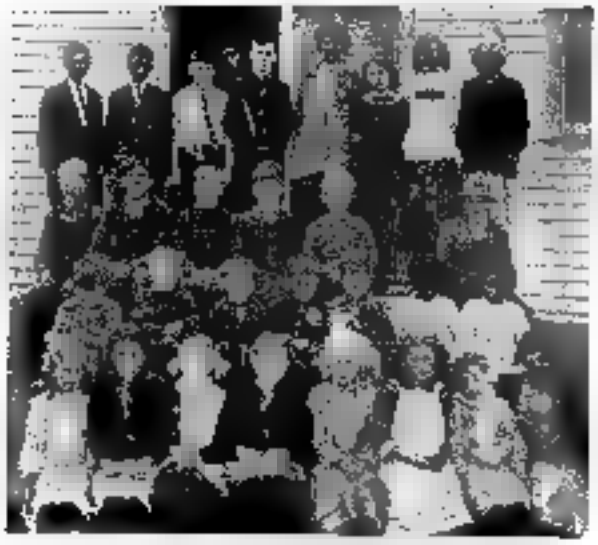
The Fielding School No. 1482

During the very early years Fielding residents and district homesteaders became concerned for the education ■ their children. A public meeting was called at which first trustees of the proposed school were chosen, these being — James Garnett, R. W. Ferris, and W. J. Smith. The year was 1906. A site was chosen on the east side of the village. The contractor who contracted to do the building was George Sabraw at a low sum of $250.00 for himself and he was told not ■ exceed more than $1150.00 for material. Also the building was to be completed in one month.

The first teacher recorded was a Mr. W. R. Marsh at a salary of $660.00 per year, his duties to commence December 1, 1906.

In 1917 the school was divided into two rooms and a room also was built on the north side. In 1918 no more

Fielding School, 1938, year picture taken.



This picture was taken in 1925, Fielding one-room school. Top row, l. to r. — ?, ?, ?, Burl Summers, Miss Fraser — teacher, ?, ?, ?, ?. 2nd row — ?, S. Hodge, Bert Summers, Cliff Carman, ?, ?. 3rd row — ?, Noah Summers, Joshua Green, Arthur Green, Alex Green, ?, ?. Bottom row — Verna Ferris, Vivian Ferris, Pauline Summers, Alberta Trouse, Muriel Harris, Gladys Ferris, Gladys Thompson, Leola Ferris.

pupils could be accomodated, as the demand for more pupil-room was so great that remodelling was again considered. Additions were again carried out so that in 1928 the school was remodelled to provide room for the district's children.

For many years Urban Ryan was the caretaker. The grounds showed his constant care for trees, lilacs and flowers flourished and were a show place and model for school grounds. A picture of Fielding School was used in a text book as an ideal situation.

Some of the early teachers were W. R. Marsh, Mabel E. Bishop, Benson Summers, George Williams, Miss E. Haines and more recent and fondly remembered by pupils were Kathleen Robertson (Mrs Malcolm McNaughton) Annie Blakely (Mrs. Charles Roberts) Betty Darling (Mrs. Cecil Ferris) and Fielding's own Florence Phillips. One of the last teachers was Mrs. Hawrylw of Fielding who is still teaching in Maymont. The school gave good instruction as many are the children who graduated to take their place in their own community and gone farther afield. There are nurses, doctor, lawyer, teachers, R.C.M.P., Ag grad's, and other professions. One thing of note was the 'Reach for the Top', popular television show on which Fielding's Audrey Ferris and Brian Spence along with Leslie Brehon and Linda Voegeli from Maymont did so well. The pupils from Fielding were athletic, also, so ball teams, skaters, and swimmers have done well providing much entertainment to parents and other spectators.

As in small communities the school was closed

Fielding School No. 1462 Class of 1945, teacher Betty Darling (Mrs. Cecil Ferris). Back row — Joan Cuthbert, Beverly Wager, Maxine Fast, Lila Scott, Shirley Free, Jim Garnett, Angus Addley, Larry Nutbrown, Donnie Marshall. Middle row — Marlene Roberts, Eilleen Miller, Evelyn Woods, Edith Brown, Joan Fair, Sylvia Roberts, Inez Miller, David Roberts. First row — Melvin Harris, Clifford 'Lorne' Marshall, Mervin Hunchak, Bob Fair, John Roberts.

Fielding School class of 1960. Miss Helen Unrah, teacher. Back row — Don Spence, Ann Neymeyer, Susan Ferris, Barbara Ryan, [illegible] Ferris, Wendy Kleper. Middle row — Greg Ferris, Allen Scott, Brian Spence, Margaret Moldenhauer, Edwin Neymeyer, Johnny Gabrysh, Lucille Moldenhauer, Linda Scott. Bottom row — Melanie Kleper, Jackie Ryan, Karen Clark, Helen Sherman, Mary Moldenhauer.

when it was no longer feasible to pay teachers. The enrollment was small and all Grade Seven and up were being bussed to Maymont anyway, so its doors were closed. The school was then sold to William Brown, Jr. who moved it one mile west to use for his hog business and later made it into a machine shed. Fielding has happy memories of the field days, concerts and picnics that generated from the school all through the years.

Fielding's Flaming History

From newspaper clippings by Harold Baker

With the coming of the railroad, Peter Shank's homestead became the scene of a mushroom town growth. In quick succession up went Mr. and Mrs. Bert Hooey's three storey hotel, Smith and Shea's general store (later McGregor's then Gunn's), Murray's blacksmith shop (later Eby's then George Downie's), Topper's West Elevator (later Sask. elevator), R. B. Harris' general store, Dickinson's general store, Joe Wright's drug store, Dr. Mueller's office, Kelly and Shank' I.H.C warehouse and agency, Brickwell's Massey Harris agency, Tom Graveson's livery barn, Joe Cassidy's butcher shop, L. W. Stott's harness shop, Florence's general store, Alex Garnett's pool room and barber shop, the workshops of carpenters Walt Evans and Harold Warcup, Quan Nam's restaurant, a Chinese laundry, the Imperial Bank, the Co-op elevator (later the Pool), the B.A. elevator (later the Searle), the National elevator, three churches — Anglican, Roman Catholic and United Church, Post Office, Community Hall, Imperial Oil Depot, C.N.R. station and section house, telephone exchange, a school and many residences.

In many ways up until 1927 Fielding businessmen served the Sonningdale district southwest of the river. The Fielding ferry provided passage in summer and the frozen river in winter. During the winter as many as thirty teamsters with their sleighloads of grain would glide over the Giroux hills to the Fielding elevators some of them having travelled seventeen miles from the Eagle Hills. During the winter hauling season some of those teamsters seldom saw home in daylight except on Sundays. They loaded up after reaching home at night and left home before daylight next morning. This area of business for Fielding ended in 1926 when the C.P.R. branchline passed through Sonningdale, and the ferry of three scows was dismantled and removed.

The new town of Fielding soon received its baptism of fire. The Saskatchewan elevator, erected in 1908, burned to the ground in 1913.

The town received a respite from destructive fires until 1920 when the Harris-Richardson store went up in flames. Mr. Gordon closed down his wagon and sleigh business, moved away and soon his warehouse was dismantled.

From then on one fire seemed to be the beacon signal for the next. Careless tipsy smokers were blamed for the bonfire which started in Graveson's livery barn and took not only the barn but Shank's warehouse and the post office. In 1922 came Fielding's spectacular conflagration. Its beginning was blamed on children playing with matches in a small building near the hotel. Fanned by a strong west wind, it quickly enveloped the hotel, Gunn's store in which was housed the Central telephone board, Dickenson's store, the post office, and Joe Cassidy's butcher shop. The hotel landlord, and Mr. Gunn managed to escape with their business records in their arms. Archie Spence and helpers on the roof of the hall, soaked the shingles with water supplied by a bucket brigade. Later the buildings scorched walls showed how close it had come to going skyward with the rest. In 1928 Brickwell's garage and Dr. Mueller's office were the next building to meet a fiery fate. [illegible] three automobiles [illegible] the garage at that time for repairs, only Charles Kieper's, which had the key in was saved; Les Sloan's and Ernest Garnett's burned with the garage and shop equipment. Later Grandpa Spence dairy barn burned.

Having cleaned up most of the business buildings the fires now turned their attention to private dwellings. Bill Shank's house was burned by arsonists on Aug. 28, 1929.

George McIvor's new livery barn, no longer needed to service the Sonningdale teams in winter and there being fewer horses the year round because of the inroads of the Model T Ford and Model A Fords, was moved to the J. M. McNaughton farm.

The Imperial Bank building was sold and dismantled; other houses were moved to the country.

The lull in burnings was short. One night in the spring of 1933 George Woodin's house caught fire. Neighbors were unaware of the fire until the roof was about to fall in.

Demolition then took its turn. The Monarch Lumber Co. buildings were sold and moved away; the Searle (B.A.) elevator was dismantled and taken away; in the 60's the Anglican Church was taken to Borden; the C.N.R. station and section house was sold and moved away. The Catholic Church was taken to the Western Development Museum in North Battleford.

During the pauses between town fires, the farmhouse of O. T. Woodin, Yule Clark, Ray Cameron, and Wes Summers, Percy Harris and Jack Thompson's barn went up in flames, H. C. Baker's hay stacks by the river were burned by a neighbor's travelling Russian Thistle fire, Sam Miller's hay stacks west of his house burned and Mrs. Ernest Garnett's stacks west of her home also; the farm buildings of Ernest Garnett's were saved from a prairie fire by neighbor's help.

Once again fire lighted up the town. In 1958 Charlie Neumeyer and family were forced from their home by flames – this was the former J. M. McNaughton home. Burning shingles from the roof were flying as far as Main Street and worrying residents there. Charlie's luck hit an all time low in 1965 when the well equipped garage he had purchased from J. M. McNaughton (the garage J.M. had built on the site of the old hotel) followed the flaming course taken by his house, ruined several cars and most of his valuable tools.

Leo Gelinas farm home was the last to vanish skyward. Fortunately although a few people were

singed, no lives were ever lost in these destructive fires. The houses of Frank Glynn, George McIvor, Leo Gelinas and Joe Giroux have been moved to the country. Gunn's store was sold and dismantled, Stott's store moved to Mr. Harold Baker's farm, the school was also moved away.

Truly if fire is a purifying agent, Fielding must be the purest village of the plains.

By way of diversion, three twisters made their contribution. The first wrecked Ireland and Williams' cattle shed, the second ruined one of Bill McNaughton's barns, the third really played havoc. It began by twisting Charlie Sherman's barn askew on its foundation. As it continued north eastward it ripped the wooden pump from Dick Williams' pasture well, twisted the willows into ropes and enjoyed a frolic in Tommy Thompson's barnyard.

Truly nature and fire can control our destiny!

Fielding Rural Telephone Company

Browsing through the old minute books of the Fielding rural telephone company shows that a meeting on April 29th, 1916 was called for the purpose of organizing a telephone system. The first president was R. W. Ferris, secretary was Robert Ireland and directors were Charles Kieper, Ed Bodie and Joe Prechtl. Through the years of telephone operations many people were involved. The operators on the switchboard were;

A. Gunn (in Gunn's store); 1918 — F. M. Meeker; 1919 — George Trowse; 1919 — Miss M. L. Eby; 1923 — Mrs. F. Hancock; 1923 — Mr. Gregory; 1923 — George Smith; 1925 — E. J. Carefoot; 1928— R. M. Johnson; 1928 — Mrs. H. McCawley; 1929 — Mr. H. Candler; 1932 — Miss Meg Roberts, 1937 — Mrs. Jack McMillan (nee Meg Roberts); 1943 — Mrs. Green; 1944 — Edna Wager; 1945 — Esther Fast; 1963 — Morley and Edna Wager were hired. Mary Mennett was the last operator.

The lineman played a vital part in the telephone history. They came and went regularly — Bert Iveson, Nelson Eby, W. B. Shanks, R. M. Johnson, H. Candler, Mr. T. Roberts, Jack McMillan, A. Brant, Bill Buell, Fred Reinhardt, Les Allan, Charles Neumeyer and Brouik Piskor.

The meetings for the most part were concerned with unpaid fees for service. Two generations of some families were directors — the Ferris, Prechtl, and Spence families and many more served, both father and son.

Chairmen were: Charlie Roberts, Archie Spence, J. M. McNaughton, Earl Kieper, Charlie Kieper, Earl Kieper being the final one.

The telephone company was dissolved and the change was made to dial phones in 1970. Sask-Tel collected long distance fees and monthly rent.

Mrs. Edna Wager bought the telephone building in 1969.

Girls' Ball Club From Fielding

Play ball!! if this command were issued around some of the "old" gals around Fielding, there would be some who would pick up their gloves, right and left-handed, leave their pickles, jams, husbands and head for the field, not to hay but to play ball.

Fielding Girls' Ball team; 1954, coach Kevin McGrath. Back row — Jean Williams, Ruby Martins, Irene Fertuck, Louise Clark. Front row — Dorothy Roberts, Mary Workentine, Elaine Kieper, Maxine Fast, Marjorie Kieper.

Fielding Girls' Ball team; 1967. Back row, L. to R. — Linda Scott (Welford), Wendy Kieper (Asle), Leslie Ferris (Morgan), Elaine Harris (Reid), Diane Ferris (Quick), Cheryl Kieper (Pale). Front row — Audrey Ferris (Miller), Helen Sherman (Fields), Melanie Kieper (Kerpan), Karen Clark (Schmidt), Pat Brown.

There was an active girls' ball team for over twenty years at Fielding. Always they had wine uniforms with white piping. These uniforms and jackets were earned through team effort, not donated or sponsored.

Some of the early coaches were Kevin McGrath and also Cecil Ferris, when he "wasn't courting" the young teacher, Betty Darling.

Some of the early players had daughters who took mom's place so Fielding always had a good team, one the community was proud of.

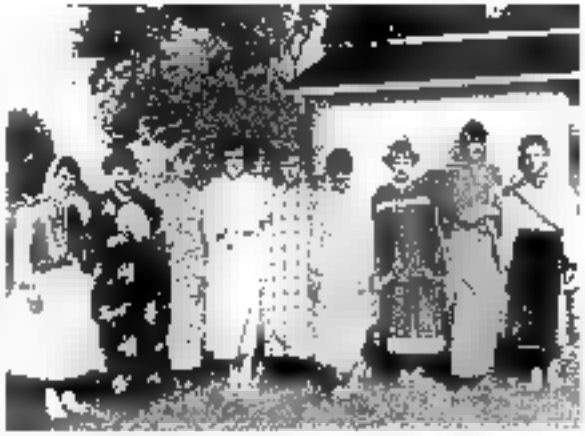
Later coaches were David Roberts and Chester Ferris. The girls could be counted on to be at the ball tournaments at Maymont, Maple Grove, Perdue, Asquith, Sonningdale, Prince and any tournament in between.

Many parents were happy to spend the summer going from town to town to see the girls play. In the end, the girls grew up and left Fielding. One more link with their community was gone, but the memories and friendships made will always linger.

Fielding Canadian Girls in Training

Through many years Canadian Girls In Training was a very active organization in Fielding. The first meetings were organized in 1924 and continued through the ensuing years. Not all leaders were remembered — some of them were Florence Phillips, Ruby Martens, Audrey DeLong, Ethel Roberts was the leader until 1967 or 1968. Betty Ferris and Bernice Spell were also leaders. Mrs. Roberts was presented with an engraved plate for being the leader for so many years. There were Bible studies conducted by Rev. Myers and mission studies conducted by Kathleen Kieper which gave the girls a better understanding of the contribution of the Church to the development of Canada and overseas missions. The girls held bake sales, coffee houses, and other things to raise funds for their Dedication to Mission money and for their fun times.

Fielding Canadian Girls in Training. Leader, Ethel Roberts: L. to R., back row — Leslie Ferris, Cheryl Kieper, Janice Kuntz, Eileen Bodi. Front row — Pat Sherman, Wendy Kieper, Audrey Ferris, Linda Scott, Ruth Clark.



Canadian Girls in Training — dressed in costumes of many lands. L. to R. — Lucille Sherman, Marj Kieper, Shirley Free, Shirley Brown, Inez Miller, Diane Stott, Phyllis Kieper, Dorothy Roberts, and Maxine Fast.

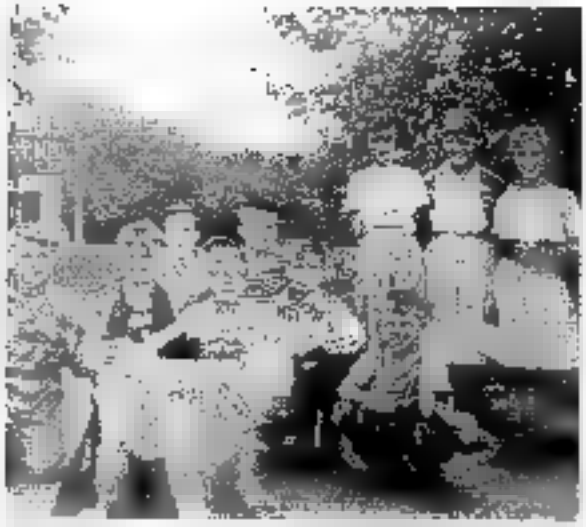
The fun times were camping out with lots of food, outdoor games and worship services. They had pyjama parties and Valentine parties to which the Maymont girls were invited. They had Hallowe'en parties and carrolled around town at Christmas time. The crafts they learned gave them and their parents pleasure.

The vesper service was always well prepared and looked forward to by parents and friends. The purpose of C.G.I.T. is: "As a Canadian Girl in Training under the leadership of Jesus, it is my purpose to seek Truth, know God, and serve others and thus with his help become the girl God would have me be". These girls who grew up in C.G.I.T. have shown in their lives that they are growing in wisdom and service to others.

Fielding C.G.I.T. ended in 1974 when there were only 3 girls of that age group left in the district. They now belong to the Maymont C.G.I.T. group and continue the same purpose.

History of Fielding United Church

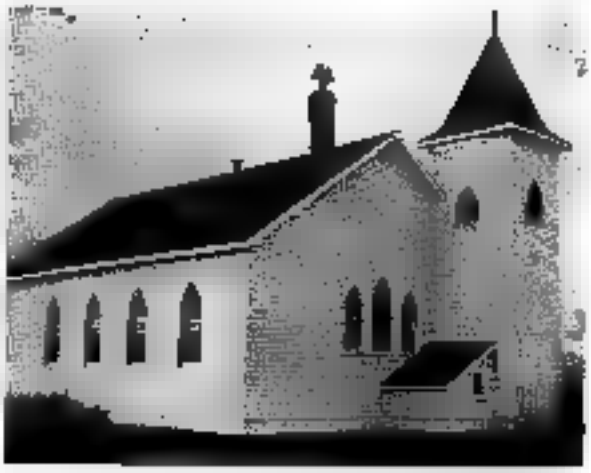
The Robertson Presbyterian Church was built in Fielding in 1906 and dedicated with Reverend J. C. Madill as the first minister. Among the pioneers who planned and organized for the building of the church were two stewards of the Presbyterian congregation, S. R. Miller and R. W. Ferris. Mr. Ferris was later inducted as the first Elder in the new church. That same year the Battleford Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church established the pastoral charge which included Fielding, Maymont, and Reddell. However two years later Fielding was separated from this charge, and



Fielding Messengers group: kneeling, Ron Ferris, Allen Williams, Ron Garnett, Leland Miller, Barry Williams, behind Dale Kleper, Ross McNaughton; standing, Cheryl Kleper, Janice Kuntz, Leslie Ferris.

Christening Day at Fielding Church, L. to R. — Betty Ferris (holding Leslie), Irene Garnett (holding Gail), Kay Garnett (holding Ron), Ron is dressed in Grandma Garnett's christening dress, Betty Scott (holding Leonard).

with surrounding settlements formed into a mission field. It was served as such for several years. Prior to the building of the church, both Methodist and Presbyterian congregations were holding services in a wide variety of places. Reverend R. N. Matheson a Presbyterian student minister held services in the C.N.R. camps between Radisson and Fielding while this portion of the C.N.R. was under construction. He also visited the new settlements as far north as New Ottawa. The very first church services were held in the home of Mr. George Fast Sr. by a student of the Methodist faith. Later the services were held in the homes of pioneer settlers, in C. W. Dickinson's store



Fielding United Church.

in the tent restaurant owned by W. Clyne and in a shack owned by G. E. Iveson, blacksmith.

The early settlers came for miles on foot, or by wagon or buggy, to meet in the Christian fellowship of these services.

After the building of the Presbyterian church the Methodist congregation met in the school. ■ 1913 by agreement of the local church boards, the Methodists held afternoon services in the church on a rental basis. In 1918, joint meetings of the boards of the Methodist and Presbyterian congregations at Fielding, met to consider the possibilities of a union under an arrangement laid down by the governing bodies of the two churches permitting such a union. The result was a union and the church became known as the Fielding

Fielding United Church Women. Members, Back row — Elaine Kleper, Joan Ferris, Olive Miller, Olga Free. 2nd row — Ethel Roberts, Gertie Sherman, Mabel Stott, Mrs. W. Evans, Mary Bennell, Annie Roberts, Kay McNaughton, seated — Helen Spence, Grandma Free, Al Free.

Union Church. Rev. Chilton was called as minister of the united congregation. Members of the Board of Session of the Union Church were R. W. Ferris, J. Robertson, E. E. Garnett and F. Summers. Reverend J. McKinnon succeeded Reverend Chilton, and he was followed by Mr. Cuddeford, a student minister. E. E. Garnett was the organist and choir leader for many years. Vacancies on the session caused by Mr. Robertson leaving the district, and the resignation of Mr. Summers were filled by G. E. Iveson and C. E. Kieper. At that time there were ■ names on the membership roll.

When organic union of the churches was inaugurated in 1925, the church became known as Fielding United Church. Reverend Sibbald was the minister and he was followed shortly by Rev. R. Hardy.

The organizing of the Women's Missionary Society in June, 1927, was no doubt the culmination of Rev. Hardy's devotion, sincerity and untiring efforts to promote the missionary spirit and the gospel of Goodwill. Mrs. R. B. Harris was the first president. Dr. E. H. Oliver was the guest speaker on the memorable 21st anniversary service October ■, 1929, when the mortgage was burned, clearing the church building of debt. Those mentioned in the records as participating in the event were R. W. Ferris, Elder; Mrs. E. E. Garnett, Ladies Aid President; and Chester Buell representing the Young People.

During the difficult years of the 1930's a time of financial stress in the church and community, the congregation was indebted to the splendid leadership of Reverend Hill Hamilton, Reverend L. Schnell, and Reverend F. Myers, who, by their perseverance and self-sacrifice encouraged and maintained the life of the church. Often the minister was given farm and garden produce as part of his meagre salary.

Reverend F. L. Myers came to the Maymont — Fielding — Eastbourne charge in July 1937. During the anxieties and sorrows of the war years, he brought comfort and strength to many Fielding families, and saw returning prosperity ease some of the difficulties through which the church had been going. Through the years Mr. Myers assumed increased responsibilities in the wider outreach of the United Church, and in 1954, was honored by being elected President of the Saskatchewan Conference of the United Church.

Tribute should be paid to the part women have played in the history of the church. Always they have stood by the church leaders with encouragement and help. During the depression years, the Ladies Aid under the cheerful and efficient leadership of Mrs. H. Miller, president for twenty years, helped and sustained the finances of the church. Women have also played an important part in the Christian education of the children and young people, giving leadership and guidance in the Sunday School and youth groups.

By 1966 the church was again facing a difficult situation in this area. Rural population was declining rapidly, and ordained ministers were hard to get. Three rural charges Maymont (which included Fielding) Radisson and Speers were united into one larger parish, and named the Maymont Larger Parish. Of the eight preaching points, only four were maintained, which meant the closing of four small churches. One of these was Fielding United Church. This was a very difficult time for the members of the congregation. Although the church is officially closed, the Fielding people retained their C.G.I.T. and U.C.W. organizations, and the church is still kept clean and polished by the U.C.W. members each year.

This church stands as a reminder of the courage, wisdom and faith which pioneers of our district had in establishing a centre for the worship and Glory of God.

Fielding Ladies' Curling

The ladies of the Fielding district soon followed the men to the curling rink located on the south ■ main street, next to ■■ outdoor skating rink. It must ■ assumed the rink was built in 1950-51 as the minutes from the ladies book state their first meeting was on Feb. 21, 1951.

Mrs. Walter Miller was the first president, Ollie Free — vice-president, and Betty Fair — secretary-treasurer. The fee for the first bonspiel was set at 50¢ each. First skips were: Ollie Free, Nettie Hunchak, Elaine Kieper, Jean Williams, Olie Miller, Esther Fast, Florence Phillips, and Ruby Martens.

What good times the ladies had curling together — mothers baby sat other's tots and watched the play. The curling behind the glass was always fun to listen to. The booth was also a going thing. While there was only one sheet of ice, it seemed to be always busy. There were many high school games, ladies' games and regular draws.

One money-making project was a fowl supper — prices were set at adults — 75¢; under ■ — 50¢; and pre-school — 25¢.

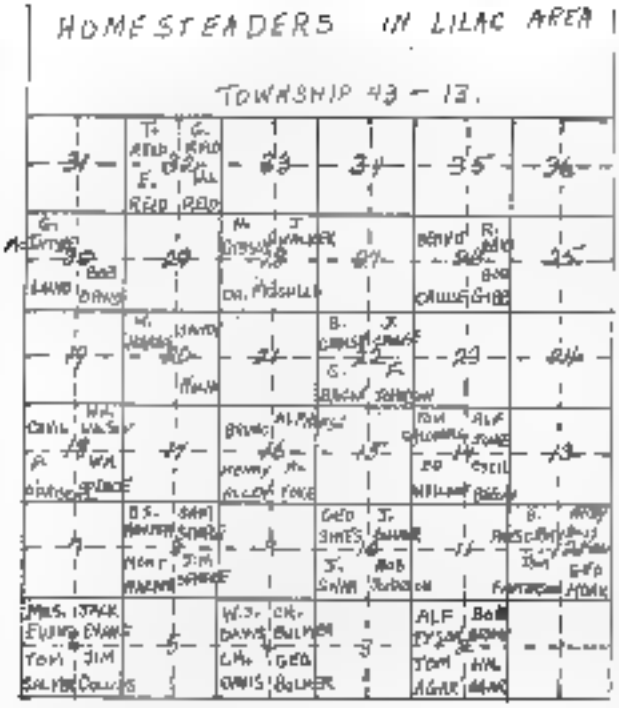
There was an inter-town curling amongst the ladies from Borden to Denholm — two rinks from each town. Fielding brought the trophy home a few times — excitement ran high! It was a nice way to get to know your neighbours.

There isn't a rink in Fielding anymore. Leslie Buell purchased the building for a machine shed. Curlers go now to Maymont and Radisson to play in bonspiels. Nettie Hunchak is still an ardent curler, still a skip and thanks to her for the minute book.

History of Lilac, Saskatchewan

"That Which Was,"
written by Charlotte Gillatt

Lilac was a hamlet about 22 miles east of North Battleford; was about 4 miles from both No. 5 and No. ■ highways on the Correction Line between the Rural



Homesteaders in Lilac Area — Township 43-13.

Municipalities of Mayfield No. 406 and Douglas No. 436; on the rail line between Denholm and Prince Albert via Shellbrook, midway between Denholm and Richard; was 4¼ miles north and ¼ mile east of Ruddell. "GREEN BLUFF" was the name originally planned for this centre, but was changed to "LILAC" when one of the railway men noticed a lilac bush in full bloom on the farm of the late Mr. W. J. Dow near the railroad right-of-way.

First Settlers

Much contradictory material was received in regards as to who were our first settlers. The earliest resident in the area seems to have been a Metis horse rancher, Mr. Charles Nolin, who squatted on land in the Goose Lake area and lived somewhere in the vicinity of the Reisinger farm (Sec. 20-43-13-W3). He was the Member of Parliament for the area when it was called The Northwest Territories.

In 1903, some members of the Barr Colonists' group came here to take up homesteads. These people were the Semple brothers (Jim and Sam), the Harper brothers (O.C. and Mont), and Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Bulmer and family. The Bulmer family were the first family to settle here and their daughter, Hilda, was the first white baby born in the district. She was born in the fall of 1903. Being unprepared for cold prairie winters, the family were taken to the N.W.M.P. barracks at Battleford and spent two winters there until adequate provisions could be made on the farm.

Later in 1903, many other settlers arrived, some of which were the Davis brothers, (W. J. and Charles), Mr. W. J. Dow and family. Mr. John Evans, Mr. J. Swan, and Mr. G. Sykes. Most of the homesteaders drove from Saskatoon with the exception of Mr. Evans and Sykes. Mr. Evans walked all the way from Rosthern to Lilac and Mr. Sykes who had neither oxen nor horses, pushed a wheelbarrow containing a 100 lb. bag of flour, etc., from Prince Albert.

In the following two years, 1904-05, many well-remembered settlers came. There were Mr. and Mrs. Agar and their two children, Mr. Tom Agar, Mr. and Mrs. George Mabey and their four children, Mr. Harry E. Welford, Mr. Charles Wood, Mr. Alfred Tyson and Mr. Henry P. Voke. They lived in tents until sod shacks could be built. Gradually the sod shacks were replaced by log or lumber houses. Drinking water was a big problem in this area and it often had to be hauled or carried long distances.

There were very few women in those early days and those that were here were kept busy six days a week baking bread for the bachelor neighbors. Prairie fires were a constant threat in the hot, dry summers, and a blizzard could strike without warning in the winter. Many a homesteader relied on his horse to bring him home safely from the Whitewood Lake area or with mail and supplies from Battleford. In 1905, this area became part of the Province of Saskatchewan. Mrs. John Evans was the first women in the district to vote (Dec. 1906) in a municipal election for councillor and she drove several miles in 40 degrees below fahrenheit weather with a team of oxen and a stoneboat to do so. Mr. Hugh Gibson thought oxen were too slow — so he bought a motorcycle, then in 1912 he bought a Maxwell car, the first car in the area.

About 1907, Mr. W. J. Davis bought a threshing machine, and with about 21 other men, did much of the custom work around the community.

About 1910 the Semple brothers brought the first gas tractor, an International, to the district.

In 1927, Mr. Grover Reid purchased a combine and other settlers were soon to follow his example.

They came by land, and by water; they tilled the soil by oxen; they lived in primitive shacks; they suffered hardships including the rigors of winter — but they survived and prospered.

The main food of the pioneers was salted meat or any game they could shoot or trap in the wild. If they happened across a prairie chicken or duck nest, they would take the eggs home and hope that they were fresh enough to eat. Oranges and other citrus fruits were scarce and high-priced. Some meats, like pork, were salted or cured, and much was canned. The BEEF RING was organized in 1916 or 1917 and in this group every farmer took his turn donating an animal for slaughter. The animal would be butchered at Tom Sawyer's farm (Mr. Jim Tebay's present farm) and then distributed among the farmers who wished to participate.

The extension of the Ruddell Rural Telephone system to Lilac in 1915 was greeted with pleasure. Mr. and Mrs. Agar's radio, purchased in 1922, provided a real thrill ■ friends and neighbours as it brought news and music from afar.

That which brought tremendous changes in the way of life of the settlers here was the arrival of electrical power in 1952. The country side was able to be lit up as never before and soon appliances of all kinds were in use to lessen the work load of both men and women.

The School

The one-room school in this area has perhaps the most unique history of any country school in the province or perhaps even the Dominion of Canada: —

Bathgate School where Nora Agar taught in 1924-25. (l-r) Front row — Weir Klassen, Muriel Swan, Mary Welford, Eunice Klassen, Agnes Agar, Vivian and Lucille Parent, Bob Hawkins. 2nd row — Mary Trupish, Jeff Schrum, John Hawkins, Ethel Lee, Helen Demchuk, Mabel Agar, Marie Parent, Ted and Jack Welford, Mike Yakuchuk. 3rd row — Lily Hawkins, Mabel P., Dora Trupish, Leslie Little, Nora Agar, Johnny Bulmer, John Yakuchuk, Guy Parent, Ernie Hawkins.

Burnley S.D. No. 4712 about 1938. (l-r) Back — Brian Firth, Wesley Gillatt, Tommy Caldwell, Albert McIntrye, George and Elizabeth Patterson, Laura Caldwell, Merle McIntyre, Annie E. Lewis (teacher). Front — Howard Bulmer, Robert Patterson, Bill Caldwell, Clifton Gillatt, Helen and Marjorie Reid, Elaine Mabey, June Firth, Audrey Reid.

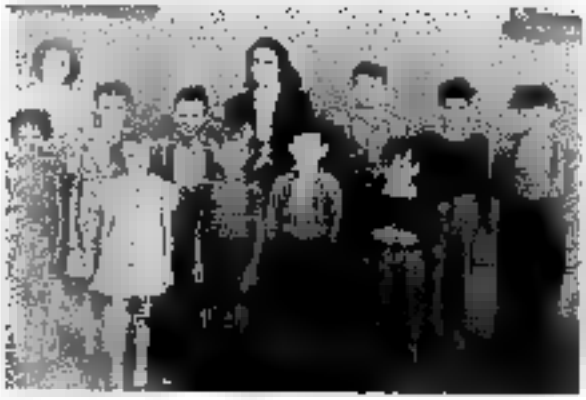
it was situated on two different pieces of property; had three different names; and it had two School District numbers.

When there were 12 children in the area, in 1906, (W. J. Davis, 2; James Little, 4; Wm. Agar, 2; Bulmer 4) permission was granted for a school district. Mr. Agar donated ½ acre of S.W. 2-42-13-W3, just west of the present Arthur Reiley farm site for the school which was built in 1906, and opened in February, 1907 with an enrollment of 8. In order to have the required number of students two four year olds were included. The school years started in February and ended with a Christmas Concert and promotions in December. The school was named BATHGATE for an English town of that name by the carpenters building the school and given the School District number 1544. The first trustees were W. J. Davis (secretary) Mr. J. Allen, and Mr. J. Little. ■ 1925, the school term, with Miss Leask as teacher, extended from Feb. 1925 to June 1926, to convert to fall opening and end of June closing.

In 1927, with much controversy, the school was moved to N.E. 32-42-13-W3, close to the Hamlet of Lilac. Four tractors and high-wheeled wooden wagons were used. It was requested that the name be changed to LILAC, but since there already was a school district by that name, the Department of Education suggested the name of Burnley No. 4712. About 20 years later the Department notified the Lilac School Board the name of Lilac was now available and it was felt this name would be less confusing; ■ LILAC was adopted but the School District number remained No. 4712. About the same time, the North Battleford School Unit No. ■ came into being and Lilac School became part of the Unit. Mr. Herb Mabey was trustee for 19 years 1934-1953. The enrollment has been as high as 30 students and as low as 8. Grades I-VIII were taught as well as Gr. IX and X using Correspondence Courses with teacher supervision.

In 1953 power was installed in the school. In 1956 a new school was built in the same yard but on the east side with a gun-type thermostatically controlled oil furnace and indoor toilets. Mrs. Ida Gillatt, substitute teaching for Miss H. Acaster, was the first to teach in the new school. ■ 1958 a teacherage was moved from Lavigne and placed on a foundation; also included was a small basement and a cistern. After the school was closed in 1971, Dr. Mary McPhail bought the teacherage and moved it away. The school barn was bought by Pete Wood and moved to his farm part to be used as a garage and part as a cattle shed. The Lilac Community Club took over the school building for a district recreational centre.

In September, 1968, Grades VII and VIII were bussed to Maymont Central and on June 30, 1971, Lilac School doors closed and since then all Grades I-XII students have been bused to Maymont. For several of the later years the Kindergarten children also are transported on the bus.



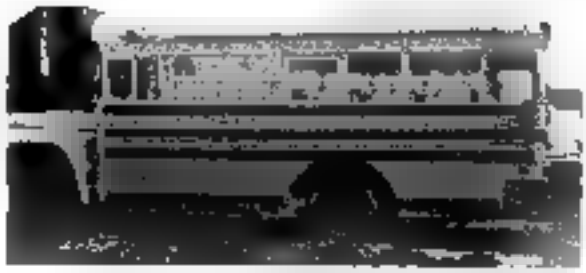
Lilac School No. 4712 — Sept. 1948. (l-r) Back — Bynese Stelly (teacher), Joann Pipp, Iris Reid, Bert Caldwell, Elaine Mabey, Howard Bulmer, Dick Warren, Lloyd Bulmer. Front — Myrna Reid, David Wright, Sid Foulston, George Pipp.

The new Lilac school (built 1956).

Bathgate S.D. No. 1544 Teaching Staff

1907 — Miss Menhennic
— Miss Horseman
1908 — Miss Josephine M. Dow
1909 — Miss B. M. Waters
1910 — Miss Lucy Merry
1911 — Miss Tweedie
1912 — Miss Redmond
1913 — Mrs. Dutrisford
school closed 1914-15 due to small enrollment.
1916 — Miss Marion M. Dewdney
1917 — Miss Marion M. Dewdney
1918 — Miss Marion M. Dewdney
1919 — Florence M. Thomas (Miss Taylor) (sub-teacher)
1920 — Florence M. Thomas
1921 — Miss Gormley
— Miss Florence Adler
1922 — Miss Doris Moore
1923 — Miss Nora Agar
1924 — Miss Nora Agar
1925-1926 Miss Leask (Mrs. Duncan) school term 1½ years to change to fall opening.
1926-1927 — Miss Steena O. Samway
1927-1928 Miss Steena O. Samway — Miss Charlotte Johnston (May and June) school changed to Burnley S.D. No. 4712, moved to NE 32-42-13-W3.
1928-1929 — Miss Christine Toms
1929-1930 — Miss Verna Greenslade
1930-1931 — Miss Jean M. Mawhinney
1931-1932 — Miss Jean M. Mawhinney (Mrs. Broley)
1932-1933 — Miss Annie L. Lewis
1933-1934 — Miss Annie L. Lewis
1934-1935 — Miss Annie L. Lewis
1935-1936 — Miss Annie L. Lewis
1936-1937 — Miss Annie L. Lewis
1937-1938 — Miss Annie L. Lewis
1938-1939 — Miss Annie L. Lewis
1939-1940 — Miss Annie L. Lewis
1940-1941 — Miss Margaret H. Kerr
1941-1942 — Miss Margaret H. Kerr
1942-1943 — Miss Nellie Anderson
1943-1944 — Miss Anne M. Nickel
1944-1945 — Miss Anne R. Nickel
Mrs. A. Blanche Refuse
Mrs. L. A. Warkington
1945-1946 — Miss Dorothy Reeves
Miss Eleanor Kelley
1946-1947 — Frank Gregory Weist (Sept. — Oct. 11)
Miss Jean Floyd
name changed to LILAC S.D. No. 4712, part of N. Battleford S.U. No. 58.
1947-1948 — Miss Joyce Mary Grice
Robert Morin (May 3 — June 30)
1948-1949 — Edward Sylvanio Boyko
1949-1950 — Miss Marjorie I. Reid
1950-1951 — Alvin M. Colwell
1951-1952 — Miss Cecile Longton (Sept. — Dec.)
Mrs. Mary D. Moffat (Jan. — June)
1952-1953 — Mrs. Mary M. Moffat
1953-1954 — Mrs. Mary D. Moffat
1954-1955 — Mrs. Charlotte Gillatt
1955-1956 — Miss Esther Suderman
1956-1957 — Miss Hazel Acaster
1957-1958 — Miss M. Jean Wright
1958-1959 — Miss B. Jean Wright
1959-1960 — Miss B. Jean Wright
1960-1961 — Mrs. Mary D. Moffat
1961-1962 — Mrs. Mary D. Moffat
1962-1963 — Mrs. Mary D. Moffat
1963-1964 — Mrs. Mary D. Moffat
1964-1965 — Mrs. Mary D. Moffat
1965-1966 — Mrs. Signe Marie Toews
1966-1967 — Mr. Martin P. Horne
1967-1968 — Mr. Martin P. Horne
1968-1969 — Mr. Martin P. Horne
1969-1970 — Mrs. Thoma Hoganson
1970-1971 — Mrs. Thoma Hoganson

Since the school closed June 30, 1971, each December the ladies of the district have arranged a Christmas program complete with Santa Claus and



Lilac School Bus Route started Aug., 1964.

lunch with Lilac, Wavle Bank, and Ruddell young and old participating.

Many of the Lilac students have gone on to do well outside of school. We have had armed service personnel, a dentist, a draftsman, a druggist, electricians, nurses (R.N. and R.P.N.), nurses aides, stenographers, teachers, etc.

In the early 1960's, after St. Mary's church was closed, Rev. and Mrs. Belshaha, Bob and Sharon Foreman, and Charlotte Sloan, Jean and Cathie Reid held Foresquare Sunday School classes in Lilac School.

Not only did the school provide "Book Learning" but it was the social centre for recreation. The following is a description of a dance in Bathgate school, but it could have been in any country school in the 1930's.

Bathgate School Dance

written by Bill Wellord

On Friday night a dance was to be held in the school and arrangements had been made for a committee to take care of the details. Bill Parent was to bring his fiddle and Johnny Walker to play the piano. Tom Patterson was to come after school to put the teacher's desk in the corner, place the pupils' desks around the wall for the people to sit on, fill the lamps with coal oil and make sure there was coal oil in the gallon can, etc. Dave Alexander and Jimmy Little would take care of the collection at lunch time and clean up the floor after everyone had eaten. They were also to put all the school supplies back in place after cleaning up at the end of the dance. Walter Bulmer would be floor manager, calling out the name of each dance and starting most of the dances off. The Bulmers were good dancers and knew all the steps having come to the country with the Barr Colonists. Walter's three sisters, Dora, Hilda and Ethel were the ones who taught anyone who needed help with any of the steps. Walter and Hilda were large people and if any of the crowd that were standing at the back of the school got out too close to the centre cutting down on the dancing surface, Walter and Hilda would dance across in front of that line ever so close and many a person would back off graciously.

There was always a rush to get to the dance early because the early bird got a premium, a chance to get their horses in the school barn. The first teams could tie up to the manger. The later ones squeezed in to the alley. When the barn was full they opened the door and pushed a sleigh box against the open door. This kept the horses in and yet allowed for some air. The horses had to be checked periodically because the other fellow's horse might kick or bite, leading to chaos under such crowded conditions. A man's own horse, of course, would never do anything wrong unless molested. The remaining horses would be tied to the sides of sleigh boxes and covered with a horse blanket if they had one and the rest used a robe or patch-work blanket carried along in the sleighbox.

The first people into the school opened the door on the pot-bellied heater and placed a few sticks on the embers which produced a light in the dark school and instant heat. Then they started the lamps. The people greeted each other with a friendly smile and a cheery hello as they gathered close around the pot-bellied heater to soak up the warmth. A nice few were there when Johnny Walker walked in; a cheer went up from all present. Johnny went straight from the door to the piano taking off his coat and cap as he went, happy to hear the people greeting him so warmly. He tossed his coat and cap in the corner beside the piano, slid on to the piano stool, rubbed his hands a couple of times to stimulate the circulation. He tried the keys and then cut loose with music to start the dancing.

A young woman, with a baby in her arms, walked in and placed her baby on the teacher's desk along with her coat. Some one asked her to dance and away she went. Soon the desk was piled high with coats. A couple of short dances later in came Bill Parent with his violin. A quick warm up by the heater — more like a couple of quick passes with everyone egging him on — and he tuned up his violin. Then the young woman let out a scream, "Oh my baby!" She hurried to the teacher's desk tossing coats on the floor until she found the baby who was none the worse for the episode, but the rest of the ladies didn't like their best coats being tossed on the floor. It looked like tempers might rise but the musicians saved the day by bursting forth with an old waltz. Husbands and boyfriends got their partners and filled the floor. By the end of that dance the ladies were apologizing for their behavior and all was forgiven. They even inquired as to the good health of the baby. "Warm but none the worse."

An array of dances followed, the likes of which you couldn't explain on paper. Then it was time to check the horses. Stepping out-of-doors was a night all of its own. There were open cutters, some drawn by one horse, some by a team. Sleigh boxes, no two alike and they were parked all over the yard, every which way. There was Russell Reid's cutter with the fancy curved front and the high back. We all knew his cutter because he had a robe made of coyote skins (the pick of the skins of which he had plenty,) and three tails hung down over the back in a very distinctive manner. These vehicles were parked where ever there was

plenty of space to get around them. The best way to explain it is that after turning in the gate, the driver would holler "Whoa" and where ever the horses stopped they were unhooked. Having reached the barn, we would place our car against the wall of the barn and all was quiet so that meant all was well inside.

Back in the school Walter Bulmer certainly didn't need any amplifier. Everyone heard his call of "Places all" as he started a square dance. His voice penetrated every corner as he called, "Ladies cross your lily white hands and Gents your black and tanned" so everyone knew what to do. It is doubtful if the built-in amplifier that man had, will ever be duplicated.

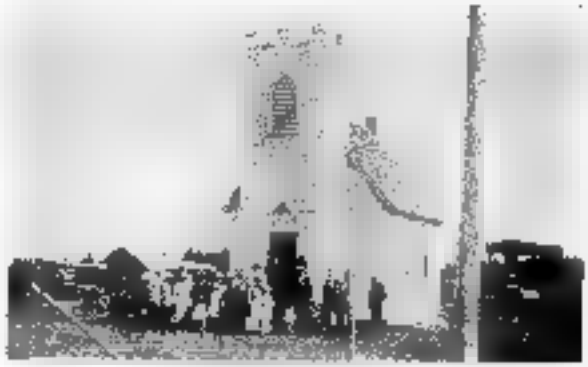
When it was nearly lunchtime a couple of the men went out and hitched up a team and drove to the home of one of the neighbors where the coffee was made in a boiler and transported to the school in cream cans as there was no stove in the school where the coffee could be made. Sometimes the cream and sugar would be added to the coffee before it was taken to the school. As quickly as possible the cans of coffee were taken to the school so it would cool off as little as possible.

A standing rule was "Ladies, please bring Lunch." Some brought sandwiches and others brought cake. The proportion of each was left to chance and you'd never believe how well this arrangement worked out. The ladies passed the lunch around and any bachelor who hadn't had much cake at home during the week was a good candidate for several rounds. The sooner a lady's cake pan was empty gave her a feeling of being a good cook so there was quite the rivalry

After lunch the floor was swept, the fiddle tuned up again and before the broom had any more than found its corner the music was playing. Starting off with a slow waltz to settle the lunch and then gaining momentum until nearing two o'clock it would about reach its peak. Bill Parent looked around for someone ■ loan his fiddle to so he could dance. Not finding a taker he put his fiddle under his chin and played and danced with his fiddle for a partner going around the room not missing a beat. The dancers kept calling for more and more so the musicians obliged with a fast one-step, closely followed by a fox trot and finishing off with "Home Sweet Home" and "Good Night Ladies." Fun was fun but here was a group of people who would ■ getting up at six or six thirty ready to do chores. The school emptied quickly leaving Dave Alexander and Jimmy Little to clean up. The teams rushed out the school gate turning left or right in the direction of home. The cheery good nights could be heard in the cold, crisp night air above the sound of sleighbells, sleigh-runners, and horses' hooves. Each and everyone vowed they would be at the next Bathgate School dance!

St. Mary's Anglican Church, Lilac

Church services were first held when Mr. Good would come from Ruddell and hold church services in Mr. Charles Davis's home (1906). In 1907 Mr. Davis donated one-half acre of land (SW 4-43-13-W3) and a church was built by volunteer labour under the direction of Ruddell contractor George Anderson with funds from mother church in England. It had measurements of 18' x ■' not including the vestry. When finished it was christened "St. Mary's Anglican Church". A sod barn was built but it was later replaced by a wooden one. Then a manse was built in the churchyard for the resident Anglican ministers. Tom Patterson bought and moved the barn from the churchyard and it still stands in the George Patterson yard. The manse was rented out in later years to the Leduc family and later moved to just south ■ the old garage when the Jim McIntyre family lived in it for awhile. Later it was dismantled.



St. Mary's Church, Lilac about 1927. Note barn at the left of picture.

St. Mary's church manse — Lilac. Dr. McLean of Toronto (father of Mrs. J. E. McLarty of Denholm), Eleanor McLarty, and Mr. Luke (student minister).

The minister's warden was Mr. H. E. Welford who served for 20 years; the People's warden was Mr. George Mabey who held that position for 20 years. Mrs. G. Mabey was organist and played the organ for 32 years.

Some of the ministers, student ministers, and lay people who served St. Mary's were; Mr. Good, Mr. Walker, Mr. Black, Mr. Bunting, Mr. Jordan, Mr. West, Mr. Huntley, Mr. Olson, Mr. Finnerty, Mr. Coffee, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Luke, Mr. Jones, Mr. Wood,

Cairn ■ Lilac church yard erected in 1968. Lilac Curling Rink can be seen at left of picture.

Plaque Lilac Church yard erected 1976 by Lilac Ladies' Guild.

Mr. Priest, Mr. Joe Martin, Mr. Richardson, Mr. Atkinson, Mr. Greenhalgh, Mr. Frank Deakin.

Miss Jennie Welford (now Mrs. Levi Walden) was the first baby baptized in the church.

■ May, 1955, Miss Nancy Johnsson and Miss Dianne Pain (now Mrs. Patrick Becotte) were the last babies to be baptized there.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Christie, October 30, 1911, were one of the first couples married in the church while Mr. and Mrs. Earl Curry (nee Marjorie Reid) were the last couple to be married in St. Mary's (May 1961).

St. Mary's closed in 1960 and in 1965 the church was moved to its present location in the Western Development Museum. A Cairn, arrangements for which were made by Lilac Ladies Guild, was erected in 1968 as a belated Centennial project paid for by voluntary contributions by former and local residents. It gives particular recognition to Rev. J. B. Bunting and Canon P. Jordan as well as ■ the faithful workers throughout the years.

■ the fall of 1975, some trees (2 Evergreens from the Sask. Wheat Pool houseyard, and donated by the Henry Oreel family, and some Lilac bushes from the Lilac store site) were moved into the churchyard completing the outline of the former church foundation. The moving was done by Sgt. Bob Young of North Battleford R.C.M.P. detachment and was funded by a $50 grant from the Dept. of Youth and Culture, and $25 from Lilac Community Club. The Lilac Ladies Guild had a sign erected in 1976 to designate where the trees came from. Hopefully the Lilacs are an off shoot of the Lilac bush for which the district was named and will be a permanent reminder of "that which was".

Lilac Ladies Guild

■ 1913, six pioneer women, Mrs. Evans, Mrs. G. Mabey, Mrs. Ralph, Mrs. J. Swan, Mrs. Tyson, and Mrs. H. E. Welford walked to a meeting to organize ST. MARY'S ANGLICAN GUILD, to assist the church financially. During the first Great War the ladies switched to Red Cross work, but otherwise the Guild has carried on. After the church closed (1960) and moved (1965) ■ North Battleford Western Development Museum, the Ladies of the district felt there was still a need for an organization in the district so the name was changed to LILAC LADIES GUILD.

In 1964 they undertook to foster a needy child through the Christian Children's Fund paying $120.00 per annum, then $160.00 ■ 1974 and since 1978 they send $180.00 per year to support their adoptee. To date over $2000 has been given to foster children. They make donations to various Charitable organizations, make visits to senior citizens homes and canvas the district annually for CNIB.

The Guild has been a cohesive force in keeping the district together. At the monthly meetings the wheels are set in motion for community activities such as cleaning the school, showers, farewells, picnics, funeral memorials, and even Christmas Concerts.

The Railroad, Lilac Loading Platform and Station

In 1911, the rail line from Denholm, through Lilac to Blaine Lake was started by the Canadian Northern

Railway. ■ was first opened to traffic on December 15, 1913. The original site of the loading platform (about 5-6 miles east from Denholm) was on NE 28-42-12-W3. It was an earthloading platform. In 1916 the site was moved 2 miles east of the Lilac site thus making it more midway between Denholm and Richard. Mr. Henry P. Voke hauled the earth for the platform.

A 10' x 32' freight and passenger shelter (station) was built by Canadian Northern in 1913 as well as a two-car 18' x 86' loading platform. A spur line to accommodate the elevators was built later. The loading platform was removed in 1964, and the freight and passenger shelter was sold ■ Alwyn Ebach and removed from the property in 1967. ■ 1978 the spur line was removed. In April, 1979, the two parts of the shelter were sold as grain bins at the auction sale of Mae Ebach.

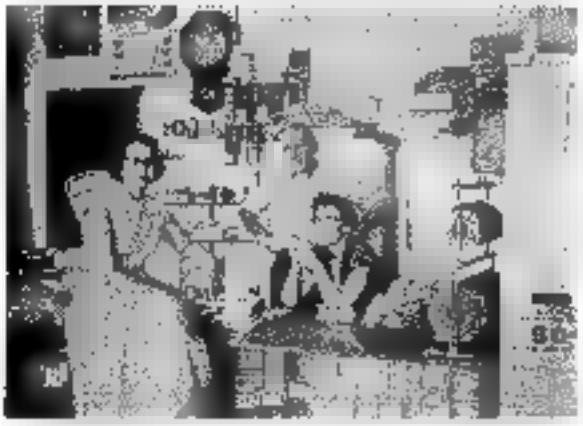
Lilac Store

The Lilac store began when Mr. J. Warden of Ruddell took a gamble and set up a store in the struggling Lilac community. He operated the store for many years but finally sold to Mr. and Mrs. Smith and son, Archie. Mr. Smith had problems trying to run the business and finally left hurriedly in 1922. The store was closed until 1923 when Mr. Reddick took over and ran it for 8 years. In 1932 ■ sold to Herb and Mary Mabey who operated the store until May of 1965 when Mr. and Mrs. Ken Robertson bought the business. In November, 1965, they closed out with a Public Auction Sale. The building was purchased by Harold Pain and Bill Welford, dismantled and removed. When tractors had become more popular, Herb Mabey became an agent for White Rose (later bought by Shell) and had a Bulk Service depot at Lilac. For years Herb delivered gas, oil, and diesel to neighbouring farms.

Lilac Store.

The Mail and Lilac Post Office

During the first settlement years of the Lilac area, mail was obtained from Battleford or Radisson, later at Richard's Ranch, and then at Ruddell after the main rail line went through from Saskatoon to North Battleford. The Lilac Post Office was opened March 15, 1918, in the Battlefords Electoral District as a Group 4 Office with the supervisory Postmaster's Office in Radisson. Each office had an authorized reserve. Lilac's reserve was $50.00. The approximate salary range was from $300.00 to $950.00 per annum.



Interior of Lilac store (1956). Elaine, Herb and Mary Mabey.

Lilac Postmasters 1918-1966

Date Oath taken
John Warden, March 3, 1918
David A. Klassen, April 4, 1921
Mrs. Agatha Klassen, March 3, 1935 *office moved 120 yds. on 1-10-1940.
Mrs. Vera Beth Warren, Sept 9, 1946 *office moved 100 yds. east at transfer.
Arthur Lee, June 9, 1948 *office moved 50 yds. west at transfer.
Mrs. Vera Beth Warren, Aug. 5, 1949
Mrs. Mary Louise Mabey, July 7, 1950
Ken Robertson, date unknown closed Feb. 15, 1967.

Assistant Postmasters

Date Oath Taken
Vera Beth Warren, April 23, 1943
Rhoda M. Milne, July 10, 1945
Herbert L. Warren, Sept. 21, 1946
Elizabeth Jane Patterson, May 21, 1947
Flora Edith Lee, unknown
■. Warren, July 22, 1950
Herbert Mabey, Aug. 4, 1950
Frank Schaefer, unknown
W. Gayle Mabey, unknown
Mrs. (H. K.) Pain, unknown
Mrs. Margaret Robertson, May, 1965

Line ■ of trucks at Lilac's two elevators in the late 50's. ■ckground: Mabey's store, St. Mary's Anglican Church, the National elevator house to the left and curling rink to the right.

Miss Gwendolyn Joyce Robertson, 1966
Arthur H. Railey, Dec. 2, 1952

With the closing of the store in Oct./Nov. 1966, Lilac area residents picked up their mail at Ruddell Post Office. A proposal to provide patrons concerned with Rural Mail Delivery Service via Maymont R.■. No. 1, made in October, 1965, was started in February, 1967 with Alex Beierle delivering the mail every Wednesday and Saturday mornings. This route is still being serviced by Alex' widow, Mrs. Elsie Beierle McIvor.

Lilac Elevators

The National Grain Company built an elevator at Lilac in 1917. Then in 1920 a house for the agent and family was constructed. In 1971 or 1972 the National was closed and about a year later the elevator was taken down with some of the lumber hauled to North Battleford and used in the construction of a larger National elevator there.

Agents 1917-1971/72

Mr. McMillan, Mr. David Klassen, Mr. Jack Wright, Mr. Herbert (Bud) Warren, Mr. Jack Stocker, Mr. Harvey Parent, Mr. Alex Beierle, Mr. Tom McGrath, Mr. Bernard Spence, Mr. Harold Weir.

A Co-operative Grain elevator was built ■ Lilac in 1924. A man who worked hard at selling shares in this elevator was a local homesteader, J. Swan, who travelled by horse and buggy selling $10.00 shares. ■ the late 1920's it was transferred to Saskatchewan Wheat Pool and the Lilac Elevator was No. 538. The Pool elevator was closed July 31, 1975 and in 1979 the

Sask. Wheat Pool elevator at Lilac being taken down (1979).

building was sold to Dennis Buziak and Michael Yakiwchuk who are now dismantling the building. The house which was built in 1928 by H. McMurphy — a one-storey building, 22' x 26' — was sold to Jim Prescesky of the Wavie Bank district ■ 1975 and moved to Deaholm.

Agents 1924-1975

Walter Hewar, August 1, 1929 to July 31, 1933
Ronald Firth, August 1, 1933 to July 31, 1941
Frank Schaefer, August 1, 1941 to July ■, 1942
C. W. Thompson, August 1, 1942 to January 6, 1943
F. W. Goodfellow, January 6, 1943 to December 20, 1943
Elwood W. Huston, December 20, 1943 to August 1, 1947, Lilac Elevator Closed
G. McTavish, August 9, 1948 to October 15, 1948
F. Schaefer, October 16, 1948 to December 15, 1948, Lilac Elevator Closed
F. Schaefer, April 18, 1949 to July 29, 1949, Lilac Elevator Closed
G. R. (Curly) Hollingshead, August 1, 1949 to April 21, 1953
Walter E. Millard, April 21, 1953 to March 2, 1955
Lorne C. Roach, March 2, 1955 to June 15, 1959
Henry R. Oreel, June 16, 1959 to October 11, 1973
Harvey Wood, October 12, 1973 to August 1, 1974
Edward Anthony Heilman, August 1, 1974 to July 1, 1975
John Heilman, July 1, 1975 ■ July 31, 1975, Lilac Elevator Closed

Lilac Wheat Pool Committee

Like other Pool elevators, Lilac Wheat Pool had a Wheat Pool Committee. The committee helped to determine Pool policies as well as supporting some Co-

The last Lilac Wheat Pool Committee (1972). (l-r) Bill Jess, Wes Gillatt, Art Reiley, Howard Bulmer, Jack Welford, Joe Moffat, Harold Pain, Walter Buziak, Ted Welford, Alwyn Ebach (missing Cliff Underwood).

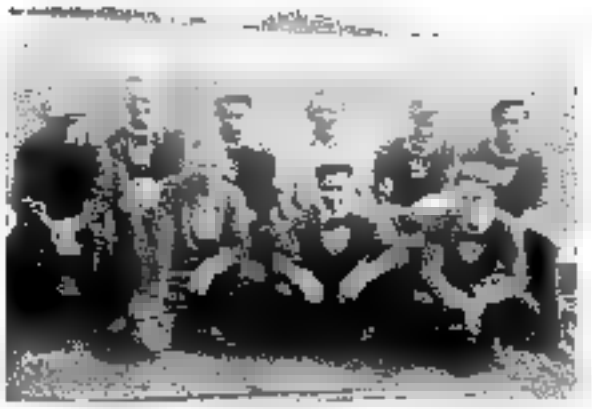
operating events such as sending young people to the CO-OP Schools. They also gave financial help to the Mayfield 4-H. Due to the closure of the Lilac Wheat Pool elevator No. 533, the committee was officially disbanded in 1979.

Lilac Curling Rink

In 1945, a one-sheet curling rink was built at Lilac with National elevator agent, Bud Warren, as engineer. The labour was provided by local residents. The rink was opened December 28, 1945 when the first game was curled. Nine individuals bought their own pair of curling rocks and let them be used by other curlers until some years later when the Curling Club bought matched rocks. In 1954, the men laid a foundation and papered the rink. Later a waiting room with kitchen facilities and a water storage cistern were built. Regular draws were held afternoon and evening and each year the Club had an Open Bonspiel. The last Bonspiel was held in 1968 with Rex Warren of Speers winner of the first event and the Tom Wade Memorial Trophy. There was lots of good curling both on the ice and behind the glass. The building was sold to Ted Welford who later sold sections to Henry Welford, Art Reiley, Tom Caldwell and David Johnston who used them to make garages on their farms. Mayfair Curling Club bought the rocks.

Lilac Softball Team

In 1945, Lilac organized a softball team which took part in local Sports Days at Ruddell, Denholm, Speers, Richard, Maymont, etc. Some of those who played on the team in the first years were: Harvey and Guy Parent (brothers), Kenneth and Grant Reid (cousins), Wes and Cliff Gillatt (brothers), Robert and George Patterson (brothers), Bill and Ted Welford (brothers), Art Foulston, Les Ebach, Stuart Reiley, Lloyd and Johnny Bulmer (father and son).



Lilac Softball Team. (l-r) Back — Ted Welford, Art Foulston, Guy Parent, Lawrence Belerle, Bill Welford, Wes Gillatt. Front — Ken Reid, Harvey Parent, Robert Patterson.

Other Lilac Organizations
Eastside and Westside Snowplow Clubs

As cars and trucks became more prevalent and people wished to travel all year round the need was greater for open roads in the winter. This was before the roads were built to the standards of today. Also at that time the R.M.'s were not involved in plowing snow. Therefore the Snowplow clubs were born. A few families grouped together, purchased a snowplow and the man who operated the plow received some wages. The Eastside Club attempted to keep the roads east of Lilac open while the Westside Club worked on the West roads. Occasionally the Schmidt Family Plow was hired. These clubs gradually fell into disuse especially when school bus routes were started and the Municipalities took on the responsibility of plowing the roads.

Lilac U.C.W.

To aid and financially support the Ruddell United Church, the Lilac U.C.W. was organized on August 9, 1962, and disbanded at the end of 1966 when the Ruddell church was closed. Some of the members of the group were: Mary Mabey, Nellie Welford, Enid Reid, Charlotte Gillatt, Ida Gillatt, Olive Gillatt, Mary Moffat, Elsie Belerle, Thelma Nedowin.

Lilac Social Club

No history of the Lilac area would be complete without some mention of the Social Club. We were unable to secure any factual information as the members were no longer able to be contacted. However we do know the Club members (wives and husbands) took turns meeting at the various homes for an evening of fun and relaxation. This was during the early and depression years. No doubt it helped to pass the long winters as well as helped to prevent loneliness.

Reminiscences, and a Tribute to the Thirties in Lilac, Saskatchewan

Eric Wright

I have always been intrigued by Oliver Goldsmith's **Deserted Village**, which has a touch of nostalgia and the coloring of hindsight. Two years ago I stood on the spot where St. Mary's church had been, and I felt again the welling of the respect I have always felt for these good people.

(l-r) Back row — O. S. Harper, Dave Arnold, J. Voigt, Geo. Negus, Chas. Murison. 2nd row — Mr. and Mrs. J. Bowden, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Mabey, H. Welford. Front row — E. Whitlaw, J. Arnold, J. White.

Since living in the Peace River country, three years service in the Canadian Army in World War II, and 32 years living, and serving parishes, in the U.S.A. the pleasant thoughts of, and the respect for these fine people has not diminished.

It was early May, 1933 when I first took charge of the Anglican churches of Denholm, Lilac and Baljennie. These were "the depression years", but the human spirit was far from depressed. I was to have the pleasure of meeting, and in many cases staying in the homes, of many of the finest of the human race. The Harry Turner's, Jack Dow's, George Mabey's, Harry Welford's, Bill Agar's, Wilf Baker's, Judges, Reisengers, Dan Scott's, J. Swans, and Miss Lewis the teacher, names of families which had some connection with the church.

I recall visiting in the Tom Caldwell home a few days after a new baby was born and it was very important to Mrs. Caldwell that I held her baby. I recall Weir Klassen riding horseback to Ruddell, to get to High School — discussion of merits of the "one way" disk as contrasted with the plow — and the importance of "the cream cheque". The church was tiny but since most families came regularly the little church was crowded. In the winter I returned once per month for Service taking the train from Saskatoon to Ruddell.

Although then was not the affluence of these latter days, then was the indomitable spirit of the human race, to keep their church and not be overwhelmed by the affairs of this life.

For these statements I pray often "Rest eternal grant them O Lord . . . May they rest in peace". For those who are still here, and for those still to come, I pray that the example of fortitude and certainty may inspire all in the issues which are eternal.

The Village of Maymont

submitted by Dorothy Crawley

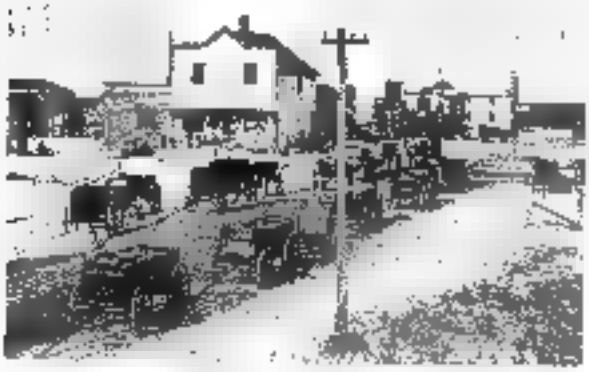
The village of Maymont is located five miles north of the North Saskatchewan River between the cities of North Battleford to west and Saskatoon to the east. It has the distinction of being situated at the highest point above sea level on the Canadian National Railway line between Winnipeg and North Battleford, elevation 1,941 feet.

Maymont was named after May Montgomery, niece of Mr. McKenzie of McKenzie and Mann, contractors who built the Canadian National Railway through this area in 1905. From the village the landscape slopes gently to the river and its valley. The river, which in the early days proved both a boon and an obstacle — depending on the season — is now spanned by a bridge and the valley cradles Glenburn Regional Park. The recently constructed No. 376 highway running north and south, passes through the village and crosses highway No. 16 as it continues north. The latter highway which by-passes the village was the old No. 5 and is now part of the Yellowhead Route.

Early View of Maymont.

Maymont Station with passenger train coming in.

Incorporated into a village of twenty-one householders in 1907, Maymont has never reached the stature of a town — population being two hundred at present — but on the whole it is a progressive and community-minded centre. There are three churches, a twelve-room school with gym and resource centre, two general stores, two halls, hotel, post-office, a new municipal building which houses the office of the Rural Municipality of Mayfield No. 406 and the branch of the Canadian-Imperial Bank of Commerce, a Sports Centre, a branch of the Lakeland Regional Library, a Pool elevator complex, a Senior Citizen's Recreation Centre, a Ceramic building, and the newest acquisition, a ten-unit Senior Citizen's Housing Project.



Wheat coming into Maymont somewhere between 1905 and 1909.

Within the last few years numerous modern houses have been built in the village and thirteen mobile homes brought in. The entire village is serviced by a sewer and water system, besides a soft water system for gardens, piped in from nearby dugouts.

Religious, social, educational and sports activities are all prominent in the village and surrounding area. If it can be said that Maymont leans a little more toward one activity than another, it would probably be in sports. Down through the years horse-racing, football, broomball, tennis, hockey, curling, baseball, golf, track and field events, have all played their part in the development of the community.

In 1980 Maymont will celebrate its seventy-fifth consecutive annual Sports Day. Though now it is mostly a ball tournament, it still draws a large crowd, being the first one of the season each year.

The years have produced many good ball and hockey teams and curling foursomes. In 1976 a team from Maymont won the Provincial Junior Fastball Championship. In 1978 Maymont hosted the Regional Winter Games — three days of exciting competition.

We are justly proud of any and all community effort — one for example is the cemetery clean-up. Four or five times a year during the summer months a crowd gathers to cut, rake, trim, dig and level — to make the cemetery a spot to be proud of. Then you know what the song writer meant when he wrote 'Everything is Beautiful in it's own Way'.

There's an old cliche that says "A man is known by the company he keeps". Perhaps we could say that a village or town can be judged by the number of folks who have chosen to live and work for years within its boundaries — a doctor who chose to carry on his practice and live out his life here, a minister who continued his ministry here for thirty-seven years, a station agent who had many years of seniority but who preferred to remain in Maymont, a teacher who taught and lived here for twenty-five years, another for twenty years, a telephone operator who worked at the switchboard for thirty-one years, a store manager who made the village his home for most of his life, nine couples who have celebrated golden wedding anniversaries here.

We hope many more folk will continue to think of Maymont as a good place to live and will work to keep it so.

Banks

The first bank in Maymont was the Northern Crown Bank, opened in 1910 in the hotel. Later another building was erected on Lots 8 and 9, Block 4, north of the hotel. In 1914 the Northern Crown amalgamated with Crown Bank. The latter sold to the Royal Bank of Canada.

The first bank manager was Mr. Trotter followed respectively by Messrs. Hales, Regan, Moffatt and Griffin.

In 1925 the business was purchased by the Imperial Bank and Maymont was operating as a sub-branch to Fielding, Saskatchewan. The manager was A. MacMillan. It was established as an independent branch in 1929

Inside the bank when it was in the hotel. Richard Bretton and Tom Arnott.

The following were the bank managers from that time to the present.

1929-1941 — H. B. McLeish
1941-1945 — A. J. Riches
1945-1951 — L. J. Bergman
1951-1966 — L. Schmidt
1966-1971 — R. J. Wedel
1971-1973 — D. J. A. Wouters
1973 to present — W. M. Sherlock

On December 2, 1975 the bank business was moved kitty-corner across the street into part of the new R.M. Complex. The facilities are bright and roomy with all the modern conveniences. People do their banking business now in an air-conditioned, carpeted building, a great change from the days when the Northern Crown Bank was situated in the hotel.

Black Smith Shops

In 1908 Mr. Rob Davidson built the first blacksmith shop with Mr. J. McKenzie as his partner. A year later Mr. Davidson bought Mr. McKenzie's interest. In 1912 he sold his business and the year following the business was sold to Mr. F. Anderson who shortly after sold it to Mr. Harkness. The following year he sold out to Mr. McBratney and his son. In 1919 the business was sold to Mr. Hugh Harkness, who continued until 1927 when Mr. Kaemstedt became the owner. The business was again sold to Mr. J. Hutchison who operated it until 1960.

L. to r. — Mrs. Hutchison, Mabel, Mr. Joe Hutchison, Howard. Mr. Hutchison was the blacksmith in Maymont for many years. Picture taken about 1960.

In 1908 Mr. A. Varachek operated another shop but was in business for only a year.

Beauty Parlors

Mrs. Anger operated a beauty parlor in connection with her husband's barber shop. Mrs. Ida Hickman and Mrs. Ed Prynallt both had beauty shops for short periods in Merrell's Drug Store and Maymont Hotel respectively. Mrs. Prynallt and Mrs. Evelyn Reid did hairdressing in their homes for many years.

In 1962 Mrs. Evelyn Bates opened a Hairdressing Shop in her home and still operates it.

Barber Shops and Poolrooms

Mr. Jim Patterson built the first barber shop and poolroom in 1907 (the building which is now the Foursquare Church). He was succeeded by his son Gordon and later followed by Mr. A. Anger, Mr. Knight, and Mrs. Anger. Mr. Broom operated a poolroom and barber shop in the premises once called the 'Tea Cup Inn', and also across the street in the old cafe. Mr. Badowsky ran a poolroom in this building also. Mr. Frank Feeley owned the building at one time and made it into two residences, one in the front of the building and one in the back.

The old cafe was demolished in 1973.

Stump Brothers operated a poolroom in Mr. Ward's restaurant for a time.

Mr. Bill Sowden also operated a poolroom in the hotel.

Mr. Harold Greenslade operated a poolroom for a time where his M&M store now is. A barber came once a week.

The only pool tables in Maymont are now in the Senior Citizen's Centre, and a barber still comes one night a week, also one in the hotel.

Business Places

The first store in Maymont District was operated by Mr. F. T. McCorkle at his farm home north of Maymont. Supplies were hauled from Saskatoon.

In 1905 the first general store in the village was operated by Mr. Digman and Mr. McLean in a shack south of the present Maymont C.N.R. station.

The same year Mr. E. W. Bean had lumber hauled from Radisson and built the first store on the north side of the track. The store was built before the railroad came through, and was opened for business early in 1905. The first Post Office conducted it's business in this store and Mr. Bean was the assistant postmaster.

Mr. Bean was killed in an accident in 1907 and the business was operated by his wife Mrs. Alice Bean, with the assistance of the following managers: Mr. G. H. Martin, Mr. M. McDougal, Mr. W. Philpot and her son Alan Bean. The latter had acted as manager since 1925. Mrs. Bean died in 1949 and Alan carried on the business in the original store until Jan., 1958, was purchased by Mr. Maurice VanDerHaegen and dismantled.

The store now operated by Mr. Rodney Munn was built in 1906 by Mr. John Reid and Mr. John McLaren, operating until approximately 1917 when Mr. Patterson bought the business.

Mr. Jim Reid had the original butcher shop in the basement of this store. There were other butcher shops in the village from time to time. Managers were Mr. Russell, Mr. A. Dementer, Mr. Friesen, Mr. R. Anger, Mr. Werb, Mr. Lane, Messrs. Merkley and Lane, Mr. Friedman, Mr. Johnston, and Mr. Ted Saunders.

Mr. Ken DeLong built and opened the first locker plant in Maymont during the fall of 1949. It was in operation until 1971.

A third general store was opened in the early years in the hotel by Mr. Werb. He sold the business to Mr. J. Margolin. The latter sold it to Mr. Newbeiger. Mr. Werb rebought the business and sold it again to Mr. Merkely. Mr. Merkely took Mr. Lane into partnership and moved the business across the street and bought Mr. J. Patterson's business. Later Mr. Werb bought out Merkley and Lane. Mr. H. Friedman then bought the business and later sold it to Mr. N. Friedman. He sold it to Mr. L. Karpan. Mr. Karpan sold to Mr. Ted Saunders in 1950. Ted retired because of ill health and in Jan./73 sold the store to Mr. Rodney Munn who now operates it as the Lucky Dollar Store.

Bridal Showers

There have been bridal showers in Maymont for more years than a lot of us care to remember, and they've always been a great help for any girl starting in to keep house. In this community, showers have grown from a small gathering at a friend's home to a town shower held in the Legion Hall — and now to a community affair held in the Memorial Hall to accomodate the crowd that attends.

Friends of the bride-to-be family form a committee, usually numbering ten or twelve, have a meeting, arrange programs and lunch and give out lists of names to each committee member to [illegible] phoned re: date of shower, etc. Though some people prefer to give individual gifts, most leave a donation of money at one of the two stores and the buying committee chooses suitable gifts from those stores.

Though it is optional whether one gives or attends, there is more often that not, a fine response — everyone giving to every bride.

Looking through the records we note that since 1948 there hasn't been a year without a bride or brides. In 1949, '62 and '64 there was only one bride, but in 1955 there were nine and in 1975 and in 1979 there were eight.

Real showery years!

Bridge at Maymont

For many years people of the farming areas south of the Saskatchewan River had to wait on the river to freeze over to take their produce to the elevators in Maymont and Radisson. Many of the winter tales were told of the oxen slipping off the built-up roads and the result often a broken wagon tongue or other troubles. The farmers often had [illegible] stay at someone's place over night as the freezing temperatures and long hauls were hard on man and beast. How they must often have longed for a bridge or more permanent way of getting to their market as there were no elevators at Sonningdale or Baljennie.

Long before the ferry service was in use at Maymont there were ferries at Baljennie or Denholm, Spinney Hill and Fielding. These were in use for many years. It wasn't until 1926 that the Maymont Crossing was first put into operation.

The river was a gathering place for so many occasions. There were picnics, church services, just swimming, and good times. The cranberry picking parties along the river were always fun and profitable — [illegible] area people have always enjoyed the North Saskatchewan River.

The ferry service was very good, when conditions were right for crossing, but still the pioneers on both sides of the river must have had many a meeting to try and get a bridge built for an all-weather road to their bank, their markets, church and sporting events.

The Maymont Crossing has a lively and colourful history. The river often tested the resourcefulness and determination of the residents of the area. Even when the survey crews came to try and find the right place for the bridge, it was hard to find the best crossing.

Actual planning for the bridge began in Regina in 1973 and 1974. Construction crews moved onto the bridge site in August, 1974.

There was much excitement among residents on both sides who watched the bridge progress through the two years of construction. Cana Engineering of Calgary were the major construction outfit with various other contractors handling the approach work, sub-grade construction, and oil treating, paving the approach roads and bridge deck. The final cost of the project was approximately $3.1 million.

The bridge over the North Saskatchewan was completed on October 9, 1975 and the ferry was pulled from the river on October 29, 1975.

The official opening was on June 20, 1976 with government officials Honorable Allen Blakeney, premier of Saskatchewan, and Honorable Elling Kramer, M.L.A. for the Battlefords, and Minister of Highways and Transportation in attendance along with other officials. A beef barbeque was enjoyed by a large crowd.

The bridge has already become a fast and easy means of crossing the river and one only wishes our fathers, mothers and all could have had it so easy.

The Bridge Builder
An old man, going a lone highway,
Came at the evening, cold and gray,

To a chasm, vast and deep and wide,
Through which was flowing a sullen tide.
The old man crossed in the twilight dim; The sullen
stream had no fears for him;
But he turned when safe on the other side
And built a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim near,
"You are wasting strength with building here;
Your journey will end with the ending day;
You never again must pass this way;
You have crossed the chasm, deep and wide,
Why build you at the eventide?"

The builder lifted his old gray head,
"Good friend, in the path I have come," he said
"There followeth after me today
A youth whose feet must pass this way.
This chasm that had been naught to me
To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall ■.
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim;
Good friend, I am building the bridge for him."
Will Allen Drumgoole.

Dentist

(from previous history)

At one time Maymont even boasted a dentist. ■ 1905 Dr. J. M. Fry opened an office and practised dentistry for a year or two ■ the building which later became the first Municipal Office.

Drug Store

(from previous history)

Dr. J. R. Scratch had the first drug store. ■ was later purchased by Mr. Mawhinney, who sold it to Mr. Bob Merrel. Mr. Mawhinney rebought the business and sold it again to Mr. Hope, who finally closed the business. The building was purchased by Mr. Frank Langley and made into a residence.

Garages and Gasoline Bowsers

The first garage was owned and operated by Mr. Norman Buckly, which was complete with gasoline bowser, was located on the east side of Main Street. This site was occupied with a garage and bowsers until 1959. Mr. Buckly took Robert Downing into partnership with him in 1918. After operating for sometime Mr. Buckly sold his share of the business to Mr. John Thrower and moved to Vancouver, B.C. Mr. Downing and Mr. Thrower continued with their garage and oil business until Mr. Thrower sold out to Mr. R. Morrow. Mr. Morrow sold out to his partner Mr. R. Downing and moved to Cloverdale, B.C.

Mr. Downing now expanded his business to include a lighting plant and supplied light to the business section and several homes in the village. Mr. R. Downing decided to move to Chilliwack, B.C. and he sold his business to Mr. F. T. McCorkle, who operated the garage and lighting plant until he sold out to Johnson Bros. in 1941, who in turn sold to Mr. Jack Cash. Around this time the Saskatchewan Power Corporation bought the power plant and brought their power lines into the village.

Mr. J. Cash sold his garage to Mr. Louis Karpan who completely rebuilt it into a first class garage in 1948. Mr. Karpan ran the business there until 1959, and the building was then torn down.

Mr. Karpan built a first class Esso station on the north side of the highway with modern living quarters, restrooms and lunch counter, surrounded with nicely landscaped grounds. He ran the business until 1968 then sold ■ Imperial Oil. Gordon Leach purchased it from Imperial Oil and ran it until ■ sold to Mr. Ray Jordan. Ray Jordan sold to Ray and Randall Garner in 1979 and they are now operating the business.

On the west side of Main Street Mr. J. ■. Blacklock operated a bowser for many years in connection with his hardware store and I.H.C. implement agency. Another bowser was operated on the west side of Main Street ■ Mr. N. Cornish for some time (the spot where the Locker Plant stood).

On 1st Avenue West of Main Street in 1931, Mr. Ed Buhr built a garage and did garage work and oil sales. Also on 1st Avenue West Mr. Fred Porter and sons Sheridan and Freddy operated a bowser and oil sales in connection with their John Deere Agency. They sold to Mr. Sam Keeler, who then sold to Mr. James Rogers, who was the agent for all Imperial Oil products. Jimmy Rogers operated the business until his death in 1970.

On the corner of Main St. and 1st Avenue East, Mr. Tom Woods built a service station and garage in 1936. Mr. Woods was agent for all North Star Oil products, and ran it until he sold it to Mr. Lloyd Parker who ran it for a time.

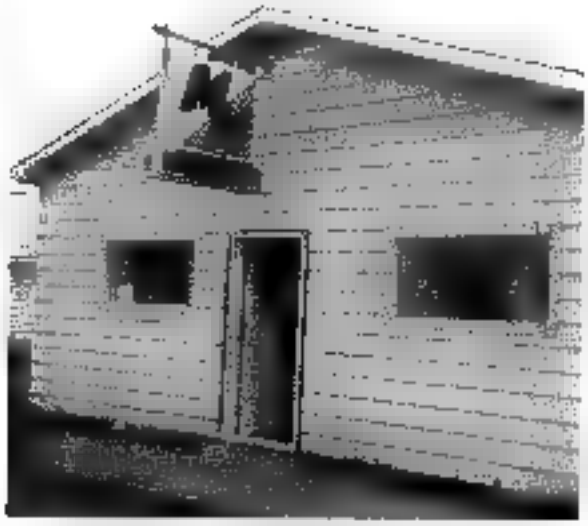
Mr. Louis Karpan built another service station on the south side of the highway in 1960. This was run as White Rose but was later changed to Shell. Mr. Karpan sold to Lloyd Parker in 1965. Lloyd operated it until he moved to Surrey, B.C. ■ is quite surprising the number of Maymont garage operators who moved to British Columbia! Mr. Everett Sherman rented the garage for a time.

A new highway was going through slightly further south and the service station had to be moved. It was sold by tender to Mr. George Brehon who moved the building to his farm in 1977, to be used as a workshop.

Hardware and Grocery Store

Mr. Cooeth and Mr. Stepler opened a hardware business in the present site of Greenslade's M & M store. The business closed for a period and for a short time Mr. Warden operated a confectionary store in the same building.

In 1918 the hardware store was reopened by Mr. J. D. Blacklock. In 1945 Maurice Van Der Haegan bought



Greenslade M and M store, 1979.

out Mr. J. D. Blacklock and started International Harvester machinery business along with a hardware store. Mr. Blacklock continued to work in the store until his retirement. Other employees were Brian Coleman, Brenton Nuthbrown, Hubert Brumbaugh and Harold Greenslade.

In 1958 Mr. Van Der Haegan bought out the Alan Bean General store and moved it all into one store. Eventually the Bean store was torn down.

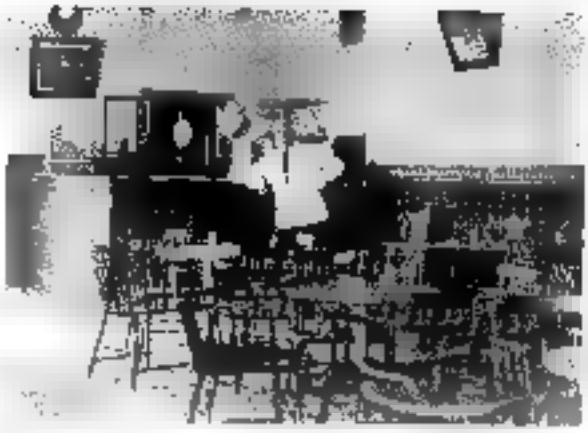
The late Chester Buell was hired as manager of the store (grocery department), a position he held until 1965 when he moved to North Battleford.

In the fall of 1966 Mr. Van Der Haegan retired from business. Part of the store was moved to the Van Der Haegan farm — the other part torn down and the remaining building sold to Harold Greenslade who operated a POOL ROOM for 4½ years. The winter of 1974-75 Harold and Gordon Johnston both built furniture for family and friends. In July 17, 1975 Mr. and Mrs. Harold Greenslade opened a grocery, meat and Hardware store under the name of Greenslade's M & M family store and it still is in operation. June, 1979 the Saskatchewan Bus has made the store their depot.

Imperial Hotel

In the summer and fall of 1906, Mr. Mike Tynan built the hotel. In 1907 Duncan Gillespie operated the hotel for about one year. In May 1908, Tynan sold to Mr. Bill Sowden. In June 1909 Mr. Claud Sowden purchased an interest and the hotel was run as Sowden Bros. In 1911 Sowden Bros. sold to Brink and Pernala. Shortly after this Mr. W. B. Sowden took over the interest of Mr. Brink and the hotel was run as Sowden and Pernala.

In the spring of 1913 the hotel was sold to Mr. A. D. M. Hope. In the spring of 1914 he sold to a Mr.



Bill Sowden in 'Beer Parlor' of Maymont hotel.

Benstead. In the fall of 1914 Sowden and Pernala took over the hotel and started a poolroom. In the fall of 1915 Mr. W. B. Sowden took over Mr. Stan Pernala's interest and ran the hotel for many years, except for eight months when it was rented to Robt. Hunt, and one month it was rented to Mr. Harry Cornish.

In 1948 Mr. Frank Feeley purchased the hotel.

Hotel managers since 1946 have been:
Bill Lokstrom and Myles McDonald
Bill Katz and Dennis Reposhylo
John Zimmer
Lee Burnett

In January 1978 Glen Boyd purchased the hotel. Mr. Boyd rented the restaurant to Peter Kwan for one year. It is presently rented to Mr. Raymond Guy.

The bar in the hotel was redecorated in July 1979 giving it a more modern appearance.

Livery and Feed Barns

The first livery and feed stable was built in Maymont by Mr. Asa Noakes in the early spring of 1905.

August, 1906, Rev. J. C. Madill built a livery and feed barn where the home of Mr. Louis Karpan now stands.

In the spring of 1907 Melrose Bros. built another just east of Mr. Frances Ducharmes present residence. They bought the other barn from Rev. J. C. Madill and took Andrew Reid into partnership.

In 1911 Melrose Bros. and Reid sold the barns to A. D. Melrose and J. M. Vessey. The barn built by Rev. J. C. Madill was burned in Oct. 1913, with the loss of 14 head of horses (one team was valued at $1,200.00), also all harness and feed.

In the spring of 1914 J. M. Vessey bought the interest of A. D. Melrose and in the spring of 1915 sold the barn to Mr. Frank Gillatt. In 1920 Frank Gillatt sold the barn to Christfield and Martin. In the spring of 1922 the barn was burned. They built another one just east of where the burned one stood.

In 1925 Mr. J. M. Martin purchased the interest of

Mr. H. Christfield and in the spring of 1927 Mr. J. M. Martin sold to Mr. Mustoway. In 1928 Mr. Mustoway sold to Mr. E. Sykes. Mr. Sykes sold to Mr. E. Broom in 1950. The time was almost over for the need of a livery barn by then. Mr. Broom used it some the first winter he had it. He then dismantled it and used the material for other purposes.

Lumber Yards

(from previous history)

Mr. E. W. Bean had the first stock of lumber in Maymont. He sold out to Mr. F T. McCorkle who operated the lumber yard for many years. Rev. J. C. Madill and Mr. John Nugent owned lumber yards. By 1908 Mr. McCorkle had the only lumber business. He continued until 1942 when the stock was sold to Wentz Lumber Co. of Saskatoon, and the yard was closed.

Later, Mr. Antonenko built a lumber yard on the site of Mr. Wes Rolfes house now the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Dykstra. Later he moved the business to the corner lot south of the Foursquare Church. He also built a grocery store here which closed at the end of the year.

The Maymont Beef Ring

submitted by Margaret Strawman

In 1914 a group of farmer's formed a "Beef Ring" to provide themselves with fresh meat each week during the summer months — May through October. It included families in the areas south to Maymont, west to Lilac, north to Richard and east to Speers.

A slaughterhouse was built on the farm of Tom Sawyer — a butcher from the old country (England). Each week, for twenty-four weeks, a two year old steer weighing from 450-600 pounds was taken on a Thursday to the Sawyer farm to be slaughtered, cut and divided into twenty-four shares. Each shareholder delivered an animal on his specified week, and by the end of the season would have received all the cuts from one whole animal. Some took half shares with a neighbor and would be responsible for delivery of an animal every other year.

Meat shares were packed unwrapped in clearly marked flour sacks. Each Saturday morning, before the heat of the day, members took turns delivering meat in their respective areas. Housewives would then be busy putting larger cuts in the ice-house, poorer cuts were pickled and put in crocks in the basement, extra was canned in sealers for use at a later date.

The last four years the "Beef Ring" operated, Billy Andrew took over the butchering as Tom Sawyer had retired to the village of Maymont. Families were now growing up and moving away, fewer men were hired on the family farm, and electricity was now available for refrigeration. The "Beef Ring" was disbanded in 1942 — recorded as being the oldest organization of its kind in the province — having been in operation for 34 years.

Maymont Cemetery and Cemetery Clean-Up Day

submitted by Dorothy Crawley

Maymont Cemetery and Clean-up day have been mentioned elsewhere in this book, but perhaps we may be permitted to add to the story for the sake of history. There are very few folk left with any memory of the beginnings, but we were pleased when Mr. Stanley Bohn now in his 83rd year was able to contribute some information:

Maymont Cemetery.

The first cemetery was located on the late James J. Reid homestead N.E. 20, 41, 12, now owned by M. Becton. As the village grew, so did the need for a permanent location for the cemetery, so in 1907 two acres of land were acquired from the late Alfred Hawkins — one acre donated and one purchased. A number of years later another acre was bought from his son, John. The two acres were surveyed in 1908, a Cemetery Board named and eight graves moved from the first cemetery. Frank Bohn, Stanley's father was the first person to be buried in the new cemetery in 1908.

For a number of years little was done in the way of up-keep and improvement of the cemetery. Then in 1922 Maymont Homemakers' Club was organized and in the same year the club named a committee to work with the Cemetery Board in planning a program of beautifying the grounds. The next year much work was accomplished and it was then that it was decided to have a Cemetery Clean-up Day as an annual event.

A quick scan through the Homemakers' record books show that through the years the club assisted many times and many ways in the way of improvements (e.g.) planting and care of trees, erecting of a building to house tools, etc., sharing in the cost of

hauling cinders and later gravel for roadways and walks, and in the installing of permanent gates.

In the early days of scythe and just plain hand work clean-up day, usually held in July, was a long strenuous day. Sometimes it began in the morning and went on into the afternoon, at which times everyone brought a picnic lunch and tea and coffee were provided by the Homemakers and Committee. After the work was done the annual meeting was held on the grounds everyone attending and taking part in the discussions and decisions.

In 1940 the Cemetery Board ceased to be when the Village Council took over the management of the cemetery, appointing a committee to deal with any problems encountered.

Now thirty-nine years later — from scythes to gas and tractor mowers, there is still a cemetery clean-up day and the council is still responsible for appointing a committee; this year's being, Chester Miller, Stanley Bohn and Franklin Mohler.

This year 1979 as arranged by the Women's Institute there were four days, — the last Tuesday in each month — May, June, July and August.

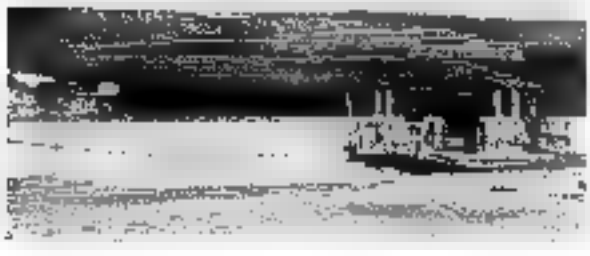
Willing hands of dedicated and community minded people, both men and women, make short work of the task nowadays and in an hour or so they leave the cemetery a place to be proud of.

Maymont Ferry Crossing

The Maymont Ferry Crossing served the public for fifty years. It was established in 1926 with Jack Patterson and Ole White as operators. They ran the service for one year.

Rueben Johnson who had worked on the ferry crew, took over in 1927 and continued until the fall of 1930. He and his wife moved to Borden where he continued to operate the ferry at that point until the Borden Bridge was finished in 1936.

During the six years that Rueben was in Borden, William Mansell, Stanley Bright and also Bill Johnson of Langham operated the ferry. The ferry families lived in homes down by the river. While Rube was on the Borden Ferry he got caught in a winding gear and injured his arm. He was in the hospital off and on for a long time until he finally was sent to Winnipeg, Manitoba where a doctor grafted a bone from his leg to his arm. He was able to return to Maymont Ferry where he and Eldon Barr worked as a team for many years.



First ferry at Maymont.

Raymond (Bud) Ward started working in 1950. He, Gerald Padgett, and John Dahl worked with Rube at various times until Rube retired.

Bob Bell and Bud became ferrymen in 1962.

Rube was a popular, obliging fellow and when he retired in 1962 the community showed their appreciation by holding a celebration and presented Rube with a reclining chair and Mrs. Johnson with a pole lamp. They had a house in the river hills and here their family made their home. Their family was Gladys (Mrs. L. Millman of Richard), Bernice (Mrs. Adolph Ducharme of Maymont) Shirley (Mrs. Henry Wood of Rodsell) Phyliss (Mrs. Wakelin of N. Battleford) and one son, Albert, who with wife Zena, four sons, and one daughter still makes his home in Maymont.

In the early days a ferryman's life was not an easy one. His home was poorly made of planks, tar paper and laths. The ferry was handcranked with a winding cable. The hours were long, no set time for meals, no shifts because it took two men to operate the ferry.

Sometimes the ferry would get stuck on a sandbar and it would take hours to free it. The salary was just $2.50 a day and after roldnight the ferryman charged twenty-five cents a car and driver, and ten cents per person for crossing. These fees went to the operator.

Ice jams and spring floods would wash out the approaches and loads of stone were needed for repairs to the damage.

Sometimes two ferries were necessary for a crossing. One conveyed passengers to the Sandbar in mid-river, you crossed this to board a second ferry that took you to the other side. Eventually the water got so low that even this wasn't feasible. The ferry was disconnected from the cable entirely and propelled across the river by two outboard motors fastened to the edge of the ferry apron. This was fairly satisfactory except that only one end of the ferry could be used for loading and unloading; hence a vehicle had to either drive on and back off or back on and drive off.

Arnold Aganrod joined "Bud" in 1966 and they operated an eight hour shift. Webb Hanlon and Chris Newbort also substituted when necessary. Many conveniences have been added throughout the years to improve working conditions. A gas engine replaced hand-cranking, then the diesel engine and next the hydraulic lift which made operating the ferry far easier. Ferrymen's homes became modern and the salary improved to the extent it provided a comfortable livelihood. Fees for crossing after midnight increased to $3.00.

"Bud" served as ferryman for fourteen years and Arnold for nine. Bud and Alice Ward and two daughters, Marlene and Janice, as well as Arnold took

an active part in their community. Alice made the grounds around the ferry home a beautiful place to see, with lovely flowers.

When the ferry closed the Wards were transferred to Cecil Ferry, twelve miles or so east of Prince Albert.

A great convenience to Maymont and Sonningdale area, the ferry operated during the spring, summer and fall; except when winds were high and crossing was hazardous. In winter people crossed the river on the ice, at their own risk — usually a path was staked out on either side of a road when the ice was thick enough.

When freezing ice or ice break up during fall and spring prevented the crossing, a box pulled across on the hand operated cable from one tower to the other across the river was used. This was often how Doc Scratch visited his patients on the south side. He would then drive Rube's car, or be met by someone and taken to the patient's home — Mrs. Bill Mansell often went with him as she was a local midwife.

The Maymont Ferry made its last crossing October 27th, 1975 and it was pulled from the icy waters on the North Saskatchewan on October 28. The ferry was eventually loaded on a truck and transported to Wingard.

Maymont Library

On October 28, 1970 the village of Maymont passed a by-law to establish a library in a small building on lot 23, block 5, west of the United Church.

Mrs. Sharon Boyd was elected as the first librarian with volunteer assistants.

Books came from the Provincial Library in Regina. In August, 1972 the Maymont Library joined the Regional Library System and became branch No. 6 of the Lakeland Library Region.

Mrs. Catherine Karpan became head librarian with Mrs. Nellie Curry and Mrs. Gladys Brehon as assistants. The first board members were Rev. F. Myers, Mr. Dan Wourms, Mr. Harvey Johnston, Mrs. Gladys Brehon, Mrs. Catherine Karpan, and Mrs. Betty Mohler.

In January, 1976 it was decided the small building was inadequate so plans were made for a larger space. The old locker plant building was renovated and room was left in the front for new library facilities.

This was an exciting time for the librarians and board members, visiting the new facilities, measuring for curtains, planning spaces for the furniture and places for book boxes and storage.

Books and other library materials were moved to the new location in March, 1978.

The library was officially opened in Nov. 1976 with Mr. Dennis Banda, M.L.A. cutting the ribbon.

The library is used for craft displays, community college classes, meetings and story hours. The story hour is held for children from 3 to 6 years. Story hour leaders have been Sharon Harris, Eva Greenslade and the present leader is Mrs. Cathie McLeod. There are usually from five to fifteen children in attendance.

Each summer holidays a summer reading program is held for children fourteen years and under. Each year there is a different theme. In 1978, 21 children took part in the program.

The library makes use of the "Talking Books" service provided by the Provincial Library and the C.N.I.B. These are stories in cassette form and are available to people who are unable to read printed books because of poor eyesight.

There are always Large Print Books in the branch for those who cannot read the finer print.

The Maymont Branch has two books in its collection written by local residents.

To Find the Daily Bread — by Gerhard A. and Jacob H. Fast and Homestead Hardships — by Norman Andrew.

The Maymont Branch actively participates each year in different activities during Saskatchewan Library Week. Last year there were over 70 entries in the photography contest.

On June 1, 1977 Mrs. Catherine Karpan resigned as librarian and the position was filled by Mrs. Gladys Brehon. In Jan. 1979 Eva Greenslade became the assistant.

In 1978 there were 271 registered borrowers and 8,500 books and other materials were circulated.

Present board members are Gertie Sherman, Chairman, Mrs. Gladys Brehon, Secretary, Mrs. Charlotte Gillatt, Mrs. Betty Ferris, Mrs. Doreen Schmidt, Mrs. Cathie McLeod, and Mr. Harvey Johnston.

The board members undertook the task of compiling this book as a project to celebrate Saskatchewan's Diamond Jubilee in 1980.

We wish you pleasant and enjoyable reading.

Maymont Memorial Hall

The rehabilitation committee composed of twenty-two citizens called a public meeting on April 23, 1945, in the Orange Hall, to decide on a suitable war memorial. Of the many projects suggested at this meeting, the majority of citizens favoured the building of a hall which would be known as the Maymont Memorial Hall Co-operative Association Limited. Shares were sold at five dollars each and three lots were bought west of main street on Second Avenue where the hall still stands to this day.

The first officers for the Maymont Memorial Hall were president — Charles Randall, vice-president — George Holler, secretary-treasurer — Ken DeLong, and the directors were Colles Brehon, Thomas Turner, Herbert Johnston, Andrew Melrose, Tom Sawyer, and Clarence Reid.

Western Construction Co. were hired to dig the basement which they did free of charge. A bee was

Maymont Memorial Hall, 1979.

held, and local truckers hauled a considerable amount of gravel from a pit south ■ Fielding in return for which some truckers received gas and oil for their trucks. Gilbert and Wilson, Architects, of Saskatoon, were employed; and when plans were received, the directors and ten ladies met ■ study and discuss the plans and made what changes they felt should be made. After many trips between the architects' and the local committee, a plan for a building 40 ft. by 76 ft., with a full-sized basement, was agreed upon.

A real crew of men turned out in June, 1946, with trucks and a tractor to haul more gravel from a pit on the correction line south of Richard. A ramp was built so the trucks could be loaded using a tractor and slip, making it possible ■ haul a lot of gravel in short order.

A car of lumber had been ordered through the local lumberyard, owned at the time by Walter Antoncnko, and iron rods for reinforcing the cement foundation were procured from people who had bought elevator annexes. Nails were procured wherever possible as they were in short supply at that time. A small barn was bought on the west side of town to store supplies which included a car load of cement. The barn was later sold when there was no longer any need of it.

Buildings were being dismantled at the North Battleford Airport so a local committee bought doors, windows and a large quantity of tongue and groove 2" by 6". While there, they were told by an official that there was a possibility of an H hut being for sale. This H hut consisted of two wings 24 ft. by 120 ft. long and a connecting section between the two measuring 24 ft. by 60 ft. long. The committee immediately applied for the building. Meanwhile during the next few months, the committee concentrated on raising funds through teas, bake sales, concerts, a white elephant sale and raffles. Various organizations donated money as did several individuals.

Finally word came from the Saskatchewan Reconstruction Corporation in Regina that the committee could purchase the hut. Immediately the committee held a meeting and decided ■ buy the hut with money loaned by private individuals. This money was later paid back in full or in part and some left as a donation, as the lenders wished.

Ken DeLong was appointed to take charge of the dismantling of the H hut, look after the sale of surplus materials and manage the construction of the Memorial Hall. The dismantling of the H hut began in August, 1947, with from two to seventeen men traveling to the North Battleford Airport every day to help. Each one took their own dinner, and tea was made there on a camp stove. The shingles were saved and bunched in a shingle press, made locally, and there were very few wasted. Work at the airport stopped the end of September for the winter and, at that time, all of one of the 120 ft. wings and all but one ply of lumber of the ■ ft. section had been dismantled.

A carpenter, Corney Buhr, of Langham, Sask. was hired with his son as a helper and, with additional volunteer labour, the forms for the foundation were set up. Then a bee was organized and the cement was poured in two days. When work stopped for the winter on November 10, the floor had been poured, the ground floor layed and the walls of the building were up with one ply of lumber on.

The ladies of the community were right there doing their part as well and saw that the men had coffee and lunch every day, which was always greatly appreciated.

By the end of 1947, funds had dwindled considerably, but there was a lot of material for sale.

Dismantling of the ■ hut began again the end of April, 1948, with plenty of volunteer labour as always. The roads were really terrible that spring; and since large portions of Hwy. 5 were under water, the men travelled to the airport via Hwy. 40. Work continued there until June, then the carpenter returned to Maymont and work began again on the Hall with Clarence Reid as manager. Help came teeming in, as always, with hammers and saws; and many who could not leave their own jobs hired some one to take their place.

Ed Buhr allowed the men ■ use his garage and tools and lent a hand to make bolts which were needed in quantity in the trestle work. Harold Curry, the local electrician, did the wiring of the hall, labour free, and Tom Sawyer supplied lighting fixtures.

Several ladies from various organizations discussed the plan for the kitchen. By November, 1948, the hall was far enough completed so that meetings could be held in it. At this time, three of our local citizens Louis Karpan, Morris Van Der Haeghen and Tom Sawyer bought a motion picture machine, complete, and sold it to the hall directors at cost, interest free, to be paid for from profits of shows. This arrangement proved very satisfactory.

Two used stoker furnaces provided heat for several years. A local citizen supplied the paint and a painting

bee was organized with both men and women working to paint the interior of the hall. A stage was built and one of the ladies' organizations supplied curtains for it and for the windows. Benches were built for seats for the auditorium and banquet room, and stoves and dishes were donated for the kitchen.

By the end of 1948 after $8,700.00 had been spent, we had a hall not entirely completed but well enough finished so that it could be used, and there was the whole sum of $239.50 in the bank!

A piano was needed and, as usual, a few individuals put up the money, then were paid back as funds became available.

The eaves troughs and one coat of stucco were put on in the fall of 1949, and the next year the stuccoing was finished and a flag pole put up.

One of the ladies' organizations donated four tables and another person paid for having the auditorium floor sanded. Former residents of Maymont now living in Manitoba donated an electric clock.

By 1951, there were several committees working for the hall in different ways — the Ladies Work Committee, the Entertainment Committee and the Ladies Improvement Committee. With the motion pictures and each of these committees bringing in a little money, it amounted to a lot at the end of the year. The other organizations in the community donated to the hall, as well, for which the directors were always most grateful.

During 1952, the directors and committees devoted most of their time and efforts towards furnishing the kitchen and paying off accumulated debts.

Early in 1953, an automatic electric oil furnace with a forced-air fan was installed at a sizeable amount of money, but thanks to an individual loan, the cost was taken care of and the loan paid back as money became available.

From that time on, the directors and hall committee have continued to add improvements and conveniences to make the hall function even better.

In the basement, sanitary toilets were installed in the ladies' rest room and were used for many years until the sewer and water were put in and flush toilets were installed.

Since extra kitchen space was needed, seven feet of space was taken off the end of the banquet room to enlarge the kitchen during the winter of 1956-57. A counter was built along a good portion of this wall, shelves were put up to set pies, etc., on and in these extra cupboards were built for the dishes. A wooden floor covered with linoleum was laid; and, in 1970, when the sewer and water were installed, two double sinks were installed. That was indeed a great day with no more need of carrying in water which had to be heated in boilers on the stoves and then the dirty water carried out again after the event was over. The plumbing was done by Earl Nuthrown, the local plumber at that time. New doors and locks were installed, the main doors having been built and hung in 1971; and, in 1970, regulations specified that panic bars were needed on the doors, so they were put on.

In 1958, a local store keeper supplied a good record player, at wholesale price, for teen dances but it did not prove to be what they wanted and years later the record player disappeared from the hall.

By 1963, a new floor was needed in the auditorium so a quantity of used hardwood flooring was purchased from a contractor in Saskatoon. The floor was layed by Halewich and Sons of North Battleford, along with volunteer help. It was then sanded and painted with iron oil. Ten years later it was again sanded and given another coating of iron oil.

The tar and gravel coating on the flat portion of the roof gave a great deal of trouble for many years. Everytime there was a thaw or it rained the roof would leak; and although many methods of "patching" were tried, none were really successful for very long. So, in 1971, the directors bought a portion of the old curling rink, dismantled it, then used the lumber to build a low pitch roof over the flat portion of the hall roof, then shingled it with asphalt shingles. Helmer Nemeth was the carpenter assisted by volunteers.

Now that the roof was repaired, it was decided to tile the ceiling of the auditorium. Then, in 1973, the stage was redecorated with panel board and, in time, the main walls of the auditorium were repainted.

A large coffee percolator was donated to the hall kitchen, a ladies' group bought a second; and since there was a need for even a third larger percolator, the hall committee purchased a hundred cup size percolator. Some folks say you can't beat the flavour of coffee made in a boiler, but the perks sure simplify the making of a large quantity of coffee.

A great deal of catering is done by the various organizations for banquets, suppers, wedding receptions, etc., which requires a lot of table space. In 1974, the men built fourteen new tables with folding metal legs to replace the rather cumbersome table tops that were set up on three trestles each, an energy and time-consuming task. As the new tables were so nice, it was decided to buy stacking chairs to replace the old benches. Many folks donated the price of one or two chairs or more to help make it possible to buy a hundred and ten chairs; and then, in 1978, two groups donated enough money to buy another hundred chairs to fill the need in the banquet room and replace benches in the auditorium.

A used ten burner propane cook stove was bought and installed in the kitchen in 1978 to replace the two old faithful wood stoves. The gas stove had at one time been used at the Farm Camps and Co-op Schools at North Battleford.

In 1978, the hall was given a real spruce-up when the entire exterior was painted for the first time since it was built. What a wonderful improvement!

With the price of fuel getting so high, the directors, in an attempt to conserve heat, insulated the basement ceiling and some of the walls that had not been in-

sulated previously and covered them with plaster board. Since wood is no longer used, the partition was taken out so the wood room could be used for more kitchen space. The fuel tank was moved outside as well. Immediate plans are to insulate and line the furnace room to meet fire regulations.

This is the basic story of our Memorial Hall. No other centre in the community, however important or necessary, can serve as adequately as the hall. The continued support through donations and volunteer labour when needed proves how proud the people are of their hall and that they want it to see it continue to operate.

The present directors of the hall are president — Harvey Johnston, secretary-treasurer — Colles Brebon (has served 34 years as a director), and the directors are Dale Beaudoin, George Brebon, Don Spence, Bill Melrose, George Tebay, Wilbur Peden, Roy Rogers and Ron Millman.

Maymont Rural Telephone Company

The organizational meeting of the Maymont Rural Telephone Company was held in Etonia School April 23rd, 1913. M. Christfield, W. Smith, H. G. Langley and Percy Knowles were appointed provisional directors with P. Knowles being secretary-treasurer. At the directors meeting which followed the organizational meeting, a motion was passed to employ A. E. Potter to canvas the district for telephone subscribers. He used his own horse and rig and was paid five dollars a day for two weeks.

The area of the telephone company had to be cut down to meet the requirements of the Department of Telephone which meant township 43 was cut off and those who had paid their shares had their money refunded.

Money was raised through the sale of debentures, then Murphy and Richardson were hired to build a complete telephone system, with a ten line switchboard according to the approved government plan. The work was to be completed by Sept. 15, 1914 at a cost of $8,500.

Delura Davis was hired as the first operator and was paid thirty dollars a month. The hours were from 7 A.M. to 8 P.M. during the week and 9 A.M. to 11 P.M. on Sundays.

SOUTH MAYMONT SUBSCRIBERS

BAILEY, F.	16r2	KIRKLAND, Wm.	11r13
BAKER, A. O.	15r14	MAYMONT FERRY CROSSING	11r13
BECKER, W. E.	15r21	MCGEAN, W.	12r12
BAILON, P.	16r11	MORGAN, Ted	12r21
CROSS, Mrs. Roy	16r21	NIVEN, Gil (Forest)	12r2
COBBS, A.	16r12	NIVEN, Allen	15r3
CUSTEL, D.	11r5	OWEN, Wm.	12r3
DALLOW, T.	16r22	PARKINSON, E.	15r11
DIXON, A.	16r14	PRICE, Ira	16r11
FORMAN, A.	16r21	ROSS, O.	15r22
FOURT, L.	15r12	ROSS, Mrs. O.	12r9
FOURT, A.	15r21	ROSS, Susie	12r3
GARDNER, E.	11r21	SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL	12r22
GREEN, J.	11r14	STREET, P.	16r4
JOHNSON, Nathan	11r23		
JOHNSON, A.	11r21		

Maymont Rural Telephone Co. is Growing — List Your Subscribers Below!

1964

Maymont

RURAL TELEPHONE COMPANY

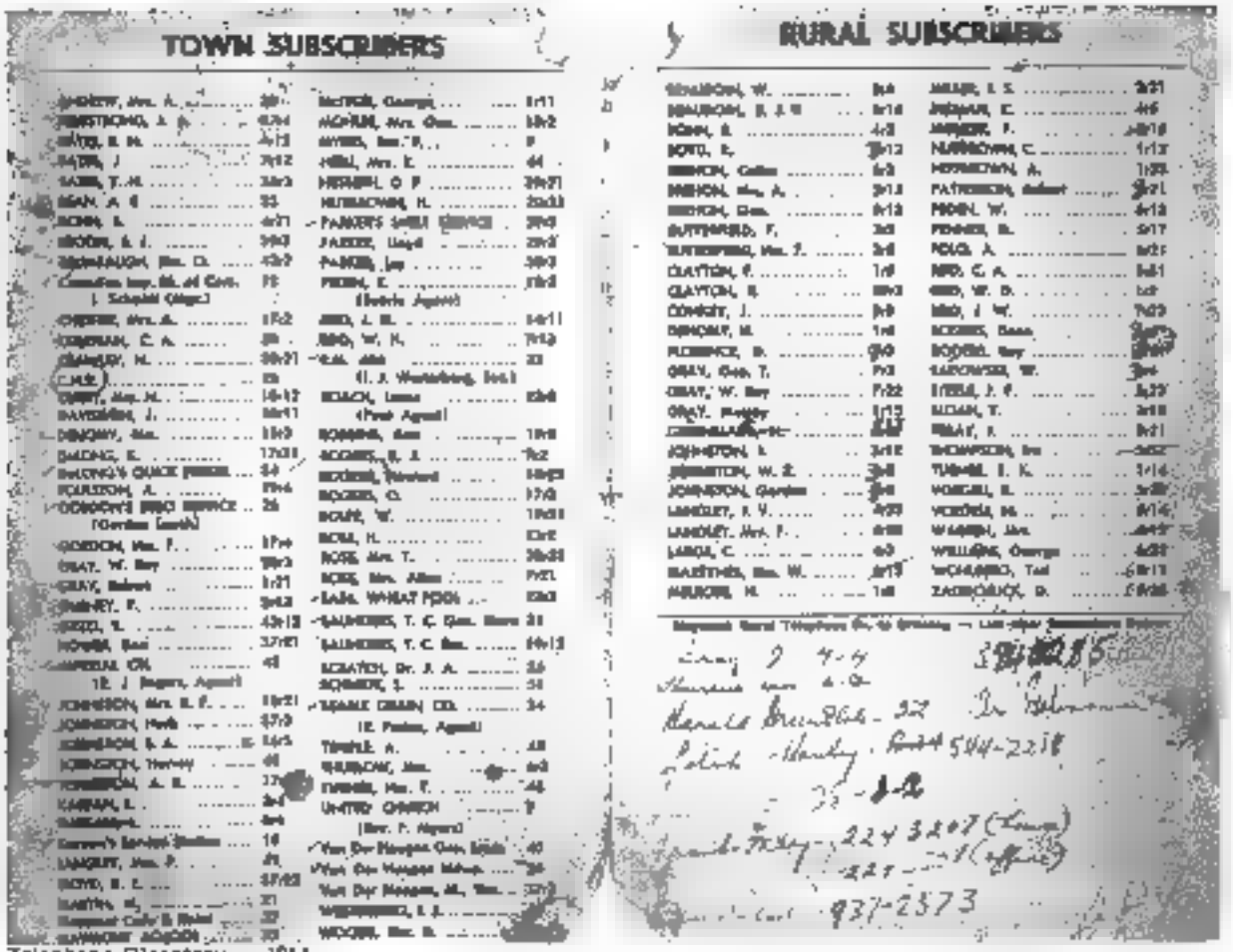
Directory

PRESIDENT ..... C. A. Brebon
SECRETARY ..... Mrs. O. M. Cassidy
DIRECTORS: W. Melrose, J. B. Johnston, J. Brebon, George Brebon, E. Peden, A. Grey, F. Nobbs, W. Peden and P. Beresford.

OFFICE HOURS

April 1st to November 1st October 31st	7:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; 12:30 to 5:00 p.m., 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.
November 1st to March 31st	8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; 12:30 to 4:00 p.m. 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.
Sundays —	9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. 3:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Holidays —	8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. 3:00 to 9:00 p.m.

AFTER HOUR CALLS $5¢
TELEPHONE RENTALS to be paid in advance
$100 deposit to be PAID for Long Distance.



TOWN SUBSCRIBERS

RURAL SUBSCRIBERS

Telephone Directory — 1964.

The upkeep in 1918 was twelve dollars a year for the rural subscribers. The Village of Maymont paid nothing toward the use of the operator for the first three years.

In Feb. 1918 the board of directors were increased to ten with the following being elected: Tom Sawyer, George Halter, Tom Bates, Wilf Langley, Alec Brehon, T. Nothrown, Tom Turner, Will Barrett, J. Davis and W. J. Mawhinney. George Banting was appointed secretary and Frank Gillett line repairman, J Moffatt audited the books from the time the company was organized.

At the directors meeting which followed, A. C. Brehon was elected president replacing W. G. Parker who had served since the beginning of the Maymont Rural Telephone Company. The secretary's salary was set at one dollar per phone while Frank Gillett was paid at the rate of fifty cents per hour and fifteen cents per mile.

The first central office was in a small building directly south of the former Bank of Commerce, on Main Street, then in 1919 a lot was procured just north, near the Orange Hall. A house was built on the lot by Art Martin, the local carpenter at that time, and a room in the front corner of the house was set up as the first Central Office.

Robert Downing took over as telephone operator in 1919.

That same year the telephone system was extended to include the Spinney Hill area and it was known as the South Maymont Telephone System. The Maymont Rural Telephone Company paid one quarter, the Maymont Town Council paid one quarter and the South Maymont Rural Telephone Company paid the remaining half of the cost of the new poles laid down in Maymont to build the extension of the system. The office hours were changed to run from 6:30 A.M. to 10 P.M. on weekdays 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. on Sundays, and the office was closed on public holidays. A caller was charged 25¢ for any call made out of regular hours, the money for same went to the operator. He also collected the long distance fees for the Telephone Company. The operator now received a salary of ninety dollars per month.

In 1920, Robert Downing took over as telephone repairman at the rate of $1.50 per phone. The upkeep

was raised to twenty dollars a year payable in advance. The secretary was paid two dollars a phone for keeping books.

The South Maymont Telephone Company used the telephone office in Maymont and paid for the operator's salary and the cost of maintaining the office on a pro rata basis. They also paid for half the tools used by the lineman.

Every year the directors were faced with the problem of collecting arrears and were forced to disconnect some phones when warnings of such action did not bring results.

By 1921, the switchboard was giving problems and the South Maymont Company complained of getting poor service. Buying a new switchboard was discussed but a representative from the Northern Electric Company advised the directors that the present switchboard could be repaired to give first class service, so it was repaired.

Early in 1922, the C.N.R. connected their pumphouse phone in line seven of the Maymont Telephone Company system and paid the same rental as other subscribers.

Occasionally when an important event was to take place in the community or if an emergency came up the telephone operator would put out a general ring on all lines and give the message to everyone in a very short time. This is a service that is lacking in our modern day telephone system.

In 1923 a telephone was installed at the Maymont Ferry by means of a temporary wire attached to extra posts along the fence. The directors advertised a reward of twenty-five dollars to be paid to anyone giving information leading to the conviction of anyone damaging the property of the Telephone Company.

A new switchboard was bought in the fall of 1927 for which the Maymont Telephone Company paid the cost of the installation less the cost of the Government man's work and the F.O.B.

Consideration was given to amalgamating with Fielding and Ruddell, but this did not come about.

To help the company as well as subscribers in arrears, the directors decided to allow seventy-five cents a pole for re-setting poles, with no person being allowed more than his arrears. This was done in the summer of 1930, and again in 1933, with Robert Downing in charge of the re-setting. He was paid 25¢ per hour.

J. Miller was elected President in 1931, replacing Alec Brehon and in 1934, Frank Butterfield Sr. was elected President. Several secretaries served the company over the years, namely P. Knowles, George Banting, S. J. Thorstenson, J. D. Blacklock, R. B. Evans, D. Philpott, Sid Golden and C. A. Coleman.

Robert Downing decided to leave Maymont in 1936, and at the telephone directors meeting on Feb. 25, 1936, the tender of A. J. Cassidy for the position of operator and lineman was accepted.

Rental rates for 1936 were eighty cents a month for each phone in use. Mr. Cassidy did the collecting, keeping sixty-five cents and paying the remaining fifteen cents into the company account. Any person not paying by the seventh of each month received no service through Central. The operator also collected the long distance fees, retaining a portion and paid the remainder to Government Telephones.

In 1942, Mr. Cassidy was granted a leave of absence to serve in the war effort. Mrs. Cassidy carried on as operator with the help of her daughters Eileen and Lois. Mrs Cassidy also became secretary-treasurer for the Maymont Rural Telephone Co., a position she held for many years

Frank Butterfield Jr. was appointed in Nov. 1943, to go over all the telephone lines to cut brush, re-set poles and put on insulators where needed.

In July 1947 the directors asked Mr Cassidy to see about having the Central Office and the residence re-wired. This work was done by Harold Curry. A new volt meter was purchased that year.

Colles Brehon was elected vice-president in Dec. 1946, after having served as director of line five for five years, and was elected president in Dec. 1948. The operator's salary was increased to one dollar and ten cents a phone per month in 1948 and the rentals were $16.80 per year for a regular phone and $21.20 a year for a business phone.

A ringing machine was connected to the switchboard in 1951, which made the work of the operator easier and the rings more distinct.

The telephone office residence was insulated by a professional crew who blew the insulation into the walls and ceiling. A porch for the office was built at the same time by volunteer help, this was built in sections so it could be removed in the summer time. This work was all done in 1953.

Water seeping into the basement became such a problem in 1955, an automatic sump pump was installed in the basement thus eliminating the necessity of carrying out as many as seventy pails of water a day from the basement.

Lots 18 and 19 in Block 7 were purchased from Hubert Brumbaugh for the sum of $100.00. A small building on one of the lots was used as a storage shed for repair material and poles were stored on the lots also.

The roof over the kitchen of the Telephone Co. dwelling began leaking and Laurie Curry was hired to do a major repair job to the roof. New lumber was put on and asphalt shingles applied, and new plaster board was put on the ceiling of the kitchen in 1958.

That same year, the Rural Municipality paid for the setting back from the road of the telephone line in preparation for the building of the grid road north from Maymont.

The secretary's salary was $50.00 per year until 1969, when it was raised to $75.00 per year. The upkeep was raised to $18.00 for regular phones and $25.00 for business phones per year.

A new coat of white paint and green trim was applied by Neil Geisbrecht in 1961, giving the telephone house a real face lift. Two new combination outside entrance doors were hung as well.

John Luster of Marcelin was hired in 1968 to rebuild all the Maymont Rural telephone lines. Ten year term debentures were sold to raise the necessary funds. A stronger steel wire was strung, so that twenty-two poles were required per mile rather than the previous thirty-two poles. At this time seven subscribers from Fielding were connected into the Maymont telephone system.

Early in Feb. 1967, the telephone company suffered a tremendous loss with the sudden death of A. J. Cassidy. He had been a very dedicated operator and lineman for thirty-one years, giving of himself much beyond the call of duty for the community he served. Right behind him all the way was his wife, Grace, who spent many, many hours at the switchboard and served as secretary-treasurer of the Maymont Rural Telephone Co. for twenty-five years. The Cassidy's daughters, Eileen and Lois, also often helped out at the switchboard when at home.

Mrs. Cassidy's health was not good at the time of Art's death, so two operators, Mary Foster at Speers and Dale Schmidt of Ruddell were hired to carry on at the Central office.

The telephone directors turned to Government Telephones in Regina for help in hiring and paying a new operator. Myles McDonald, owner of the Imperial Hotel at that time, was hired as operator, secretary-treasurer and lineman. The switchboard was moved to the waiting room of the hotel which was set up as the Central office. The directors remained responsible for the upkeep of the rural lines. A community social evening was held to honor and pay tribute to Mrs. Cassidy and her late husband for their many years of faithful service and an engraved tray was presented to Mrs. Cassidy by the directors.

In 1969, Mrs. Robert Johnston became the operator and the Central office was moved to her home, the former Lloyd Parker residence, just south of the hotel. Jim Foster of Speers built a few miles of line and did some repair work until Charlie Baker of Richard was hired as lineman, a position he held until the company dissolved in 1977

Dennis Remeshylo was secretary-treasurer from June 1969 to July 1970, then Merle Johnston took over the position which she held until the system was turned over to Sask.-Tel.

Dial phones were installed and on Nov. 25, 1970 at 2 P.M. the dial system went into operation with 24 hour service. A telephone 'school' was held the previous day in the Memorial Hall where instructors from Sask.-Tel. explained how to use the new dial phones. However, many a call to the neighbors became a very frustrating operation until one remembered to dial the number, then hang up when it started ringing, until the other party answered, then lift the receiver, push the monitor in make the necessary connection. If you forgot to push the monitor, only the caller could hear the other party. At such times fond memories of the local telephone operators were often recalled.

With the change over to dials, the districts of Baljennie, Lilac, Ruddell and Spinney Hill were connected into the system. A few years later Baljennie and Spinney Hill were dropped from this system and connected to other Centrals. Since it was no longer necessary to use the switchboard, it was donated to the Western Development Museum in North Battleford.

In 1974, the Ruddell, Richard, Speers and Maymont Telephone Companies bought a cable plow on equal shares. Mainly due to depleted funds little use of the plow was made by the Maymont Company.

At a social function in Nov. 1975, the directors paid tribute to Colles Brehon for his many years of service to the company as director and president. Colles remained as president until the company ceased to exist.

At a public meeting the majority were in favor of turning the entire operation and assets of the Maymont Rural Telephone Company over to Sask.-Tel. Not long after this, Sask.-Tel laid buried cable throughout the entire system, and the lines were divided so that there are no more than four subscribers on one line. Several private phones were installed as well. Sask.-Tel. officially took over on Oct. 1st, 1977 and the Maymont Company ceased to exist.

Our twenty-four hour dial telephone service is paid for on a monthly basis, and there are no longer any telephone land taxes.

Maymont School District No. 1555

submitted by Elizabeth Clayton

The Maymont School District was organized in the winter of 1906 and 1907 with Harry Dawson as secretary.

One acre of land was purchased from J. J. Reid and a school was built in April, 1907. H. D. Eby was the contractor.

Miss Isa Melrose was first teacher and John Reid was first caretaker. In the spring of 1908, Percy E. Knowles was appointed as secretary. In the spring of

Maymont School — 1929.

Maymont High School — Teacher, Mr. Morgenroth.

1912 a second room was built by F. Wilkin as contractor.

A third room was opened in the United Church basement in August, 1919. The juniors went to school there until the fall of 1925.

In the spring of 1925 between three and four acres of land was purchased from the Town Site for a school site. A contract was let to Warnick and Evans to make a full-sized basement, move the present two rooms to the new site, and build another room. All this was done at a cost of approximately ten thousand dollars. The junior room was then moved from the church basement to the new school.

In May, 1930 P. E. Knowles left for Vancouver and F. T. McCorkle was appointed as secretary.

At this time the school owed three hundred dollars as an overdraft and a debenture indebtedness of eighteen hundred dollars. The tax mill rate at this time stood at 13.5 for the village and 12.5 for the rural area. By 1930 the overdraft, debenture indebtedness, and cost of the new school had been paid.

In the summer of 1938 a new chemistry room was added to the school at a cost of one thousand dollars.

In January, 1942, this had been paid, and there is a credit balance to the district of three thousand dollars. The mill rate has been reduced to 7.75 mills for the village and 5.8 mills for the rural area.

In January, 1942 Mrs. J. D. Blacklock was appointed secretary. Mrs. Blacklock held that position until 1958. Mrs. Nellie Curry took over the duties of secretary and held that position until 1963.

Miss Audrey Page was hired in 1942 at a salary of one thousand dollars per annum. Miss Page taught school in Maymont until 1952. In September of 1943 Mr. J. Armstrong took over as principal and continued in this position until June of 1967. During Mr. Armstrong's tenure at the Annual Meeting in April, 1956 a resolution was put forth stating the need for a new Central School to be built preferably in Maymont as the enrollment necessitated this move. The following year a school was moved into the yard to take the overflow students. Finally in February, 1960 the local board went as a delegation to the Unit Board to press for a new school. It was a successful trip as a new school was to be started and built for the following year 1961. It was to be a six-room school.

An additional four acres of land had been purchased to the south of the school yard two years previously in 1959 for more playground area. The old school was bought by Howard Rogers before construction of the new school and was moved just behind the school yard to his present farm site.

In April of 1963 Mrs. Vera Gray took over duties as secretary from Mrs. Nellie Curry and continued this position until 1977. At an Annual Meeting in March of 1966 it was decided to dissolve the present three member school board and make it into the larger Central School Board consisting of nine members, with five members from Maymont School District and the other four from the surrounding area divided in four divisions namely — Fielding, Calais and Beckwith; Ruddell, Lilac and Wavie Bank; Richard, Prolific, Bromley and Etoola; Grey, Neepawa and Keystone.

As Mr. J. Armstrong retired in 1967, Mrs. Woloshyn was hired as principal. She served from 1967-1969 when Mr. Byrd took over in 1969-1971. Mr. B. Mutkiainen was

hired in 1971 till 1974. Our present principal, Mr. Denis Dube took over in 1974.

It has been noted through the years that some of our local students have made a name for themselves. Four of our students namely — Audrey Ferris, Brian Spence, Linda Voegeli and Leslie Brehon appeared on television on "Reach for the Top" to play off for the Provincial Finals. The school really benefitted from their endeavors as numerous valuable books were added to the library as their prizes.

Over-crowding was again a factor in the early seventies so in the fall of 1971 two portable rooms were attached to the present school. As our attendance hasn't fluctuated that much over the years, the need for them is still there and they are presently still part of our school.

As it was felt that small communities should have the same advantage as larger centres a delegation of the local board made a trip to Regina to meet the Minister of Education to see about the possibilities of obtaining an Auditorium-Gymnasium and Resource Centre for the school. The trip was quite successful for in the summer of 1972 the new gym was started and the Official Opening took place March 15, 1973. Over the years it has been proven that it was a real necessity.

■ June of 1977, Mrs. Vera Gray resigned as secretary and Mrs. Elizabeth Clayton has taken over her duties. It has been noted that since records began only seven secretaries have held that position.

This history ■ the Maymont School just covers the highlights as many interesting activities such as "Drama Night", Sporting Events, Student Sponsored Parent-Student Suppers, Tours, etc. have taken over the years. To mention all things that have happened in this most important institution of learning would be a book in itself.

Maymont Wheat Pool

The original Pool elevator at this point was the old Maymont 'A' elevator. It was built in 1917 by the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company and acquired by the Pool in the late 20's (probably between 1926 and 1928 when most of these Co-op elevators were turned over to the fledgling Pool). It was an elevator with a 30,000 bushel storage capacity and later, in 1924, had a crib annex built onto it for an additional 20,000 bushels of storage capacity.

The 'A' elevator was rebuilt by a Pool crew in 1959 and the old elevator turned into a crib annex to the new elevator. The new elevator had a capacity of 50,000 bushels (1 491 tonnes) and the old elevator, by then, only 25,000 bushels.

Saskatchewan Pool then acquired two more elevators' the 'B' and 'C' elevators in a package deal (along with an old coal shed) in 1969 from Federal Grain. The Maymont 'B' was built in 1915 and had a storage capacity of 24,000 bushels. The Maymont 'C' was also built in 1925 and had a storage capacity of 20,000 bushels. It also had a 12,000 bushel crib annex at the time of the Pool purchase, but when that was built as well as who built these two elevators, was unable to be determined.

All three old elevators, the old 'A' the 'B' and 'C', at Maymont were dismantled and their salvaged materials used in the construction of a 100,000 bushel crib annex to the new 'A' elevator (2 60) tonnes). It also received major renovations and was upgraded to high throughput standards in 1976. Total capacity at the point is now 150,000 bushels (4 202 tonnes).

The Maymont Pool dwelling, a one-storey 26 by 43-foot house, was built in 1967 by a Pool crew. The old dwelling, a 22 by 32 foot, two bedroom home, was sold the year the new one was built.

The following ■ a list of some of the original shareholders in 1926. Mr. A. J. McPhail was President of the Wheat Pool at that time.

Andrew, A. J. 406-202
Arkley, Jas. 406-013
Bates T. B. 406-016
Beckton, Mac 406-019
Brehon A. C. 406-033
Bohn, James 406-026
Bonskill, Chas. 406-027
Collins, F. 406-045
Conkey J. A. 406-043
Cook W. E. 406-046
Coombs H. 406-256
Coulter J. W. 406-044
Denomy H. 406-051
Decharme J. 406-058
Edge W. A. F. 406-059
Fast J. A. 406-220
Fry P. B. 406-070
Giffard F. 406-077
Gray W. G. 406-080
Holler G. ■. 406-091
Holmes Wm. H. 406-098
Johnston R. 406-102
Johnston A. E. 406-097
Johnston H. 406-101
James E. 406-096
Johnston L. E. 406-238
Johnston S. F. 406-203
Long Fred C. 406-215
MacKay D. 406-120
Melrose A. A. 406-129
Melrose W. N. 406-126
Miller J. 406-131
Milman Chas. 406-132
Mohler G. 406-133
Norris Robert 406-142
Nutbrown H. 406-143
Nutbrown T. G. 406-145
Nutbrown S. 406-144
Osbearne J. K. 406-146
Patterson J. A. 406-148
Peden J. ■. 406-150

Parker P. 406-221
Ramsey E. W. 406-154
Reid Andrew 406-157
Reid Lyman 406-205
Rolfe W. H. 406-161
Rolfe John 406-163
Ross Henry 406-162
Schmidt Wm. 406-170
Sloan J. A. L. 406-175
Sloan G. H. 406-174
Sowden Wm. B. 406-176
Taylor Jas. A. 406-188
Turner T. E. 406-194
Wohlburg E. 406-199

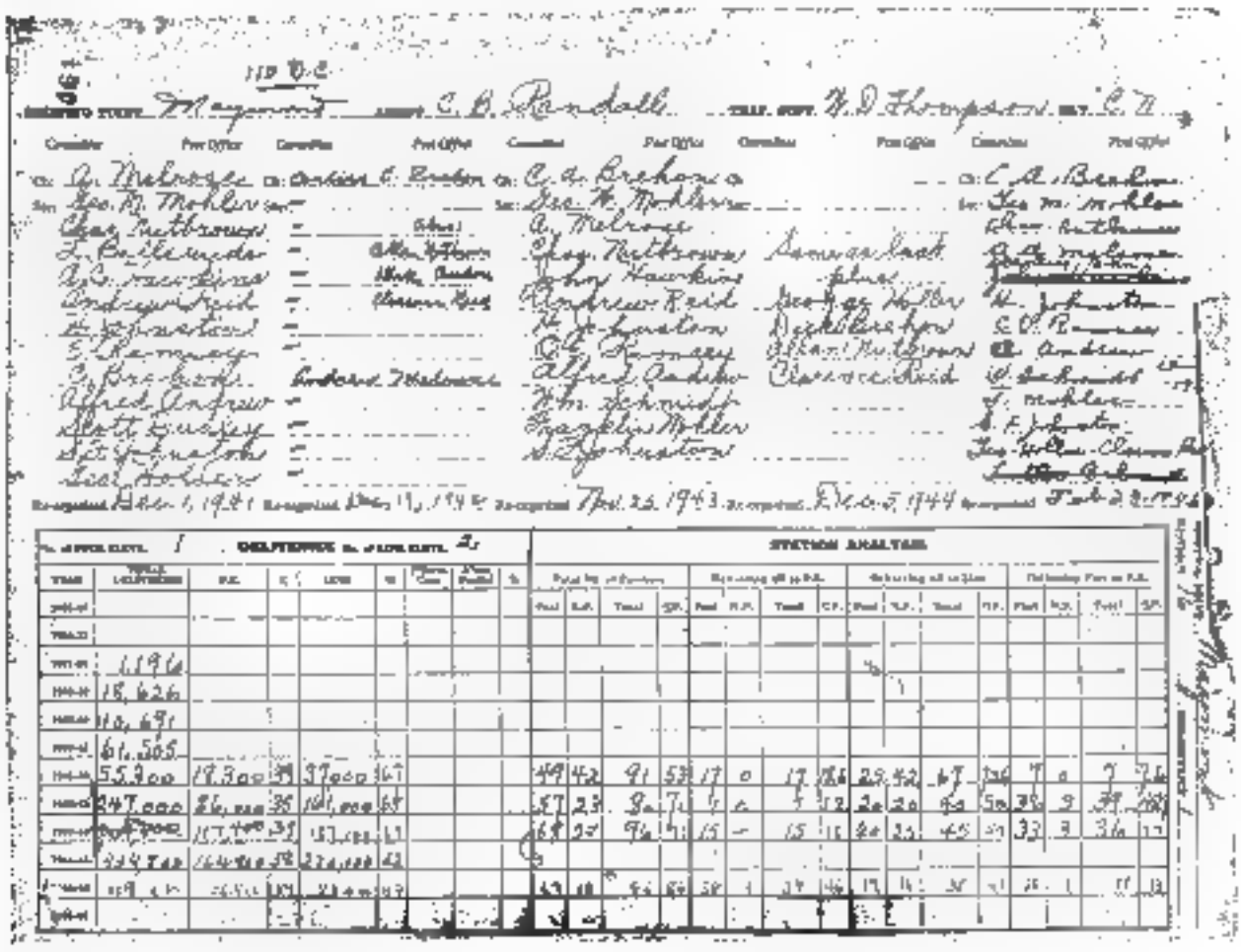
Names of the agents in the Pool elevators are:
J. B. Kerr — August 1, 1929 to June 11, 1935
H. M. Nye — June 11, 1935 to December 19, 1935
J. B. Kerr — December 19, 1935 to January 6, 1936
H. M. Nye — January 6, 1936 to November 1, 1936
W. H. Love — November 1, 1936 to May 22, 1941
C. B. Randall — May 22, 1941 to August 18, 1947
A. J. Despins — August 18, 1947 to July 26, 1948
R. E. Biehn — July 26, 1948 to March 31, 1949
Frank Rogers — March 31, 1949 to October 17, 1951
W. D. Johnston — October 17, 1951 to June 30, 1959
L. C. Roach — June 30, 1959 to present date.

Present members of the Maymont Wheat Pool Committee are: Chairman Ron Mitman, vice-chairman Norman Voegeli, secretary Donald A. Spence, and members Dean Rogers, Allan Rogers, Dale Beaudoin, David Voegeli, Ken Zaleschuk, Andy Polo, Russell Beaudoin, Ches Miller, and George Tebay, all of Maymont; and Victor, Henry and Paul Prescesky, all of Ruddell.

Photographers

Mr. Percy Barrett was the local photographer in the early years. He has left a splendid history in pictures of the early days.

He was followed by Miss Patterson and Mr. Nick Harvey.



The above is an interesting page from Pool records. In contrast, in the 1977-1978 crop year, there was a handling of 820,000 bushels of grain.

Pictures taken by Mr. Barrett and Mr. Harvey have been used in compiling this book.

Pioneers and Pensioners Association

Senior Citizens Recreation Centres have been started in almost every town in Sask. They are found in brand new buildings or older buildings that have been renovated, painted inside and out — largely through local donations, volunteer labor and federal and provincial funding.

Senior Citizens tour, 1978. Bob Boyd and Wanda Peden in foreground.

Maymont also has its Senior Centre, one to be very proud of; this is located on Maymont's main street, formerly the municipal office. The first organizers called it The Pioneer and Pensioners Association, but it is more lovingly called the Senior Citizen's Centre and Lounge.

The first president in 1973 was Mr. William McCready with Mr. Louis Karpan the secretary-treasurer along with several directors. The building has two parts to it. The main front room is carpeted with a piano, kitchen area, shuffleboard and many items that have been donated or purchased, like tables, chairs, drapes, dishes, mirrors etc. — a picture of the "Bridge Opening" graces one wall.

The ladies do quilting in here, shuffleboard and carpet bowling, whist parties, parties and anniversaries are enjoyed.

The back room has a pool table, barber chair, and tables for card playing. The men usually consider this their domain where lively games of snooker, golf, pool, crib and smeer are played throughout the winter months. Some funny names given this area are "The Boar's Nest", "The Bear Pit" and others.

At present there are ninety-five members.

The Battleford Winter Games were held in Maymont in 1978, many seniors took part in the organizing and many more curled — played carpet bowling — shuffleboard and crib.

Maymont's team of Robert Gray, Ken Doolittle, Lily Reid and Emily Hawkins took a gold medal in Carpet Bowling — Lucy Harris and Gordon Johnston the gold in Shuffleboard and Derby Reid and Jack Bates the gold in Crib.

One of the projects started in Maymont by the seniors is newspaper collecting, for the Battleford's Shelter Workshop.

Post Offices at Maymont

Mr. William Andrew was the first postmaster at Maymont and the post office was in Mr. Bean's store, with Mr. Bean as the assistant.

Then followed Mr. McLaren, who furnished his own office and was postmaster until 1916. He was followed by Mr. Stan Thorsteinson until 1920, then Mr. Philpot until 1925.

For many years Clem and Mrs. Coleman ran the office in their home across from the station — where Mrs. Coleman still resides.

Harvey Johnston took over the Post Office in 1956 and retired in 1977. He had his office on Main Street close to the present Canadian-Imperial Bank of Commerce.

Bill and Darlene Melrose followed him and now have the Post Office in their own home near the Memorial Hall.

Restaurants and Cafes

Mr. Ebey operated the first eating place, and Mr. Len Carey had the first restaurant (just south of Mr. McCorkle's garage). The business was sold to Mr. Ward. He sold it to Mr. Charley Wing, who was the first Oriental restaurant operator in Maymont. Later the business had the following managers: Messrs. Cockburn, Jack Suong, Ed Broom, Wes Rolfe, Dick Greenslade, L. Hegland, M. Crawley, Ted Raw, Carlton and Mike Raw.

Mrs. McNully, Mrs. Price, and Mr. Hayman each respectively operated a restaurant across the street called the 'Tea Cup Inn'.

An item of interest in connection with restaurants was that Mr. Patterson operated an ice-cream parlor in connection with his store, and made his own ice-cream.

Senior Citizens Low Rental Housing

submitted by Louis Karpan

Our senior citizen population had increased and accomodation in the village was unavailable. In 1974 a survey revealed that low rental accomodation was urgently needed, a canvas was made and a waiting list

prepared, and the village council made application to Saskatchewan Housing Corporation for assistance and guidance. A meeting was held in the Village of Maymont at 1 P.M. on July 15, 1975 to investigate the need and possibilities for housing for Senior Citizens in the village. Those present were Mayor William McCready, councillors Harvey Johnston, N. R. Bates and secretary-treasurer Louis Karpan together with Mr. S. Wood and Mr. G. Walderman representing Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation and Mr. C. L. Herriot representing Saskatchewan Housing Corporation.

The need was established and the project agreed upon was to consist of ten units of semi-detached duplex type with C.M.H.C. calling for tender. The village picked an excellent site Lots 8 to 14 in Block 11 and lots 8 and 9 in Block 8 for the project which is close to all services and close to recreation facilities which will be used by senior citizens. In 1976 plans presented by C.M.H.C. and Saskatchewan Housing Corporation were studied, discussed and approved and C.M.H.C. calling for contract, awarded the same to Lorman Construction (1965) Ltd. for the sum of $196,-365.00. The project to be financed by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation seventy-five percent, the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation twenty percent and the Village of Maymont five percent. The project was completed by December 8, 1977, a Housing Authority was set up and tenants were moving in.

Maymont Housing Authority is composed of five members — Mrs. Loyola VanDerHaegen Colles Brehon, Wilfred Johnston, Franklin Mohler who is also secretary and Louis Karpan who is chairman. The board appoints an administrator who is Louis Karpan.

The first tenants moved in December 15, 1977. The following are tenants:

Mrs. Ethel Neill, Mr. Nick Sawyshyn, Mr. Stanley J. Long, Mrs. Constance Dallow, Mrs. Winnifred Corris, Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Webb, Mrs. Mary Rogers, Mrs. Merle Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. Mac Beckton and Helen Taylor.

We are proud of our Senior Citizens Low Rental Homes, it's a fine location, the homes are attractive and well landscaped. We are also proud of the way the tenants look after the property. The Housing Authority is grateful to tenants neighbors and the village council for their fine co-operation.

Sports

Maymont has always been a great community for sports. For years the annual ball tournament on May 24th has attracted crowds from far distant points. Hockey, football, curling, broomball, tennis and golf have all been a part of community life. To add to the list, the fun of cross-country skiing has become very popular in the area in the last couple of years. Probably the reason why sports have always been so

The ladies' 'ball team'. Back row — Alan Bean, Art Cassidy, Cupid Friedman, Wilf Reid. Front — Rev. F. Myers, Jock Blacklock, Mr. Morgenroth.

The old and the new water tower.

popular here is that the district was settled by a collection of sports minded pioneers.

The first organized sporting event was held as early as 1904, in the form of a basket picnic on land northeast of the town which later became the farm of Mr. Percy Bouskill. Settlers came from as far as 20 miles on foot, horseback, ox and horse-drawn wagons and even a few top buggies with snappy drivers to take in the big day. Little time was lost in getting the competitions under way, highlights being an impromptu football match and a baseball game featuring the New Ottawa settlement from east of Speers versus the local talent. Foot races, tug-of-war and a host of other competitions were indulged in, everyone capable of self-propulsion taking part. For the women, they enjoyed not only participating in the athletic events but also the rare opportunity to chat with others of their own sex and exchange experiences and recipes until time to go home to their evening chores. The annual picnic was for many years the chief social event.

The first skating rink was made in 1907, and was a very worthy achievement considering all the water had to be hauled the five miles up from the river, all by volunteer labor. Those donating their time and teams were given free meals at the hotel and their teams were given free livery at the livery barn operated by Melrose and Reid. There was a lot of hockey talent

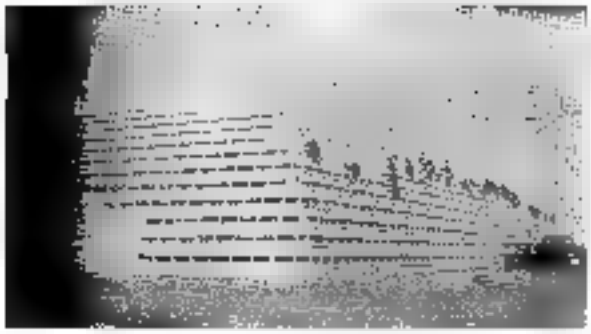
Ladies' broomball team. L. to r. — Mrs. Jean Martin, Mrs. Hickman, Mrs. Knight, Mrs. B. Dolden, Mrs. Lil Andrew, Mrs. E. Neill. Front — Olive Andrew.

among the first pioneers. The first team organized that year took the measure of every team between and including Langham to Battleford. Candidates for the hockey hall of fame are Dr. Scratch, Bill Oliver and Lew Andrew, Walter Mawhinney, Fred Carveth, Archie Robertson, Harold Bride and Herb Fallow.

A good many of the settlers had played baseball before coming in this district so there was plenty of savvy in the first team which was formed the following summer. They seldom met their equal. Some of the original players were Doc Scratch, George Florence, Charles Wright, Walter Mawhinney, Charlie Bride, Earl Lockridge and Harold Bride. Football was a very popular game in the early days, one reason being that the only equipment needed was a ball, a pair of boots with their toes still intact, and a good set of lungs. It was not uncommon for a homesteader to walk behind the plow all day, then drive eight or ten miles in a wagon to have a game of football in the long summer evenings.

In 1908 a half mile race track was made on Section 29, just south of where the village now stands. Ploughs, disks and harrows were donated for the construction and as with the skating rink, all labor was voluntary, the Reids Melrose and Andrew brothers being particularly active in this project. Both harness and running races were very popular, and competition with horse owners from the neighbouring settlements had enthusiastic racers who owned a good horse or two. R. B. Harris of Fielding had "St. Almo", driven by Bill Shanks. Oldtimers will remember Bill on the cart with the inevitable half-smoked cigar in his mouth. Sam Miller also of Fielding owned Harry B" and for many years kept a stable of good blood horses. Charlie Johnston of Reddell had a very fine horse known as "Lord Roberts", and Joe Zimmerman of Radisson always provided good competition. From across the river Spinney Hill was always represented by entries from Bert Lehner's stable. The most outstanding horse in the bunch was "Old Freak" owned by Bill

Maymont Polecats late 1930's. L. to r. — Doug Coleman, coach; Roy Gray, Shorty Porter, Harvey Johnston, Everett Downing, Gordon Johnston, Wendell Reid, Clarence Reid, Archie Reid, Donald McCorkle, Will Reid, Nathan Friedman, Manager; kneeling is Ray Walton. Standing at back is Noel Crawley, caretaker.



150 men had the rink sheeted in in one day.

Sowden of the hotel in Maymont. Not renowned for beauty, Old Freak more than made up for this minor defect by the manner in which he could cover the ground.

In addition to harness racing every sports day, there was always at least three heats of running races which attracted competition from more distant points.

Besides the horse racing the early sports days featured other competitions such as ball games, fool races, pole vaulting and other track and field events.

Nearly everyone took part in some form of competition or other. This year Maymont held it's 74th annual Sports Day. Now however it takes the form of a ball tournament, with only a few participants and most of the people only spectators.

The winter months did not put an end to the recreational pursuits of the pioneers. The skating rink was always well patronized and parties and dances were always on the go in the school houses or in homes.

The open air skating rink was moved around from time to time. Jack Foster was one of the caretakers and shovelled snow many times to have the ice clean for the skaters.

Plans got underway in 1963 to build a new covered skating rink with a waiting room, dressing rooms for the hockey players and space for a concession. By April of 1964 the rafters were cut and the foundation was finished. The new Sports Centre emerged from foundation to completion in twelve working days.

Approximately 150 volunteer workmen turned out to complete the sheeting of the building in one day. At one time or another virtually every lady in the community took her turn at keeping lunch ready for the men. The community spirit was just as evident in 1964 as it was in 1938 when the first curling rink was built by volunteer labor!

From here submitted ■ C. S. Miller

In the fall of 1962, after taking off a poor crop, a group of interested citizens gathered in the Legion Hall to discuss the building of a skating rink. Moneywise, the task looked hopeless but a motion was made to build the rink if at all possible.

A committee was formed with Chester Miller as chairman and Lloyd Parker as secretary-treasurer.

The first task was to contact the contractor (Diener and Son of Tisdale), as they built a new style, cheaper building.

Diener signed a contract to supervise the building of the rink for $1200.00 in the spring of 1963. A lot of miles were travelled that fall, looking at other rinks and ordering supplies. The total lumber bill was $10,-000.00. Bolts, nails were etc. about $700.00.

For the next two years many functions in Maymont went toward financing the new rink. Our first canvas netted less than $2000.00; walkathons, auction sales, a Purebred heifer raffle netted $875.00., the winter works program was a great help. The rink was completely paid for in two years.

In the spring of 1963, the rafters had to be cut and bolted together and put in place. The big day came on April 27th, when, with everyone's help, at 4:30 P.M. 150 men came face to face ■ the top of the building. The rink had been completely sheeted in in one day! All the boards for sheeting were cut with band saws.

The Community Sports Centre is the hub of all activities in town from November thru March each year. We have Senior Hockey, Minor Hockey for all ages, and a very active Figure Skating Club of which the highlight is the Carnival in the spring. For many years the Queen contest raised money for the rink. The new curling rink was built beside the skating rink and now our winter sports activities were all in one area.

About 1965, the Youth and Recreation Board was organized, to help organize all sports and cultural activities and is still functioning at the present time.

Maymont Girl's Ball Team

Shirley Miller

When Harold Smith came to teach school in Maymont, about 1962, he started up a girl's ball team. We played ■ many sports days and won a lot of games.

Those who played during this time were: Lois

One of the Maymont girls' ball teams. Back row — Phyllis Johnston, Faye Huziak, Mel Turner, Cosy Cline, Florence Barchalk, Terry Rush, Lois Stynsky, Shirley Miller, Audrey DeLong.

Cassidy, Marg McDonald, Phyllis and Dorothy Gray, Velma Melrose, Louise Ross, Cozy Johnston, Shirley and Melville Bright, Audrey DeLong, Fay Woods Florence Barchalk, Terry Rush, Iris Neill, Joyce Coleman, Maude and Myrtle Andrew, Vi McKay, Binky Saunders , Ev Turner, Gene Andrew, Delcie Gray, Margaret Miller, Lois Bohn.

After Mr. Smith left, other coaches were Roy Gray, Gordon Johnston and Muriel Brehon. There could be more players that I have forgotten.

We joined in the North Battleford League, playing our games at the North Battleford Airport, and our home games at the sports grounds in Maymont. I believe we played twice a week.

Dr. Scratch Memorial Curling Rink

In 1970 the first sod was turned by Rev. Frank Myers to commence the construction of a new curling rink. Mr. Ed Broom was president.

The rink which has two sheets of ice, was completed in 1971.

Opening of new curling rink. L. to r. — Ches Miller, Harvey Johnston, Ron Scratch, Franklin Mohler, Rev. F. Myers, Aerial F. Sallows, Ed Broom.

As many as sixty-two volunteers worked on the rink in one day. The rink was supported not only by local people, but also by donations received from former residents from coast to coast. "It was built by one hundred percent participation". A book remains in the rink, with all the names of the donors and also has a picture of Dr. Scratch and his two sons. The eldest Ron came for the official opening and threw the first rock.

Curling Rinks

In 1936 the first curling rink was built under the leadership of Rev. L. W. Schnell. Rev. Schnell is credited with being the person who had the most influence in its origin.

The cost was approximately 1,200, which was considered a small fortune in those years. Twenty-nine shareholders bought shares worth $350.00 and $250.00 was borrowed from Mr. George Holler. The lumber was purchased from McCorkle Lumber Yard and on a note which was paid in 1938. The rink was built entirely by volunteer labor.

The first curling season of 1936-37 had 10 pairs of rocks. The first bonspiel in 1937 had 24 rinks competing. Luth Ballard skipped and won the first bonspiel. He was assisted by Mr. and Mrs. Roy Gray, and Miss Freda Mickleburg (now Mrs. George Gray).

The first year ended with $950.00 owing and 122 active members. The rink was wired in 1937 but did not pass inspection. However, it was re-insepcted in 1938 and approved.

The first president of the curling club was Rev. L. W. Schnell with Mr. N. Whitaker as first secretary. Mr. N. Crawley was the first caretaker.

By the end of 1938 Mr. McCorkle had been paid. In 1943 Mr. Holler had also been paid his loan of $450.00 (another $200.00 had been borrowed in 1938). General mixed bonspiels were held every year from 1936 on. The names of Caton, C. Friedman, John Hope, Sid Dolden and N. Whitaker will be remembered by the older generation of curlers.

A new brick siding was put on the rink in 1952 by volunteer labor. In 1954 sixteen pairs of matched rocks were purchased from the Queen City Curling Stone Co. at a cost of $1,100. These rocks were paid for during the same year.

The rink was used until 1970 when plans got underway for a new covered curling rink. The old building was dismantled in 1971-72. Some of the material was purchased by the R.M. of Maytield to build a shed, some was used to renovate the roof of the Memorial Hall and some of the material was purchased by a local farmer.

All Saints Church, Maymont

told by Evelyn Bates

The first Anglican Services in Maymont were held at the home of Mr. C. Milman, Sr. in 1904 by student ministers who officiated until Reverend D. G. Schorfield came in 1908. The Right Reverend Newnham, Bishop of Saskatchewan held a service in Grey School in 1906. This gave the ladies of the district the incentive to form a Guild and by putting on bazaars, etc., raised money to help build a "shack" for Reverend Schorfield. Then the work of the church was began and with the help of a four hundred dollar gift from the Old Country and local subscriptions, the one thousand dollar church was opened and dedicated "All Saints" at an Easter service on April 11, 1909. One week later the W.A. was formed by Miss Newnham of Prince Albert, the sister of the Bishop. It has been going on ever since, with a name change to A.C.W.

The first couple to be married in the church were

All Saints' Parish Leaflet

Vol. 2 MAY, 1918 No. 18

Motto: "Jesus Christ, the same, yesterday, today, and forever."

[illegible]

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, MAYMONT

[illegible]

Incumbent—Rev. H. B. Gardiner, All Saints' Parsonage, Maymont.

Churchwardens

Incumbent's—Mr. G. Bruton People's—Mr. G. H. Mantip

Vestrymen

Messrs. F. Butterfield, W. Archibald, J. W. Wilkinson, T. Southwood, J. Pascoe, H. S. Griffin.

Organist—Miss A. E. Dean. Parish Clerk & Secretary—Mr. H. S. Griffin.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, PRESTON

Churchwardens

Incumbent's—Mr. T. Williams People's—Mr. A. E. Stonebridge

Vestrymen

Messrs. E. Jordan, J. Bruce, L. Short

Organist—Miss Ireland Sunday School Teacher—Mrs. F. Galpin.

BRIMLEY & ROYAL DISTRICT

Churchwardens

Incumbent's—Mr. F. W. Poulter. People's—Mr. H. Cresswell.

Vestrymen

Messrs. W. J. Beaumont, J. Draper, E. N. Thompson, A. Lowerson, W. Phillips.

NORTH WEST DISTRICT

Organist—Mrs. T. A. Amos.

[illegible]

Services in Memorial Hall on Sundays as announced.

SEND IN YOUR ORDER NOW FOR EAVESTROUGH, TANKS & FURNACE

You will need them next Summer or Fall. Make sure of getting them, because help is hard to get and every order received early, I can save time on by making it up in the winter or slack time.

Special attention given to Steam, Hot Water and Hot Air Heating

HENRY TADEI Plumber & Tinsmith RADISSON. Phone 24

BUTTER WRAPPERS

[illegible]

THE BATTLEFORD PRESS BATTLEFORD, SASK.

Front and back page from an Anglican Parish leaflet, 1918.

The Parsonage, Maymont.

Tuesday, April 23rd, 1918.

My Dear Friends and Parishioners,—

It is just a year ago today since I wrote the first letter for our Parish Leaflet. I must confess it was with considerable misgivings that one commenced the new "venture", but the general reception accorded the Leaflet each month has more than justified the initial effort.

The main idea for the issue of a Parish Leaflet was to keep our scattered people in touch with the life and activities of the Church, and also to further stimulate their interest by sending them a message from the Incumbent each month. One has indeed been gratified to find that this object has been more than realized in that many who on account of distance cannot get to Church very often welcome the arrival of the Leaflet each month, feeling despite their isolation the Church has not forgotten them.

Of necessity, work in scattered Parishes presents many difficulties, chiefly perhaps of a Pastoral nature—reaching each family throughout the Parish at regular intervals. Owing to the shortage of men, it has been found necessary to include the Oldbury District in this Parish. In order to accomplish the work satisfactorily, an effort will be made from now on to systematically visit the whole field. A programme of work for the month has been printed in this issue, and I trust it will serve a double purpose, first, systematise the work of the whole Parish, and secondly show that each Centre in turn is receiving equal Pastoral Attention. I would indeed be grateful if parishioners would notify me at once of any cases of sickness; this would avoid delay in visitation, and also help to keep one in sympathetic touch with all.

Apropos of the enlarged Parish, it has been found necessary to enlarge the Leaflet in order to have sufficient space to chronicle the activities of the whole Parish. In order to meet the extra expense this will entail, I am asking all who are interested to subscribe 25 cents per year. This will cover postage and also help towards the cost of printing. I prefer the subscription to be voluntary as what it can still be issued to all regardless of charge.

Commencing the first Wednesday in May, arrangements are being made to hold Confirmation classes in All Saints' Church, Maymont, at 6 p.m., immediately after the Intercession Service. An invitation is extended to all Communicants as well as to those who are desirous to be confirmed, and also to any who are interested in the Church. Attendance at these classes does not necessarily mean obligation as regards Confirmation; rather are the classes designed so that the candidates may eventually fulfill the necessary conditions—to be "Ready" and therefore "Desirous" to be Confirmed.

Before closing I would add a word about Church attendance this summer. Now that the days are getting longer and warmer the temptation no doubt comes to many to make use of the time and get out while the days are good. I suppose it is natural to feel this way, particularly if Sunday is the only day we have for rest and recreation. Unfortunately this only too often interferes with Church attendance, and if we miss other people it prevents them also from attending God's House.

No matter what hour of the day we have our Service the extra hour of daylight should help us in this respect. There will still be both time and daylight after Church to spend in recreation. Sunday can still be a "Day of Rest and Gladness", a time for rest and recreation, especially if we put "first things first". Shall we endeavour so to do this each Sunday, making the first business of the day attendance at God's House?

Commending these matters to your earnest consideration,

Yours sincerely,

BASIL GARLICK.

The Incumbent's Visiting Appointments For May

7th—9th Maymont and District.
10th—12th Richard and Oldbury.
14th—17th Neepawa.
21st—23rd Fielding and District.
23rd—26th Richard and Oldbury.
28th—31st Maymont and District.

Hymns for May

Maymont—5th. 615, 477, 647, 293.
12th. 598, 302, 441, 39.
19th. 387, 410, 578, 594. Whitsunday
26th. 1, 436, 633, 26. Trinity Sunday.

Fielding—5th. 394, 220, 415, 37.
19th. 189, 419, 578, 235. Whitsunday

Oldbury—12th. 619, 407, 601, 37.
26th. 2, 430, 631, 26. Trinity Sunday.

Neepawa Mission Service.
5th. 212, 201, 479, 901.
19th. 270, 309, 396, 287.

N.B.—Richard Hymns will be printed as soon as the services have become well established.

Church Calendar for May

1st. St. Philip and St. James, Apostles and Martyrs.
5th. 5th Sunday after Easter.
6th, 7th and 8th. Rogation Days.
9th. Ascension Day.
12th. Sunday after Ascension Day.
19th. Whitsunday.
26th. Trinity Sunday.

Services for the Month

Maymont—Service each Sunday evening at 7.30. Holy Communion 1st Sunday in each month after the evening Service. Wednesday, May 8th, Intercession Service, 7.30 p.m. Thursday, May 9th, Ascension Day, Holy Communion 8 a.m. Sunday, May 19th, Whitsunday, Holy Communion 11 a.m.

Fielding—Services on alternate Sunday afternoons at 3 o'clock. May 5th and 19th. Holy Communion 19th (Whitsunday).

Neepawa—Services on alternate Sunday mornings at 11 a.m., May 5th and 19th.

Oldbury (Bromley School)—Services on alternate Sunday Afternoons at 2.30 p.m., May 12th and 26th. Holy Communion May 26th (Trinity Sunday).

Richard—Services on alternate Sunday mornings in the Municipal Hall at 11 o'clock. Services on the 12th and 26th.

Holy Baptism

"In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost."

Sunday, April 7th—Ruth Caroline Garlick, born March 4th, 1918, daughter of Basil and Eva Lois Garlick.

—Muriel Alison Butterfield, born March 2nd, 1913, daughter of Frank and Margaret Butterfield.

Rogation Days

The Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday preceding Ascension Day are called Rogation Days from the fact that Mamertus, Bishop of Vienne, in A.D. 457 appointed special Rogations (Litanies said in procession) to be said on these days in token of thanksgiving to God for deliverance from an earthquake which occurred during the hours of service in Vienne. Although there is no special service for these days, special prayers are used on the Sunday preceding, asking God "to give us fruitful seasons and to prosper the work of our hands".

Parish Notes

Sunday, May 5th, being the nearest to the Rogation Days, the Services in Maymont and Fielding will be appropriate for Rogationtide.

The Concert and Social Evening that should have taken place last month in the Orange Hall, Maymont, has been arranged for May 24th, Victoria Day. Proceeds will be in aid of the "Driving Girls".

Arrangements are being made for a picnic to be held in connection with St. Andrew's Church, Fielding, at Mr. Elliott's (Senior) farm down by the river. Further particulars will appear in the next issue. The picnic is arranged for June 3rd (the King's Birthday).

Apropos of picnics, the second "Old Time Picnic" will be held on Dominion Day, July 1st, in connection with All Saints Church, Maymont.

For sale - Large sized lumber water tank in excellent condition; would make a good trough for stock. Price $10.00, proceeds to be devoted towards Church heater. Tank can be seen at the Parsonage, Maymont.

Maymont W.A. will meet at All Saints' Parsonage on Thursday, May 16th, at 3 p.m.

On May 12th (Sunday after Ascension Day) the plate collections (collections other than envelope) will be devoted to the Canadian work of the W.A. of C.C.

A Thought for the Month

OVER AND OVER

"Over and over again,
No matter which way I turn,
I always find in the back of Life
Some lesson I have to learn

I must take my turn at the mill,
I must grind out the golden grain,
I must work at my task with a resolute will,
Over and over again.

We cannot measure the need
Of even the rinsen flower,
Nor check the flow of the golden sands
That run through a single hour.

But the morning dew must fall,
And the sun and the summer rain
Must do their part and perform it all,
Over and over again.

Over and over again
The brook through the meadow flows,
And over and over again
The goldenrod and wheat grow.

Once doing will not suffice,
Though doing be not in vain,
And a blessing lasting as once or twice
May come if we try again.

The path that has once been trod
Is never so rough to our feet,
And a lesson we once have learned
Is never so hard to repeat.

Though sorrowful tears may fall,
And the heart to its depths be riven
With stones and tempest, we need them all
To render us meet for Heaven."

Let Us Measure You For a New Suit. Fit Guaranteed.

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Varnishes — Stains — Brushes

Next week we expect a shipment of

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The public will please note I am selling a large percentage of my goods at pre-war prices which means they are fully 30% less than present market values

---

Arthur H. Martin

MAYMONT

Builder and Contractor

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G. H. MARTIN, MAYMONT

All Saints Anglican Church.

Miss Lily Martin and Seager Wheeler in September 1909. A few weeks later Mr. George Florence and Miss Margaret Bouskill were married.

Reverend Schorfield later moved to Moose Jaw and students Gosden, Walker, and Bunting came until Reverend B. C. Garlick came in 1914. He died of the 'flu in 1919, so his wife and family moved away. Student ministers Mr. Gray, Mr. Ashley, and Mr. Waite were there until 1921, when after ordination Reverend Ashley was asked to return as resident minister. He was moved to another parish in 1923.

Mr. Bradshaw came in 1923 as a student and was ordained while at Maymont and stayed until 1928. Reverend Jokes came from Wales in 1928 until 1930. Then Reverend Cozens until 1937. Mr. Simpson and Mr. Greenhalch, students took the services until Reverend Basil Saunders came in 1938. In 1941 he was moved to a different locality and Reverend B. Crowder came until 1944.

Due to the depression after the war years, it was impossible to support a resident minister so a succession of students followed. They came from the East and Emmanuel College in Saskatoon. In 1958, a student from Nova Scotia, Randy Wood arrived for the summer months and under his leadership and a generous bequest the church was renovated and a chancel added. Reverend Blakely came next for two years. Then in April of 1959, Reverend Harry Fairbridge, took charge and under his direction the congregation were inspired to use the pledge system. The church was redecorated and in 1959 celebrated its Fiftieth Anniversary. Thanks to another legacy, a new furnace was added. Reverend D. Waddington came in 1961 and stayed until [illegible] was transferred in 1968.

Our present minister, Reverend P. Comerford arrived then. A new parsonage was built at Radisson, as our larger parish took in Radisson, Borden, and Halcyonia, so we have no resident minister. Reverend and Mrs. Comerford have twins, a boy, Henry, and a girl, Valerie, Henry is studying in [illegible] a minister and Valerie is a nurse.

In 1973, the bell tower of the church was removed, the bell stored in a safe place, new roof added and the exterior painted. Arch Deacon Blackwell and eight of his parishioners from North Battleford arrived one Saturday to help with the painting. Reverend Comerford and Henry, Ron and Dick Milman, Jim Gray, and Bob Bates all wielded brushes, even though it turned out to be the hottest day of the year, ninety-six degrees above Fahrenheit. The ladies provided lunches in the shade of the trees.

Reverend Comerford made and erected a wooden cross over the front door.

Mr. E. Wilmot left a legacy of beautiful hand carvings in the church. In 1910 he made the lectern; 1922 the pulpit and font; then the hymn board, book cabinet and chair stalls, up to 1929. The Communion Table or Altar in 1943, a missal (small reading desk) in 1946, a prayer desk in 1947 and six text boards, with the commandments carved on them, to hang between the windows.

Some of the pioneer names in connection with the church are: Milman, Dawson, Bean, Whitehouse, Butterfield, Bouskill, Wilmot, Martin, Pattinson, Shouldice, Chambers, MacPherson. There are so many more we would like to mention who came later and were very staunch Christians.

The Catholic Church, Maymont

First Mass was celebrated in the spring, possibly 1920, in the Orange Hall in Maymont. During the same summer, a second Mass was celebrated in Mr. and Mrs. F. Porter's home and a meeting followed. At said meeting it was decided to build a church.

It was financed through the Bishop, the Bank of Maymont, and donations from local members.

The foundation was dug and built by all the people of Maymont who donated their time, etc. Material was bought from Maymont lumber yard.

The date of construction was 1926. The church was built by Mr. Ted Wilmot.

The church vestments were donated by some church in Ontario, through Mr. Fred Porter.

The following were the first trustees: Mr. Fred

Catholic Church in early years.

Porter, Mr. Joe Ducharme, Mr. E. Andrew, Mr. David Fouhy, and Mr. Art Becker.

Mr. Neumeyer of Fielding was the first organist. The first choir consisted of three Neumeyer children and two Becker children.

The first funeral was Dorothy Fouhy in 1928.

The first wedding was Genevieve Fouhy and Albert McGaffin in 1932.

The church was in use until 1969 when the congregation from Spitzey Hill built their own church which left few to attend Mass at Maymont so the Maymont church was moved away.

Maymont Catholics now attend Mass in Richard, Radisson, and North Battleford.

Maymont Foursquare Church

The Foursquare Church was started in September, 1936 when Rev. Arthur Bergman held a couple of meetings in the Calais School, south of Maymont. Considerable interest was shown by the people of the Neepawa S. D. north of Calais.

Rev. Ruby Rice and Rev. Gladys Nelson were the first pastors. Under their leadership services were moved to the home of Mr. J. L. Sloan in the Neepawa District. Additional services were also held in the home of N. W. and W. E. Andrew in the Keystone District and also in the home of Mrs. K. Holmes of the Grey School District.

In August, 1940, owing to the illness of Mrs. J. L. Sloan, the Sunday services were moved to the home of Mrs. K. Holmes in the village of Maymont.

In March of 1943 the Foursquare congregation purchased the old pool hall and barber shop, which was one of the pioneer buildings of the town. It was remodelled into a church and was dedicated on July 4, 1943.

Many alterations have been made from time to time including the lowering of the church from two-storeys to one-storey; taking out six feet of wall — this material was thus utilized by the making of a five-room parsonage at the rear of the church.

The Pulpit has been occupied by various Pastors including the Revereeds Wilbur Curtis, Russell and Mrs. Andrew, Joe Galbraith, Floyd and Mrs. Sloan, Ralph Cook, William Bell, M. Belobaba, Reg Gillat, Arnold Bemmerling, Valerie Young, Brian Boxall, Jim Nesbitt, Allan Brown, Evelyn Teal, and Alvin Larson.

One Maymont couple who were married there were Walter Wiley and Norma Bohn. Some funerals were also held from this church. It will be remembered by many how the Ted and Evelyn Sloan children were so well versed in Bible verses that they won many contests here and in the U.S.A.

History of Maymont Sharon United Church from Previous Histories

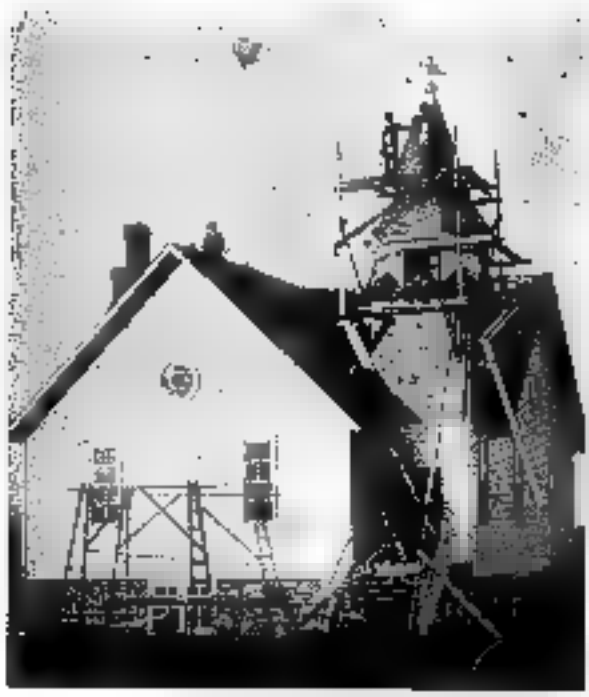
The history of Maymont United Church dates back prior to union when in 1903 Mr. R. N. Matheson, under the direction of then Prince Albert Presbytery, began work in the district, visiting homes and new settlements in the sparsely settled area. He worked from Great Bend (now Radisson) until 1904 when he worked in the area from Fielding to Denholm.

■ 1905 Rev. J. C. Madill was appointed by the Home Mission Board to carry on the work of the Presbyterian Church and it was in 1906 that the first Presbyterian Church was built. This church was built on what is now the parking lot for the Memorial Hall.

It was in 1906 the congregations of Fielding, Maymont and Ruddell were organized as a pastoral charge and Rev. Madill inducted as pastor. Mr. Madill moved to British Columbia in November and the charge was vacant until 1909, when Rev. J. M. Fisher accepted a call.

The first annual meeting was held on Jan. 20, 1910. The following are the minutes of that meeting. "The Congregational meeting was held at the residence of Rev. J. M. Fisher at 8 o'clock in the evening, as per announcement from the pulpit on the two preceeding Sundays. Rev. Fisher presided and H. Elliott acted as Secretary. Minutes of a previous meeting were read by secretary and were on the motion adopted. The Treasurer then presented the financial statement of the year which showed the obligations of the congregation had been duly met. Moved, seconded and passed that the report be adopted. The Ladies Aid presented a report which showed the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars to their credit in the bank. This report was also on motion adopted. The Congregation then proceeded to elect officers for the year. It was moved by H. Elliott, seconded by Wm. Parker and agreed that the board of managers hereafter be composed of six members, two of whom shall be elected to this office. For three years Wm. Andrew, Sr. and F. T. McCorkle, for two years A. O. Hawkins and W. H. Carey. For one

Maymont United Church.



Presbyterian Church being built — 1911.

year Andrew Reid and A. A. Melrose. On motion it was agreed to leave the appointment of Sec. Treasurer to the board of managers.

Mr. A. O. Hawkins was appointed pew steward for the year.

Some discussion took place regarding the matter of a new church building, but as the hour was late it was agreed not to take up this matter until a later date. On motion it was agreed to adjourn, to meet on Feb. 23rd. The meeting closed with benediction.

The February meeting of the congregation instructed the board to consider plans for a new church capable of seating 200 to 250 persons at a cost of from $1800.00 to $2000.00. Mr. F. T. McCorkle was elected treasurer of the Building Fund. The board of managers were authorized to make application for a loan for the building of the new church. In Sept. the building committee, W. H. Cook, John Reid and Rev. Fisher were elected, with Mr. Wm. Burrows engaged as carpenter. In March 1911 the first congregational meeting was held in the newly constructed basement.

During Rev. Fisher's four years of ministry he promoted, encouraged and assisted in the building of First Presbyterian Church at Maymont. The new church was completed and officially dedicated November 10, 1911, by Professor E. H. Oliver of Saskatoon, who later became Principal of St. Andrew's College and was the second Moderator of the United Church of Canada. When officially opened there were 26 families and 49 communicants under pastoral care.

On Jan. 23, 1913, the first annual meeting in the new church tendered a vote of thanks to R. P. Blake of Winnipeg for a gift of a Pulpit Bible.

In 1913 Rev. Fisher resigned and as no ordained minister was available, a student minister, Norman Wright, took services for a time. Financial arrangements for a salary were: Maymont and Ruddell to pay five dollars each per Sunday and five dollars a week came from Home Missions.

Rev. Morgan came in 1914 and served until going overseas — then students filled in again until Rev. McPhedran came in 1918. The following year the basement was finished and rented to the Public School Board for a primary class.

The church was now free from debt so improvements could be carried on. The furnace was put in by contributions from the Ladies Aid. The new steps were built, church painted inside and out and pews were installed. The improvements meant heavy expenditures but the congregation felt they had a church second to none in any rural area.

In 1920 the minister's salary was raised from $720 to $900 per annum. Rev. Grant was the minister. He formed a Trail Ranger's Group.

Rev. Sibbald arrived in 1922. Twenty-seven members were present when Rev. Sibbald took up the matter of how the deed of the church property would be affected when Church Union took place. After considerable discussion the Board of Managers were instructed to "take proper steps to retain possession of the title of church property".

At this time the fields were re-arranged with Brada, Denholm and Ruddell together and Fielding, Eastbourne and Maymont.

In 1924 the house and lots of W. J. Mawhinney were purchased for $2000.00 for a manse. The first meeting of the Church Board after Church Union was held Aug. 10, 1925. In the summer of 1927 Rev. Hardy came. Both church and manse were paid for in full.

The Annual Meeting in 1930 reported 49 people braved the cold weather of 39 degrees below zero to attend. The Young People's Society was formed and that year the first supper meeting.

Rev. Hamilton came in 1931. The financial statement showed a surplus of $200.00 making it possible to have the church wired for electric lights in 1932.

Rev. Schnell came in 1936 with his special appeal to children and young people.

Rev. F. Myers came in 1937 on recommendation of Rev. Schnell.

Donations of paint were received and the church was repainted in 1939.

A Young Women's Service Club was organized in 1941 and the United Church and Anglican joined to form a Maymont Young People's.

Mr. McCorkle donated material for the coat rack and it was constructed by L. Curry. (Men to bring their own coat hangers). In 1944 the choir was elected to act as a committee to make inquiries regarding an organ.

The next year a fund was started and in 1945 a new Minshall organ was dedicated in memory of those who lost their lives in World War II.

Over the years improvements continued with building of new steps and the interior of the church being re-decorated. An automatic oil-burning furnace was installed and additional wiring done. The walls and ceiling of the church were insulated and covered with dominotone. A new sink, drain and cesspool were added to the manse.

In 1954 the United Church Conference of Saskatchewan Honoured Rev. Myers by electing him President of Conference for one year. The three charges and people from a wide area gathered to especially honor him.

In 1957 a fund was started for the building of a new manse. Lots were purchased across the road south of the church and the new manse was officially opened Nov. 6, 1958.

The Maymont pastoral charge has changed boundaries on several occassions over the years and now Maymont congregation, since July 1967, has been part of the Maymont Larger Parish made up of three former pastoral charges of Maymont, Radisson and Speers, with two ordained ministers.

During thirty-eight years of ministry under Rev. Frank Myers, several events are worthy of mention. At the 25th Anniversary of the United Church, forty new members were received into the Maymont congregation. The 50th anniversary of the opening of the Sharon United Church was observed Oct. 29, 1961. The Ladies Aid celebrated their 50th year in 1960. The 50th anniversary of the congregation took place in January 1960, and every organization prepared a history for the occasion. Special recognition was accorded three pioneers, namely Mrs. George Mohler, who came to the district in 1903, Mr. Percy Parker in 1904 and Mr. Herbert Johnston in 1905.

A Life Membership was given to Mrs. R. F. Johnston who was a Charter Member of the Women's Missionary Society.

From a Memorial Fund set up by the congregation to receive Memorial donations rather than flowers, chimes were purchased and dedicated in 1969. They were first heard at Christmas of that year and since have been used as a call to worship on Sunday Mornings.

Sunday June 29, 1975 was an unhappy day for the congregation as Rev. Dr. F. L. Myers took his last official church service in the Maymont Church. Earlier in the month both he and Mrs. Myers had been honored by the Battlefords Presbytery and the local community with farewell teas and other events and presentations. They moved to Saskatoon where he has continued to serve the United Church as a part time chaplain at two of the hospitals and at Oliver Lodge.

In August 1975 the Rev. R. Sadler, his wife Ruth and their three children arrived in Maymont. His first service was Aug. 31. Mr. Sadler was born and raised in Almonte, Ontario. He taught school for a time, spent ten years in Hong Kong where he was the principal of a large school and helped to organize two other schools. He returned to Canada from Hong Kong and completed his theology studies in Ontario before coming to Maymont after ordination. He served the Maymont Larger Parish until June, 1979 when he moved to the Battleford charge.

In 1975 a garage was built at the manse and a family room was completed in the basement of the manse.

It has been a team ministry in the larger parish and this year, 1979, they hope to carry on with the help of Rev. Bill Richards of Speers until the Rev. Allan Porter of Landis arrives in November.

Maymont Pastoral Charge

July 1, 1936 to June 30, 1937

Rev. Leonard W. Schnell, B.A., B.D.

My association with the Maymont Pastoral Charge was of long-standing but of short duration. It began with an invitation to be your minister in a letter written by Mr. Andrew A. Melrose early in 1931. Previously we had met at a meeting of the Battleford Presbytery. Since Mrs. Schnell and I had been at St. Walburg for only two years, we felt we could not accept the invitation at this time. Andrew replied, "If not now, then sometime later."

We received a second invitation on March 16, 1936 — also written by Andrew. This was followed by an Official Call dated April 28, signed by forty-seven members and officers of the three congregations, Eastbourne, Fielding and Maymont.

We arrived on the Charge for the Conference year beginning July 1, 1936 hoping to serve for at least seven years. But at the end of June 1937, we said "farewell" to accept an offer from the Canadian Bible Society to be District Secretary for North Saskatchewan. It was an unexpected short pastorate, but nevertheless a most eventful one. We briefly outline the highlights under three headings:

I. THE PASTORAL CHARGE

July was holiday month. Returning on Thursday the 30th, I was well in time for my first services on Sunday August 2. Will Melrose accompanied me. Attendance: Eastbourne 40; Fielding 35; Maymont 75. I felt I was off to a good start.

(a) Pastoral Visitation — During August and September, I made calls on one or more families on each of 29 days. On August 16 after making six calls, I wrote in my diary, "It will be grand when I have met all my people in their own homes."

(b) Preaching — In addition to messages for special church days, Anniversaries, Christmas, Easter and Thanksgiving, I concentrated on two sermon series:

1. Our Statement of Purpose based on Article XX, Basis of Union, United Church of Canada.

iii. The Old Testament Prophets.

(c) The Bible Class — A terrific blizzard on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 1 and 2 closed the roads to Eastbourne until spring. Consequently on Sunday December 6, we started our winter schedule, i.e. no service ■ Eastbourne; a combined Sunday School and Church service with the minister responsible for the Bible Class in Maymont at 10:30 a.m.; and afternoon services ■ Fielding.

The Bible Class proved to be a most rewarding experience. We studied the Book ■ Revelation. ■ was difficult to interpret but the Class participated freely, and judging by the large and regular attendance found the study stimulating.

(d) Young People — There were active Y.P.U's at Maymont and Fielding. Reorganization meetings were held on October 2 and 6 respectively. On October 9 a Presbytery Rally was held ■ North Battleford. The total attendance was well over one hundred, of which more than one third was from the Maymont Charge including a small group from Eastbourne. They were so enthused with the Rally experience that they requested the organization of a local Y.P.U. This was held on October 26 in the Scotville School. Three carloads of young people representing the three preaching points attended the Saskatchewan Y.P. Convention held in Regina the weekend of November ■. "Enthusiasm" was the key word of the young people on the Charge throughout the season.

(e) Church Membership Class — Classes were held in Maymont and Fielding. At the first meeting in Fielding the attendance was 23 young people; in Maymont 8.

(f) The Sacraments.

i. Holy Communion — There were three celebrations of the Lord's Supper: November 1, 1936; January 3, 1937: Good Friday, March 26, 1937. At the last there was also a reception service when the following were added to our Membership Roll.

FIELDING —
Chester, Jean, Keith, Norma and Ruth Ferris;
George and Malcolm Garnett;
Lawrence Iveson;
Jean and Ross MacNaughton;
Alex Spence;
Robert Thomson;
Lila Thompson;
Donald and Elain Walz.

MAYMONT —
Winnie Dolden;
Muriel Foulston;
Horace Knight;
Emma MacDonald;
Lillian Martin;
Donald McCorkle;
Marguerite Mohler;
Lily Spence.

ii. Baptism — This rite was observed in each congregation when the following children were presented:

EASTBOURNE — Lorne Leslie Anger
Edith Adele Scott

FIELDING — Marlene Gertrude Roberts
John Charles Roberts
Dorothy Noreen Roberts

MAYMONT — James Henry Bright
Ellen Dunn Rogers

(g) Weddings: There were seven. At one of them the groom was 47, the bride 17. Just as soon as I pronounced them "husband and wife", I heard the groom whisper quite audibly, "Now you are mine!" The Couples:

10/9/36 — Earl L. Brown and Evelyn Viola MacLeod
8/10/36 — John McMillan and Margaret E. Roberts
16/10/36 — Will G. Scrivens and Mildred M. Mohler
17/10/36 — Edwin V. Sloan and Evelyn V. M. Andrew
14/11/36 — Norman W. Melrose and Grace E. Harkness
7/4/37 — Thomas H. M. Bates and Ada Pearl Rogers
15/5/37 — Will H. Griffin and Beulah O. Baumbaugh

(h) Funerals: Only two during my twelve months.

1. October 10, 1936 at Fielding for Paddy Spence.
2. March 1, 1937 at Maymont for Will N. Melrose — only 53, a premature death caused by Infantile Paralysis.

II. THE PRESBYTERY

I had been Secretary of the Battleford Presbytery while at St. Walburg. I continued in this Office when I moved to Maymont. The regular duties were simple enough, but now there was a big extra. The future of the Hafford Hospital was a red hot issue at the time. It required much correspondence, and many meetings of a special committee. When Presbytery could not settle the issue, it was referred to the Saskatchewan Conference to be considered at the annual meeting in June 1937. The final entry in my diary on this knotty problem is on June 8, 1937: "The Special Hafford Hospital Committee presented a resolution which after a long discussion was accepted by Conference".

III. THE COMMUNITY

(a) The Curling Rink.

Even though 1936 was the driest year in the "dirty thirties", it was my privilege to enlist the co-operation of the local citizens to build a Curling Rink by voluntary labor. The initial meeting to consider the project was held on October 5, 1936. The organization meeting was held on October 15 with construction beginning the following day. The rink opened for play on Thursday December 10 with twenty-four local rinks participating in a knockout draw. Each rink curled two ends. We finished at 2:00 a.m. It was a fun night. The Homemakers served lunch, coffee five cents, doughnuts five cents. Proceeds $13.00 which were presented to the Rink Committee.

(b) The orchestra.

Early in 1937 a local orchestra was formed with the following members: Leader — William Love (trumpet), Miss Ellen Reid (piano), Rev. Walter Cosens (cello), Tom Wood (mandolin), Wendell Reid

(violin), Wilfred Reid (violin), and Rev. Leonard Schnell (violin). The Orchestra's first public appearance was at the Curling Social in the Orange Hall on Monday March 29 when the Bonspiel prizes were presented. Between then and June 30, the orchestra played numbers at six other community events.

It was a pastorate of only twelve months, but one filled with excitement and wonder. Sharing it with me was my wife, Nellie, and our two year old daughter, Grace, born in St. Walburg on May 1, 1934. Our son Bruce was born in Maymont on May 1, 1937.

Women's Missionary Society

from previous history

The W.M.S. was organized in 1915 and the first report was given that year by Miss Flora Bohn. Members at that time were Mrs. F. McCorkle, Mrs. Wm. Parker, Mrs. A. Reid, Mrs. J. J. Reid, Mrs. D. McLennan, Miss Flora Bohn, Mrs. A. Melrose, Mrs. A. Martin, and Mrs. R. F. Johnston.

A group of W.M.S. ladies.

Mrs. M. Holler, Mrs. Wm. Reid and Mrs. W. N. Melrose joined shortly after that. In 1925 there were fifteen members, J. Brady, Mrs. Sibbald, Mrs. J. Taylor and Mrs. Herb Johnston having joined. In February, 1920 the W.M.S. ladies held a bake sale to raise some funds. The sale brought in twenty dollars. In 1927 Mrs. M. Hardy and Mrs. Christfield joined and in April of that year Mrs. Wm. Parker was presented with a life membership certificate.

In 1928 Mrs. Hardy invited the W.M.S. and the Anglican W.A. in her home for the World Day of Prayer Service. Mrs. M. McCorkle was presented with a life membership that year.

In 1930 there were four new members — Mrs. G. Mohler, Mrs. Jas. Rogers, Mrs. J. D. Blacklock and Mrs. H. Hamilton. In 1932 there were eighteen members. Officers in 1934 were Mrs. Herb Johnston, President (remaining in office until 1945) and Mrs. G. Mohler, Secretary-Treasurer (until 1946). Members helped with Red Cross Work during the war years.

Mrs. W. H. Reid and Mrs. Conkey joined in 1946. Mrs. A. Reid, Mrs. A. Melrose, Mrs. Wm. Reid became life members in 1949.

Mrs. F. Myers was presented with a life membership certificate in 1954 and Mrs. J. D. Blacklock in 1956 prior to her departure from Maymont. In 1957 Mrs. Herb Johnston was given a life membership by the Auxiliary and Baby Band Members. In 1959-60 Mrs. A. R. Johnston was President, Mrs. Myers was Secretary-Treasurer. There were fourteen regular members and twenty-two associate members.

Through the years the W.M.S. looked after the leadership of the younger groups. The Mission Band was organized in 1918. Miss Flora Bohn and Miss Frances Bohn were two of the early leaders.

The C.G.I.T. was organized in 1923 with Mrs. Christfield as leader.

The W.M.S. carried on faithfully through the years always doing a commendable share in the larger work of the church.

The United Church Ladies Aid

The Ladies Aid was organized in 1909. The constitution that was drawn up for the Ladies Aid Society said "the object shall be to raise funds for the support and improvement of the local church" The Ladies Aid was a local group who raised money for the local church and were not organized beyond the local level.

The constitution was drawn up in 1909, but there are no records of any minutes until Sept. 1910. Members who paid fees in 1910 were:

Mrs. Fisher	Mrs. Kerr
Mrs. Melrose	Mrs. Patterson
Mrs. Cook	Mrs. J. J. Reid

Early Ladies' Aid members in front of the first manse.

Mrs. McIlvride
Mrs. McCorkle
Mrs. Bergh
Mrs. Knowles
Mrs. Long
Mrs. Pedet
Mrs. John Reid
Mrs. McLennan
Mrs. Carey
Mrs. Hawkins
Mrs. Loveless
Mrs. Parker
Mrs. A. Reid

The fees were 25¢ for joining and 10¢ each month.

Mrs. [redacted]. McLennan was President and Mrs. Wm. Cook was Secretary. The first bazaar was held on December [redacted], 1910; the first Sports Day supper on June 21st, 1912; the first Anniversary Supper [redacted] October 1912.

Proceeds of Ladies Aid activities throughout the years have been given generously to the maintenance of the Manse and the Church. They have also contributed to other local causes such as the Memorial Hall. They have supported the under appeals of the Church in it's Social Welfare, it's Missionary Enterprises, the British and Foreign Bible Society, Religious Broadcasting, Church Camps for boys and girls and special appeals for the world's refugees.

For many years the Ladies Aid held three annual suppers — the Sports Day supper, the annual Fowl (later changed to turkey) supper, held in October; and the Bean Supper held in December, and although the Ladies Aid became a part of the United Church Women's organization in 1962, those three suppers are still held each year.

Mission Band

The first leader of the Mission Band was Miss Flora Bohn but it was taken over by Miss Frances Bohn in 1920. Mrs. Richardson and Miss Sadie Johnston took over for two years, then Miss Frances Bohn again took the leadership until 1946.

Membership in 1921 was twenty. [redacted] the following years the membership varied from twelve to twenty, with ages ranging from six [redacted] twelve years.

Leaders after 1946 were Mrs. Wes Britton and Mrs. Norman Melrose, for a two-year period each. Mrs. Myers took over the leadership [redacted] 1949 for a ten-year period. She was assisted by Mrs. E. Peden for six years and Mrs. E. Broom for one year.

In 1958 the age groups were divided, with six- to eight-year-olds staying in Mission Band and ages nine to twelve forming Explorers. Membership of the Mission Band in 1951 was twenty-eight members.

Mrs. Norman Johnston became leader in 1959, assisted by Mrs. E. Broom, until 1969, when Mrs. Anita McIvor took over until the Mission Band ended in 1962 and the group became known as the Messengers.

Maymont was the only Band that had carried on continuously since its beginning — a period of forty-four years.

All givings were voluntary until they began selling United Church calendars.

Young Women's Service Club

The Service Club was organized [redacted] 1941. The first President was Mrs. Simmons; The Vice-President was Mrs. N. Friedman; Secretary-Treasurer was Mrs. C. A. Reid. It was an interdenominational group with a membership of thirty. This club took in the younger women in the district, married or single. They put on plays, bought drapes for the Memorial Hall, planted trees around the Church, canvassed for the Cancer Fund, and the March of Dimes. They donated money for church improvements, painted the church steps, bought new Hymn books, kitchenware for the church kitchen, also purchased curtains for the Memorial Hall dining room and Kemtone to re-decorate the stage.

The Club assisted the Ladies Aid with the annual suppers.

[redacted] 1962 the Young Women's Service Club became a part of the United Church Women's organization.

Sunday School

(from previous History)

The history of the early Sunday School started in the spring of 1907 when it was organized by the Presbyterian Church. Frank Bohn was appointed Superintendent and teachers were Herb Elliott, Mrs. Herb Johnston, Ruth and Pearl Madill with Ruth Madill as organist. Sunday School was held at 2:00 P.M. in the summer of 1908, Miss Eva Smith, daughter of a Presbyterian minister in Ontario, taught at Grey School and was a part-time Sunday School teacher.

Mr. Madill left in the fall and the Sunday School was closed for a few months, but re-organized by Mr. Fisher with a new slate of officers and teachers. Mr. Fisher began a Cradle Roll Class — three years to five years. The attendance increased until the church was too small to hold everyone. For the next year or so services were held in the upstairs of the Pool Room until the new church basement was ready.

Percy Parker was secretary of the Sunday School.

In the early years of the First World War, Mr. Morgan the minister, asked the Sunday School to sacrifice the Christmas tree and give the money they would spend for gifts and treats to the Belgian Relief Fund. Forty-five dollars was raised.

The first mention of Sunday School in church records was [redacted] the annual meeting of March 9, 1911. In the report, average collection was $1.05 each week making a total of $56.05. Reverend J. [redacted]. Fisher was superintendent.

In the annual meeting of January 25, 1912 the minutes report the primary class contributed $27.00 towards a lighting plant for the church. The report of January 1, 1913 showed a prosperous year of $61.00, $17.00 given to Missions with another $8.00 being paid on the lighting plant which paid off the indebtedness. Miss Frances Bohn gave the annual report [redacted] 1916.

In the report of 1918 it showed four teachers and

Sunday School picnic ■ Grey School — 1925 or ■.

twenty-two pupils, also A. O. Hawkins was appointed Sunday School Superintendent.

■ 1924 Mrs. A. Martin was appointed Superintendent. A picture lantern was bought by the Sunday School in 1925. At the 1928 meeting Mrs. Herb Johnston was appointed superintendent.

The names of the Sunday School Superintendents since 1929 and who took office January are:

1929-1930 G. Gerls
1932-1933 Don Campbell
1933-1934 Andrew Melrose
1934-1935 Mr. Glover
1938-1938 Franklin Mohler
1938-1939 Andrew Melrose
1941-1946 Franklin Mohler
1947-1951 Wilf Reid
1952-1966 Edwin Peden
1966-1967 Mrs. Phyllis Johnston

Mrs. Phyllis Johnston was superintendent until the Christian Education Committee took charge of the Sunday School.

United Church Women

In the spring of 1961, a provisional committee made up of four members from each United Church women's organization, met at the manse to set up the new organization — the U.C.W. With Rev. F. Myers as chairman, plans were made for a meeting of all ladies of the congregation to be held June 6, ■ gain further information about same.

Thirty-six ladies attended this meeting, discussing and reviewing plans for the new U.C.W. A committee of four was named to meet later with Mr. Myers to draw up a questionnaire to be filled out by all women of the congregation, with a view to finding out what kind of an organization was best suited to this area. This committee consisted of Mrs. C. Miller, Mrs. A. R. Johnston, Mrs. W. E. Johnston and Mrs. F. Myers.

The inaugural service was held January 9, 1962, in the church, with Rev. F. Myers leading the service.

Mrs. E. J. Peden was named head of the Central Committee of the new U.C.W.; 1st vice president — Mrs. W. Beaudoin; 2nd vice president — Mrs. C. Miller; secretary — Mrs. E. K. Turner; treasurer — Mrs. Robert Gray. Heading the various committees were Mrs. G. Mohler, Christian Citizenship; Mrs. D. Christie, Community Friendship; Mrs. R. Thomas, Co-operation and Christian Education; Mrs. F. Myers, Finance, Mrs. A. Bean, Flowers; Mrs. A. R. Johnston, Literature and Communication; Mrs. C. A. Reid, Manse; Mrs. W. H. Reid Membership; Mrs. W. Sadowsky, Nominations; Mrs. G. Brehon, Program; Mrs. E. Broom, Periodicals; Mrs. R. Rogers, Social Functions; Mrs. G. McIvor, Stewardship and Recruiting; Mrs J. Rogers, Supply and Social Assistance; Mrs. N. Crawley, Press.

Five Life Memberships were given in 1962, to Mrs. G. Mohler, Mrs. R. Gray, Mrs. A. R. Johnston, Mrs. J. Rogers, and Mrs. A. Bean.

The money for the Life Memberships was raised by sale of birthday calendars.

There were and still are three units. The Eventide Unit meet in the evening — they convene the annual bean and casserole supper held in December.

The Friendship Unit consists mostly of the former Ladies Aid members — they convene the Sports Day supper. The Rebekah Unit are the former Young Women's Service Club, later the Sharon Group. They convene the annual Turkey Supper in October. The money raised from the Turkey Supper goes directly to the Church Board. In addition to the suppers the U.C.W. caters to wedding receptions and other dinners. The units have taken turns being responsible for convening these but all members and other ladies of the congregation help. The Friendship Unit no longer convene receptions or dinners.

The Social Functions committee plan the food lists for the suppers. They also prepare a list of ladies names who take turns sweeping the church.

In general the United Church Women combine the work and study of the former Ladies Aid and the Womens Missionary Society, raising money for a number of projects, studying various topics and visiting the shut-ins.

Explorers

The Maymont Explorers group came into being due to the Mission Band having such a large enrolment at that time, that it was difficult to handle them in one group. It involved an age group of six to eleven year olds, both boys and girls.

It was largely due to Mrs. Myers that the group was formed. Through Mrs. Myers, Mrs. Cunningham of Speers, who was leading an Explorer group there, was invited to come to Maymont to speak to the mid-week group leaders. As a result Explorers was formed.

The first meetings were held in 1958-59 with Mrs. Sarah Beaudoin as leader. Mrs. Beaudoin led the group for twelve years with the help of various assistants.

To raise money for Missions they held bake sales, sold popcorn and candy and crafts at the bean suppers.

When the TYROS were formed the boys in this age group went into TYROS and the Explorers became a group for girls only.

There has been an Explorer group in Maymont every year since. The present leader is Mrs. Mary Ann Broom.

Tyro

Tyro is a program for junior boys ages 9, 10, and 11. The letters in the name stand for "Try Your Reach Out". The basic purpose of Tyro is to help junior boys grow in Christian experience, democratic living, and physical skills and knowledge.

The first Tyro group formed in Maymont was in 1962 with Ken Britton as leader. In 1965 Dick Clayton shared the duties of leader with Ken Britton. George Brehon was an assistant leader for a time.

The following is a list of boys who took part in Tyro; Russel Beaudoin, Lyle Wood, Elwin Parker, Brian Johnston, Larry Roach, Harvey Rogers, Don McIvor, Ralph Johnston, Don Hawkins, Doug Britton, Kim Sherman, Dale McDonald, Jimmy Sanderson, Darryl Parker, Don Bates Bill Melrose, Barry Britton, Kelly Gray, Carmen Smith, Brian Rogers, Ted Leach, George Langley, Doug Brehon, Calvin Parker, Blair Roche, Wally Sadowsky, Tom Peden, Chris Sherman, Garth Brehon, Victor Tebay.

The Tyro group had bottle drives to raise money. They enjoyed many good camp-outs.

For a time the program was dropped but it was re-organized again in 1976-77 with Mr. Doug Sevick as leader. Doug arranged an excellent outdoor program for the boys.

The members for that year were: Clifford Greenslade, Neil Clayton, Ellis Clayton, Glen Milman, Brent Beierle, Myron Prescesky, Kevin Brehon.

Messengers

The Messengers, formerly the Mission Band, started in the fall of 1982 with Mrs. Lyle McIvor and Mrs. George Brehon as leaders. Attendance was 26 members ranging in age from 6 to 8 years.

Meetings are held once a month from Sept. until the end of June, when graduation is held. The girls graduate into Explorers and the boys into Tyros.

The Messengers sell the United Church calendar every year to raise funds.

Maymont C.G.I.T.

C.G.I.T. — meaning Canadian Girls In Training is a mid-week group of teenage girls, from 8 to 18 years, associated with the Sharon United Church.

It's aim is to make a girl true in all the relationships of her life, her home, her school, her personal friendships, her church and her community. It very definitely aimed to link up her interests in the mid-week with her Sunday School and Church life. At one time attendance at Sunday School was very important and if all did not attend, the chances of winning a chevron were forfeited — a chevron being the symbol to wear on the sleeve of the uniform, much like the stripe of an army officer.

C.G.I.T. girls at Roy Gray farm, Oct., 1944. — Pat Prynaik, Eileen Bean, Alice Rogers, Thelma Rogers, Leader — Helen Armstrong, Lillian Nutbrown, Audrey DeLong, Delcie Gray, Gladys Harris, Eleanor Blacklock, Joan (Mrs. Riches niece), Terry Rolls.

The uniform was quite simple consisting of a white middy with navy blue collar and cuffs with C.G.I.T. monogram embroidered on left sleeve. A black tie with friendship knot pinned at the waist and a white lanyard. This blouse was worn with a navy skirt. The uniforms and pins were introduced into the program in 1919.

Materials for the programming of C.G.I.T. came from the Conference Office in Regina. There is a Mission Study and Bible Study. They have their own Hymn, their purpose and a magazine called the Torch.

Our C.G.I.T. groups over the years have held Sunrise Services at Easter; sleep-outs during Easter holidays; Mother and Daughter banquets and Graduation Services for those leaving C.G.I.T.; initiation ser-

vices at the beginning of each year. The year runs from September ■ May.

As this group is not a money making concern, they try ■ hold two teas a year in order to make enough money to fund their projects, also selling greeting cards and novelties.

The meetings are held usually every two weeks and last for one and a half hours, ending by singing "Taps", giving their own hand clap and saying 'thanks for the evening Comrades'.

The meeting is conducted by the girls, having nominated their own executive, with the guidance of two leaders. If the group is large it is divided into a junior and senior group thus having a leader for each. Usually a Superintendant is named from the community, to help the leaders with guidance and encouragement over any difficulties that may arise.

During the summer Camp Council is held, at Candle Lake, to which a girl may be sent by her group. Her expenses are paid and she has the opportunity to meet, share and work with other girls from all over the province. This camp lasts for ten days and is a worthwhile experience.

Some of the community activities they take part in are canvassing for the Blind, decorating the church for Thanksgiving, taking part in World Day of Prayer assisting with annual Church Meeting and have served at banquets.

The monies they are committed to giving include:
buying their Mission Pack;
buying the lanyards for girls going into the senior group when they are fifteen;
paying for their Torch magazine
paying for pins and insignias for new members as well as graduating members;
the girls usually donate thirty dollars each year to the Mission fund.

C.G.I.T. celebrated it's 60th year in 1975. There are 34,000 girls across Canada in the organization, all united by a common purpose:

"Cherish Health, Seek Truth, Know God, Serve Others and thus become the girl God would have me be".

At present there are fourteen girls in the Maymont group. The leader is Mrs. Cheryl Gray.

Ceramic Club

Geraldine Dube

In January, 1976, the Maymont and District Community College began a ceramic class. The interest was so great that the group who registered had to be divided into two. These classes lasted for twelve weeks. A kiln was purchased by the Maymont and District Youth and Recreation Board for community use.

On April 29, 1976, an organizational meeting was held at the school to form a Ceramic Club. There were ■ ladies and one man Mr. Ted Saunders, in attendance. Nominations were held with Gerry Dube elected as chairperson, Shirley Miller as secretary and Ted Saunders as treasurer. A membership fee of five dollars was charged. There were 34 members joined the club. For a time the kiln was kept ■ the Community Hall but it was later moved to the old library building which the village had turned over to the Recreation Board.

In March, 1977 a vice-chairman was added to the executive. Karen Schmidt was elected. On April 2, 1977, a ceramic show and sale was held in the basement of the United Church. Even though it was a snowy, stormy day, many came to the show to admire the beautiful articles the members had made. Coffee, tea, and squares were served for a nominal sum of .25¢

During that year many of the members motored to North Battleford to take advanced classes. On Jan. 29, 1978, the club displayed their works of art at the school during the Regional Winter Games.

In Sept. 1978 nominations were opened for a new executive. Betty Prescesky was elected chairperson, Gail Voegeli as vice-chairperson, Gerry Dube as secretary and Jeanette Pauls as treasurer.

On Oct. 21 and Dec. 2, 1978, two day long seminars were held with an excellent turnout.

Ceramics has allowed many people to express themselves and develop their talent. It has also been a very good social outing for many.

The History Of The Purple Star L.O.L. No. 1969 And The Orange Hall

The Purple Star L.O.L., or more commonly known as the Maymont Orange Lodge was organized on April 27, 1907. It was one of the largest rural Orange Lodges in Saskatchewan, with members coming from across the river and from a large area on this side of the river.

One of the notable events the Orange Lodge sponsored each year was a parade and a picnic on the Twelfth of July. The Orangemen paraded in lodge regalia, sometimes led by one of the members riding a white horse. They carried their banner and marched to the music of the fife and drums. Mr. Ernie Fitzel to quote a member of the lodge was "a great old drummer" and Mr. George Lowery played the fife.

Large crowds attended these picnics and for years it was the highlight of the summer in this area.

One of the projects the Orange Lodge helped to sponsor was a Children's Orphanage at Indian Head, Saskatchewan. Each year money was raised and forwarded to the children's home.

The Lodge met in various places with varying degrees of success. Some of the meeting places were the first Presbyterian Church, which stood near the site of the present Community Hall, Grey School, and the basement of the United Church. Owing to lack of a

Early Orangeman's gathering — Photo taken beside the Orange Hall.

suitable meeting place, they decided to build a hall, this being in June, 1914.

During the First World War, 1914-1918 it was used very extensively by the Red Cross for various entertainments, as well as being used for travelling vaudeville and picture shows. During October, 1918 a stage was built onto the east end of the hall and a new piano was purchased. Then in late February and early March of 1919 the ante-rooms to the west were added, and it was at this time that the members of the I.O.O.F. started to use the hall for their meetings and continued to use it for many years.

Until 1921 the hall was lighted by the use of gas lamps, but during that year Robert Downing, the garage owner of that time, installed a Delco lighting plant in the garage and the hall was wired for electric lights and connected to his plant. In 1923 a welcome change was made when 250 new chairs were purchased, replacing the home-made benches in use until that time. In 1925 a projection room was added to comply with the then existing cinematographic regulations, and from that time on for many years weekly picture shows were held. As well as being used for picture shows and dances, it was also used for all types of public meetings, and many fine concerts and plays of local talent were held in the hall. It continued to be used as a public hall until the new Community Hall was opened, when the old hall was sold to Mr. Tom Turner as a residence in 1949.

Maymont Figure Skating Club

The Figure Skating Club was first formed on December 16, 1965 with Shirley Miller as president and June Rogers as secretary-treasurer. We had a membership of fifty-six skaters and our teacher was Mr. Nick Krilow of North Battleford.

Our first carnival was held on March 13 that year with an estimated nine hundred people attending and total intake neared the $1450 mark. Miss Irene Free of Fielding was crowned Queen and was sponsored by Fielding Board of Trade. The colorful evening program consisted of solos, duets, drills, dances and animal capers. Numbers were announced by Ken Britton and music was directed by Mrs. Krilow.

During 1967-69, Phyllis Johnston was president and June Rogers remained as secretary-treasurer.

In 1970-72, Gladys Brehon was president and Doreen Parker was secretary-treasurer. During this time the figure skating teacher was Miss Joanne Sloria of Saskatoon.

All through the first years of our club we always had the help of Fred Hawryliw of Fielding, who went on to make a career of figure skating.

In 1973, Doreen Parker became president for the following two years with the secretary-treasurer being Bonnie Milman.

Sandra Long took over in 1975 for one year and Inez Harris took the position for one year in 1976. Secretary was Pat Brown and the treasurer was Bobby Ross of Spinney Hill.

Kick Line in one of the Figure Skating Carnivals. L. to r. — Maxine Gray, Marjorie Spence, Yvonne Rogers, Margaret Rogers, Leslie Brehon, Sandra Garnett, Glenda Miller.

For 1977, the president was Bonnie Milman, the secretary, Isabel Tebay; treasurer, Bobby Ross.

Our present president, Charlotte Beaudoin began in 1978 with secretary Pat Brown of Fielding. The treasurer is Myrna Roberts also of Fielding. The club still has over thirty members who are mostly beginners now and a few juniors. Although queens are not part of the entertainment now, there used to be one every year.

Three trophies are given each year to members of the club who have won some special achievement.

The Wendy McIvor Trophy, presented each year since 1971 by the Lyle McIvor family, is presented to the most improved skater twelve years and under.

The Margaret Rogers Trophy presented annually since 1972 is presented by Margaret (Rogers) Thompson for the most improved skater thirteen years and over.

The Yvonne Rogers Trophy presented annually since 1974 by Yvonne (Rogers) Gray is presented to the most enthusiastic skater nine years and under.

Maymont Homemakers' Club

1922-1960 by Mrs. A. Mohler
1960-1979 by Mrs. Esther Tebay

The Maymont Homemakers' Club was formed February 8, 1922 in the basement of the Presbyterian Church. Miss Esther Thompson of the Extension Department of the University of Saskatchewan was responsible for the formation of our club. Many women felt the need of a community effort to improve home as well as the community.

The original officers were as follows: President — Mrs. F. Dudley, First Vice-President — Mrs. Rice, Secretary-Treasurer — Mrs. G. Mohler.

Thirty-nine members were on the roll in 1922-23. The smallest membership was in 1944 — 14 members. The average membership has been 20.5.

The names of our Life Members are as follows: Mesdames H. F. Johnston, F. Butterfield, Mrs. Foster, G. Mohler. Those members holding the office of District President were: Mrs. G. Mohler in 1928, Mrs. R. F. Johnston in 1933, Mrs. T. Turner in 1942, Mrs. J. D. Blacklock in 1945.

No member has held a provincial office. Every provincial convention was attended except one. No member attended the F.W.I.C. or A.C.W.W. meetings. Most rallies were attended. Our Club was host of four conventions — 1928, 1933, 1942 and 1954.

What were the highlights and frustrations? The highlight of the 1928 convention was an account of South Africa by a Mrs. Murray, whose home is in South Africa.

1933 — No report. Project afghan.

WAR EFFORTS

Red Cross — Parcels of clothing, quilts, hospital gowns, pyjamas, mitts, sweaters, etc., were sent to Britain.

1942 — 150 knitted garments, 42 quilts, 82 pieces of sewing had been sent to headquarters.

1944 — [illegible] garments sent. Utility bags made and sent to women of bombed-out areas 32 parcels sent to men overseas.

1945 — 172 garments and $1300 sent to headquarters. Money and other donations were sent previous years to the Navy League, Disabled Civilians, Milk for Britain, Mobile Kitchen, U.N.I.C.E.F.

Other donations such as: T.B. Fund, March of Dimes, Crippled Children, Films on Cancer and T.B., Tag Days for the Blind, F.W.I.C., National Emergency Fund.

Our Club contributed to the war effort as follows: Clothing was collected for destitute people of Europe. Rehabilitations — eight community socials held, ninety certificates presented to Service Personnel, six presented to next of kin. Adopted a family in Britain for a few years. Dresses sold for Crippled Children's Workshop.

Community Fairs were not organized by the Homemakers' Club, but we did serve cocoa and coffee on Field Days at different times, and gave prizes for different sports. One of our members was represented on the Fair Board for a number of years.

Trees were planted at the cemetery many years ago, road gravelled and a thorough Clean-up Day once a year has been held for many years. A large gate sign was placed at the entrance as well. The community cares for our cemetery. We have given a donation to the Skating Rink.

Our Charities — made layettes and gave them and bundles of clothing to the needy. Shower for a war bride, installed a telephone for one family, sent flowers to sick in hospital, made quilts, had a shower, twenty-five dollar gift to a family whose home had burned.

Community Projects — Our Club contributed a donation to two Music Festivals held in North Battleford.

Our Youth Work — The first Homecraft Club was formed in 1937. First project was tomato growing. 1938 — came second with poster at Regina, and honorable mention in Regina. The Maymont Homecraft Girls were one of forty-two teams attending the North Battleford Fair. One of the girls received honorable mention, an honor among so many. 1957 — Homecraft work was taken up once more and has continued until this year. Homemakers' Club offered prizes for their Achievement Day.

Fifty-four girls have been sent to Farm Girls' Camps since 1938. Forty-two girls have attended the North Battleford Camp. Nine girls have attended Farm Week in Saskatoon. Three girls have attended the Youth Training Course held in North Battleford. In 1945 one girl won the wrist watch and a book for first award in Homecraft work, one winning the second award. In 1948 two girls sent to Saskatoon won fourth

place for judging gingerbread. Also in 1945 the Homecraft Girls won first in Record Books as inter-club competition in Saskatoon. In 1950, three girls went to Saskatoon, one girl won second on skirt making. One came second in menu selection.

Our Club sponsored two girls to the United Nations Seminar in '55-'57.

Community Projects — The Homemakers' Club has presented awards for Oratory from Grades Eight to Twelve since 1932 until last year when it was given to the lower grades. The average value was about $15.00. The first year photos of the winners were placed in the schoolrooms. Sponsored a trip for school children to Art Exhibit held in Richard.

District Projects — Wire-flower making, reed basketry, spinning wool were some of the early handicraft projects. An afghan, toddler's outfit, a cushion and C.A.C. poster were made for district competiton. A kitchen improvement or re-modelling competition won a prize of fifteen dollars sponsored by the T. Eaton Company, Saskatoon. The Salada Tea competition consisted of articles made for a hope chest.

The Tweedsmuir Competition was a quilt block book which was awarded first prize at the District Convention. For the A.C.W.W. gifts to women of other countries were snapshot albums.

Several Distinction Awards were given to our Club for sending all reports. We did not enter the District or Provincial Artistic Competitions.

Projects and Awards

Club Projects — Our special club projects undertaken — raising money to purchase stage curtains for Orange Hall and Memorial Hall, window curtains for Legion Hall and Memorial Hall dining room. Sanitary toilets in both Orange and Memorial Hall. Beautification of cemetery, Potato seed contest. Farm markers — boards with farmer's names on them, lettering on board made of Scotchlite paper.

A weaving class was organized by one member and in 1943 a membership of twelve. Class worked for five years. Two or three are still weaving. Two were taught how to weave by members after finishing the course.

A Jubilee Cake was made which weighed thirty-six pounds.

Miss May from the Extension Department came different years giving demonstrations of dressmaking and millinery. Sold one hundred eleven cookbooks. They cost $174.15 and sold for $213.40. More than once Mrs. H. Ducie came and gave a course in sewing.

Community Projects — Pre-school clinics were held in 1936, 1939, 1943, continuously since 1953 to the present time. In 1938 a Health Centre was held with one hundred ten children passing through the Clinic. In 1939 one hundred twenty-five children were examined at the clinic. In 1942, thirty-two children were taken to Radisson for dental work. In 1946, a T.B. Clinic was held with one thousand three hundred seventy-six persons examined. In 1957 a Polio Clinic was held, members of the Homemakers' Club assisting. Gifts of clothing for children in Shelters, and knitting and in 1941 a monthly donation of eggs.

We did not build a Community Hall but have given donations to the Memorial Hall, toward a piano, cutlery, four tea wagons, and enlarging the kitchen, etc.

Finances — The money from our receipts for thirty seven years show approximately the sum of $12,130.19. The amount we sent away was $2,146.83. To earn some of the money we catered to the Agricultural Society nineteen times, the Pool Committee twice and a few weddings.

Our highest financial venture was in 1955. We catered to two weddings, two banquets and sold many cookbooks that year.

Memories

They are mostly about muddy roads or snow. In the early years money was raised by putting on plays. Travelling by sleigh in winter time, having to stay overnight in a hall across the river, until daylight on account of a snowstorm.

Travelling home in wagons, in early spring when the ground was frozen, taking stage property along when the temperature dropped to forty below that early morning.

Another time two delegates coming home from Meota were caught in a rain storm and forced to spend the night in North Battleford. The storm damaged the power plant. Other times, it always seemed to rain when Richard had a convention. More than once on the muddy roads between Richard and Maymont the cars had to be pushed up the hill over the little bridge.

And now we come to the last eighteen years of the club as reported by Esther Tebay:

1961 — Maymont Homemakers' Club had a membership of nineteen with Mrs. Vera Gray as president and Mrs. Mary Nutbrown as secretary. Mrs. M. Martin has been treasurer for many years. There were many concerns, even then there was interest in car drivers obeying all traffic laws.

Homecraft Club was started by one of the members. Baby clinics were always helped by members.

There were many community concerns and interests. At this time donations were given to the River Heights Lodge; also repairs and help with additions to Memorial Hall.

Co-op School was another project. Members supplied pies. Materials were bought for the pies and each member made seven pies.

Hospitals have always been our interest. Articles collected this year for Notre Dame Hospital in North Battleford.

1962 — Saw Maymont celebrating their fortieth annual meeting of Homemakers. This was held in the Legion Hall.

Competitions in floral arrangements, designing, book markers were interesting projects.

1964 — August 20, proved to be a very sad meeting when Maymont bid farewell to Mrs. R. F. Johnston, as she was leaving to live in Edmonton.

Carpet bowling was one of the pastimes that was enjoyed.

A sewing machine was purchased by the club for homecraft project. The Memorial Hall was always one of the places looked after well. At this time tea towels were donated, also the hall floor was painted, and exit lights installed. Making quilts for the Unitarian Service Commission, also collecting used clothing was another project. Equipment for farm camp supplied.

The highlight of every year was the convention and fall rally. Casseroles and pies supplied by the club.

1965 — August — Eighty-nine students attend Co-op School. Four Maymont girls attend farm camp. Litter barrel placed at bulletin board. Helped supply candy for Christmas tree.

One member was teaching sewing lessons in 1966. Many courses have been taught since. Help was always given at Achievement Day by setting tables, making tea and coffee. The girls always did the serving.

The District Convention of 1966 was held in Maymont with U.C.W. catering to the dinner. The price was $1.25 per plate.

1970 — Physical fitness classes were started. The programs are varied: Arts and Literature, Agriculture Education, Public Health, International Relations, Legislation, Home Economics.

Each year we do a complete canvas for cancer.

1971 — On June 10 the Homemakers' Club was given a new name. It became known as Saskatchewan Women's Institute. Also instead of club we were known as a branch. In North Battleford District of Women's Institute there are eleven branches.

This was Homecoming Year. Many activities were planned. Two of our members took part in the quilting bee at the Development Museum. They were dressed in period gowns and looked lovely.

Members entertained former members at a tea in the park. Each guest was given a Saskatchewan Lily corsage, made by our own branch.

1972 — Our September meeting program was chaired by a Maymont girl, Clare Beckton who was studying law. She delighted her listeners with her enthusiasm about her work. She was on a project "Opportunity for Youth" that summer. She worked in remote areas out of Duck Lake. She now is a professor of law.

We have had Merit Award Nights when seven members received pins and certificates for over thirty years of service.

There have been hobbycraft collection shows which have been well attended. The first one had fifty-seven entries and over three hundred guests. The second one had fifty-three entries and two hundred eighty in attendance. Real enthusiastic people! So many varied hobbies and crafts!

1978 — Maymont hosted District Convention when one hundred four guests and members signed the book. The Memorial Hall Committee catered a hot turkey meal at four dollars a plate. It was an exciting day. The theme was INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. Each club represented a different country. The delegates were dressed in the costumes of their chosen country.

1979 — Federated Women's Institute of Canada held their convention in Saskatoon. Saskatchewan Women's Institute played a busy part in it. June 18 was declared Saskatchewan Day. Bus loads of delegates toured areas of Saskatchewan within a radius of one hundred miles of Saskatoon. Maymont was one area where a bus load of fifty-three delegates stopped. They toured the elevator and lunch was served by Maymont Branch. There was a display of handmade quilts, afghans and paintings.

Our W.I. Branch keeps active in community work. We have helped young people. We plan to honor all children of the community born this year — this being the "International Year of the Child".

We have catered to several weddings this year. We also cater the Wheat Pool banquet once a year.

There are four life members in our branch. Mrs. A. Mohler, now residing in River Heights Lodge in North Battleford, Mrs. Mary Rogers of Maymont, Mrs. M. Martin of Maymont, and Mrs. Mary Nothrown of Saskatoon.

There are eight members who have merit award certificates and service pins. Seven with thirty years of service and one with twenty years of service.

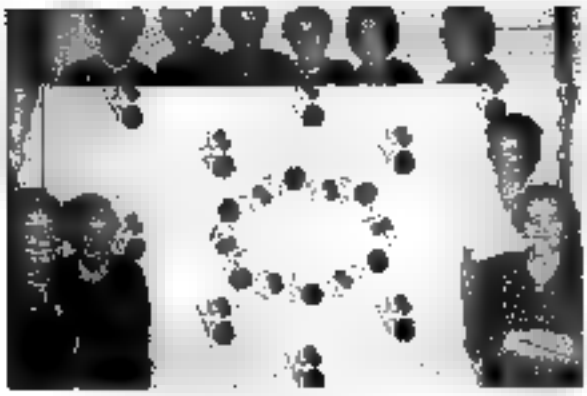
We have thirteen active members at the present time — August 11, 1979.

Maymont Quilters

In this year of 1979 we have a quilting club in our village. There is nothing unique about having a quilting club — Saskatchewan is probably full of quilters. The unique thing about this one is that it had its beginning during the last war when ladies in the community met to make quilts for the Red Cross war effort. They met in the Legion Hall once a week and at times there were enough ladies there to have two quilts on the go at once. Some of these first quilts were used in air-raid shelters and were made of dark materials such as the best parts of worn trousers, coats, skirts etc., lining being flannelette or dyed flour bags.

Materials were often donated by Eatons and Simpsons — money donations to buy supplies often came from the Red Cross Society. Many boxes of print patches were donated by individuals — once in awhile even the completed quilt tops. Some of these print patchwork quilts were raffled and the money spent to buy batts, thread or broadcloth.

In 1944 one of the quilters left the community and



A group of Maymont quilters.

she was presented with a quilt on which the members had embroidered their name. From that quilt the following list of names is taken and hereby recorded as being the first group of Red Cross quilters.

Mesdames: Wm. Gray, Ellen Melrose, Nellie Curry, Dorothy Andrew, Celia Rolfe, Mary Britton, Janet Harris, Mary Rogers, S. Dolden, Eva Holler, Annie Melrose, Winnifred Abblett, Annie Hawkins, Letitia Blackbock, Elsie Robbins, Dorothy Crawley, Dora Foster, Grace DeLong, Ethel Neill, Dorothy Sykes, Rosa Best, Miss Ellen Reid, Miss Francis Bohn.

At the end of the War, the group seemed loath to give up quilting so they began making and quilting for each other and from there to custom quilting.

■ 1948 Maymont had its first War Bride (the late Mrs. Howard Rogers) and as a welcome to the community she was given a shower. Among the gifts she received was a quilt from the quilters. From that day to the present, each bride from the community has been given a quilt at her bridal shower and to date, one hundred and forty-four such quilts have been presented to brides. It is interesting to note here that since 1948 there hasn't been a year without a bride in our community — one year in particular there were as many as nine.

Obviously 144 names are to many to record here but perhaps we may be permitted to mention a few milestones along the way. Our 25th bride to receive a quilt was Gladys Brehon (nee Parker), 50th was Jeanine Fast (nee Dahl), 75th Margaret Walker (nee Bohn), and the 100th was Gail Pallvoda (nee Reid).

After the war years a Memorial Hall was built and the quilters decided to donate money from quilt sales etc. to this project. Thirty-one years and many, many quilts later they are still donating to the Hall to assist in its upkeep and in purchase of necessary equipment as the need arises.

Before the Hall was completed in 1948 the quilters met in private homes but today they meet in the Hall once a week. The group isn't as large as the original one and only two of that first gathering still belong. The numbers have changed through the years — faces have changed but there are all present 17 active members.

Its a congenial group — we have no president, secretary or treasurer as such, though money and ordering are handled by one member and records are kept of expenses and receipts. A glance back in early records show quilt batts purchased at $1.00 each, broadcloth at 47¢ per yard and thread 12¢ per spool.

There have been errors and omissions at times but these are always settled in a good-natured way over a cup of tea at lunch break.

The Maymont Rifle Club — Early 1900's

I remember that as school boys, we hunted for rifle bullets on a hill East of town. Stanley Bohn recalls that his brother Alfred (who later was killed in the First World War) belonged to the Rifle Club, also his brother Jim, Charles Brebon, George Walton, and Alfred and Billy Andrew, Fred Carveth, W. J. Mawhinney, Percy Bonskill, Bobby Jack Andrew, Tom Bates and Wm. Dawson. We are sure there were others. They met on Saturday afternoons in summer. They had shoot-offs with a group from New Ottawa. Tom Ayres was one of their leading promoters.

There was also a Trap Shooting or Skeet Club. As far as we can find out this club was formed after the Rifle Club with most of the same people belonging to it. From 1900 on they met on the "Fair Grounds" where the present Maymont Central School is.

F. F. Mohler

School Districts

Beckwith School

Beckwith School, No. 526, was located across the road from the Beckwith property, for which it was named. It was on the N.W. corner of 19-40-11. west of the 3rd meridian. It apparently opened in 1911. Records of the early years are hard to obtain, but one of the first pupils, Lucy Clark, now Mrs. L. C. Mapes speaks of attending the school until they moved away in 1913. Her letter says: "Nit many modern persons know of pioneer life and hardships, when we thirsted so for a school and knowledge, and studied hard. Beckwith School supplied a desperate need." She mentioned living in a tiny sod house, where her little sister Alice was born with a neighbor Mrs. E. Spence in attendance. Among the pleasant memories of that time noted by another former pupil, Mrs. Ora (Clark) Holingshead, were the July 1st picnics held on the plateau above the North Saskatchewan river, which ran some two miles south [redacted] the school. She also mentioned the Indians camped by the river in the spring.

Beckwith School about 1925. Boys, L. to [redacted], starting [redacted] top. Albert Sherman, Leo Wilcox, Bill Roberts, Hans Prechtl, Ken McLeod, Richard Prechtl, Alex Spence, George Garnett, Clayton Cure, teacher, Miss Vi Laidlaw (behind Bill Roberts). Girls, L. to R., starting at top. Lily Spence, Annie Prechtl, Kathaleen McCarthy, Emma Sherman, Lillian Sherman, Anne Spence, Anne Sherman, Evelyn McLeod, Dorothy Clark, Esther Spence, Irene Sherman, Joan Woods.

A 1912 school register shows 8 pupils under teacher J. Dunning. At that time the school remained open during July a[redacted] August, but was closed during the cold winter months. Of these first pupils there were five Clark children, two Beckwith children, and Dale Kiefer. By 1913 William and Hugh Spence were enrolled, and later in the year Clifford and Muriel Elliott also. By 1917 the enrollment had increased to 22 pupils, with the Prechtl, Kieper, Spence and McClintoch children on the roll. That year school opened on March 26th, and closed for two weeks holidays in July.

Many teachers came and went over the years, some only staying a matter of months. Among these, one teacher made a lasting impression on her pupils, and influenced them greatly. She was Violet Laidlaw, who is now Mrs. W. Fast, and who retired to Maymont [redacted] live eventually. There were 26 pupils enrolled under Miss Laidlaw in 1925. At that time the School Board consisted of J. Prechtl (Chairman), E. E. Garnett (Secretary) and U. S. Clark. The school library was increased to 102 books, and the children were encouraged to read. Playground equipment consisted of a baseball, bat and glove, a football, and swings for the smaller children. Drinking water was brought from a farm each morning and kept in a covered pail, and the children brought their cups from home. A pump organ, a globe, a case of maps, a hand bell, coal oil lamps, old style double desks were part of the equipment supplied. Pictures of the king and queen and a Union Jack decorated the Kalsomined walls. The school itself was typical of that era, a 20' by 24' wooden structure heated by a Waterbury heater, cold and draughty in the winter.

During the years church services and Sunday Schools were held at Beckwith from time to time, and it also served as a community centre.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DAILY REGISTER

FOR

RECORDING THE ATTENDANCE

OF

PUPILS

IN

Kelvin S.D. No. 3662

OF THE

Province of Saskatchewan

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1916

SUPPLIED TO SCHOOLS FREE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

THIS REGISTER IS A RECORD OF THE SCHOOL CAREER OF THE CHILDREN OF THE DISTRICT
MARK IT CAREFULLY AND PRESERVE IT

Eaton

ATTENDANCE FOR THE MONTH OF November 1916

Vera A. Cooper
Teacher

Pupil's Order No.	Age	NAMES OF PUPILS	1st WEEK					2nd WEEK					3rd WEEK					4th WEEK					5th WEEK					TOTAL
		Day of the Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	20	21	22	23	24	27	28	29	30		
1	10	I Quill Allyson																										19
2	9	I Quill, William																										19
3	8	P Quillan, Alex.	a	a	a																							3
4	10	IV Quillan, Allan	a	a	a	a	a											a	a	a	a	a						8
5	10	I Long, Marjory																										19
9	12	I Long, Herbert																										19
		TOTAL DAILY ATTENDANCE	20	20	19	19	19	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20		744
		NUMBER OF "LATES"	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0

Number of pupils in attendance during the month 6

I hereby certify that the above record of attendance is correct and does not include any record of teaching on Saturdays or other holidays.

Vera A. Cooper
Teacher.

No. of teaching days school was open during the month 19

Aggregate days' attendance for the month 744

Average attendance for the month 39.20

Percentage of attendance for the month 65.33

NOTE—At the end of each month transfer each month's attendance to the "Register of attendance for the year."

As the years passed farming methods changed, families moved away, the number of pupils gradually declined, until it was no longer feasible to keep the school open. In 1953 the school was closed, and Roy Kieper bought the building, later selling it to Lyle McIver.

In some cases a second generation attended Beckwith, the four children of William Spence, and the two daughters of Roy Kieper. The children who attended this rural school were fortunate in many ways. Because the teacher was busy with many grades the pupils learned to work by themselves, and in many cases helped the younger children. They played with children of all ages, of necessity, and learned to co-operate with the teacher and pupils in games and projects. There was a good school spirit, and the children seemed to be proud of their school. Real highlights of the years were the Christmas concerts in which the children took part, and the summer picnics.

Calais School

"Not for school but for life we learn"

Calais School District, No. 3554 was established April 18, 1915 and was opened in 1916 with Miss Vera Amy Cooper as teacher. Miss V. Cooper is now Mrs. Vera Petty of Paynton.

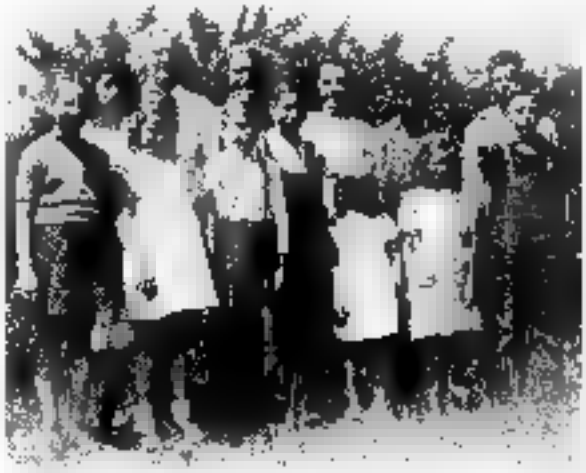
Calais School was situated on quarter section SW 11, 41, 12, West Third — a pretty location with native poplars in the background and caragana hedges around front and sides. There were always fireguards plowed each spring inside the fence, where children were encouraged to plant seeds of vegetables and flowers.

It was named "Calais" by Mr. Ernest Tyhurst after Calais, France — This was during World War I when Calais was much in the news.

The school officials in 1916 were M. Kennedy, Ed Buell, M. Davis. The chairman was M. Kennedy and the secretary-treasurer was Frank Collins. Pupils registered were Allyson and William Buell, Alexander Gollan, Jessie, Jasper, and Henry Wilmot, Allan Nutbrown, Muriel and Marjorie Long.

Calais School No. 3554.

Vera (Cooper) Petty first Calais schoolteacher in 1916.



Calais Pupils — 1947. Back row — Muriel Nutbrown, teacher Hazel McPherson, June Clayton, Phyllis Buell, Mervil Nutbrown, Walter Buell. Front row — Marmie Buell, Lucille Sherman, Dick Clayton, Les Buell, Edna Sherman, Dorothy Long, and Clarence Buell.

Calais School No. 3554 — Paul Reinhardt, Lloyd Hodge, George Hill, Annie Sherman, Hazel Hodge, Lucy Nutbrown, Delmar Ducharme, Emma Sherman, Stella Ducharme, Mabel Ducharme, Anne Hodge, Clarence Free, Jack Gollan, Edith Collins, Lillian Sherman, Edith Nutbrown, Mabel Hodge, Alice Gollan, Cecil Hodge, Albert Sherman, Tom Gollan, Jack Buell.

The building had an addition added on in later years.

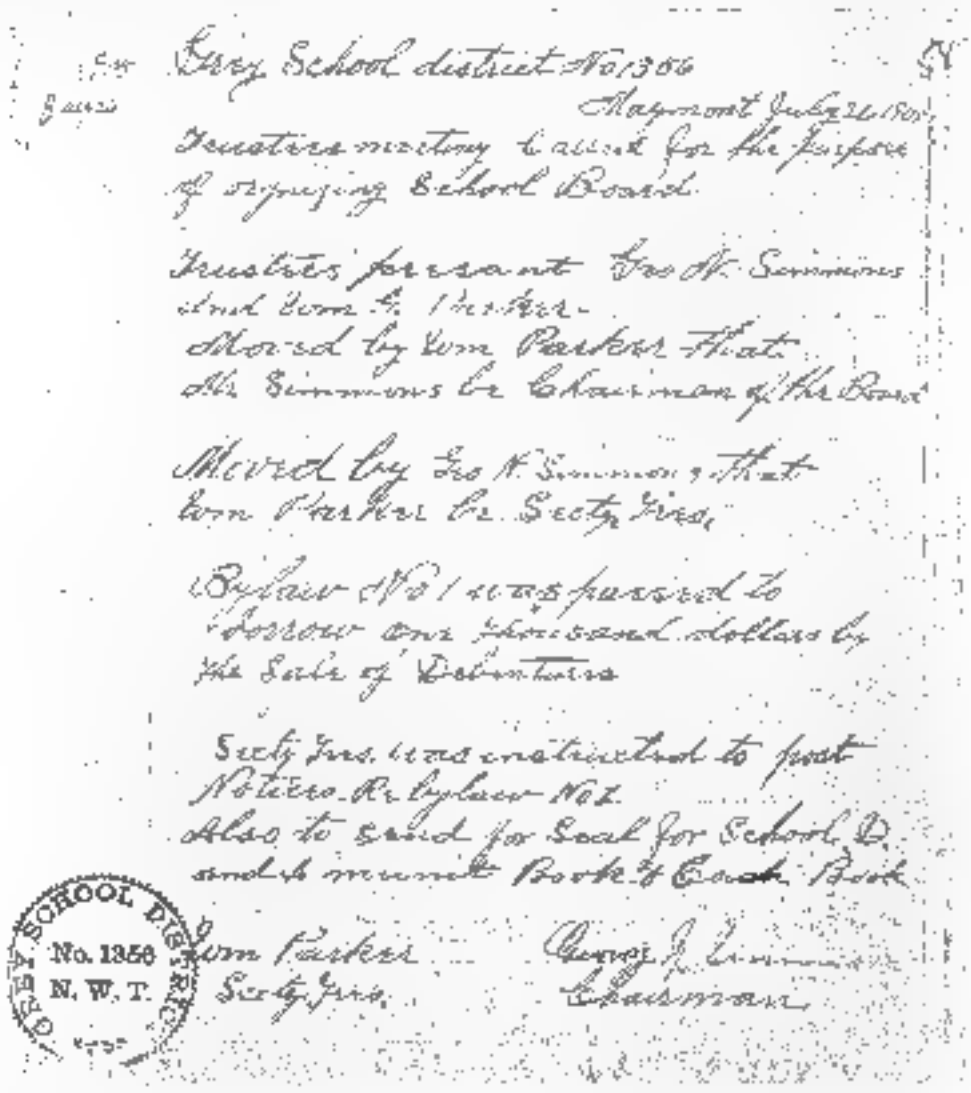
Some of the teachers through the years were: Clement Upshall, Mary Miller (Nutbrown), Margaret Nutting, Doris Plunkett, Gwen Saunders, Jean Downie, Margaret Megaffin (Long), Amy Heather, Hazel McPherson, Walter Belyk. The school closed when seven pupils were left. The pupils then were Dorothy, Bill and Clint Long, Edna Sherman, Alvin, Earl and Gary Nutbrown. The pupils took lessons by correspondence one year under Alvin Hamp's direction — a Grade Twelve pupil from Radisson.

Through the years Charles and Allan Nutbrown, Charles Sherman, Fred Long, Stanley and Philip Long, Albert Sherman, William Buell and Frank Clayton were trustees and secretary — among many others whose names are lost through the years.

Eventually the North Battleford School Unit was established March 18, 1946. Schools of Maymont and District became part of the Unit, as local trustees didn't have as much voice in policies. Improved library facilities, music festivals, better field days were introduced thus enriching courses of study. Children went on from "Calais" to Maymont and Fielding Schools to further their education.

The school will be fondly remembered as the communities meeting place for church services, card parties, picnics and dances. The school concerts were always a highlight.

The unit eventually sold Calais School to Maymont Town, where it was used as the rink house for the outdoor rink. After the new rink was built, and the old one no longer in use, Calais School was again sold and taken to the Tom Bates farm where it is still in use as a granary, across from the Dean Rogers farm. Mrs. Dean Rogers was June Clayton of "Calais District, No. 3554."


Grey School district No 1356
Maymont July 26 1909
Trustees meeting called for the purpose of organizing School Board.
Trustees present Geo N. Simmons and Wm Parker.
Moved by Wm Parker that Mr Simmons be Chairman of the Board
Moved by Geo N. Simmons that Wm Parker be Secty Treas.
Bylaw No 1 was passed to borrow one thousand dollars by the Sale of Debentures
Secty Treas was instructed to post Notice re Bylaw No 1.
Also to send for Seal for School D. and to purchase Book & Cash Book
Wm Parker Secty Treas.
Geo N. Simmons Chairman
SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 1356 N. W. T.

Grey School No. 1358

Submitted by Gladys Brehon

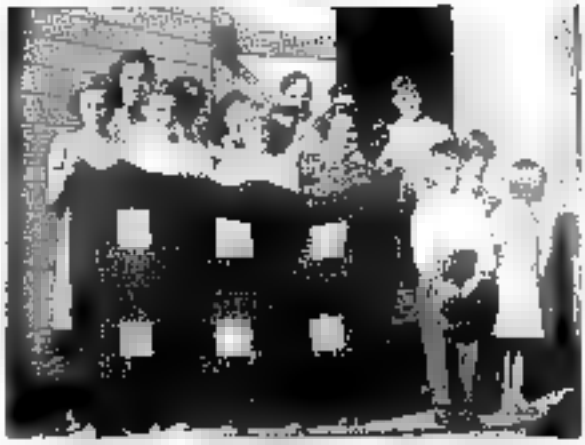
On July 26, 1905 a meeting was called to organize a school board and build a school so the children of the new community on the prairies would have a chance to get an education. Thus did Grey School No. 1358 come into being. The first Secretary-Treasurer was William Parker and the first Chairman was George N. Simmons.

Crepe paper dresses worn in school Christmas concert 'drill' about 1937. L. to r. — Elsie Bohn, Thelma Rogers, Gladys Parker, Dorothy Gillatt, Mary Parker, Violet Foulston, Grace Johnston, Gladys Foulston.

Grey School, 1905. Teacher — Miss Annie Arkley with some of the pupils.

Tenders were invited for the erection of a building 30 feet by 20 feet with a 12-foot studding and a stone foundation. Tenders were received from Mr. W. C. Digman for $215.00 and from Mr. Chambers for $170.00. Mr. Chambers was awarded the contract. The lumber was bought from Mr. McCorkle and the heater and small hardware came from Bean's Store. The people of the district did some of the work such as hauling the lumber, shingles and gravel to the site.

The four hundred bricks for the chimney cost $5.60, ten thousand shingles were $35.00, one hundred feet of shiplap was $2.80 and shingle nails were five cents per pound.



Grey School — 1941-42, Teacher, Miss Kathleen Spence. This afghan was made by the teacher and pupils for the Red Cross during the war.

On October 27, 1905 a meeting was called for the purpose of hiring a teacher. Miss Annie A. Arkley was hired at a salary of $450.00, and on November 6, 1905 Grey School opened with 21 pupils. The first pupils were: Oliver Rogers, Elmer Rogers, Ruth Madill, Olive Parker, Eva Parker, Laura Parker, Percy Parker, Myron Little, Hugh Little, Jim Little, Billy Johnston, Morris Johnston, Lawrence Johnston, Grace Johnston, Arthur Loveless, Nellie Loveless, Ethel Loveless, Bernice Beedle, Harold Simmons, Katie Simmons, Ethel Campbell.

Miss Arkley taught until the end of 1906. Here is a list of the teachers who followed:

1907 — A. Elliott
1908 — Eva Smith
1909 — Annie Martin
1910 — Miss Connor, Miss B. M. Waters
1911 — G. E. Barker, A. T. Burgess
1912 — Jean M. McLaren
1913 — G. L. Cousley
1914 — Grace L. Ridley
1915 — Jennie B. Erskine, with the exception of the month of August when Mr. J. A. Henderson taught.
1916 — Annie C. M. Weber — On March 29, 1916, there is a notation in the register which read "School closed because of snow and terrible wind". The last week in April 1916, and the first week in May another notation reads "School completely closed for measles epidemic".
1917 — M. J. Fletcher
1918 — Stella M. Nutting — In 1918 school was closed for the last two weeks of October and all of November and the teacher had written in large letters "School closed for Spanish Influenza epidemic".

1919 — Helen C. Wood — first term
Oliver M. Paterson — second term
1920 — G. J. O'Brien — Jan. to March
Percy V. Parker — April
Margaret Gee — May and June
Mary O. Gillatt — September
1921 — W. Elkerton — first term
Helen M. Gunn — second term
1922 — Bertie A. Burton — first two weeks
Miss Dorothy Chisolm to end of first term
F. E. Whitworth — second term
1923 — F. E. Whitworth
1924 — C. Hutton

Apparently at this time the school year changed to run from August to June.

Jean M. Martin — August 1925 to June 1926
Lillian Young — August 1926 to February 1927
Ruth B. Reid — March 1927 to December 1927
Lelia Smith — January 1928 to June 1930
Mary Lundy — August 1930 to December 1934
Hatriet Hallsrud — January 1935 to June 1937
Margaret Kerr — August 1938 to June 1939
Muriel M. Brehon — August 1939 to June 1941
Laura K. Spence — August 1941 to June 1942
Anne Funk — August 1942 to March 1943
Irene Hickman — April 1943
Marion McKerchar — May 1943 to June 1944
Betty Gurney — August 1944 to June 1946
Margaret Bork — August 1946 to December 1946

School was closed for the month of January 1947 until a teacher could be found.

Alice Langley — February 1947 to June 1947
Donald M. Slynsky — August 1947 to June 1949
Colleen Comba — August 1949 to April 1950
May Bourne — April 1950 to June 1950
Betty McPherson — August 1950 to April 1952
Jane Miller — May and June 1952
Audrey Broadfoot — September 1952 to June 1954
Connie Buglas — August 1953 to June 1954
Doreen Webb — August 1955 to June 1956
John Roberts — August 1956 to June 1957

Trustees and Board Members over the years were:

William Andrew
George Walton
H. Elliott
Frank Bohn
J. Taylor
F. Hutchinson
James Bohn
Herbert Johnston
William Dawson
William Holmes
Gordon Johnston
Harvey Johnston
George Simmons
Rev. J. C. Madill
Jack Parker
Frank Butterfield
G. Mohler
David Mitchell
James Taylor
Tom Sawyer
E. Ramsay
Oliver Rogers
Roy Rogers
Mrs. Bob Boyd (Hazel)
William Parker
A. Elliott
Mr. Giffard
A. Bouskill
William Schmidt
F. McCorkle
O. M. Paterson
Ransom Rogers
S. F. Johnston
Percy Parker
Tommy Bates

Many young feet 'trod the halls of learning' in Grey School, some with great enthusiasm, some reluctantly, some for a few weeks or months only. Some began in Grade One and continued to finish their Grade Ten. Most of them left their initials carved either on the top of their desk or on the walls of the school barn. Some left with happy memories of teachers who were fun and dedicated to teaching the children with patience and kindness. Some left with unhappy memories of teachers too strict and unable to understand their problems, or school mates who were 'bullies'.

I might mention here that the school strap in the teacher's desk drawer was a very important part of school discipline in early days.

The largest number of pupils attending Grey School was 32 pupils in 1920. The least was seven pupils in 1957.

The following is a list of the pupils who attended.

Adeline Bohn
Etta Bohn
Flora Bohn
Mae Davis
Percy Parker
Stephen Bouskill
Olive Parker
Arthur Loveless
Ethel Loveless
Norma Taylor
Nellie Taylor
Delma Davis
Grace Johnston
Harold Simmons
Stanley Bohn
Eva Parker
Alex Bouskill
Stewart Bouskill
Elmer Rogers
Oliver Rogers
Laura Parker
Henry Bohn
Francis Bohn
Gladys Carey
Bernice Beedie
Fred Bohn
Ethel Giffard
Cecil Campbell
Marysdele Giffard
Gerald Walton
Katie Simmons
Gordon Campbell
Johnny Campbell
Roberta Walton
Frank Butterfield
Bruce Butterfield
Edna Brumbaugh
Hubert Brumbaugh
Lucille Giffard
Leta Walton
Edward Schmidt
Hazel Walton
Emerson Rogers
Clara Schmidt
Nellie Schmidt
Minda Westrem
Esther Rogers
Kenneth Taylor
Laurence Johnston
Ernest Johnston
James Johnston
Leo Keefer
Adelaide Baker
Alex Baker
Fred Baker
Melvin Campbell
Dolly Campbell
Beatrice Walton
Howard Rogers
Katheleen Wright
Alma Bouskill
Hubert Wright
Hazel Giffard
Olive Bouskill
Raymond Walton
Walter Dawson
Greta Rogers
Myrtle Johnston
Stanley Barratt
Walter Cannon
Dale Keefer
Ray Rogers
Emil Pigors
Marjorie Keefer
Jean Walton
Frank Collett
Freddie Nelson
George Cabbit
Gladys Rogers
Jack Cabbit
Annie Dawson
Russell Johnston
Robert Bates
Thomas Bates
Everett Nelson
Malcolm Taylor
Donald Gordon
William Potter
Edgar Gordon
Frank Potter

Hazel Johnston
Dorothy Johnston
Harvey Johnston
Sidney Partington
Sara Partington
John Bates
Robert Dawson
Oscar Holmes
Edith Brumbaugh
Orvil Brumbaugh
Arthur Johnston
Nellie Johnston
Roy Rogers
Perry Brumbaugh
Gertrude Brumbaugh
Sadie Johnston
Alice Dawson
Ada Rogers
Lilly Tebay
Alma Johnston
Hilda Keefer
Harold Keefer
James Greenwood
Florence Greenwood
Earle Greenwood
Hilda Johnston
Cecil Johnston
Sarah Gillatt
Gordon Johnston
Bursil Conkey
Gertrude Blanchard
Kenneth Johnston
Mary Dawson
Reginald Gillatt
Carl Johnston
Cora Johnston
James Dawson
Wilfred Johnston
Mildred Crozier
Howard Butler
Laurie Butler
Betty Schmidt
Mary Green
Elsie Green
Mary Parker
Elfrieda Sumner
James Crozier
Clara Foulston
Helmer Dahlseide
Gladys Foulston
Gordon Foulston
Gladys Parker
Muriel Foulston
Leola Johnston
Norman Johnston
Clifton Johnston
Lloyd Parker
Jean Steele
Grace Johnston
Arthur Foulston
Della Nuthrown
Eddy Nuthrown
Norma Nuthrown
William Parker
Violet Foulston
Thelma Rogers
Norma Bohn
Helen Nuthrown
John Parker
Verna Foulston
Elsie Bohn
Dorothy Gillatt
Inez Thompson
Leslie Parker
Lois Bohn
Edgar Foulston
Mabel Bohn
Dean Rogers
Betty Thompson
Shirley Parker
Ronald Bohn
Ralph Wiley
Walter Wiley
Margaret Bohn
Reta Parker
Winnifred Thompson
Ivy Greenslade
Beverly Bates
Elaine Rogers
Kenneth Thompson
Helen Warren
Barry Bates
Glen Boyd
Henry Bernard Holden
Allan Johnston
Christine Rogers
Dennis Ramsey
Patricia Ramsey
Sybil Ramsey
Carol Rogers
Gregory Johnston
Robert Johnston
Verna Bohn
Twila Bates
Jean Bates
Stella Bohn
Yvonne Bates
Lillian Thompson
Ruth Johnston
Ilene Johnston
Betty Wiley
Carmen Florence
Helena Johnston
Brian Johnston

Once a year a school inspector (later called superintendents) visited the school to see how the pupils were progressing. This visit was always unannounced. The inspector gave a little tap on the door and there he was. The pupils were asked to answer some oral questions. Of course, our brains all turned to water as soon as he stepped in the door and I'm sure he thought we were a pretty hopeless bunch. We all heaved a sigh of relief as soon as he departed, knowing it would be a full year before we went through that ordeal again.

Some of the inspectors were:

Mr. Magee	Mr. Bill Brennan
Mr. C. Innes	Mr. W. J. Drimmie
Mr. W. M. Veasey	Mr. H. Broley

The early Grey School students were taught their geography from the huge map case which hung on the wall. The maps were on rollers. When a certain one was needed you pulled it down as you would a window blind and when the lesson was finished you rolled it back up. A favorite trick of the big boys was to let the map up with a real snap and scare the wits out of everybody.

A gramophone was purchased in 1932 at a cost of $23.15. It was a floor model with a beautiful wood cabinet about thirty inches wide and sixty inches long. It had a spring in it which had to be wound by hand. This was done by a crank which stuck out one side of the machine. The records were all 78 R.P.M.'s. They were mostly rousing marches or opera. There was one Wilf Carter record — he was very popular about that time. Unfortunately the records all disappeared after the school closed.

The school was often used as a polling division during elections. It was also the entertainment centre of the district for many years. During the war years, there was a very active Junior Red Cross Association which sponsored many dances, card parties, and coffee and doughnut sales. The pupils took turns being chairman, secretary and treasurer. Unfortunately, I was not able to locate any of the minute books of those meetings. They would have made interesting reading now.

There was always a picnic at the end of the school year. The Herb Johnston family brought a freezer of homemade ice-cream and a big crock of lemonade made with real lemons!

In later years, Keystone, Grey and Estonia combined to have their picnics at Grey School. There was great rivalry between the three schools as to who would have the best ball team! A booth was set up on the school grounds. It was a time of fun and visiting for old and young alike. I don't recall that the picnic was ever rained out.

It is hard to believe that the school operated for forty-six years before indoor toilets were ever installed. It wasn't until 1951 that an addition, ten feet by twenty feet, was built onto the school for cloakrooms, storage cupboards and indoor pail-type toilets. A new oil space heater was installed also.

In 1954 the power was installed, however, attendance was dwindling because of fewer people remaining on the farms and in 1957 Grey School closed. For one year Mrs. Phyllis Johnston conveyed the seven

remaining pupils to Maymont by car. After that a bus route was started.

In 1961 the school building was donated to the Western Development Museum in North Battleford and moved to the museum site in 1965.

We, of the Grey School District, hope it brings much pleasure and enjoyment to the many tourists who view it each year. We hope, too, it will bring back a few nostalgic memories to any of those who attended a one-room country school.

Three cheers for the school which served the area well for fifty-two years and for the pupils who were proud to yell the Grey School Cheer at ball games and other events.

Ching a lacka ching
Ching a lacka chow
Ching a lacka ching ching
  Chow! Chow! Chow!
Razzle, dazzle, hobble, gobble
  Ziss, boom, bah,
Grey School, Grey School!
  Rah! Rah! Rah!

Keystone School District No. 1144

The very name brings memories of bygone days, of folks of our district who are gone, of teachers long gone and even the old school building is gone, but the district remains and a bond still exists among the ones who were once a part of it. Its roots go back to 1904 when the district was formed. A meeting was held at Ben Martin's residence in 1905 to erect a building on N.E. 13-42-12 to educate the sons and daughters of the first settlers. There were twelve pupils who attended in May of 1905 when school opened. With gratitude we remember the names of Ben Martin, Jim Smythe and Jack McKeen who served on that first board. Jim Smythe was secretary-treasurer and Ben Martin chairman. Albert Elliott was the first teacher at a salary of fifty dollars a month, raised to six hundred dollars a year in 1906. It is very interesting to read the minutes of those days and realize how scarce money was, but how all obstacles were conquered to bring our Keystone School into existence. It was the second school north of the river in the North West Territories. The building was 26 feet by 18 feet with a small porch over the door. It was contracted for $125 to C. Tompkins (or Tompson) — some records differ as to the spelling. He received $20 for building the porch. The lumber for the school cost $680. J. R. Smythe received $8.50 for expenses for himself and team to take Ben Martin to Saskatoon. The purpose of the trip was to sign legal papers and bring back a load of lumber. Ben Martin received five dollars for the trip, a rather meager amount for the distance involved. Sam Chambers built the barn for $75. He also built an addition to the school (18 feet by about 10 feet) where the old porch had been. In 1907 Ben Martin was instructed to purchase what lumber was necessary to build extra seats and to submit his bill when the seats were finished. On December 18, 1905 the board accepted Alex Brehon's tender for twenty cords of wood at $4.00 per cord. They also accepted A. Hartwell's tender for ten cords of green wood at the same price. The first organ was bought in 1907. Ben Martin gave an address at the meeting on the benefits of pupils obtaining some musical training. The old school clock that ticked off the minutes and made recess so short was bought for less than five dollars.

Country schools were always used for social functions. Grace Smythe and Jack Beaton were the first couple married in the district. Grace Schmidt and Lloyd Parker's wedding supper and dance was held there and many concerts, parties and meetings. I remember a grade eight graduation banquet, when George Browne was the teacher. The Mennonite folk held Daily Vacation Bible School in summer holidays, also they had some services in the school. The United Church for many years had a service every second

Keystone School.

Keystone School, 1923 — Miss Geary, Teacher; next to her is Joe Chestney, Tom Meena, Mabel McKeen, Tommy Bates, Gladys Fast, Jack Bates, Ruth Barrett, Colles Brehon, Cozy Holler, Russell Andrew, Edna Cameron. Front — Winnie Chestney, Allan Miller, John Andrew, Earl Andrew, Dick Brehon.

Sunday and one afternoon every week was Sunday School. Reverend Hardy and Reverend Ambler were the ministers. Reverend Saunders from Maymont Anglican Church also held services at Keystone. What drives, dances, and picnics were the in thing in schools back then.

About 1915 there was a vote of the ratepayers on whether to move the school one mile west. It was ten to nine in favor of not moving it. The minutes of that meeting state R. Pitts was chairman and Alex Brehon secretary. The ratepayers who voted were Howard Chambers, Geo. Smith, Chas. Brehon, Tom Bates, Geo. Robertson, Fred Anderson, Wm. McKeen, Geo Holler, Hector Cowan, John Fast, Tom Meena, Percy Barrett, Wm Millar, H Chambers, Mr Hancock, James Arkley, Len Chambers, Geo Elford and Jack McKeen. Keystone closed in 1914 due to a low enrollment. The pupils attended other schools. Della and John Meena and Gladys Fast went to Neepawa. Cameron's went to Hillsboro. Stan and Ruth Barrett went to Neepawa. The year before Ruth started, Stan boarded at E. Ramsays and attended Grey School. Tom Bates' children were going to Etonia at this time as Mrs Bates was teaching there. Keystone opened again for classes the first month of 1918 and remained open till 1960. In 1948 to 1958 Neepawa was closed and Keystone took some of the pupils for those thirteen years.

The old registers before 1930 were burned by a teacher who loved neatness more than he loved records so it hasn't been easy to find teachers names but with many thanks to the Brehon family in preserving the minute books and cancelled cheques I believe most, if not all are in this list — A. Elliott, Jean Winn, Annie Arkley, Maude Dunning, Ephrim Weber, Clara Ewing, Greta Jones, Tena McRae, Anna Belle Walker, E. M. Gould, Melinda Meenagh, Nina B. Crocker, Ethelwyn Bean, Grace Japp, Flora Geary, Irene Dafoe, Annie Lewis, Sophie Langham, Gladys Lindgren, Mrs. Henry Christfield, Phoebe Perley, Margaret McCorkle, Annie M. Haryett, Winnie King, Wm S Langley, Muriel Butterfield, Lilah Brehon, Helen Harbor, Ruby Martens, Joe Babchuck, George Browne, Pat Flynn, Catherine Moroz, Ewald Draeger, Paul Yar, Anita Lesko, Vilma Peters, Mrs. Lapshanoff and Mrs. Eleanor McCready.

When Jim Smythe moved out of the district Alex Brehon became secretary and served until 1932, then Mrs. Brehon held the office till Colles was elected. When he moved from the district, Dick Brehon was secretary till the school was closed permanently. Some of the ratepayers who acted as trustees for many years are as follows: A. C Brehon, Tom Meena, Mrs. Brehon, George Brehon, Hector Cowan, Wm. Andrew, Dick Voegeli, Ernest Beaudoin, C. Epp, Dave Penner, George Holler, Roy Schmidt, Geo. McIvor, James Arkley. I see by the record that a trustee was compelled to visit the school at least twice a year. John Fast moved the motion, it was seconded by Mr. Wm. Hancock and all in favor. I wonder how many lived up to it?

Keystone was a cold school. It was not insulated till 1930, then only in the ceiling, and years later in the walls. There were many complaints so at one annual meeting it was suggested the windows be fixed as the crepe paper curtains were blowing in the wind but one resourceful trustee who loved saving money more than having a warm school said to take down the curtains and no one would know if the wind came through or not.

Throughout the years the teacher's salary at the lowest was $450 in 1937 and rose to $3000 in 1969.

Some families were better than others in helping with school matters. I believe if a vote were taken, we'd all say the Alex Brehon family served our district better than most of us. Any fixing to be done and they were first on deck.

Our truant officers were paid five dollars per month. Mrs. T. Bates served for many years in this capacity and I don't think she was too severe in punishment or us kids would have been hung for sure. We were three and a half miles from school and if we attended over one hundred days we figured we earned a medal. Dad was not too educationally minded as I read in the minutes of a meeting of 1922 — "Moved by Wm. Andrew, seconded by Tom Bates that the compulsory education act be amended, that in some cases it is too harsh and that the matter should be more in the hands of the trustees of each school."

The janitor work was often done by the teacher as the cancelled cheques show the pay they received. We did have a lot of caretakers though. Some were Della Meena, Tom Meena, Corny Hiebert, Stan Barrett, Katie Hiebert. In 1947 Roy Schmidts were to sweep and scrub and Penners were to clean the barn, supply water, and light fires. In June 1919 a meeting was held regarding the caretaking and it states — "Moved by Geo. Holler that Della Meena receive five dollars a month for lighting fires or twenty-five cents for each fire lit. One dollar to thoroughly sweep school before starting to scrub same and two dollars every month for scrubbing the school. I wonder what a caretaker now would think of those wages?

It is interesting to note that twelve of our teachers were local (within fifteen miles of the school). Sure it was a great old school! After serving as it was moved to Badger Bluff for a teacherage. Many of us pretended we hated going to school, but we wouldn't have traded Keystone for any other in the world!

I will list most of the pupils who attended. The names of the first ones are not available. Jim Smythe's children and Hartwells attended, one Hartwell girl was Laura and one Bertha; Gladys Fast; Stan, Ruth, Irene and Ethel Barrett; Everett, John, Jean, Della and Tom Meena; Colles, Dick, Muriel, Lilah, and George Brehon, Mabel McKeen; Cory Holler and Rose Holler, Ross, John, Earl, Evelyn, Hector, Elmer, Lew and Danny Andrew; Joe, Winnie,

Thelma, Ernest and Hazel Chesney; Clara and Dorothy Arkley; Katie and Peter Redekopp; Cornelius, Katie, Bernard, Helen, George and Jack Hiebert; Peter G., Nettie, Annie and David Redekopp; Roy Howell; Bob, Tom, Jack and Genevieve Bates; Allan Miller; Gordon, Stanley, Ina and Edna Cameron; Gertrude Gysel; Paul, Max, Allan and Norman Voegeli; Inez Thompson; Helen Warren; Bill Sloan; Ronald Tanchak; Erika, Hilda and Henry Penner; Fred, John, Walter, Helen, Donald and Clarence Pauls; Trudy, Sharon, Charlotte, Elmer and Leroy Sloan; Jim and Wayne Beaudoin; Darlene and Elaine Wood; Margaret and Rena Andrew; Clair, Lyle, Ronnie, Murray, Mona, Gail, and Doreen McIvor; Grace, Harold, Carl, Bernice and Wayne Schmidt; Mandy and Irma Epp; Cecil Moroz; Florence, Bernice, and Lorne Hodge; Alvin, Jake, Erna and Edith Braun; Irene and Jean Peters; Albert Beaudoin; Anna Marie Kinner; Pat and Garry Lapsinoff. These pupils went out from Keystone's walls of learning to become teachers, farmers, chartered accountants, music teachers, truckers, artists, nurses, jockeys, preachers, lab technicians, authors, orderlies in hospitals, store keepers, hairdressers, aviators, mechanics, bank tellers, dressmakers, secretaries thus making a living memorial to a one-roomed school. I wish all these old voices of the past could come from the four corners of the earth and we'd send up a mighty shout as we remember our old school yell —

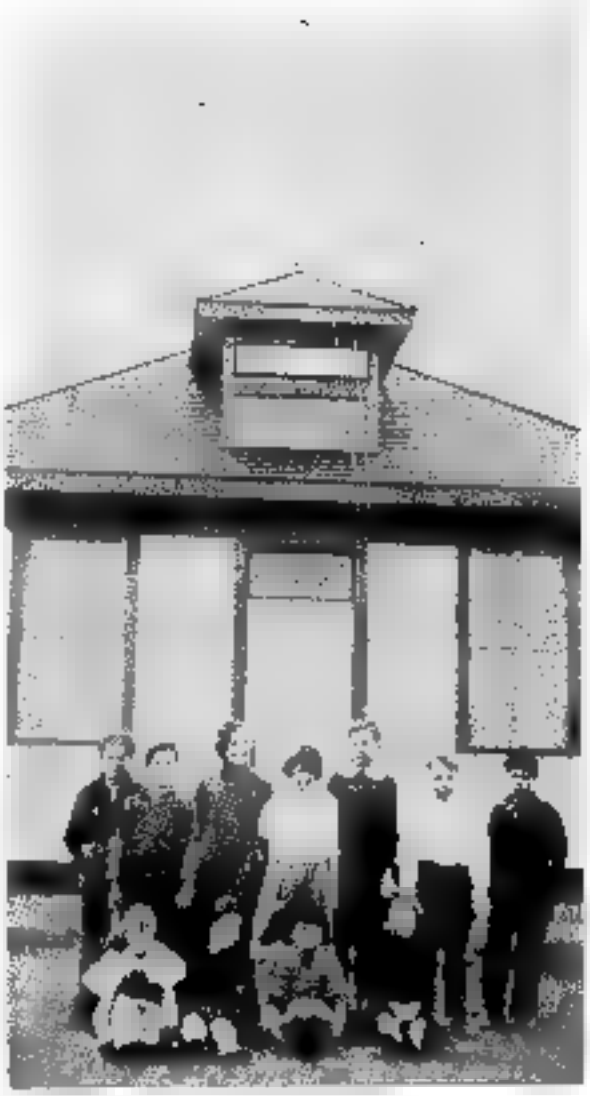
Rip Saw, Rip Saw, Rip Saw, Bang!
We belong to the Keystone gang.
Do we study? Well I guess —!
Keystone, Keystone, Yes, Yes, Yes.
Hooper out, shouter out, EVERYBODY roar!
Keystone, Keystone — loyal to the core!

Anecdotes of Keystone School

Miss Geary was a well liked teacher of Keystone. Mrs. Bates decided to invite her home for supper after school. Although Jack and Tom liked her, neither could be seen by the other school kids riding out of the schoolyard sitting by the teacher. Tom hurriedly jumped into the back of the buggy. Jack, not ■ be outdone jumped onto the horse's back. Miss Geary laughed like everything as she rode on the seat. They found a strawberry patch on the road home, stopped to pick it, having a good feed. Then safely out of sight of the school all got into the buggy and rode home together.

Montro School

In 1917 Montro School District was formed. This school was located on N.W. Quarter 35-41-12-W3rd. William Gray was one of the first trustees — May Rogers one of the first pupils. There were about eighteen pupils the first fall school opened. Some teachers remembered are: Maryadelle Giffard, Phylis Adamson, Hilda Foster, Gertrude Thibeault, Dorothy Chisholm, Mary Reekie, Mary Patterson and Olga Isaac.



Montro School.

Some of the early pupils were: Dorothy Foster (Crawley), Ruby Reid, Cloie Rolfe (Purdy), Nellie Hone, Frank Abbot, Emma Gray (Johnston), Alma Hone, Jack Foster, May Gray (Rogers), Minnie Hone, Frank Foster, Eileen Abbot, Viola Abbot.

Neepawa School

Neepawa School District No. 1517 was established on April 11, 1906 and the school was completed and opened the same year with Thomas A. Amoss as teacher and seven pupils were enrolled, these being: Alfreda Sloaner (late Mrs. Rollo Smith) her two brothers, Harry and Walter Sloaner, Clarence and Walter Northcott, and their sister Florence Northcott

Neepawa School Bell, mounted by John Fast in the John Fast Yard in Maymont. Inscription reads, "IN MEMORY OF NEEPAWA SCHOOL" JAN. 1907 to 1943.

Neepawa School Pupils. Back row — Jim Smith, Sarah Warkentine, Myrtle Northcott, Elsie Tyhurst. Front row — Bert Sloan, Audrey Sloan, Grace Northcott, Joyce Beatty, Anna Warkentine, George Beatty.

(Mrs. Jack Miller) and William G. Fast (Bill) who retired from farming and still lives in Maymont.

Serving on the first board of trustees were: Henry Knight, George Northcott and George A. Fast. Jake Fast was first secretary-treasurer, a position he held for twenty-five years. Mr. Knight came from Neepawa, Manitoba and so wished that name to be used for the new district. Neepawa is an Indian word meaning 'the land of plenty'. S. E. Chambers, an immigrant from Yorkshire, England got the contract to build the school. The foundation was of field stone and built by Alex Garnett of Fielding. When S. E. Chambers was unable to finish building the school a Herman Reimer was engaged to complete the job, which resulted in the school being ready by December 31, 1906.

In July, 1920 the old school burned down; classes continued in the new barn until the new school was completed. A Miss Larson was the first to teach in the new building.

Some of the teachers through the years were local girls and men: Muriel Harris, Kathleen McKinnon, Lucille Giffard, Lydia Ballsrud, Irene Reid, Lillian Martin, Muriel Lawson, Charles Archibald, from Speers, Max Braithwaite — now turned author — taught for two years.

A list of pupils who were enrolled under Miss Lydia Balsrud (Mrs. Allen Bean) in 1923 were: Irene and Ira Thompson, Walter, Reta, May and Chester Miller, Edwin, Hazel and Vernon Sloan, John Fast, Clarence Northcott, Allan Tyhurst, Allan Miller, Jim and Wilfred Ryan, Elma and Mabel Anderson.

The school was closed when only three pupils were enrolled. Neepawa School was moved in 1953 to Keystone District; while in Keystone District children studying under Mrs. Eleanor McCready (who is now retired and living in Maymont were: Henry Penner; Fred, John, Walter and Helen Pauls; Murray, MonaGail, and Doreen McIvor; Ron Tanchuck; Darlene and Elaine Wood; Trudy, Sharon, and Charlotte Sloan; and Jim Beaudoin.

In 1959 the school was once again moved, this time to Maymont as an addition to the then existing school. It remained until 1970 when Bob Johnston bought the building. It was moved onto a lot south of the Tom Sawyer home — and was burned on May 3 when a grass and brush fire got out of hand.

These country schools were the social hall and many times a church for their community. Often card parties, social, funerals, Christenings, picnics and many concerts were held in them.

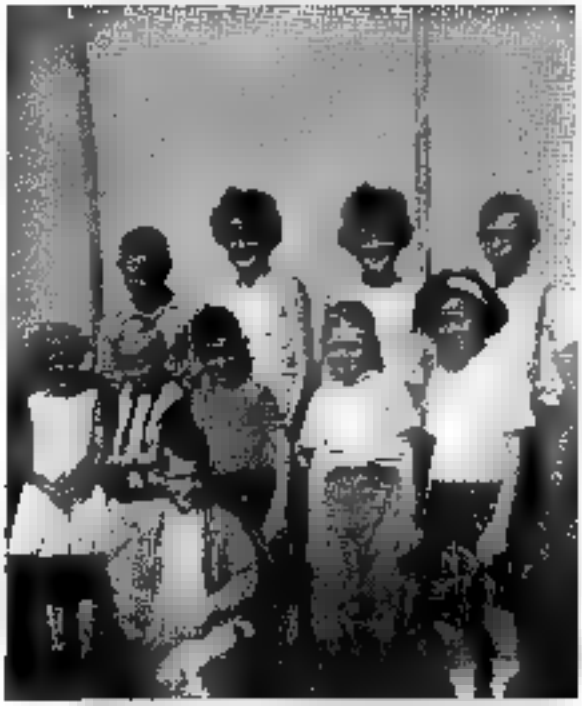
Wavie Bank School

written by Laura Presceaky

A meeting was held on July 25, 1927 at the HENRY VOKE residence to make arrangements for the purchase of the school site. Trustees then were: S. A. Johnston, John A. Conkey; H. Voke was secretary. On Aug. 6, 1927 a resolution was passed to borrow by way of debentures the sum of $4,000 for the building of Wavie Bank School No. 4711 and its furnishings. School was opened on Jan. 16, 1928 and MISS BAILEY was hired as teacher. Enrolments were large and the school served the following families: Conkeys, Johnstons, Presceskys, Woods, Littles, Martynes, Bulmers, Tebays, Hegglands, Seibs, Hewers, Thompsons, Alexanders, and Caldwells.

The following teachers served this School District:

1928- Miss Bailey, replaced by Miss Musk
1928-1929 Mr. Ken Doolittle



Wavie Bank School, 1965 — Edna Sherman (teacher). Pupils (l-r) Back — Ron, Terry and Pat Caldwell, Jim Prescesky. Front — Brenda and Donny Prescesky, Richard Selb Ken and Judy Prescesky. Kneeling — Doug Prescesky.

Wavie Bank school children (1928).

Wavie Bank class of about 1941. (l-r) Back row — Elmer Selb, Paul Prescesky, Gwen and Sadie Tebay, Mary Prescesky. 2nd row — Nellie Prescesky, Lillian Selb, Jennie Prescesky, Thelma Woods, Joyce Tebay. Front row — Victor Prescesky, Shirley Hawer, Henry Prescesky, Raymond Selb, Eddie Prescesky, Eleanor Selb.

Wavie Bank school.

1930-1932 Mr. Harry Bruley (Salary of $850)
1932-1933 Mr. McFarlane (Salary of $600 — had to light fires)
1934- Mr. Stanley Aldritt
1935-1936 Mrs. M. Hall (Salary of $450, depression)
1936-1938 Mrs. A. D. Smith
1939- Mr. W. J. Strong
1940-1941 Miss V. M. Soderberg
1942- Mr. P. J. Moynihan
1943-1944 Mrs. Fraser
1945-1946 Miss L. M. Ponkin (later to become Mrs. Pete Prescesky)
1947-1948 Miss Pearl Maksymchuk (later to become Mrs. Balych)
1948- Mr. Don Stynsky

1950-1951	Mrs. Tena Sawchuk
1952-	Mrs. Barbor
1957-	Miss Helen Demchuk
1958-	Miss Berndece Iverson
1959-	Miss Callfas
1960-1961	Mrs. Jenole Wallace
1962-1964	Mrs. Teeny Dryhorub
1965-1966	Miss Edna Sherman
1967-1968	Mrs. Laura Prescesky

The school was also used for dances, Christmas concerts, picnics, Sunday School and Church services. Mr. Bill Martynes on banjo and Mr. S. A. Johnston on violin provided music practically at no cost for dances which were usually held on Friday nights.

Trustees that served the school district were: Charles Wood, Stephen Prescesky, Bill Martynes, E. J. Prescesky, James Tebay, Paul Prescesky, Elmer Selb and Peter Prescesky.

Centralization of schools was becoming evident. In the fall of 1945 the school district was incorporated into the North Battleford School Unit No 58. It was with reluctance that the school board turned over its records and financial authority as they realized they were losing control and felt they were only being left to do the menial tasks around the school. I must mention here that I was present at this take over and I still remember vividly sec.-treas. Chas. Wood being commended by Supt. W. Brennan for his excellent records and bookkeeping. School enrolments began to decline in the early 50's and the school closed on June 30, 1952 with the understanding that it may re-open at a later date. It re-opened in Sept., 1957 and closed in June, 1968 with Mrs. Laura Prescesky as its last teacher.

The building has been moved to the farm site of Everett Sherman where it is used as a garage. However, wonderful memories remain of this one-room schoolhouse and someday maybe a cairn will be erected to honor its site.

Ruddell Story

When one turns off highway no. 40 at the sign that reads Ruddell "No Services" and enters this quiet village it is hard to imagine the bustling activity of by gone years. This is the village that now has only the post office and a handful of residents. This is the village that at one time had four general stores, blacksmith shop, butchershop, school, Hotel, barbershop, bank, poolroom, two livery stables, three elevators, three implement agencies, bakery, a church, a doctor, and a veterinarian.

The Canadian Northern Railway Company first named this station Lucerne and it was later changed to Ruddell. No one seems to know why the change was made or whom the village was named for.

When the railway was being built in 1904, water close to the right of way was very scarce. At that time the big slough one mile east of town was full and

Ruddell Main St., 1912.

Ruddell's Main St., looking south about 1910.

resembled a small lake. The construction crew made their headquarters there. They had ovens built into the clay banks. The railway established a pump house there where the engines could take on water. Bert Watts was the operator, he and Mrs. Watts lived in a small house close by. Mr. and Mrs. Geo Mabey and family had the honor of being the passengers on the first passenger train to stop at Ruddell in fall of 1905. The first station agent was Archie McEacheran a jolly fellow who always went out of his way to help people.

The summer of 1906 was the start of the boom years for the little prairie town. The first grocery store was built by Allan Anderson who also was section foreman and homesteaded just north of town. He later sold out his business to Lowrey Brothers. The Lowery Bros. [redacted] and Jim built a large building on the west side of the street and opened a general store.

Two merchants from Prince Albert Geo. McAdams and Alfred Spence built a nice store building and carried a full line of general merchandise. Mr. McAdams bought out Mr. Spence.

The first real estate transaction took place when Mr. Anderson moved his little store across the street and sold the corner lot for the hotel site. The little building was purchased by Mr. William Thrower, a barber from North Dakota. Mr. Thrower homesteaded west of town and came in on Saturdays to look after

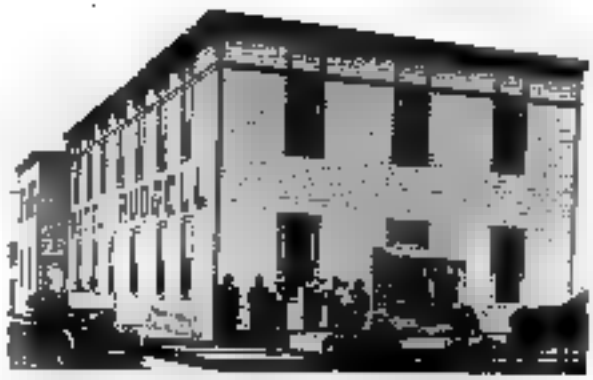
[redacted] districts barbering needs. Hair cuts 15¢ and a shave 10¢.

Mr. Spence built the Ruddell Hotel and was completed in 1907, which he and Mrs. Spence operated. Some years after the death of Mr. Spence, Mrs. Spence married an old family friend from New Brunswick, Charlie Johnson. They operated the hotel until their deaths. There was a sale in 1954 where all goods were sold including the hotel building. The building was sold to Ken Delong. He demolished the building and used the lumber to build the Locker Plant [redacted] Maymont.

Mr. and Mrs. John R. Kitchen of Alvinston, Ontario built a substantial building on the east side of main street and operated a boarding house. Mr. Kitchen also operated a real estate business. At the death [redacted] Mr. Kitchen, Bob Hayter, a barber from North Battleford bought the building and started a grocery store and barber shop.

Bern Robinson had the agency for Deering Machinery and operated a profitable business. Bern later took in Oswald Harper and the firm of Robinson and Harper was well known over a large area.

Charlie Robinson came to Ruddell in 1906 and he might be called the backbone of the prairie village. He operated a furniture store, a harness shop and the first lumber yard. He was a successful farmer. He erected several of the village houses which are still in use. [redacted]



Ruddell Hotel (Before it was stuccoed). In car, front seat — Fern and her dad (Bern) (George O.) Robinson. Back seat — Reg Dalzell (brother of Ruddell elevator agent), and Warne Robinson. Standing — Charlie Robinson (at corner), Shorty (Albert) Mallows (3rd from corner), next to Shorty Charlie Johnson holding ?. Sign over door — "Licensed to sell spirituous or fermented liquors".

was an ardent gardener and set out the first trees to be planted in the village. He employed Charlie McCann as his full time harness maker. Mr. McCann was a first class craftsman and the harness business was a going concern.

Machinery on display in the early years.

Randy McNeil had his hardware store built in 1906 which he operated from that time to 1923. He also homesteaded the SE ¼ 20, 42, ■ W 3rd. He brought to the West a car load of settlers effects and a carload of apples. The apples came in large wooden barrels and sold for five dollars. The apple deal proved unprofitable. The local market was small, and many were frozen as there was no proper place to store them. Randy McNeil's store was to be completed before the family came in September, but when they arrived early in October it was only well started. Winter came early in 1906 and the last week in November saw ■ below zero. The plaster froze on the wall and all that winter the upstairs living quarters were glazed with ice. When spring came the ice fell off and the plaster with it.

Ruddell about 1910 taken from the top of the elevator.

Ruddell's main st. west side about 1910.

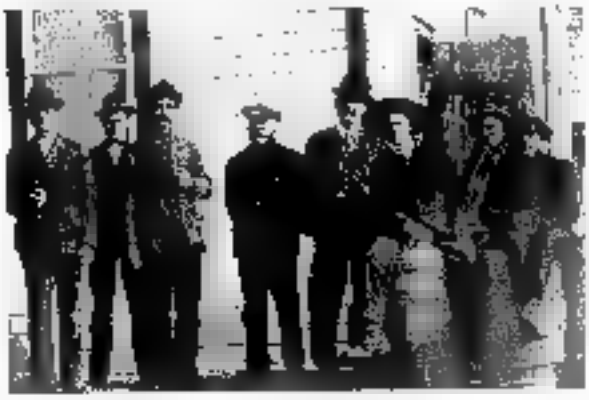
Duncan McKellar built the first livery stable in 1906 the first well in the village was dug just inside the front door. After digging through some forty feet of blue clay they despaired of getting water. In desperation they rigged up a 2" wood auger and drilled down some ten feet and water gushed into the well. There was always a plentiful supply but unfortunately very alkaline. The barn was burned in about 1909 and was rebuilt. Mr. McKellar later sold the barn ■ Dave Custer who ran the business until it was again burned. It was rebuilt by Turnbull Bros. but on a lot further east. A pump house was built over the old well which continued to supply water through the 2" auger hole. In later years a cistern type well was dug and water

Ruddell Post Office. Shorty Mallows, Reg Dalzell (back seat of car), Bern Robinson and Fern (in front seat). Standing in back — George Robinson, John Warden, Warne Robinson, Charlie Robinson. On wagon — Stanley Bright, Dave Custer (seated on side), 2 girls Esther and Lorna Warden.

hauled from the Turnbull farm ¼ mile south of the village. This type of well is still in operation.

The early settlers had to go to Battleford for their mail either by walking, horse and buggy, or oxen. Later mail came to the Megaffin house at Baljennie. After the coming of the railway a post office was set up in Lowery Bros. store. This post office sorted mail for Ruddell, Baljennie, Scottingdale, Lizard Lake and Spinney Hill. The well known pioneer Jim Megaffin came hell or high water to take the mail across the river once a week. The Lowery Bros. sorted the letters and first class items and newspapers. A sign over the door said E. R. Post Office which some people said stood for "easy running". Some of the other postmasters through the years were Geo Robinson, Warne Robinson, Albert (Shortie) Mallows, Bill Buttery and our present post mistress Elsie Nimilowich.

Tom Murtagh came west on the 1906 harvest excursion and in November of that year he started the butcher shop. He had no building to start in but had planks and sawhorses against the side of Kitchen's boarding house. Possibly the only outdoor butcher in



Some of the Ruddell men outside the Hotel before 1914.

Cavan Church, Ruddell, 1908.

Mr. Madill (first minister in Cavan Presbyterian Church) and family. Lower row — Mrs. Madill, Mr. Madill, Alberta. 2nd row — Vi, Pearl, Ethel.

all Canada. He cut the frozen meat with a saw and cleaver. Later that winter he went back and returned with a new bride. In the spring he built a proper shop.

A. Gardner built the first blacksmith shop, but he sold to Geo Robinson in 1906. Geo. Robinson later sold out to McKenzie Bros. and bought Lowery's general store. He carried on a successful family business for many years.

The first religious services in this district were conducted in 1904 by Mr. Matheson, a Presbyterian student minister who lived in a tent on Mr. William Andrews farm ■ Maymont. His way of travel was by horse and cart or by foot. His field extended from Fielding to Brada. The C.N.R. was being built at this time and Mr. Matheson was holding services at camps along the right of way. He persuaded Mr. O. C. Harper to come along and help him as song leader. (Mr. O. C. Harper with his brother Monte had come to the district to homestead in 1903). Mr. Matheson had ■ go back to college and he left Mr. Harper to conduct the Harvest Thanksgiving Service in Cleators home south of Denbolm. The collection went to the Battleford Hospital. This is recorded in the Battleford Herald.

Then came the Rev. J. C. Madill in 1905 who took over this large parish. He held services at Turnbulls, McClellands, Ralphs, also at Maymont, Fielding and Denbolm. He also had O. C. Harper take over some of his services. Milage was about 50 miles, transportation was by bicycle

The Cavan Presbyterian Church was open in Oct. 1 of 1906. The Rev. Mr. McKinnon from Winnipeg as guest speaker at morning and evening services. Mr. ■.

Ruddell U.C.W. by post. Back row, l. to r. — Mrs. E. Reid, Mrs. Murison, Mrs. Wrenshall, Mrs. G. Scott, Mrs. Naylor, Mrs. Firth, Eleanor Robinson, Marg Thrower, Mrs. Martynes, Margaret White, Mrs. Albert Steel. Front row — Mrs. Grover Reid, Gertrude Whitlow, Mrs. Jack White, Mrs. Charles Johnson, Mrs. John Arnold, Mrs. A. W. Robinson, Mrs. Dave Arnold (Meda Husband), Mrs. Lotta (Ross) Stally, Mrs. Dorothy (Albert) Mallows, Ivy (Mrs. Bill) Turnbull, Betty Jane M. Turnbull (little girl).

C. Harper led the choir of twenty-seven voices. A. E. Whitlaw and Geo Turnbull took up the first collection

Rev. J. C. Madill was the first minister of this church. Chairs were used in the church for a few years. Later the present pews were installed by Mrs. Murison, Geo and Graham Turnbull in memory of their mother Mrs. Elizabeth Turnbull.

The organ, Communion table and Bible were gifts from a church in Brantford, Ontario. The Baptismal Font was given some years later by Mr. and Mrs. W.S. Geddie in memory of their son Keith.

The Manse was built in 1913. Cavan United Church has been the centre of numerous groups through the years, United Church Ladies Aid, Young peoples, Sunday School. Services were held regularly until 1966 when it became the product of centralization and was closed. Funerals are still held in the church and it is used for meetings by the Ruddell community.

The first school was built in the winter of 1906 and 1907. There was one teacher and Grades 1 to Grade 8. The first teacher was Duncan McKellar's wife Margaret. Around about 1920 a second room was added on the west side. In 1951 a new two room school was built. It was opened November 21 with a program. In 1967 the high school was closed and the students were bussed to Maymont. In 1972 the school was closed, sold and torn down.

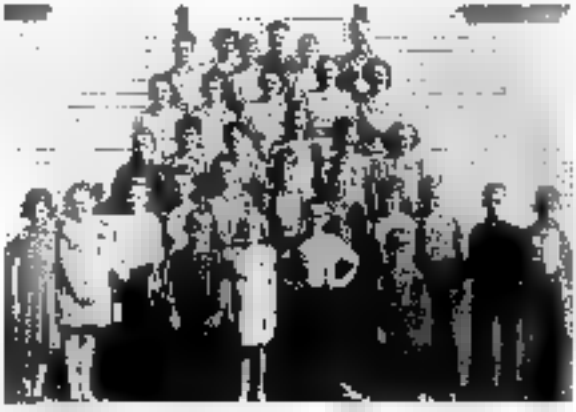
TEACHERS WERE:

1907-1910 Mrs. McKellar
1910-1911 Lucy Merry
1911-1912 Holmes Cathcart
1912-1913 Miss McCrea
1913-1914 Medley Brundage
1916-1917 Francis E. Reid
1918-1919 Jessie Duff
Pearl E. Paterson
1920-1921 Elsie Elizebeth Reid
Genevieve Pearl Stevens
1922-1924 Hazel L. Leask
1924-1925 Marjorie G. Mackay
1926-1927 Blanche McDonald
Mary Isabelle Huston
1928-1929 A. M. Naylor
1929-1930 G. R. Foster
1930-1931 V. R. Ferris
1931-1933 G. E. Vail
R. Robinson
1933-1934 R. Robinson

Ruddell School, 1928 (Left to right, sitting — Grant Topping, Bobby Bowers, Donald Robinson, Lyle Arnold, George Scott, Lewis Ferguson, Lance Robinson, Woodrow Roche, Harold Anderson, Jack Robinson, Herbert Anderson, Ross Abbott, Ross Arnold, Andy Abbott, Renton Naylor, Bill Robinson, Jack Wallace, Clifford Wallace. 2nd row — Lois Bowers, Lila Topping, Valerie Ferguson, Adelaide Turnbull, Gladys Anderson, Bernice Skelly, Ruth Scott, Rojean Abbott, Jean Murison, Maxine McNeil, Wilena Hone, Ruth Wallace, Kay Collins, Ida Anderson, Ethel Anderson, Eileen Abbott, Thelma Naylor, Helen Abbott, May Robinson. 3rd row — H. S. Robinson (teacher), Mary Huston (teacher), Ethel Moisley, Violet Wallace, Ivy Moore, Amy Topping, Hazel Anderson, Kay Naylor, Irene Collins.

Ruddell School Spring of 1911. Back row — Bess Turnbull, Louise Thrower, Russ McNeil, Edna Robinson, Maggie Collins, Lucy Marry (teacher). Front row — Bill Turnbull, Russ Geddie, Les Conway, Bill Gold, Herb Mabey, Fred Thrower, Mary Reikie, Phyllis Maisley.

Ruddell High, 1947. L. to r., front row — Ron Schmidt, Ken Meena, Ron Meena, Bill Scheffer. 2nd row — Della Beausoleil, Joyce Lang, Lorna Soule, Audrey Reid, Ruth Voegeli. 3rd row — Allan Soule, Ernest Voegeli, Bill Schmidt, Norman Soule, Art Martynes. 4th row — Neil Geisbrecht (teacher).



Ruddell School, 1945. Row 1, l. to r. — Garry Hanson, Hazel Acaster, Don Schmidt, Ronnie Hanson. Row 2 — Kalle Demchuk, Shirley Acaster, Audrey Jones, Ruth Voegeli, Ron Schmidt, Bill Blair, Mike Demchuk, Herman Soule, Gerald Acaster, Wes Schmidt, Russell Krake. Row 3 — Bill Scheefer, Art Martynes, George Skinner, Lorna Soule, Helen Demchuk, Doreen Krake. Row 4 — Della Beausoleil, Audrey Reid, Dorothy Gillatt, Shirley Blair, Joyce Jones. Row 5 — Norman Curry, Kathleen Barlow (Jr. room teacher), Allan Soule, Art Rein (Sr. room teacher), Norman Soule, Bill Caldwell. Missing from picture — Rita Buttrey, George Demchuk, Donald Belerle, Bill Schmidt, Ernie Voegeli.

Junior Room Ruddell School, 1951-1952. L. to r., back row — Anne Buttrey, Albert Frolermuth, Glen Meena, Peggy Daoust, Edith Acaster, Elsie Demchuk, Rita Buttrey, Eileen Meena, George Demchuk, Cliff Acaster, David McIntyre, Eugene Krake, Patsy Hewson. Front row — Lorene Geisbrecht, Roy Krake, Mary Rose Krake, Dorothy Voegeli, Bryce Whitlaw, Archie Robinson. Missing — Agnes Soule, Garry Schmidt. Teacher — Miss K. M. Barlow.

1934-1936 R. Robinson
1936-1937 M. Grainger
1938-1939 Mary Welford
1940-1941 Mary Welford
1941-1942 Edythe Marie Hamilton
1942-1943 Edythe Marie Hamilton
1943-1944 Kathleen Melville Barlow

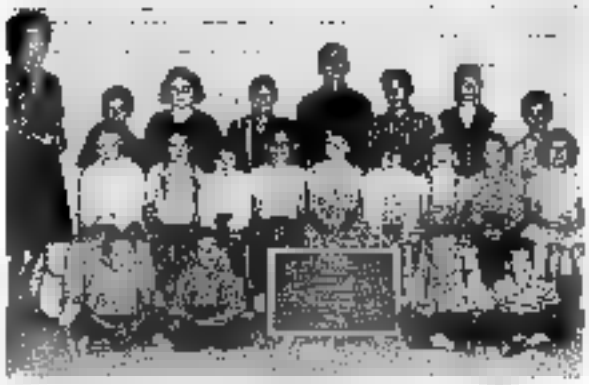
1944-1952 Kathleen Melville Barlow
1953-1954 Lillian Barbor
1955-1956 Anne Helen Leask
1956-1957 Kathleen Marjorie Turk
1957-1958 Caroline Susan Roenspies
1958-1959 Mary Thora Neilane Jensen

Ruddell High, 1957. Left to right, 1st row — Roy Krake, Dorothy Voegeli, Anne Buttrey, Archie Robinson. 2nd row — Lorane Geisbrecht, Sharon Toews, Doug Foulds (teacher). 3rd row — Carol Barber, Kathleen Toews, Agnes Soule, Peggy Daoust, Rita Buttrey. 4th row — David McIntyre, Albert Freimuth, Garry Schmidt, Glen Meena. Missing — Elsie Demchuk, Eugene Krake.

1959-1960 Ruth Victoria Rauser
1960-1961 Mrs. John Brett
Lois Eilleen McGregor
Victoria Josephine Chernetski
1962-1963 Freda Alice Gray
1963-1964 Freda Alice Gray
1964-1965 Grace Darling Jess
1965-1966 Grace Darling Jess
1966-1969 Freda Alice Gray
1969-1971 Marion Elizebeth Thompson

HIGHSCHOOL TEACHERS

1921-1922 Ella Stewart
M. E. Webber
1922-1923 Katie M. Cole
M. E. Webber
Ella Stewart
1923-1924 Brenton M. Holmes
1924-1929 H. S. Robinson



Ruddell, 1963-64. Left to right, front row — John Mison, David Schmidt, Rick Schmidt, Kevin Leng. 2nd row — Margaret Krake, Anna Voegeli, Donna Starycki, Charlotte Wood, Christine Starycki, Darlene Schmidt, Monika Siebert, Maxine Gray. 3rd row — Eugene Daoust, Kathleen Acaster, Jerry Sawchuk, Mitchel Starycki, Lee Schmidt, Linda Voegeli, Donald Soule. Missing — Don Serrel, Diane Serrel.

Freda and her class at Ruddell School, 1966-67. Front row — Rick Schmidt, Darrel Prescesky, Steven Prescesky, Barton Wood, Dwight Schmidt, Reid Schmidt, Kevin Leng. 2nd row — Sharon Meena, Debbie Schmidt, Roxanne Wood, Donna Voegeli, Colleen Meena, Carol Leng. 3rd row — Freda Gray (teacher), Donna Starycki, David Schmidt, Margaret Krake, Christine Starycki, Eugene Daoust, Anne Voegeli, John Mison, Darlene Schmidt.

1929-1930 Archibald Stanley McPhail
1930-1935 Garnet Aylesworth May
1935-1936 Ralph Nelson Wensley
1936-1938 J. E. Van Patten
1938-1940 Harold M. Palsson
1940-1941 E. A. Simmonds
1941-1942 James Edward Baikie
1942-1943 Agnes J. Walters
1943-1945 Neil Geisbrecht
1945-1946 Arthur H. Rein
1946-1947 Neil Geisbrecht

1947-1948 Donald Allan Morrison
1948-1950 Annie Rose Klassen
1950-1951 Kenneth Stuart McLaren
1951-1954 John Lindsay Constantine
1954-1959 Douglas Faulds
1959-1960 Ida Mae Gillatt
1960-1961 John Brett
1961-1962 Laurence Toole
1962-1964 William Thou
1965-1966 Ida Mae Gillatt

The first elevator was built by the Canadian Elevator Company in 1906. The first operator was Alex Young who lived in North Battleford. He never moved his family to Ruddell but lived at Kitchen's boarding house and returned to Battleford when the grain season was over.

Another elevator was constructed in 1907 by the British American Elevator Company. Jim Govenlock was its first operator. Competition was more keen. Sleigh loads of wheat, some from across the river, lined the main street waiting for the best bid from the elevator men.

Ruddell's station and 3 elevators.

Ruddell's elevator about to cross No. 5 Highway.

Ruddell Ferry.

Later a third elevator was constructed by the co-op. Turnballs also had a small elevator but it was torn down in the early twenties. The three elevators continued to serve the community. Their names were changed to the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, The National, and the Consolidated. The late 40's saw the National go. The Consolidated was taken over by the Saskatchewan Wheat pool. In the mid 70's saw the elevators close down. One was torn down, the other was bought by Art Martynes and moved to its new home on the hill one mile north of Ruddell.

The Ruddell ferry was installed in 1907. The farmers no longer had to wait till the river was frozen to haul their grain. Some of the early operators were O. Brumbaugh, Ed Ewing, Bill Kennedy, Robert Stephens. This crossing was two miles south and one mile east of Ruddell.

The town Merchants published a newspaper "The Ruddell News". Copies of the newspaper are now

G. E. Sherwood store, Ruddell.

RUDDELL NEWS

Vol. 1 Ruddell, Sask., December, 1906 No. 2

A MERRY XMAS TO ALL OUR READERS

Wanted in Ruddell

A GOOD DOCTOR

—AND A—

DRUG STORE

A SMALL OPENING AWAITED

ALSO GOOD OPENINGS

—FOR A—

BANK
FLOUR MILL
FURNITURE STORE
CEMENT BLOCK MANUFACTURER
BRICK YARD
BAKERY

A GOOD CENTRE FOR

MANUFACTURERS

SCARCITY OF EGGS

"Eggs are now very high in price and very few are coming into town at all," said a local merchant the other day. Would it not be a good idea to start supplying competitions amongst the poultry of the district. We believe it has been tried successfully in some countries, the locals taking a lively interest. Talking of hens reminds us of the story of the farmer whose customers complained of the size of his eggs. He made promise to do better, and passing a store one day, he saw an ostrich egg, which he immediately purchased and hung in his fowl house with the following inscription. "Look at this and do your best."

GROWTH OF RUDDELL

We are pleased to announce that in the next few days, there will be an increase in the business section of Ruddell, namely, a hardware store, which will be opened up by Mr. R. McNeil, and an up-to-date meat store, by Mr. Murtagh, of Saskatoon. These two gentlemen were struck with the appearance of our town and with the bustling activity that presents itself to the onlooker. The present wave of prosperity that Ruddell is now experiencing will undoubtedly bring many more business men into the town, and to those who are looking for openings in the West, there is no town which offers greater inducements.

ON XMAS EVE.

That there will be lots of fun and enjoyment in this town on the 24th. goes without saying. It has already been announced that there will be a gathering in Ruddell Presbyterian church, on that date, for a concert and social, when an instructive and enjoyable program will be given by the Methodists of the district. A Christmas tree is also spoken of, and many other things. An enjoyable evening is assured.

ON NEW YEAR'S EVE.

It is announced that on New Year's eve there will be a concert and dance in the new public school of Ruddell, and we are assured that a very musical and lively program has been provided for, to commence at 8 p.m. Admission, concert and dance, 50 cents, concert only, 25 cents, children, 15 cents.

McADAMS & SPENCE

GENERAL MERCHANTS

RUDDELL, - SASK.

FRESH GROCERIES

AT CITY PRICES

DRY GOODS

BOOTS AND SHOES

RUBBERS, ETC.

FLOUR BRAN SHORTS

WINTER APPLES

A FULL LINE OF

XMAS NOVELTIES

R. McNEIL

HARDWARE MERCHANT

I am just opening up my store with a complete line of

GENERAL HARDWARE

All the best makes of

STOVES AND RANGES

See my stock before going elsewhere. You will save money

LOCALS.

Mr. Irving of Saskatoon has been on a visit to this town.

Mr. and Mrs. McCann are now in residence in the station.

E. Mylren has returned to his homestead from Battleford.

C. Robinson writes that there is ten feet of snow in Belgrafia, Man.

J. Ingling has been in town and has erected the chimneys for the new hotel.

D. McKellar is busy well digging and is much pleased with the result of Saddell.

G. Hallman was appointed treasurer for the Board of Trade in place of J. Lowrey.

T. Stevens, Saskatoon has been a familiar figure in town lately, there is no weather too bad for this gentleman.

Wanted for Ruddell, freighters to haul freight to this town to take the place of the C. N. R., high prices paid.

Mr. and Mrs. McCarthy Saskatoon, gave a very enjoyable evening on January 18th to a large number of friends, dancing being kept up till morning. The host and hostess are to be congratulated upon the arrangements for the evening.

At the recent meeting of the Board of Trade all the officers were re-elected for another term of twelve months with exception of the Treasurer, the officers are A. L. Spence, President; J. R. Kitchen, Vice President; Mr. Hallman, Treasurer; G. Maddams, Secretary.

C. H. Robinson

Dealer in

LUMBER

All kinds of Spruce and B. C. Lumber.

I have 10 car loads of lumber on the way for my Spring trade.
Also a full line of
Harness and Supplies,
Robes and Blankets.

Insurance. Money to Loan.

Mr. Turnbull and Mr. Rockie paid a flying visit to Battleford but on arrival found that they had to perch a while. They arrived home on a wrecking train.

Mr. E. Whitlow has been busy hauling sand in the town recently from the sand pit that he has located on his homestead. The sand is of the best quality and would make handsome cement blocks or bricks, this is another valuable asset to the district.

The result of the election for councillors have resulted as follows in the different townships. 42-18, Mr. Turnbull, retiring candidate Mr. Little; 42-18 Mr. Semple, retiring candidate W. J. Davis; 41-17 Mr. Osborne returned unopposed.

DENHOLM.

Mr. Fraser took a trip up to Battleford to see the famous hockey match between the two towns and was very much elated at the result.

Quite a number of residents turned out for the dance at Mr. M. Ingouville's and enjoyed themselves immensely.

Things are very quiet in this district just now except among the coyotes which are very numerous.

MAYMONT.

Great excitement was shown on the arrival of a freight train from the east and great disappointment was felt when it was known that no goods had arrived, and as under the present conditions eatables are getting scarce. One prominent merchant has only just received his Xmas goods. We have only received one mail from the east for seven days now and it looks as if it will be some time yet before communications are restored. Trade is very quiet in town these days, the most flourishing business being the ice business.

Great regret was felt that there is a probability of losing our agent, but his present quarters are not too comfortable.

It will be good news to the farmers in this district to know that Mr. C. Robinson has started up a blacksmith shop in Ruddell, having acquired Mr. A. Gardiner's outfit and shop. He intends to give strict attention to this line of business. All kinds of repairs, smithing and shoeing done at short notice. Mr. Robinson is also an expert in plumbing and has had a good experience as an all around mechanic.

B. Robinson

RUDDELL.

Two car loads of Cockshutt machinery on the road comprising

Drills, Ploughs, Harrows, Packers, Cultivators, Blue stoners, Sulky Ploughs, Adams Wagons also Cutters.

Half car of Grey Buggies,
One car of Deering Binders,
Half car Plymouth Twine.

Call and examine my machinery before buying and get prices.

Machinery will arrive February. Call and get a Catalogue.

The Pioneer Store.

LOWREY BROS., RUDDELL.

We desire to thank our many customers for the liberal patronage we have received from their hands during the past, and would solicit a continuance of the same. Trusting that our business dealings will always meet with your approval.

We still carry a full line of

Groceries, Flour, Feed, Boots, Shoes, Hardware and Ready made Clothing.

Headquarters for Blowers.

G. HALLMAN

Ruddell, Sask.

Painter, Grainer, Glazier
and Paper Hanger.

Also Up-to-date
SIGN WRITING

First-Class Workmanship.

All orders promptly attended to.

THE RUDDELL NEWS.

VOL. 1. RUDDELL, SASK., FEBRUARY, 1907. NO. 3.

WANTED IN RUDDELL

Bank
Flour and Grist Mill
Furniture Store
Harness Shop
Printer
Cement Block Manufactu'r
Brick Yard
Bakery
Drug Store

A good opening awaits for any of the above businesses.

RUDDELL'S ADVANCE.

It is evident to the most passive onlooker that Ruddell will be a centre for the farmers for many miles around, even at this time of the year it is amazing to see the business that is done, very rarely it is that one cannot see teams from three to six miles distant waiting their turns who are busy purchasing the necessities and requirement of their households. The reason for this is apparent for the farmer can find a ready market in Ruddell for his produce, whether it be eggs, butter, hay, oats or wood, in fact anything that is produced in the country finds a ready sale here, a large business is being done in the fur trade, quite a few shipments having already been made from this point. Another good reason for the prosperity of this place is that the farmers in this district are proud of the town and are pleased with the buildings that have been erected, and with their substantial appearance. It is the proud boast of this community that we possess the largest Presbyterian church in the west this side of Winnipeg and the public school that has just been erected is a credit to the town and vicinity. Applications have also been received from a doctor and druggist for a site in this town also the sites have been staked out for two more elevators which are to be built this year. There is no doubt that this year will see great changes and much advancement made in this growing town.

THE HISTORY OF RUDDELL.

Ruddell is situated on the C. N. R. twenty-two miles east of North Battleford, lying in a fine stretch of fertile soil. There is two stations between here and Battleford, but there are no prospects of a town ever springing up at either of the points, which leaves Ruddell as a good position to very soon become a town of at least fifteen hundred inhabitants. To an outsider it would seem rather previous for a town with a population of some twenty-five or thirty inhabitants to establish a newspaper, but this is the third issue of the Ruddell News and we expect it, like the town, to grow. Mr. McAdams is the founder and has associated with him in this issue Mr. J. R. Kitchin.

If the reader will glance over this vast prairie with its fertile soil lying along the great Saskatchewan river with here and there an occasional bluff, then he can see with his imaginary eye what the country lying between Saskatoon and Battleford was some five years ago save the presence of an occasional Indian in quest of game. In the fall of ninety-two the Canadian Northern Ry. engineers first made their appearances through this part of the country, shortly after this settlers commenced to make their appearance, the first to come being John White and Samuel Cameron who came from the vicinity of Deloraine, Man., about four years ago, bringing with them a yoke of oxen. After testing the ground in several places they located near here, each taking up a homestead, also buying a half section of C. P. R. land for which they gave three dollars an acre, the same now being worth fifteen per acre. Mr. Anderson was the first to attempt anything in the line of a store. He erected a small building where he kept a few groceries, but the business not being large enough to accomodate the public, and wishing to give more attention to other affairs he sold out in July, 1905, to Ed. Lowery, who erected a large

McADAMS & SPENCE

GENERAL MERCHANTS

Fresh Groceries at Right Prices,
Dry Goods, Boots & Shoes,
Rubbers, Moccasins, Etc.

WINTER APPLES $5.00 Per Bbl.

All kinds of Farm Produce Bought.

New Blacksmith Shop

G. C. Robinson, - Ruddell

Having bought out A. Gardner I am now prepared to do all kinds of

BLACKSMITHING

and Wood Repairing to Wagons, Buggies, etc.

Also Plumbing. Repairs effected at shortest notice.

Prompt attention and best Workmanship Guaranteed.

J. R. KITCHIN,

REAL ESTATE AGENT,

Ruddell - Sask.

200,000 ACRES

of Farm Lands for sale in the famous

BATTLEFORD DISTRICT

many of them convenient to railway.

Easy terms of payment.

Money to Loan. Insurance.

Auctioneer.

Commissioner for taking Affidavits.

building and started a general store, practically speaking this was Riddell's first store. He was then appointed postmaster, by his majesty, the king, a position which he still holds. In the spring of the present year Mr. Jarvis Lowrey left his former home, at Campbellville, Halton county, Ont., to seek his fortune in the west. He brought with him his wife, and entered into partnership with his brother. The firm's name now is Lowrey Bros., and they conduct a general store business, which is satisfactory to the general public. The next to embark in business here, were Chas. and Bernie Robinson, the former conducts the lumber business where the farmers come for miles to secure lumber to erect more substantial buildings on their homesteads, while the latter is engaged in the implement business, handling the Massey Binders and the famous Cockshutt farm machinery. The large amount of implements handled by this gentleman during the past summer, proves his adaptability to please the public. The Robinsons came here from Wausa, Man., but are formerly from Perth, Ont. W. Trowsse next put in his appearance and purchased the building owned by Mr. Anderson, the striped pole annexed to his building will show one this is a barber shop. His geniality and good workmanship brings him a good trade considering the population of our town. Billy hails from Hamilton, N. D. but is a Canadian by birth, having been born at Goderich, Ont., he is proving up on his homestead near the town.

In the month of August last Mr. and Mrs. Kitchin erected a building where the former conducts a restaurant where the hungry may be fed and the weary may rest, the latter conducts a real estate, insurance and money to loan agency. Mr. Kitchin has recently been appointed a commissioner for taking affidavits and a petition is now in circulation to appoint him a J. P.

Messrs. McAdams and Spence are two gentlemen who came here a few months ago from Prince Albert, the former hails from sunny England and is to be congratulated for his interprise and adaptability to this western country, while the latter hails from N. B. They carry a heavy stock of general merchandise their attractive store and business principles bringing in them a good trade. They accept all kinds of farmers' produce in exchange for their goods. At the time of writing Mr. Spence has a large force of men engaged erecting a hotel the cost of which will be in the neighborhood of seven thousand dollars.

Duncan McKellar has had a fine livery barn erected, and has just placed therein some handsome turnouts in the livery line which is bringing to him a good trade.

Randolph McNeil also expects to become agent for farm implements. Messrs. Kitchin McNeil and McKellar all hail from Alvinston, Lambton county, Ont.

Anderson & Arnold are the builders and contractors here. The buildings they have erected show they are masters of the situation and able to complete any undertaking. The former hails from Simcoe county, Ont., while the latter first saw the light of day near the city of Toronto.

John Ingling is the gentleman who looks after all the paper work and a glance at a job after it leaves his hands will convince one that he is hard to beat in lines of business. John is also a first class taxidermist. He hails from the town of Atkinson, state of Nebraska.

After the structures here are erected, Geo. Hallman is the gentleman who puts the glossy finish on the same, or does the artistic sign lettering. Any work undertaken by this gentleman is always done up to the mark. Mr. Hallman came here from Deloraine, Man., but hails from Walkerton, Ont.

Mr. Anderson Sen., is the section foreman here, who looks well after this part of the C. N. R., and a gentleman who has practically spent all his life on the railroad and comes from Orillia, Ont.

A. Gardner is the name of the gentleman who started the first blacksmithshop but has recently sold out to Geo. Robinson, Geo. comes from Sanilac Co., Mich., but is formerly from Brant Co., Ont.

Thos. Murtaugh dropped off the train here about a month ago and became fascinated with the surroundings, he said "by Jad this is where I am going to locate," and before night he had a dressed beef hung up in Bernie Robinson's implement building and opened up business. He now has a neat shop of his own where he supplies the public with the wealth of beef, an occasional slice of moose meat in season, or fish that will weigh from two to thirty pounds. Tom hails from Barrie, Simcoe Co., Ont.

One year ago saw the first wheat shipped from this point. During the season there were some ten carloads shipped out. The Canadian Elevator Co., now have an elevator here with a capacity of 25,000 bushels. Alex Young of North Battleford, the manager here, tells us he has so far this year shipped 100,000 bushels of wheat. There is still 25,000 bushels in the farmers hands for shipment. It is estimated that during the past summer 7,000 acres of prairie in this vicinity has been broken and will next spring be sown to wheat.

Homesteading is practically a thing of the past, all the homesteads having been taken up. Some lands are still held by speculators, which we expect will be turned over to the actual settler when spring opens up.

In regard to the class of settlers located hereabouts, we might say they have mostly been born under the British flag. There are a goodly number of English, some Irish, a few Scotch with a sprinkling of American people, but the majority are Canadians, many of them who have sworn allegiance to Uncle Sam, but have again returned to the land of their birth.

Farming is not the only occupation followed here, there are some few men engaged in the ranching industry. Among the foremost is Mr. Nolin who is a born Westerner, and was a member of the first Manitoba Legislature. He also took a leading part in the Riel rebellion.

Mr. Richard and Mr. McGaffie are also extensive ranchers, the latter gentleman being Postmaster, at Saskatoon, a post office on the south side of the north branch of the Saskatchewan river. The Presbyterians have a church which they have reason to feel proud of, the Rev. J. G. Madill is their preacher. The Methodist body also worship in the same building. Mr. Atkinson, who is a student, delivers the simple truth in a forcible manner.

A school has just been completed, where we expect the rising generation will receive an education, which will help them to go forth to do

house to this town and province.

The C. N. R. have a fine station here and altogether our buildings are of a substantial structure, with a beautiful view overlooking the Eagle hills, which have been said by travellers, to be the most beautiful spot on the C. N. R. between Winnipeg and Edmonton.

ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS.

In accordance with the law of this province the election for councillors takes place on the second Monday in January. This election was duly held for this township 13-12 on Monday, 14th of January. Mr. Little, the first councillor elected for this township, was defeated by Mr. Turnbull. A number of the electors assembled at the hall to hear the speeches of the candidates. They were disappointed in this, and then found that the voting was to be entirely open, each voter stepped forward and inscribing his name on a sheet of foolscap and the name of the candidate he supported. The statements of expenditure, etc., were posted up on the wall of the building. There was much comment upon the method which was used upon this occasion and the question was asked, "Why should this be an open ballot, where each candidate could look over the shoulder of the voter to see what he was doing, also, "Why was there no nominations." As the elections are important matters for each township, we think that there should be a little more method used on these occasions. In this province one councillor represents a township and six townships form a council, and the majority rules on taking a vote on any question coming before them except in the case of a tie, when the decision is always given in favor of the negative. It is expected that in the coming session of the Legislature that improvements will be made in our municipal laws.

C. N. R. MAIL CLERKS.

It will be a source of pleasure to the people along the C. N. R. to learn that the Railway Co., has been fined five thousand dollars by the government for failing to take the mail out of Edmonton upon a certain date. The government could also profitably spare a little time for looking after the mail clerks on the different trains. It is a common occurrence to have mail for parties in different towns put off here in the Ruddell mail bag, and very frequently mail from the west is carried through and then thrown off here by the mail clerks from the east. The entire issue of the Battleford Press for Ruddell subscribers recently came from the east one month after being issued from the Press, and only recently the Manville mail was left off here and the Ruddell mail carried through, whether it ever returned or not we do not know. On one or two occasions our postmaster has lost the train for the mails and has found the door to the mail clerks car barred and the clerk was apparently asleep inside.

WATER SUPPLY OF RUDDELL.

It is gratifying to know that this town will be well supplied for water. A town well has been sunk, and at 35 feet a good flow of water was secured. The residents of this town may now congratulate themselves upon this good fortune, for without a good supply of water there can be no town of any consequence, but that Ruddell will be always fully supplied is evident by the numerous wells in this district and the close proximity of the river.

FOOTBALL AND BASEBALL.

Now is the time for the boys of Ruddell and vicinity to organize for a baseball and football club. It is certain that we have good material for to form a good strong representative team for each of these manly sports, and it is also sure that if the boys will come forward that Ruddell will certainly take no back seat with any of the clubs along this line, so what we would impress upon you is, that a committee be formed at once so that things may be in shape when the season opens.

J. R. Kitchen has been appointed commissioner for taking affidavits and a petition is in circulation for appointing him a magistrate.

Mr. Thompson who lately had the misfortune to freeze his hands and face badly has almost recovered and is able to get around.

T. MURTAGH

BUTCHER.

Fresh Fish Now on Hand.

Highest Price Paid for All Kinds of Hides.

Cattle Bought and Sold.

R. McNEIL,

HARDWARE MERCHANT

A full line of General Hardware, Builders' Supplies, Paints, Oils, Glass, and the best makes of Stoves and Heaters.

Also for Sale:
1 Buggy, new.
1 Buggy, second hand.
1 Set Single Harness.
1 Set Single Harness, second hand.
1 Cart, nearly new.

If you want anything in this line it will pay you to call at an early date.

D. R. McKELLAR

LIVERY, FEED, AND SALE STABLE.

STYLISH TURNOUTS.

Conveyancing done at shortest notice.

WANTED.

Several good teams for general purposes, ready sale. Apply

D. R. McKELLAR, RUDDELL.

museum pieces. There were three issues published. When the passenger trains stopped at Ruddell the town kids would board the train to distribute the newspaper free of charge.

The spring of 1907 saw a young energetic man by the name of George Sherwood came ■ town. He was looking for a location to start a dry goods store. He decided Ruddell was the place. Charlie Robinson as usual was to help out by making a temporary furniture store. He lost no time in building George a fine store and a house to live in. The inside of the store was finally finished with counters constructed of one piece edge grain fir 24" wide.

Bass Mylrea's Bakery & Grocery Store. Summer Sports day, 1911.

Bass Mylrea bought Bob Hayters grocery store. After adding on addition he installed a modern brick bake oven. This became a bakery with the delicious smell of fresh baked bread. Reg Mylrea built the poolroom which he later sold to Shorty Mallows.

Mr. Mylrea who had homesteaded west ■ town, moved to town and started a livery stable. He built the house now occupied ■ Mr. and Mrs. Patterson.

In early 1907 the towns first doctor located here. Dr. Wheaten was a young medical man from Winnipeg. Charlie Robinson provided him with an office and a house to live in. Dr. Wheaton only stayed a short while. The house was later purchased by Wm. Geddie then sold to Ross Stally and is now the residence of Mr. and Mrs. J. Birse. Dr. Scratch came to Maymont in 1907 and there after looked after the medical needs of the area for miles around.

Dr. Dewalt, a veterinarian came to Ruddell and stayed a few years, but before he left he married Ruby Mylrea. Other early business people were: Dave Arnold and George Anderson were building contractors under the name of Arnold and Anderson. Mr. Anderson soon devoted his time to farming. Dave Arnold built a lot of barns and houses in the district and most of these remain in good condition. Bill Rosamond, Geo Gibney and Barney Welton were carpenters who worked for Arnold and Anderson.

The plastering contractor was old Jon Ingling (not because he was really old but because he wore a beard.)

Scotty Miller was the stone Mason. Many basements and foundations were built of local field stone.

George Hallman was the painter and decorator. All the signs on the buildings were from his fine handiwork. He and his son built what was intended to be a poolroom but funds run out and this building later became the first telephone office.

Some of the other businesses in Ruddell were. (not necessarily in that order)
Lawrence Robinson
Bowers Hardware
Jennings Gen. Store
Geo Robinson
Robinson & Harper Gen. Store
Tylor Gen. Store
George Fong Gen. Store
Fast Gen. Store
Harry Brown
Youngs Butchershop
Wardens Gen. Store
Moraley's Eating House
Braggs Hardware
Graham Turnbull built a store it was run by Mah Lee
Neil Geisbreckt
A.E. Steele John Deere Agency (This was housed in Lowrey's old Store Building)

Bill Turnbull had a gas station north of the track, south of now Peterson's house by the old Jasper Highway.

Herb Mabey had a gas station and a garage west of where the postoffice now sits.

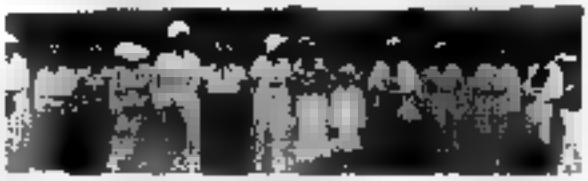
Other garage and machine agency operators were: Bob Orchard, J. Prescesky, Walter Parent, G. Holmes, Whitlaws, A. W. Robinson, Eph Reid.

R. A. McIntyre operated a bulk gas station, garage and massey Agency for a number of years. Geo Pringle kept the books for a few years. Bob and Vi lived in Ruddell for 28 yrs. operating the garage and fuel business until the 60's then took over the grocery from Neil Giesbreckt which called for an addition to the garage. During the years before the business was closed in 1972, Bob travelled many miles delivering fuel, while Vi looked after the store end of the business. During the time they were in Ruddell they raised two sons David and Ron. They always had plenty of time for the many activities of the community.

The first picnic was held at the Maple Grove in 1904. It was only a small gathering. The spigots were still in the trees where the Indians had tapped them for Maple syrup. The hand crafted sap buckets made by the Indians were burned to boil the coffee.

As time passed, numbers increased with people coming from Richard, Dentholm, Lilac, and Maymont.

Ruddell Maple Grove picnic, 1911.



Homecoming, 1971 at the Maple Grove.

It was said that around five hundred gathered one year. They met in the morning had lunch, then an afternoon entertainment, a basket lunch and more games. Sometime later a race track was built at Ruddell on the strip of land just north of the elevators. They combined the picnic at the Maple Grove with a race meet in town. The first of these occasions it is recalled the town and country was full of excitement. Somewhere about six hundred were present at all events. People began to gather at 10 o'clock with numerous flags flying, citizens all beribboned and smiling. Stores especially dressed for the occasion with good things provided for the crowd. The prairie was a picture of wagons, democrats, and other vehicles of all description. The weather was fine and the fun began with a picnic at the Maple Grove then all kinds of races and games for all ages, including a basket ball match and a baseball game. Maymont versus Ruddell. At 2:30 the crowd assembled at the racetrack in Ruddell where horse races, pony races, ladies driving contests and other games were witnessed. A dance was held at night. This did not continue for very long as there was a lot of disagreement as to where the picnic was to be held. Through the years a picnic has been held each July 1st at the Maple Grove. The numbers attending have dwindled but fun is had by all.

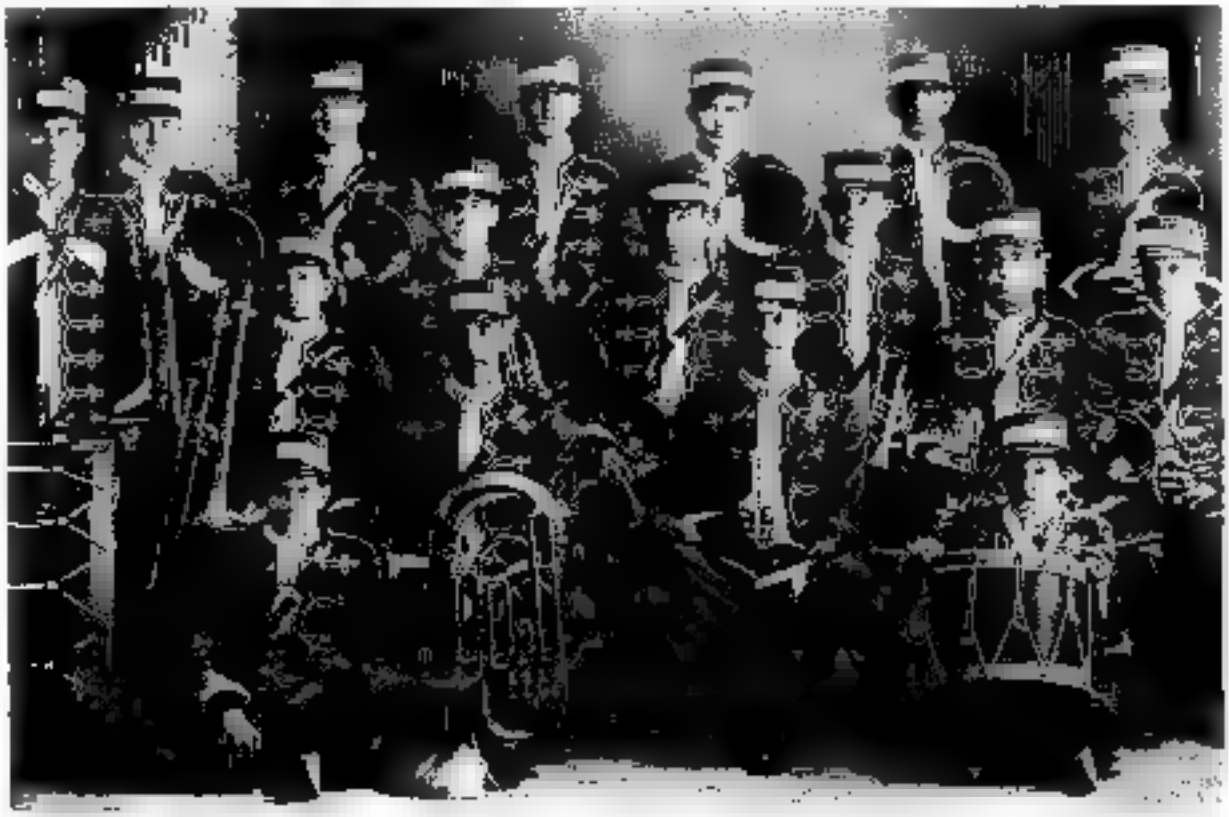
In 1912 a 25 piece Brass Band was organized in Ruddell. It was led by Ed Ewing. Ed was a real musician and could play any instrument. The band was smartly uniformed. They played at many engagements and local celebrations including the Battleford fair.

Bess Mylrea had the first telephone. His sister Elsie was switchboard operator. The Ruddell Telephone Company came into being on Feb. 28, 1915. Some of the operators were Mrs. Rhody, Mrs. Collins, Marjorie and Jack Thrower. Marjorie and Jack Thrower operated the switchboard for nearly thirty years. On Nov. 14, 1978 the Ruddell Telephone Co. changed over to the automatic dial system. Somethings were gained like the twenty-four hour service. Others were lost like the general ring. The long ring saved many homes from serious fire as all neighbors rushed out to lend a hand. The general ring was also used to advertise meetings and social gatherings. Another chapter closed on one rural way of life.

The Ruddell cemetery was first located on N.E. ¼, 32, 40, 13W. 3rd. Later Graham Turnbull donated the land for the present burial ground. The cemetery was moved. At present the Ruddell branch of the S.W.I. oversee the up keep of the grounds.

Ruddell was incorporated as a village in 1914. It is considered a village and has its mayor or overseer and town councillors Wayne Acaster and John Birse.

Ruddell Baseball Team (1913) and Rooters. l. to r. — Mountie ?, Bill Geddie, Dave Arnold, Mr. Mabey, ?, Mrs. Dalzell, Grace Harper, ?, Hannah Robinson, Eleanor Robinson, Bess Morison, Florence Geddie, Bessie Coppock, Edna Robinson (Gibson), ?, George Sherwood, Bob Gordon, Bert Krug, Mr. Dalzell, ?, ?, ?, Eph Reid, Jack Arnold, Russ McNeil, ?, Charlie Robinson, ?. *Front row* — Reg Dalzell, Claude Jennings, holding Fern Robinson, Mrs. McCann, Mrs. Jennings, ?, Warne Robinson, ?, ?, ?. Standing in buggy — Art Robinson, Adah Squires.



Ruddell Brass Band. *Back row* — Bill Geddie, Warne Robinson, Phyl Mylrea, Ted Kirk, Willis Swerdfurger, Herb Kirk, Lawrence Steele. *Second row* — Norman Andrew, Oswald Harper, Ed Ewing, Albert (Shorty) Mallows, Malcom Gray. *Front row* — Norman Kitchen, Albert Steele, Frank Claredge, Russ McNeil.

Ruddell Ball Team, 1914. Eph Reid, Warne Robinson, Russel McNeil, Jessie Bennett, ?, Claude Jennings, Howard Bennett, ?, Herman Spence.

Some parts taken from town books

Jan. 14, 1935

Moved by Councellor McKenzie second by Overseer Whitlaw that the village of Ruddell purchase the Lighting Plant from H. Mabey.

Feb., 1936

A communication was read from North Battleford Board of Trade regarding completion of Highway No. 5 asking for co-operation of the village.

May 1, 1939

A request from Mr. Palsson for free use of the hall, including lighting, to raise funds to send school children to Saskatoon on visit of King and Queen was discussed. This request was granted for May [illegible], 1939.

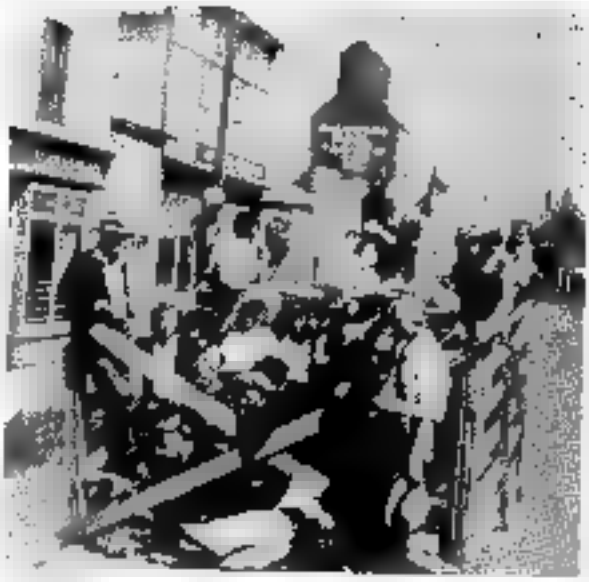
July, 1939

25¢ paid for red lights for silent policeman.

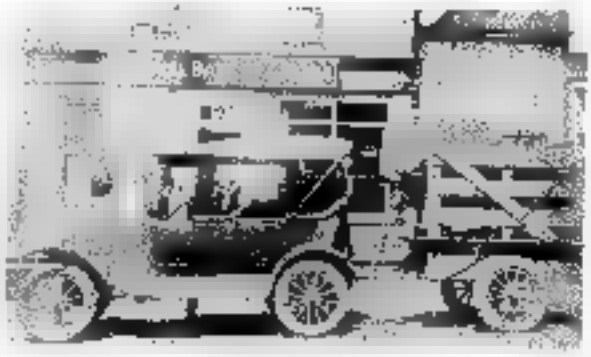
A town by-law was passed in Feb. 1947 which prohibits the depositing of ashes, dirt stones, or rubbish upon the streets or other public places within the village and compels the removal by party depositing same.

Up to the year 1954 cinders had been purchased from the CNR for the main streets then the CNR informed them there were no more available. Gradually gravel was put on the streets.

Maintaining the streets in Ruddell in the early years.



Young people loaded to go to Meeting Lake.



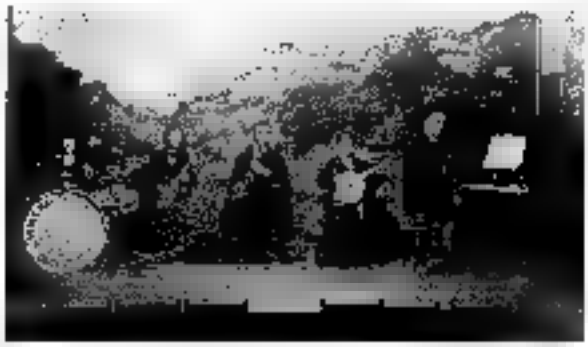
Imperial Bank of Canada, Ruddell.

During the years the town fire engine has been kept up and in working order. This engine moved to different places during the winters such as the livery barn, back of the hall until in 1958 it came to a house of its own on mainstreet.

The Imperial Bank of Canada came to Ruddell in about 1915. It was housed in the building that was Charlie Robinsons Furniture Store.

In the early days before there was no proper hall, the school, the room over Robinson's store, the church or the Oddfellows Hall over the Old Pool Room was used for gatherings. The Hall was built and was opened Nov. 1, 1919. Charlie Johnson was Overseer, Charlie McKenzie and Rev. McPhedran councillors when the meeting accepted Charlie Robinson's tender for $1,465 for material for the building. In addition the tender of Dave Arnold in the amount of $700 for construction was accepted Council secretary at the time was E. Ferguson.

This hall was built with great participation from the people of Ruddell area. Dave Arnold was foreman



Medd's Orchestra played for many dances in Ruddell. Left to right — Joyce, Erma, Jack, Walter, and Nathan.

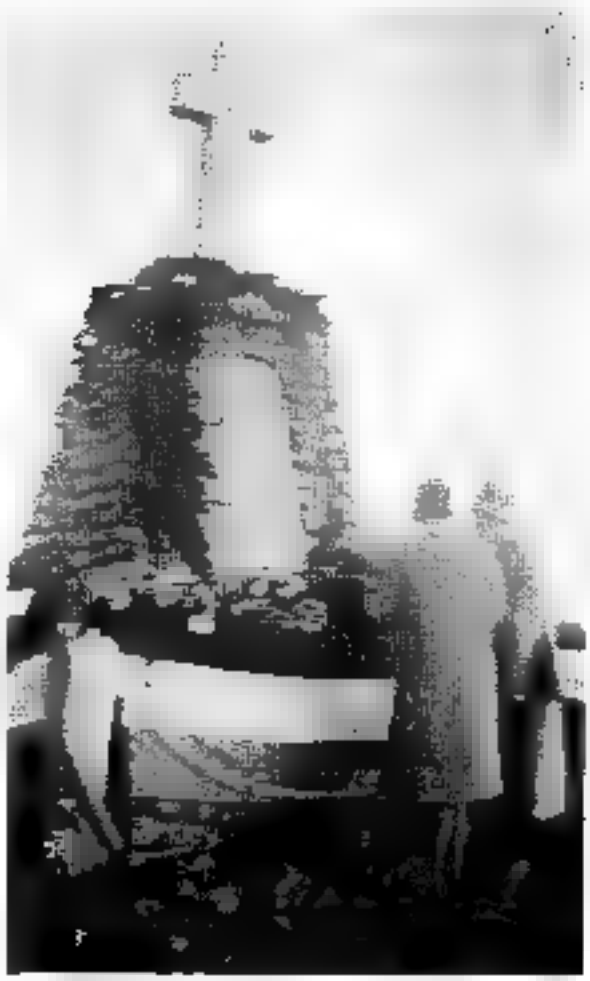
and ■ was assisted by Charlie Morrison. Others who helped were Jack Arnold, Little Jack Arnold, Miles Stalker, Peter Delh, Jack White, Warne Robinson, Ross McNeil, Bill Kennedy, Gid Blair, Charlie Morison, Graham Turnbull, Jack Campbell, Bill Geddie and many others.

This hall served our community well through the years. It saw many gatherings of all kinds. It was leveled by fire April 21, 1975. Thus leaving the town with no where to hold gatherings.

Ruddell had several bad fires. The Livery barn burned one Sun. night, and the small Grain Growers building. The bank was quite close and much hard fighting saved it, or the whole west side of the street would have gone up in smoke. Warden's store which had a residence in the back, Butchershop, McKenzies house near the Blacksmith shop and the Second Livery Barn. Nothing was saved.

Ruddell Militia — 1928. l. to r. — Sid Moore C.O., Vic Humphrey, Gordon Mitchell, Bill White, Jim Arnold, Jim Reikle, Lee Roche, Norman Martenson, Chuck White, Fred Thrower.

The cenotaph was erected in 1926. This was a memorial ■ those men who gave their lives in World War I. It was unveiled in Nov. 1926 by Mr. Dow. The band came down from North Battleford and an honour gaurd of Ruddell and Lilac district veterans were in attendance.



Mrs. Jack White and Mrs. McNeil ■ the day the cenotaph was unveiled. Nov., 1926.

It reads:

1914-1918

THEIR NAME LIVETH FOREVER MORE

E. Davey	C. Locker
F. Salter	C. Beechy
A. Miller	H. Mather
J. Beckett	C. Pringle
S. Jackson	H. Roberts
J. McMillan	H. Campbell
V. Grandboys	H. Bremner

1939-1945

W. H. Gillatt	J. E. Wright

Sgt. W. H. Gillatt and F/O J. E. Wright were added after World War 2. There are two trees planted at the gate of the Ruddell Cemetery. These trees were planted by the Lilac and Ruddell Service Club in Honor of Sgt. W. H. Gillatt and F/O J. E. Wright who were lost in action.

Ruddell was not all business. They had many clubs and organizations.

Decoration Day — First part of Sept., 1928.

There was a baseball team from the early days of 1907. It has now turned to a soft ball team. One of the things they sponsored was the Ruddell Snow Festival in 1966 with the election of a Snow Queen and skidoo races for all ages. There was said to be close to a thousand people in attendance.

The Oddfellows Lodge with the spade work done by Jim Beckett began in 1914. They also had the Rebecca's at one time.

The Masonic Lodge with much of the organizing done by Arthur Bater and Geo Mabey.

The Ladies Aid which changed to the U.C.W. was active until the church was closed in 1966. They held a wild fowl supper on Oct. 5, 1967. It was said it was well attended.

Remembrance Day at the Cenotaph. l. to r. — Mrs. Dorothy Mallows, Levi Walden, Vi McIntyre, Mrs. Moore, Hannah Birse, Bob McIntyre, Lance Robinson, about 1968.

Ruddell had a Hockey club, Basketball club, (It was said the girls basketball team even defeated North Battleford.) and curling club. There also was a full sized tennis court across from the church.

The Homemakers came into being in 1947. The name has been changed to the Saskatchewan Women's Institute and there is still a branch in Ruddell.

The Ruddell Bucks Only Club is active in conservation and Preservation of our wildlife.

The Ruddell and District Branch No. 144 of the Canadian Legion was granted the Charter on Sept. 28, 1930. Twenty-one members signed the Charter. Seventeen members joined after World War 2. At one time there were between 30 and 40 members. The branch is still active with 4 members. They look after the grounds around the cenotaph and have a service by the cenotaph on Nov. 11.

There are still a few buildings left in Ruddell which were built in the early years. The homes of Wayne

Oddfellow's & Rebecca Parade, Ruddell.

Ruddell from the air, 1953.

Acaster and family, John and Hannah Birse, and Mr and Mrs. Patterson. Ernie Voegeli's shop which was the first home of Graham Turnbull and family. The old post office is all thats left of the McNeil's Hardware Store. Fred Wood's garage and shop was the Oddfellows hall.

People have come and gone during the years with hopes for the future. There may be few members but the community spirit is still alive. We are proud to say "WE ARE FROM RUDDELL".

Since the beginning of this account on Ruddell Jim Polgar, his wife Terry and son Dwayne have come from Winnipeg. They have built a new home and added a small store which is now open. Randy Woolsey (who is a clay sculptor) his wife Yoshimi (who does Batik) and their son Justin, are building a home and shop. Perhaps the boom of 1906 has began again.

Family Histories

David Angus Addley Family

(Submitted by Angus Addley)

David Angus Addley was born in 1882 in Lucknow, Ontario and died in 1960 in Saskatoon. He farmed in the Rabbit Lake Area of Saskatchewan before joining the services in 1916. He served with Royal Highlanders of Canada to June, 1919. While overseas his first major battle was Vimy Ridge. He married in 1919 and he and his wife, Jamesiina, settled in Fielding that year. They spent the first year east of Fielding before moving to their own farm one-half mile south of Fielding. Jamesiina was a "war bride" and was born in 1889 in Glasgow, Scotland and died in 1973 in Saskatoon.

They had a family of three daughters and one son. Jean was born at Fielding in 1920 with Dr. Scratch attending. Moira born at Fielding in 1922 — once again Dr. Scratch in attendance. Norma was born in 1924 at Radisson — attending physician was Dr. Whitemarsh. Angus was born in 1934 at Fielding. Dr. Scratch and Patricia McGrath, nurse, were in attendance. (Understood to be Pat's first baby.)

Jean married Harold Gerbrandt in Saskatoon in 1954. They have two sons, Gerald and Donald, of Saskatoon and one married daughter, Leslie Miller, of Edmonton.

Moira married Hans Prechtl of Fielding in 1942. They had two sons, Robert and Earl. Hans died in 1944. Moira married George Anderson in 1949. He adopted the two boys and they had one daughter, Diane. The family all reside in Saskatoon.

Norma married Murray Smith in 1945. They have one son, Robert Murray, and they reside in Saskatoon.

Angus moved to Loon Lake in 1953 and married Glenna Conlin in 1955. They have four sons Barry 18, Blayne 20, Graham 15, Cameron 10, and one daughter, Gleana Lynne 8.

The Wayne Addley Family

told by Reta (Parker) Addley

My earliest memories are of my first day at Grey School. What a thrill getting ready to go off to school with my sister Shirley! Grannie Parker cried that morning because the baby of the family was leaving for school! Whether the tears were real or just pretended to make me feel important, I don't know.

Reta's graduating class — 1957. From left to right — Murray Rogers, Velma Wiley, Reta Parker, Trudy Sloan, Billy Caruk.

There were very strict health rules at school, Shirley had informed me. You must have a clean handkerchief, clean teeth, hair neatly combed and clean fingernails. I would get a star if I passed inspection. I cleaned my teeth and fingernails several times before I was satisfied that they would get me the coveted star that first morning.

I remember one of my birthday suppers I didn't get to. Dad asked me to go for a ride with him in the afternoon and we stopped to visit Merle and Harvey Johnston. Dad of course loved to visit and was never in a hurry so we arrived home late for supper. Everyone else had eaten supper — even down to the birthday cake! I wanted to bawl — my birthday and they hadn't even waited for me!!

I had two dolls that I can remember. One was a rag doll with a plastic face. My brother Lloyd wanted to see how close he could get to the stove with it before the plastic would burn. Of course, he did get too close and burnt a hole in the plastic face. I did bawl that

time! The other Doll I remember was a very special one. Hazel Boyd gave it to me as a Christmas present the year my mother died. It was the kind of doll I had dreamed about and always wanted and I spent many happy hours playing with her. I named her Diana Millicent.

I spent the first eight of my school years at Grey School, then Dad, Shirley and I moved to Maymont so I took my high school in Maymont, graduating from Grade Twelve in 1957.

I went to work in Edmonton where I met and married Wayne Addley in 1961. We have three sons Darnell, David and Brian.

We often go to the lake for weekends and holidays. One weekend when the boys were quite small we took the tent and set it up beside the lake. During the night a terrible thunder storm came up. The wind pulled one of the tent pegs out. We were wondering what we should do when Wayne (without saying anything to me) decided he would back the car up to the tent and tie the rope to the bumper and that would hold the tent down, so he asked me for the keys. I said "Oh, Wayne you're not going to run away and leave the kids and me are you?" and I bawled again! It seems to me I did a lot of bawling in my early days. Being the youngest in a family of eight it was probably the best weapon I had.

Wayne comes from a very small family, only himself and his sister, so he was really floored when he married me and found out how many relatives he had inherited. However we all enjoy coming back to Maymont to visit my sisters, Gladys and Shirley, and their families and my brother, Leslie, and his family at Radisson. We have had many happy family "get-togethers" either down at Glenburn Park or at one of their homes.

Our boys attended the same school, Eastwood, as their father and grandfather. Three generations of Addleys have attended that school. Our boys grandfather, Mr. Alfred Addley, was one of the first students in the school when it opened in 1923. Mr. Addley and Wayne had two of the same teachers and Wayne and our boys had two of the same teachers. There is quite a history of Addleys in the Eastwood School as other Addley relations attended also. This year, however, Brian graduated and for the first time in many years, there will not be an Addley in that school.

Our oldest son Darnell, graduated from high school this year and is enrolled in a Civil Engineering class at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology. David is in his last year at W. H. Wagner, a trade school and Brian graduated this year into Senior High School.

The Will Agar Family

told by Agnes Bobby (Agar) MacKay

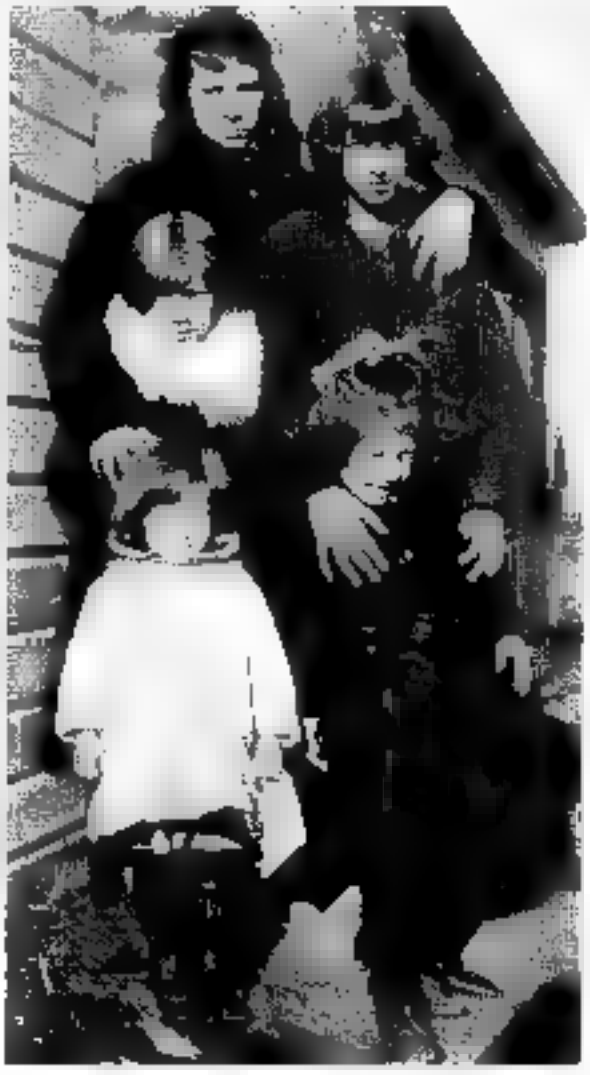
Caroline Mogk was born December 24th, 1878 at Bornholm, Ontario, and received her Public School education in the Township of Logan, Perth County. At

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Agar — wedding picture — April 3rd, 1902.

the age of 16 years, she worked out for her living as she came from a large family and was not needed at home. She says: "in those days everyone with any sense of responsibility worked hard . . . not only for eight hours a day but 16 hours or more." When she was 21 she left for Manitoba because she thought the wages were better there but found to her disappointment that it was a poor year so she did not profit by her move. However, while working at Gotsevain, she met William Agar who was hauling wood in weather that was mostly 40 degrees below zero . . . 16 miles and for the large sum of $2.25 per load. Will Agar was also born in Ontario at Bluevale where his parents had a farm. They both died while he was quite young and as soon as he was old enough to get out on his own, he

went to Manitoba where he had two older brothers and a sister.

Will and Carrie married on April 2, 1902 and farmed on a rented farm for two years before moving to take up homesteading in Saskatchewan in 1904. They had a daughter Lenora, born in February, 1903. Will's brother, Tom Agar had staked the homestead claims 25 miles east of North Battleford. Since there was no railroad through as far as Battleford, their freight was only shipped as far as Saskatoon which had a population of about 200 persons at that time. They lived with Tom in a [illegible] by 12 foot sod cabin but as soon as they were able to obtain lumber, they built a 12 by 12 foot bedroom with a cellar under to store vegetables. Although people were friendly and took turns entertaining with dances and good food, Tom found the Prairie country pretty lonely and sold his homestead to Will and Carrie then left but not before breaking the virgin soil by a plow pulled by a team of oxen. In 1905, a second daughter . . . Lena was born; and in 1906, they built their own house getting a car of lumber from Dauphin, Manitoba. The cost was only some 500 dollars for a house and stable. Carrie's brother Henry came from Ontario and built the main parts of both buildings.



Nora, Lena, Mabel, Bobby (Agnes) and Florence Agar, with Ted the Collie.

The Will Agar's farmed a section and a half of land for over 41 years in the same place. Carrie states: "It really was work but not too bad when you could hire help but when the Second World War came and we had to do alone at our age, IT was rough." [illegible], "we sold out" and came to British Columbia." Actually, they had good use of their daughters.

Life was not all work on the Agar farm and one of the daughters, Agnes or better known as Bobby who was born in 1917, looks back at her childhood on the Prairies with a great deal of pleasure. She recalls Dad buying their first radio in 1923; it was equipped with earphones and everyone took turns listening and that progressed to a loud speaker which sat on the player piano. This piano was a great novelty for visiting children who pumped and thumped the pedals for hours on end. Even before Florence, the youngest daughter was born in 1919, my parents had their own electric light plant which was run off wet batteries charged by a special motor in the cellar. This luxury was especially handy for the barn as Dad was always worried about fires caused by lanterns or smoking. Dad's large red barn was his pride and joy and built by a neighbour Stanley Richard.

The local one-room school . . . Bathgate . . . was on our property, and just a short run down the road, except when the Indians were travelling through to pick up their treaty money then in apprehension we walked the track. The railroad cut a piece off the corner of our land and when it was built, a curve out from Richard had [illegible] be constructed in order to preserve our farmyard which was in the surveyed path and Dad had to make some concessions to stop the railroad from being built cutting through between the house and the barn. By 1928, the school was moved to Lilac and re-named "Burnley." So Dad had a local blacksmith build a two-wheeled cart and we drove a pony the two and one half miles to school. [illegible] winter we drove a team of horses and a sleigh. Mother made us fur overcoats out of Dad's old ones . . . buffalo and racoon furs. We were glad to wear them over our own coats as it was often [illegible] degrees below zero, and we never thought of missing school. For a number of years, Florence and I took a cream can of drinking water to school everyday as the school had no well and for this effort, we received a paltry ten cents a day! This was usually spent, with some wise planning, on Christmas presents for the family and friends. After Bobby finished school at Lilac, Florence had [illegible] lug those heavy cans and lift them in and out of the cart all by herself.

Christmas on the Prairie was fun-time. It seemed as if we spent months preparing for the school concert. On the big night, usually the week proceeding Christmas, we would shed our long underwear and shivering a little donned some fairy costume or such. The school was packed with families and district residents. A gas lantern hung hissing from the ceiling and the kids would be fumbling around in the half-darkness behind the curtains trying to change costumes. Eventually, the concert over, in breezed Santa on a wave of cold air and the children all received a Japanese orange, candy and a present, courtesy of the School Board. Then off we went home, bundled under robes in the sleighbox, with the horses all frosty their steamy breath floating by under the bright moonlit sky. At home we had to have a tree, and Dad made a special effort to obtain one. Mother always baked rolled sugar cookies cut in the shapes of animals and birds and decorated with icing and colored candy bits; these we hung on the tree, with strings of popcorn, tinsel, and real little candles in holders that snapped onto the fir branches. The day before Christmas was Mother's birthday and it certainly must have been a strenuous day for her after preparing the turkey, and then staying up late to play Santa. Christmas week was visiting time with the neighbors . . . eating big turkey dinners at noon, playing cards and other games all afternoon while continuously eating . . . nuts, candy and apples. Then the men would go home and do the chores, coming back for more turkey at suppertime.

Springtime! It was great to go slushing around in the Spring thaw, then trying to bobsleigh if the water froze overnight in the railway ditches. Soon the first Prairie crocus came out and dozens of birds of all kinds made nests in the windbreak around the north and west sides of the farmyard. We hunted crows' eggs as there was a bounty on them and then prick a hole in each end of the egg and blow out the contents. There was also a bounty on crows' feet and gopher tails which one turned in to the Municipal Office and received a cent a piece. Florence and I and her friend, Nora Dow, toted a barrel of water on a stoneboat drawn by a horse. One of us poured the water down the gopher hole while the other stood with a forked stick to pin the gopher as his head popped out. Our bulldog was ready to grab the gopher by the neck and scrunch, that was it! The tail was pulled off and we were away to the next hole. We even tried snaring the little beasts which resulted in itchy tummies from gopher fleas.

When school was out at the end of June, we headed for the wild strawberry patches, mostly in the railway ditches, with hundreds of blackbirds chirping and dive-bombing from the telegraph lines overhead. The last day of school our entire family loaded up the car with lunch and pails and wash boilers and we were off to spend the day in the ravines along the Saskatchewan river to pick saskatoons and other berries that happened to be ripe at the time. After tiring of picking berries and eating too many, we rolled down the hillsides.

Summer holidays always included chores, such as trudging around a half-section of land poisoning gophers which had a nasty habit of eating a large portion of the crop around their mounds; one carried a gallon-can of poisoned oats in one hand and put a spoonful of the mixture down each hole. It was a job thoroughly detested. Haying was another major task, with memories of jolting around the "big slough" on a hayrake, driving a pair of prancing horses nearly crazy from horseflies which literally covered their chests and the necessity of keeping the windrows straight so that the hayloader could pick up the hay. The loader was attached behind the rack and it was no easy feat driving the rough ground, keeping straight, turning corners without catching a slat on the rack and all the while staying out of the way of Dad's pitchfork. The hay was loaded on three slings usually, the load being divided in such portions so as not to overload and cause the sling to break. These were taken to the barn and unloaded by the use of a huge rope and pulleys. A team was needed at the rear of the barn to pull the rope up which lifted the slings of hay up the front of the barn and when they reached the loft, a person was required to turn the sling to run down the track and trip the sling which spilled the hay at its destination. Sometimes all these things didn't work out just right but it was always a challenge. When hauling loads of hay home, we often saw Indians catching gophers, skinning and roasting them over a campfire. Summer wasn't all work. Dad liked to have fun too, and was a great sport. We always had time to visit fairs and sports' days. Richard was our nearest town which sported a yearly agricultural fair. We kids were encouraged to exhibit baking, needlework, and Bobby remembers leading a calf around the ring waiting to be judged. Florence recalls the runt spotted pig that Dad gave her, she fattened it and won second prize. My sister Mabel won prizes with her calf as well as a black eye from a horn bunt. Lena entered the riding competition and usually won first prize with her horse, Joker. But the Fair in Saskatoon was the highlight of the summer, getting up early, Mother making a big lunch of delicious smoked ham sandwiches (ham from our own smokehouse), then spending the whole day wandering around the barns, riding on the Midway, eating cotton candy and even staying for the grandstand performance and the fireworks spectacular afterwards, getting back home after midnight. Then Mother milked her cows, sometimes as many as five. Most summers we spent a week or more at the Lake camping out as Brownies or Girl Guides (Lena was the Guide Captain for quite a few years) but the time spent was hardly enough to learn to swim well.

August and September were the harvest months and it was fun to ride on the binder around a big field of golden grain after taking lunch to the field for Dad.

The four-horse team was changed every three hours and on a good day, barring no break-downs, Dad was able to cut about 35 acres. As soon as we were old enough, the fun was over and we had to pull the sheaves in from the outside of the field to make it easier for the hired men to stook. Later, we had to stook too and the stubble scratched our shins and wrists while the stooks fell over as fast as we set them up until we acquired the knack. Then it was threshing time, up in the early dawn and out after dark, as we took our turn hauling grain with our own team and wagon to look after. Sometime we drove four miles to Richard to the grain elevators or unloaded the grain into a grainloader to fill the granaries in home or box-cars on a railway siding. However it was a good excuse to miss a few weeks of school and be outside in the beautiful Fall sunshine before the long winter descended.

Florence's recollections are of her pony and her friend, Nora and the fun we had racing our horses across the fields, rounding up cattle, visiting childless neighbors to cheer them up. There were school card-parties and dancing until the small hours of the morning; the Sunday afternoon baseball games and taking the fellows home for Mother's delicious suppers; and I like to think of the rides to church by sleigh, wagon in the early Spring and the car in the Summer where we met our friends at the little Anglican church in Lilac. If I shut my eyes, I can still see Mrs. Mabey playing the organ with the sun shining on her pleasant face as she led the singing as well. There were so many pleasant memories of those good old days when we were young. Mother and Dad never seemed to grow old . . . there they were always willing to help you and hoping that you would always be willing to help them.

Just in case anyone is interested, here's what became of the Agar family. In August of 1945 Mother and Dad sold their farm and most of their possessions. They packed up their personal belongings in the car and headed West to find a retirement home, thinking at that time of Vancouver Island. They stopped briefly at Nelson on the beautiful Kootenay Lake where Bobby was nursing at the time. Dad was all for buying an acreage with some fruit trees on the side of a mountain but Bobby realizing that it was in a heavy snowfall area talked him out of it. She took some time off and accompanied them westward, over the steep, curvy gravel road to Christina Lake where Dad tried fishing with no luck so the next morning found them proceeding over the dusty roads, down the steep, narrow winding side of Anarchist Mountain to Osoyoos, the most southern part of the Okanagan Valley. They arrived just in time to see, "Watermelon for sale" on a number of orchard signs. When Dad stopped to buy one, the orchardist loaded his car with free cukes and tomatoes. He had arrived to the land of "milk and honey," but continued northward up the Valley until they reached Penticton. Liking this spot, they rented a motel and bought a newspaper to see what homes were for sale and found only two. The house they bought was on Tennis Street near a children's playground and only four blocks from the shopping district, yet in a rather nice residential area. Bobby went back to her work but Florence arrived from Overseas service with the R.C.A.F. (WD) and waited for her discharge the end of December. Mother and Dad were lonesome but making new friends every day.

Early in the Spring of 1946, Bobby quit her job at Nelson and came to the Okanagan too. Dad bought a small orchard (5 acres) 12 miles north of Penticton in Garnet Valley. It sported a small house and had a creek running through the lower end. There were apple, pear, cherry and peach trees and Dad soon found that orcharding was a far cry from farming, requiring a good deal of handwork such as pruning, thinning, lifting ladders and packing the fruit. They kept their house in Penticton and drove the car to work, sometimes batching it at the orchard until the work was done, then they went home to town to rest up for the next trip. Finding the orchard unprofitable, they sold it and purchased properties in and past Westbank. Although neither properties were moneymakers, they kept Dad and Mother busy with canning and drying the fruit such as apricots and apples and was reminiscent of the times when they brought dried apples and maple syrup back to the Prairie from Ontario where they periodically visited relatives.

Florence and I decided we needed a rest in the spring of '48 from our nursing and steno jobs so we helped Dad with his orchard work and that is how we got involved in packing fruit in one of the Summerland packinghouses. Eating all the ripe peaches one desired was the best part of the job but packing them was an itchy experience. I made more money packing fruit than my previous job as nursing supervisor. Florence stayed with the packing job until the New Year after which she was employed by the Summerland Experimental Farm in the Plant Pathology Laboratory, but I left earlier as I had applied for a position with the Victorian Order of Nurses in Vancouver and they asked me to come right away. Later I joined a friend at a remote hospital in north-eastern Alberta and, in 1948, I returned to the Okanagan where I married Glen MacKay from Nelson; whereas, Florence married a Summerland Florist, Don McLachlan, and in the next nine years they produced five sons. Florence sometimes wondered what her Dad thought of all that male help while he struggled to farm with five daughters.

Periodically, Mother and Dad made trips back to Saskatchewan, Ontario and the Southern United States, spending time visiting friends and relatives. When at home in Penticton, they enjoyed the many Prairie visitors that shared their hospitality.

Mother and Dad celebrated their 50th Wedding An-

niversary with three daughters and families present. An Open House was arranged and many of their Penticton friends helped them celebrate. Dad, who was fond of gadgets, had ordered a large deep freezer made to order but was a little annoyed when he wasn't able to have it installed because of the busy anniversary preparations.

It was a sad day for dad when in his late seventies, the Motor Vehicle personnel decided that his eyesight wasn't good enough to drive a car and wouldn't re-new his driver's license. That didn't stop him from driving his tractor even though he had to commute to his property by bus unless Bill could get some one to take him. One day, he had an accident while cranking the tractor which lunged at him, breaking his ankle, several ribs and gashed his head. He thought he was a goner but in a couple of months he was up and walking, soon threw away his crutch and jumped on the bus to Brandon to visit an older brother who was dying. Unfortunately, time runs out even for hardy old-timers, and after spending a few winter months with a degenerative heart condition, Dad passed away at home on February 17th, 1961 at the age of 83.

Mother continued to live in Penticton and had her good friend Rosy Gale (nee Vowels) call on her most everyday to lend a helping hand or shop. Mother kept up her garden and visited at her daughters and was also able to take a few trips during the next ten years. Even at the age of 90, when she fractured her hip, she was determined not to be an invalid and was able to take long walks after several months.

Her daughter, Nora from the Prairies, came and resided with Mother periodically for a few years. And by 1971, because of ill health and failing eyesight, it was necessary for someone to live with her permanently as she had no desire to leave her home. Lena and Bill Carnahan sold their property in Princeton (Bill having recently retired from his job with the Dept. of Highways) and moved in to look after Mother until her death on June 7, 1972 at the age of 95 years. The headstone on her grave reads, "she gave us courage."

Happy Memories of the Agars

by Lena (Agar) Carnahan

One of my earliest memories, is going for a visit to Ontario in 1910, of sleigh riding down the driveway from the loft of the big barn, or the barrels of russet and snow apples in the cellar. Of my grown-up cousin offering me a pretty stick pin if I swallowed an oyster. Of Nora getting lost in Eaton's Store. Of me asking Mother what those little white animals were, and when she said, "Kids," I said, "They don't look like us."

When I was about nine, Dad and Mother planted fourteen rows of trees as a windbreak, and I had to ride the horse pulling the cultivator, three times up and down each row. When Phyllis Maisley came to the farm, she was allowed to do this, and I was given an even less agreeable job.

One year Inspector Magee's niece taught our school and boarded at our place. We must have got caught up on the work, for we all piled into the McLaughlin, including a nice old bachelor neighbour, and went to Meeting Lake on a Saturday. Dad and Mr. Carpenter caught some nice fish and Dad cooked them over an open fire. Never has anything tasted so good. We stayed overnight at a bachelors, and our dignified Miss Magee suggested we climb out the window and go for a walk in the moonlight.

In the meantime, Dad and I had many escapades such as hitching the stallion and another horse to a sleigh and before I had time to climb in, they took off, shearing a post off like a matchstick. Around and around they went, until I wondered if I should climb the windmill for safety. One day I was riding one of the broncs that Dad had bought. She had a habit of jumping ahead when I dismounted. Mother was coming out of the barn with a pail of milk, so I asked her to hold the reins. First thing I knew, the horse had jerked the reins out of Mother's hands and was running across the yard with me standing in one stirrup.

Another fond memory, is the time we came in from the field, and mother had set the table on the verandah, and we had the first new potatoes and new peas in cream sauce.

Then there was the time when Dad suggested we girls make a freezer of ice cream and mother made a layer cake, and we all spent a pleasant winter evening at Mr. Carpenters.

To show that I could enjoy things without food, I loved to ride across the prairie on my favorite saddle horse, when the perfume of wild wolf willows was in the air.

I must not forget the June of '08 when Dad, Mother and I and the three youngest went on a camping trip to Vancouver Island. The Essex seats let down to make a fairly comfortable bed, so Dad and Mother slept in it, while we girls had a new tent with a floor in it. This with a gasoline camp stove, was luxury camping in those days. My only worry was Dad would buy a place in B.C., and I would have to leave Saskatchewan. We had a good time, enjoying the fruit and the boat rides. Dad had planted Garnet wheat and we returned to a bumper crop of forty-eight bushels to the acre, which I had to help stook. Anyway Dad bought me a nice fur coat in the fall.

Mom was a good pal too. One time she saved up her cream cheques and took us all to see "Gone with the Wind". This was when our first little girl was about three years old. Afterward we had a nice picnic in the park — ripe tomatoes on good homemade bread.

The Agar Family

told by Nora Seale

When asked to give the history of the Agar family at Lilac, I asked my sisters to give their memories of the old farm as I had been away since the age of ten, going

■ school in Battleford, then teaching, then married when Florence was only four. Now my own early days:

Dad came west when I was 15 mos to please his brother Tom since they had been orphans from about eleven.

Dad believed in punctuality and organization. Sunday mornings we often went to the barn where he gave his team salt and an extra brushing. We soon got a white pinto pony "Lulu" who became part of the family and lived to 35 yrs.

He helped organize a beef ring with Alf Tyson, and Saturdays "Lulu", Lena and I delivered beef shares to Mrs. Welford, Bulmers, Tysons, Evans, Swans and Turner and Adams.

There were the prairie fires across the northern hills. In the spring the waters ran to the Big Slough — a marsh at least 4 miles long. The nights would throb with the sound of nesting waterfowl around it. In fall there was the clangour of wild fowl in their millions. We trod the buffalo paths and played in their grassy wallows and marvelled at the many huge skulls. Later Bathgate School closed ■ we drove to Roddell and became acquainted with burrowing owls, meadow larks and many others as well as the wild flowers: golden Arnica, Salmon pink spires of Hedysarum, grass ■ Parnassus. How rich we were! Then I left to attend school in North Battleford. Dad was a real pioneer. He loved the land, enjoying his animals and loving his fun as he laughed when Tom took a lantern and led the minister around about before bringing him home to stay the night.

Many were the travellers who "dropped the traces" to stay for rest and food and talk. Mother was a shining example of hospitality like all homesteaders. In her own words she wrote:

"We moved to Sask. in 1904 before the rail went through to N Battleford from Saskatoon. We freighted our settlers effects consisting of 4 horses, 1 cow, 2 pigs, 40 hens besides two boxes of salt pork and some necessities and 200 bus. of oats.

We joined with two other homesteader's families in Saskatoon who were going our way, camped on the way to Elbow of the North Sask. river. Next morning we ferried across the river and cut across the country sometimes double hitching through a slough.

One night it being very stormy we stopped at a settlers shack to get out of the rain. He came home and ordered us to "get our bloody traps out of there." So the weary wet men had to harness up again in the blizzard and came to another shack. Once more we unloaded and stayed there for a day and a half. We made ourselves as comfortable as possible wondering what the owner would say. When he returned home he welcomed them and apologized for the poor accommodation.

Next we came to Richard's Ranch. Tom's shack was only about 4 miles and he came to meet us. Our friends went on to Jackfish.

First to be done was ■ build a sod stable for the animals and fowl.

The mail came once a week via Old Battleford to Richard and neighbours took turns to get it on Saturday then it was relayed from there.

Toro, Will's brother had 3 oxen so we got 2 more to break 90 acres while Will did other jobs. Later he backset the breaking with his horses. We lived with him two years, boarding him for the rent.

There was no time to be lonely, plenty to keep one busy.

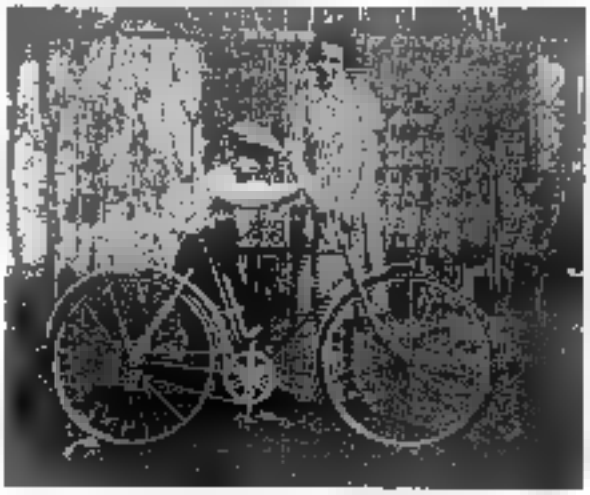
In the spring of 1906 we had our first prairie fire. Men ploughed with oxen before it reached the fire guard. The same year our second child was born, Lena. It being cold in the shack I went East for the winter to visit my parents. The next year we built our house and barn. Water was a big draw back. We dug some 20 shallow wells to no avail. We got a good drilled well in 1917 so we went into mixed farming.

Mabel was born ■ 1913 and grew and thrived like the rest of us. One of her memories is hooking up the big team and taking Mother to help start the Homemakers. Mabel, too was a school orphan and got her education in Old Battleford collegiate where she graduated winning the Medal for Proficiency. Hence she took normal training and taught Prolific and nearby schools for preminary notes! Depression had come!"

Les and Jack Allen Families

by Jack Allen

Dad was born ■ Northern Ontario of United Empire Loyalist stock in 1894. His mother died when he was small and when his father remarried and raised a second family, Dad was sent to Southern Saskatchewan with his old Granny to help her prove up a homestead. He never really re-established a connection with his family after that and is now hazy on his



Lois and Jack Allen.

brothers and half brothers. As a young man he moved to Moose Jaw, became a licensed mechanic and worked at that and as a driving instructor at an auto agency. In the early 1900's, he took a homestead at Valjean, Saskatchewan near Moose Jaw and entered a few years of independence and pleasure in being alone. He is remembered in that community as a very strong young bachelor, a super baseball player and a hero who nursed many through the 1918 flu epidemic.

It was during this time that he met Mother. She was Vida Blakely from Sintaluta, Saskatchewan, a young school teacher in the Secreton School. They married on New Year's Eve of 1924 and entered a period of great prosperity. Dad bought more land, had a lovely farm home built by John Blakely, my grampa, an Irish journeyman carpenter, got rid of the oxen, bought horses, started a cattle herd, had a daughter (my sister Lois) and built a new barn. By 1928 when I made the scene, Dad had a new 15-30 McCormick tractor and a brand new 1928 Chev with oilcloth top.

Then came the Dirty Thirties. Our farm continued to produce but the economic system fell apart and even in that rich land, we were going broke. By 1934 he left everything to be repossessed for taxes and moved us to Fielding (probably that choice was stimulated by my mother's sister Annie – Mrs. Charlie Roberts).

He bought a little Esso service station from Bert Brickwell and we moved into the "Brickwell House" in Fielding. It was an old hip-roofed structure with a galvanized tin porch set in a beautiful triangle of flowers and trees next to the service station. I remember the excitement of wooden sidewalks, the train coming in, my first friend, Chester Free, and playing in that lovely yard. Mother remembers leaving her new home and moving into that old wreck with its uneven floors and drafty doors – along with the occasional chimney fire from burning green poplar.

Dad set about earning our keep and worked so very hard. As well as selling gas, we sold binder twine and washing machines and battery radios. We charged up two-volt radio batteries and provided electric lights in the town hall. Our living was augmented by cows, and chickens and a huge garden. I remember the old Fielding pump crying out so it could be heard all over as one thrashed the handle to void a little trickle of water for a thirsty cow.

We shopped at Gunn's and Stott's and bought candy at Pop Chinamans. Dinty Garnet ran the poolroom and barber shop and Jim Streeter was the postman. Torrance Free and Phil Phillips ran the elevators and the days events was "tram time" where, in later years, George Fast regailed us with tremendous stories of his youth. We laughed at him and with him and he never told a story that ever hurt anyone or did any harm – a gentle and fine man.

I started school in 1933 and remember a few teachers names — Eileen Trieloven, Irene Reid and Kay McNaughton (can't remember her maiden name — Robertson). Sports and outdoors were our social events and in those years the Fielding rink over by the livery barn behind McNaughton's Garage, was lit by gas lanterns and then a Model T Ford engine whose cooling system was a stock tank of water (which was used after skating to do a hot flood on the rink). Hockey was a passion, Chez Miller, Alex Spence and Kevin McGrath equalled LaFleur to me. Chez Buell was a fancy skater equal to many professionals but never had the opportunity to do anything but work. School was good – a beautiful three-room building tended by Mr. and Mrs. Ned Smith. Some of my school chums were: Mac Scott, Don Stott, Chester Free, Chester Marshall, Wilfred Gehman, Grace, Edith, Edna and Lois and Lila Scott, Ron Smith, Harold Gelinas, Mary Downie, Janet Downie, Jean Downie, Lillian Neumeyer, Norma and Jean Addley, Warren Wager, Mary Garnet, Jim Garnet, Dwight and Lewis Cousins, Gilbert and Alec Holmes, Ron and Stuart Atchinson who lived at Charlie Neumeyers.

During summer holidays some of us boys would walk out to Ryans three and a half miles on the old highway and swim in their fresh dugout (temperature about 65 degrees F). Sometimes in school I had fights because so many of my relatives were teachers and my Uncle Will Drimmie was a school inspector with one short leg.

I remember the terror I felt when I heard of the Declaration of World War II. (Alec Gunn, got quite drunk that day and backed his little Ford truck into the ditch across from the store). I remember the news flash of the attack on Pearl Harbor and clearly recall Roosevelts' message about it. During those years (I was 11, 12 and 13) I worked for R. B. Harris along with Alison Harris cutting crops, hauling grain and late fall cultivating. I learned a great deal about hard work and sound business economics from these honest, hard-working folks with whom I formed an attachment that was warm and rich until they passed on. During the war I lived the romance of fighter and bomber aircraft and knew the performance and capability of everything that flew. During those days old Gramp Blakely said the Nazis would lose because of hurting God's chosen people — the Jew — and that the Jews would someday move back and live in Israel. I was embarrassed at these pronouncements because everyone who heard him thought he was a "Bible spouting old fool". On V.E. Day 1945, Chester Marshall and I went hunting in the "Jerry Hills" all day, and cooked a rabbit in a jam can without benefit of seasoning or shortening. That night we returned to a town celebration highlighted by a fireworks display saved for the occasion by L. W. Stott.

Adolescent years were spent at work, in school and around the Fielding United Church. The Church connection gave me access to the pretty girls in the Maymont Choir and we had some thrilling times dating out of town females. I remember a couple of very nice

young ladies, Eleanor Blacklock and Terry Rolfe. They were good friends, good dancers and lots of fun. Fielding had no bar and all our activities were without liquor. I don't even recall any temptation to take a drink prior to my twenties. Surely Fielding should get some applause for being such a wholesome place to grow up. I contemplated going into the ministry under Reverend Frank Myers in 1945-1946. This explains the sermonizing.

I graduated from XII in June 1947, entered Saskatoon Normal School that fall for the most broadening and pleasure-filled year of my life and emerged a teacher in June 1948. I taught a year at Dinsmore, Saskatchewan then moved to Dewberry, Alberta to take a class vacated by the marriage of Genevieve Bates of Maymont, (Mrs. Herb Websdale). I taught at Dewberry several years and in 1951 met and fell in love with Elaine Batty of Kitscoty, Alberta — a young teacher with a singularly beautiful singing voice. Elaine and I married in 1952 and that year I left the teaching profession for what I thought was a summer away from books before going back to University to finish off the few classes I needed for my B.A. and B. Ed., with an eye to going into Medicine. I became a salesman for Mutual Life and loved it — remaining in it for fifteen years and acquiring the degree of C.L.U.

Mother and Dad moved to Lloydminster in 1953 and became maintenance supervisor at Sidney Roofing. In 1954 his health failed and Mother went back teaching at Kitscoty. She continued until she retired in 1968. Dad's health improved and he worked eight more years at Mills Transport and the Jubilee Lodge in Lloydminster.

By then we were in Lloydminster and in 1955 our first daughter, Betty, was born, Brenda arrived in 1956, Shelly in 1958 and finally Barbara in 1962.

In 1967 I went into partnership in the Kentucky Fried Chicken business and after getting in found it was so busy that to successfully retire the debt, I would have to give up my insurance practice and devote full time to it. We lost the business to a fire in 1970 and after some severe family problems coupled with a prolonged illness for Elaine we bought out the interest of my friend and partner and in 1973 named the business Allen's Dairy Freez, Ltd.

In 1977 we built and opened a second store and continue in this demanding business which we love.

Betty is on our executive team.

Brenda is an R.N. in the Lloydminster Hospital and is now Mrs. Sheldon Servold.

Shelly worked for us for years and is now Mrs. Richard Lyon and has presented us with our first grandson, Robert Allen.

Barbara is nearly seventeen and finishing up Grade XII.

Mother and Dad are quite well and now live in Friendship Village here in Lloydminster.

The Lord had been gracious to us all. We have enjoyed health, happiness, friends and prosperity. We love our community.

I never forget my beginnings — my rich upbringing and the wonderful times and people that were at Fielding.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Alexander

Dave Alexander was born in Magheramorne, Ireland in October, 1884. His father was a farmer but Dave operated the donkey engine in a local salt mine. In 1911 he and his two buddies — (Tom Patterson and Jack English) decided to come to Canada with Jim Semple who had been on a visit to Ireland and was returning to his homestead at Lilac. Coming by steerage class on the S.S. Lake Champlain the boat fare was six and one-

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Alexander.

half pounds — (approximately $30) from Belfast to St. John, New Brunswick — an eleven day trip. The men landed in Ruddell the evening of March 17, 1911. Since there was no one to meet them, the four carried their hand luggage and walked the 5½ miles to the Jim Semple homestead north of Lilac by moonlight. The temperature was mild but the footing poor. On arrival at the homestead shack they roused Tom Caldwell who had been left in charge and he prepared them a meal of fried pork — pork which was cleverly sliced from a frozen chunk with a sharp axe.

Dave worked for Semple Bros. that summer and went to Edmonton for the winter where he worked in a bush camp until spring break-up. Here a badly cut foot sent him to hospital near the end of the logging season. On recovery, he went back to Lilac and worked for Mr. H. Welford in the early summer of 1912 and helped Mr. A. Tyson with custom breaking later on. He again went to Edmonton for the winter but this time worked in the railway roundhouse and continued with this work until the spring of 1915. He came back to Lilac with horses and machinery and bought the Hibbard homestead — S.E. 4-28-42-13 — where Pete and Laura Prescesky now live.

Dave batched there and later bought an adjoining quarter of land. He built the main part of the present house and later added to it as well as building the barn which is still in use.

In the winter of 1926-1927 he went to Ireland for a visit and went back again the next year returning in the spring of 1928 with an Irish wife, Mary. They lived happily here until 1945 when they sold the farm, had an auction sale, and returned to Ireland to retire. On May 29, 1958 Dave passed away and Mrs. Alexander lived only a few years longer.

Fred Anderson

submitted by the Anderson Family

Mr. Fred Anderson from Minnesota, arrived in Fielding, Sask. in 1903 seeking a new adventure in life and prospects for the future. In November of that year he went to North Battleford and filed for a homestead on section 30-41-11-West, along with Jim Shanks, George Lowrey and Dave McKay (always a good neighbour and friend). Fred, being affluent in several languages, found it easy to mingle in these surroundings, and along with many of the farmers, while proving up their homesteads, worked at building the grades on railroads. In later years, he also took contracts to put in similar roadbeds along the present sites of Juniata and Kinley. He also spent much time in digging wells, owning two of his own well digging outfits, powered by horses. He eventually sold one to Charlie Collins in Perdue, Sask. and the other to Downey Bros. of Fielding, Sask.

Looking back to those days of bald prairie and the breaking of same, and then farming this land with

Back row — Fred Anderson, Harry White, Harold Warcup. 2nd row — Eleanor Anderson holding baby Elmo. Bessie White holding baby Willie White, Mattie Warcup holding Harold, Grandpa Edward Streeter. 3rd row — Mabel Anderson, Eddie Anderson, Eleanor Warcup.

oxen and horses, one can imagine the love and care, that went into the hours, days and years of hard work.

The first house built on his new farm was a sod house. It burned down one night, when he was away playing the violin at one of the local dances. Another new house was built, which now sits at the farm of Chester Miller, having been moved off, when S. M. Miller bought the farm.

After eight years, having saved a fair portion of his earnings, Fred Anderson married Eleanor Ann Streeter at Radisson in 1911. Eleanor had come from Sussex, England in 1909 to work for the family of R. B. Harris of Fielding. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Anderson had four children, born at home with Dr. Scratch in attendance.

Later, her father, Edward Streeter, came from England and lived for many years with the family. (He is buried in Fielding cemetery.) Two sisters also came from England; Mattie Steeter (Mrs. Harold Warcup) and Bessie Streeter (Mrs. Barry White). A brother, Andrew Streeter, also came after serving in the forces. He married, and had one daughter — Iris (Mrs. Jim Clark) now living in Islington, Ontario. Mr. Streeter was postmaster in Fielding for many years before moving to B.C. Andrew passed away in Toronto, 1969. Mrs. Streeter is still living in Ontario.

We children well remember all the happy sing songs at our home with mother playing the organ, and dad his violin; also walking the two miles to Neepawa school, sometimes catching a ride with the Thompson children. Later we drove a horse and rubber-tired buggy, and in the winter, a horse and cutter. The old school burned down in 1920 and we attended school in the horse barn until a new school was built.

The teachers we remember were Mr. Almass, Miss Notting, and Miss Ballstrud. The highlight of the year was our annual Christmas concert, with everyone taking part. Candles and all placed on the tree. After the program, everyone took part in the fun and dancing with Fred Anderson often helping with the dance music by playing the violin. We remember one concert in Fielding community hall when the Christmas tree caught fire from the candles on the tree and the hall burned down. The hall was filled to capacity but with good management everyone got out safely.

Mr. and Mrs. Anderson and family left Fielding for Saskatoon in 1928. Mr. Anderson was then a foreman of Robin Hood Mills in Saskatoon when it was being built. He then bought a farm at Kinley, Sask. in 1930. He farmed at Kinley until his untimely death April 19, 1937. He was buried in Kinley cemetery.

Fred Anderson was a charter member of the Oddfellows Lodge — Fielding.

The farm was then taken over by his two sons, who farmed it until they sold it in 1977.

Mrs. Eleanor Norris (Anderson) died May ■, 1974 and was buried in Kinley cemetery.

The family of Fred and Eleanor (Nellie) Anderson are:

Edward — married Ruby Friend. Living in Perdue — retired. They have three children: James, married with two children — Claremont, California. Marion Sutton married with two children — Tisdale, Sask. Kenneth resides at Edmonton, Alta.

Mabel — married Theodore Vogelsang. Living in Perdue — retired. They have two children: Roger, married with three children — North Battleford. Darlene Swiderski, married with two children — Saskatoon.

Elmo — married Edna Sooster. Living in Kinley — retired. They have three children: Donna Jensen, Saskatoon. Gary — Swan Hills, Alta. Elaine Millard — Winterburn, Alta.

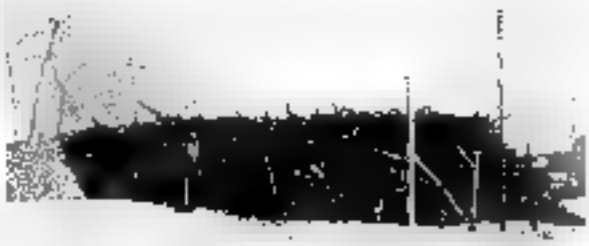
Velda Cowley (widow) — Alberta Beach, Alta. They have four children: Eleanor Taggart — three children — Edmonton, Alta. Eddie — married — three children — Dalmeny, Sask. Connie Toombs — two children — Grandora, Sask. Earl — Alberta Beach, Alta.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred J. Andrew

(by Mrs. H. Greenslade)

Alfred John Andrew was born on July 1, 1881 at Balmoral, Manitoba. His parents were William Ezra Andrew and Esther Rogers. He was brought up with six brothers and three sisters on a farm.

In early June 1909, Alfred along with his father and sister, Maria, and her husband, Robert Williams, and son, George, left Balmoral for the promised land. They shipped a carload of settlers effects consisting of six horses, a cow and some equipment; and Robert



Alfred and his big woodpile.

Williams' household effects by rail from Balmoral to Saskatoon. Alfred and Robert accompanied the household effects. William Andrew, Sr. and Maria and George went by passenger train arriving in Saskatoon on July First. It took three days with two wagon loads of their belongings to reach their homestead seventy-five miles northwest in Township 41, Range 12, W3.

Most of the trip was across lonely trackless prairie with only an occasional prairie trail. The first day they reached the elbow of the North Saskatchewan River (Borden) crossing by ferry. The ferry was operated by George and Andrew Boyd (later they moved and now are well-known as Boyd's Automobile Business in North Battleford.) In addition to a small monthly allowance paid by the Northwest Territorial Government the Boyds received ferry fees of twenty-five cents for each team and wagon, seventy-five cents for each horse and buggy, ten cents per saddle horse, and five cents for each person.

On the third day the Andrews arrived at seven o'clock in the evening at Robert Williams homestead on the N.E. 28-41-12 W3. First job was to put up a tent which served as their home until a building could be built, doing all their cooking by camp fire.

Alfred, Dorothy and Kay Andrew, June, 1955.

Alfred said the first sight of their new home made a deep impression on them. Nothing around but gently rolling prairie, sparkling with little sloughs filled with water embedded around with fringes of small willows. For company they had the dismal howl of the coyote. Gophers were in countless numbers popping in and out of the holes and also badgers with their handsome striped faces.

The first house built was on the Robert Williams' land. Then they built a house on the Williams Sr. homestead.

Alfred with a Verity 12 breaking plow set to breaking and broke six acres on each of the four homesteads. Alfred's N.E. 36-41-12 W3. Oliver's was on the N.W. quarter of the same section. Brother William's, Jr. S.E. 2-42-12 W3 and his dad's S.E. 4 in the same township. Before winter came Robert and Alfred had hay to cut and stack for the oncoming winter. Alfred lived with the Williams the first winter as William Andrew Sr. returned to get the rest of the family to get them ready to return to Maymont next spring.

In the spring of 1904 Alfred was appointed as Ministrator Land Locator (this being to find the homesteads for the newcomers).

Alfred took great interest in hockey and was a player for the first hockey team established in Maymont.

In the summer of 1912 Alfred started ■ build a house on his homestead and in August 1912 he married Annie Kennedy of Ripley, Ontario. When she died on January 23, 1913, Alfred took her body back to Ripley, Ontario.

He farmed all his life with horses only. During the hunting season he and his buddies went north to Green Lake to hunt, for many years. Many of their families still have the prize deer and moose heads mounted. In fact Alfred's prize head was donated by his daughter to the museum in Saskatoon ■ memory of Alfred and all his hunting friends.

Alfred was a charter member ■ the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, and a director of the Maymont Rural Telephone Company. He served as director on both until his death.

■ October 15, 1924 Alfred married Dorothy Kate Barnecutt from England. From this marriage came one daughter, Josephine Kate (Kay). The family lived on the farm until Alfred became ill with arthritis and had to retire November 1943. They bought the Sam Slynsky house and moved into Maymont.

The farm was rented ■ George McIvor and family for a few years. Then Mr. and Mrs. Jim Steele and Lucille rented the farm until spring of 1961 when their daughter, Kay, and son-in-law, Harold Greenslade, took over the farm.

Dorothy and Alfred were born very community minded and loved to have friends and relatives come to visit. They both served on the Red Cross Committees during World War II. They both worked hard for the Memorial Hall — Alfred as director and Dorothy on quilting and kitchen committees. Dorothy was a member of the All Saints Anglican Church and W.A.; later known as A.C.W. member. Since coming to Maymont, she played the organ for over twenty-three years until her death and was also a member of the Homemaker's from 1944 ■ her death in 1967. Alfred was a member of the United Church. Alfred had an interest in all aspects of Maymont area history and being ministrator for land locator had the first map of the first homesteaders which is now in the hands of Kay.

After moving to Maymont interest went to vegetable gardening and wood cutting always keeping a two-year supply ahead.

Their daughter Kay married Harold Greenslade September 23, 1950.

January 1, 1963 Alfred passed away suddenly at his home. Dorothy passed away May 22, 1967 in Borden Hospital after a long illness with cancer.

The Billy Andrew Family

by daughter Evelyn Sloan

When my grandfather, William Andrew, married my grandmother, he brought five children from his first marriage and grandmother brought her son, Ransom Rogers. Grandpa's five children were Ernie, Byron, Edna Fines, Maria (Williams) and Annie (Hawking). They moved from Ontario to Balmoral, Manitoba where my father, Billy, was born in 1890. Other children born to this marriage were Alfred, Oliver, Mamie and Lew. Eventually, all lived in the Maymont area for many years with the exception of Byron and Edna. In 1904 the family sold out at Balmoral and shipped horses, cattle, and pigs, along with machinery to the closest railway centre of Saskatoon. Grandpa, Alfred, and Maria's husband, Bob Williams, came the previous year and hauled lumber for Grandpa's house which stands today on land owned by Harold and Ken Means.

Other members of the family who came when my

Billy and Carrie Andrew on their 40th wedding anniversary, 1952.

Dad did were: Uncle Ransom Rogers and his wife Rachel with their children, Oliver, Elmer, Emmerson, and Esther. Grandmother Andrew, Uncle Lew, Uncle Oliver, Aunt Marmie and Aunt Annie.

I have listened to the stories of those years and I think there were few hardships that could not be conquered. It seems the depression of the thirties was much harder for all to bear.

Back in 1904 they had to haul all supplies from Saskatoon. Both women and men must have planned their needs very carefully. Later, Great Bend became their Post Office. When Mr. E. Beam set up his general store in Maymont, Grandfather Andrew was the first Postmaster.

Dad's sister, Marmie, married Sam Miller and fourteen months later she died along with her newborn son.

In 1912, Dad married my mother, Caroline Campbell who came to Riddell in 1906. Her father, Sandy Campbell, left his career of sea captain in the Maritimes, and with his two sons came to Saskatchewan in 1904 to prepare a home for the family. Mother's brothers were Ken, Jack and Hector and her sisters, Ollie (Skinner), Belle (McPherson), and Blanche (Brown). Her half-sister, Dora Foster and brother, George Reid, came later.

My parents lived on S.E.¼ 2-42-12 and our family was Russell, John, Earl, myself, Hector, Elmer, Lew and Danny. Family life back then was very different to now-a-days. We had no T.V., and no radio till we were almost grown. We had no power, or water in the house. Any fun we had — and it was lots — had to be homemade, like our old stick horses. I imagine Hector and I rode thousands of miles on them. We stole oatmeal and brown sugar for them to eat. Usually they didn't clean it up good enough so we had to help! Memories I treasure are the winter nights around the old wood heater where we listened to Dad and Mother tell stories of that other day when they were young. Some of those stories were doozies and me thinks my Dad had more fun than Mom and all us kids put together!

Dad always did two things before turning in for the night. He picked out some dry wood and with his jack knife made a heap of shavings in no time flat and crumpled a piece of newspaper beside the pile in readiness for a quick morning fire. Then he and Uncle Alfred talked on the phone. I don't ever remember him saying, "Goodbye"; he always said "Goodnight Alfred". A neighbour who was on our old line two said they always listened in and they called it the "Bedtime Story".

Before Dad was married, he worked in the winters for Jim Reid butchering beef. Jim shipped the frozen dressed carcasses to Ironside Co. in Winnipeg. They did many hundreds of them — a far cry from the way beef is handled now!

Dad worked the year of 1907 for Bill Parker on his road gang; later had his own crew for many years. This picture was part of his gang in 1909 at Petrofka. He had a sleep tent and a huge round cook tent. In later years, Dad worked on P.F.A. work.

In summer holidays we always spent some time at Meeting Lake. We left the older boys at home to do the chores. There were two years Dad couldn't afford to run his old Model T so after much grouching from us kids we made ready to go by team and wagon. Dad rigged up a dandy wild west covered wagon and we drove the fifty miles, camping the first night at the Belgium Flats by the creek and then reached the Aumacks' Resort by dinner time. One year my cousin Maude came with us and another time Cory Johnston came along. We had wonderful times. In those years the Boy Scouts had a special camp site there, and everyone at the resort gathered around their bonfire in the evening to sing songs. I shall never forget Mrs. Bert Langley making a wash boiler full of the best cocoa ever and as she stirred it she sang, "There's One More River To Cross". Good things always end and so did holidays and back to school we'd have to go.

Schools back then were not like now. Our Keystone School had only one room so we learned alot we shouldn't have and missed some that we should have learned. Genevieve Bates, Muriel Brehon and I started the same day and we were always together until we finished Grade Nine. Others came and went in our grade for a few years but we three always stayed and I have many good memories of our friendship in those days. We were three scared country kids when we had to go to Maymont to write Grade Eight exams. I think it was a wonderful thing when, starting the next year, they let country pupils write at their own school.

One day at recess during a game of Steal Sticks, Winnie Chestney and I got in a dispute and I came out second best, minus couch hair and a hunk of hide. Winnie and I were always good friends after that because if she yelled "jump!", I said, "how high?".

Mr. Drimmie was our school inspector. I was always scared of him; I'm sure he could have sliced any one of us in two with his nose, it was so thin. It seemed one of his legs was too short on one end and so he had a decided limp. One day he spent the morning with us. We were dismissed for dinner and ran to the porch for our dinner pails while Mr. Drimmie went to his car. Hector put his foot on his lard pail and limped up the aisle to his desk amid the laughter of us all. All at once a voice roared out and we all froze. Mr. Drimmie had followed Hector in after getting his own lunch from the car. We all thought he had gone home. My, what a howling and a growling took place! It almost spoiled our noon hour. School lunches were not so great then. In winter we fared pretty good, having beef or pork sandwiches and an apple, which froze on the way to school.

In summer we had mostly squirrel peanut butter sandwiches and a wish for an apple. (I still don't like peanut butter.) There was one thing in the 30's and 40's

concerning apples. In the fall a carload would come to town in bulk on the railway. Folks took containers and bought them for three cents a pound. We had our own shortening from our pork so pies were a cheap dessert and very yummy. As long as the apples lasted us Billy kids didn't fight about who had to go down cellar for potatoes!

To us kids our school concert was the highlight of the year. We tried to do our parts really well so Mom and Dad would "butter us up" on the ride home. When Santy came we loved it. One year Santy was Mrs. Billy Holmes and when she said, "I can't see a thing with this blowed mask on," we all knew who it was. Once when we were quite small and really figured Santy came from the North Pole, Hector and I were waiting for our candy and I noticed Santy had a stiff finger like Dad so I told Hector. He looked him over and said, "By gosh, he's got on Dad's button boots, too!" That nearly finished Dad's career at that job.

Rev. Hardy came from Speers to our school once a week and held Sunday School. Church services were also held every second Sunday at the school. Peggy Bowers and Mrs. Bates were the organists for us and Alf Ridley always took up the collection. When Rev. Hardy moved to Maymont in 1927, Rev. Ambler carried on till 1931.

One evening the Ambler family had supper at our house. The oldest boy fell in love with a little pup we had. His Dad said he could not take it home; he cried a little, but the Reverend didn't soften. When they left for home the boy stepped down into the porch and the puppy fell out of his pant leg. It was a sad boy who went home with no pup.

About this time Ethelwyn Bean was the leader of the Brownie Pack in Maymont. Irene Barrett and I used to ride old Buck and Queen to the meetings. I was only five miles away but Irene had six and one half miles to ride. Many Saturdays Ethelwyn took a load of us by car to Frank Langleys farm for our meeting and a time of fun, followed by cocoa and cookies. Later, we joined the Girl Guides with Mrs. Wilmot as leader.

School dances in those days were a real social event. Men paid twenty-five cents admission and ladies all brought lunch. Along with lots of coffee no one went home hungry. The supper hour included a local "spur of the moment" concert — singing, reciting, and step dancing. Mr. and Mrs. George Hotler, Franky Miller, Billy and Kate Holmes supplied our music. They sounded much better than the rock and roll we have today.

In the 20's one day our school got a boost in attendance when eleven new kids walked to school. It must have been quite an experience for them. George Hotler had sold his farms to Pete and George Radekopp and Mr. Heibert. Katie Penner was one of those kids and she is the only one who lived in our district till she married and raised her family.

In school one day, Jack Bates and Colles Brehon were taking turns reading a play aloud, it may have been "As You Like it". The one who had Orlando's part didn't start quickly enough and Miss Langham yelled, "Orlando!" My brother Earl thought she said "Earl Andrew", jumped up and said, "What?" That noon hour wasn't much for him as he sat in his desk while the rest of us played.

I guess school days were not so bad if only I had not worn those awful long legged underwear and black wool ribbed stockings in the winter. We were 3¾ miles from school and ski pants weren't invented yet.

Dave McKays lived about ¼ mile from us. One year they had a pet owl and Stanley loved to tease it. We were outside one evening and heard Mrs. McKay yelling at Stanley. "Sonnies, if you don't quit making that howl "owl I'll give you something to 'owl about!"

When we were little on a certain date in July each summer many covered wagons filled with Indians came by on their way to the shrine at Duck Lake. They came from Red Pheasant and Stoney Reserves. They camped at night a mile east, which is where we live now. There was a well at the corner that the earliest homesteaders said was there when they came, maybe Indians dug it, I don't know. They came for two years after we lived here and after that they used cars and trucks so didn't camp here anymore. Many times the Gypsyies came. They always came to the house to beg some tea, potatoes or anything we would give them. Usually, they wished to trade horses and once we ended up with a bulky pinto gypsy horse we could have managed without.

Back in that other day we were plagued with peddlers of every kind. Some were pests and others had a special place in our memories. Bob Ray was our Watkins peddler and us kids always stood around with our tongues hanging out waiting for the package of gum he gave us after Mom bought her spices and flavors.

The one peddler who was great to have come was Bill Brown who sold for the Creamery Co. He often stayed at our house overnight. Obadiah, his old bay horse, looked as old as Bill's name sake. One night he asked Mother for a pan of water to wash his feet before he went to bed. We all watched the operation and I still believe Bill had the biggest toes in Saskatchewan. He was lots of fun and when we saw him coming we knew we'd get a treat even before he peddled his wares.

Mrs. Billy Holmes was a neighbour of ours. I loved to get her telling stories of true things and real people because she knew lots of them. After Billy died she went to work for Dick Gysel for a spell and Dick always told her she was out trying to catch a man. One day she was putting in the garden and dug up a leg. (Mr. Fry had lived there years before and he wore out many artificial legs and buried them.) She took it in and set it by the table and when Dick came in she said, "Well, Dick, I'm a-goin' to get that man yet, you see. I found a piece of him this morning!"

Dad had pneumonia one winter and was really sick. One day Tom Ferris drove Doc Scratch out to see Dad.

and while Doc was tending to him, Tom played with us kids. He said to Hector, "Is your Dad very sick?" Hec said, "He sure is!" Tom says, "Well, he's such a miserable mean old man I hope he dies." Hector was only five but I sure gave him hot tongue for a spell and the more he talked, the more Tom laughed so Hector tied a good licking on his shins by kicking them. Tom really enjoyed it, and years later at Lyman and Evelyn Reid's 50th anniversary celebration, he could still chuckle about it.

When Danny was three he and Dad were visiting Dr. Myers. Dad was asked how many sons he had and when he answered, "seven", Dr. Myers turned to Dan and asked, "So you're the seventh son. Well, it is very special if you were born with a vest on. Were you?" Dan didn't know what was meant and looked at his holey old sweater. He let out a swear and said, "No, just this old red 'fweater."

There were eight children in our family and unfortunately it is a fact that we never once ate a meal with the eight of us and Mom and Dad present. When Danny was born some of the brothers were living in other provinces as he was born twenty-four years after Russell. Then, during the war John, Hector and Elmer were overseas and so Mother really planned on the time they would get home and we'd all gather around the table for that fine dinner together. Fate decreed other wise and Elmer sleeps in Holland where "Age shall not weary him, nor the years condemn."

Hec and I live at Maymont. Earl and Edith in The Pas, Manitoba, Lew and Mae in Edmonton, Danny and Louise in Campbell River, B.C., Russell and Cathy at Shawnigan Lake near Victoria, and John and Nel in Los Angeles. Mom died in 1953 when she was 58. Dad died in 1961 at 81 years.

In the early thirties on a Saturday night in town I saw someone I felt for, and Ed Beaudoin was talking to him. At the first chance I got I asked Ed who he was. He laughed and said, "Why he's your neighbour to the south, only 2½ miles away." I wonder how come I had been north, east and west and never south? But by 1936 I had my directions straight and Ted and I were married on both our mothers' birthday. Weddings weren't so plush then as now. We were married at my home by Rev. Schnell. We had a buffet lunch, there were sixty friends and relatives there. We didn't go for a honeymoon; we drove home to a one room shack where we lived for two years. Money was very scarce and everyone was making do or using substitutes. My cousin Geordie Williams told us about coffee made from wheat. He called it "Sin and Misery". When I asked him why, he said it was a sin to call it coffee and it was misery to drink!

At threshing time one fall George Lowrey and Ted were watching a lad bring in a load of sheaves and George mentioned the small load. Ted said, "I think he's getting better", and George answered, "Yes, he's better, but he ain't well yet!"

In '38 we had two new experiences. Trudy, our first child was born and we moved to Joe Davidson's farm near the river. In 1941 we lost our second daughter when she was four days old. Laurie Currie and Clara lived a mile away on John Rolfe's farm, and Laurie offered to make a casket for her. He proved to be a wonderful friend, and I always thought of him in a special way after that.

We bought our first car that fall for $10 in good running order, tires and battery, but we couldn't afford a license or gas so Ted built us a dandy buggy and it sure beat the old wagon a long way.

In 1944 Sharon was born and Charlotte two years later, then Elmer, Leroy and Shelley. In 1946 we bought a half section a mile east of Dad's farm, where Workentins and Friesens lived. Later on we bought a 1928 Chev from Uncle Alfred Andrew. It was a dandy motor, but the wooden frame was starting to rot at the corners and the doors didn't always stay shut. One day, making a turn at Bean's store, it opened and Charlotte flew out. We drove it to church and an evangelist from Ontario just stared as we started unpacking it. There were five kids, then Ted and I. When we all got out he said, "My, what a wagon!" Shortly after that we got a newer model, but we used it till 1956.

Trudy and Dennis live in North Battleford as do Sharon and Bob, and Elmer and Marilyn. Leroy and Shirley are in Edmonton and Charlotte and Lawrence at Spruce Lake and Shelley and Roger at Turtleford. Years back, one thing I was always afraid of was the school teacher, both when I went to school and when the kids had teachers. Here I end up with five teachers, four of ours and a son-in-law. We have seventeen grandchildren so may get more teachers yet!

We spend a lot of our time now visiting among our family. On special occasions they all come home and we have singing and music like in the times past and it makes one glad to be a part of a big family.

I feel we are so very fortunate to live in this community of Maymont where neighbours are real friends, we can truly say they are the 'salt of the earth' and no other place could ever really be "Home Sweet Home!"

Ernest Edward Andrew Family History

told by Myrtle Clipperton

My Dad, Ernest Edward Andrew, was born in Huron County, Ontario, in 1874. He homesteaded in the Radisson area in 1902. Finding his land there was light and sandy, he sold his quarter section in 1910 and bought a half-section two miles east of Maymont. He lived there alone for seven years — some of which were good and some not but Dad worked hard and was fairly successful. If shack was not the epitome of cleanliness and comfort, it didn't worry Dad. He was content and the welcome mat was always out to anyone passing by to partake of food and lodging, such

as they were. Dad was rough but had a heart as big as all outdoors.

Dad had an old sow named Sue. When she got cold, she liked to get into the shack and lie near the stove and did so every time she could root the door open. One afternoon, Dad went to Maymont and stayed until quite late that night. In the meantime, Kate and Billy Holmes stopped at the shack and finding no one home, they put their horses in the barn and went in and made supper. There was only one bunk, so when it got late and Dad hadn't returned, they spread their bedroll on the floor and went to bed. Dad came home, happy, as he had spent some time in Bill Sowden's Bar. He staggered into the house reaching for a lantern; stumbling over Kate Holmes let out a roar, "Get the hell out of here, you damned old sow."

After things were straightened out with Dad on his feet and a lamp lit, he apologized to the big woman who was lying there, rubbing her backside and laughing her head off. They stayed with Dad a week until they bought land three miles north, where they lived for many years. Years later, when Kate used to tell about it, she'd say, "With the three of us, two big bulldogs and half the time a 400 pound sow, in that small shack, I could hardly move."

In 1914, came the war and Dad went off to enlist. However, he was told he was more valuable to his country, raising wheat and that he should go back to his farm. By this time, he had acquired more land and was raising quite a lot of grain.

In 1917, Dad rescued the lady who was to become my mother. By that I mean he probably saved her and her eight kids from starvation. Mom — Agnes (LaFreniere) Beaudoin — had come from Michigan in 1906. She and her husband had homesteaded near Hafford. He had bought, on time, a steam tractor and threshing separator, putting up his farm and practically everything he owned as security. When he drowned at a picnic in 1915, the land and all of the livestock and machinery were seized by the Machine Company. Mom was left with seven kids and another on the way, a collie dog and 35 cents in cash — also one milk cow which she held onto, brandishing her shot gun (all four foot eleven inches and ninety pounds of her) and dared them to take that as well.

Mom had indomitable courage in the face of hardship and was the second woman in Saskatchewan to file for her own homestead. Being the sole provider for seven kids, she was certainly eligible. She was able to get a pre-empted quarter with an old log house on it, badly in need of repair and with dirt floors. She and the kids chinked it up with manure and mud and moved in.

The following two years were ones of hard won survival for her and her children. She was forced to drag her own wood in out of the bush and live "off the land". She with the help of the older son, Isidore, snared and trapped rabbits, weasels and muskrats. The rabbits and muskrat were a source of food along with an occasional grouse which she was able to shoot. The hides were skinned out and stretched to sell for a few staples.

Dad took on an awful responsibility when he married her on April 10, 1917. No one can tell me he wasn't a hero and I am certain he never regretted it. He had built a couple more rooms onto his shack for his newly acquired family so after the wedding he loaded his bride, the eight kids and the collie dog onto the sleigh and set out to drive to the Maymont farm over roads which were not the best, due to the spring break-up.

Mom's children at this time ranged from Jean who was 14 to Ernest (Gug) who was born seven months after his father drowned. Jean (Campbell) now lives in Edmonton. Isidore (Wop) in Calgary, Edward, Agnes (Doolittle), Walter (Chinny) and Gug are at Maymont and Ida (Schmidt) lives near Rudsil. Louise died in 1918.

Three children from the second marriage are Maudie (Butler) in Saskatoon, Norman in Maple Ridge, B.C., and Myrtle (Clipperton) in Kamloops, B.C.

I grew up with nine older brothers and sisters. How could my childhood have been anything but happy. Besides that, I was surrounded by Aunts and Uncles. Four of Dad's brothers and his Father had taken homesteads in the Maymont area, while his sister, Maria lived just up the road.

Dad died in October 1941 and Mom in April, 1969.

Lewis O. Andrew — New Life Springs Forth

submitted by Lewis M. Andrew

It was 1930, the last snow banks were shrinking away, mud was everywhere and tiny crocuses poked their delicate flowers forth — a new season for all.

At the William Andrew house Caroline gave birth to a baby boy on April first. He was given the name Lewis Oliver, named after two of his uncles.

Many memories come to mind of my early childhood, of hot windy days when the sun was obscured by dust blowing and one year the army worms crawling everywhere — their destruction was uncomprehended by a small child, only the nuisance of them.

One day my uncle Alfred came to our place in his car. He said he had a job for me. On the way to his place the story unfolded of how his little girl, Kay, two years younger than I, could no longer play outside because their rooster would chase her. I was to wear an apron and her sunbonnet, play in the yard till the rooster came then use a switch that he had prepared and drive the rooster back to the barnyard. The ploy worked and soon the rooster came on the run but didn't stay long with me using the whip. As we reached the barnyard I turned back and so did the rooster. Round two was different as he would fly at me through the air. The whip was getting shorter and as his head got closer to me I got in a sound blow. There was boiled

chicken and dumplings that evening at Alfred Andrew's house. I never was sure if they were angry or not at the loss of the rooster.

Another big day in my life came early in September, 1936. Arriving at Keystone School riding bareback behind my brother, Elmer, and bouncing all the way. My seat was very sore. Whether I paid more attention to Miss King's teaching or to those two sore spots I don't quite remember. However one of my projects that day was to trace over a small A. This I did many times. This card was taken home and on arrival I asked if anyone wanted to see my 'ah'.

Our next teacher was Mr. Langley. It was during his term that King George visited Canada and many of us travelled with Mr. Langley by car to Fielding, then by train to Saskatoon to see our King and Queen. That was some day to remember.

One boy from Maymont, Jimmy McCleish, crawled on his hands and knees through people's legs arriving right in front of King George V and had an impromptu conversation with his Highness as well as smiles all around from the official party.

Each year at the end of the school year we had a joint picnic with Grey and Eatonia schools, races and a ball game were the order of the day. It seemed that Grey School always won the ball game even though Keystone and Eatonia joined forces due to small enrolments in our schools.

Ice cream was usually free to school children or sometimes if you won a race you were given a token for a cone. Many of my peers and I would watch who was scooping the ice cream because one lady would have made half as much go twice as far while all the others would give you a good big scoop rather than have it ■ soft soaking the cone and causing many spills and soiled clothes.

Like my father and his father before him the call to go west was strong in me so in 1948 I moved to Edmonton, Alberta where I still reside. I have returned for visits and for family weddings. Two of the trips were very sad. Those were when my mother and father passed away.

In 1962 I married Mae Jeannotte who was born in Cutknife, Saskatchewan and came to Edmonton in 1957. Our firstborn was Timothy on May 22, 1963. Cindy Lou followed on April tenth six years later.

I believe that for many people like myself, who were born in the Maymont District, they keep returning to be close to those dear hearts and friendly people.

History of Russell Wm. Andrew and Family

told by Russell Andrew

My father Wm. E. (Billie) Andrew was born in Manitoba in 1880. He came to Saskatchewan in 1904 and took up a homestead on the S.E.¼ 2, T42, W3rd. In 1912 he married Caroline McCurdy Campbell. I am the oldest of eight children. Seven are still living. My brother, Elmer, gave his life in the Second World War.

I went four miles to school using horse and buggy or sleigh. Some of my teachers were Miss Japp, Sophie Langham and Mrs. Christfield. I was eight when I started school but had ■ stay home to help with seeding and harvest, etc. many times. One year I did chores for Mrs. Percy Barrett and went to school from there. Over the years I worked for a number of different farmers — Sam Miller, Stan Barrett, Brehons, George Boller, John Rolf, Jack and Frank Langley, Alfred and Ernie Andrew (my uncles) and Jim Taylor

In 1936 Gladys (Nelson) Fast and Ruby (Rice) Sloan came to the district holding gospel services in different homes which resulted in the opening of the Foursquare Gospel Church Maymont. I gave my heart to the Lord which made a definite change in my way of life. In the fall of 1937 I left for Vancouver, British Columbia to attend the Foursquare Gospel Bible School and also to find work, returning to Maymont July 1940. I left again in February 1942 for Welland, Ontario where I married Catherine Gordon a girl I had met in Bible School. Our daughter, Margaret was born December 1943 and in 1945 we returned to Maymont as Pastors of the Foursquare Church. Our daughter, Rena, was born in Fielding in 1946 at Mrs. Garnett's, Dr. Scratch attending.

We again left in 1947 for B.C. returning in the spring of '49 ■ work for Malcolm McNaughton and live on their farm. Our son, Gordon, was born that July in North Battleford hospital. We made a detour to Edmonton and from 1951-1955 I worked for McNaughton and Langley's. We lived in the old McKay house a couple of winters. Gug Beaudoin took the girls to Keystone along with his son, Jim, and Darlene Wood. Spring and fall Cathy took them by horse or car, depending on the roads. And here Cathy has a story to tell.

"The roads were usually deep with snow when we moved onto the McNaughton farm in the spring. One spring we borrowed old Barney from Ted Sloan and old Nellie from Chonie Beaudoin. I had never had anything to do with horses. Russell would harness them but I had to hitch them up, which I didn't always get right. Barney would start off at a gallop but after a quarter of a mile you could hardly get him to walk. I have vivid memories of the horses going along very nicely and the next step going through the snow up to their shoulder, and the sleigh would tip to one side. Gordon and Rena would be hanging onto my coat crying but they weren't any more scared than I was."

Margaret and Rena both started school at Keystone. Margaret's first teacher was Anita McIvor and she named her daughter Anita. They also attended Maymont School for a couple of years, at which time we lived in the Langley building next to the poolroom.

In 1955 we again left to open the mission at Lively and then on ■ pastor churches in Ontario. When we returned to Maymont in 1965 we bought the old Gray house from Bob Gray. I went to work for Jim Ryan and Cathy filled in as pastor of the Foursquare Church for a couple of years with a lot of help from the young people of the church.

Gordon took Grades Eleven and Twelve at Maymont and was sent to Owen Sound, Ontario on the Student Exchange Program. He was also valedictorian on graduation.

Margaret married William Wasmuth. They have four children and live on a farm south of Battleford. Margaret and Rena were both given lovely community showers. Rena married Ralph Finch and lives in Invermere, B.C. Gordon married a Victoria girl, Linda Yeats. They now live in Victoria and have two daughters. Gordon works for Island Farms Dairy and they are also part owners of a marina in the Cowichan Bay area. Cathy and I live at Shawnigan Lake, B.C. at present.

Ross Arnold Story

When one thinks of the early settlers on the Canadian prairies, you often wonder what it was that motivated them and helped them to persevere and carry on. Perhaps there could have been some glamour and no doubt a lot of satisfaction in breaking and putting into production the virgin soil that had lain there since the Ice Age. But even so, when you look back and compare our standard of living with that of the homesteader you can't help but feel that we are deeply indebted to them! There had to be some feeling ■ accomplishment ■ make up for the loneliness and the privations of daily routine that each settler must have experienced and it is easy to understand the friendship and the loyalty that the homesteaders had for each other. There were seven with new homesteads that spent the winter of 1903 in the Ruddell District; John White, Sam Carperon, Ernie Whitlaw, Alfred Pegg, Charles Murison and Dave and John Arnold. I spent a number of years with very close contacts with three of these men and never once can I remember any harsh or vindictive comment directed toward any of the seven.

1909. Phil Myhre with oxen, John Arnold with horses. House is the first section of the Lyle Dean home.

1928. Left to right — David Arnold, Meda Arnold (nee Crowle, Mt. Albert, Ont.), James Arnold, Emma (Arnold) Stokes, Duncan Stokes, Mt. Albert, Ont. Seated — Jessie (Reynell) Arnold, Galt, Ont., John Arnold, Clara (Kester) Arnold, Zephyr, Ont., Lyall Arnold. (Photo taken by Ruddell B.A. Elevator house, near John Taylor's present house.)

Jack Arnold "A Good Hunt", 1912.

Thomas Arnold, my great-grandfather, came to Ontario in 1835 from the Baily Bay area in Monahan County, Ireland. My grandfather, also Thomas Arnold was born in Bottonville, Ontario in 1841. My father, James Roy Arnold, born in 1880 at Mount Albert, Ontario was the second youngest of a family of eight, four of whom spent some of their years in Ruddell. My mother was born Clara Mabel Kester at Zephyr, Ontario in 1895, one of a family of eight. An uncle, David Arnold, born in 1870 worked his early years in Mt. Albert and then went to Penn Yan in New York State where he worked several years for a farmer who owned a grape vineyard. From there he went to Sault Ste. Marie where he worked as a carpenter till 1901. In the spring of 1902 ■ was joined by his twenty year old brother, John, and they went west to Winnipeg where they worked in construction. Carpentry didn't appeal to the younger brother and he joined a schoolmate, Alfred Pegg in North Dakota. They worked the winter

on separate farms, going into the Ruddell District the following spring where they met Dave Arnold and the three of them filed on homesteads. John White and Sam Cameron were already located one and a half miles west of the townsite, Alfred Pegg took a quarter south and west of them. Dave Arnold a mile south of the townsite and John Arnold filed on land about four miles west of town but later transferred to what is now the Lyle Dean farm (Costa Lotta). Charles Murison took the homestead a mile west and south of John Arnold and Ernie Whitlaw — located one mile west of Alfred Pegg.

The Arnold brothers spent that winter in a sod house on the quarter south of Ruddell, taking turns with the other five men in walking to Battleford for mail and whatever provisions they could carry. I think it was the following winter the mail started coming to the Jim Megaffin home near Hallonville and this place soon became a central point for social and business activities. The third, brother, Will Arnold filed on the quarter west of his brother, John. This quarter corners that of Murisons and these two were very good friends. Will Arnold did not stay in the area for many years and moved to Opheim, Montana and made this his permanent home.

Breaking and getting land ready to crop must have been a slow and tedious job with the limited horse or oxen power available and I remember Uncle John was then boss on most farm operations and Dave would put his income from carpentry into the farm operation. They worked on this basis until about 1908.

My parents were married in Toronto in 1912 and spent their first year on a farm at Meadowvale near there. The next spring they came to Ruddell, living with my two uncles and working on the farm for about three years. During this time I came along and can still remember a few happenings while we lived there. Getting into the pig pen to try to sleep with them, picking up and trying to smoke any pipe that was left in reach, also the time when Uncle Dave had been hunting and they pulled the moose out of the sleigh box. I was terrified and it took a lot of persuading to get me out, from under the bed clothes and how I avoided that spot for days!

Our next move was to the Beverly farm west of Lilac where we were neighbors of the Collins family, our close friends ever since. By this time I was running away from home and my first visit to the Collins' was one of these trips. They knew I was A.W.O.L. and started me on the way home but I wanted to stay and play until it was either Albert or Ted started throwing sticks from the woodpile at me and finally persuaded me that I wasn't too welcome. I recall a couple of runaway trips to see my Uncle Dave when he was building the Harold Pain home for Mr. Dow; the first time he took me home after work but the second trip brought my father and a real good spanking seemed to take all the fun out of running away.

In the spring of 1919 we moved to the Bert Robinson farm one mile west of town and Dad farmed there for three years. My brother Lyall was born there in 1921 and I started school the same year. I had many misgivings about going to school and remember how glad we were that Walter and Ethel Whitlaw were close by and willing to take me. I rode with them most of the winter but would sometimes get a ride with Del Thrower as he drove past our house to and from school.

That fall the Grain Growers Building just south of the Imperial Bank burned down and in the spring we moved into town and my father took over the new Grain Growers operation. Miss Jessie Reynett was working there as secretary, having come from her home in Galt, Ontario in 1909 to visit her sister, Mrs. Bill Geddie and to recover from a serious illness. Some strong friendships developed and the climate seemed so agreeable that she decided not to return to Ontario. One of her closest and longest lasting friendships was with Edna Gibson (Robinson), another one with my teacher, Hazel Duncan (Leask), and we sometimes were couriers for notes that passed between them. She and my Uncle John were married in Saskatoon in 1923.

It was about this time that sport coverage from the U.S. started to be of interest to young and old alike. Radio was getting to be very popular and a lot of wintertime conversation centred around each set and how far away each owner had picked up stations the previous night or morning; it was quite common for more competitive owners to stay up till two or three A.M. trying to outdo each other!

The National Baseball League now had about six teams, maybe eight, and it was possible to know most of the players and their respective teams. Lawrence Collins was the local authority on sports and he could give you batting averages, league standings, how the hockey leagues were being developed and the latest on boxing, dominated those years by Jack Dempsey. We never called him Lawrence and he was known as "Lad" Collins, a name someone had thought appropriate because of his great knowledge of sports. He was teasing me one day and I flailed into him with both fists and boots and to his amusement at my futile efforts he said, "We should call this guy Dempsey". That name stayed with me all through school and, with some friends, on into adult years. We remember one occasion when I certainly didn't do justice to the name. One of my classmates and myself got into an altercation in the school cloakroom and I came out of the fight with two sore badly stretched ears and having to be rescued from the bottom of a wrestling match by some of the eager onlookers. They thought I was laughing and were afraid of me passing out from lack of breath as pulled off my adversary. Her name was Ruth! Another classmate all through school was Irene Collins and we used to love to annoy her. She sat ahead of me in school with hair long enough to reach the inkwell in the desk top, or you could drum on the desk top

or tap on the bottom of the mast if you could get your leg around the outside without getting caught. Irene stayed at our home one summer when her mother was in Rochester and it was so nice to have someone our own age to play with but I still continued to bedevil her. One day we had snared a good-sized gopher and all of a sudden had an idea. Took gopher and snare home in my jacket, got between Irene and the house, unwrapped the animal and started chasing her; if the gopher ran in her direction, fine, otherwise it was dragged by the snare. I suspect my mother heard the shrieks and came to her rescue!

The strap was used in the school in those days and it was quite a highlight when someone finally exasperated the teacher to the point where they 'got the strap.' A boy's reputation depended on whether or not he cried during the ordeal but the girls very seldom needed such severe punishment. I do remember once when several girls underwent the treatment. We used to have a swimming hole about half a mile from the school and we would swim there till the "swamp itch" drove us out. One noon hour some of the girls decided they had as much right to the pool as did the boys and went swimming. When it came time to dress and rush back to school the girls' modesty got the better of them and they stayed in the water till all the boys were gone. This made them late for school, in deep trouble with the teachers and told to report to the lady teacher in the junior room after school. Curiosity was high and several of us interested boys quietly gathered under the school windows to listen to the proceedings. The girls were each questioned and then strapped and we can still remember how we boys resented that treatment of the girls! We felt they were good sports and we sort of admired them for their venturesome activity. That lady teacher wasn't very popular and we did nothing to co-operate with her for a long time.

Grade Ten was as far as we could go in Ruddell so when we finished there in '29 we went to North Battleford Collegiate Institute. Bessie Coffin, Edna Tyler, Thelma Naylor, Ruth Robinson and myself went that year and we used a good rail service in come home for the weekends. My father had been buying grain for several years but when the financial crash came in 1929 the company closed the elevator and we were into the depression.

Ruddell had grown and prospered up to now and you would often find no parking room left on Main Street on a Saturday night. The depression changed all that and seemed to be the start of the decline for so many prairie towns. Little did a person realize the extent to which this decline would go or the number of people that would leave the prairie; some in the east but many to the Pacific Coast.

Dave Arnold and Meda Crowle were married in Mount Albert, Ontario in 1928 and had settled in Ruddell. Aunt Meda had been a schoolmate of my mother's in Zephyr, Ontario and she was readily accepted into the family and was very shortly involved in the community. We had started carpentering with Uncle Dave and income from this together with what we were able to make in farm work helped us through those lean years in the "dirty thirties". As the depression deepened the government set up relief camps for single men who could not find work but not many from rural areas were forced into them. The government started paying farmers who would keep help during the winter months, five dollars a month to the farmer and the same to the hired man but most farmers would give their share to hired help.

There were now a number of young people in the district, some unable to find work and staying with parents till some job came along. The Young People's Society was sponsored by the church and we had a good active group. The district organized the Ruddell Community Club which lasted for several years. Self-entertainment was the order of the day and there were a number of plays and evenings of entertainment put on by the two groups. Some of the talent was no doubt amateurish but we are sure that some of those plays and skits are more vivid in our memories than most of the professional entertainment we have since seen! The price of admission in some of those evenings, dance included was ten cents and bring your own lunch!

In 1931 Dave Arnold built on the farm two miles north of town and we became close neighbors and friends of the Peter Martynes family. They and some of their families had managed to escape the persecution in Russia and had come to Ruddell to join a brother, Bill, who had earlier come to the district.

Some time before building, Dave Arnold had taken down three-quarters of the two-storey McNeil Hardware Store and this lumber went into the buildings along with a carload of good fir lumber ordered directly from B.C. and costing about $800 F.O.B. Ruddell! We helped on these buildings, never suspecting that later on they would become our own home.

We spent the 1934 summer and winter in Shellbrook. Albert Collins had left Ruddell in 1928, on a forty-two year career with the Bank of Commerce. He was now in Shellbrook, involved with the local baseball club and made arrangements for me in join them; also with the local contractor to give me work carpentering. That winter we ran the curling rink, and then went home for a short visit in the spring.

Sickness prevented us from going back and I was under the care of Dr. Scratch. He made several trips to Ruddell, made arrangements for Kay Naylor, R.N. to help nurse and a number of later office calls and we never were able to get him to send us a bill. We had played with his sons, Ron and Pinky, on the Maymont ball team and when we finally did get a verbal bill I'm sure he was thinking of this more than of how much he would make that year. We are one of the many families who have fond memories of the ability and the compassion of Dr. John Scratch!

It was about 1936 that my parents and brother,

Lyall, were ■ leave Ruddell and work for Jack Jones at Denholm and eventually on to B.C. We spent the next two or three years doing what carpentry came available and working for the Morison family. Their home was close to both the railway and the highway and you could see the sad effects of the dry years and the depression. The summer trains would often carry many transients; and the highway many families with all their possessions on one or two wagons, sometimes leading one or two head of livestock as they moved from the south to the Peace River District. Some would stop for feed for the horses and cattle and Mrs. Morison gave many meals to strangers as they passed.

We went to Wiseton ■ the start of the 1939 ball season, did a lot of carpentry and were harvesting with Stan Nelson when word came that Uncle Dave had died. We went back to Ruddell and from then on we seemed ■ have stability and some objective in our enterprises. Aunt Meda suggested we run the farm on a share basis and keep a hired man so we could continue to do carpentry work. We did this for three years and in 1942 Aunt Meda and Gordon Husband of Harris were married and made Harris their home.

We bought the farm before they were married; a modest price, a verbal agreement, a small down payment and the balance whenever we had enough to make a payment. Mr. and Mrs. Dawson were with me for a couple ■ years and we started to see a lot of Marie Reisinger. She had been staying at the Harper home in Ruddell and a dance in the town hall had started us on our courtship! We still get a chuckle from a little incident that happened one night as I visited her at the Harper home. We were all having a snack around the kitchen table and teasingly I called her "Mary", she fired back "Don't you marry me"! This seemed to strike a fun note with all of us and Marie got a lot of teasing from Marjorie and her father!

Mr. Wrenshall married us on June ■, 1944 in our Ruddell Church, Marjorie Thrower was organist; Louise Thrower vocalist; and we still appreciate the lovely decorations and the flowers arranged by Chuck and Margaret White!

By this time most of the first homesteaders had retired. Mr. Cameron to the East; John White, Charles Morison, Ernest Whitlaw and John Arnold in Ruddell and Alfred Pegg in British Columbia.

My parents were well established in Vancouver, my father a painter for the B.C. Electric Company and ■ the fall of 1948 we made our first trip to the coast. Cliff and Rojean Custer moved onto the farm and ran it till we sold the following fall. Wartime shortages were still quite widespread, making it impossible for us to buy a car but we finally found a Ford ton truck at McNaughtons in Fielding. This was our vehicle for several trips to and from B.C. and later was ideal for the construction business. We sold ■ in 1973, still in good service! Nails were very scarce at the coast and my dad suggested we bring some on our first trip. We did this and the five kegs of nails helped me get work with a Vancouver contractor for all of that winter and until we were settled in Richmond in 1950.

We liked the coast and found many of our friends who had left Ruddell and settled in B.C.; Mrs. Collins, Albert and Susan, Ted, Irene and Kay; Fred and Mary Thrower; Dave and Thelma Jordan; Bob and Fern Orchard, Vic and Dag Humphrey; the Coffin family; the Alf Pegg's from Denholm. There were also those who had made the move in the 1920's; the Sherwoods, the Ryans, Mr. Herb Trimble and the Gibsons in Victoria! We still had many misgivings about pulling up roots and leaving the farm, family and friends but finally decided we would make the move! We sold the farm, with the exception of Uncle Dave's homestead, through an ad in the paper and had the Blacklock Bros. of Maymont handle our auction sale.

The coast was good to us, construction a good trade to follow and in about five years we had our own home at our present address. Before this we lived in a small duplex in what was to become the business centre of Richmond and we loved to share our tiny accommodations with those who would visit us: Marie's parents from North Battleford, our uncles and aunts, Gordon and Meda Husband from Harris and John and Jessie Arnold from Mt. Albert, Ontario. Once in our new home we had plenty of room but we did miss the fun of being jammed in the small duplex.

We stayed in construction till partial retirement in 1968 and full retirement about five years later. Our three adult children, David, Marilyn and Robert are all in the Vancouver area and they and our two grandchildren are often with us. We have done some travelling, mostly to visit friends on the prairie and have very much enjoyed having friends and relatives spend holidays with us.

James Arkley

by Lilah Brehon

James Arkley (1880-1928) was the first ■ his family to come west sometime before 1908. He took a homestead on the SW¼, Section 14, T42, R12, West of the third Meridian. For a time he lived in a shack on the west side of the quarter. After his marriage to Emma Pfienes in February, 1918 they built a two-storey frame house with two good-sized rooms on the ground floor. This was built on the south side of the quarter. They had three girls and a boy – Clara, Dorothy, Viola and Richard. Richard, unfortunately, died of a ruptured appendix at the age of seven. Clara nursed in both the Saskatchewan Hospital and Notre Dame Hospital in North Battleford until she contracted polio. During the war she fell in love with and married a sailor boy, Roy Armstrong. They now live in Prince Albert where Roy is a stoker at the Penitentiary. They have a daughter and two sons. Dorothy also worked as an attendant at the Saskatchewan Hospital and still

James and Emma Arkley.

lives in North Battleford. Her husband, Al Kroner, passed away in 1976. Viola graduated as a lab technician. She worked in Trail, B.C. and there married, David Waldie, a machinist with the Cominco Company in Trail.

The tale is told of Jimmie walking to Radisson where he became the proud owner of a new pair of boots. He wore his old patched and darned felt boots till he got a few miles from home. Then ■ traded footwear and left his old boots beside the trail. The next morning when he got up the old boots were on the doorstep. We're not sure he ever found out who knew him by his boots and played a trick on him.

In early days Jim had a team of oxen which were afraid of women. He would back the wagon or sleigh up to the door and the women would crawl in out of sight. One day he took his sister, Annie, to meet the members of a school board. She thought he had the team tied up and stood up too soon. Away went the team and wagon and Annie with it. Happily the lines became entangled in the wheels and brought the oxen to a halt.

Later, Jimmie graduated to owning a good driving team. His daughter, Dorothy, relates that Dr Scratch used to change horses there when he went ■ Speers and Hafford. On the return trip her mother would make him a meal and often he would sleep for a couple of hours.

Jim passed away with pneumonia just before Christmas, 1928. When Richard died and no son remained to inherit the farm it was rented and Emma and the three girls moved to a two-roomed house in North Battleford. Clara and Dorothy often returned to Maymont to spend several weeks each summer with their Aunt Annie and family. George and Lilah used to be sent to destroy the eggs of turkeys who were nesting late in the raspberries. Since they were afraid of the turkey hens Dorothy would have to act as decoy while George and Lilah rushed in and robbed some eggs. The latter two being cowards Dorothy often had to risk her safety two or three times. Those turkey hens got smarter each time too! Following Dr. Scratch's picnic, Dick, Lilah, and George all came down sick. Dr. Scratch began a check for typhoid fever and sent Clara and Dorothy home much to their chagrin — especially since the typhoid scare was a false alarm.

In her small home in North Battleford, Emma performed an outstanding feat ■ housekeeping by always having a place for everything and keeping a spotless house in such cramped conditions. In later years she was able to buy a nice two-bedroom home. She died of cancer in March, 1974.

Mrs. James Arkley
nee Annie Alicia Boomer

In 1905 Annie Alicia Arkley accompanied her youngest son west where they took up a homestead on S½ of Section 34-42-■-W3rd. The two-storey house was built on a hill with a wide view to the south reminiscent of their home at Leeds, Quebec. At the time Mrs. Arkley was 51 years of age when she left her three daughters in the East and became a western pioneer. Since she was one of a few women in the West ■ the time she was often called on to nurse the sick and serve as a midwife. Also she often did mending for her bachelor neighbors.

Mrs. James Arkley Sr.

One winter night when she became lost on the prairies she had presence of mind ■ burrow into a straw stack and thus survived.

Later she and her son, William, moved to the Spinney Hill District. For a time they lived in a sod house. Then they built a new two-storey house on a snug basement. The carpenters did a dandy job of finishing and no nailholes were apparent in the door and window casings.

Annie Arkley was a tiny lady four foot eight inches in height and weighed about one-hundred pounds. Even so, she could carry two five-gallon oil pails full of swill for the pigs. One day a bull, whom the children used to

tease on their way to school, probably mistaking her for one of its small tormentors, knocked her down and broke her arm. Someone was nearby and realizing something was wrong managed to save her. She stayed at her daughter Annie's home while her arm was mending. One day her granddaughter, Muriel, dropped an iron on her foot. Her grandmother reported that, "That woman dropped an iron on her foot, and she's down." Muriel was lying on the bed in the porch nursing her wounds.

Mrs. Arkley was quite vain about her tiny feet. Her granddaughters can remember her placing her foot alongside their big ones and boasting of her shoes, "Them's size twos." She said of their "whoopee" pants (jeans with a red pie-shaped piece set into the cuff). "Them's fine pants" but she clearly thought they were devil's apparel.

She died at the home of her youngest daughter, Annie, at the age of 85.

William Boomer Arkely (1887-1943)

William Boomer Arkley and his mother came west and lived together until his mother's death. He was a kind-hearted, mild-mannered person. He liked horses and had a large herd at the time of his death. In 1943, he had a heart attack at his home and died instantly. He was an honest man who enjoyed a joke and could see the fun in a situation. The homestead farm was rented until his death and then sold to the Wiley family. John Guzik bought the Spinney Hill farm.

Colles Brehon can remember going to Spinney Hill over the West ferry and visiting his Uncle Will and grandmother when they lived in their sod house. His niece Dorothy Arkley remembers driving from Maymont with her father in a buggy and staying overnight. Her grandmother made homemade icecream and she remembers it fondly. Croquinole was a game the Arkleys liked to play and they were sharks at it. Annie often told of them warning "Keep your seat! Keep your seat," when anyone gave the least hint of moving the board or themselves to better advantage when shooting. Will's sister, Mae Williams, who lives in Vermont, U.S.A., is 96 years old. She still loves a game of croquinole and is a strong adversary. Mae and Will were each other's favorites.

Billy Arkley — early 1900's.

Ron Atchison

Everytime I hear the town of Fielding mentioned a flood of warm memories rush through my mind. . .

The year was 1942. All available men were overseas fighting in the Second World War, so farm help was impossible to get. Because of this shortage Charlie Neumeyer came from Fielding into Saskatoon looking for some young boy to look after his sheep.

Ron Atchison — Rough Rider Football Star at Regina.

It was a hot dry afternoon at Lundy's Riding Stable where I spent all my spare time. Having been raised on a farm I had come to love animals. Well, in wandered Charlie looking for all the world like Edward G. Robinson. He asked if any of us boys would be interested in a summer job taking care of his sheep I was twelve years old at the time and I must admit it was not just taking care of his sheep but the thought of all that farm food that interested me. So when no one else spoke up I stepped forward. I asked where his farm was and he said halfway between Saskatoon and North Battleford at a town calling Fielding. After a hurried trip home to gather some extra clothes I announced that I was ready to go. Charlie looked a little dumbfounded, "Well how about your parents? Don't you think I should meet them?" "Oh, well." I explained, "I just have a mother and she will be glad to get rid of me for the summer!" But Charlie insisted that we see Mum. I was right though — she was so happy to see me get out of the city that she could not thank Charlie enough.

In the ensuing years Charlie became like a father to me. He was just the influence I so badly needed at that time. Living in a city with no father is no way for a boy to be raised. Charlie never drank, smoked or used

profanity. Even when I killed his best milk cow (I broke her neck trying to teach her to lead) — the worst he called me was a darn fool jackass.

I spent three months of that summer and four months of the next at Charlies. Then in 1942 I ran away from school, home, and the city and asked Charlie for a full time job. The next three years had to be the happiest of my youth. I loved the farm work but all week long I would look forward to Saturday night in Fielding. First all the young boys would gather around to watch Mac Scott and me wrestle, then we'd go to the Chinaman's Cafe for an ice cream and a soda pop. The whole evening would not cost more than fifty cents, unless of course I happened to meet Mary Garnet who I had a big crush on at the time. The two and a half mile horseback ride home to Charlie's was never long enough for me. I could have ridden for hours just thinking of all that had happened during my evening in town.

Sundays were a day of rest. All I had to do was milk seven cows, feed fifteen chickens and clean out the barn twice. Then I'd go to church with Mr. and Mrs. Iverson. They were our closest neighbours, very wonderful people, I just loved them both. Each week I would walk half a mile and meet them at the Fielding graveyard and they would drive me to town for the service at the United Church. The minister was the Reverend Frank Myers and Bill Brown was the Young People's Choir Leader. Poor Bill, I'm sure he'd have greater pleasure in hearing saws being sharpened than in listening to my singing voice.

We had many wonderful neighbours. One of the most interesting was Mrs. Stewart, who lived just north of Charlie's. Though she was well into her sixties she had the most beautiful face, her brown eyes so soft and loving. I heard many stories of the rodeos that she held on her farm and it was not hard to believe that cowboys came for miles just to look ■ her. How the years had changed her life! Now she was living with two old characters, Ralph and Jack. Ralph drove an old Essex truck and it never failed just fifteen minutes after every rain Ralph would come down the road slipping and sliding from one side to the other leaving ruts a foot deep in the mud. Charlie would just shake his head and say, "The darn fool jackass, why can't he wait until the roads dry up? Now no less than a team of horses can follow his track."

Other neighbours were Art Robb and Irene Beattie. They lived a little south west of us. Mrs. Beattie could tell the girls of today quite a bit about women's rights. She raised two kids, milked cows, shovelled manure and could outwork any two men in the fields.

Charlie's Mum and Dad have a very warm spot in my heart, ■ say nothing of Charlie's sister, Lillian. Her ravishing beauty and quick step on the dance floor left the boys looking like sick cows.

My years in Fielding were most rewarding. To mention them all is simply too much to do at one time. However, I would like to take this opportunity to say how much your friendship has meant to me through the years.

My wife, Monica, and our three children have heard about Fielding many times over.

Ron gave 'Riders 16 'fierce' years

by Don Lovegrove, Spectator Staff

Being selected to the Football Hall of Fame is a signal honor, but if Ron Atchison had his way he'd still be wearing a green and white uniform for the Saskatchewan Roughriders, not receiving a retiree's tribute.

"When I quit, they're going to have to carry me off the field," the 6-4, 240-pound tackle and middle guard declared in 1964 when asked about his retirement plans. He had just completed his 12th CFL season with the Roughriders and was 35 years of age.

"They just about had to," he says as he looks back. "I really enjoyed the game a lot."

Atchison went on to play the game for another four seasons before he was forced to the sidelines in 1968.

"They were wondering if I was going to die out there," he says.

"I had a talk with the coach (Eagle Keys). Or you could say the coach had a talk with me. A guy slows down and you're not the first one to notice — you're the last."

■, Ron Atchison hung up his number 41 jersey for the last time after ■ seasons of battling in the CFL trenches, not a record career for a CFL player, but a record for a lineman.

Junior career

The irony of the Atchison story is that he had to be cajoled into trying out with the Roughriders in 1952.

After a fine junior career with the Saskatoon Hilltops, Atchison had graduated at the close of the 1950 season.

"I'd never seen a pro game," he says. "I had no inclination that ■ make it as a pro. I sat out the 1951 season. I didn't think I had a hope."

But the Hilltops knew better. They finally convinced him to go to the Roughrider camp and an outstanding career began.

■ his fifth season, he was selected Western Conference All-star at middle guard. He repeated in 1960-61-62-63, and when the middle guard position disappeared, he was selected an all-star at defensive tackle in 1964.

Roughrider fans tendered Atchison and two other veteran linemen, Reggie Whitehouse and Bill Clarke, an honor night in 1963 and then speculation developed regarding his retirement. Atchison fooled them all by sticking around a few more years. It's just as well ■ did.

Saskatchewan was hardly a power in those days, but in 1966, Keys hit the right combination and Atchison got his first trip to the Grey Cup. He made no

mistake helping 'Riders to a 29-14 win over Ottawa Rough Riders at Vancouver. He was back in 1967, but this time Hamilton spoiled the trip by beating 'Riders 24-1 in Ottawa.

Defensive threat

While two-way players were still in vogue during his early pro career, Atchison reserved his talents for the defensive side of the game, a situation that may have cost him a few dollars in pay.

"One time, I went to see Ken Preston about a raise. 'But you only play one way,' Preston said. 'But I play it for 50 minutes,' I said. Those were the days before we had a good team."

Linemen are generally regarded as the unsung heroes of the game, but Atchison became a legend of his time, not just for his longevity, but also because of his adept use of his right forearm.

"There were a few times when I wore a cast on it. Once, just for an experiment," he says. "I had a sore arm and borrowed a cast from Martin Ruby. That's where controversy started. There were some complaints about it."

He always padded the forearm heavily and that only added to the controversy.

"Every time I hit a guy, it got built up a bit more."

The reputation of the Atchison forearm is such that some of his opponents feel that the cast be used occasionally should be enshrined in the Football Hall of Fame, too.

Upon his retirement, Atchison was given a job in promotion and advertising by the Saskatchewan government. He held that job for seven years, then returned to his original trade as a carpenter. He is now self-employed, buying old houses in Regina, refurbishing them and re-selling them.

But his first love was always football. He was described, during his 17-year career, as "fierce, aggressive and ruthless". But that was on the field. Off it, he was warm, friendly and articulate.

"I think anyone can play pro football," is his message to young Canadians aspiring to CFL careers. "It's a lot better than carrying a lunch pail."

Autobiography of Mr. and Mrs. Harold and Violet F. Baker

told by H. B. Baker

I was born in one of my grandfather's houses in 1894 amid humble surroundings in an English village half-hidden among the Hertfordshire Chiltern Hills.

This village was astride the line of penetration by the Danes north of the Thames River in territory once occupied by Queen Boadicea's Iceni tribe -- a tribe eventually conquered by the Romans. When the Romans left the Anglo-Saxons took over. These people were overthrown by the Normans in 1066.

All in their turn had left behind pottery, artifacts in stone, copper, bronze, iron and porcelain; and

Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Baker children and grandchildren.

earthworks and stone ruins as evidence of their periods of dominance. In these remains I became deeply interested.

However, during my childhood most of the countryside was owned by descendants of the barons and squires among whom William the Conqueror had divided the country and foreign financiers who had moved in. These aristocrats had, over the years increased the size of their estates by passing enclosure acts by which they robbed the common people of twelve million acres of common land. This left no land for those who wished to start farming on their own as I did.

By the time I was eighteen I had a good elementary education and had gained farming expertise from surrounding farms. Thus fortified and disgusted with the English class system I set sail for Winnipeg in 1912, two weeks after the Titanic went to the bottom.

In Manitoba and south-eastern Saskatchewan I learned to drive tandem teams, dig deep wells, adjust to the climate and prairie farm practices. By my second year in Saskatchewan I was herding cattle for a rancher on my own horse and had my own buggy and cow, and knew what it was to live in board shacks, log shacks and sod shacks.

In 1915 I filed on a homestead near a stretch of free range southeast of Battleford, built a shack and log barn near a sparkling creek on whose green banks on a summer eve the glowworms shed their mysterious light, and in the humid air the fireflies weaved in magic dances. Never before had I had such a measure of freedom and pleasure.

But the war did not end in six months as was predicted. And as I did not want my three brothers to fight my battles, I enlisted in a Battleford battalion and soon found myself in the hellish Ypres quagmire fighting to capture Passchendaele Ridge.

Following the armistice period of occupation in Germany I returned to the homestead. The adjacent land necessary to make my holdings an economic unit had been taken up, my log house had been taken down and made away with, on the supposition (so folks said) that I had been killed in action. So I moved to raw prairie on the north side of the river under the Soldier Settlement Board. On this land I have lived ever since.

Before I left for the war I had become engaged to ■ married on my hoped for return to a dark-eyed, dark-haired Manitoba maid. In December 1920 we were married in Prince Albert and this year - 1979 - we hope to celebrate our fifty-ninth wedding anniversary.

Except for the cooking utensils our furniture was used. The old iron stove I had bought for five dollars. Because the stand had been broken in my absence, we had it propped up on bricks.

Our first baby daughter died when a few days old. Later came boys Crawford and Woodsworth and daughter Iona.

Until 1929 fortune favored us. I was appointed to positions in farmers' and co-op movements. Then came the dirty thirties — high winds, drifting soil, grasshoppers and drought and depression. When the price of wheat dropped to nineteen cents a bushel our finances petered out.

In case I might ■ dead broke and need a different vocation, through home studies I gained my Grade 12 Diploma ■ 1942, and went on to University English and Philosophy

In 1931 I underwent an operation for a W.W. 1 abdominal injury. Three weeks after the operation the doctors found that they had operated while I had typhoid fever. In the meantime my wife had to undergo surgery. It took us two years to pay off the doctor and hospital bills. A heart block twenty years ago knocked me out for a year or two. So much for illness.

World War 11 was now on; the rains came, the dust storms ceased; the grasshoppers vanished, and I was on call as a member of The Saskatchewan Security Corps. After sixteen thousand soldier settlers of W.W. One had lost their farms while under contract to the Soldier Settlement Board I was elected president of the Soldier Settlers Association of Canada and in that capacity led several delegations ■ Ottawa on the veterans behalf. As well as many letters and historical articles to the press I have written the historical novel "Rebellious Hearts" based on facts which deals with the life of Britishers before they emigrated and after their arrival here in the gay nineties. I have also written "Homes for Heroes" — a history of the veteran's vicissitudes under The Soldier Settlement Board of Canada. As a community project I have for some years been local correspondent for The North Battleford News Optimist.

In 1925 I started beekeeping and growing alfalfa and sweet clover. Since then I have won top honours at all the major agricultural shows in Canada and thus over the years helped to establish the high quality of western Canadian honey both for home and export purposes. Restricted by my age I now keep a few hives as a hobby and to pollinate our fields of rape. On June 9, 1978 The Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists elected me an honorary life member for my outstanding work during the last sixty years for Saskatchewan and Canadian Agriculture. As a tribute of my sixty years work for Saskatchewan and Canadian agriculture, the R.M. 436 Council and Saskatchewan Highways Department named the seven-mile road, one mile west of Fielding, and south from Highway 18 (Yellowhead Route) the "Baker Road" and erected signs accordingly.

■ 1925, after our fields had begun to show the dangers of soil drifting, my wife and I planted field shelterbelts and windbreaks around our home, plantings of sharp-leafed willow, maples, Russian poplar, ash, laurel-leafed willow, caragana and Scotch pine. My wife led the horse on a one horse cultivator while I guided and held the handles.

With my wife's story I now continue, for without her help and devotion our undertaking here would not have been the success that it is.

My wife, Violet Rose Tolley, was born in the Portage la Prairie district in 1898. Her father, Thomas Tolley, arrived from England some years earlier. Her mother, Emily Elizabeth Hodson was the daughter of Mr. Charles Ernest Hodson, blacksmith and carriage builder at Portage la Prairie. Thomas Tolley homesteaded northwest of Bruno and later worked for the C.N.R. until his retirement. Not until Violet was eleven years old was a public school built in Bruno. Prior to that she attended school in the new Anglican church. Before the building of that church Anglican services were held in the Tolley farm house and the station house. I met Violet Tolley when we were teaching in the Fielding Anglican Sunday school. She agreed to marry me on my return from the war. Not until five years later did I consider myself well enough off to be married.

We lost our first baby daughter at ten days old. Later she presented me with two fine sons Crawford and Woodsworth, and a lovely daughter, Iona. All three worked on the farm while they were gaining their Grade Twelve Diploma. It was with their unstinted help that we made the last payment of $1338.19 — thirteen hundred and thirty-eight and 19/100 dollars to the Soldier Settlement Board of Canada to clear the mortgage on the N.W. 29-40-11-West 3rd Mer., Nov. 16th, 1944, and to have that Department return to me the title of my homestead which I had had to mortgage to them to receive a loan in 1920.

Since that time our sons have purchased land for themselves and farm ours and their own pretty much as a co-operative farm would be worked — four thousand acres more or less. Our cattle brand is the Lazy Box Bar.

One quarter section my son Woodsworth purchased contains the ruins of the Beckwith Lime Kiln which

was built before the railroad came through in 1905. The overgrown ruin of the once proud kiln is situated on the N.W ¼ 24-40-12 W 3rd. The kiln was the brainchild of A. L. Beckwith, an American who homesteaded the S.W.¼-30-40-11 W 3rd. Al, as he was called, was a good organizer. During the pioneer years 1911-13 he was sec-treasurer of the local school board which organized the building and funding of the school which was named after him. Our children received their elementary education there at Beckwith School.

With the assistance of other homesteaders A.L. dug a circular shaft seven feet in diameter and between twenty and thirty feet deep in a sidehill and a wide deep trench through the slope to the base of the shaft or flue. Local limestone rocks were piled into the flue and fired for several days and nights with local wood until the stones turned to lime. This lime and nearby sand was used to plaster log buildings inside and out. Arthur Davis's house — now owned by our son Woodsworth Baker — is an example of this construction. Al Beckwith sold out and with his ailing wife and two children returned to the U.S.A.

By way of another hobby I have built up over the years a collection of Indian artifacts and fossils.

Violet is 80 and myself at 86 still keep the home fires burning in the farmhouse we have worked so long and hard to build and furnish and in which we have lived happily together.

George Barling

Silverhill, Harstgreen, Etchingham, Sussex, England TN19 7QD

It is sixty years since I left Maymont, having just had my eighty-eighth birthday. I remember Mr. Alec Brehon and Mr. Chas. Brehon who I think were brothers. There was also a brother who was in the bank at Maymont who I think was killed in the 1914-1918 war. I flew out to Vancouver in 1970 and paid a visit to Maymont but found about ten folks who were children when I was there excepting Mr. Jack Miller. I met a Mr. Bates who I think was a son of Mr. Tom Bates who I think lived near Mr. Chas. Brehon.

I was a young bachelor out from England and not a

Maymont Grain Growers' Association, Ltd.
This is to Certify that George Barling
owner of one
Share of the Capital Stock of
Maymont Grain Growers' Association, Limited
In Witness Whereof
$25.00

George Barling Share Certificate.

single relative in the country and no roots there or I might have been able to contribute more. I have however a daughter living in New Westminster, B.C. married to Mr. Ed Northcott of a Maymont family.

I am enclosing herewith a share certificate but you may have one already, if not make what use of it you like.

Maymont Grain Growers Association Ltd.

In 1917 many farmers in the district were discussing amongst themselves the possibility of forming some form of Co-operative organization whereby bulk buying of various commodities could be undertaken. A meeting was called and attended by practically all the farmers from a wide area, and after much discussion it was decided to proceed with the formation of a company to be known as the Maymont Grain Growers Association Ltd. with an authorized capital of $10,000 of $25.00 subscription shares and an initial paid-up capital of $5.00 per share. Mr. W. E. Cook was appointed chairman of the Company and Mr. George Barling as secretary. If they could quote a price approximate with bulk prices it was decided in the first place to offer the business to the local tradesmen as the new Company was looked upon by some with concern. The very first transaction was for a carload of apples in barrels. Going by train to Saskatoon one day, the secretary was in conversation with Mr. Simmonds who at one time owned the land later owned by Mr. Thomas Sawyer, and talking to him about the aims of the association, he undertook to select and forward to Maymont a box carload of apples in barrels. It was necessary to contact shareholders immediately for orders and the demand outstripped the supply. Arrangements had to be made with the local bank manager (Mr. John Moffat) for funds to pay for the consignment as the account came attached to the Bill of Lading and had to be paid before the seal on the car could be broken. He was always very helpful in this respect. The very first order for a barrel came from Mr. F. T. McCorkle and the car was quickly emptied and the bank repaid. Subsequently there was no difficulty in getting a car released. As the association had no storage facilities cars had to be emptied within three days to prevent having to pay demurrage, although the Station Agent at that time would sometimes give a bit of extra time. All goods were delivered from the car to buyers.

The secretary who was farming on his own account found that he could no longer give the time required and had to give up his position in the association, which was now firmly established and handed it over to a new secretary but for some reason trading ceased.

Mrs. Evelyn Bates

told by Evelyn

Evelyn Plews was born in Baljennie and attended

Bob and Evelyn Bates' 25th wedding anniversary, Dec. 7, 1968. Bob, Evelyn and Evelyn's Mother, Mrs. Plews.

school there; then went to North Battleford for four years of high school and to Saskatoon for nine months of Normal School. Then armed with a First Class Certificate she taught school at Willowmoor for three years. She married Gordon Niven on November 10, 1931 and moved to Spinney Hill to farm during the depression. Peter, Tom and Guy were born at Baljennie at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Plews. In the spring of 1941, the family moved from the farm to help Mrs. Plews run the Post Office and store. Gordon died that fall, so they carried on alone, until December 7, 1943, when Evelyn married Bob Bates. Cleve was born the next year and in 1947 they moved to Saskatoon to start up a grocery store. They stayed for twelve years; then moved to Maymont. After a year or so, Evelyn went to Hair Dressing School at Vocational School in Saskatoon. She is still doing some hair in her home in Maymont. She is active in the Legion Auxiliary, A.C.W., and Quilters.

Cleve Bates

told by Evelyn Bates

Cleve Bates was born in Maymont but lived in Spinney Hill until the family moved to Saskatoon, when he was three years old. They moved back to Maymont when he was fifteen, so he finished his high school there. He played hockey for the Beaver Bruins in North Battleford and for Maymont Settlers for several years. He was a pitcher for the fastball team, until he hurt his shoulder playing hockey, then he was in right field. He went to the Yukon to the Asbestos mines in 1969.

Jack Bates Family

Jack Bates married Esther Spence in the Fielding District in October, 1938. They remained on the farm at Maymont and had a family of four daughters and one son.

Jack Bates family. L to r. — Yvonne, Don, Margaret. Seated — Jean, Esther and Jack, Twila.

Jean, the eldest, is married to Bill Perkins and they live at Codette, Saskatchewan. Jean is a nurse in a clinic at Nipawin. They have three girls, Joan, Sandra, and Janice.

The rest of the family presently resides in Saskatoon. Twila, a former teacher, is married to Sol Baerg of Saskatoon and they have one daughter, Tasha, and three sons: Robin, Ryan, and Jason.

Yvonne, who teaches in Saskatoon, is married to Barny Combres, formerly of Richard. They have two girls: Deena and Karla.

Margaret works at the College of Education.

Don, who is a teacher, is married to Wendy McEwen, formerly of Quill Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Bates

told by N. Robert Bates

Thomas B. Bates was born in County Carlow, Ireland. He enlisted in the South African War. After the war he returned to Ireland but again went back to South Africa, working for the railroad and in the police force. There he met his cousin Charles Brehon, also a war veteran.

They decided to come to Canada and homestead as Charlie's brother, Alex, was going to do.

They came to Manitoba, near Brandon, and worked on farms until 1904. Thomas hauled wheat from Hayfield to Brandon that winter, a distance of eleven miles.

With a carload of settler's effects, they came to Saskatoon. The following day the ice took the railroad bridge out.

They thought they would try to build near where the proposed railway would be. It turned out that they settled in the Keystone district north and east of the present day village of Maymont.

That year Thomas Bates hauled piles for the bridge at Coupes and Alex Brehon hauled the pile driver from Saskatoon to the North Saskatchewan River.

In 1905 Mr. Bates went to harvest in the Pense, Sask. district, near Regina. There he met Miss Mary Read who had come in 1904 to Meaford Ont. where she had three brothers and three sisters. She came to teach school.

Tom Bates and Mary Read were married in the Anglican Church in Pense. It took three days to return to the homestead, and three locomotives as it was a very cold winter and there was lots of snow.

In 1909 their house burned down. They then bought another quarter of land and moved the house off of it to the other side of the homestead.

Mrs. Bates helped out with church work and played the organ in Keystone and Grey Schools for church services.

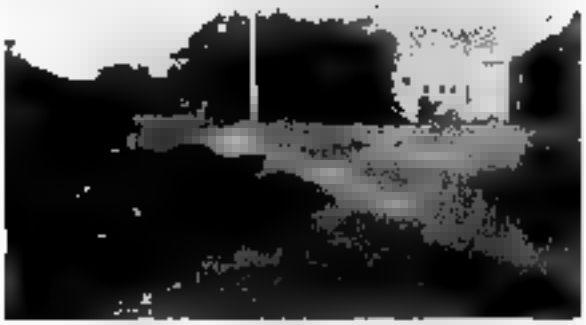
The Bates' had three sons N. Robert, Thomas Jr., and Jack, and one daughter Genevieve. Thomas Jr. passed away in 1966. N. Robert and his wife Evelyn and Jack and his wife Esther are retired and live in Maymont. Genevieve married Herb Websdale of Dewberry, Alta.

The Tom Bates Family History including the History of the Early Lives of Charlie and Alex Brehon

submitted by Genevieve (Bates) Websdale

Thomas Brehon Bates, one of the original pioneer settlers of the Maymont District, was born in County Carlow, Ireland. He was the son of a gentleman farmer. The Bates in Ireland had at one time been quite wealthy, but by the time Tom was born the fortune had somewhat dwindled. They still lived in the large ancestral home, named Janeville, which had

Bates family — Jack, Bob, Tom. Seated — Mrs. Bates, Genevieve, Tom Bates Sr.



The Tom Bates home on the farm.

thirteen fireplaces in order to keep it heated. Four servants were hired to keep the house in order — two parlormaids, a cook and a nurse for the children. At the back of the house was a schoolroom where the children were tutored by their mother, a well-educated woman, who had received part of her education in France. Once a week a tutor came to teach French and German — lessons which Tom despised. They had a piano and a singing teacher come to the house also. The singing teacher did not care for either of the two pianos they owned so a third one was purchased. They then had a piano in each of the two drawing rooms and one in the dining room. Later Lady Hamilton, a close family friend, came to teach the girls music. She would take no pay because she enjoyed doing it for a hobby. Tom soon rebelled at practicing scales so was allowed to drop his piano lessons. Tom later went to a public school where he received a good education in English and mathematics. He always liked to read the works of Shakespeare, Scott, Tennyson, as well as the newspapers and western magazines.

Church played an important part in the early life of the Bates family. Each week they drove in a carriage to the Anglican Church at Fenagh. One of their ministers was a Jew, who had become a Christian. Perhaps it was through him that Tom learned a special love for the Jewish people, as he had many Jewish friends in his life, and enjoyed dealing with them. At the church Tom was chosen to sing in the Choir of One Thousand Voices. This choir was made up of young people from Anglican churches all over Ireland. Once a year they went to Dublin where the thousand young people sang together for special services.

The Bates' had their own pew in the Fenagh Church. During the summer the family of Lord Bessborough sat directly behind them. Tom used to speak to one of the boys, a year younger than himself. This boy later become Lord Bessborough and governor-general of Canada. The Bates' also had another link with the governor-generals of Canada. Sir Price Blackwood, a first cousin of Lord Dufferin, Governor-General of Canada, was a paying guest in the Bates home for many years. He had never married so chose to live with the Bates' whom he regarded as his own family. When the first Bates grandchild was born (Bob Bates of Maymont) Sir Price wrote to Tom congratulating him on the birth of his son stating in the letter he cried for joy when he heard the news.

All throughout his life Tom was to have a close relationship with his cousins, the Brehons, who lived at New Ross, Ireland. The Brehons were much better financially than the Bates so were able to hire a butler, as well as many other servants for their home, also a carriage-man to drive them places. The ballroom in the Brehon home was said to have been as large as the Orange Hall in Maymont. Tom was to become very close friends of the two oldest boys, Alex and Charlie. Charlie was sent to a very select school in Ireland. He became rebellious because of the strict discipline, so he ran away to sea at the age of fifteen. He joined the Merchant Marine and rose to the position of first mate. He was in line for captaincy when he returned to Ireland before the Boer War.

By the time Tom was in his teens the Bates family fortune had dwindled to the point where they could no longer live in the style to which they were accustomed and they considered moving to Australia. About this time Tom's oldest brother got a good job managing a lord's estate and his wages held the home together. Tom then took over the job of overseeing the Bates estate where they raised pigs, cattle, horses, course grains and turnips with the help of servants

When the Boer War broke out Tom decided to join the army. Because he was an excellent rider, having taken part in many fox hunts as a young man, he was chosen to go into the cavalry. He was soon aboard ship on his way to South Africa to fight in the war. On board ship he got a rude awakening of the hardships of life. At home he had been accustomed to fine meals cooked and served by the servants (who were not allowed to eat with them). The table at home was always covered with pure linen and the meal served on fine china and good silverware. On board ship he refused to eat the gummy porridge, the hardtack and the bully beef which was all that was offered. After two or three days of self-starvation he learned to eat the food without complaint.

Tom did not like to talk about the Boer War but he did tell a few of his experiences. He used to tell how the Cavalry had to cross the Orange River by getting off the horses, forcing them into the water, the soldiers hanging onto the horses' tails to keep from drowning while the horses swam across. At one time the unit Tom was in was surrounded by Boers and food was very scarce. At night Tom would go out in search of food. He was fortunate in finding an orange tree on a Boer's farm and took back a number of oranges for himself and his friends. Next night when he returned for more, two very cross dogs were chained to the tree — so he left the tree alone. Another time he found an

ostrich egg which he made into an omelet and shared with twenty-nine others. Each soldier had to cook his own meal over an open fire. At one point in the war all they had to eat was canned apricots. Tom became so sickened of them he would avoid eating apricots the rest of his life. However he was fortunate not to have been in the siege of Ladysmith, where the British soldiers surrounded for a long time, were so hungry they even tried eating their shoe leather. Tom's unit pitched their tents for a time on a desert where puff adders, one of the most deadly snakes, were often seen and killed. The desert was terribly hot in the daytime but at nights they would shiver with the cold.

Tom went back to Ireland after the war but soon returned to South Africa, a land he had learned to love. He went to the city of East London where he got a job as a policeman. While there one of the first laws discriminating against the black people went into effect. When the Negroes came to the city from the country they were quite untamed. They would run madly down the streets knocking over anyone in their way [redacted] it man, woman or child. A law was then passed saying the Negro people would not be allowed to walk on the sidewalks of the city.

It was in East London that Tom met up again with his cousin, Charlie Brehon. By this time Charlie, although only twenty-five, had been a first mate on a boat (next to the captain), a conductor on a tram running from Cape Town to Victoria Falls, and had fought in the Boer Wars. Now Charlie decided to work his way on a ship to Canada. At East London he soon found a ship where [redacted] was hired as first mate. After signing the agreement with the captain he went below to talk to the ship's cook. The cook told Charlie he was sure the captain was planning to sink the ship for the insurance money. The cook told Charlie the boat was not seaworthy, and showed him places in the ship's structure where, as Charlie described it, you could see daylight coming through. The cook said only a small amount of food had been purchased, not nearly enough for the voyage, and the boat was heavily insured. At that time there was a law stating once you signed an agreement to work on a ship you had to go. The captain had moored the ship out about half a mile from shore. Escape was almost impossible because of ocean currents and undertow. In spite of this Charlie left all his belongings aboard ship, jumped overboard, staying under water as long as possible to avoid detection and made the long hard swim to shore. He made his way to Tom at once. Tom took him to a house of his friend who had given him the key and asked him to watch it while they were on holiday. [redacted] night Tom took Charlie food prepared by Tom's landlady. In the daytime Tom searched for Charlie (in vain) along with the other policemen. The ship was unable to find a crew and it was several days before it set sail. Charlie would still not [redacted] free of the law for a period of ten days after the ship sailed. Finally the ship left for Canada. The captain ran it aground on a [redacted] sandbar but it did not sink. A tug was sent out to tow it and get it on its way again. It set out for Canada and it was never heard of again or any of its crew.

Charlie then took a job in Africa and worked for a short time when he became ill with typhoid fever. He realized the serious nature of the disease so before he went into the hospital he drew his life's savings out of the bank. He gave these [redacted] a friend, Paddy Devlin, to keep for him while [redacted] was sick. Hospital care was very expensive and if they knew one had money they had to pay for it — if not — hospitals were free. The friend, Paddy Devlin, took off supposedly for Australia and was never heard of again. Once again Charlie was in desperate need of help, so when he recovered from his illness he once again made his way to Tom who paid for his board and room and got him a job. Tom by this time was working as an inspector of railway cars and got Charlie a good job with his company "making up trains". Tom's job was to see that several Negroes who worked under him did their work thoroughly. They had to clean the cars and disinfect them for bed bugs. It was a hard job to keep the Negroes working. As soon as they had some money they would go back to the country and buy another wife.

Charlie's job was to make decisions about when and where different railway cars were to be moved. One time he was told a certain railway car contained nothing but whiskey. He and his helpers decided they might like a bit of it. They made sure the car wasn't sealed after it was inspected. They placed it on a train going to a country location near East London and Charlie gave orders it was to be placed on an out of the way siding. Then in the evening he and his helpers went out to get themselves a taste of whiskey. You can imagine how disgusted they were when they opened the car and found it contained nothing but canned apricots. Charlie, like Tom, had had an overdose of apricots in the Boer War.

In January, 1904 Tom and Charlie decided to go to Canada because Alex Brehon was there. It was 104 degrees Fahrenheit when they left South Africa and 40 degrees below when they arrived in Winnipeg. Tom got a terrible cold. Because [redacted] coughed so hard people thought he had tuberculosis and one told him not to worry as the Canadian climate would cure him. They worked at Hayfield, Manitoba for a time and later went to Penne, Saskatchewan to work. It was at Penne that Tom met Mary Read, who was teaching at Lumsden, and who was later to become his wife.

Tom, Charlie and Alex Brehon took up adjoining homesteads northeast of Maymont. When they went to apply for their homesteads they had to cross the river at Battleford by boat because there was no bridge. They hired an Indian in a canoe to take them across. It was very stormy and after they got out from shore they realized the Indian was drunk. They were sure they were in for trouble but the Indian managed to get

them across safely. They made sure to have someone else fill get them back across the river.

For a time they lived in an abandoned shack a few miles from their homesteads. A young minister lived with them for some time. They enjoyed his company and had many serious religious discussions. Later they discovered the minister was using their oats for his own horse so they were relieved when he decided to move to the Hillsborough District eight miles away. One cold stormy night several weeks later they heard a terrible eerie sounding noise in the middle of the night. It sounded like somebody pounding on the roof and sounds of moans and screams. The three young Irishmen were terrified. Finally Alex went out to investigate. He looked all over but could see or hear nothing. Later they found out the minister had died that night. He had been ill with a fever and wandered out of his shack and had frozen to death close to his own shack. For years they refused to talk about it.

Later the three men built a [illegible] shack on Tom's quarter where their land adjoined. Alex and Charlie broke up the land, while Tom did the cooking, walked to New Ottawa for supplies, and did chores around the farm.

On January 3, 1887 Tom married Mary Read at Pesse. Then they started back by train to Fielding. A very bad blizzard came up and the train trip took three days instead of the usual one. The train, blocked by snow, ran out of coal and there was no heat on the train. The conductor gave Mrs. Bates his fur coat to help keep her warm. It was still storming when they got to Fielding and this was the last train to arrive for weeks. People ran out of supplies. Coal oil for lamps was especially scarce. Fortunately Alex had bought a good supply and they rationed it carefully. A neighbor, Mrs. Arkley, knew how to make candles, so when her coal oil ran out she melted down fat and made her own supply of candles.

Mrs. Bates had come from a background somewhat similar to Tom's. Her father, Nicholas Read, was born in Ireland of a once well-to-do family. He came to Meaford, Ontario in about 1855. There he took a farm, was made a magistrate, also was reeve of St. Vincent for many years and had a seat on the Gray County council. He was sent on several occasions by the Gray County to meet with Sir John A. McDonald whenever the county needed help from the government, because Mr. Read was a witty persuasive man and Sir John enjoyed his sense of humor. When Sir John visited Owen Sound Mr. Read rode in the carriage beside him as he drove through the streets. Mrs. Bates, a small girl at that time, remembered watching them. When they drove under a certain bridge in Owen Sound a young girl dropped a wreath of flowers over Sir John's head. Mrs. Bates often wondered how the girl managed to be so accurate.

Mrs. Bates, as a young bride, stepped into a very difficult situation. She had to cook for the three men and their two hunting dogs. She found it very hard work washing their heavy woollen underwear by hand. The men had big appetites and the dogs each ate a loaf of bread a day. Mrs. Bates said the bread she made was very poor and heavy because she was too tired to punch it down properly and the old coal and wood stove had a poor oven.

As time went on the work did not get less. Bob was born late in October and shortly after, Tom Brehon, another brother of Alex and Charlie, came to live with them. Mrs. Bates now had four men and a baby to cook and wash for. One day Tom Brehon, a fine man who lived up to his Christian principles, collapsed while working in the hayfield. He told the men (for the first time) that he had tuberculosis of the bone and he had hoped to get better in the Canadian climate. For a time Mrs. Bates nursed him, and then he was moved to the home of Mrs. Smith, a kind English lady, (mother of Mrs. John A. McKeen) who nursed him until he died.

About this time Tom Bates built a two-storey frame house which was considered quite grand for those times. Alex Brehon decided to go to live on his own place, but Charlie stayed on the Bates'. Tommy Bates Jr. was born in the new home in February. He was just fifteen months younger than Bob.

When Tommy was two weeks old he contracted pneumonia. Dr. Scratch was called in and did all he could but it was clear Tommy was dying. Tommy turned blue, became cold and stopped breathing. Mrs. Bates, Tom and Mrs. Smith, who was helping nurse Tommy, got down on their knees and prayed to God for healing. When they looked into the crib again they saw that Tommy was alive and breathing once more. He soon recovered and became a strong baby.

May the eighteenth of the same year was a windy day. Mrs. Bates lit the coal and wood stove and the stove pipes caught fire. She fought the flames to the ceiling but could not stop the fire. She took the children, money, important papers, and Charlie's seamanship papers out of the house and ran to Tom for help. By the time he got there it was too late. The house burned to the ground and all was lost. They then moved to a one-roomed shack on Charlie's place and Charlie slept in a granary on the farm.

Fortunately Tom had taken out insurance on the house. With the six hundred dollars he received he bought a second quarter of land that had on it a two-storey house 14 by 30 feet. This house was moved to its present position on the original homestead. This building still stands. It was built onto until it became a fairly large home with four rooms and a porch downstairs. Two stairways led to the four bedrooms and a bathroom upstairs. Jack and Genevieve were born in this home.

In 1914 Tom planted several hundred trees around the farmstead. He loved garden work and soon had the grounds looking very attractive. By 1917 Tom had prospered well enough to purchase his first car, a Gray Dort, which served him well for many years. A few

years later [redacted] got a threshing outfit, threshing for himself and many of the neighbors.

Tom especially enjoyed hunting for ducks, geese and other game birds in the fall. [redacted] was on one of these hunting trips that [redacted] and Charlie Brebon were yet to have another adventure. They were looking for ducks near Redberry Lake when they got lost. Tom went to the door of a small home to inquire about the road. A woman came to the door with such a wild look in her eyes Tom decided they should get out of there quickly. He ran back to the cloth covered car, which Charlie was driving, and said, "Get out of here, quick!" Charlie became so excited [redacted] gave the car too much gas nearly killing the engine but managed to get going in a series of leaps and bounds. As he swung the car around an axe came hurtling through the air and landed onto the back seat of the car. Needless to say, Charlie did not stop to return the axe. It was a good Hudson Bay axe and Charlie proudly showed it off to people for years. They found out later that the woman had once been a patient in a mental hospital, and whenever she saw a car coming to the yard feared that someone was coming to take her away once again. One day when the Reverend Hardy, a United Church minister from Speers, drove into her yard, she threw a heavy pole at his touring car. Keeping one hand on the wheel, Mr. Hardy managed to catch the pole with his left hand before it could hurt anyone.

In the nineteen thirties the dry years came [redacted] Saskatchewan and the world-wide depression was on. Times were hard but Tom was always optimistic. One year the crop averaged a half bushel to the acre but in the other years Tom managed to grow a bit of crop. He could always grow a good garden and would give vegetables from it to many people. In the fall he would take a half a wagon box load of vegetables to town to give to people in unfortunate circumstances. Mrs. Bates always canned one hundred quarts of raspberries from the garden patch, then after that neighbors were invited for a meal and a day's picking of berries were given to them to take home.

Quite a number of men came to the Bates home looking for work in the thirties. One time six Hungarians came together. They were very hungry and begged to work for their board. Mr. Bates felt sorry for them so gave them a job cleaning out corrals. They worked very hard so Tom decided to pay them. He had to take them to Richard to get money cashed at the Richard bank. They did not want to go there because they had been at Richard before looking for work. He could not get them to understand about the bank as they could scarcely speak English, so he drove very fast because they wanted out of the car. When [redacted] got to the bank a clerk there could speak Hungarian. The men were delighted when they found they were to be paid. Mr. Bates advised them to split up as very few would hire six men at once.

Another day Mrs. Jack Langley phoned to say a man, who was acting crazy, had gone by their place, and was heading toward the Bates'. Mrs. Bates hurriedly got Genevieve, Muriel Brebon and Evelyn Andrew, who were visiting that day, into the house. After a couple of hours the "crazy man" arrived. He was a poor old man in search of work. His feet were so sore he could scarcely walk so [redacted] would get down and crawl. He had only a pair of rubbers on his feet — no socks. Mrs. Bates got him a good meal, gave him a pair of Tom's brand new socks and money to get him room in the hotel for the night. The Bates boys drove him to town. The last heard of the old man he was seen sleeping in a manger (instead of the hotel) for the night.

Quite a number of people drove to the Bates home as they moved in wagons from their dried out farms in Southern Saskatchewan moving on to the north in search of homesteads in a more moist climate. Bates' always fed their horses, gave them meals and kept them overnight if they wished to stay. Often they gave them a bag of flour ground from their own wheat at the Radisson mill. Mrs. Bates always used to say "I've fed the whole country", and it was true because she was always kind and very hospitable to all who came to her door.

One time Mr. and Mrs. McLeish, the bank manager of the Imperial Bank, were invited to visit. Mrs. Bates prepared a good meal and cleaned the upper part of the house in preparation for company. She told the family not to take the McLeishes to the basement because it was not tidied up. (Mrs. McLeish, who was very much at home at the Bates' would often run down to help bring up a jar of fruit, etc.). All went well until evening. Mr. McLeish went outside for something, came back into the house, took the wrong door and fell into the basement. As he fell [redacted] grabbed for the wall, bringing down empty jars to add to the clatter. Mrs. Bates said her first wicked thought was, "Now, they'll all go to the basement!" instead of wondering how Mr. McLeish was. Fortunately, he was not hurt so after everyone saw the basement they continued their visit.

[redacted] 1943 crops were looking very well and the dry years seemed to be over. One July day Mrs. Bates was at an afternoon tea at Mrs. Holbert while Mr. Bates was at home alone. A terrible hailstorm came up. The wind set the pipes of the coal and wood range on fire and Tom pulled them down to get the fire out. Then the hail broke the windows. Soon the place was a sorry looking mess as the water from the storm and the soot from the pipes got mixed and tramped over the floors. A woodpecker flew into the house through the broken windows. Although the Bates' crops were almost totally destroyed Mr. Bates was able to joke about it. He told Genevieve he was surely glad she wasn't at home or her head wouldn't have been safe with that woodpecker there. The same storm caused a lot of damage in the community. Mrs. Stewart, who lived near Fielding, chased all her chickens into the chicken

house, making the hired man sit on a chair in there to watch the chickens. Then the chicken house blew away leaving the man still sitting on the chair unharmed. Milman's chicken house blew away too after Mrs. Milman got [redacted] the turkeys in but one. Mr. Frank Langley, who got under his tractor in the field for protection, found himself knee deep in water. Mr. Bates once said [redacted] had been dried out, burned out, rusted out, hailed out, and suffered financial losses in other ways but he never felt discouraged. He always hoped better times were coming.

The Bates' were very interested in the church affairs. Although they were Anglican they often attended the United Church because the services held in Keystone School were closer to home. Mrs. Bates played the organ there for years and later at the Grey School church services.

As the Bates boys grew up they helped a great deal with the farm work. They all drove six horse outfits at an early age. Tom, Jr. learned to run the threshing outfit when he was very young. Bob moved to a ranch across the river at Spinney Hill for a few years. Then he married Evelyn Niven of Spinney Hill, a widow with three boys, Peter, Tom and Guy. They kept the Spinney Hill store and post office for a time. A son, Cleve, was born there. Then they moved to Saskatoon where they started the Bates' Grocery, retiring to Maymont in 1969.

Tom Jr. married Ada Rogers and lived on a farm before moving to Maymont. They had two children, Barry and Beverley. Tom died of a heart attack in 1966.

Jack married Esther Spence of Fielding. They farmed the home place and other land. They moved to Maymont, farmed for a few years longer and then retired. Jack and Esther have five children: Jean, Twila, Yvonne, Margaret and Don.

Genevieve became a teacher and later married Herb Websdale of Dewberry. They live on a farm and for many years Gen taught music. Herb and Gen have two children, Sidney and Lynette.

Mr. and Mrs. Bates stayed on the farm until Tom was [redacted] his eightieth year. Then they moved to a comfortable home in Maymont. Mrs. Bates lived to be eighty-four. After she died Tom lived with his son Jack and spent part of the year with Gen [redacted] Dewberry. He lived to be eighty-seven. He was proud of the fact that he was the oldest man in Maymont, and one of the two original homesteaders of the Maymont district still alive, the other one still living at that time being Charlie Milman. He said on several occasions how fortunate he had been to live in Maymont District, after having travelled half way across the world, because the Maymont people were so nice.

Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Bean and Family

by Ethelwyn Leonard (Bean)

My parents and I came from England, arriving in Maymont in 1905. As I recall, the railway was very recently through that area. The local station consisting of a box car. The first station agent was Mr. Lewis.

A Mr Dignan and his wife built a house on the south side of the "tracks" and our general store and the brick TYNAN HOUSE hotel went up on the north side. The store continued on in the family hands for approximately fifty years.

My sister, Cassie, and brother, Alan, were born in Maymont, and in June, 1907 our father was killed in an accident at the railway crossing. For the first few years we lived in quarters above the store, and then, in 1909, we moved to our newly built home on the northern outskirts of the town, on an "acre" purchased from Mr. Whitehouse, another pioneer. A Mr. Boustill was the man who built our home in 1909, some of his descendants are probably still living in the vicinity. The home is presently owned by Mr. and Mrs Bill Fast.

Before the days of T.V., and radio, and even the telephone, I recall how one of the regular routines of the day was to meet the evening train, to witness the comings and goings, and to be in touch, for a brief moment, with the great outside world, as the brightly [redacted] cars stopped for a moment in our little hamlet. I can still hear the whistle and envision the sight of the big engine coming slowly to a stop, and then picking up speed again on its way into the never-never land of far-off mystery.

How many people will recall the BIG FIRE? One clear winter night, in the twenties, we were driving home from Fielding in an open cutter, when suddenly we saw, in the distance, a very bright light. What could it be? As we got closer to Maymont it was ever bigger and brighter and finally, in the quiet, sleeping village, we could see that the big red livery barn was going up

Mrs. Edgar Bean's house — Cassie on black horse. Mrs. Bean, Ethelwyn, Alan on grey horse.

in flames. What to do? Why, of course, ring the fire bell ontop of the old pump house, and soon sleepy people were rising from their beds to combat the blaze. But, alas, — to late, — it burned to the ground. I think it belonged to a Mr. Melrose, or perhaps it was the Melrose Brothers.

Our mother died in Maymont in 1949, and brother Alan died in 1965, survived by his wife, Lydia, who now lives in Saskatoon, his married daughter, Mrs. George Sayers, who lives in Vancouver, and his married son, Bill, who lives in Saskatoon, and eight grandchildren.

My sister, Cassie, (Mrs. Harold Guest,) lives with her husband (now retired) in Victoria, B.C. and I live in Qualicum Beach (about one hundred miles north) of Victoria.) and work in Parksville, — the next town. My only daughter, Claire, married and with two teen-aged sons, lives in Nanaimo, which is located between Victoria and Qualicum Beach.

My first teacher in Maymont was Miss Isa Melrose (Mrs. Art Martin) and my last teacher there was her older sister, Mrs. Weber. All the Melroses (and the Reids) were good singers, and I can still remember the rousing songs these ladies taught us. Our one and only doctor was, of course, Dr. Scratch, and the druggist was Mr. Mawhinney, who married the lovely blond Lily Davis. Some of the early workers in our store were: Stella Reid, Edna Brumbough, Harry Martin and Ernie Patterson, and Nan Gray (Mrs. Billie Melrose.)

By the laurel bush at the front of my Qualicum Beach home about 1977. *L.* to *r.* — my younger grandson, Mark, Margaret (Langley) Strautman, Jean (Langley) Snell, Ian Langley.

Some of the early family names I recall are: Hutchinson, Dignan, McLaren, Fry, Millbride, Andrew, Hawkins, Milman, Malgrem, Johnston, Reid, Melrose, Rogers, Cook, Williams, Bohn, Dawson, and Gifford. Also McLennan, McCorkle, Long, Knowles, Turner, Gray, & Fricker, and Kerr and Campbell.

I think the first Presbyterian minister was Mr. Madill, and his church was a small frame building behind what used to be the Drug Store. Early Anglican ministers were Reverend. Schofield, Gosden and Garlick and Ashley.

In the early twenties I taught school in Maymont in the basement of the United Church, and have many warm memories of my pupils of that time. Especially I recall the wonderful Christmas concerts we all enjoyed, — where the easily trained pupils really shone in those productions. Also I later had some excellent music pupils, particularly including Mrs. Ivan (Maureen Melrose) and Mrs. Hughie Reid (Dolores Delong). In the district we also were fortunate in having, amongst the adults also, much musical and acting talent, and the concerts and plays and entertainments of all kinds were highlights for us all.

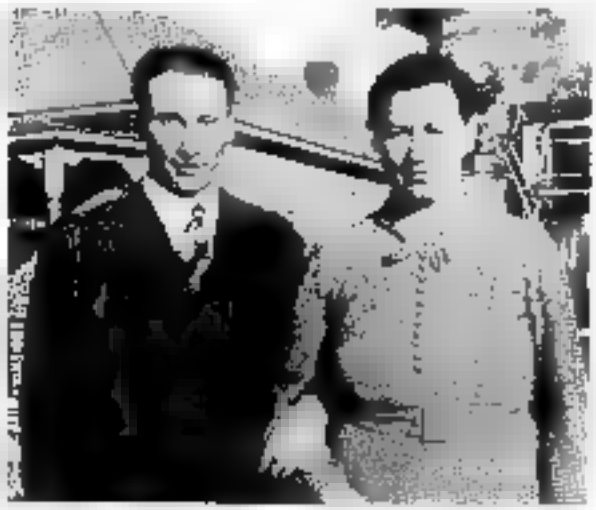
[illegible] and Hazel Beaudoin

told by Hazel

Ed's parents were Ernest and Agnes Beaudoin who homesteaded in the Hafford district, coming from Michigan in 1905. Ed's father was drowned in 1915 leaving his mother with eight of a family. She married Ernie Andrew of Maymont in 1917, and came to Maymont district where she lived out her life. They worked very hard breaking up land etc. with a large family to feed.

Ernie Andrew passed away in 1940. Mrs. Andrew in 1964.

Ed born May 21, 1906 at Hafford.



Ed and Hazel Beaudoin on wedding day — Oct. 19, 1931.

My father was Les Sloan who came from Lindsey, Ont. to homestead in 1903 in the Fielding district.

My mother was Mary Fast who came from Nebraska, U.S.A. with her parents and brothers to homestead also in Fielding district in 1902 or 1903.

I was born Hazel Annie Sloan, on February 17, 1916, went to school at Neepawa School north west of Fielding. I was one of a family of 10. Many good times were spent in our younger years playing ball and having musical evenings with much singing, as neighborhood young folks gathered at our place. It was at one of these gatherings where Ed and I realized we were meant for each other. So, we were married on Oct. 19, 1938 in North Battleford in the Foursquare Gospel church manse.

Ed after a trail ride, 1977, renewing old acquaintances with Bob Butterfield.

In the years previous to this I had looked after the home and younger brothers and sister's milking cows doing gardens and many everyday chores. So, it was quite a change to start cooking for two people. We farmed a ½ section three miles north west of Maymont. To supplement the farm we raised cattle, shipping cream, and always tried to have a few pigs to sell. I always raised a lot of chickens and grew a good garden.

We were at the end of the road so never had a proper road, making life very miserable, walking a half mile and carrying groceries etc. in spring and when snow storms plugged up the roads many times I've pushed the car half a mile to get home when a rain made mud a problem. Before car days it was battle the elements with team and wagon or sleigh. Ed farmed with horses until 1953. We got the power into our farm in 1961, which helped the work load quite a bit.

We've had quite a lot of sickness especially in our later years.

Our oldest child Edna was born on Sept. 19, 1940, the day my mother passed away. She started school in Maymont in 1947 and after she graduated worked in the Bank of Montreal in North Battleford for four years then married Norman McKenzie of Scott, Sask. on October 12, 1963. Worked in the Imperial Bank of Commerce in Wilkie until 1973 when her youngest child was born. They've had quite a trying time with sickness in the family and they farm.

They have 3 girls and one boy.

Our second girl Linda was born October 8, 1948, a twin and fortunate enough to be the survivor of the two. She began school in 1952, hating every moment of it. She married Ralph Macnab of Wilkie on May 26, 1967. They have 4 children, 3 boys and 1 girl. They've had many accidents with their family. They live on a farm in the Drummond Creek district. Ralph also works as mechanic for Spence Construction at Mayfair.

In 1970 we moved into Maymont to retire because of poor health, but Ed not being one to give up has managed to keep working for other farmers in the summer and doing odd jobs around town. Winter is a time of helping holidayers — and shovelling snow for many in town who are unable to do that kind of work.

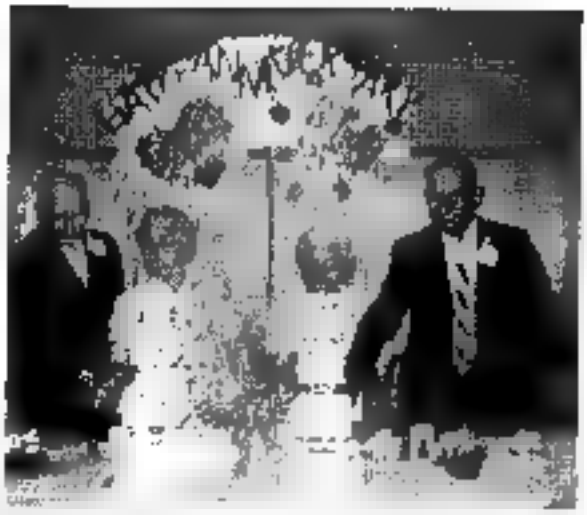
Through the years, many without anyone to turn to, have stayed in the home and never asked for any payment in return. God has been good to us.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Beaudoin

told by Sarah (Gillatt) Beaudoin

Elizabeth Laura Parker was the youngest of a family of four children. She was born in Rosendale, Manitoba in March, 1908, and came west with her mother and father, William and Elizabeth Parker, to Maymont in 1904. She started to school when she was five years old but in later years quit school at grade 8

W. Beaudoin family — 1953. Back row — Sarah, Russell, Chinnie, Albert. Front — Dale, Terry.



Celebrating two anniversaries — Aunty Eva and Uncle Norman's 45th, and Mother and Bill's 25th in Nov., 1974.

and helped her mother. She loved the farm and outdoor life. She helped several neighbours in the threshing seasons to feed and cook for the threshing crews. When she was little she said her Dad carried her on his back to church at Grandpa Andrew's house.

In 1917 she was married to Alfred Edward Gillatt who came from England. He was born in Kelsey Closes, England, in June, 1894. There were 4 children born. I was born at Maymont on the Doherty quarter and Molly Long stayed with Mother at night when Dad was away working. Mother told me that Zadia Rolfe used to come over to see the baby bathed and then hold

The Belanger family about 1940 — Glenda, Ken, Evelyn, Dorothy and Norman, Edwin.

Chinnie and Ed milking their cow — 1930's.

me. I was born in January, 1918 and it was a real cold winter. I was the first grandchild and my Uncle Percy Parker was teaching at Blue Bird school (north and east of Mayfair) and he said he drove in the team and sleigh at [redacted] degrees below F. to see me. He had a fur coat on but he said his arms were frost-bitten even through the coat.

Mother and Dad made a lot of hay that summer and of course I was out there with them and slept on the shady sides of the haystacks. There weren't baby sitters in those days. We moved to Birdview which is Donavon now and that was where my brother Reg and a sister Elsie Irene were born. Dad had a livery stable, draying business and the mail. I can remember Dad and Mother liked curling and one year came home with the Grand Challenge cup from Rosetown. I don't know who the ones on the team were unless one was Harry Weldon. They were our neighbours but hadn't any family. They were good to us kids but we used to get bored because as all kids say, "there isn't anything to do there." When our little sister was born we had the whooping cough and she caught it and her life was short-lived. She was laid [redacted] rest in the Delisle cemetery where we had moved three years previous. I just started to what we call Kindergarten now when my Dad dealt with Jack Nugent for some land at Maymont and they went to Delisle. There are still some Nugent off-spring at Delisle.

Mother and Dad farmed north and east of Maymont for several years and both worked hard. Reg and I did a lot of walking to Grey School which was 2½ miles away. On our way home at night we were to look for the cow and bring her home for milking. Many hours Mother and Dad were out clearing brush with the team of horses and the logging chain on "15". Reg and I used to run behind the harrows and catch them. One day Dad told us to go home before we got hurt or our clothes torn but as kids we didn't always do what we were told. Girls wore dresses then and I remember bending down and the harrows caught my dress and ripped it all the way down. I scampered home very quickly before Dad could see it. I don't think there was

ever a summer went by that Reg and I weren't laid up with blood poison in our feet. We would step on boards with nails, some rusty, and we wouldn't take care of our sore until our foot would be swelled up and a red streak was going up our leg. Then we would have to sit bathing them for a couple of days.

Dad always would get some unbroken horses in the spring from across the river and break them in on the machinery, etc. We kids were told to stay back but the excitement of seeing them rear up and twist fascinated us. Dad had a 32 volt light plant which we thought was great and [redacted] had a threshing outfit. I remember the separator was called the Red River Special but I don't remember the tractor's name. We used to go with Dad when [redacted] rounded up his threshing crew and taking lunch to the crew at 3 30 was a big deal. Dad and Mother went to England in 1926 and Reg and I stayed with Aunty Olive and Uncle Frank at Lilac.

About three years later Dad rented the farm and moved to North Battleford to another livery barn and taxi business and also had a mail route to Rabbit Lake. My sister Dorothy was born there.

My Grandpa and Grannie Parker were staunch Presbyterians and later supporters of the United Church. Even when times were tough, Grannie would supply 4-6 pies, two roasted chickens, potatoes, carrots, pickles and buns for the Fowl supper. Grandpa Parker had fixed an apple box with shelves so Grannie's pies could be more easily transported. A "must" at Grandpa and Grannie's was the saying of Grace before a meal. Grandpa said the Grace, but if he wasn't present, then Grannie took her turn. I can remember coming out from North Battleford to spend the week-end. That particular Sunday, Grandpa as a layman took the Service at the first Presbyterian church in Maymont. Another tradition which lasted as long as Grandpa and Grannie were living was the "going home" at their place for Sunday. As long as the weather permitted, the Parkers, the Gillatts, the Crosiers (later Cheals) and the Ernest and Walter Beaudoins met there. Sunday supper would require more than one table setting.

Due to marital relationship breaking up Dad and Mother parted. She was left with three children and the dirty thirties were starting. Mother kept the mail route as long as possible. The roads were terrible when it rained but through strain and worry I don't think she ever missed taking the mail. She also took passengers quite often. Chinese people going to the restaurant or coming back to North Battleford. She finally had to give back the car as she couldn't keep up the payments and I do believe that Rabbit Lake got a route system.

Mother did housework for different ladies at 25¢ an hour and 1 baby sat 25¢ a night and 50¢ after midnight. My brother sold papers and earned from 25¢ to 60¢ a night. That all went to buy groceries. Sugar was 5¢ a lb., hamburger 10¢ a lb. on special for 3 for 25¢; bread 5¢ a loaf; tomatoes and pineapple 10¢ a can; bananas 5¢ a lb.; but it was hard to get a nickel or a dime. Quite often the soles of our shoes had holes and we put a piece of cardboard in the bottom.

Mother decided we would move back to the farm. What we really missed coming back to the farm were the electric lights and running water. I guess things were a bit cheaper on the farm as we ran and got our own water so there was no water bill. We would buy a gallon of coal-oil for 35¢. It would last quite a long while especially in summer as we were generally in bed as soon as darkness hit; so that saved the power bill.

My brother and I used to be caretakers of the school, go early in the morning when it was really cold and light the old heater to get the school warm. Your teeth would be chattering and fingers and feet cold as you would have to stay there until the stove got going good. Then you could throw some coal on top of the wood. We would supply the water to drink for the big sum of $5.00 a month.

One thing our Mother could knit good warm mitts for us. When I was around 7 or 8 we always got our underwear, our black ribbed socks, and our laced boots. We couldn't shed that long underwear until the 24 of May. There should have been lots of good floor cloths and dusters in the spring to last all summer anyway.

We had some good times at the country schools. The Christmas Concerts that were put on by 18 or 20 children would make these large schools look shamefaced. Our teachers would always come out and play at noon hours. We would play Prisoner's Base, shinny, Fox and Geese in the snow, and Run, Sheep, Run. There seemed to be a closeness in the good old country schools. In 1927 Grey School entered a float in the Jubilee Parade and we won a prize. Our teacher was a Mrs. Read.

As we got older I wrote my Grade 10 and then went to work for Mrs. Hope for $1.00 a week. I had an embarrassing thing happen. Elaine Hope was a baby and Mrs. Hope had just washed her furry coat out by hand and it was real clean. I was to take the baby out in the carriage for a walk while Mrs. Hope gave a piano lesson to Dorothy Crawley. It was in the spring of the year and windy. So off I go with the baby. I was walking to the post office with the baby in the carriage and by Bunn's store the sidewalk was about 2½ feet high. I got the carriage up. The wind blew my hat off. I turned to run after my prize hat. Lo and behold when I turned around the wind had blown the carriage off the sidewalk. The carriage toppled over and poor Elaine fell face down in a mud puddle. Her face was black plus her nice clean furry coat. I hurriedly picked her up not knowing how many people might have been looking from the cafe or store. I wiped her face off and whipped home to get Elaine into dry clothes and tell Mrs. Hope what had happened. My husband told me 7 years later when we were going together that he had seen that little incident from the cafe window!!

I worked for some farmers at Prince for a year for $8.00 a month. Up early in the morning but in bed as soon as darkness came. Then I worked in Prince for a storekeeper's wife who had three children. I got $15.00 a month which was like a fortune. I came back to Maymont and met the man who was to become my husband. Walter Beaudoin (Chinny) and I were married in November, 1940. While I was out working, my Mother had my sister and brother with her. She worked for $10.00 a month trying to clothe everybody.

I stayed with my Aunt Olive and Uncle Frank at Lilac and went to Burnley school for 1½ years. Mother was working near Redfield. While there she met a nice man who became her husband about 15 years later. Bill Penny's mother and brother were at Coronation, Alberta. As wages were $5.00 a month for men in winter and about $15 or $20 in the summer, Bill went to Alberta and got a job on the railroad where he worked until his retirement. Mother went later. She cooked in hotels, cafes and later got a job in the laundry in the hospital. She worked there until she was ready for retirement. A cement outfit set up a plant a little way from Mother and Bill's house. Whatever is in the processing of this cement the dust covered everything in the yard. Mother was a great worker in her yard and flowers. This dust gave her a rash. She swelled up all over and her blood pressure soared terrifically. She ended up in the hospital and whatever it was it affected her health for the remainder of her days.

In the dirty thirties raising a few turkeys and selling them before Christmas was our big amount of money to buy a few extra goodies for Christmas. There was a lot of hard work went into these turkeys as they were all dry plucked and fixed up so nice. I remember Mother had saved and saved up a $1.50 to buy a cooler can of cream to churn for butter. Bill went to get it on the stoneboat. Coming home he hit a bump in the road and over went the cooler can and most of the cream was spilt. I imagine the air would be blue for awhile!

The day Chinny and I were married it turned out to be a real storm, snowing and blowing. Mother put on our wedding supper at the old "Holmes" place. Uncle Percy and Aunty Hazel brought their gas lamp and I'll always remember them going home with the lamp lit so the mantles wouldn't blow off. Uncle Frank gave me away and he came over in his Chev car but I think that was the last day it was driven as the roads were not built for winter driving and no one had anti-freeze. The cars were drained. Then water was put back in when you were ready to go.

That first winter we were married it was really cold, down as low as 60 degrees below F. and I believe where Voegeli's live now it went to 70 degrees below F. Of course coal was a luxury and sometimes you would buy a few pounds to put in your stoves around Christmas time. The men used to get loads of wood out in the fall and everyone had a day of wood sawers. It was a hard day's work but there was lots of fellowship and community spirit. If you ran out of wood or didn't get enough in last the winter you got on the old bucksaw and sawed it up everyday. That wasn't just a few sticks. The old woodbox had to be filled to the top. I think that was one of the essentials in the old country kitchens those days was the "good old wood box." The daily chores for the women or children after school was fill the woodbox, empty the ashes, carry in the snow and see that the water pails were filled for the night. After the doors being opened that long the house really got chilly but my Grandfather used to say the house was warmed up quicker after that as the stale air had got out and fresh air had come in.

The roads used to get like rolling hills before spring. I remember one day Chinny and Mother went to town in a little cutter. On their way home the cutter hit one of those bumps at an angle. Over went the cutter. Mother fell on Chinny. The flour and the other groceries were falling everywhere. Another time Uncle Percy and some of his family, Roberta Walton, Chinny, Albert (who was a little boy) and I were going to Keystone School to a whist drive. It was a real dark night and hard to see. We were all sitting along one side of the sleigh box. Uncle Percy and Chinny were standing in front. The horses were trotting. All of a sudden we hit another snow bank sideways. Over went the sleigh box off the bunks. We were all lying in the snow laughing. We got up and got ready to put the box back on the sleigh and finish our journey.

Walter Beaudoin was born in Hafford in 1919. He came from a family of 11 children. His father was drowned when he was five years old. A couple years later his mother married Ernest Andrew. His mother was left with 8 children and expecting the ninth. Chinny's mother had taken a homestead up near Lorenzo so she had to live there so many months to prove her claim.

The family moved to Maymont in 1918 and Chinny has been here ever since. He got his nickname "Chinny" from playing shinny at school. He was very small but played hard and put all his heart into the game. That nickname has stuck with him all his life. He liked cattle and in 1923 Ernie Andrew bought a calf that had been shipped in from Ontario. Chinny looked after it and his calf gained the most of all the calves that were shipped in. When Chinny was a young boy he used to catch birds, snakes and any kind of animal that he could catch. He'd make his sister Agnes miss school and help him get young hawks and owls. One time when he was robbing a hawk's nest the hawk swooped down and hit his head. Her claw stuck right into his head. When they pulled it out, blood just spurted out. Agnes and he were really scared he would bleed to death. One time Chinny had enough animals gathered up he held a circus and charged 10c for admission. His mother made him a batch of beer. He sold that mostly to one or two of his neighbours. He had his young brother, Norman, in a cage as a monkey. When Norman's father saw that he was a little aggravated as

Norman was his father's pride and joy. Chinny's son, Russell, is something the same as Chinny for animals. He's always catching owls, hawks, rabbits, or whatever and bringing them home for his children.

Chinny liked veterinary work and has been all over for years delivering calves, castrating and has been called out of his bed many times in all kinds of weather. How he never got pneumonia being in his bare skin from his waist up, other people standing around in their parkas, was remarkable. He worked several hours on one animal sometimes until he would be blue and numb with cold. Chinny took an artificial insemination course, the second course that was held at that time. In 1964 the Fielding Community Pasture started and Chinny and Roy Rogers were in the A.I. field. Charlie Large was the manager and still is today. Chinny stayed as A.I. technician until he was 65 years old. Then the government quit looking after the A.I. section. Our son, Dale, took over looking after this area and he is the A.I. technician now. Russell can also do this if necessary. Chinny had several different riders to help him through the years.

Some humorous events that happened with the Kids were when Albert was about 14 months old he fell in a scraper of water and got soaked from his head to toe. How he ever got out of there is a miracle as he was very tiny and could have drowned so easily.

Russell was about 5 years old and was running with his dog. They went through a fence. Russell got caught and couldn't get out. We missed him and started in search for him. Finally we heard the dog barking. Russell was crying so we located him. Another time the tripod was still up from butchering. Somehow Russell was playing and got in the ropes and was hanging up by his feet. We were milking our cows and Em Williams stayed with us. He saw Russell caught and got scared and came running to the barn yelling "Russell is hurt!" We ran to get him out. He was all tangled and really scared.

When Terry was 15 she was playing the organ at church. This particular Sunday she had to play. It was wet and real muddy. Chinny took her in the truck. Every half mile the truck stopped. It was getting later and later. When they finally got near the highway Terry got out of the truck, took her shoes carried them in her hand with her hymn book, and ran the rest of the way to the church.

The first year we were married we kept some horses for Pete Sloan who had gone to the coast for awhile. He had one horse which was a bronco, very nervous. One had to use the greatest care with him. He was a good worker but one never knew when he would take off like a shot. One night in the spring we thought we would take the wagon and go for a ride. Chinny and I and the baby started out. We called in at Mother's and picked up my sister Dorothy who was about 10 years old and started off for a peaceful ride. All of a sudden away went Pete (the horse) kicking, bucking and then running with all his might, this side and that side of the road, Chinny pulling on the reins with all his might. It was sure lucky that his team mate was quiet. Dorothy was petrified and I had the baby held tightly in my arms. When we arrived back at Mother's, Dorothy never even waited until we came to a dead stop before she was out of the wagon and into the house. Another time during the winter we went to Four Square Church with Floyd Sloan and his wife. The road was just dip after dip. We had the same team. After coming over one of these dips the eveners hit Pete's legs. He got scared and away he went. Three of the traces came undone. Floyd and Chinny were pulling on the lines as hard as they could so the pole would not fall down. We went like this for three miles before the men could get him stopped. We decided that after that, if we wanted a longer life, we would have to get rid of him, which we did.

In 1945 we bought the Northcott farm and moved over the day that Theodore Roosevelt died which was April 12. It was a beautiful March that year. Norman Andrew ploughed a field on March 31 and then it turned cold in April. The spring was late, the crops were poor that year.

Dale Beaudoin was born May, 1946 which was another poor year. We were milking 15 cows that year. Terry Beaudoin was born May, 1948. I was by myself at the time of her birth but wasn't excited or scared as I knew Doc Scratch was on his way. That was a bad winter with lots of snow but the crop was poor that year also. Seeding was just starting by most people that year and the year that Dale was born seeding of wheat was all done.

Albert had four miles to go to school at Keystone. He was only about 9 and he was driving the horse and buggy himself. The one winter there wasn't any snow until just before Christmas but it was real cold. We heated stones and put them in the buggy for his feet. His hands used to get cold and we will always be grateful to Henry Penner who would always unhitch his horse and put it away for him. He would hitch it up for Albert after school again. Now these days you have children complain about riding the school bus. How things have changed! In 1952 we traded the Northcott place for the Ernie Andrew place with Malcolm McNaughton. Chinny was back home again. That is where the Beaudoin family came with their mother when she married Ernie Andrew in 1917.

Russell was born in October, 1952. We were still milking cows and milked until we left the farm in 1970 and moved into Maymont where we are today. My brother Reg and Hector Andrew were 18 years old when the two of them went on a stook wagon together for $2.50 a day. It was hard work but the money looked good. Reg went to the coast to Vancouver when he was 17 and got a job on a sawdust truck and went to Bible College. When the war broke out and the 21 year olds were conscripted he joined active service and remained in the services until 1946. After the war he went to Los Angeles and went to L.I.F.E. Bible College

and became a minister. To pay his tuition he worked in ware houses and a bank at night. While at College he met Appy Mae Rigenhagen and they were married in May, 1950. After a number of years ministering back in Canada at Victoria and Penticton [illegible] came back to Maymont for a year in 1960. He and his wife, Mother and Bill, Chinny and I went to California for a three week trip. It was really wonderful to leave in March below zero weather and arrive in Los Angeles at 85 degrees to 90 degrees above. We went to Disneyland, Knotts Berry Farm, Tijuana, Mexico and went swimming in the Pacific Ocean on March 11. It was a real trip as my brother was familiar with the country and the first time I saw palm trees and miles and miles of orchards.

That year Reg went to the States to live again, for awhile logging and then to College to receive his Teacher's Degree. A couple [illegible] years later his wife went to College and she is a teacher now also. They live at Nampa, Idaho, both teaching, and have a parish church a little way out of Nampa. They have three children: Linda who is a teacher and married an ex-football player who is in Real Estate. They live in Boise, Idaho and have a small daughter. Timothy Gillatt is married and lives in San Diego. The youngest son, Leroy, is married to a girl from Nampa. She works in a bank and Leroy is going to College taking commerce.

My sister Dorothy while staying at our place met a young man who came from the east to harvest at Sam Miller's, Norman Belanger. He worked out west a couple years before he went back to Sault Ste. Marie where his sister lived. [illegible] got a job in the steel plant. Dorothy went down east and she and Norman were married in October, 1949. They have four children: Edwin who is married and is a teacher lives in Sault Ste. Marie. His wife also works. The next son, Ken, is married and has three children, 2 boys and a little girl. Ken works in the steel plant. Dorothy's first daughter, Glenda, went through College. She works with elderly people and retarded children. She is getting married in October, 1979 and hopefully we'll be there. Their youngest child, Evelyn is still going to school and is in Grade Eleven. Norman is still working at the steel plant and will soon have his retirement.

Mother and Bill Penny were married in Coronation in September, 1948. They stayed there until Bill retired and moved back to Maymont in 1974. That same fall they were married [illegible] years and Aunty Eva and Uncle Norman Cheal were married 45 years that same year. Millie and I had a family supper and "Open House" in the fall for them.

My Mother's health began to deteriorate and on May 4, 1978 she went quietly away to rest and was buried Maymont Cemetery on May 9, 1978. She had 11 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. Mother had worked hard all her life with very little at times. She always welcomed anyone to a meal and a bed if they were stranded. She enjoyed the simple things and had a husband who was very good to her and they were happy.

My family are close by. Russell and Dale both farm at Maymont. Albert drives semi-trailers. Our daughter, Terry, lives at Uranium City. God has been good to us by giving us healthy children and we have 10 fine grandchildren, 5 grandsons and 5 granddaughters. Chinny and I are both healthy and hope to live to see our grandchildren grow up to be fine young men and women.

The Beckton Family

[illegible] Canada the Becton family origins were in Ontario and Prince Edward Island. John McCrimmon Beckton was born on May 15, 1900 in Kincardine, Ontario. His mother and father were born in Canada but his grandparents on both sides originated in England, Ireland and Scotland. He says, naturally, that he inherited the best qualities of all those nationalities. The family was completed by two brothers and a sister.

In 1917, Mac, as he became known to his friends, decided to go west to look for a job. At one time he had visions of studying medicine or education but the family fortunes did not allow him this opportunity. His exodus from Ontario first brought him to Welwyn, Saskatchewan where he worked on a farm for eighteen months. Then it was on to Manitoba to haul logs in a bush camp since farmers rarely needed assistance in the winter. The next few years saw him working at many jobs such as farmhand, railway worker and tie camp employee. On one occasion he even had to wash dishes in a cafe in Edmonton because he had spent his last dime.

Finally, in 1921 he saw the light and came to work for a farmer, named Reid, in Maymont, Saskatchewan. It was in the fall of 1921 that he was persuaded to purchase a quarter section of land in Maymont, which from then on became the home quarter. Since the quarter section of land wasn't really

Mac and Dorothy and family, May, 1954. Christening of George Alexander, the last baby.

enough to keep Mac busy he hauled grain for Elmer Fosby in Sonningdale for a number of winters.

It was at this time that [illegible] acquired a reputation for breaking horses. When he first bought the quarter section of land farmer Reid sold him a "nice" pair of horses. When first hitched to a rake they promptly ran away. After a few lessons to the horses on the disadvantages of running away, they never tried that again.

In 1936, contrary to his neighbors' advice, Mac purchased another half section of land. The first winter that he owned it he had to work in a bush camp in Alberta to make ends meet. By 1939 Mac had diversified his farming and was raising hogs and keeping chickens.

Mac continued to farm through the thirties when the depression hit Canada. There were times when all there was in the house [illegible] eat were eggs so the fare for the day would [illegible] eggs for breakfast, dinner and supper. During this time Mac became known as one of the confirmed bachelors in the area.

How long life would have continued in this manner can be left to speculation. In 1939 World War II started and with it came changes in Mac's life. Although farmers were exempt Mac decided to enlist and help out his country in this manner. This was quite a big step for Mac who was thirty-nine when World War II broke out. He enlisted in the autumn of 1941 and was called up by the R.C.A.F. in the spring of 1942. Leaving his farm to be cared for by a neighbor, Ed Peden, he left for Toronto where he trained as an aircraft electrician. The military was obviously short of supplies, as he discovered, when he was issued a uniform with a hole in it. Needless to say, he would have been reprimanded for a hole in his uniform so [illegible] became adept at the use of a needle and thread.

Following his training in Toronto he was posted to St. Jean, Quebec. It was here that an event was to occur which would drastically change his life. While sitting in a park in Montreal on August 14, 1943 he was approached by an attractive lady who was fleeing from another suitor. Dorothy Feigen was a twenty-eight year old Jewish girl who also had escaped the bonds of matrimony. Her father and mother had emigrated from Austria to Canada just prior to World War II.

In early September, 1943 Mac discovered that he was to be posted overseas so he proposed to Dorothy. Since no Jewish Rabbi would perform the ceremony, Mac found a Methodist minister who would, and rushed Dorothy to the Altar. His days as a confirmed bachelor were officially over.

However, instead of going overseas Mac and his new bride were sent to the air base at Rivers, Manitoba. It was there that Dorothy learned to cook through many trials and tribulations. In 1945 they were sent to Pennfield Ridge, New Brunswick just as he was ready to leave the Americans dropped the H-Bomb on Japan bringing the war to an end.

In 1946, following his release from the R.C.A.F. Mac went to Vancouver for the winter leaving Dorothy in Montreal. They were reunited in the spring of 1946 where Dorothy learned that her new home in the country was a one-room shack. Soon several more rooms were added but that house was never graced with electricity nor running water.

Dorothy and Mac wanted children but thus far their efforts had failed. Finally on February 8, 1948 their attempts were successful and John Allan was born. Afraid that their luck might not hold, they tried again immediately and were rewarded with the birth of McCrimmon Beckton on December 6, 1949. On the way to the registrar's office, Mac Sr. forgot his other proposed name and so he only registered McCrimmon. A year and one month later, January 7, 1951 Clare Frances was born. She was to be their only daughter.

In early 1954 near disaster struck when five year old John contracted polio. Dorothy was also pregnant at this time with their fourth child. John was rushed to the City Hospital in Saskatoon where [illegible] spent the next weeks. Fortunately [illegible] was not left with any crippling effects from the polio. When he returned from the hospital he brought the chicken pox home for his younger brother and sister to contract.

Despite all of this commotion, George Alexander arrived safely into this world on April 16, 1954. In the next few years, however, they almost lost him as [illegible] suffered a number of serious attacks of bronchitis. A good many times they had [illegible] rush to Maymont in the sleigh and send Dorothy with young George to the hospital in North Battleford. After a few years he outgrew this ailment and never suffered from it again.

The 1950's and 60's were years of raising four children and trying to make a living from the farm in spite [illegible] drought and grasshoppers. Since the road to the farm was not plowed in winter, when the children reached school age they had to be be driven [illegible] school by sleigh. [illegible] the summer Dorothy would drive them after she obtained her driver's license. Mac had purchased a car in 1950 and Dorothy had proceded to learn to drive. More than once she had to call for help when the car became stuck half way up a hill because she couldn't change the gears.

One winter in the late 50's Mac Sr. and the kids contracted a serious flu. Dorothy, assisted by a neighbor, had to help with the chores to keep the farm operating. One afternoon they drove the team and sleigh to town to obtain water and groceries. Neither one was an experienced driver so when they returned to find the gate full of snow, an incorrect turn caused the sleigh to upset spilling themselves, the water and the groceries over the snow. Fortunately good humor prevailed and no one took the incident seriously.

During this time Dorothy's cooking fame had spread over the neighborhood and often the small house would [illegible] filled [illegible] capacity for supper. All the neighbors loved [illegible] come to a woodcutting session at the Becktons. One Sunday Mac took the kids for a drive

to the river at 4:00 P.M. When they returned to the house an hour later Dorothy had invited twenty neighbors, who had dropped in, to stay to supper.

In 1964 they bought a house across from the school in Maymont. Since John, Mac Jr. and Clare were now teenagers more space was required and this meant less driving time to take them to the various activities they were involved in. Grandma Feigen came from Montreal to live with them for a few years.

A short time later Mac Sr. built a new hog barn on the quarter section of land facing Wilbur Peden's farm. Here he could raise three to four hundred hogs without the work involved in the old farm. The new barn had special farrowing areas so Mac wouldn't have to be present at the birth of his pigs. Gone were the days of playing midwife to pregnant sows. He continued to raise pigs until the winter of 1975 when he finally sold them and continued only with grain farming.

In 1967 Mac Jr. and John graduated from high school. John decided to stay on the farm but the following winter he took a six week farm welding course in Saskatoon. He enjoyed it so much that the following autumn he enrolled in a two-year diploma agriculture course at the University of Saskatchewan. He graduated two years later winning the gold medal for the top student. Upon completion he enrolled in the agriculture degree programme specializing in economics. He was also active in politics and for several years was the president of the Young Conservative Party on campus. In the summers John would work on the farm in Maymont. Not satisfied with all his training he stayed on to complete his Master's degree.

Now John was so educated that he didn't want to settle on the farm and obtained a job with the Alberta Government Agricultural Loan Department. After several years with the Alberta Government he returned to Saskatchewan and joined the Bank of Nova Scotia as their agrologist for the province. In the spring of 1979 he opened a hardware store in Regina with brother George managing it. At present John continues to work for the bank and farms in his spare time.

Mac Jr., on the other hand, left Maymont to work for the Royal Bank in Rosetown. From there he moved to Fillmore with the bank. After a few years he moved to Vancouver where he worked with the credit union for approximately six years. During this time he travelled through the United States and acquired a love of travel. In 1975 he moved to Toronto and continued to work for financial institutions. In 1978 he became a credit manager with Jim Pattison Leasing and has continued to work for them. Last winter he travelled to Spain and has future plans to go to Europe.

Clare graduated from high school in 1969. In the fall she entered the University of Saskatchewan with a scholarship to study Arts and Sciences. A year later she made the decision to study law and entered the law school in the autumn of 1971. During her three years at law school she won many scholarships and graduated in 1974 with great distinction. During her summers she kept busy working with legal aid in Saskatchewan and then with the Federal Government in Ottawa.

Following her graduation in 1974 with an LL.B. and B.A. she attended the University of Illinois to obtain her LL.M. Having completed the year programme she accepted a teaching position at Dalhousie University's Faculty of Law in Halifax. During her four years in Halifax she travelled extensively in Europe and in the United States. In 1979 she received a promotion to associate professor and also obtained a year's leave of absence to write a book entitled **The Law and the Journalist in Canada**. She will be writing this book in Winnipeg where she will live after her marriage to Kenneth Walper, an Armed Forces Pilot from Biggar, Saskatchewan. She met him in Halifax while training to obtain her private pilot's license and will be married October 6, 1979.

George Alexander completed his grade ten in Maymont and decided that was enough formal education. He went to work as a psychiatric aide in the Provincial Hospital in North Battleford. After working for a year on the ward for the criminally insane he decided to move to Calgary, Alberta. There he obtained a position as a corrections officer for the Calgary Correctional Institute. He was eventually trained for the riot squad and spent time working in the prison camp set in the mountains.

In the winter of 1978 he was invited by John to join him in establishing a hardware business in Regina, Saskatchewan. In February, 1979 the business opened its doors with George managing it. In March George met a Newfoundland nurse, Elaine Harding. True to his parents' tradition it was a whirlwind courtship which ended in their marriage on June 16, 1979 in Regina where they now reside.

Mac Sr. and Dorothy continue to live in Maymont. For the past four winters they have travelled to Vancouver, Toronto and Halifax to spend time with one of their children, then return home to farm in the summer.

The Dave Belerie Family

written by Elsie Belerie Melver

Dave Belerie was born in Belgium and came with his father and mother to North Dakota at an early age. From North Dakota they moved to Woodrow in Southern Saskatchewan and had five quarters of land.

Dave was in World War I and after his return from the war he married Emma Baumbach. His father then turned the farm over to him and his father operated a harness and shoe repair shop in Woodrow.

Dave and Emma had a large family. There were Thelma, Alex, Lawrence, Ella, and Don born while they were in Woodrow but they also lost four children in infancy. Between sickness and poor crops they had a

The Dave Belerle Family, 1949. Back, l-r — Thelma, Alex, Lawrence, Ella. Front — Don, Mrs. Emma Belerle, Diana, and Dave Belerle.

hard struggle. They decided to move to Central Saskatchewan where at least there was lots of wood so as to keep the fires burning. They rented a quarter section south ■ Denholm in the Harringay district. In November of 1934 they started out in their Chev car pulling their belongings and bedding. At that time the Government moved their machinery, livestock and household furniture. When they arrived at the farm the family who had rented it before them, "Eldon Anderson" were still in the house. They all had to live together for quite sometime before the Andersons found somewhere else to live. One night there were seventeen altogether, and it was a small four room house.

They rented this land until 1938 and then moved to Ruddell and rented a one-half section from Lawrence Robinson and lived in the house that Bryant Fletcher now owns. Here they raised turkeys and chickens, had a few cows and a good garden spot so they had plenty to eat. Dave joined the army in World War II but his wife carried on with the farming with the help of his family. ■ November of 1942 Diane was born at Maymont.

Alex joined the army in 1942, and Lawrence in 1943. Then in 1946 the Belerle's had a sale of the machinery and livestock and moved into North Battleford. Dave worked at the Provincial Hospital on the "Work Gangs" until his health failed. He died in June 1960. His wife, Emma, bought James Street Grocery and operated it until 1960. She then moved to different places in the United States, British Columbia, was in River Heights Lodge for a short time and is presently in Regina.

Thelma Belerle married Harry Nedowin in December, 1943.

After being discharged from the army, Alex worked in North Battleford as a milkman for the Dairy Pool. ■ 1948 he got the North half section 36-42-14-W3rd, through the V.L.A. where the Tommy Caldwell Senior family were living, which was originally the

Alex and Elsie Belerle wedding — Oct. 12, 1949.

Harry Turner farm west of Lilac. Alex worked his land with his brother-in-law, Harry Nedowin, that year. In November of 1948, Alex lived with his mother and worked for C.J.N.B. radio station as "Transformer Operator". Then in the spring of 1949 he bought a new tractor — a "Massey Harris 30" and a second hand tiller and put in his own crop and continued his job with C.J.N.B.

On October 12, 1949 Alex married me, now Mrs. Clair McIvor, then Elsie Leech from Saljeenie. I was a Registered Psychiatric Nurse and had graduated in May 1949. I continued to work at the Provincial Hospital after our marriage and Alex quit his job with C.J.N.B. and went back to the Dairy Pool working as a milkman again. ■ May of 1950 we moved out to the farm and I quit my job. Alex did the farming after delivering milk so his days were very long. During the winter months we moved into North Battleford. In May 1955, Alex quit his job and I returned to work ■ the Hospital so he could at least get his machinery ready for the field while baby-sitting and this worked out much better. Once Betty started school we stayed on the farm during the winter and took things a little easier.

We bought the Whitlaw quarter, S.E.¼ 30-42-13-W3rd in 1956.

On September 30, 1959, the Superintendent of the National Grain Company offered Alex a job as grain buyer at Lilac and he took it as it had rained for almost

Russell and Betty Beaudoin, Dana, Terra and Devin — May 19, 1979.

a month and we didn't have any crop left. In October of 1962 the company transferred him and the family to Manning, Alberta where the railway had just been put in and new elevators were built in the Peace River country. There the cost of living was very high and things didn't work out to expectations and Alex quit his job in August of 1964 and moved back to Lilac. We were all happy to be amongst our friends and neighbors again.

We built a new house starting it in the fall of 1966 moved into it the following spring.

On February 15, 1966, Alex took on the job as mail courier from Maymont travelling north six miles and then west on the "correction line" to Lilac delivering the mail twice weekly.

On October 4, 1968, Alex was the victim of a truck hoist accident on his farm.

We have five children. Betty Anne was born in September 1950 and she married Russell Beaudoin of Maymont on April 1, 1972. They have three children — Dana, Terra, and Devin. They live on the Dave Penner farm. Elaine Mae was born on May 18, 1953 and she married Garry Dearborn of Richard on October 8, 1971. They have two children — Sean and Tanya and they live in Maidstone, Saskatchewan. Alan William was born on December 5, 1954 and married Donna Starycki in November of 1977. They have a son, Chad. They are living in Maymont at the present time. Donna is working at the Saskatchewan Hospital. Calvin James was born on June 15, 1958. He graduated from Maymont Central School in 1976. Both Alan and Cal work for Art Martynes in Ruddell, Saskatchewan. Brent was born on May 12, 1965 and keeps us busy with hockey in winter and ball and 4-H in the Light Horse Project in the summer.

I continued on with the mail route after Alex's death and I still have it. There are presently twenty-four households on the route. In September of 1976 the route was changed so as to include the Prescesky and Seib farms travelling south from Art Reiley's to Highway 16.

On June 16, 1973, I married Clair McIvor and my house was moved to the McIvor farm in August 1973.

Our house is "home" to both families and this is the way we want it.

Lawrence Beierle married Olive Boucher of Baljennie in November, 1952. They have two daughters — Donna Lynne and Marilyn.

Ella married Bill Thrower in April, 1949. They had three children — Linda, John and Doug. Bill passed away of cancer and she married Mel Wenzel and they are presently living in North Battleford.

Don lives in Manotock in Ontario — and has a son, David.

Diane married Hans Briner. They have two children — Melodie and Danny and they live in Cloverdale, B.C.

Arthur and Mary Bennett

by Mary Bennett

Arthur and Mary Bennett arrived in Fielding in November, 1953 with their family, Bernice, age thirteen years, Dale ten, and Keith five. They came from Pathlow, Saskatchewan where Art worked on the railroad. The reason for moving from Pathlow was to obtain year-round employment as first man on the section. This was done by bidding on Fielding Section and gained by seniority. Art worked there from 1955 to 1962 at which time some sections were closed, Fielding being one, and gangs were formed. Art worked on a gang for nearly three years, then got on the section at Maymont. He worked there till it closed in 1969. He then worked on the section at Borden till 1971 when he retired.

Mary was switchboard operator at Fielding from 1954 to 1960 until the telephone lines were connected to the Radisson Office.

Art's parents of Scottish and Irish descent came from Graysville, Manitoba — originally from Ontario. Mary's father came from near Belfast, Ireland at the age of twenty-one and obtained work building the railway bridge at Borden in 1904. Mary's mother of Scottish and Irish descent, was born in a block-house in Prince Albert during the "Riel Rebellion" in 1885. She's still going strong at the age of ninety-four.

Bernice married Lesley Buell in 1960 and to that union four children were born. Their oldest boy, Kelly, was tragically killed on the highway at Fielding at the age of eight years, ten months. Daren is now seven-

teen, Tammy eleven and Jeffrey five. They are farming at Fielding.

Dale married Elaine Breitkreitz in 1967 and they have two children — Troy, four years; and Brandi, two years. They are living in Saskatoon.

Keith married Alice Cyr in 1970 and they have two children — Kyle, nearly three and Sandra, nearly two. Their home is in Port Alberni, B.C.

The Bennetts moved to Radisson in 1969 where Mary worked in the telephone office for two years, till dial telephones came in.

My Life History

written by Charles Glen Bird — Mosquito Band 200 — aged eleven

On February 4, 1960 a wonderful thing happened. Charles Glen Bird was born. I don't know the place I was born or how big I was, but when I was three weeks old I was brought to Mrs. Lindberg's place in North Battleford. When I got older she told me I used to get sick a lot when I was a baby. One of the things I don't think I'll ever forget is when I was about the age of two Mrs. Lindberg would roll me up in a blanket and cut my hair.

When I was just a baby, Mrs. Lindberg's son, Joe, used to carry me up to bed. When I was about five, Allen Sapp drew a picture of me sitting on Mrs. Lindberg's knee.

Mrs. Lindberg had a sister which lived with them and everyone called her Aunt Edie. She was always very kind to me and when I would go to the hospital she would always come and see me and bring me treats or bananas.

I started kindergarten. My teacher was Mrs. Josie. I had a lot of fun there. We used to take a lunch. When we got out, we got out earlier than the big people so we would practice riding bikes.

I started school at Connaught School. In grade one and two we had Show and Tell. I was to take something and tell about it. I usually took Indian beadwork of Mrs. Lindberg's. I remember once I took a papoose bag beaded all over on the velvet cover and lined with silk. Another time I took a silver fox for wearing around your neck.

Once I went to visit a cousin of mine who lived on Red Pheasant Reserve. I remember seeing a small boy chopping wood in the yard. When we were invited into the house I saw a baby in a hammock made of twine, hanging from the ceiling.

Mrs. Lindberg's daughter and her family took us to visit Joe who was teaching in Alberta. While we were there we went to the zoo. I remember seeing many elk wells.

My Favorite place on Saturday when I lived in North Battleford was the stockyards. I would go there with some of my friends. We would ride the old work horse, tease the cattle that were being loaded and chase the sheep.

Other times we hitch-hiked to old Battleford or we rode our bikes.

On Sunday I always went to Sunday School with Mrs. Lindberg. When I was eight years old, Mrs. Lindberg got very sick and Aunt Edie told me I would have to go to another home. The preacher brought me here to Ted's and Ev's. The day after I came here, Mrs. Lindberg died. I have gone in visit Aunt Edie many times since I came here.

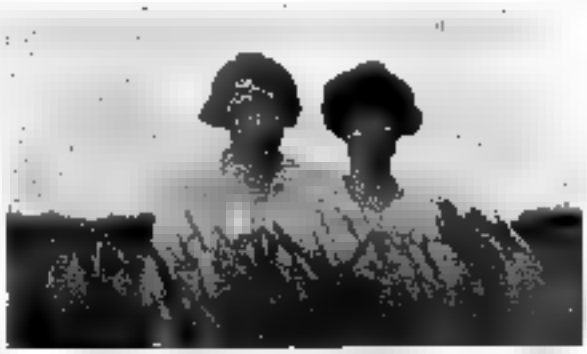
This summer I went to Turtle Lake for one week of camping. When I got home I went on a Trail Ride. Shelley rode her horse Shayne, and I rode her other horse, Farmer. We started at Radisson and rode in Glenburn Park where we slept out over night and we sure had fun. There were twenty or thirty horses but I was the only one who rode bareback. We got home at noon Monday. Charlotte and Lawrence took us to Waskesiu till Friday.

Although I lack some things other kids have I'm happy and would not trade with anyone.

John and Hannah Birse

by John Birse

Hannah and I came from Newton Stuart, Scotland. I arrived in Ruddell in May, 1920. I went to the Labour Exchange in Saskatoon and was placed to John Anderson at Ruddell. Mr. Allan Anderson and three sons all had homesteaded, Ernie and John at Ruddell and George close to Denholm. After a little while I homesteaded one quarter and one quarter soldier's grant at Loon Lake. The town of Loon Lake is located on the land I filed on. I worked with the Andersons that summer and winter. My wife joined me in June, 1921. We worked with Andersons until after harvest and then went to Arnold Brothers, Dave and John. We stayed there until the spring of 1924 when I rented the east half of 4-42-13 from Turnbull Brothers (the Campbell place). We farmed there until 1935 when we moved two miles west on to three-quarters on section 32-41-13. This land was owned by the Bromley Bros., Jim and George. They homesteaded the north half and Mr. Claud Jennings the south west quarter. He was a



Mrs. Birse and Mary Black (teacher at Montrose school). Good crop of wheat about 1930.

John and Hannah Birse 50th anniversary. March 12, 1970.

grain buyer at Ruddell for some time. I arrived there in good time for the dirty thirties. Jim had already died but George was on the farm when we moved on. He went east the following winter ■ Renfrew, Ontario where he came from in 1905, where he died.

Bromleys acquired the southwest quarter and gave them 300 acres of arable land and the rest pasture, only ■ acres able to be broken. My brother-in-law Bobby Clark farmed with me for two summers. Then he joined the army. I bought the farm from the Bromley estate. I had some crop in by Vern Schmidts. By war end, I got myself a Massey 30 and a six foot tiller and farmed until the late sixties when I rented to Wes Schmidt. We bought a house in Ruddell from Mr. Ross Stally and moved into Ruddell. I then sold the farm to Wes and had a sale.

Blacklock's at Maymont

The Blacklock's came to Maymont in 1920 and left in 1956. J.D. or "Black" as he was called by Doc Scratch and his friends, ran the Mc Cormick-Deering implement business, a hardward store, and Imperial Oil.

In the 1920's J.D. sold a lot of 10-20's and 15-30's. Also a lot of binders, mowers and rakes. He became involved with what became the International Harvester Company when he came west from Glenburnie, five miles north of Kingston, Ontario, in 1918. He worked with the Company out of Saskatoon.

After marrying Jane Letitia Johnston in a farm house east of Laura at Christmas time in 1920, he had

John and Letitia Blacklock and family in their back yard — spring, 1932. Jock, Benson, Billy and Eleanor.

the chance of taking out the dealership at either Melfort or Maymont. In those days Maymont looked like the best territory, so ■ settled there.

J.D. was the eldest of 10 children and so it was his responsibility to leave home in Ontario, the old stone house and barn, the apple orchard, the maple sugar bush, the milk cows and the hauling of the milk to the cheese factory. There were enough younger children to fill these jobs and get them done.

Trading new machinery and taking payment or part payment with horses and cattle became a tradition when people became short of cash in the 1930's. So the Blacklock's rented land from Bill Sowden, the Hotel proprietor. This was beside town where the hockey rink is today. Land was also rented from Mawhinney the druggist. This quarter section was down toward Beckton's. A quarter of land was bought just south of town and adjoining the school grounds in 1929. The pasture land on this quarter became travelling ground for many people, young and old, over the years. There was a dugout with trees around three sides. There were nice paintings done by Edith Butterfield, who later married and now lives in Dundee, Scotland.

The famous picnic in 1932 in recognition of the services of Doc Scratch was held in this pasture field. Doc was presented with a buffalo coat and a sporty new car. He was much admired for miles around. Every family can tell at least one story about the grateful assistance given by Doc Scratch.

Over the years J.D. was very active in community work. Chairman of the Athletic Society which ran the sports day every May 24th. Chairman of the school board. Chairman of the United Church board. Chairman of the Mayfield and Douglas Agricultural Society. He was active in all the things that made it a great town.

Mrs. Blacklock helped with all the church groups, ladies aid, C.G.I.T., baby band, camp mother. And of course also the Homemakers Club. As with ladies with families in the community, Mrs. Blacklock spent much of her time raising four children and seeing that they received an education.

They were Jock, Ben, Bill, and Eleanor. The boys went to University and eventually ended up auctioneering. Eleanor took nursing in City Hospital. All are married with families and the boys are now grandparents.

Mrs. Blacklock is now enjoying her 88th year, and is living in a small house in Saskatoon. J.D. passed away in March, 1963.

It is with great pride and pleasure that all members of the Blacklock family recall their days spent in Maymont, and the associations with people there.

There was the old pot-bellied stove in the hardware store or "shop". A small light bulb supplied with power from McCorkels power plant. The floor was squirted with oil and swept with dust-bane. The bridge game went on day after day, sometimes for nickel White-owl cigars. Some of the players other than J. B. and Doc, were Coleman, Dudley and Melrose.

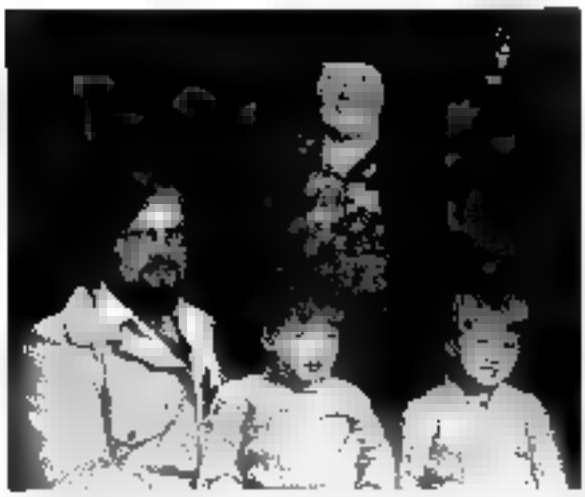
Saturday nights, Sawyer would bring in the bleached flour sacks, oozing blood, for the meat ring customers. Farmers and townspeople would stand at the store front, visiting.

There were good times and hard times. Sometimes they occurred at the same time. For most of the citizens, life was centered in an area of not too many miles.

Last But Not Least!

by Shelley Bloom

I was born in 1956 into the already ample family of Ted and Evelyn Sloan. My preschool days were spent absorbing the attention of a big family and enjoying the farm. I especially loved being outside helping Dad with the chores. (I marvel that he had the patience to bother with me.) Some of my earliest memories include my Grandpa Billy Andrew who was always good for treats and stories. Mom has inherited his ability to tell stories. She can make the ordinary come alive and delights the grandchildren with her fascinating way of telling stories "out of her mouth", as my son refers to one that is not read from a book.



Roger, Shelley, Kris and Seth Bloom, March, 1979.

Being so much younger than the rest of my family I had to content myself with cats and dogs for playmates until the fall of 1965 when a shaggy black pony named Farmer wandered into my existence. Farmer was all a horse crazy nine year old girl could want. I not only had the horse I'd been wanting for so long, but he also offered access to kids my own age. For years after, Esther Pauls and I were inseparable. We practically lived at one another's homes. Henry and Jessie were always very good to me. Sometimes Esther and I would venture to Dave Penners to play with their grandchildren or ride on to Lyle McIvors or Woods to ride with Dwight or Orville. We often rode to Clair McIvors to get in some girl talk with Karen and Lorraine. Anita always made us a big lunch and made us feel so welcome. Farmer also gave me the opportunity to join 4-H. The Light Horse Club was lead jointly by Ches Miller and Roy Rogers. I was a part of the program for three years. I loved riding to our meetings, bathing our horses for Achievement Day and learning more about horses. My husband and I raise Arabian horses now and I often consult my 4-H books about one thing or another.

Esther and I spent most of our free time riding horses in the "Berg Place", a half section of government hayland bordered by "Rabbit Road" near our farm. It seems sad when I go home now to see the Berg Place fenced and filled with cattle and Rabbit Road is torn up under construction. Although places have changed a great deal, Farmer is much the same as he was fourteen years ago. He is somewhat gray now but he is alive and well at almost thirty years old and continues to delight the children who ride him.

One of the greatest things about the Maymont community is the neighbours. Gug and Millie Beaudoin were almost like an extra pair of parents for me. They always took time to visit, Millie made me birthday cakes and Gug even gave me a horse. We still have her and Shayne is a lovely mare.

School held no particular fascination for me. Parts of it I enjoyed but my happiest days were those when Dad had a calf to find in the pasture and needed me at home or when I was able to sneak off on a little trip somewhere and skip a few days or weeks . . .

When I was twelve, Glen Bird came to live with us. He came to us for two weeks and stayed eight years! In some ways I found it difficult to adjust to having an instant brother but Glen was a good kid and we all learned to love him. Although he is working in the U.S.A. now, we keep in touch and he is still a real part of our family.

I graduated from Maymont School in 1974. Many of us from that class still keep in touch and our friendships continue despite the different directions our lives have taken.

In July of 1974 I married Roger Bloom, a farmer from Turtleford. We live northwest of Turtleford. Our rural backgrounds help us appreciate farm life. God has been very good to us; we have two sons, Seth, born in 1975 and Kris in 1977.

I feel fortunate to have been part of a big family. Despite the years and the miles between us, we have remained very close. We learned to love music when we were young, and even now a family gathering is not complete unless my Dad dusts off the fiddle and we have a chance to sing together. Roger's family is also musical and his sisters. Verna and Wendy, and I spend alot of time playing and singing together. Mom and Dad have a home with elastic walls. Somehow, no matter how our family expands there is always room for us all and at least a half dozen friends besides. I am proud of my Mom and Dad and the priorities they have tried to teach us. I hope I can convey to my own children the kind of respect for life and the love of God my parents have given to me.

The Francis (Frank) Bohn Family History

as told by Stanley Bohn

Francis Bohn (Frank), Stanley Bohn's father, came from Germany in 1867 to settle in Renfrew, Ontario, at the age of 4 years. He took his schooling there and after completing school was apprenticed to learn the blacksmith trade. Feeling the call of the West in 1879 he freighted for the Hudson Bay Company from Fort Garry, Manitoba to Fort Saskatchewan with oxen and Red River carts (up to 100 in the train of carts). On the return trip they were loaded with furs. The round trip took six months. He also worked in the C.P.R. shops, and while in Winnipeg he met my mother, Sarah Parker, and they were married in 1880. They homesteaded in Rose-Hill, Manitoba, a district Southwest of McGregor.

Frank Bohn family — 1908. Back row — Fred, May, Alfred, Teena, Jim. Centre — Frances, Flora, Etta, Adeline, Minnie. Front — Frank (father), Henry, Sarah (mother), Stanley.

Not being able to obtain land, father came to Saskatchewan to get homesteads. In 1903 he and son, Fred, came to what is now Maymont district and filed on NW¼ 8-42-12-W3rd and also filed proxy on SW¼ 8-42-12-W3rd for son, James. They travelled by train from Rose-Hill, Manitoba to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. (the end of the railway at that time); then drove to the homestead location — later filed at the Land Titles office in Battleford, Saskatchewan. They returned to Rose-Hill for the winter. Father and son, Jim, came back in the spring of 1904 with a carload of settlers' effects to Saskatoon and from there by horses and wagons.

The first buildings were a log house, with a sod roof, and sod barn. Father and Fred returned to Rose-Hill in the winter of 1904 and Jim stayed on the homestead with William Dawson whose homestead was on NE¼ 8-42-12-W3rd. They took turns once a month walking for groceries and mail to the elbow of N. Saskatchewan, now known as Cee-Pee. Jim remained on the farm 1905-1906 to break and prepare the land for cropping.

Father came back in May, 1907, with the family, by train to Maymont as the railway was completed in 1905. That year a frame house was built, which still stands. The family consisted of seven girls and five boys: Minnie, Mrs. William Dawson; Ernestine, Mrs. Herb Johnston; May, Mrs. Jim Greenwood; Adeline, Mrs. Paul Serack; Henrietta, Mrs. W. Baker; Flora, Mrs. R. Greenslade; Stanley, in army 1914-18; Frances, Mrs. William Cameron; Fred, in army 1914-18 war; Alfred, killed in action 1914-18 war; Henry, retired; Jim, passed away 1964.

My father was active in community activities. He helped build the first Presbyterian church which was located on the present parking lot of the Memorial Hall. He helped organize the cemetery and was the first person to be buried in it on September 7, 1908. My mother helped our local Dr. Scratch (who came in 1908) by nursing maternity cases in her home and district.

The homestead was farmed by Jim and Henry until 1964 when Jim passed away — leaving Henry to farm until 1979 at which time the land was sold.

The Stanley Bohn Family History

written by Stanley and Leta Bohn

Stanley and Leta Bohn (nee Walton) were married April 18th, 1928 and took up farming on 22-42-12-W3rd (my old home). We farmed with seven horses and a one-way discer. In the spring of 1948 we bought a Co-op tractor which was driven (by Stanley) from Saskatoon. This tractor was used until we quit farming in 1974. The harvest was done by cutting the crop with binders — stooking and threshing. In the early 40's we bought a pull-type combine and later a self-propelled.

50th wedding anniversary, April 18th, 1978. Back row — Norma, Elsie, Lois, Mabel, Ronald, Margaret, Stella, Verna. Front — Stanley and Leta.

Ready for Sunday School — Norma, Elsie, Lois and Mabel with old 'Prince'.

Our family consisted of seven girls and one boy, who are all married and on their own: Norma, Mrs. Walter Wiley; Elsie, Mrs. Olaf Nylander; Lois, Mrs. Ralph Wiley; Mabel, Mrs. Ben Dyck; Ronald Bohn, married Elaine Rogers; Margaret, Mrs. Charles Walker; Stella, Mrs. Tony Roman; Verna, Mrs. Glen Osterlund.

They all attended Grey School, Estonia, and Maymont Central High School.

At one time Leta made as many as five lunches each day. Each one had individual lunch kits. As one couldn't run to town for an extra loaf of bread, etc., it was important to watch the disappearing loaves. Leta usually made six to eight large loaves at a time and usually a pan of cinnamon rolls. And it was mostly a weekly job. Nothing fancy in those days as our own beef, pork, chicken and eggs were used to a great extent along with jam and peanut butter. Dozens of cookies were also made and kept especially for lunches. Then in the fall when boxes of fresh apples came in everyone enjoyed them.

To supplement our revenue we milked eleven cows by hand — shipped cream and made our own butter. During the depression we drove nine miles by horse and cart with a can of cream to Speers Creamery amounting to $2.50. We raised chickens and sold eggs for 10¢ a dozen as well as butter for 10¢ a pound. We sold dressed chickens for 25¢ each, while turkeys were kept for home use. We also produced a large garden but didn't forget the beautiful flower display. We also experimented with plum, pear, currants (black), and crab-apple trees. Along with wild fruit, this required a lot of canning.

Our home was always a scene of sport activities for young folks who would gather to play ball, horse shoes and other games. In the winter a skating rink was made beside the dug-out. A rink house was built, due to the efforts of the skaters. As many as 20-25 young people would gather for skating parties — ending with a weekly batch of doughnuts and drinks (milk/tea). Many good times were had!

When the family had grown up and left, Stanley and Leta farmed the land from 1960 to 1974. In 1968 they moved to town, which enabled the girls to go to high school and they farmed from town.

In 1974 they rented the farm for three years, then sold it.

After moving to town, Stanley was care-taker of the Memorial Hall for 21 years. We take an active part in community activities which include churchwork, Senior Citizen's, Sport Center, Memorial Hall, Glentorn Regional Park and the Lakeland Regional Library.

Stanley is a Life Member of the Royal Canadian Legion and Leta a member of the Auxiliary R. C. Legion since 1943. He is also on the cemetery committee. Stanley served twenty-one years on the Board of Stewards of the United Church and twenty years on the Session. Leta is a member of the United Church and a regular quilter.

We celebrated our 50th Wedding Anniversary last year (1978) and were very happy our eight children, twenty-eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren were able to attend. Many relatives and friends from B.C., Alberta and Saskatchewan were present.

We still grow a garden, strawberries, raspberries and ornamental shrubs, and many varieties of flowers.

At the combined age of 154 years is this being retired or just tired?

The Bodie Family of Fielding, Saskatchewan

by Mrs. Edgar Bodie

The Bodie family came from Bruce County, Ontario to Carman, Manitoba where they lived and farmed for several years. The older children began their schooling there. Then they moved to Fielding about 1907. They raised a family of nine, all living except one son, John, who died in April, 1973.

The homestead was located nine miles north east of Fielding. They built their home and other building of logs, broke the land, and went into mixed farming.

The Bodie Family, 1915.

Firewood and logs came from nearby bluffs. A wood-sawing bee for each neighbor came up each winter. All had their chores, even the littlest ones, helping with stock, poultry, berry-picking, and garden. Working bees were regular happenings in the district.

Mrs. Bodie supplied bachelors and other neighbors with home baked bread, butter and eggs, besides cooking for her own family.

Mr. Bodie was always called on in case of illness or accident. He willingly left his work to help a neighbor in trouble. Also he held office in all district organizations. This home was a favorite stopping place for travellers and salesmen. Mrs. Bodie died in 1918. The older children left home in turn to start homes of their own.

Edgar stayed to farm until 1976. Mr. Bodie died in 1964.

John served with the Canadian Army for two years overseas. The farm is now owned by Bruce and Cathy Flath.

Hillsborough School was built about 1908. The family took their education there. A teacherage was built later. Eastbourne United Church was nearby for Church and Sunday School, also the Ladies Aid Society. Several ministers took charge of the parish before Dr. Frank Myers came to Maymont to be the minister until the church was moved to Halcyonia District north of Borden. Many social events were held in both the church and the school.

Dr. Scratch of Maymont and Dr. Rose of Hafford were well-known names.

The new school was opened in 1952 and closed in 1961. The building is still used for a home on the Kuntz farm near Fielding. Pupils were taken by bus to Hafford to finish their education.

The Fielding-Hafford Community Pastures came into being after that. Some farmers sold their land and moved away. Some of the nearest neighbors were Fisher, Hockley, Downie, Flath, Bower and Breitkreitz families.

Bob and Hazel Boyd

Mr. Robert (Bob) Boyd came to Canada from Ireland at the age of seventeen. He arrived at the train station in Saskatoon with only a few pennies in his pocket. Bob got a job on a large ranch in Southern Saskatchewan.

He married Hazel Johnston, oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herb Johnston, and moved to a farm in the Maymont District. The farm was located two miles north and three miles east of Maymont.

Hazel Boyd was a woman noted for her generosity

THE FAMILY NOW

Mary Campbell	Now in a home in Battleford	1 son in Speers
Leslie Bodie	Speers	1 daughter near Ottawa
William Bodie	Lloydminster	7 children 11 grandchildren
Emma Cunningham	Camrose, Alberta	6 children 6 grandchildren 1 great-grandchild
Murial Drabble	Speers	3 children 7 grandchildren 1 great-grandchildren
Barbara Anger	Dechenel, Alberta	7 children 17 grandchildren
Edna Hambly	Markham, Ontario	2 children
Edgar Bodie	Radisson	2 children 1 grandchild

Hazel Boyd.

and hard work in community endeavors. She passed away in 1975.

When Bob and Hazel retired to Maymont, Bob became the townman. He still retains this position and is well known for his kindness and willingness to lend a helping hand.

Bob and Hazel had one son, Glen. Glen is married and has two children, Carrie-Ann and Douglas. His wife Sharon teaches school in Maymont. Glen owns and manages the local hotel.

Albert Bouskill Family of Maymont, Saskatchewan

written by Marguerite (Florence) Maywood

I hope to be excused, both by friends who knew my forebears and my members of my own family, for any inaccuracies in this report. I had this not unpleasant task thrust upon me on short notice and there was no time to verify facts or memories.

My mother, Mary Margaret Bouskill (Maggie), held her face pressed against the window of the train as it sped westwards from Winnipeg that spring day in 1906. Her spirits sank lower and lower as she saw mile after mile of empty prairie, small bluffs and evidence of devasting prairie fires across the flat land. When she finally reached her destination at Maymont, Saskatchewan, (it was still the North West Territories until the previous year) and saw the little freight car serving as a station house, and not much else, she was almost ready to take her trunk full of new clothes, she had enjoyed wearing so much the year before visiting relatives in Toronto, and go back to St. Andrews, just north of Winnipeg, where she was born. But her brother Percy was there to meet her, full of optimism and soon convinced her that this was an exciting new world, full of opportunity and adventure.

On April 16, 1905 my grandfather, Albert Bouskill had filed on a homestead on SW 10-42-12-W 3rd, four

Albert Bouskill — June, 1933.

and a half miles northeast of Maymont and my Uncle Percy's claim was adjoining on SE 10-42-12-W 3rd. It was two or three years before the rest of the family was completely moved from St. Andrews, so far as my grandchildren can remember being told. My mother had come out west to spend the summer and keep house for her brother and returned to St. Andrews in the fall.

Albert Bouskill was born in 1862 at Port Hope, Ontario, the third son of John Bouskill and Mary Margaret Bletcher. Both families had come to Canada by way of New York and the United Empire Loyalists from York County, England. Albert Bouskill left his parental home about 1875 and settled at [redacted], Andrews, Manitoba where he made his living as a carpenter and contractor. He married Jessie MacDonald in 1879. She was the granddaughter of one, Daniel MacDonald who served with the Hudson's Bay Company out of Fort Edmonton from 1805 to 1835. During that time "Big Scot Dan" lived with the Blackfoot Indians as a liaison between the Hudson's Bay Company and the North-West Company who were in fierce competition over the fur trade. Albert and Jessie Bouskill had nine children, seven of whom survived to maturity. Jessie died in childbirth, leaving a family of seven: My mother Maggie, Percy, Edward, Rose, Alex, Stephen and Stewart.

Albert Bouskill built many of the schools in the district around Maymont, and Stephen and Stewart were pupils the first year that Grey School opened near the farm. He also built the Anglican Church in Maymont. If I remember correctly, I was told the famous Seager Wheeler, wheat king, and his bride were the first to be married in that church, and my parents were second, on November [redacted], 1909 by Reverend Schofield. I was baptised and married in that same little church, and

my Uncle Percy who died in 1954, left a legacy to it in honor of his father.

My grandfather also had a brother Charles, who married into a Barrett family, and settled in the Maymont District and had a large family, many of whom lived in the area for several years.

Uncle Percy never married and cared for his younger brother Alex, who was an epileptic, with the help of several housekeepers. I remember Mrs. Peck a large kind hearted deaf lady, who quite late in life, married Watt Smith, an elderly bachelor, who lived east of Richard. Next came Robert and Mrs. Neill, a young Irish couple directly from Ireland. Their ready wit, good humor, and jovial personalities, did much to brighten up the atmosphere of a bachelor's domicile. The Neills were well received in the district, and decided to settle in Maymont, where they and their daughters contributed a great deal to the social and entertainment life of the community. Mrs. Rose Schmidt with her daughter, Betty was another who was there for many years. When Percy died, in 1954 he left the old homestead to my brother, Donovan Florence.

Percy Frederick Bouskill was a man of great proportions, both mentally and physically. He stood six foot three in the Indian moccasins which he wore every winter, and weighed in at from 220 to 230 pounds in his prime, all muscle, sinew and bone.

Percy's prowess with an axe, a pitchfork, a shovel, or with his bare hands, are legendary. In harvest time, it was nothing for him to unload a three-deck box of wheat into the bin with a grain scoop without stopping to rest, or even to cause him to breathe heavily. A load of hay (and they were LOADS), disappeared into the hayloft in less than a dozen forkfulls. Pity the unfortunate individual in the loft trying to fork it back!

In the early days, one of the highlights of the year, was the annual 'hunting trip' to the North country for big game. Percy was an avid hunter, and always looked forward to this trip with great enthusiasm and excitement. The hunting party was made up of local farmers, mainly, — Billy Holmes, the Langley Brothers, Watt Smith, Andrew Bros., Jim and Stanley Bohn to name a few, and of course Percy. The journey to the big game in the vicinity of Green Lake was made in sleighs, loaded with bedding and all necessary provisions, including an adequate supply of medicinal liquids, and drawn by the finest teams available. The recounting of the events following one of these trips filled many a pleasant evening round the fireside for the rest of the winter.

Percy was a quiet and kind man. One of his greatest interests was his horses, and they always received the best of care and attention. No one ever saw a thin horse on Percy's farm. Percy was slow to change: and long after the age of mechanization had taken over, Percy stayed with the horses. In fact, he never learned to drive a car, a truck, or a tractor, and never owned a car or a truck. During World War II, when help became scarce, he was forced to give up the horses for field work, and purchased a tractor. But he never ever drove it himself, and kept horses for chores, putting up hay, and for transportation to town for the mail and groceries. Up until the time of his death in 1954, a familiar sight was the black team and buggy, on the road between the farm and Maymont.

Uncle Ed married Annie Phillips of Richard and had six children. Aunt Rose married Thomas McBratney who was a blacksmith at Maymont. They later moved first to Nanaimo, B.C. and then Vegreville, Alberta and had five children.

Stewart remained a bachelor and lived on his farm northeast of Richard which he left to Ed's only son, Dennis, upon his death. Both Stephen and Stewart served in the army in World War I, and were in the trenches in France. Stewart left the district in the 1920's and lived in Saskatoon several years before settling at the west coast. He was twice married and

Percy Bouskill — 1915.

George Alexander MacRobbie Florence and Mary Margaret Bouskill wedding picture — Maymont, 1909.

had two children. Both Steve and Stewart were again in the Canadian Army Overseas in World War II.

All of the Bouskill pioneers are dead and long gone and it shakes one up to the startling realization that life is so short. If only we had listened and learned more of their lives, this report would be easier to write

It was 1908 or so when my mother Maggie Bouskill and my father, George Alexander McRobbie Florence, met at a dance after the Borden Sports Day. She said this dark handsome man who had been playing the violin in the orchestra came and asked her to dance the Newport waltz — and they had not even been introduced! But she defied the Victorian conventions too — by accepting! From then on, my parents never missed a Borden Sports Day if they were in the province, until my mother died in 1956.

To go back — in 1903 the Barr Colonists had arrived in Saskatoon which was then just a little village. Many of them settled along the North Saskatchewan River as far as Lloydminster, which was named after Bishop Lloyd who with Mr. Barr, had sponsored the 2000 odd immigrants from England. It was an exciting time for the prairies, with many new settlers and promises of the railway being built beyond Saskatoon. It was the spring of 1903 that my father George Florence aged eighteen, had left his parental home at Balmoral, Manitoba, to work with a survey crew of the Dominion Lands Survey and helped to survey the sections and quarter sections all the way to Alsask on the Alberta border. His parents had come from the highlands of Aberdeen, Scotland, with two children to settle near Balmoral, Manitoba and my father was the first born in Canada. It was that summer that the Barr Colonists arrived in Saskatoon and it became a tent city overnight. When the tired survey crew, who had run out of food except for raisins and rolled oats for days before they returned to Saskatoon but with their pockets full of their summer wages, came within miles of the city, they were met by real estate agents in buggies, anxious to sell them land and relieve them of their money. My father bought a small piece sight unseen and when he finally located it, found it was mostly a slough. He never did pay any more taxes on it, and about 1934 he had a letter from the City of Saskatoon requesting his signature on a quit claim to the land, only to realize too late, that it was in the University of Saskatchewan grounds.

I have no idea how my father happened to choose his homestead site on NE 16-43-11-W 3rd, one mile east of Richard, on October 30, 1905, sponsored by James Debbon and Oliver Andrews. I do remember him telling me how his brother Percy Florence who became a well known auctioneer, at Wilkie, filed his claim and they walked from the Land Titles Office in Battleford to Wilkie where the land was, and stopped off at the Phelps farm.

My father worked for Emile Richard who was a rancher. In the interim he proving up his land, and herded horses and cattle on what was once known as the Belgian Flats, between Richard and Meeting Lake. He spent many days and even weeks absolutely alone and once showed me a spot near Square Hill where he used to have a sort of lookout over the herds. There he remembered lying face down on the hot dusty grass, his heart aching with loneliness, with nothing to break the profound silence of the immense emptiness of the vast prairies but for the sound of birds and the occasional gopher with which he tried to make friends. At night the coyotes were terrifying to this lonely boy who longed for human companionship.

My parents moved to the homestead and there I was born with Dr. Scratch attending as he did all the subsequent births of my siblings. The railroad from Prince Albert to North Battleford went through that land in 1912. Settlers were few and memories were long. It was in the 1950's after my husband, Orval Maywood died, and I was working at the Health Region in North Battleford, when a Mr. Joe Veasey, another old timer from the Richard District, came into the Office and was so surprised to see me that he bellowed out for all to hear that he remembered the day I was born. It was that day when the district was hit by a devastating hailstorm that wiped out all the fruits of the labors of the new settlers. By 1917 I had two brothers Donovan and Douglas, and a sister Myrtle and we moved to Edmonton. I vaguely remember, just before we moved, the 'flu epidemic that hit. My father had a relapse and nearly died and I was very ill, I still remember the blood running down my throat and the hallucinations I had — of "the Germans coming to get me." My mother, and Don who could not have been more than four or five years old, had to feed a big herd of cattle in the deep snowdrifts and chop ice in the creek to water them, as well as nurse the sickies in the house. My father had a business in Edmonton, and we also lived briefly in Fielding in 1924-25 where he had a General store and finally he joined the Manufacturers' Life Insurance Company as an agent and worked with them until his death in 1947.

I was married at Maymont to Orval Maywood in 1936 and we had three daughters. He and my sister Myrtle's husband, Pearce Sunderland, ran the Sunderland and Maywood Corner Store in Richard from 1931 to 1947. In 1943 we moved to North Battleford where Orval was Credit Manager of the Western Grocers and died suddenly in 1949. Pearce had sold in 1947 the Richard store and moved to Vancouver and also died suddenly in 1960. They had two sons. Myrtle remarried to Aart de Jong and had one daughter and they now live in West Vancouver. Donovan married Beryl Ramsay in 1949, had two children and now lives alone on the original Bouskill homestead near Maymont. Douglas married June Light of Battleford, and lives near Brada on his farm. They have three children. Our "little sister" Beverley who came along later in our family, is married to

David Powell and after living for several years at Williams Lake in B.C. now lives in Cranbrook. They have four children.

All these children now live in a world far removed from that of their relatively recent ancestors, and they must write their own history.

Lo! Some we loved, the loveliest and the best
That time and fate of all their vintage prest
Have drunk their cup around or two before
And one by one, crept silently to rest.
The moving finger writes; and having writ
Moves on: nor all thy piety nor wit
Shall lure it back to cancel half a line
Nor all thy tears wash out a word of it.

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Bracht
Mr. and Mrs. John Ryan

Told by Elva (Peden) Ryan

Philip and Barbara Bracht immigrated to Fielding in the spring of 1905 from Casselton, North Dakota. Three children came with them: Joseph, Theresa, and Laura.

A fourth child, Mary, was married and remained in the U.S.A. Her married name was Cure. They had four children: Harold, Helen, Madelaine and Clayton. Mary was killed in a train accident when Clayton was very young. Harold and Helen remained in the U.S.A. and Madelaine and Clayton came to Fielding. Madelaine was raised by Philip and Barbara Bracht, her grandparents, until she was married to Clifford Foster of Speers. She had eight children, is now a widow and living in North Battleford. Clayton was raised and taken care of by his Aunt and Uncle Theresa and Scott Wilcox. He is married now, has a family and is living at Rossland, B.C.

Philip Bracht on coming to Fielding purchased land one mile west and one mile north of Fielding. They constructed a house and other buildings in the next few years, where they resided until their deaths. Philip Bracht died in 1936 and Barbara Bracht in 1940. The house is still there and is the present home of Hugh and Lynn Ryan. Except for minor renovations, it is much the same as when it was built.

Joseph Bracht married Minto Allmos, possibly in 1916, and farmed two and one-half miles north of Fielding. Joe Bracht operated a steam thresher for several years. He also used a steamer to pull a ten-bottom plough. He sold his farm around 1927 or 1928 and moved to Saskatoon, where he purchased seven houses and ran a trucking business for several years. He also managed Saskatoon Sand and Gravel until 1945 when he sold out and moved to B.C.

He had three children: Margaret, Mary and James (Jim). Margaret married Ray Questad and now lives in Seattle, U.S.A. Mary has remained single and lives and works in Vancouver at present. Jim has a family and lives in Port Alberni. Theresa married Scott Wilcox and farmed four miles south of Fielding until his death in 1952. They raised one son, Leo, and their adopted nephew, Clayton Cure. Theresa moved to Saskatoon after her husband's death and operated a rooming house there for several years. Then she moved to Rossland, B.C. about 1965 and lived with Clayton and is at present living in a home at Rossland. She is around ninety years old.

Laura attended school in Fielding. One of her teachers was Mrs. James Robertson whose husband farmed just south of the Bracht farm, on the farm where Bill and Pat Brown, Jr. and family now live. Laura married John Ryan in 1913.

John had come west from Ripeville, Ontario, in 1911, with R. J. Scott, who operated a machine agency and real estate business in Fielding. John later worked for I. H.C. as blockman out of North Battleford. In 1918 he rented Philip Bracht's land and as well he purchased in partnership with his brother, Urban, a half section which he farmed until his retirement in 1955. Urban came to Fielding after the War and farmed with his brother in the mid forties. He took a job as janitor of the Fielding School which he held until his death in 1963. The grounds in front of the school were a tribute to his caretaking. John also operated road maintenance out of Radisson from 1939-1944. John and Laura retired to Radisson in November 1955. John died December 15, of the same year at the age of sixty-four. Laura lived in Radisson until her death in 1965. John and Laura had five sons: James, Wilfred, Lawrence, Myron and Hugh. They lost Hugh at two years of age.

James was married in 1948 to a Maymont girl, Elva Peden. He farmed with his dad until his retirement and then James took over the farm in 1955. Jim and Elva had three children; Hugh, Barbara and Jackie. Hugh now farms on the home place since the death of his father in July 1976. Elva retired and is living in Radisson. Hugh married Lynn Mikituk in 1977 and has two children: Nicole and Shea. Barbara married Ken Stauffer of Tofield, Alberta, and has three children; Ryan, Cameron, and Lisa. Jackie graduated from the College of Law in 1977, articled a year and passed the Bar Exams in 1978 and is now practising in Swift Current. She married another lawyer, Morris Froslee, in 1978. At present they are both working for the same firm.

Wilfred joined the Air Force in 1942. After the war he was married to Margaret McKenzie in Calgary. Except for a few years in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, they spent most of their married lives in Alberta — Calgary, Stettler, and where they live at present, Edmonton. They have four children; Judy, Ronald, Allen and Kenny.

Lawrence joined the Air Force in 1941. He married an English girl, Betty Margetts, while stationed in England during the war. After the war he finished his university education and worked for Farm Credit, holding positions in Ottawa, Calgary, and Edmonton.

He retired in 1975 to Sooke, B.C. They have five children; John, Sharon, Lynn, Gail, and Michael.

Myron married Joyce Hockley and is now residing in Regina. He worked for National Grain for many years at St. Gregor, and Regina, and has been for the last few years with Mutual Life of Canada. They have five children; Robert, Rae, Kim, Sandra and Pat.

Max Braithwaite

I went to teach at Neepawa School in Sept. of 1932, for a salary of $500.00 per year. I taught in this one room school, most of the grades from one to nine, with ten and eleven taking correspondence courses, until June 1935, three full terms.

For the first year I boarded with Vi and Billy Fast. For the remaining two years I boarded with Johnny Ryan's family. The members of the school board were Jake Fast, Johnny Ryan, Mr. McKay and Mr. Carman. Billy Fast was the Secretary-Treasurer.

I can remember the names of most of the families, Ryan's, three boys; Tyhursts, a boy and a girl; Northcotts, two boys and a girl; Sloans, three or four children; McKays, three children; Jake Fast, one girl; Friesens, one or two boys.

The thing I remember most about teaching was the satisfaction I got from teaching Grade One students to read. I've been in touch with many of the students since and they all seem to have done well. We had great fun playing baseball in the yard and the Christmas concerts were a roaring success. (See Why Shoot The Teacher, Chapter IX). Marjory Fast on the old wheezy organ was the only source of music, as I myself couldn't tell one tune from another. But the comic skits were great.

Max Braithwaite teacher at Neepawa School years 1932 to 1935. Author of the three books, Why Shoot the Teacher, Never Sleep Three in a Bed, The Night We Stole the Mountie's Car.

I remember riding to school with Wilfred, Lawrence and Myron Ryan in the buggy and walking home across the pasture, keeping a wary eye on Johnny Ryan's bull, an unfriendly beast, who was reputed to have put more than one person over the fence. I also remember the School Board meeting far into the night, debating the necessity of reducing my salary by $5.00 a month, which they finally did with so much reluctance that Johnny Ryan donated me a quarter of beef. This wasn't worth much money in 1933, but it helped keep my family in Saskatoon eating through the winter.

I participated in many activities in Fielding with C. M. Mooney, the principal of the school, putting on plays, organizing dances, attending church Young People's Meetings, helping with Christmas concerts and so on.

My wife Aileen Treleaven, came to Fielding town school as a primary teacher in Sept. 1934. As soon as I met her that fall in Maymont at a district Field Day, I started courting her with more than considerable ardor, and kept it up until we were married Oct. 1935, and I've been courting her ever since. We have raised five children, three girls and two boys, and have nine grandchildren with another just beginning.

Most of my memories of Neepawa School and Fielding are good ones. Despite the hard times the people were friendly and hospitable. I have particularly fond memories of Johnny Ryan, one of the finest men I ever knew.

The Jacob Braun Family

submitted by Erna (Braun) Lawley

Jacob Braun served in the Russian Army in the years 1920 and 1921. After leaving the army, he lived in Germany for two years. Here he met Martha Friesen, and together with her and her family immigrated to Canada in 1923. Jacob and Martha were married in the Immigration Office just before boarding the ship to sail from Hamburg, Germany to Montreal, a voyage which lasted for nine days. From Montreal they travelled by train to Rosthern, Saskatchewan. They stayed at Rosthern with a family by the name of Kroeker, for approximately one year.

In 1924, the Brauns together with two partners purchased a farm five and one-half miles south of Speers. Farm life in those days was extremely hard, as all machines were horse-drawn and people worked very long hours in a day. The crops grown were mainly wheat and oats, and stock raised was mostly cattle and pigs. Large gardens were planted each year and with the produce of the gardens and with raising their own meat, people were very self-sufficient.

Travel was also by horse drawn baggies and sleighs. Jacob Braun did acquire a 1927 Ford in 1928 and drove it for approximately twenty years. Travel by car was strictly for the summer months as the roads were covered with several feet of snow all winter.

The Brauns had five children, two sons and three daughters. All five children attended Keystone School until 1940 when the farm was sold and the Brauns moved north of Speers. The children's names were: Alvin, Jake, Erna, Edith and Frieda.

Travel to school was also with horsedrawn baggies in the summer time and sleighs in the winter time.

During the winter two or three families would travel to school in the same vehicle.

Teachers at the school during those years were Winnifred King, Bill Langley, Muriel Butterfield, Lilah Brehon. Probably one of the most remembered occasions is the Christmas concerts. Teachers and students used to put in a tremendous effort to make the concert a success and Keystone concerts were always very well attended, not only by the parents of the students but also people from neighboring communities.

The family lived north of Speers until 1951. As the three oldest children had moved on, the parents decided to sell the farm and go to live near the family. They settled in Calgary, Alberta.

Jacob Braun will celebrate his eighty-third birthday in September, 1979. His wife, Martha passed away in 1964.

Alvin, the oldest son, was killed in an automobile accident in 1977. As he was the father of six sons and two daughters, he will not soon be forgotten.

Jake, the second son, is the father of two sons and three daughters. He lives in Calgary.

Erna, lives with her husband in a small town outside of Calgary and has one son and two daughters.

Edith was widowed and lives in Calgary with her son and daughter.

Frieda, also lives in Calgary and has raised three sons and one daughter.

Annie Alicia Brehon

by Lilah Brehon

Annie Alicia Brehon (August 12, 1886 - March 18, 1978) received her schooling in Leeds Village, Quebec where she was born. She attended high school in the village taking Grade I and II Academy. Then she went to McGill Normal School in Montreal where she received her diploma and won a scholarship. She used this to take a short course at Guelph Agricultural College.

Annie came to Maymont, the first time, when her brothers sent for her to come and look after their mother who was very ill. Grey School was in the process of being built so Annie taught there from November to June. She told of fainting one day and came to, to find her hair (which was so long she could sit on the ends of it) streaming out in a pool of water and Bill Parker, whom the pupils had called, pouring a jug of water over her.

When her mother was obviously recovered Annie returned East and taught school there. When she returned to the west she taught at both Etonia and Keystone schools until she was married. She walked many miles over the prairies to get to these schools and said her long skirts were often wet to the knees till dinner time. Perhaps memories of those uncomfortable experiences made her ready to accept new fashions. One time while touring at Meeting Lake she and Mrs. Bob Downing decided to wear their sons' knee length baggy trousers which were still in good condition but out of style for the boys. They did not intend to get caught by the Ladies' Aid which they knew to be arriving later in the week but you guessed it and great was the glee of the women of Maymont when they caught them.

Mrs. Brehon could always get through a great deal of work in one day. She made her husband's work clothes and clothes for all the family. In early days women would ask her for sewing lessons. One day when her son Colles went to Maymont with a shirt she had made for him, Cupid Friedman wanted to know where he had bought it so he could stock some like it in the store. Colles had designed the shirt with a large front midriff pocket so he could put his hands in from either side. Annie baked and canned, fed many workmen, and often boarded the schoolteacher. Sometimes she had a girl to help her with the work. When it was time to can peas they would be out early in the morning to pick three and a half large milk pails heaping full of peas. While they were being shelled Annie would test fourteen quart-size sealers. She did so by putting an inch of boiling water in each sealer, quickly putting on the lid and turning the jar upside down to see if any water or steam escaped. If it did, the rubber ring or metal ring would be substituted and the sealer inverted again. After the sealers were filled with peas and cold water they were put in a wash boiler half full of hot water and kept at a steady boil for three hours. She lost very few sealers of anything she canned because of painstaking methods such as this.

When her sister-in-law and her husband, Maisie and Jack Henderson, lost their home in B.C. in a fire they stayed at the farm. Jack Henderson was a very clever man when it came to book learning but his favorite perch to read his law and engineering books was right in front of the cellar door. After wasting time moving Jack several times, Annie preferred to climb into the cellar through the cellar window. Jack for a time took on teaching duties at Grey School. It fell to Mrs. Brehon and Jack's wife to get him and the horse and buggy off to school in the morning and prevail on the colt to stay at home. While the struggle ensued to get Jack on his way, Maisie would say, "Now don't laugh, Annie," but as soon as he was out of sight, Maisie would herself lie on the floor and laugh. At school, Ernie Johnston had a desk at the back of the room. One day while Mr. Henderson was bent over helping the pupil in front of him Ernie put a pair of dividers in the toe of his boot and kicked his teacher. Mr. Henderson was a powerful man and was so enraged he flung Ernie the length of the school. Years later Ernie would roar with laughter when he told the story of how he ended up under the blackboard.

In the thirties, bridge parties were a favourite form of entertainment for the Hollers, Bates, Potters,

Langleys and Brehons and any of their other friends who happened to be around at the time. The parties always began with a sit-down supper and were followed by five or six tables of auction bridge. A lunch about midnight ended the party. People arrived in cutters and sleighs. One night when Hollars were driving Annie home from one such party through Jack Langley's field Annie remarked it would be easy enough to get lost. "Oh, no," said George Holler as he pointed out the landmarks. All the time he was following the trail to a strawstack instead of the one he should have been on. When he realized his mistake and stood up and saw the Brehon cutter to his right he cut across country and ended up with his horses plunging through the snow-filled draws leading ■ Langley's dam.

Of her first night in the west Mrs. Brehon said the Andrew men met her in Maymont and she was to stay the night in the Andrew home. At bedtime great was her embarrassment when she had to climb up a ladder to the upstairs in front of all the Andrew men.

Mrs. Brehon's 90th birthday was celebrated at the farm. Several friends came to the tea in her honor. Among them were four pupils who had been her pupils ■ Grey School. They were Mrs. Cheal and Mrs. Penny (nee Eva and Laura Parker) and Elmer and Oliver Rogers.

When Mrs. Brehon died at 93 she left a family of five, Colles, Dick, Muriel, Lilah and George. They were all married but Lilah. She also had thirteen grandchildren and one great-granddaughter, all of whom she was very proud. She had an excellent memory to within three days of her death. She took an interest in the happenings around her and her appearance right ■ the end. She cooked for her daughter, Lilah, until she was 92 and could still make some of the lightest buns in the community.

A. C. Brehon

by Lilah Brehon assisted by memories of Colles Brehon

Alexander Colles Brehon (May 23, 1880-April ■, 1936) came to Canada in 1902 from New Ross, Ireland. He worked the first two years at a farm near Brandon. He had been attending Dublin College and had never done any manual labour. He came down to breakfast the first morning in a blue serge suit and a high white collar. The farmer said, "I see you don't intend to work this morning or you wouldn't be all dressed up." Alec replied, "This is my oldest suit." The farmer stated he had never owned one so good.

In 1904, Alec came to the Keystone District and took up a Homestead. There he was joined by his brother Charles, and cousin, Tom Bates. Tom did the cooking and used to walk ■ New Ottawa to have the spare ploughshare sharpened. Charlie and Alec did the ploughing. When Tom Bates was married Mrs. Bates

Alec and Annie Brehon — married Feb. 28, 1911.

The Brehon barn built in 1918.

cooked for all three. She said the Brehons had big appetites and she used to cook a duck apiece for Alec and Charlie. Also they insisted on keeping two big hunting dogs which ate a loaf of bread every day. Mrs. Bates said she was too tired to punch the bread as it should have been punched. Charlie used to complain of her heavy bread and probably the men never thought ■ helping.

The three men chose their homesteads on the middle of three surveys for the railway. Traces of the trail which originally joined New Ottawa and Maymont is still apparent on the north west corner of the SE quarter of Section 22, Township 41, Range 12, West of the Third Meridian.

Alec acquired a team of very large gray horses. To illustrate their size — Stanley Barrett who drove the team when they were older used to stand in the manger to put on their collars. With this team Alec used to freight from Saskatoon to a store two miles north of Radisson twice a week. He would go to Saskatoon on Monday, load on Tuesday, return to Radisson on Wednesday and make a similar trip the last three days of the week. He hauled the engine that drove the piles for the railway bridge at CeePee. It weighed 8000 pounds. He had loaded it so most of the weight was on the front wheels of the wagon and every badger hole whipped the tongue so violently [illegible] hired an Indian [illegible] hitch his team to the tip of the tongue to control it somewhat. It required 12 teams to haul the engine into position in the river.

Annie Arkley and Alec Brehon were married in Battleford on February 20, 1911. Their first home was a two-roomed one with a summer kitchen added. It was on a rented quarter of Section 13 beside Keystone School. One day while driving eight horses abreast on two outfits of harrows Alec went chasing gophers. The horses ran away and he had a real tangled mess. One crop on the quarter took four pounds of twine per acre to tie up but it was frozen and didn't pay for the threshing. Grades apparently were not very good in those days. A carbon copy of a letter sent by Alec to the Grain Commission bemoans the fact that grain that graded No. 5 in Maymont graded No. 4 in Winnipeg and the suggestion is evident that he felt cheated. Copies of letters to George Langley, M.L.A. pleading the farmers' cause and for grain cars are also available.

The family home was built on the quarter south of the homestead, that is, the southwest quarter of Section 24, T42, R12, W of 3rd. It was 28' by 28' and two storey. Since it was one of the first wooden homes this side people came for miles to see it. It was built in 1916. Mrs. Brehon used to tell the story that the night the first gas lamp was lit and hung in place she grabbed up the broom and swept the floor. Apparently her home hadn't been as clean as she supposed it to be. The Delco light plant was put in in 1918 and the barn was built the same summer. It was 60 feet long, hip-roofed and had hay slings to lift the hay into the loft. The wind electric was erected on a bitterly cold day in January 1941. The difficulty with the wind electric was that in December when the lights were turned on early, the wind often failed. In February when the snow drifts were deep someone would have to wade out to the wind electric and turn it off because the batteries were overcharging. Gen Bates thought it was a great joke when she arrived one night to find the empty washing machine, electric churn motor, and vacuum cleaner all in the middle of the floor running in an attempt to use up the excess power. Someone finally had to give in and wade out. Coiles, later installed inside the cellarway door a system of cables, pulleys and a ratchet with a crank, to turn off the wind electric.

The first radio was an Atwater Kent. Mounted on a board, it had three dials which all had to be set exactly the same to get anything on the radio. There were 2 or 3 sets of earphones with it. Alec's last radio was a Marconi with a 12-inch speaker. He used to turn it up so loud at times that small tables walked across the room from the vibrations.

The first threshing machine was bought in 1923. It was a 22-36 Rumley. He also had a Rumley 12-20 tractor.

Hunting seemed to be a favorite sport. The story is told of Will Barrett standing up in a car and firing off a shot gun as the car was being driven around the yard. As you can see from the picture of the hunt they had something to celebrate about.

The 1919 hunt ended on October 8. The four Langley men, A. and C. Brehon, Tom Bates and Will Barrett took off with four Touring cars and tents. The sun rose on a beautiful morning but by mid-morning it was snowing heavily. They took shelter in the tents, thinking it would soon be over but it got worse and by night was much colder. They had to drain the cars' radiators so next day they melted snow and heated water to get the cars going and get home. Fortunately cars in those days were built much higher and had a lot more clearance with those 34 inch wheels. Even so it must have been quite a job to get home through the snowfall which remained on the ground from then till April.

Alec was secretary of Keystone School Board for 25 years. From the numerous carbon copies of letters he wrote concerning the school a genuine interest in school affairs is evident. When the Rural Municipality of Mayfield was formed in 1910, he became one of the first councillors. — a position he held for 21 years. He served as president of Maymont Rural Telephone Company from 1918-1921. He was interested in and a director of the Mayfield and Dougias Agricultural Society. One of his last services to the community was serving as a collector for the fund for Dr. Scratch when enough money was collected to buy a car and a buffalo coat. This presentation was made in August, 1922. Alec entered the Saskatoon Sanatorium in November, 1922 and passed away in April, 1926.

On the lighter side, his friends tell the tale of his return from a hunting trip whence he'd had three flat tires but he had had a "GREAT DAY". He was proud of his heritage and the name THE EMERALD FARM was painted on the side of his barn. People said of him "That is an honest man".

Charles Francis Brehon

[redacted] Lilah Brehon

Charles Francis Brehon was born in New Ross, Ireland. His mother, nee Charlotte Bates, died shortly after his birth and he was raised by nannies. Perhaps this was one of the reasons he became what can only be described as a character.

At the age of fifteen he became enraged with his school master who told him his head was made of wood. He barricaded the school master out of school and finished teaching the rest of the day. Afraid to go home, he hid in the woods and his cousin, Tom Bates, smuggled him food until he ran off to sea. His apprenticeship papers for service on the Eildenhope were made out on parchment, and he was paid £ 30 for his four years apprenticeship in the following manner: £4 for the first year, £ 6 for the second year, £ 8 for the third year, and £12 for the fourth year, with ten shillings per annum allowed for laundry. While serving on the Eildenhope, he sailed around the Cape of Good Hope several times. One of his duties was to clean the barnacles (a small marine animal) off the sides of the ship. With sharks watching nearby, the job became quite exciting. Charlie was shyly proud of his recommends for very good conduct and ability made out at the time of his discharge. He also worked on the Natal and Transvaal Railroads as shunter and learner guard in South Africa and served in the Boer War. While [redacted] Africa, he contracted typhoid fever and an acquaintance who believed he was dying took off to Australia with his money.

His nephews tell of going into Blacklock's Store in Maymont where a pin could have been heard dropping. Charlie was telling tales of the Boer War and his sailing days. Blacklock's Store was also the scene of many a bridge game. Charlie's opponents felt [redacted] knew what they had in their hands equally as well as they did. In later years his nephew, Dick, declared Charlie went out and knocked the stove pipe on his house down and then phoned for some one to come and fix it and bring a fourth for bridge. These games would last from the middle of the afternoon till 11:00 p.m. with time out for supper.

Charlie Brehon — 1915. Children are Collas Brehon and Lilah and Jimmy Henderson.

DOMINION LANDS

INTERIM HOMESTEAD RECEIPT.

No. 110521.

No. 3155

Interim Homestead receipt — 1904.

One day while herding cattle with his nephews, they were avoiding anthills when looking for a place to sit at dinner time. Charlie declared that if they'd fought in the Boer War they'd [redacted] glad [redacted] an anthill to hide behind; and, thus saying, he sat down on the anthill and ate his dinner. Before he was finished, the ants were crawling out of his shirt collar but he stayed with it.

Charlie loved to hunt and even though he had poor eyesight and had to shoot left-handed because his left eye was the best, he was a crack shot once a duck or goose came in range. He depended on his hunting companions to let him know when the ducks were coming as he couldn't see them till they got near. One day his young companion tricked him by yelling, "NOW!" Charlie jumped up to shoot and not a duck in sight.

He batched in a one-room shack until he had lumbago and sciatica; and one day while being attended by Dr. Scratch who was accompanied by Alan Bean, Alan asked how they managed to keep warm in this unlined shack in the winter. Tom Bates, Sr., replied jokingly, "Charlie always wears his fur coat [redacted] bed and [redacted] sleeps on the side of the bed next to the stove with the hired man sleeping at the back of the bed. When the hired man gets cold, [redacted] gets up and restokes the fire. If it gets really cold, Charlie goes out and stands in the shelter of the barn with the cows."

Not long after his bout with sciatica and lumbago, Charlie had a house built, and Mrs. Margaret Warren with her baby daughter, Helen, came to keep house for him. The people of the district had fun giving him a house-warming shower and [redacted] received everything from egg-cups to wash tubs. I'm sure Mrs. Warren should be thankful to have the house thus outfitted.

While Mrs. Warren would [illegible] serving a sumptuous meal to their visitors, Charlie would tell how well his old shack was being used. The vegetables were stored in the basement and the top was a hen-house. Then he would add [illegible] used to sweep his shack but all the dirt fell through the cracks in the floor before he got it to the door.

Although my uncle took delight in shocking people, if he chose to do so he could be on his best behavior and true to his upbringing. When he went to Vernon, B.C. to visit his sister, Marion Henderson and her family, he "did her proud". She said [illegible] could take his place in any society. His housekeeper, Mrs. Warren, described him as a gentleman for which [illegible] work, and his ship's captain wrote that he conducted himself in a manner befitting a gentleman. Although he would not have liked people to suspect him of being kind-hearted and God-fearing, I found him to possess both traits of character.

When Charlie was eighty years old, he could still leap to his feet. He declared he would live to be one hundred, but that was not to be. When he was eighty-six, he was hospitalized during the doctor's strike and died of cancer. Mrs. Warren moved to White Rock, British Columbia, and the house was sold to Ron Milman who moved it to his property.

Brehon (Colles Alexander)

I, Colles Brehon, was born January 16, 1913, on the farm eight miles north and east of Maymont, where I grew up and lived until I was married.

Among my recollections are the Chautauqua held each year in a big tent in Speers.

Light for the house was provided by a gasoline mantle lamp which required preheating with an alcohol torch to light it. Then, in 1918, my father bought a Delco light plant, and it gave us electricity until the Sask. Power put in the hydro in the mid '50's.

Our radio was the first in the district and many of the neighbours came to listen to it with us.

I remember the building of the barn and how the carpenter, Walt Evans, would scare me away by running after me with a hatchet in one hand and a saw in the other, all the time yelling wildly.

One fall a snow storm came on October 8 and caught many children at school barefoot. During the winter there would often [illegible] only three pupils at school, and we would sit around the coal and wood heater to keep warm.

My dad had about thirty horses which had [illegible] be clipped to remove the long winter hair before they were put to work in the spring. [illegible] was my job to crank the clippers while Dad did the clipping.

My father became very ill and had to [illegible] into the Sanatorium in Saskatoon in the fall of 1932, and I took on the task of managing the family farm which consisted of eleven quarters, six of them rented, and a section of leased pasture.

Four generations — Colles, Janet (Brehon) Eckel, Pamela Eckel, Mrs. A. Brehon. May 8th, 1977.

The next five years were very dry and people were forced to sell their cattle for lack of feed for a cent a pound or less in some cases. Grain prices rose a little, but there was none to sell. Most people had to go on relief and went into debt for feed and seed. The first year was 1937, but a late-sown crop yielded enough wheat for seed. By the next year or two, conditions began to improve again so, in 1939, we traded our old steel wheel McCormick 1530 for a Cockshutt [illegible], the first fully equipped tractor of its kind [illegible] quite an area, and a big improvement over the old one, as twice as much work could be done in a day. By 1941, we were able to buy our first combine, a McCormick Deering engine-driven, pull-type on steel wheels.

[illegible] the spring of 1946, William Cook offered to sell me his farm; and, with the family backing me, I bought his farm but continued working with Dick and George until I eventually had enough machinery to do my farming independently.

I married Anna Maxwell in November, 1950, at the Maxwell farm home at Saltjennie, and the Reverend Frank Myers officiated at the ceremony. A short while later, we moved to the former William Cook farm where we have lived and raised our family. Much time and effort were spent improving and modernizing the farmstead.

Our three daughters and son; Colleen, Janet, Doug, and Carol, all took their schooling and graduated from Maymont Central School; Colleen being honoured as one of the recipients of the Ronald Ferris Memorial Award; Douglas and Carol each being recipients of the Governor Generals Proficiency Award. After graduating with honours from Saskatoon Business College, Colleen worked for seven years as a legal secretary in Lloydminster; then decided to have a change and moved [illegible] Edmonton to study professional photography at N.A.I.T. Janet received her business training at North Battleford Comprehensive High School and, upon graduating, worked for three years at

The Battlefords Credit Union. In 1976, she married Alan Eckel of North Battleford. Alan is a welder with Wylee Trailers and took further welding training at the Moose Jaw Technical Institute. They have two small daughters, Pamela, and Amanda, who are the first members of the fourth generation and to whom Janet now devotes her full time. Carol worked for a time at the Dairy Queen in North Battleford, then attended Reeves Business College; and, in 1978, she married Wayne Bullis of Borden. They are residing in Saskatoon where Wayne is continuing his carpentry career with Legel Construction after having attended Kelsey Institute.

All four of our children have benefited from their time with the 4-H Club, the girls making much use of the sewing learned; and Douglas having done a good deal of carpentry work including pieces of furniture, houses, garages and interior finishing. When not carpentering, Doug helps his dad with the mixed farming.

Over the years our family have served in many of the Maymont Community organizations. I have given much of my time and energy to the Maymont Memorial Hall which I have been involved with since its conception back in the early '40's to the present time. I was secretary of the Wheat Pool Committee for several years and was previously a Wheat Pool Delegate for three years. I was also president of the Maymont Telephone Company for many years until Sask. Tel took over in 1977; and I was secretary of the Board of Stewards of the United Church for many years, as well as being a wood-working leader in 4-H for ten years.

Anna was also a 4-H leader for five years having taught sewing and photography. She has been an active member of the U.C.W. for many years, having held office as president and secretary of her unit. She has also given considerable time to the Memorial Hall and the skating rink.

The neat appearance of our home and grounds are due, for the most part, to Anna's efforts.

Her practical mind and wise planning have helped us in many ways.

Leslie, Garth, George, Gladys, Kevin and Maureen Brehon.

The George Brehon Family

as told by Gladys Brehon

I was born on February 16, 1926, the second child of Percy and Hazel Parker. Daddy always told me I bowled the whole first winter so I was probably not the most popular member of that household.

My earliest memories are of my first days at Grey School. I remember clearly playing games at recess, being protected by my older sister, Mary. My first teacher was Miss Mary Lundy. She had the loveliest handwriting I have ever seen. For Christmas she gave each of the girls an autograph album. I came across mine not too long ago with the autograph signatures of people I had almost forgotten. From the day I started school until I finished grade [redacted] I never had anyone else in my grade. I was always the only one. I always wished for someone to compete with.

Since the school was situated on our home quarter we always ran home for lunch. I always wished we lived further away so I could have taken my lunch! Other kids always wished they could go home for lunch like the Parker kids but to the Parker kids it was a great treat when it was bitterly cold or stormy and Daddy would bring our lunch over to the school for us. Then we could have a turn [redacted] swapping a cookie or an apple with one of our schoolmates.

School Christmas Concerts were the highlight of our year. I suppose around the middle of November we were given our parts to study. Drills, recitations, plays, skits, songs and always a nativity play! The girls drills were something to behold. One pretty cantata we put on was "The Wedding of the Painted Doll". [redacted] our costumes were made from crepe paper. That

Snow plow built by George and Hec — 1951.

must have been a lot of work for the teachers and mothers.

A few days before the concert the Dads came to put the stage in so we could put the curtains up and get in a practice or two before the big night. The "curtains" were sheets supplied by various mothers. We strung wires and sewed the sheets to the wires to hold them up. The students helped decorate the tree and we always had twisted streamers from corner to corner of the ceiling with a big red bell in the centre. It's a wonder the place didn't burn down as we had either coal oil or gasoline lamps. We always took at least one gasoline lamp from home to the school for the night. At last the big evening arrived, supper and chores were done early. Usually we had new clothes for the concert and everybody had their hair done and looked like a million dollars! What a thrill to enter the schoolhouse to see the decorated tree and later Santa Claus came and distributed candy, nuts and always a Jap orange in the bottom of the bag.

Christmas days were always exciting, too. Grannie always had Christmas at her place and as many of her family came as were able to do so. The table would be loaded with Grannie and Mom's baking — always turkey with all the trimmings, with a rich fruit Christmas pudding and brown sugar sauce. I'm sure us kids must have nearly torn the house apart, but we had some wonderful times. The older people played "500" — a bidding game using the jacks as bowers or trump. These games could go on until the wee small hours of the morning.

Sometime during the busy years my mother taught me to crochet, knit and embroider. I wonder at her patience with a houseful of children and so much work to do.

In the winter, after school and on weekends and any other time they got the chance, Daddy and the boys played "shinny". The boys went to the bluff and cut sticks, shaped like a hockey stick, and used a wooden puck, which they cut from a small tree. As they played ball in the summer, so they played shinny in the winter. They were often joined by Bill Penny, who worked for Daddy under the government scheme where a farmer who paid $5.00 per month to hire a man and the man was also paid $5.00 per month. They played in the yard in front of the house and it was so packed down and icy that it was of great danger to man and beast.

During the summer holidays we played ball. Daddy loved a game of ball and since there were lots of us kids, and neighbours close, Sunday nearly always saw a crowd at Parkers playing ball. The Gillatts used to come almost every Sunday, the Dawson kids who lived half a mile up the road, and anyone else who came along. We played ball by the hour. Everybody would stay for supper. We usually set the table twice — the adults sat down at the first table and the kids "waited".

We had a cold cellar outside under the maple trees which was used in the summer. This was a fairly deep hole dug in the ground large enough to hold a cupboard with shelves. There was a ladder down into it. In this we kept the cream, the crock of butter and the milk can. We carried our jello down there so it would set. It was quite an accomplishment to get a jello out to the cellar and down the ladder without spilling it.

One of our favorite desserts when we were kids was oranges and cream. Mom peeled a big bowl of oranges, cut them up and covered them with sugar and when we were ready to eat them she poured the cream on. Nobody ever seemed to worry about things being fattening then.

The depression years are still vivid memories. The grasshoppers ate holes in everything that was left outside, including paper bags. The eastern people sent out apples, cheese and fish. The cheese was good, so were the apples, especially in the dead of winter. The fish were something else. The boys thought that they would make good snowshoes. I don't remember eating the fish. I suppose that we did, because it runs in my memory that the more mom cooked it the tougher it became.

Occasionally we were allowed to visit one of the relatives for a little holiday. I spent some holidays at Aunt Leta and Uncle Stanley's. Aunt Leta used to sit in her rocking chair rocking one of her babies and reciting poems for us. This was one of our favorites . . .

A Mortifying Mistake

I studied my tables over and over,
And backward and forward too,
But I couldn't remember six times nine —
And I didn't know what to do!

Till sister told me to play with my doll
And not to bother my head
If you call her 'fifty-four' for a while
You'll learn it by heart," she said.

So I took my favorite Mary Ann
(Tho I thought 'twas a dreadful shame
To call such a perfectly lovely child
Such a perfectly horrid name)!

And I called her my dear little 'fifty-four'!
A hundred times or more
Till I knew the answer of six times nine
As well as of two times four.

Next day Elizabeth Wigglesworth
(Who always acts so proud) said
"Six times nine are fifty-two"!
And I almost laugh out loud.

But I wished I hadn't for teacher said,
"Now Dorothy, tell me if you can"
And I thought of my doll and — sakes alive!
I answered 'Mary Ann'!

I was in my teens during the Second World War, Mom and Grannie used to do a lot of baking to get parcels ready to send overseas to the two of the cousins who were in the forces. I remember with great sadness, when we heard that first one and then the other of the boys were reported missing and presumed dead. Those were our cousins Jim Crozier and William Gillat.

Since jobs were plentiful after the war I went to Vancouver and worked for the Bartram Paper Company. I ran a big printing press which had been confiscated from the Japanese during the war when they were forced to leave the coastal region and move inland.

After my mother died in 1947, I came home to help Dad and my two sisters.

On August 14, 1952, I married George Brehon, the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Brehon. George was born on November 4th, 1925 in Maymont. He attended Keystone School for most of his schooling with one year in Maymont.

George built our first house. It was 24' x 26', very cozy and warm. We didn't have power or running water so we had the "little house out back". We had a barrel under the drainpipe to catch soft water for washing or George hauled it from the dug-out. In the winter we carried snow in and melted it in a barrel in the house. That was a messy job, besides cooling off the house when the weather was cold, you had to clean up any spilled snow which had melted on the floor.

We used gasoline lamps. They gave a lovely white light but they had to be filled with lamp gas, 'pumped up' and mantles changed when they broke. To heat the house we had a Coleman floor furnace which burned oil and for cooking we bought a coal and wood range from Mr. Louis Karpan who was in business in Maymont at that time.

Since cars were being used more and more in the winter, it was necessary to find some way of keeping the roads free of snow, so in the winter of 1950-51 George and Hector Andrew built a snow plow. This plow was used for several years until the municipality built better roads and began winter maintenance.

The power came to our area in 1954. What a great change it made to the people of rural Saskatchewan! How lovely to be able to press a switch for our lights after years and years of gas lamps. Yard lights sprang up over the countryside. From our kitchen we could see Jimmie and Ethel Steele's yard light to the south and Gordon and Pearl Halliday's to the north-east.

We got an electric stove from Vanderhagen's hardware and sold our coal and wood stove. What a treat not to have to empty any more ashes!

We have a family of four — two girls and two boys. Leslie Joan born on May 14, 1955, Garth Alexander, August 23, 1956, Maureen Faye, April 25, 1958 and Kevin George, May 29, 1966.

Two years before Leslie started school, Keystone was closed and a bus route was started. Our children attended Maymont Central School. I had all I wanted of school lunches then!

When our family were small Glenburn Regional Park was established and the covered skating rink was built. We spent our time between the Park in the summer and the rink in the winter. They all learned to swim at the pool and we enjoyed many barbecues and family picnics at the park. They learned to skate and took figure skating, and the boys played hockey.

The church plays a very important part in our lives and the children's. George was a member of the church board for many years and is now a Member of the Session. I was chairman of the Rebekah Unit and taught Sunday School for several years. The girls belonged to Messengers, Explorers and C.G.I.T., taking their turns as officers. The boys belonged to Messengers, Tyros and also were officers at various times. They sang in the choir until it disbanded.

When our family began growing up the small house became rather crowded so in 1963 we built a split-level home and put in running water and sewer, so we became fully modern!

George and I celebrated our 25th wedding anniversary in 1977. We were very lucky to have all of George's family and all of mine, except one brother, and a lot of friends and relatives to help us celebrate a very memorable day.

Leslie Joan took her schooling at Maymont Central. When she was in Grade Eleven she was chosen to go on an exchange trip to Ontario as one of the 'Young Voyageurs.' She was a member of the Maymont School 'Reach For The Top' team which did so well in 1969-1970. She was class valedictorian when she graduated in 1973. She attended the University of Saskatchewan for one year, then went to work for the Saskatoon Credit Union where she is still employed.

Garth was a participant in the Canada World Youth Program and spent a year travelling and working in Canada and Mexico. He graduated from Grade 12 in 1975. He is presently attending the College of Engineering at the University of Saskatchewan.

Maureen had a trip to Montana in 1975 as a 4-H exchange student which was both educational and enjoyable. She graduated from high school in 1976 and graduated from Kelsey Institute of Applied Arts and Sciences in 1978 as a Recreational Technologist. She married Richard Kachmarski of the Spears area on June 16, 1979, lives in North Battleford and continues to work for the Mutual Life Assurance Co. Kevin is a Grade eight student still attending Maymont Central.

Lilah Viola Brehon

Lilah Viola Brehon is the second daughter of Annie and Alec Brehon. As a girl she was a care to her

mother because she spent about one week of every eight sick in bed. At age eight while determinedly running drinks to her sick older brother and sister it was discovered she herself had an excessively high temperature. That evening Dr. Scratch was called and prescribed two medicines one which was to be taken every half hour and another every two hours. While her mother sat up all night making a pneumonia jacket of flour sack and cotton batting her father drove to Maymont for the medicine. In his haste he forgot gas for the car and had to wade the last two miles through deep snow to bring the medicine. Mr. Scratch had not expected a cure but his skill with pneumonia patients prevailed.

One day Lilah saved her brother George's life. He was always inventing labor-saving devices and other gadgets. This day it was a small tin stove; the fuel was ashes with gasoline poured on. Of course the fire travelled across the floor and set his canvas boot on fire. She stood petrified until he began to jump and cry. She turned to run for help, her eyes lit on a gunny sack and one whack from it put the fire out. When the sole of the boot fell off a few weeks later their mother sent it back to Eaton's and got a refund. She never knew till years later what really happened to the boot.

Going to North Battleford was a big event in Lilah's young life. She never liked getting out of bed in the morning but news of a promised trip to such an exciting place soon made her arise. George often used the words, "Come on, Lilah. Get out of bed. We're going to Battleford" as a successful alarm clock irregardless of whether it happened to be true or not.

Lilah's first school at Keystone found her teaching pupils all of which she had gone to school with except the grade ones. The school was not very weatherproof and heated by an oil burner. If it became windy the school cooled off even with the stove turned to its highest. So one night after hearing the forecast she left the burner turned as high as it would go. Instead of getting windy the weather warmed up. The next morning when she got to school some of the pupils who had arrived earlier had all the doors and windows open. Clair McIvor informed her, "Oh, Miss Brehon, don't go in there. It's so hot it takes the spit right out of your mouth." The thermometer stood at over 120 degrees fahrenheit.

Another day the pupils reported flames shooting out the bottom of the stove at intervals. She said nothing but decided to open the doors and give the stove more air. She opened the outside door, turned around and nearly fell over the pupils. Without a sound they had moved as one and were all in the porch. Said they, "If you were getting out so were we."

One Sunday when Mr. Myers was preaching at Grey School, Lilah went to church. She had been attending church where the minister always used six illustrations to bring out the same point in his sermons. So Lilah had fallen into the habit of day-dreaming the first half of the sermon and listening to the last half. She should have known better because she knew Mr. Myers preached briefly, positively and to the point but the school room was decorated with many examples of pupil art and work and she decided to view these and listen later. Suddenly by the little flourish that Mr. Myers often put at the end of his sermon she knew he was finished and she had not heard one word. True to human nature her first thought was, "Mr. Myers, I got all dressed up and drove four miles to listen to you and you didn't tell me a word." She never made the same mistake twice and would like to thank Frank Myers for the many inspiring messages she did hear.

One time when my mother had high blood pressure and the doctor had told her to stay in bed for a few days and not have any visitors she was quite worried about herself. Mr. Myers came to visit. He turned a chair with the back to the bed, sat astride it and told Mother about his mother whose blood pressure was even higher than Mom's. Mr. Myers said they hired a girl to do the housework but when they went to visit her they found their mother waxing the floor and the girl reading a magazine. His mother said the girl liked to read and she liked to do the floor so that was what they were doing. Mother was noticeably improved when Mr. Myers left.

Lilah taught twice in Keystone and twice in Hanley. She taught in several town schools and then at a rural school named Purdale just south of Saskatoon. Then in 1953 she became the proud possessor of a B.A. degree. Since then she has taught in Hanley but is now happy to be retired from the teaching profession. She hopes to have time for many things which teaching seemed to preclude. One of these is her hobby of painting. She took two painting courses at Emma Lake where she learned to really see and Saskatchewan changed from a dull province into a beautiful one. She'll always be grateful to her mother for sending her to art school for the first time.

Richard Collen Brehon

Richard Collen Brehon came to Canada in 1912 and he and Val Jeffries who accompanied him stayed for a time with Alec and Annie Brehon in their two-roomed house. The two men slept in the summer kitchen. Dick took a job in the Royal Crown Bank in Maymont. When it moved to the new building he moved with it. (You'll notice from the picture of the bank that bankers worked in cages in those days). When World War I broke out Dick enlisted in the Regina Mounted Rifles and was sent overseas. Dick was 6 foot 3 inches in height and one story told that he was thus an obvious target when leading an attack from the trenches and was immediately cut down by fire. Another story was that he had been taken prisoner of war. His medals were sent to his brother Alec. Many years later one of his comrades in the trenches presented his nephew and name sake with a book of poems which Dick had written in the trenches.

The Richard and Shirley Brehon Family

Today when you drive between Maymont and Richard, those excellent snow-fence hedges you see were planted by the Young Farmer's Club. Dick Brehon was a member and took part in this enterprise.

He was also a member of the Mayfield and Douglas Agricultural Society and Secretary Treasurer for many years. The Society recognized Dick's service by presenting him with a Life Membership. He is a long standing member of the Wheat Pool.

When the power was installed Dick and Jack Langley canvassed the district to sign up the farmers. It was touch and go for some time to get the necessary number. However, the spirit of co-operation prevailed and power went into the farms between Maymont, Richard and north of Fielding.

Being Secretary-Treasurer of Keystone School ran in the Brehon Family; the position being handed down from Alex Brehon to his wife to Colles and finally to Dick who held that position until the school was closed and was moved west of Richard.

Dick has a love of animals. Dogs on the farm became his personal pets. When cattle were rounded up in the fall he knew exactly which ones were missing.

Nature holds a special place in Dick's life. He is interested in wild birds, animals and plants. There was always a large garden on the farm which he planted and cultivated.

Hunting and fishing also hold a special place in his life. There are many happy memories of hunting and fishing trips. Many tales exchanged over a meal of fish, venison or duck.

Dick married Shirley Hughes, daughter of Jean and Frank Hughes of Lauseland and Wilkie. Shirley taught in Maymont.

They lived for a time at the Emerald Farm and then moved to the T. B. Bates farm. Bruce, their first son was born while they were there.

They moved to Radisson where Dick was employed by Vaughn Lafoy. While the family was in Radisson, Jeananne was born.

Dick then took a job with the Co-op Lumber in North Battleford and the family moved there. They bought a house in the Riverview area, and their second son Charles was born.

In 1966, Dick became buttermaker at Dairy Producers Cooperative in Lloydminster. Twice he has received awards as top buttermaker in the province.

Shirley was active in church work and Brownies as well as helping with a private kindergarten. Later when kindergarten became part of the school system she went back to teaching full time.

A cousin once remarked the Dick Brehons have a "lively family" and this is true. Bruce has graduated from High School and is planning to go to Australia on a work visa. Jeananne is in Grade Twelve and involved in Candy Stripers Charles is in Grade Ten and has inherited his fathers love of hunting and fishing.

Thomas Colles Brehon

Thomas Colles Brehon came to Canada in 1906. He lived with his brothers and Mary and Tom Bates. He and Bob Bates, who was a toddler at the time, had a mutual affection for one another. No one realised that Tom had tuberculosis of the hip until he collapsed in the field one day. Mrs. Bates said it was one of the hardest things she ever did to have to tell a sick man that she could no longer keep him. Mrs. Smith (Bertha McKeen's mother) was his benefactor and nursed him till he died in May, 1909. His eighteen year old sister and brother died in Ireland the same year. They had all become infected by one of their mother's cousins. Not realizing at the time how contagious tuberculosis was, and out of kindness, Mrs. Brehon had nursed her cousin in her fatal illness.

The Brickwells

told by Doris Roberts

Dad emigrated from London, England to Winchester, Ontario in the early 1900's leaving a job as an accountant in one of the leading stores to become a farm worker for the late Frank Summers, who later came to Fielding and was one of their successful farmers. He often told us of the tricks the Summers boys played on Dad and they were many.

One of Dad's colleagues had settled on a farm east of Vanscoy so he finally decided to come west and take up a homestead near Pike Lake.

He had been corresponding with a pen pal back in London so Mother accepted his proposal and arrived in Saskatoon in the fall of 1912 leaving her family with the thoughts of seeing them soon but there was no reunion with either families until 1945. A cousin of Mother's had come over with her to be married also. A double wedding was performed in the Anglican Church in Vanscoy on December 5, 1913. The first mode of travel was horse and buggy.

Their first home was a one-room shack built on the homestead. The boards covered the outside frame but no finishing on the inside. As many of you know green poplar wood doesn't burn too well and of course there was a tin hanging from each pipe join, to catch the drippings. Many winter mornings they woke up and found the bed clothes covered with frost. The first years were very lean and not much to eat, however, Dad's philosophy was that God never let the birds starve so they would not be let starve. At one time they had to depend on gophers and rabbits for their meat supply.

Myself (Doris) and my sister, Hilda, were born at Pike Lake so the doctor at Delisle was the most available person for the big event.

Guess Dad could see not too bright a future for his farming so he decided to move to Saskatoon in 1918 and for a time worked for F. R. McMillan's, a store remembered by many people of the area. The third daughter, Elsie, was born a year later. Dad had taken

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Brickwell.

a mechanics course in the meantime and an opening came up at Fielding Garage so the Brickwells arrived there in 1918 with a family of three girls. Another three children were born in Fielding namely Hazel, Edna, and John. They all attended the Fielding School.

The first garage facing the railroad was a home and garage combination. The living quarters had just been enlarged before a tragic fire took place in 1926 leaving us with nothing, only the clothing we wore. The community was so helpful in getting Dad started again with a house, furniture, clothing, plus money to build a brick garage which stood till recently when it had to be dismantled. His garage provided many services besides fixing cars and machinery, such as gas and oil, farm machinery and repairs, binder twine and radios. When radios were being first introduced Dad had got the parts to assemble one and it was one of the first to be heard in the area which attracted many people who showed interest.

A tennis court was made outside our back door and many happy hours were spent with friends playing tennis.

They were staunch supporters and regular attenders of the United Church. Took part in the plays put on by the Community Club and often reminisced about the happy memories during their stay in Fielding.

The depression came upon us in 1929 so in 1934 they left for the West Coast arriving in Powell River but due to Dad's honesty and generosity people took advantage of him so had to leave there and find something in Vancouver. It took some time before he was able to get work in a welding shop. However before long he was fortunate enough to purchase a business of his own. John was of age to become interested in welding and together they ran "THE NEW METHOD WELDERS" for many years. During this time they had also built a number of large steel boats for log salvaging along the coast. Although John didn't have a university education for reading blue prints the results spoke for themselves. The shop was later sold. John moved to Nanaimo and Dad retired at eighty-five. At the age of eighty he made a beautiful chandelier for our living room which we are very proud of because it is one of a kind.

In 1972, Mother and Dad celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary with most of the eleven grandchildren, thirty-two great grandchildren plus many friends present. Dad's health started to deteriorate in 1976 and he left us in 1978. We all miss him but I must say I never heard him say an unkind thing about anyone. Our door is always open to any prairie friends, so please take advantage.

The Bright Family

This is the history of the Bright family who came to Maymont in 1935.

Stanley Bright, originally from Mazeppa, Minn. U.S.A. was adopted as an infant by W. H. Bright and brought to Canada in 1910 or 1911.

He married Irene Megaffin of Baljennie. They had a family of five children.

Shirley married Ches Miller and is now living in Maymont.

Glenn has married and spent twenty-eight years in the army. He is retiring this year and moving from Dartmouth, Nova Scotia to Regina.

Melville married Ted Turner and lives in Regina.

Jim is married and is living in Grande Prairie. He is working for the Hudson Bay Company as a Credit Manager.

Wayne, married Carol Rogers of Maymont and is teaching school in Plenty.

The family moved to Salvador in 1948, except for Shirley, Glenn, and Melville who had all taken up residence elsewhere by then. Mrs. Bright passed away in 1957. Then Wayne returned to Maymont to complete

his schooling. Mr. Bright lived out the remainder of his life in Salvador and passed away in 1975.

While in Maymont, Stan Bright, worked at McCorkle's Garage and with Harold Curry operating the town's power plant.

Some of the teachers we had during our schooling were, Mr. J. McVae; Mr. Harold Smith; Mr. Glover; Miss Wells; Mr. Morgenroth; Edith Butterfield; Miss Page, and Mr. J. Armstrong.

The school was divided into three rooms with four grades in each room.

The family of Ches and Shirley Miller are:

Marlene, married Garry Swain. They had three children and live on the Miller farm.

Faye married Dennis Hofer. They have one boy and are presently living in Swift Current, where Dennis is stationed as a member of the R.C.M.P.

Glenda married Eugene Pidwerbesky and they are living in Borden.

Glenn Bright Story

Glenn has retired from the Armed Services as Sgt. Major with twenty-eight years of service behind him. He begins his write-up by mentioning to his sister that he had devoted much time to trying to recall a worthy incident to mention but owing to the fact that [redacted] left Maymont at the age of eighteen that sort of precluded any "worthy incident" other than the fact that Allan Dolden and [redacted] went off to join the Army. So he has decided to relate incidents of the humorous or adventuresome category. At least they are humorous when looking at them from this point in time. Having many of us been in Glenn's shoes and asked to write for this book we can sympathize with his problem.

During the years of World War [redacted] harvesting help was scarce, therefore, Jim McLeish and I could immediately see a great opportunity to earn some much needed money and approached Franklin Mohler for a job. He provided the team and rack and agreed to pay us I believe it was $3.00 a day for the two of us — quite a considerable amount in those days. We could immediately envision new ball gloves, bicycles, etc., new things we thought only other kids had, possibly even a "real date" when we could spend more than the fifty cents admittance to the old Maymont Hall and possibly even go to the Chinese restaurant at halftime!! However, our introduction to harvesting was short lived, when, after four or five days Franklin's patience ran out and he fired us. Seems he figured we looked around too much and would never make farmers. [redacted] retrospect it seems he was right.

My "farming saga" did not end there. I was full of determination so after some considerable effort I managed to talk Mac Taylor into hiring me. Seems my reputation may have preceded me as I had some difficulty, anyway [redacted] took a chance and I was hired to drive his tractor pulling a binder. During those long hot days this sometimes became a very onerous task. My active mind, therefore, developed an "emergency procedure" to be used when the boredom became too great. I would increase the speed of the tractor until finally some part of the binder would break and this would make it necessary for me to go to town in Mac's truck to obtain a new part. In those days the truck driving part was much more desirable to someone my age. It seems I lasted there long enough to earn $25.00 because I can vividly remember my brother-in-law (or sister's boyfriend — I don't remember which), Ches Miller, taking me to Grobman's Store in North Battleford where I purchased my first suit — a blue pin-stripe!

My farming experience also included a short stay at Frank Miller's — stooking green clover. I can well remember that the sheaves were heavier than I was. Looking back on this experience makes me think that the only reason I stayed was because Shirley was either married to or going out with Frank's brother and I didn't want to "lose face" with the family. However, I think it was about this time that I developed an allergy to grain dust which seemed to have ended my brief association with the farming industry at a very appropriate time as I was running out of prospective employers.

Other items of interest to me that come to mind during my early years in Maymont include the following.

Sometime after I purchased the "blue suit" I can remember being at a dance in the old Maymont Hall dancing with Bea Knight and we were swinging and swaying with much grace and skill when she hooked her heel in Jock Blacklock's pants and fell — taking me to the floor with her — not considered the thing to do in those days.

Going to Sunday School was mandatory in those days, even if it was not your parents' church, as I can remember attending the Anglican Church — with Jim McLeish I think — for one year and winning a pencil box for attendance — thereafter I returned to the United Church with my coveted pencil box.

I can well remember sitting on Alan Bean's store counter with my sister Shirley singing "Red Sails in the Sunset" and Alan giving us candies; also playing "hookey" from school and going to Melrose's dam to swim and more than likely picking up "duck itch" as we usually did each time we swam there.

The Ed Broom History

written by Ed Broom

I bought the Pool Room and Barber Shop from Mrs. Anger. I was living and farming at Spinney [redacted] at the time. I had a farm sale on March 15, 1944, and moved to Maymont to live where Phil Long now lives. We had not been over here very long when we bought out the restaurant. It was owned by Mr. and Mrs. Wes Rolfe.

We moved in and the wife looked after the restaurant and cooking. We had it for about two years. Then we sold the restaurant to Mr. and Mrs. Greenslade. We moved across the street beside the Pool Room. I think Mr. Neill had just moved out of there and the building belonged to Frank Langley. I asked Mrs. Langley if I could move the pool room in where I was living because it was a lot bigger. She said if I paid all the bills I could. So I did and put in two more pool tables. When the house became empty at Bill Sowdens Park we moved down there for two years but then we had to move because Nelson Nutbrown had bought the farm. We moved over to the Foster house to live for the winter. Then I bought the house that I am living in now. It had belonged to John Rolfe. I also had bought the livery barn from E. Sykes (that was in 1950). J. Foster worked for me and I worked, too.

After the train stopped, things got slow but I still had the Pool Room. I sold it and I started to work part time for the Glenburn Park when it started up. After about two years I went full time looking after the park. I moved the Pool Room back across the street where the restaurant was before I sold it. I had a sale and sold the livery stuff and the livery barn and it was moved away. I worked at the Park until 1971.

I am retired now and I like living in Maymont. I used to come across the river to curl in 1936 the year they built the curling rink. On my rink I had Bob Bates, R. Holden, J. Cash and G. Krischke. They all played with me. We used to curl two games when we came over. We enjoyed it but we had some cold trips. We used to put the horse in G. Walton's barn and we would eat dinner there. She always made us tea and we would bring a load of wood with us sometimes.

The Buell's Family History

by Mrs. Terrance Free

Edward Franklin Buell who was born in Dayton, Ohio, U.S.A. married Evangeline Isabel Harris who was born in Cambridge, Mass, U.S.A. They were married in Cambridge, Mass and it was there that their first child, Allyson Frances, was born on June 1, 1906.

In the fall of 1907 we came to Fielding, Saskatchewan and stayed with R. B. Harris and family, my mother's brother, until my dad got a homestead west of Fielding. He built a log house and sod barn on it. He started farming with three oxen and a pony.

Three brothers and a sister were born at Fielding. William farms at Fielding, Chester worked in a store. He passed away December, 1978. Jack farmed at Lloydminster and Ruth passed away nine days after birth.

William and I went to Beckwith School for a short time while Calais School was being built. Miss Vera Amy Cooper was the first teacher at Calais School. Her name is now Mrs. Hugh Petty, Bresaylor, Saskatchewan.

Joe Ducharme was our first neighbor.

Dr. Scratch was the first doctor I could remember.

In November, 1918 my dad left my mother and family and have never heard of him since. My mother and family carried on with the farming with some hired help. Chester stayed with his uncle, R. B. Harris, and went to school with his family until he grew up.

Clarence Buell

My name is Clarence Buell. I am the middle son from the Bill Buell family. My mother's name is Helen. I have two sisters, Phyllis and Marnie, and two brothers, Walter and Leslie. The seven of us lived in the Calais School District where my dad and Leslie still farm. My mom, my sisters and I live in Saskatoon. Walter lives at Chandler, Arizona. My mom and dad have twelve grandchildren.

Some of the first memories are of my play farms in the dirt around the house. Imagination was such an important part of play. My tractor was part of the frame of an old horse drawn disc, my brother's was part of an old binder. Imagination gave them wheels and living color. My brother's was green but mine was bright red just like Albert Sherman's new one. Such a contrast from today when most children have an abundance of manufactured lifelike toys. A bicycle or a wagon in those days would have been such a prize. The bicycles leaned against the fence in our backyard until the middle of May this year before our children had the time or interest to take a ride.

Travel was so restricted that our world was very small. As a boy I remember how big I thought Calais School or Gunn's Store were

In the years when I was in grade three or four there were great numbers of crows, magpies and gophers. The fish and game league paid a bounty of one cent per egg for crow or magpie eggs. My brother and I collected four hundred and sixty-eight eggs and took them to school for our teacher, Miss Downey, to record.

As we grew older we organized a school softball team to compete at sports days in the surrounding towns. Our team had players from Calais, Beckwith and Hopewell Schools.

When we were teenagers our family moved to the Gollan farm where we had our own ball park in the cow pasture behind the barn. "Cow Pad Park" as it was named by Philip Long, saw many a good hit and many a safe slide.

The ball game started right after supper and didn't end until it was too dark to play. After the game was over we milked our twelve cows.

These are a few of my memories.

Walter John Buell

Born Oct. 30, 1931

This brief account of Buell family history will mostly cover my life activities. The history of my parents,

grandparents, etc. will probably be presented ■ your library by family members of those generations.

I was born at Fielding on Oct. 30, 1933 and lived with my parents and 2 brothers and 2 sisters in the old Buell house until Friday August 11, 1944 when we moved to the Shire place. I wrote this date in my diary then and (right or wrong) I still remember it. A couple of years later we moved to the Cameron place, then to the Gollan place where Dad still farms. I attended Calais School thru most of grade 10 and took partial grade 11 in Fielding High School in 1950-51.

I worked at various jobs in Saskatchewan and British Columbia until the end of 1956. On Jan. 14, 1957 I emigrated to the United States. All the important events of my adult life have occured here in the U.S. I was reluctantly inducted into the U.S. Army in the fall of 1958 and served until 1960. The Army trained me as a medical X-Ray technologist. This was a good night-time occupation that fit in well with my attending various Universities and Colleges during the day. I graduated from the University of Utah in 1965 with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering. I worked at Utah Power and Light Co. for 2 years as an Electrical Engineer. Since I lacked one Engineering class, University of Utah records show my graduation as 1966.

Just before moving to Arizona in 1967 the most important event ■ my life occurred when I married Sharon Lee Schow on Dec. 6, 1967. Since coming to Arizona we have increased our family from 3 to 7 children. The names of our children are: Edward Ricks, Del Ricks, Carolyn Ricks, Steven Buell, Tonya Buell, Brian Buell and Kevin Buell. I have been employed as an Electrical Engineer ■ Salt River Project (an Electrical and Water Utility in the Phoenix area) for the past 11 years. Our family is also involved in various land development projects in the Phoenix area. Farming skills that I learned in Saskatchewan 30 years ago come in handy even in todays modern world.

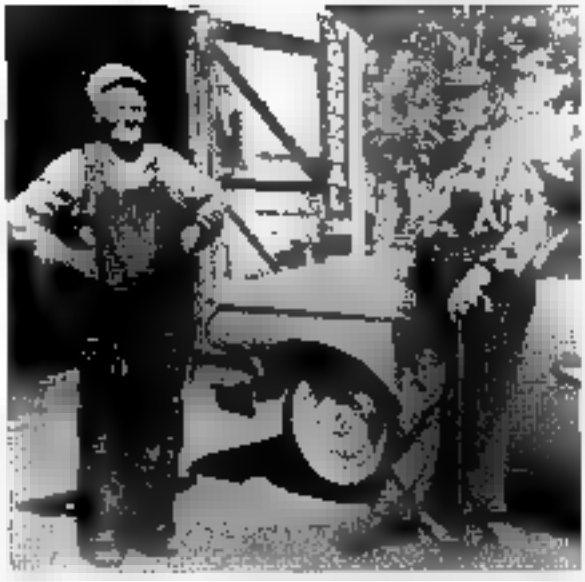
E. J. (Ed) Buhr

■ Buhr came to Maymont in 1917, from the Hague district, but he was born in Mountain Lake, Minnesota, U.S.A. on June 15th, 1888. He worked ■ a carpenter and ran steam engines on various farms in the early years. In later years he helped the Turner family at harvest time, running the combine.

He built a garage in Maymont in 1931, and did mechanic work on trucks, cars, lawn mowers and anything with a motor.

He was also one of Dr. Scratch's drivers, through all kinds of weather and to all parts of the district travelled by this pioneer doctor. He was Doc's companion, and when they were not travelling on a medical case, they were playing their usual game of cards.

Ed is very fond of children and over the years many a child got a nickel or a dime for treats from their friend, Buhr. On Hallowe'en nights he had more children visit him than any other household and he had treats for them all.



Ed Buhr and Jimmy Rogers.

Over the years, he has received cards, wedding invitations, and birth announcements from children of the district who grew up here, and when they come home to this day they make a habit of visiting Buhr.

His hobbies were hunting and fishing in his younger days, and he was an ardent photographer, and took many pictures of the town and the residents therein.

He helped his brother Cornelius, build the Memorial Hall and kept a key for the convenience of people engaged in activities in the hall, until the last few years. After being ■ his location in Maymont for the past 48 years, ■ Sept. 28th, 1979, due to failing health ■ moved to River Heights Lodge, North Battleford, where, in his 91st year, he can be found reading his favorite detective story or locomotive magazines or playing a game of solitaire, without the aid of glasses.

Mr. and Mrs. John Bulmer
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Bulmer

told by Howard Bulmer

John Bulmer at age 15, together with his brothers and sisters, came to Canada in 1903 with his parents Mr. and Mrs. John George Bulmer from Hartlepool, England with a group of Barr Colonists. They homesteaded S.E. 4-43-13-W3rd. He helped his parents on the farm as well as working for rancher Charles Nolin. He also worked in Battleford. When he was 17 he filed on N.E. 10-43-13-W3rd. For a time he was a member of the Mounted Police. He also was in the army in the first World War. After his discharge he resumed farming.

John Bulmer with his 4-month-old grandson Kolin Bulmer, 1962.

[l-r] Mrs. George Mabey with two grandchildren and Mrs. Malvina Bulmer.

In 1923, he married Malvina Windle. She had come out west about 1911 from Sherbrooke, Quebec. They continued farming. They raised one son, Howard, who still resides on the farm. Malvina passed away in 1946, a victim of cancer. John died in 1962 of a heart attack.

For ten years, starting in 1939, Howard attended what was then known as Burnley School later to be known as Lilac School.

In 1956 Howard married Effie Stewart of Metiskow, Alberta. They raised a family of five children, Kolin, Colleen, Wilfred, Anita and Dawn.

Nov. 1, 1975, Kolin married Connie Long of Maymont. They have two sons: Dale and Gary. They live in Battleford where Kolin is employed with Kindersley Transport.

Feb. 3, 1979, Colleen married Doug Prescesky of the Wavie Bank district. After living in Battleford approximately six months, they are now making their home on the Bill Thrasher farmstead.

Wilfred is living at home and at the time of this writing is working for the Great Bend municipality mowing the road allowance ditches.

Anita and Dawn are attending Maymont Central School.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Burrows

submitted by Mr. Allan Burrows

Two young enterprising Englishmen, Fred and Sam Simpson, migrated to Canada from Scunthorpe, Lincolnshire, England and arrived in Maymont, Saskatchewan about the year 1905. Fred Simpson took up a homestead north of Maymont which later was sold to Charlie Tiplin. Sam Simpson also acquired a homestead near Eatonia School next to the Potter's.

Both young men returned to England in the fall of 1907 and returned to Maymont in the spring of 1909 along with my Mother and Dad, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Burrows and Lily Simpson who later married Bob Johnston.

Dad and Mother lived in Maymont from 1908 until 1915 when they took up homesteading 3½ miles south west of Speers, Sask. They lived on this farm until 1929 when they moved to Saskatoon. They left Saskatoon in 1949 to retire in Victoria, B.C.

During Mother and Dad's stay in Maymont they lived next door to our famous Doctor Scratch. Dad often mentioned that he would have to douse the ashes from Doc's stove with either water or snow to prevent setting the town on fire. Doctor Scratch brought all five children into the world. Bernard and Leonard born in Maymont, Phyllis, Allan and Doris born on the farm.

Dad was engaged by the Maymont council to build the Maymont Presbyterian Church, now United Church, in 1911. I saw the church a couple of years ago and it seems in good shape and as Dr. Myers pointed out to me "not a sag in its roof after all these years."

We also understand that Dad was Mayor of Maymont sometime before 1915, date unknown. He also belonged to the famous Maymont Rifle Club. We have to this day a shield and a watch fob which he had won in shooting contests while a member of the club.

Bob Butterfield

told by Bob

It was not until my father Frank Butterfield Sr. built the [redacted] house circa 1917 that I have any recollection of the farm and home. I slightly remember the old house which was small and partly of frame and partly of log.

During the time the big house was being built I wanted to be in there helping at six years of age and even at mealtime I would wash up with the men and get soap in my eyes.

The house was built of frame to a set of plans from Eaton's and lumber from Eaton's — the cost of which was $1200.00. The plans are still in the house. It was built on a stone foundation by a stonemason. The brick chimney and fireplace were his work also. Shorty Stewart was one of the carpenters and I remember him well because he walked the top plate before the rafters went up and to me at that age was something to behold atop a two-storey house. The plumbing and tinsmithing were done by Henry Tadey of Radisson. The pressure system was a two hundred gallon tank with a hand pump and rain water was taken from a cistern in the basement that was also built by Henry Tadey. In later years I had the tedious job of pumping up the system. The house has a high pitch roof to run the snow off and a double veranda on the south side — one up and one down. The one up was for sleeping out in the summer but brother Bruce would sleep there all winter with a horsehide robe to keep his body heat in.

At one time the front lawn was kept like the greens of a golf course so we used to play tennis on Sunday after Sunday school.

I walked to school with my brother and sister my first day and the teacher picked me up and set me on her knee, on which I promptly peed, with fright no doubt. When the horses were all working in the fields we would walk to school but other times we would drive in a buggy with an oat sheaf in the back for the horse at noon — then in winter we would drive with horse and cutter. I remember one day dropping into the parsonage after school with the horse and cutter waiting outside but we visited too long and the horse went home on his own and was standing at the water trough waiting for someone to pump him some water, when we got home with a neighbour. Occasionally my younger sister and I would ride to school on horseback, using my foot for a stirrup Muriel would climb on and away we would go.

One of those years as a boy, I had to run the churn to make butter for the threshing crew — I was impatient and kept opening the lid to see how it was coming. I guess I didn't close the clamp correctly and on one of those barrel churns you either lock it up or you didn't have any butter so guess what all the cream ended up on the ground!

I remember my father going for a grist with a team of horses. He would take a load of wheat to Radisson, twenty miles away, and bring back 20 cwt. of flour, our years supply. The flour in 100 pound bags had to be carried up to the attic, placed on 2x4s suspended from the rafters by wire to keep the mice off; mice got wise and slid down the wire so then metal was put on like a roof so the mice would slide off the roof leaving the flour untouched.

The Gothic roof barn was built by Charlie Fry of Saskatoon in the early thirties and not too many years later horses were done away with when the tractors took over, but the cow barn is still in use today.

At age 16, I was one of the threshing crew. I gained ten pounds with all the food, exercise and sleep.

I stayed on the farm until I was 25 at which time I tried selling Insurance and was sent to Kirkland Lake, Ontario where a new branch was being opened up. At this I couldn't earn enough so I went underground as a hard rock miner for three years until 1939 when the war started. I then moved to Toronto to serve my time in a machine shop for an aircraft firm to which trade I spent most of my forty years in Toronto.

I am married with one son and two grandchildren living in British Columbia and two daughters living in Ontario. Now at the age of 67 I am retired and spend the winter months in Florida or Arizona playing golf and bicycle riding.

The Bruce Butterfield Family

My early life at Maymont was I suppose nothing out of the usual. The Sports Day on May the 24th was always a highlight, and we boys always tried to get the spring work done before that big day

Being always interested in farming, I had quite a [redacted] to do with grain and livestock clubs for the younger set.

When the thirty's came along with the drought, there wasn't much future insight, so on May 4th, 1934 I left home (Maymont) by team and wagon for the homestead at Somme, Sask. which I had acquired a few years earlier. It was quite a trip with the team and took ten long days to cover 300 miles.

When I was about two thirds of the way across, I met up with two young Ukrainians driving a team of oxen. I asked how they liked driving oxen. They replied in broken English. "It's all right in a pinch, but that is about all".

Then in 1937, I married Ethel Dearborn, of Richard. We were married in the Bromley Church, in late October. After a short honeymoon, we started for our home at Somme, in a converted Model T truck.

The first years were rather tough, but eventually things improved, and we acquired more land. During the years we took an active part in Community affairs such as Church, Curling Club, Agricultural Society, of which I was secretary-treasurer for 25 years. Chairman of Senior Citizen's low rental housing, and I was on the Telephone Board, to name a few. Ethel has been

involved in the Ladies Club, and Anglican Church Women's group for many years.

We have a family of four: two boys and two girls and they were all very active in the 4-H Clubs.

Ron, our eldest son, graduated from Agricultural College at the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon in 1963, is married and farming in the area. They have two boys. Elaine, who attended Teachers' Training College and the U. of S. has taught school for a number of years is married and lives in Calgary, and has two children. Robert who graduated from the College of Engineering in 1966, has a position in Saskatoon and is also doing part time farming at Somme. He is married and they have two children. Marlene, who also graduated from Teachers' Training College and U. of S. after teaching a few years, married and lives near Lintlaw with her husband and one little boy.

Our retirement is being spent on the home farm with time taken out for travelling.

We are proud to have pioneered and lived in one of the finest agricultural districts in Saskatchewan and to be a part of a friendly and industrious community.

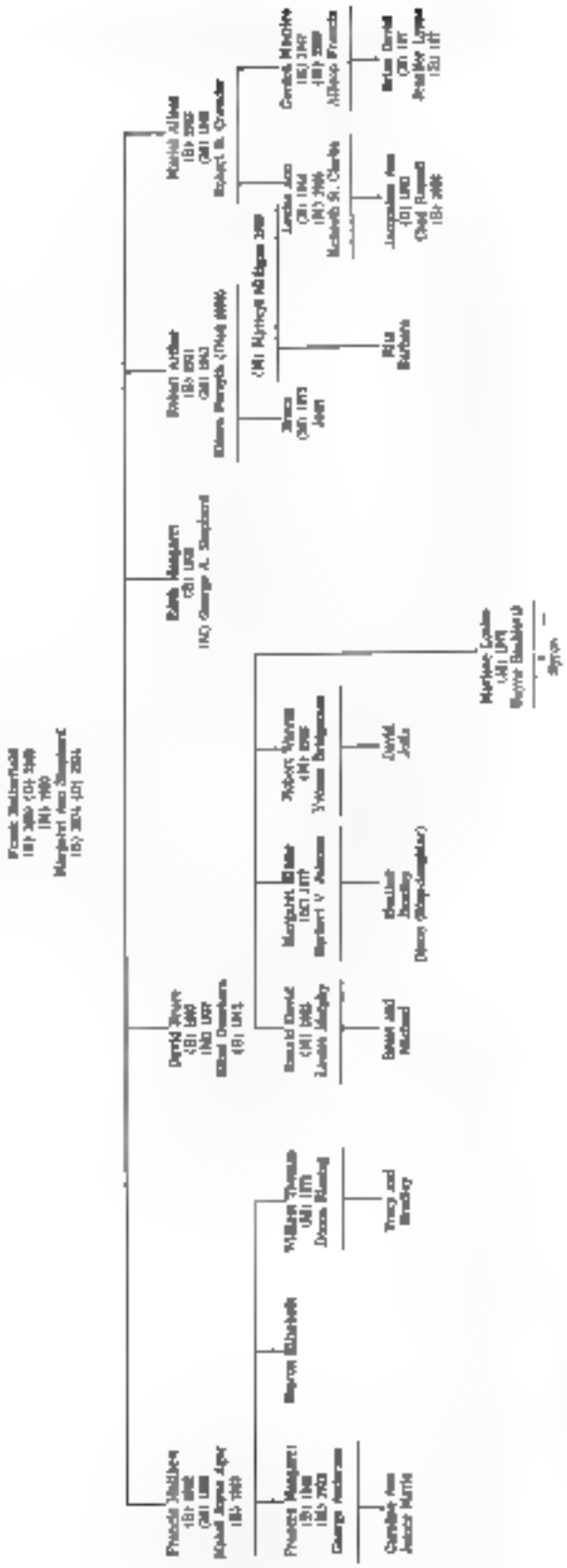
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Butterfield Senior

Frank and Margaret Butterfield arrived on their homestead in the new Maymont area on Easter Day, 1905, with their young son, Francis Matthew, and were destined to see the bald, rolling prairie develop into a wholesome farming community, which was to be their home for the rest of their lives.

Frank, senior, was born in Ambleside in the Lake Districts of Cumbria, England and in 1900 met and married Margaret Ann in London. Their son, Francis Matthew was born in England in 1902.

After deciding to come to Canada Mr. and Mrs. Butterfield arrived at Halifax and proceeded to Wawanesa, Manitoba, where they worked on George Mooney's farm. While there they acquired some settlers' effects and in 1906 went to Saskatoon and took up a homestead in the present Maymont area S.W.¼ 42-12-W3. Like many other pioneer families their

Mrs. Butterfield, Senior.



domiciles progressed from tent to log cabin with a sod roof to a lovely, modern two and a half storey home built in 1918.

The intervening years were scarred with the hardships of the dirty thirties but healed by the friendship of community neighbours and friends. During these years were born Bruce, Edith, Robert and Muriel, who all pitched in to make the home farm a thriving enterprise. Later Bruce left home for the district of Somme with his young bride, Ethel, and pioneered in that area much in the same way as his father had 'broken sod' at the turn of the century. Bob was more of an adventurer and travelled East to Ontario where he worked in Kirkland Lake and later in Toronto. Edith obtained her teaching certificate in Saskatoon and after teaching in Maymont and other communities eventually travelled to England and Scotland where she married George A. Shepherd. Muriel, who obtained her teaching certificate in Saskatoon and her Degree in Music from Toronto, taught in Maymont area till 1943 when she married a young Anglican Minister, Robert B. Crowder. They are now living in Calgary. Frankie stayed with the home farm. In 1937 he married Mabel Agar of Lilac.

Frank Butterfield, senior, was a man of thrift and hard work. His interest went farther afield than the homestead and is remembered as a man who not only helped build but loved his church where he was warden for many years. For many years he was President and director of the local telephone company and was a member of the local Orange Lodge. He was quite active in the community and the farm until his death in 1948.

Margaret Butterfield like all pioneers had to contend with the primitive style of pioneer life for many years. But in spite of this she raised five children and contended with the care and occupation of farm life. Her interests spilled over into Church and community life where she was made a life member of both the Anglican Women's Auxiliary and of the Home Makers Club. She lived to the ripe old age of One Hundred Years minus four months, and laid to rest beside her husband in the Maymont Cemetery.

Billie Butterfield, their grandson now operates the farm with his father, Frankie.

Frank, Jr. and Mabel Butterfield

Francis Matthew Butterfield was born in 1909, in London, England. A year later he and his parents, Frank and Margaret Butterfield, arrived by boat in Halifax, Canada. From there they took the train to Wawanesa, Manitoba, where they worked for G. Moody throughout the summer. In the winter, Frank Sr. worked at Hudson Bay cutting trees, in order to earn enough money for equipment to [illegible] farming out west of Saskatoon. He and his family, then proceeded by wagon to their homestead (SW ¼, 4, 12, 4E) where they borrowed a tent from the Andrews, for Margaret and Frank, Jr. to live in until he hauled lumber from Langham for their house.

The mail came to W. Andrew, Sr. on the next homestead east. The house still stands as a pioneer post office. Postage from England and Scotland was a penny for letters and a half-penny for cards.

Frank Sr. worked on the road with his neighbors for income. Some of those he worked with were: Sam in the Field, Bob Johnston, Bill Dawson, Dick Hiltz, Jimmy Pickett, Joe Adams, Wilf Baker, and Joe Vassey.

Frank Jr. went to Grey School in 1916, where Miss Erskine and Miss Waters (Mrs. Dan Prosser) taught them all the old songs. Mr. Baker was another teacher. Later, Frank walked across country to Maymont, where Miss Carter (Mrs. W. Langley) and Miss Chisolm and Mr. E. Weber (who later taught French at B.C.I.) were his teachers. Frank's education was interrupted by World War I, during which he stayed home to help build the new home and became a Soldier of the Soil, for which a bronze medal was given by Mr. Borden's Government.

In 1924, Frank Jr. went with the Langleys hunting up north. It took about five days by team and wagon to get up to Green Lake. They built a spruce log shack for shelter, then hunted for deer, antelope and moose. Percy Boskill, Jim and Henry Bohn, Harold Coombe and Mr. Haight were among the hunting party.

In 1927 the homesteading bug again hit the Butterfields, when Frank Jr. and Bruce travelled two hundred miles east to Somme to make their new homesteads. They built themselves a log shack for lodging. George, Bob Lynn and Mr. Briese were neighbors. Edith went weekends from the Dunwell School District to help with the bread baking. Bruce stayed on the homestead and married Ethel Dearborn in 1937.

Frank returned home to help his father on the original homestead. The transportation between the homesteads was a Ford Touring Model A, and the road was open in late fall.

They used a Rumley tractor and separator for harvesting the rather scarce thin crops in the thirties. In 1938, Charlie Fry helped build the arched roof barn.

In July 1939, Mabel Agar and Frank Butterfield were married in Lilac, at St. Mary's Church, which was later moved to the Western Development Museum in North Battleford. Their house was the old Oliver Andrew's house, which was located on S.W. ¼, Section 34 and moved into the same yard as Frank, Sr. and Margaret. Mabel and Frank had three children, Frances Margaret, Elizabeth Sharon and William Thomas. Their first daughter, Frances, was born in August 1940 — Frank and Margaret's first granddaughter.

As help was scarce during the Second World War, the first rubber-tired tractor, a John Deere Model A, was purchased to do the field work, along with the two Clyde horse teams (Ned and Pat — Flash and Brow-

ntel. The Model A is still used by Frank on the farm today as a front-end loader.

In 1949, Frank purchased a Ford half-ton truck for hauling grain and livestock as well as transporting the children to and from school.

In 1952, Frank purchased a Massey self-propelled combine which was used until the fall of 1977 when Bill and Frank replaced it with a Versatile pull-type.

The original party line telephone was changed over to modern style in 1970. Frank was on the board of directors. The phone company was taken over by SaskTel in 1978, who put in buried cable for more efficient services.

Modern day power came in 1966, to replace the old 32-volt power plant that was kept in the basement.

In 1972, Frances married George Anderson, in Calgary, Alberta. They now live in Mississauga, Ontario where George works as an executive with the Bay. They have two children, Carolyn Ann and Janice Marie.

In 1973, William Thomas married Donna Risling in North Battleford. For the first year they lived in Saskatoon, where Bill was taking an Agriculture course at the University and Donna worked for Turbo Resource as a Secretary-Accountant. Bill worked the first few months of 1974 at Nells, as a mechanic, until seeding started. They now live on the original homestead, in the old house of Frank Sr. They've spent the last five years remodelling the house. They have two children, Tracy Lynn and Bradley James.

During one of the coldest days of winter of 1976 the new transformer that the power company had installed earlier that year exploded, shaking the houses and rattling the windows. Sharon was alone in one house and Donna and Tracy in the other. Both thought the other's furnace had exploded. They soon realized that it was the transformer when they saw the flames shooting out of one of them. Sharon called the power company and Donna called David Voegeli, who went for Bill and Frank down to the pasture, where they were rescuing a stranded calf. The power company came and worked in 40-below weather installing a new pole and larger transformer. The second transformer exploded about an hour after the first one did but with less impact than the first. We all kept from freezing by huddling around the old wrought iron range, and dined by candlelight with the added help from a trouble light connected to a six-volt battery. We were toasty warm in the kitchen but the rest of the house was thirty-five below. All was back to normal by 10:30, except the house didn't get warm till an hour later.

After having several heavy snow falls during the winter of 1979, the last being an inch or so on April 25, we had a very late spring, causing many flooding conditions including the F. Butterfield's yard. The yard and garden area was flooded to waist high. This happened at 2 a.m. in pitch darkness, the water moving like a river, sounding like rapids. The water came from across the road, into the yard and into the basement. Frank and Bill made blockades to divert the water away from the barn and corrals. Amazingly enough it was all clear by 8 a.m. leaving no great damage in its wake.

The years have rolled by leaving behind lots of wonderful memories, and some that we'd rather forget. We've come a long way from the horse and buggy days, come through the world wars, a depression and hard times. The past seventy years have brought us to modernized equipment, fast vehicles, and improved technology. What the next seventy years have in store for us, remains to be seen.

Bill Buttrey

In the year 1926 at the age of fifteen years I decided I was going to emigrate to the "Colonies" as it was referred to in those days.

I made application to New Zealand, was refused; then to Australia, again refused; and South Africa with the same result; and all because of my poor eyesight.

I finally applied to Canada and this time was successful.

In 1927 I was accepted for immigration to Canada under the auspices of the Church of England. The Church paid all the expenses and undertook to accept responsibility for my care for three years.

In late July, 1927 I boarded the S.S. Athenia bound for the port of Quebec.

There were ten or twelve of us all about the same age (sixteen years) and we were headed for Melfort, Saskatchewan where the Church of England operated a hostel. There local farmers could apply for a young lad willing to do farm work.

After eight days on the ocean and a week on an immigrant train out of Quebec we finally arrived at Melfort. The journey on the train was an experience I will never forget. The passengers were all new arrivals in Canada, all hoping to find fame and fortune in a new land.

The wooden seats on the train when made into a bed were as hard as a rock. I slept upon the luggage rack.

We were met in Quebec by a minister of the church and he had a huge supply of groceries, enough to feed us on the journey from Quebec to Melfort. There was a little cubby hole in the railroad car with a small cook stove and everyone in that car had to do their own cooking. The temperature was in the ninety degree mark and between the smell of perspiration, garlic and food cooking it was an experience never to be forgotten.

A few of the boys had little money, but it didn't last long for the Newsies on the train were very persuasive and had little difficulty getting the boys to part with their money.

We finally arrived in Melfort and found we had jobs waiting for all of us. Myself and another lad had to purchase tickets on the C.N.R. for Lilac where we would be met by our future employers.

When I left England I was wearing a bowler hat and wore it all the way to Melfort, so naturally wore it on the journey to Lilac! At least it was the cause of lots of laughter for the ensuing years. Mrs. McCann met me in Lilac and I was on my way to a life as the hired man. Never having done a day's work in my life, for I was still going to school a week before I sailed for Canada, life changed drastically. I can remember one thing now — what it is to be homesick. All I could think of was to save enough money to get back to England.

My first wages in Canada were set at ten dollars per month for nine months. At the end of nine months I put eighty dollars in the bank.

I will never forget the kindness of our closest neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. King Turner. They were from England and had a young Scottish lad about my age working for them. Most of all they had a piano and they made me feel very much at home and encouraged me to play the piano. When I think now of the many times I walked over there and kept them up late at night while I played that piano, I must have made an awful pest of myself, but they were wonderful people and always made me feel so welcome.

I could fill a book with my experiences with Bobby Gage, the lad who worked for Harry Turner, but one thing I will never forget is the wonderful kindness to a very homesick boy who had but one thing in his mind — to save enough money to get back home.

Finally in 1931 I achieved my goal with about one thousand dollars saved I bought my one-way ticket back to England. What a surprise! I couldn't stand it when I got home. Even though I had a good job, after three weeks I bought my return ticket to Canada. I stayed in England four months and really enjoyed myself, but was very happy when I finally boarded a Cunard liner bound once again Canada.

Now the idea was to save enough money to make a start at farming on my own. This was the beginning of the dirty thirties, money was something to dream about. I worked for many local farmers, sometimes for my board, but always with wonderful people who made me feel like one of the family and never that hated word the hired man.

Finally in 1938 I took the plunge and rented a half section of land from Ross Stally. Did a lot of work on the house that is still on the farm and in the fall of 1938 married May Robinson. Our first daughter was born in this house. We have two other daughters, Ann and Dawn.

Due to the war we were away from Ruddell for a few years returning to farm in 1950. I became postmaster at Ruddell, retiring in the village.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Buziak

by Emma Buziak

We came to the Lilac District in 1949 to a farm two and one-half miles west of Lilac. At that time we had one child, a girl, Geraldine. That fall in October we had a son, Dennis. Both Geraldine and Dennis went to Lilac School.

Walter was raised in the Whitbow Area and went to Prosvita School. Emma grew up in Rabbit Lake District and went to Park Royal School.

Lilac was a busy little place with Post Office, store, garage, two elevators and a church. A curling rink was built in 1945 and it really kept us busy in the winters.

Our mixed farm kept us busy as we milked quite a few cows and shipped cream. Walter also did carpenter work in North Battleford for four years. Then we went into the chicken business in 1954 and supplied hatching eggs to Longstaff's Hatchery in North Battleford, and Anstey's Hatchery in Saskatoon and Lloydminster. We also supplied graded eggs to the Safeway Store in North Battleford. Our flock usually numbered about 1400 laying hens. We quit the egg business in 1966, when we lost our home in a fire which destroyed our egg graders, washers and cooler.

In 1966, July 3, a lightning storm had burned our home; later that summer with the help of our neighbors we had poured a basement. After harvest we started to re-build our home. We got moved into it in February, 1967. That was a real cold winter, as we nearly froze in the little trailer we lived in while we were building the house.

Geraldine, now Mrs. Vern Young, lives in Montreal and has three children, two boys and a girl. Dennis and Donna live on a farm in the Lilac Area and have three sons.

We are semi-retired now but are staying in our farm home.

The Dennis Buziak Story

The Five D's began on April 23, 1965, when Dennis, a Lilac resident, married Donna Strong, a girl from the Murray Lake district. The first three years of their married life was spent in Edmonton, Alberta, where Dennis worked as a mechanic and Donna a typist. Their first son, Dwain Walter, was born on January 30, 1968 in the Royal Alexander Hospital in Edmonton. They returned to Saskatchewan when Dwain was about three months old. Dennis worked in North Battleford as a mechanic and then operated a service station at Denholm. A second son, Dean George, was born at the Union Hospital in North Battleford on August 2, 1970. After giving up the service station they decided to give "Beautiful British Columbia" a try. In the fall of 1971 Dennis loaded up his family and moved to Prince George. Although the jobs were plentiful and wages were good, the terrible odor from the pulp mills and rough lifestyle proved to be undesirable. A third son, Devin Patrick William, was born on December 18, 1972 in the Prince George Hospital. When Devin was only four months old they decided once again to move. In the spring of 1973 they returned to Saskatchewan. They now reside on the Levi Walden farm, where Dennis farms and does mechanic work for neighboring

(l-r) Devin, Dwain and Dean Buziak.

farmers. Dwain, Dean and Devin attend school at Maymont and during the winter are avid hockey players.

The Caldwell Story

Thomas Boyd Caldwell was born in County Antrim, Ireland on June 7, 1889. His mother died of 'galloping consumption' when ■ was three months old. This was probably why the young lad was sent to Canada — it was believed the drier climate would be beneficial to his health. Thomas arrived in the Lilac District in 1906 and worked for the Semple brothers on their farms. His free time was spent at the Collins farm where he was treated as 'one of the family".

Later he had his own "homestead" and also worked for other farmers and one winter he worked for Maymont Livery Stables.

The spelling of his name was changed when he joined the Ninth C.M.R.'s in March, 1915. This, of course, caused problems years later whenever he had ■ show his brith certificate. In June, 1915 Thomas went overseas where he was stationed at Canterbury. Here he was assigned to the "C" Squadron, Fort Garry Horse and had combat duty in France and Belgium. It was 1919 when 114014 Thomas Caldwell was discharged and able to return to Lilac. During his four years in France he also had pneumonia.

It was while he was stationed in England in 1915 that Tom met Mary Elizabeth Holmes who was later to become his wife. They were married in Saskatoon June 7, 1922, and farmed west of Lilac until July, 1948. During this time they had five children — the first baby being premature only lived two days, as in 1923 there wasn't the scientific knowledge we enjoy today.

However, they raised three boys and one girl with few calamities other than oldest son Tommy Junior breaking his arm once and having concussion after his pony slipped on ice and fell. At that time we were very lucky to have Harry King-Turner who had studied to be a doctor as a near neighbor.

When Harry and Margaret King-Turner returned to England in 1936, the Caldwell family moved ■ their farm and with the assistance of his own sons Thomas cultivated that quarter section plus the Collins farm. Mrs. Collins was a widow and had moved to Ruddell to handle the telephone exchange years previously. They also farmed the land left when the Richie Scott family returned to their native Scotland.

In 1940 Bill Caldwell joined the R.C.A.F. and left Lilac District to see the world. Thomas Holmes Caldwell remained in the area and married Lillian Seib. The rest of the family moved to Nanaimo in July, 1948 where Bert finished school.

When Bert was seventeen he returned to Lilac and worked for farmers for a short time. He took a correspondence course on drafting and went to work on the South Saskatchewan Dam. Later he worked at Waskesiu Lake with Parks Board and presently is in the Parks Office in Winnipeg.

After leaving the Air Force Bill also returned to Lilac to visit his brother and family. He trained in Psychiatric Nursing at the Battleford Hospital. Here ■ met his future wife who was the occupational therapist. Bill with his wife and three children live in Meadow Lake.

Thomas Holmes Caldwell and his wife raised six children. Five are married and raising their own families now. Only the youngest, Ron, stayed in the Lilac District to farm.

Laura married Eric Sahlstrom and they raised a family of three. They now have four grandchildren. Laura, now widowed, lives in Nanaimo, B.C., and works as part of the housekeeping staff of the Nanaimo General Hospital.

The following was written by T.B. Caldwell in answer to a request from a Lilac school student. It was written as part of a Homemaker's Project to celebrate Saskatchewan's Fiftieth Birthday.

"I arrived in Canada on March 12, 1906. My first home was a Log house. It was called the "Bachelor's Retreat" as most of the settlers used to congregate there on Sundays. It belonged to Mr. James Semple for whom I worked for three years, cutting scrub and breaking land for seeding with a team of oxen.

I homesteaded north and east of Lilac in 1908. I lived there in a sod shack in winter and worked out in summer. I think Mr. Wm. Agar was first to own a car, and also first to have a radio. I cannot remember who had the first truck unless it was Walter Parent.

I lived in and around the Lilac District from 1906 until 1948, when I went out to British Columbia and settled in Northfield, with the exception of my service days in the First Great War when I was in France in 1915. I arrived back at Ruddell in June, 1919.

My experiences were many and varied but as I was just a boy in my teens I took them as a matter of course. I was lost several times on the prairie while looking for horses but usually managed to arrive ■ some bachelor's shack where I stayed until daybreak.

My sod shack which I built on my homestead sank down on me as the sods had been frozen when I built it

and when they thawed out they sank so low that I had to dig down in front of my stove or else get down on my hands and knees to light it.

Ruddell had only one store at that time. We could drive across country in those days as there were not many fences.

The Campbells are Coming

by Evelyn Andrew Sloan, Maymont, Saskatchewan, January, 1979

A team of oxen had been standing for almost two hours near the railroad station of Ruddell, their heads nodding in the hot August sun.

"Look," Dave said to his partner, "I wonder what brings the two Campbell boys here with the stone boat. Must be going to haul something."

"Didn't you hear?" Ike replied. "Sandy sent for the missus and kids. Yes, sir, the Campbells are coming!"

"Oh, so that's it," said Dave. "Well, settlers are getting common".

But the Sandy Campbells were not a "common" family . . .

It was back in 1862 that a cholera epidemic took many adults in the village of Baddeck on Cape Breton's rocky shore. Alex and Isobel Campbell fell victims to the plague, leaving nine children. One was a baby of three weeks. The oldest was Alexander, twelve years old whom they called Sandy as he inherited some of the reddish tinge of his mother's hair. Mary was thirteen. Next were Dan, Kate, Etta, Belle, William, Pete and the baby, Dolly.

When tragedies of this nature occurred there, friends and neighbours usually distributed the family as they saw fit. The Campbells had no kin living near-by and so the town squire and the minister called it their duty to go to the little house and break up the family, so that they could be cared for. However, they found a defiant Sandy. This family was his to care for! He was too young to realize that it could not be done.

The next day many folk came to look them over. Mary held Dolly close to her and tearfully stated that she would not be parted from her baby sister. A kind-hearted lady took them both and with them all was well.

The squire looked Sandy up and down and decided a lot of work could be done by a boy of his age and so he chose him.

Tourists from Maine, U.S.A., often holidayed on the Island. A doctor and his wife also looked the family over, thinking to take back home a fair-haired, blue eyed girl to make their childless home complete. When they chose eight year old Etta, Kate, nine and Belle, seven, cried so hard and held on to Etta so tightly that after much coaxing, the wife persuaded the doctor to take all three!

The family, standing wild-eyed and sorrowful, was getting smaller. A lady came and fussed over little

This Picture is most of the Sandy Campbell clan. Rose is missing and Hector did not return from the war. Standing with hat on is Ken. Jack (in uniform), Caroline Andrew holding Hector, just above is Billy Andrew holding Evelyn, behind him is Bob McPherson holding Sylvia, Belle McPherson, Dora Foster and Jack Foster Sr., above is Hilda Foster, Harry Skinner holding Lena, next to Jack Foster Sr. is Ollie Skinner, Blanche Brown holding Irene, Minnie Reid and George Reid. Directly below Billy Andrew and Evelyn is Walter Reid, Frank Foster, Dorothy Foster, Jack Foster Jr. Front — Russell, John and Earl Andrew, Alex Skinner, Tug and Pink McPherson, Vivian Reid. Seated — Sandy and Selina Campbell, Audrey Brown, Ruby Reid, Doug Skinner, Gloria McPherson.

five year old Peter, comforted him, and soon he was over the border in a new home in the U.S.A. Little did he know what lay in store with this woman.

Dan and William were taken to separate places and the little house was like the children — very much alone and very sad.

One night of sleeping in a coal bin, very little food, threatened with the whip, and told he could work for his keep and get no wages, did not appeal to Sandy. The next night in the cover of darkness a heartbroken boy became a stowaway on a ship

When discovered aboard ship, Sandy told his story to the captain. He promised to do anything they wished if they would only let him learn to be a sailor, where his cares could be left in the bottom of the ocean. He did not wish to live on land — it was hard and it was cruel. So it was that Sandy soon learned to be a sailor and a captain. Five years passed and Sandy was a man. He wondered where his brothers and sisters were. He thought of Mary and Dolly. They should be in Baddeck. The rest, he knew not where.

One day the captain of Sandy's vessel said they had to go into harbor at Baddeck. Sandy left ship on arrival and hurried to see if Mary was still there. What a grand evening he had with Mary and Dolly!

He also saw the squire again. [redacted] looked into his face he was glad he was bigger now and glad he was of age so he would never have to bow to Squire Giggs.

Repairs to the ship delayed sailing and Sandy met a girl. Back on the sea the land didn't seem so bad anymore. Time had soothed his wounds and he was in love. Sandy married his sweetheart when he was twenty-one and she was a few days less than fifteen years old. It was great, except when he had to go to sea. After their baby daughter was born, Jessie had company. Sandy was captain of his own schooner and loved it.

He had been away for over three months and lost his cargo in a storm. He worked his way home on another sailing vessel. He almost ran up the hill to his home, to find -- that the land was hard and cruel. The windows of his house were boarded up and the door was locked. He went to Jessie's father's home and knocked on the door. [redacted] was opened, then quickly slammed in his face. He yelled at his mother-in-law standing by the window, staring at him, stony faced. No answer. Sandy went to the bar. He asked the bartender what had happened. He was told that Jessie had died two months before and little Jessie, now over one year old, was with the Ridecuts. Sandy walked to the cemetery and there [redacted] found what he hoped he would not find. "Jessie Campbell, aged seventeen years. Asleep in the Lord."

Sandy went again and begged through closed doors to see his daughter but his mother-in-law said, "Never!" Jessie had fallen, lost the baby she was carrying and died. Sandy was unaware that there was [redacted] be another little one.

The captain was soon back at the bar and soon his sorrow was drowned in booze. For two weeks he was drunk and near death when an old sea captain saw him and took him out to sea

A few years passed and no more trips into the old port near Baddeck. Sandy drank when he could. It helped him forget.

He sailed into port in Newfoundland at Little Bay and he was looking for a boarding place for the weekend. He also wanted to have his laundry done. He stopped at the first place he saw which offered these services. A tall, dark widow met him at the door. She hoped he had laundry to do for she needed extra money. It was agreed and she soon had his first meal ready and was washing his clothes.

He asked her where her husband was and she said that he had died some time ago. She now had to take in washing to help feed her two girls, Dora and Bertha, and a son, George. She told how her husband, Tom, had been a miner and was first [redacted] go down the shaft every morning. On a certain day he had returned because he had forgotten his lamp. He started to leave again, then returned for his lunch. She told him, "Don't come back the third time no matter what, because that means bad luck!" Tom Reid laughed, turned again and kissed her goodbye. As she washed dishes she watched him stride to the mine entrance about five hundred yards from home. She heard a noise and saw three men fly high in the air, twist and fall. She knew one was Tom. Four men carried him home to her. He wasn't laughing or joking as always. He was very still and from that time on, Selina knew what loneliness meant.

Sandy, too, was in need of telling someone his heartache, but he decided he would have to know her better. He went to the bar to drink and to think.

When Monday morning came [redacted] was sorry to say goodbye. He paid her and said if he ever came by again he'd have her wash for him. She wouldn't leave it at that. Instead, she told him that he shouldn't drink. It wasn't good for him, she said, and she also slipped in a little lecture about drinking sailors and where their final destination would be. Suddenly, Sandy didn't like her anymore and he hit for the ship.

Next month found Sandy hoping she still lived there. He listened a little more to her preaching. He told her his life had been rough, like the sea in a storm, and she was sorry for him. Still she insisted that liquor would only dull the pain and would ruin him. Each time he left [redacted] thought he would never return, but return he did every chance he'd get for a whole year! Selina persuaded him that Sunday should be the Lord's day and she said church was where sailors and widows should be. Always Sandy reluctantly went along.

One cold Sunday the preacher announced he would not be back until April as the cold made the trip impossible. [redacted] said [redacted] any couples wished to be married before April, they should come to the pulpit after the service. He had marriage licences with him. Sandy and Selina walked up to the front along with two more

couples. She wore a plain grey dress, her Sunday best, and he wore his sailing togs.

Times were tough in Newfoundland and so after about four years they decided to move to Baddeck. By this time Sandy and Selina had two children and another on the way. They decided somehow they would find Jessie. When they went to Rideouts they learned that the grandmother was dead and after much pleading it was agreed that Jessie could come to live with the Campbells over half the time. So now they had Ken, Rose and Jessie. Blanche was born a short time later. Then Hector and Belle came along.

Selina prayed that Sandy would take a job on land as she worried everytime he set sail. She finally did some scouting on her own. She found for the Captain a job as handyman and gardener on the estate of Alexander Graham Bell where he and the McCurdys were working on airplane development. A house was provided which was larger than the one they now rented. Sandy was indignant. Him a land lubber? No! The battle raged and finally it was Sandy's lot to live on land. This lasted about two years or more and he hated every minute. Selina and the children loved it.

A new baby girl was born. Mrs. Bell and Miss Caroline McCurdy admired her and asked the name. When they learned that she wasn't named yet, they suggested "Caroline McCurdy". They said they would "make it right" with Mr. Campbell. The next day a gallon jug of black currant wine (for a tonic, of course) was delivered to the gardener's house, along with seven new baby dresses. My mother, Caroline, wore those dresses and Sandy drank the wine. (Selina was one who would "taste not nor touch not".) In a year and a half, Jack was born.

Sandy was itching for the sea again. After a while he up and quit, moved his family and headed out to sea. In 1897 Ollie was born. This was the last of Selina's babies as she was now forty-five years old. Sandy hauled cargo to put the food on the table for four years.

He left one day for a three week trip and did not return. They prayed and they cried and they waited. In a month a plank washed up on shore with the name "Talahassee" on it — Sandy's vessel. The next day two of the crew were washed ashore. Where oh where was Sandy? In six months the memorial service for the Captain and his crew was held. Selina was at her wits end to know how to raise her children. Her oldest boy George (Tom's son) was about to get married, but he decided his wages would go to mother now. So it was that the Campbell kids ate lots of fish and stews, and many meals were soup. Dora and Bertha were married and lived in Boston. Many boxes of necessities came from Dora as she was an excellent dressmaker.

The days were dreary for Selina. They hadn't found the body and she kept hoping that the sharks would not eat a captain. The children often spoke of papa. They could vaguely picture him with his long whiskers and his very wrinkled neck which the salt spray had worn tough as iron. One Christmas had passed and summer was gone again.

As Christmas rolled around once more, Selina told the children there would be no presents. She told them Dora had sent a treat, each was to have an orange and mittens from her. George bought a roast of beef which was also a treat as they always ate stew. The house was scrubbed and so were the kids, from oldest to youngest. There were seven of them now as Rose was married, and of course George would spend part of the day with Minnie's folks. No matter what, Selina insisted that all go to church on Christmas. They arose early, found their orange and it was good, the first they ever ate! They were dressed, ready to go.

A knock came on the door and Selina opened it. A clean shaven man was standing there. No one spoke.

"Selina, don't you know me?" he asked. She ran into his arms, and cried, "Oh Sandy!" The wee ones came out of hiding in the stairway and stared at the papa they did not know. A papa should have whiskers!

That was one Christmas the church bells rang and no Campbells came. They were listening to the story of Sandy's rescue when he was going down in the water for the third time. When he woke up he found he was on a ship to South America and they could not return to Cape Breton. He was taken on to Peru where he was forced to serve in the Peruvian army. Finally his chance came and he got passage on a ship heading north. They encountered pirates at one point and the sailing was rough. The ship was old and many times they thought it would capsize but the Lord was watching over Sandy. An opportunity came to work his way on another ship going further north and closer to home.

The best Christmas was soon passed. When bedtime came Selina said, "That's it, Sandy. No more sailing!" So Sandy did odd jobs, but the sea was calling and he couldn't go. He had no ship. When it irked him bad, he'd hit the bottle again. That's the only time the Campbell kids ever heard the captain sing. It was always the same song. When they heard it they knew he'd been on a "toot".

"Bonnie lassie, Highland lassie
Where you been to all the day."

One day Selina saw a paper in the down town store called "The Winnipeg Free Press". She read that land could be homesteaded away out west for only $10. "But maybe there are Indians," Sandy argued. "We have Mic Mac Indians here and we're still living," replied Selina. So they argued day and night. Sandy wouldn't farm, but one thing he would do is go to sea and forget all about it! He soon had a small vessel purchased on borrowed money and a crew ready. A cargo of coal from Sidney Mines was to be delivered in Boston. No one in Baddeck knew as he was making his plans very quietly. But, one woman knew Sandy very well. Selina saw that he was up to no good. She sneaked and watched and listened. Then one day she knew for sure

that Sandy was leaving so she called the kids, and told them a story. They must never breathe a word, she said, but they were going on a holiday to see Aunt Mary and sister Dora in Boston. They were so agog, they sealed their lips. Sandy came home from the bar one night and he didn't speak to Selina. She did not sleep and neither did he. At four o'clock Sandy silently slid out of bed, into his pants and out the door, being careful not to bang it. Selina knew this was it. She, too, dressed in a hurry. Before going on a voyage Sandy's habit was to go to each room to kiss the children good-bye. This time he did not.

Selina pulled the blinds, lit the lamp and called the family. Each one dressed and pulled from under the bed the box or bag he was responsible for. No breakfast was eaten. She blew out the lamp and walked to the door. It was a cold grey morning, just before dawn. As she led them down to the wharf, not a word was spoken.

Ken was working and Rose was married so six children and Selina stole aboard and into the captain's quarters where they would not be noticed. The room was 10' x 12', a low bunk in one corner and nothing else. Selina gave each one a scone and told them to "Shush", which meant to be quiet. It was nearly two hours before they were away from shore and out of the harbor. The wind was great and they were making time. About midmorning the Captain decided he should turn his duties over to his mate and get abit of sleep. He walked to his cabin to lie down but how could he lie on a bunk with seven people sitting on it! Some were looking white and scared: Selina was looking very defiant and ready. They had a battle royal. Among other things he accused her of wanting to drown all her children. She replied that from now on they all went or they all stayed home. The wind was wrong or Sandy would have set sail for home and ended it then. He did have to get his cargo through . . . wasn't he the skipper of the Schooner trade out of Halifax?

They were a tired lot when they landed in Boston. The kids were tongue-tied. Oh, the beauty in it all! Selina and the children were soon visiting and very happy. Sandy was mad and the crew knew it. They worked fast and unloaded fast and loaded salt fast to bring home. When Sandy looked at Selina he knew she would carry out her threat and tag along. When they got back home he asked for the Free Press.

Sandy decided to sail a few more times and then go west. His oldest son, Ken, wished to go along. A few days out a storm capsized the sailing vessel and tore it apart. It was night and very cold. Sandy panicked. Where was his son? He held to a large beam until he could no longer hold on. His hands loosed so that he could drop into the sea. Then a voice said, "Here, hold on. I'll help you." Strong arms heaved him on top of the plank and the rescuer said, "Oh, Dad, it's you!" Sandy blacked out knowing it was his son who saved his life. A ship passing rescued them and once more he was back on land and recovering.

So, in 1904, the sea-loving skipper bought a ticket to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Ken and Hector came along and they took land at Ruddell, about sixty-five miles from Saskatoon. The two young men broke the land while Sandy worked on the C.P.R. bridge in Saskatoon. He earned enough money to erect the buildings and to send for Selina and the children.

In the fall of 1905, the family bade goodbye to the island of Cape Breton and boarded the train. Blanche was eighteen years old and could have been quite a help caring for the younger ones. However, Blanche found a boyfriend on the train and had a dandy trip. They brought their food along in boxes and bags. Near Lake Superior the train had a breakdown and was stalled for two hours. Blanche and her boyfriend decided to pick blueberries for the family. When they had filled a pail with berries, Blanche spied a cow in the field close by. She thought she would add to the feast so ran to catch and milk the cow. The conductor called, "All Aboard!" and was about to proceed on the journey when Selina told him her daughter was missing and they would have to wait. (And wait they did!)

They arrived at Warman, the end of the rail. Sandy was there to meet them. They were driven by horses to Saskatoon, only four miles away, by stage coach. They boarded the CNR train and soon landed in Ruddell. The train was late and two young men had been waiting with oxen and stoneboat to bring them the last three miles of the journey.

Again, the kids were thrilled, but hours of hard work were all the parents found time for. Selina felt sorry for the many bachelors in the area and baked bread for them. She baked six days a week but "never on a Sunday".

Blanche soon found work and Ken and Hector left to work in Edmonton. Caroline and Ollie married bachelors and Belle married a man who recently came from Michigan.

Hector was killed in action in The Great War, leaving a son and daughter and a wife whom he had parted from prior to going overseas. Jack came home badly wounded to find his mother very ill. Her grief over Hector, along with diabetes had taken its toll. Insulin was not known then. Sandy hoped she would improve if he moved to Maymont where many of her children were. Ollie, Caroline and Belle lived nearby. Dora and family and George and family also lived there. Sandy sold his farm and the following year built a new house for Selina. But she did not improve. Instead she grew steadily worse.

Ken came from Edmonton. He had done very well since leaving home. He had interests in a mine and in a box factory. He had married and had a daughter. He came in his car so he took his mother home to Edmonton where he had doctors care for her. She soon returned home to spend two years in bed. Dora did

double time caring for her own family and for her mother.

In 1920 she was released from her pain. Sandy was very lonely and ■ knew again that the land was hard and cruel. He often longed for the sea and in about 1927 he did have an opportunity ■ once more view his beloved sea and spend a month in Baddeck visiting his sisters.

His daughter, Jessie, stayed there when he moved West and no one heard from her after 1912. Mary and Dolly had kept in touch. Now Etta was writing ■ Sandy, too. The doctor and his wife had given Kate, Belle, and Etta a good education. All three were nurses. In later years when the doctor was a victim of paralysis. Etta left her job to come home and nurse him until the end.

Sandy put a notice in a paper for missing persons. Peter, now grown, was a coal miner. He read and reread the ■. Though he knew nothing of where any of the family were, he could remember their names. He then came to Sandy's and bought a small farm nearby at Spinney Hill.

Sandy found that Dan lived in Chase, B.C., and so he went to visit him.

William was a gold miner who found little gold. He came from the United States to visit Sandy and brought a few stones with gold in them. He always had a corn cob pipe.

Pete, William and Dan did not marry; neither did the three nurses. Each one had faired very differently. Pete had an unhappy boyhood and finally ran away when ■ was only fourteen years old, to fend for himself for the rest of his life. His foster mother was a sex pervert and had come to his bed. Pete was out the other side, dressed and amid her cursings walked out the door, a bewildered boy. He was already working but he decided he would never go back. He hid among papers on a freight car and landed in Chicago with only the clothes he had on. He knew one thing and he remembered it well — Women were no good and he hated them. He had his own code of morals. You could not play cards on a Sunday. He caught us once and it never happened again. After that we were very careful ■ Uncle Peter was staying at our house.

Sandy went to live with Jack and Jean. When his meal was finished he would get up, and with hands behind his back, pace up the floor, turn and come back. He said he was walking the deck. One cold night in the early thirties he took very sick. The Campbell clan gathered around. Ken came from Alberta and he and Jack prepared to take their Dad to a Saskatoon hospital. Sandy now lived close to the railway tracks. A stretcher was made and he was taken through his bedroom window to the waiting train. In his delirium he thought he was being sewn in the Canvass coffin to be cast overboard. ■ roused and said, "Good boys, heave ho!"

Three days later, we buried the captain, and the prairie winds blow over his grave far from the harbors he loved. I like to think he is waiting on this side of the Jordan and he had the old Tallahassee all in ship shape. When the last of the Campbells climb aboard, it will be anchors away and he'll sail us all into the Harbor of Home Sweet Home Home". Until then, he is just walking the deck and waiting, and waiting.

Donald Campbell

A Scotch lad, with no relatives ■ Canada, drifted into Ruddell, got work with Turnbull Bros. ■ the summer months he'd have a route which he walked leading Turnbull's Clyde Stallion from stand to stand.

With horses gone, Donald went to Vancouver Island and is buried at Sidney.

Jack and Jean Campbell

as told by Jean

I was born Eugene (Jean) first daughter of Ernest and Agnes Beaudoin in Ishpeming, Michigan, U.S.A. I came with my parents, brother Isidore, and grandparents, the Lafrenieres, to the homestead in

Jack and Jean Campbell — 1958.

Saskatchewan in 1904. The women and children travelled by passenger train, but the men travelled by freight train with the horses, cows, and other settlers effects to Saskatoon. They homesteaded in the district that is now Hafford.

I started school in White Berry. My first teacher was Francis Reid. I loved school but I could only attend once in a while because I was needed at home to look after my brothers and sisters.

After the death of my father in a drowning accident life was very hard for mother and us eight kids. We moved to Maymont in 1917 when Mother married Ernest Andrew.

I married Jack W. Campbell in November 1923. Jack had come to the Ruddell area in 1905 with his family. Jack was a veteran of World War I where he had received a medal for bravery. Jack had been farming on the farm nearby.

Back row — Lil Lafreniere holding Edward Beaudoin, Agnes Beaudoin holding Ida Beaudoin, Topsy Lafreniere. Front — Jean and Isadore Beaudoin.

We were married in Saskatoon and then went to Winnipeg for a few days on our way to Chicago. It was there that Jack bought me a warm winter coat and a new pair of shoes. I had never had shoes that cost so much! They cost five dollars!

Jack found a job with Sears and Roebuck in Chicago. Our son, Norman, was born there. After a year there I persuaded Jack to take me back home. I was so lonely for my family on the prairies. So Jack did just that.

We farmed in the Maymont and Ruddell areas on rented farms. It was here that our three children were born; Violet, Ken and Shirley.

I remember one spring when we were renting a farm near Ruddell, I wanted some chicks but I didn't have a clucking hen. A crow had a nest near the house so I decided maybe she could hatch me some chicks. I robbed her nest and replaced her eggs with three hens eggs. She hatched my eggs alright but promptly ate the chicks as they came out of the shell. So much for those chicks that spring.

In 1937 after trying to struggle through the depression we decided to move to Edmonton. Jack went ahead of me and found a job with his brother in the mines. The kids and I went later on the passenger train from Maymont. I had packed a lunch of sandwiches, oranges and apples for our trip. Oranges and apples were a real treat to our kids and they would have eaten them right away but I told them they were for on the train. We had hardly left Maymont station when Norman said, "We're on the train now Mom can we have an orange?"

Jack again joined the army in 1939. We couldn't rent a house in Edmonton that would allow children so we moved to Fort Saskatchewan. We finally found a house in Edmonton so back we went.

When Jack returned home after the war I got a job at the Students Union at the University of Edmonton. We bought our present home when Jack retired. Jack had just been retired for a short while before his death on Father's Day 1966. He had a heart attack while out golfing with Shirley and her husband, Bill.

I still live in our home in Edmonton. Jack and I have eleven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Our son, Norman, passed away in 1974. Ken and Jean and Norman's wife, Doris, live in Prince George, B.C. Vi and Wayne live in Camrose, Alberta and Shirley and Bill in Calgary, Alberta.

Pat (Prysailt) Campbell

I was born in Maymont in 1942, delivered by Dr. Scratch in home. I took my schooling in Maymont, my teachers being Miss Edith Butterfield, Miss Audrey Page and Mr. Jack Armstrong.

I graduated from Saskatoon City Hospital in 1964 as a Registered Nurse.

I was married in October, 1964 to Sam Campbell at Sharon United Church, Maymont by Reverend Myers. We live in Loseland, farming from town. We have three children and are expecting our first grandchild.

Duncan (23 years) married wife, Pat, and lives in Buffalo Narrows, Saskatchewan. He is a Conservation Officer.

Janice (20 years) is in third-year Education.

Dean (18 years) graduating in June, plans on taking Vocational Agriculture.

I have been working as a general duty nurse at Kerrobert Union Hospital for the past nine years.

Allan and Edna Carnahan

told by Edna Carnahan

Allan and Edna Carnahan began their farming career with the purchase of the pioneer homesteads of

Allan and Edna Carnahan.

Collins, Panton and Ray Cameron from Alvin Nutbrown, who had owned it for a number of years. They since have added the Albert Sherman farmstead in 1977.

Allan born March 8, 1942, is the eldest son of Stan and Elsie Carnahan. He attended Ranger School, east of North Battleford. Allan has been a semi-truck driver since 1969 and at present works at Kindersley Transport, North Battleford.

His interests include John Deere tractors, fishing, hunting, curling and travelling.

Edna born June 28, 1942 at the family farm is the second daughter of Albert and Gertrude Sherman. She attended Calais School until it closed, then Fielding and Maymont. After attending Saskatoon Teachers' College, she has taught school at Alticane, Willow Springs, Wavie Bank, Denholm and is at present teaching at Cochin School.

Edna enjoys farming, horses, fishing, travelling, and rock collecting.

When Calais School closed these pupils were in attendance — Alvin, Earl and Garry Nutbrown, Clint, Bill, and Dorothy Long and Edna Sherman. Our last teacher was Mervin Hodgins.

We lived close to the school, so it wasn't a great problem to go to school.

I remember every time the superintendent came to visit the teacher we kids, would catch and kill a mouse and hang it on his car door handle. But we chickened out and always removed it before he came out.

I was in the usual community things concerts, plays, C.G.I.T. and choir at Fielding — also in 4-H Grain Club. While in the 4-H I won the trophy for Gary Oats in the Fielding Club. After tediously replicking it over, it was entered in Saskatoon in a provincial grain show. I won the Line Elevator Trophy and was Saskatchewan Junior Oat Champion in 1969.

I also kept Saskatchewan University grain plots on the farm — several varities of grain were sown in short rows in a plot. The University was experimenting in various communities as to best variety for soil and moisture conditions.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Carpentier

by Mary (Williams) Carpentier

I was born Mary Louise Williams, the only daughter of Geordie and Adeline Williams. I have many memories of my childhood such as farming with horses, the old wood stove, coal oil and gasoline lamps and waking up in the morning to find it cold as ice.

I attended Maymont Central School which was a three-room school with a basement. In the earlier years I was taken to school by horse and buggy in the summer, and in winter an open cutter when the weather was cold.

It was a big thrill when my parents bought a Model A Ford. In later years when I grew up I learned to drive it and called it Chippendale. It was all decorated up with arrows going in all directions and bells made out of yarn. I am glad I grew up in the fifties – to me they were great years.

In 1959 I married Bert Carpentier from Paynton. We worked on a farm at Paynton for the first year, then bought a house trailer and moved to Saskatoon. We lived in the trailer for seven years and working on construction we moved around to many different places. We have lived in Saskatoon, Elbow, Lily Plains, Red Deer Hill, Fenton, Blaine Lake, Hafford and Bradwell. It was fun as there were more families and we moved around together. But by this time we had a family and it was time to settle down. Marty, Todd and Karen were born during our rambling years. Marty started school at Clavet.

In 1967 we moved back to Maymont, bought a house and moved it on my parents' farm. It is situated directly east of the spot where my Grandmother Maria Williams' house was built in 1903. We prefer living on the farm to living in the city or moving around from place to place. Our second daughter, Koral, was born after we settled in Maymont.

Bert worked for the R.M. of Mayfield for quite a few years but then decided to see something different. He is now driving a chartered bus for Frontier Coach Lines out of North Battleford.

Time rushes on and our family are growing up but we have a lot of happy memories and each day is fulfilling as we live one day at a time.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank (Mary) Charlton

written by Mrs. Mary Charlton

I am writing, as requested, my part of the Maymont district from when I can remember to the fall of 1942. Since then I haven't been around there too much as my life has been all over the 9 prairie provinces.

First, I am the eldest child of Percy Parker and Hazel Walton, Mary Ellen Parker. My father was the son of William G. Parker and Elizabeth Hird (we still have many relatives from Manitoba to the Quebec border). My Mother was the third child of George Walton and Lydia Flaws. Both sets of grandparents were pioneers of the Grey School District, 3 miles north and 1 mile east of the village of Maymont where I went to school from 1930-1939. From school I worked as a "hired girl" for various members of the Maymont community. I was baptized in the Maymont United Church as it's known now, but at the time I was baptized it was Presbyterian. I attended the United Church from cradle roll to adult. I remember 25¢ being a lot of money for collection.

In the fall of 1942 I tried to join the army and in the spring of 1943 I made the grade and was accepted as a member of the Canadian Women's Army Corps where I served my King and Country until January, 1945. In October, 1944 I had a 2-week leave and went to Fort William, Ontario (now Thunder Bay) and married Noel Hatter. We had one son, Lyle Kenneth born July, 1945. Noel and I were divorced in 1956 and in 1958 I had secured a housekeeping job in Alberta and October, 1958 married Francis W. Charlton. He also had a son by a previous marriage (his wife died of cancer in 1954), so Frank and I each had a son. Lyle Hatter and Leslie Charlton. There were many tears trying to put two families together but we managed and had a good home. In 1963 Frank and I had a son of our own which we lost 17 hours after he was born. It was a difficult time for all. Now we have 4 beautiful grandchildren. Our son Lyle Hatter married Cheryl Jacque and they have a girl, Michelle and a boy, Blaine. Our son, Leslie Charlton married Reta Wood and they have a boy Gary, and a girl, Michelle.

In the year 1971-72 I went to a Technical School and received my Commercial Baking Papers, also Short Order Cooking and now I am busy doing birthday, wedding, and anniversary cakes as well as teaching cake decorating at times.

My husband, Frank, had open heart surgery in March, 1976, and as he hasn't been able to work since, we have done a lot of travelling. In 1977, we travelled from coast to coast, Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island to Vancouver. Also, 1978 we were up in the North West Territories, Yellowknife, Pine Point, and Hay River. Then in October, 1978 we went to Salt Spring Island, B.C. for the winter and came back to Alberta in March, 1979.

We live in Bowden, Alberta, when we are home. Most of the time we are here and if not, anyone of our neighbors can tell where we are.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave. F. Christie

Richard Pioneers

After spending the first five years of their retirement in North Battleford, Mr. and Mrs. D. Christie moved to the village of Maymont, in the fall of 1952, where Dave could walk the length of the village and chat with former friends and neighbors.

Mr. Christie, an early pioneer had taken a homestead in the fall of 1902, the S.E. quarter, Section 6, Township 42, Range 13, West of the Third Meridian, located in what later became the Mayfield Municipality.

During the first few years his summers were spent in "proving up" the homestead and in the winter he worked out. It was while spending a winter at Ruddell, working for Turnbull Bros., that he met Alice Carter who was to become his wife.

Alice Carter had come from London, England to visit her sister and brother-in-law, Nellie and Herbert Young, who at that time operated the Wanganui Post Office some fifteen or eighteen miles north of the village of Richard. When she heard of a position in Ruddell Hotel she decided to apply, and while working there she met Dave. They were married October 30, 1911 in St. Mary's Anglican Church, Lilac, which is now part of the Battlefords' Museum.

While living on the homestead their first two children were born — a son David and a daughter Ethel. Mrs. Christie tells of Ethel's arrival in a real heavy rainstorm. The roads were so bad that Mr. Scratch didn't make it in time, so Mrs. Conkey as midwife made the delivery.

They later moved to a new location one mile north in the [illegible] of Douglas where they lived and farmed until their retirement. It was here their third child, Roberta, was born. David and Ethel started school at Bathgate School, later moved and named Lilac, but soon transferred to Richard, now their home town. Roberta took all her public and high school in Richard School and was the first student to return home to teach.

During Mr. Christie's years on the farm he raised and cared well for many prize winning Clydesdale horses, of which he was very proud. For years he attended the North Battleford Fair with his horses and always made his expenses plus a bit extra in prize money.

Mrs. Christie was an active member of the Richard Homemaker's Club for many years.

In the fall of 1947, they retired from farm life to North Battleford, where they enjoyed life until the move to Maymont. Mr. Christie passed away the fall of 1958 and was buried in Maymont Cemetery.

Mrs. Christie was a member of Maymont United Church Women while living in Maymont. In 1968 she sold her home there and spent the winter with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr and Mrs. Les Johnston of Richard. However being of independent nature, the next spring she decided to return to Maymont, where she purchased the old telephone office, which she had renovated and made her home there until 1974. She then bought the former Richard teacherage and moved there to be nearer her daughter. Finding it a bit dif-

ficult to cope with household chores she moved into River Heights Lodge in October of 1977 where she still resides.

On May 31, 1979 her family gathered at the home of her daughter to celebrate her ninetieth birthday, having a family dinner. ■ the afternoon and evening a 'Come and Go Tea' was held in the Richard Recreation Hall where close ■ one hundred people signed the register. When they gathered around in the evening to sing "Happy Birthday" Mrs. Christie said, "This had been the most wonderful birthday I have ever had. I never thought it could happen ■ me!"

The Frank Clayton Story

written by Frank Clayton

Born on a farm near the village of Fraiston, Boston Lincolnshire England, September 27, 1903. Received his education in this area. Left school during first World War (1916) when manpower was getting scarce. Immigrated ■ Canada, along with a cousin, Jack Crankhorn, in 1923. Left Liverpool on Friday, April 13, 1923, anchored in the ocean for one week, due to fog and icebergs. Took sixteen days for crossing. Landed at St. Johns, New Brunswick. Travelled by train to Conquest but was held in quarantine for 24 hours due to one passenger having broke out with small pox ■ Outlook. Supposed to have a job at Conquest, but was too late arriving. Obtained a job on a farm at Anerley. Worked there the summer and harvested there. Went ■ Saskatoon for two weeks, then obtained a job in the bush at Mistatim. Worked in the saw mill, arriving Christmas Eve. Worked here till sometime in February, when the mill burned down. Went to Saskatoon for a few days, then got work on a farm cutting firewood, breaking colts and general chores at Artland. Stayed here for a month then went back to Saskatoon for a few days. During April of 1924 got a job working for Tom Turner Sr. in the Maymont district. Worked there the summer. In fall of 1924 went to Carruthers district to be with the cousin who had immigrated at the same time. Went ■ help the cousin build a shack on the land that he had purchased. Purchased a C.P.R. quarter for himself in January or February of 1925. Early in spring of 1925 returned to Turners for summer. Cousin broke 30 acres on quarter during summer. Returned to Carruthers in fall of 1925 and in spring of 1926 bought an outfit of 5 horses and a breaking plow, borrowed a drill and planted 50 acres of wheat. Broke 139 acres of prairie land between the two men and 30 acres for a neighbor. Come August 7, the whole crop froze black, cut it and stooked it. Thrashed some of this crop but burned most of it. Following year (1927) sowed a few acres of oats and rest to wheat. Broke about 60 acres for a neighbor. Oats turned out pretty good, wheat froze worse than 1926. Most ■ it burned. Spring 1928 rented 3 quarters of land. Farmed this for four years. Spring of 1932 moved to Maymont and bought 2 quarters of land. The next spring bought another quarter. ■ November 1933 married Marjorie Ellen Long, and resided on NW¼, 3,41.12. In June 1934 a daughter, June was born. Pretty good crop this year. After this drought years hit and until 1937 it was very dry. In 1937 got nearly all seed back. The year 1938 proved to be better. ■ November 1939, a son, Richard (Dick) Edward was born.

June started school at Calais School ■ Fall of 1943 and Dick started in fall of 1945. Continued schooling here until 1949 when family moved closer to Maymont. Bought the NW¼ 20,41,12 so children could ■ to high school. Took the whole family "home" to England November 1945 to March 1947.

June married Dean Oliver Rogers on January 30, 1954. Dick married Elizabeth Doreen Broom on October 10, 1959. Both families reside in the Maymont area.

Marjorie and Frank celebrated their 45th Wedding Anniversary November 1978. At present they have 9 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. They still reside on their farm south of Maymont.

The Richard Clayton Family

Richard Clayton is the only son of Frank and Marjorie Clayton. I was born in the village of Maymont with Dr. Scratch in attendance. I took my Grades One to Four in Calais School District and in 1949 our family moved ■ Maymont where my parents are living now one-half mile south of Maymont. I took Grades Five to Twelve in Maymont School and after completing Grade Twelve, I took two years of university attending the School of Agriculture and graduated from there in the spring of 1959.

I married Elizabeth Broom, the only daughter ■ Mr. and Mrs. ■ Broom in the fall of 1959. Elizabeth was born in the Spinney Hill District. Her family moved to Maymont in 1944. Elizabeth attended school in Maymont.

We lived ■ a two-room house on my father's farm which they had lived in when they were first married. We had two sons, Kern and Tracy while we lived there. ■ the fall of 1962 we bought Nelson Nuthrown's place which was one-quarter mile east of Maymont on the old highway. It was well known as the Sowden Park. While we lived there Ellis, Neil, Leann and Marla were born.

In 1973 we bought the farms of Allen and Charlie Nuthrown. We moved to the Charlie Nuthrown farm in October of 1973. We built a house that winter and moved ■ the new house in the spring of 1974.

Our family takes an active part in community activities such as, 4-H Beef Club, church activities and sports. Kern has completed Grade Twelve and has attended first-year university at the School of Agriculture.

The George A. Clark Family History

George A. Clark, Uel and Mary Clark, Clayton and Louise Clark, William Lee and Karen Schmidt (Clark)

Mr. George A. Clark was born April 29, 1845 in New York, U.S.A. He married Alvire J. Cory on October 18, 1866 in Minnesota. George Clark was a schoolteacher in the U.S.A. Then in 1909 he took his seven children and wife to homestead in Canada. They made the family home south of Fielding.

December, 1913 Uel Sumner, George's youngest son, married Mary Mabel Parker. Then in 1919 George passed away leaving Uel to farm. Uel and Mary had three children — Dorothy, Clayton, and Mabel. In 1942 Uel passed away due to a heart condition, leaving Clayton to farm and support his mother and Mabel.

In 1950 Mary and Mabel moved to Vancouver, where Dorothy was married to Jack Barker and resided there. Mary lived there until her death in 1965.

March 22, 1950 Clayton married Louise Ward. Still on the homestead, they farmed trying to make a living always fighting the lack of water. Then in 1962 they bought the Keith Ferris farm north of Fielding. They moved off the homestead but to this day they still farm the land, but now Clayton's son, Murray, owns the land.

Uel and Mary Clark.

Clayton and Louise Clark, granddaughter Mandie Schmidt.

Murray and Ruth Richards and their family, Jeffery, Wendy, and Jody on mom's knee.

Clayton and Louise have four children — Ruth, married in 1971 and living in Prince George, B.C. with her husband, K. Murray Richards, and their three children — Jeffery, Wendy, and Jody. Karen, married in 1973 and living in Maymont with her husband, W. Lee Schmidt, and two children — Mandy and Wade. Murray lives in the John Kuntz farm home in Fielding and farms and works for a construction outfit. Beverley has finished her Grade Twelve in Maymont Central School and plans to attend University of Saskatchewan in the fall of 1979.

William Lee Schmidt is the son of William E. Schmidt and grandson of Vern Schmidt. He was born April, 1952 and married Karen L. Clark April, 1973. They moved to Lloydminster, Saskatchewan where they both were employed, Lee for the City and Karen in the Credit Union. Then in 1976 they moved to Maymont where Lee joined his dad's construction, Schmidt Construction. They have two children — Mandy and Wade.

The Coleman Family

I will start from the very beginning of my husband's and my Canadain life. First of all Clem came to this country, with Les Harmsworth, more or less as an adventure. They both worked as hired men on a farm at Rosetown, until the First War broke out, when Clem joined the Eighth Winnipeg Rifles and was sent overseas in 1914.

I met Clem in 1917 when he was in hospital blues at Ealing. We were married in the latter part of that year.

In 1918 he came back to Canada leaving me in England with my first baby, Doug. He had planned on finding a place for me to come to, however, he was unable to find something suitable, so I came out here and arrived in Maymont March 1, 1920. In the meantime Les Harmsworth had left Rosetown and settled at Spinney Hill, where Clem had visited and decided he would settle there also. Mr. and Mrs. Tom Young were our neighbours and were so very kind to us.

Clem had warned me before I left England that I mustn't expect any luxuries and on asking just what he meant, he told me not to expect a bathroom with all the facilities for one thing. I asked how we would manage, he told me that he would dig a ditch so many paces from the house and that was to serve as a W.C. He also said that I would be lucky if I had a one-room shack in which to live, which proved to be true. I asked what we would do if visitors came to stay overnight and he said that large spikes were hammered into the two by fours around the walls and sleeping bags were hung on those. I was so very green and really believed all these things.

Before I arrived in Maymont, Clem had sent a big order away to Eaton's for groceries (those days folks used to send to Eaton's or Neal Bros. for groceries, enough to last the winter). The grocery order consisted of the bare necessities, but there was ten pounds of dried apple rings and five pounds of bulk baking soda. Clem kept asking me to make an apple pie and "baking soda biscuits" so I undertook to make some. I first made the biscuits. I had no baking powder, so thought that as the recipe called for three teaspoons of baking powder I would use the same amount of soda. The biscuits were a sickly looking green and of course were not eatable. I then undertook to make an apple pie, the crust was alright, but when it was cut into the contents were like rubber. I hadn't soaked the apple rings!! as I had had no experience with dried apples, — for that matter no cooking experience at all.

I must tell of a rather funny experience, at least it was for me but not for Clem. In the order from Eaton's was a large dish pan which was to serve as a bath, washtub and was used to set bread dough after having been scoured out first with ashes and rinsed. Friday night was bath night, Clem was taking his bath beside the big old heater and he bent over to dry himself with his back to the heater when I heard expressions and words that I never heard before. He had burned is "sit upon" quite badly and of course I couldn't help laughing although it really was not a laughing matter.

We were very hard up when we first came out here. The government wasn't as generous after the First War as after the Second War, even after serving four and a half years, three of which Clem served in the front line at different times and was wounded in the face and arm. The authorities deducted so much off each pay check while the men were overseas and that was paid back to them on arrival back here. Clem's amounted to four hundred dollars. At first it was difficult to get work and Clem dug telephone post holes at Spinney Hill, for fifty cents a hole, when the phones went in.

In May of 1920 we heard that the West Ferry was needing an operator, so Clem applied for the job, which we were glad to get. I used to go down to that one-room shack for the summer months and back up to the same kind of abode on Les Harmsworth's farm for the winter. In 1921, Albert Davis was leaving his farm and wanted to sell his quarter section so we cabled home for the money to purchase it, (we swallowed our pride to do that). In 1925 Bill Philpott, the postmaster in Maymont at that time asked us if we would take over the job as he and his brother-in-law wanted to buy a store at Lashburn, so again we had to cable home for money.

We ran the post office for thirty-three years. Those days were very different to nowadays. There were four trains each day that carried mail. Two jitneys and two main trains, and which by the way had to be met every day, including Sundays. We also served Spinney Hill and Sonningdale.

Now a little bit about my family. Douglas was born in England at Hanley in Surrey, Maurice (who passed away in 1936) Joyce and Allan were born at Spinney Hill and Dennis and Brian were born in Maymont here.

Douglas and Allan served in the Second War overseas and Clem served as instructor at Dundurn for one and a half years.

The post office was run by Mr. McLaren, followed by Stan Thorsteinsen (who later left the post office to run the British American elevator here). Bill Philpott took over the office then. And as I mentioned before we moved in after that. We retired in 1958.

My family is scattered miles from here. Doug is married and living in Hamilton, Ontario. Joyce with her four children lives in London, Ontario, with the exception of Maurice (her youngest son) who is living in Toronto. All her family are doing well.

Dennis is living at Stoney Creek, Ontario. All his family are established there. Allan is at Sioux Ste. Marie and Brian is at Vulcan, Alberta. His eldest, son, Douglas, is stationed at Battleford at present in the R.C.M.P. His two older daughters are at Lethbridge. Yayna is attending University there and Danette is working at the Commerce Bank.

I would like to add before closing that the old timers at Spinney Hill were all so very kind to me when I first arrived in this country. The majority of these kind folks have passed on.

Conditions here were so very different to those I left behind in England and I would have returned home across the ocean, had it not been for the kindness of those kind folks.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Collins

by Fred Collins

My father came to this country in 1905 which was seven years before I was born, so I have to rely on memory of his telling of experiences happening during those times. As to the naming of the school I believe it was Mrs. Tyhurst who suggested the name "Calais". Mr. Tyhurst had lived in France for some time and as the school was built during the First World War and during the time discussion of a name for the school was going on, events going on in Calais, France, were quite prominent in the news, so I think this was why the name was chosen. As we lived close to the school most of the teachers boarded at our place.

Frank, my dad, came to Canada in 1905 from England. He and his brother ran a Confectionary and Catering business in England. The Collins family were in England for generations. My dad and his brother were the first to break tradition.

My dad filed on a homestead, the NW¼, Section 2, Tp. 41, Rge. 12, W3. Most of the farm work during the first years was done with oxen. The extent of farm machinery for the most part was the walking plow, disc harrows, drill and binder. During the first few years most of the homesteaders had only a few acres so they stacked their crop to be threshed later.

There were a few large steam threshing outfits and they threshed the larger fields from the stooks and when these fields were done they went around to the smaller farms and threshed the stacks. Later some settlers had a small threshing machine. These machines were hand-fed; one man would place a sheaf on a platform and the man at the machine would cut the twine and feed the sheaf into the machine. When the straw came out of the back of the machine it just dropped on the ground and some one with a bucking pole pulled by an ox or a horse would take the straw away. I heard of an instance where a lady was taking the straw away with a bucking pole and for some reason, she got in front of the pole and was rolled over into the straw much to the amusement of the men working there.

Dad went back to England for part of the winter of 1906 and 1907 and came back in the spring of 1907 to continue improving the homestead. He went back to England in 1910 and married my mother, Frances Chandler, in June. He then came back to Canada and my mother came later.

It was quite a trip for her, by boat to Halifax; from there to Winnipeg by train. Then they boarded a special train to Fielding. Some of these cars contained cooking facilities for making meals. She landed in Fielding, a small village, to be taken to a small farm house by oxen and buggy. Mother had lived and worked in a small village and wasn't used to farm living and was quite frightened of the oxen. She soon got less frightened of the oxen and was able to hitch one to the buggy to go to town. After a few years the beet flies came and the oxen were phased out in favor of horses. Our house was of frame construction with two additions built on later.

We moved to the Birch Lake Area in 1933. We made many trips by horse and wagon, a ninety mile trip. We started over again in bush country, doing some breaking with horses and some with a tractor.

I am a bachelor, still living on the farm but don't take much part in the farm work. I am getting the pension so can get along very well.

My sister, Edith, is living with her daughter a mile and a half away. My nephew is working my farm. He is married and has two children. My niece is married and has three children.

James and Margaret Collins and family

James Collins and Margaret Drysdale Collins were both born in Belfast, Ireland and educated there. James spent twenty years of his life as a sailor on sailing ships, during that time Margaret operated a shop and raised their children. In 1909 James came to Canada to take advantage of the 160 acres of free land being offered by the Canadian Government. He homesteaded about a mile west of the Lilac post office which was not in existence at that time.

Margaret left Belfast in 1905 with their five children (Jean, Margaret, Dick, Harry and Tom). They arrived in Saskatoon by train, during the summer. James met them there. They journeyed north by ox cart to Prince Albert where Margaret and the children lived until 1908. During that time Harry and Tom died and another son Lawrence was born. James worked proving up the homestead during the summer and spent the winter in Prince Albert working on railway construction and other jobs.

The construction of a sod house was finally completed and the family moved from Prince Albert to the homestead. Albert, Ted, Irene and Kay were born in ensuing years. Meanwhile the older girls, Jean and Margaret, were married and moved to North Battleford and later to California where they now reside. Dick was drowned in the Red Deer River.

As the years went by the railroad was completed from Prince Albert to Denholm. Mr. Warden opened a general store in Lilac. The Sask. Co-op built a grain elevator. As they became old enough, Lawrence, Albert and Ted commenced their education at the Bathgate School. Miss Dewdney was their teacher.

Margaret accepted the job of telephone operator in

Ruddell and James the job of repair man. The family moved to Ruddell in the summer of 1918. The children attended Ruddell School. Their teacher was Miss Duff, who later married Ephram Reid. Kay's first teacher was Miss Leask.

Lawrence left Ruddell in 1927 and went to Winnipeg where he worked for Walter Woods Ltd., in their china department. He became their sales manager. He eventually bought a manufacturer's agency and operated his own business until he retired in 1973. He now lives at Winnipeg Beach in the summer and spends the winter in California.

Albert joined the Canadian Bank of Commerce in 1926. He worked for them in various branches and then enlisted in the R.C.A.F. in 1941. He spent 3½ years overseas and returned to the bank at the close of hostilities in 1945. He retired from the bank at the end of 1969. He lives in Vancouver.

Ted went to Winnipeg in 1928 and he, too, worked for Walter Woods. He joined the R.C.A.F. in 1942. He received his discharge in 1945 and moved to Vancouver area where he now resides.

Irene worked on the switchboard at Ruddell until moving to Vancouver in 1941. She married there and now lives in South Burnaby.

Kay graduated from St. Joseph's School of Nursing in Victoria in 1940. She worked in Shaughnessy Hospital during the war years. Married in Winnipeg and now lives in Saskatoon.

James Collins died in 1939 when his safety strap broke whilst repairing a line.

Margaret (senior) moved to Vancouver in 1941 and died there in 1952.

This was composed by Ted Collins and presented to Mrs. Collins one Mothers day many years ago.

MY MOTHER

I well remember how our home,
Was oft beseiged by more than one,
Who needed help in their bad plight
Or somewhere to put up at nite,
Whose sorrows imagined or real,
Had made them look for friend and weal,
Which role you'd always fill.

Our home was overun with kids,
Who under decorum put the skids
A place to freely go and come,
Where'er a child a nurse did need,
To you with all good haste they'd speed.
And soon their fears you'd still.

Your heart doth overflow with good
For those you think in need of food,
Or shelter from the stormy blast,
That whistles round the windows past.
You knit and sew and plan and save
To satisfy poor children's craves,
For clothes and things to wear.

In all the length and breadth of earth
There is no one of such deep worth,
As thou, Oh Wondrous mother mine
I think you're grand, I think your fine.
You gave me all I'll ever own —
I would not change it for a throne.
To be a son of such as thee,
Is something extra specially
A pride and joy so rare.

The James and Margaret Collins Family of Lilac Ruddell

submitted Lawrence Collins

James and Margaret were born in Belfast, Ireland. James (1867-1939) went to sea at an early age, in the service of the British Merchant Marine. Three trips around the world with stops in many countries, convinced him that Western Canada was the country he should emigrate to with his large growing family. The main reason for his decision was: lots of room to breathe, freedom of speech and the opportunity to own his own land. Margaret (1878-1956) during this time, was in Belfast where six of the older children of the eleven were born. When the children started to arrive, she realized that she could no longer look after the family and still go to work. To supplement the family income she opened a shop in the front section of her home and sold groceries etc. This venture was apparently successful, as attested to by letters of recommendation received from the Belfast Wholesalers. These are now in the hands of her daughter, Irene, in Vancouver.

The family sailed for Canada in the spring of 1906 to follow Mr. Collins who had gone ahead to file claim on a homestead, located one mile west of what is now Lilac, Saskatchewan. Mrs. Collins packed up everything she could take, including a Singer sewing machine and a cylinder gramophone with the cylinders, and five of her children, the sixth child, David, had died in the year of his birth. Arrival at Clark's Crossing (Saskatoon) was a real event in the lives of the Collins family. Two days in Saskatoon was followed by the trip by oxen to Prince Albert, where Mr. Collins had rented a small house (present site of the R.C.M.P.) where they could stay until the homestead was in shape to receive them.

During the time Mr. Collins was making improvements on the farm that were required, the family lived in Prince Albert and during this time Lawrence was born. It was in Prince Albert that tragedy struck, in the sudden deaths of Henry and Tommy at the same time.

Early in the spring of 1909 the family moved to the homestead where they lived until 1918. Farm life was hard in those days, but with the selling of butter, eggs, chickens and on occasion vegetables to supplement the main income of wheat, the family lived a good life. While at the homestead, Albert, Edward, Irene and Kathaleen were born. In 1918 the family moved to Ruddell. Mrs. Collins managed the Ruddell Rural

Telephone Offices, looking after the people with telephones in Ruddell, Lilac and Baljennie Districts. Mr. Collins was a line and repairman until 1930, when in a bad windstorm hill fell from a loose pole onto the stump of another pole and within a week died of the injuries. Mrs. Collins remained at her job with the help of her younger daughters, in particular Irene, until early in the second World War. At that time she and her daughter, Irene, moved to Vancouver to join daughter, Kay, who had established herself as a nurse. Mrs. Collins died in Vancouver in 1956.

The Collins family are now spread throughout the U.S.A. and Canada.

Jean who was born in 1891 in Belfast lived in Lilac and North Battleford most of 1909 to 1930 when she moved to California with her husband Earl Bennett and son, Leonard. She is now a widow living in a nice Senior Citizens Home in Rosemead, California.

David born in 1894 and died the same year in Belfast.

Margaret born 1897 in Belfast, lived in Lilac and North Battleford until 1920 when she married Albert Bates and moved to Winnipeg, Manitoba, followed by a move to California in 1924. She had with her her first son, Kenneth and later another son, Bill, was born. Margaret is now a widow living in California. She is still driving her car on the freeways to visit her sons and other family members.

Richard (1898-1915) born in Belfast, lived in Lilac until he was drowned in the North Saskatchewan River.

Henry (1901-1908) born in Belfast; died in Prince Albert.

Thomas (1904-1908) born in Belfast; died in Prince Albert.

Lawrence born in 1908 in Prince Albert, lived in Lilac 1909-1918, Ruddell 1918 to 1928 when he moved to Winnipeg and became associated with the wholesale firm of Walter Woods, Ltd. In 1954 he opened his agency business known as LARRY COLLINS AGENCIES, LTD., with branches in Winnipeg and Edmonton. He and his wife, Regina Mason retired in 1974. They sold their Winnipeg home and moved to their summer residence on the edge of Lake Winnipeg, in Winnipeg Beach. They now live a full life with Lodge work and world travelling. They spend part of their summers at home and the winters in warmer climates.

Albert born 1909 in Lilac lived there until the family moved to Ruddell. In 1928 he joined the Canadian Bank of Commerce and was stationed at many towns in Saskatchewan. He joined the R.C.A.F. and went overseas until the war ended in 1945. He had married Susan Belcher in 1941. When he returned from the service, they moved to Vancouver and he returned to the Bank there. He retired in 1969, but at the request of the bank he works as relief manager in remote areas (such as Dawson City, Yukon) so the resident managers can take vacation. They have a son, Kendal in Vancouver and a married daughter, Janet McGillicudy in Adelaide, Australia.

Edward James born 1911 in Lilac, lived in Lilac until 1918, then Ruddell until 1929, then Winnipeg until 1941 when he joined the R.C.A.F. When the war ended in 1945 he took his discharge in Vancouver. The next few years he worked for a furniture manufacturer who closed down because of a fire. He then joined Eaton's Mail Order until they closed that Branch. The Woodward Department Store was next until retirement at age sixty-five. They asked him, however, to remain with the Company on a part-time basis, which he likes very much. This enables him to travel and to do special services for friends.

Irene was born in 1913 at Lilac and lived there until the family moved to Ruddell in 1918. She remained there until she moved to Vancouver with her mother. During the period in Ruddell she was the telephone operator. In Vancouver she worked in a book store. She met and married Leonard Cotton, a newspaper man. They have one son, Richard, and a married daughter, Joan, both living in British Columbia. Irene keeps busy with church and social work. Since her husband's retirement they are able to do some travelling, such as a return to Ruddell.

Kathaleen (Kay) was born in 1918 in the hospital in North Battleford while the family lived in Lilac. Kay was the first of the family of eleven to be born in a hospital. The first two years of her life, she lived on the farm. From 1918 to 1937 she lived in Ruddell. She took nursing training in Victoria, then moved to Vancouver. At the end of the war she moved to Winnipeg where she married Arthur Mewdell, employed by Phillips Electronics. Later they moved to Regina and then to Saskatoon where they still reside. They have three daughters and one son. Art is a department manager at A. A. Murray, Ltd. Through the years of raising a family Kay has always kept her hand in at nursing, and as soon as her children were old enough to care for themselves, she returned to nursing full time. She is now Superintendent of Nursing at the former Veterans Affairs Hospital now owned by the Saskatchewan Government.

"A Move From Western Ontario to Saskatchewan in 1918"
William and Maria Conkey
John and Alice Conkey

by Alice Conkey

William and Maria Conkey came west from Caradoc, Ontario first to the Vanscoy area and later bought a section of land in the Maymont District — Section 8, Township 42, Range 13, West of the Third Meridian. There was a family of five came west: Fred, Frank, John, Hazel and Georgina. Later two married daughters came west: Laura (Mrs. George Baptist) to Vanscoy, Saskatchewan and Ida (Mrs. Archie Campbell) to Pelly, Saskatchewan.

William and Maria Conkey.

Farming was done with horses and it was mixed.

They built a small house and sod barns for horses and cattle and broke up most of the land.

My brother Sam Johnston came west in 1911 and bought a half section of land from Walter Shouldice — also in the Maymont District.

My Uncle Frank Johnston and Aunt Margaret came east on a visit the winter of 1912 and I came west with them in the spring of 1913, and stayed with my brother. I liked the prairies.

I had only intended staying through the summer but spent over two years before returning east the fall of 1915.

My brother worked on the railway being built from North Battleford to Prince Albert the summer of 1913. There was no village of Richard or Speers in 1913 but both were flourishing by fall of 1915.

When I went back east the fall of 1915, I found it lonely; not as much activity as in the west.

In the spring of 1916 I went to Thessalon, Ontario to take care of my brother's three children while my sister-in-law had surgery.

When all was well again I started working in a telephone office there from June until December. I

50th wedding anniversary. Merrill, Shirley, Ron, Thelma and Bursil. Seated — Mrs. Conkey, Mr. Conkey.

went home for Christmas to attend my youngest sister's wedding. John Conkey had come east to visit a brother and sister in the east the fall of 1916 and came to see me at my home at Plantagnet, Ontario in January, 1917. While there we decided to get married and come west again. I had gone with him a lot during my stay with my brother. We were married February 8, 1917 at my sister's home in Ottawa. In the east there was a lot of snow that winter and roads were not very good. We spent a month visiting the kin folk at Stratroy, London and Caradoc which was very enjoyable.

The summer of 1917 was a busy one. John's folks were having a deep well drilled and we were having our home built. We moved in the fall of 1917. Our oldest son, Bursil, was born March, 1918.

When Bursil was three years old a little white dog came to our place. We could not find anyone near us who owned it. Bursil and the dog romped and played together. About two weeks later while the child was having a nap a man came and claimed the dog. His name was Hodge from Fielding. Mr. Hodge said he had been at a ball game at Ruddell and while there the little dog strayed away. That was seven miles from our place.

When Bursil woke up and found the little dog gone, he was very upset. When I got him calmed down he wanted to know where his daddy was. I told him he had taken a load of grain to town and would soon be home. We went to get some wood to start the fire and get supper. Some pretty flowers were growing near the wood pile and I told Bursil to pick some for me.

A little later when he didn't come in and I could not see him anywhere, I went looking for him. John arrived home and the search began. He was found at Richard, five miles away. While picking the flowers he had seen the Richard elevators and went to meet daddy the wrong direction. John had gone to Maymont. I have often thought that was the beginning of his many travels through the years, started young.

There were more neighbors close by there than later years. Just south of us the Loveless family lived, two girls, Nellie and Ethel, and Arthur at home. Harold and Roy away. The Charles Bouskill family a little further west; two girls Alma and Olive, two boys, Frank and Andy; three girls married. The James Little family just a little west and north of us. Five boys; Myron, Stewart, Jim, Hughie and Leslie; one girl Lois. My Uncle Frank and Aunt Margaret lived just a mile and a half east of us. Their son, B. F. Johnston, and I saw their family grow up and enjoyed many happy visits with them.

Our nearest school then was Bathgate over seven miles from us. Borsil went there first with Leslie Little in 1924. When Leslie quit school Borsil then went to Grey School with my cousin's family until the Wavie Bank School was built in 1927 and opened in 1928. The first teacher was Miss Alice Bailey from Indian Head. The second teacher, Mr. Ken Doolittle, was there from 1928 to the summer of 1930. Mr. Harry Brotey was the teacher in 1930 and 1931. These three teachers boarded with us. The trustees were Mr. Dave Alexander, Mr. Henry Voke, and John Conkey. Mr. Charles McFarlane was the fourth teacher and a teacherage was built while he was teaching there.

We got our mail at Maymont a couple of times a week and sometimes oftener in the summer. The first postmaster at Maymont was Mr. McLaren.

While Mr. McFarlane taught at Wavie Bank Sunday School was started and there was a big class often as high as sixty, some from Ruddell and Lilac District. What was first known as Bathgate School was later named Lilac and a new school built further west.

Ministers that we had at Wavie Bank were Mr. Herman Whiting of Melfort, Mr. Mack of Edmonton. These were student ministers and friends of Mr. and Mrs. McFarlane. Later Mr. Dorinner from Ruddell. Also Mr. David Cline held services in the school. Wavie Bank School closed in 1960.

[redacted] the early years we used an ice well on the farm filled with blocks of ice to keep cream and perishable foods throughout the summer months. We also had a large pit covered with poles, straw and earth and had all vegetables which kept lovely from one season to another and had extras for the neighbors if they wanted them.

We had a wonderful doctor in Maymont from 1907 for over fifty years. He served the country for miles East, West, North and South and I'm sure he was loved by everyone and we were proud to call him "Our Doc Scratch".

Many other incidents happened throughout the years too numerous to mention all a part of life and living.

Many small towns that were one time doing a prosperous business have faded out due to larger farms and fewer residents. Some people have moved away and many have passed on.

I moved [redacted] Maymont in the fall of 1976 and live in a suite in the former locker plant.

The family of John and Alice Conkey:

Borsil: who is now living in San Diego, California and has one daughter, Evelyn, living in Vancouver.

Merrill: who until just recently still farmed the original land and is now living [redacted] Maymont.

Thelma and Shirley (twins):

Thelma married Bill Thompson of Hornepayne, Ontario and is now living in Kitchener, Ontario. She has two children, Darlene and John.

Shirley married [redacted] Manchester of Toronto and lives there.

Ronald: married [redacted] Marg. Allen of Perth, Ontario. They have three children and live [redacted] Toronto. Ron's eldest daughter, Beverley is married to Nev Battilson and they have a daughter, Karen. His second daughter, Lorraine is married [redacted] Peter Exley. Ron's son, Keith, the youngest family member, is still [redacted] home.

The first three teachers at Wavie Bank all boarded at John Conkey's so needless to say none of the Conkey children played hookey or tried to pull the wool over the teacher's eyes, and none of them can say they can't look back and recall many fond memories of the teachers being there. Thelma and Shirley were made to write right-handed by their teacher, Mr. Ken Doolittle. This was considered the proper technique by teachers in those days.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Cook (Bill and Ella)

Mr. Cook was born in King, Ontario July 8, 1860. He moved to Balmoral, Manitoba in 1888.

In 1892 [redacted] married Ella Mitchell at Balmoral and they moved to Maymont in 1905 where they settled on land purchased from the Canadian Pacific Railway. At that time a half section of land cost $256D, interest rates were 6% and the amount was paid off in 5 equal payments plus interest.

The Cooks were never blessed with a family of their own but over the years raised three boys, William Storey, Dean Crossley and Jack Donald.

During the years 1912 to about 1925 Mr. Cook became quite well known for his herd of purebred Shorthorn cattle. He turned to mainly wheat farming when pastureland and water supply became a problem with a large herd of cattle. Later he became interested in raising hogs but not to the same extent that [redacted] had been in cattle.

Both were very interested [redacted] community work and were firm supporters of the United Church. In fact they were both involved in construction of the then Presbyterian Church which still serves the community.

Mrs. Cook passed away in 1942 and Mr. Cook in 1948. Both are interred in the Maymont Cemetery.

Mr. Harold Coombs

written by F. F. Mohler

Born in England November 13, 1883. His father was a civil engineer, who supervised the building of quite a few bridges among other projects. As the family moved as each was completed Harold gained considerable knowledge of a wide cross section of life. Once while stationed for three years near a military establishment, he observed their rigorous drill and meticulous dress and strict carriage during their training. Harold felt that after enduring this for some years the men would be bursting to engage an enemy, if only to relieve his feelings.

Harold loved the old land and its people. His collection of pictures and clippings showed his loyalty and devotion to the Royal Family. However the calls of freedom and opportunity in the new land interested him, so [redacted] sailed for Canada early in the 1900's.

He first helped a rancher at Broadview, Sask. Then [redacted] took up a homestead on the West side of Meeting Lake. He walked or drove horses to North Battleford for supplies. He proved upon the N.E. of 32-48-12 W3rd in 1925.

He farmed this land with four horses till 1958, being the last farmer to use horses for power in the district. He gave them the very best of care and treatment.

After the horses were gone he spent more time than ever carving knick-knacks from roots, figures of all kinds from bits of wood as well as animals, birds and snakes, etc. Part of these efforts we now can see in the Western Development Museum. His relatives and people will now be able to get a great deal of enjoyment from his artistry.

Harold visited his relatives in England in 1912 and again in 1935. He seemed glad to get back to his life of freedom, to wear the kind of clothes he fancied; (We have other individuals doing this too) or doing things he wished despite the hour or day of the week.

He planted thousands of trees and shrubs on his farm. He defended the existence of a row of spruce and scots pine sufficiently during the widening of the right of way for a grid road, to save them. Now the long distance telephones bows out around them. He was an ardent gardener, never losing hope despite many failures.

When he passed away there was more than a year's supply [redacted] wood cut, sawed and stacked by his own effort from native wood from his own farm. He only used a little coal two winters to hold fire over night.

Although the power line passed close to his house he chose to use a simple coal oil lamp to the end. However, he read something every day, including many books, by its' feeble light.

Only in the last years did he use glasses for reading. In earlier years he hunted game, large and small. Most of the friends of hunting days predeceased him.

While [redacted] took time to visit friends occasionally he was never idle. He rode his bike to town his last afternoon as he had done a good many years. Among other things he firmly believed "The devil finds work for idle hands."

Charlotte Sloan Cooper

submitted by Charlotte

A young father in Russia built a cradle for his first born. One hundred years later I rocked my babies in this same cradle. I am impressed again to realize I exist because of precise timing and the unique set of circumstances which brought to the small district of Maymont, Saskatchewan, this German from Russia, a Nova Scotian sea captain, and a couple of farm families from Manitoba. These people were my great grandparents and I am grateful to them for the privilledge I have had of being raised in this community.

My early memories include kittens of my own each spring and a playhouse in the bush. I was always afraid of the dark and I dreaded that moment each night when my Dad blew out the lamp. No one was more thrilled than I to snap on the electric lights for the first time.

On summer evenings the cows were milked outside. My little brothers and I moved with Mom from cow [redacted] cow, cuddled in old coats for blankets, and listened to her fascinating stories. She is probably the most creative person in the world. Who else would transform a hot day hoeing in the garden a mile from home into a special memory with her idea of a noon corn roast and a story!

Charlotte and Lawrence Cooper and Family.

My Dad gave us a love for nature. He often stopped the tractor to move a duck nest rather than till it under in the field. He taught us to especially appreciate the birds and for this we repaid him each Christmas with a small hard cover bird book. The price was right — three books for $1.00. I admire more than anything my Dad's priorities in life — time for people and things that count.

School life for me was varied. I first attended Keystone School and our horse, Barney, was sometimes more than my older sister could handle. One day I bounced out of the buggy on my head and I heard the old buggy wheels rattle as the girls disappeared down the road in a cloud of dust. I later endured long school bus rides to Maymont School. We sang to pass time on the bus and I think Les Parker often had a headache when he parked the bus for the night!

The year I was eleven I spent my school days in bed doing Grade 7 by correspondence because I had an attack of rheumatic fever which enlarged my heart. Several relapses during the subsequent seven years interrupted my school attendance and I enrolled in more correspondence courses. I depended on my family to do things for me that other girls my age took for granted. I was a teenager who needed help even to wash my hair and I could walk only short distances. During noon hour I rested at my Grandpa's house in Maymont. During this time I spent a total of two years in bed and I wondered if I would ever lead a normal life.

All this changed the summer I was 13. I attended a Bible camp and while there, I simply asked God to make me well. A week or two later we received a letter from a heart specialist in Saskatoon where I had been examined after camp. The letter advised that the size and shape of my heart was now normal! What an exciting day for our family and what a change in lifestyle for me from that time on! I have continued to enjoy excellent health since then for which I am consciously thankful.

Our horizons were broadened during our teen years when my brothers and I entered a Bible quizzing program. Canadian playoffs were held each year in Vancouver and international playoffs in Los Angeles, California. We each managed to go to the finals three years and our expenses for all these trips were paid for us. Quizzing brought us closer together. One fellow quizzer said to me, "They can't be your brothers — they're too nice to you!" Perhaps my family has always been especially good to me because of the sickness I had. We are all friends as well as siblings and I value each one of them.

When I left Maymont School I attended Business College, lived in B.C. for one year, then worked at C.J.N.B. Radio in North Battleford. Soon after our marriage, Lawrence and I flew to the north shore of Reindeer Lake in Manitoba. I felt completely at home in the quiet beauty of that isolated area and we felt we had flown into another world. Even adults there had never seen a horse, cow, car or train. Brochet seemed to be a town of dogs and more dogs, mukluks, planes, rocks, and winter picnics.

During the Christmas holidays we had the fun of bringing a small Indian girl "To South" (as she called it) to introduce her to our way of life. Her spending money for the trip came from a pile of little squirrel hides her father had skinned at nights on the trapline.

We saw our son for the first time while visiting my Uncle Earl and Aunt Edith Andrew in Manitoba. He sat on the floor bouncing to the music of a T.V. show and as soon as we saw him, Lawrence said, "That's our boy!" Three months later I carried Kevin from the pontoon plane up the steep bank of Reindeer Lake to our home. The following year we found out how good it is to have a baby born into a family, but still, there is no excitement that can beat adopting a child you already love. All arrangements had been made via poor connections on radio. I remember the priest's assistant in Brochet shouting as loudly as possible, "Do you have news for the Coopers?" and I remember Lawrence and I straining to hear the social worker's verdict through the static on the line.

Our daughter, Sunny, was born in North Battleford. When she was six days old we headed back into the North. The old Russian cradle had been given to me by my Uncle Roy Sloan, and it was piled on top of the suitcases at the back of our plane. In years past the cradle had travelled 3,000 miles more than half the distance around the world — by wagon train, camel, raft, rail and on ship over the Atlantic Ocean. Now we added "bush plane in northern Canada" to the cradle's colorful travel history.

We reluctantly left the North the following year and since then we have lived in the Turtleford area, about one hundred miles from Maymont. Lawrence is a reading specialist and travels with a reading lab throughout this school unit.

We call our acreage SHALOM, the Jewish greeting and farewell, meaning "peace". The atmosphere is suited to pursuing our mutual interest in writing. This location is much like the farm at home, and as I walk through the pasture here I often think of my years at Maymont. I remember the load of dry wood my sister and I gathered for sale in town. I think of neighbours from home, like Gag and Millie Beaudoin, who are more than friends to me. And I remember the community shower that was held for me. I think of my Dad's fiddle and the tunes I grew up on. I find when I go home I feel just as much a part of the Maymont Community as I ever did.

Jeremy Jon was born to us two years ago and he also rocked in the old cradle. Recently, I was given the opportunity to write a book called The Mennonite People which is used in Canadian Schools. The story includes some of our own family history and it seems

that the cradle has become to me a symbol of God's loving care and protection not only in the past, but now and in our future.

The Cliff Custer Family

Clifford W. Custer and Rojean J. Abbott were married in Roddell April 10, 1942 uniting two pioneer families. Cliff was born in Baljennie the third son of Dave and Linda (nee Megaffin) Custer. His Grandparents came to Baljennie from Battleford where his grandfather had served with the North West Mounted Police. Cliff's father had come to Canada from U.S.A., the only member of his family to do so. He was well known for his love of a good horse trade, and in the years of horse-power travelled his proud stallion throughout the country on both sides of the river. He made many friends along the way.

Rojean's parents, Samuel and Mary (nee Kennedy) Abbott came to Roddell from Ontario in 1905. Her Dad had been a logger in Northern Ontario since the age of fourteen years and her mother a seamstress from Toronto, a skill that came in very handy making new and made-over clothing for her family of seven. The prairie must have seemed a very lonely place for a city girl.

Cliff and Rojean started their married life on Bern Robinson's farm west of Roddell but it was war time

Carole (12 yrs.), Harvey (8 yrs.) with Beierle's dog Ted at Lilac.

Carole, Cliff, Verne Schmidt and Harvey after ploughing snow, 1956.

and Cliff was drafted into the R.A. Volunteers one month later and was soon stationed in Vernon, B.C. Rojean followed in July and they loved the valley and enjoyed picking the various tree fruits and seeing the different way of life from prairie grain farming, especially the irrigation, thinking how the farmers back home could have used it in the dry years. It was a time of great change for them as army life was a new and not altogether happy experience as being wartime one didn't know what to expect. Carole was born February 23, 1943, while Cliff was on an army course in Woodstock, Ontario and he didn't see his daughter until she was four weeks old. It was at this time that Rojean had word that her dad had cancer and must undergo surgery. ■ Cliff eventually received a discharge to manage the farm until other arrangements could be made. Thus began several years of moving from place to place, including three years at Baljennie where their son, Harvey, was born in January, 1947. ■ 1953 we moved to the Lilac District having purchased a farm through the V.L.A. — the Dan Scott place which was to be our home for the next eight years. As the acreage was small we rented pasture land from Eph Reid, the Collins place, where we were able to raise feeder cattle. After much renovating the house was made liveable and with the help of good neighbors we were able to get our crop in and off with our limited machinery, and knew the value of people working together in true western fashion. One of the happiest times was when the power was finally brought to the farms in 1956 and we could enjoy the luxury of lights and the other conveniences that electricity brings. And when we got our T.V. it was a red letter day. Along with everyone else we battled the drouth, grasshoppers and rust when we couldn't believe that our nice stand of grain would yield nothing, never having experienced rust before.

There were many things we will never forget, among them being the springs when our basement would fill with water from the spring run-off, and once again we knew the value of good neighbors as they would come with their shovels, but in spite of their ef-

forts the water would break through. Carole and Harvey enjoyed it all as they could raft all around the house. In the winter of '64 when the snow all but buried us, Vern Schmidt came with his cat and ploughed to divert the water. We didn't get flooded that year and soon there was a culvert put in which solved the problem. Happier memories were the many dances we attended around the country as well as the square dance club when we danced several times a week to prepare for the jamboree, the New Year's Eve parties at the Buziaks and the Christmas concerts as well as the Beaver Baseball games with Elsie Belerle that she and Rojean enjoyed so much, but with Emile Francis as coach how could we lose? These are all pleasant memories to look back upon.

Carole will never forget the Hallowe'en the Moffat girls and she went trick or treating only to find when they got back to the Moffats that Joe had a trick or two ■ his own planned as they found out as they jumped into bed and received a shock from the bed that Joe somehow had wired.

Harvey lost his appendix his first month of school only to be followed by the other beginner Faith Parent. His comment was "The Copy Cat".

In the fall of 1960 we decided that the farm could no longer support us as the cost of farming like everything else had risen, so we moved to Saskatoon where Cliff had found employment. Rojean soon found employment also, and eventually went to work for the Federal Government where she is still employed. Carole graduated as a Certified Nursing Assistant and worked for a time at the University Hospital. In 1963 she married Mervin Zaleschuk from Maymont who is employed with the Power Corporation. They have a son, Darren, born September, 1966 and a daughter, Carmen, born August, 1970. Harvey had had his own Semi for several years — no surprise to those who knew him — as from the time he was a small child he had a car or truck in his hand. He married Diane Martyn in 1970. They are both graduates of Mount Royal Collegiate where Diane worked as secretary for five years after graduating from business college. They have a son, Wade, born March, 1975, and a daughter, Christine, born November, 1977.

Although Saskatoon is home now and has been good to us affording us vacations we couldn't take while on the farm, we are not sorry that our children have a farm background where they could experience the joy of growing things, the animals and slower-paced life, and we had a pang of regret when we learned that the house on the farm at Lilac had been destroyed by fire caused by lightning.

This was written in 1964 in answer to a letter from his granddaughter, Carole Custer, (a student at Lilac School) as part of a Homemakers' Project for school children on "Pioneers" to Commemorate the Saskatchewan Fiftieth Anniversary.

Dear Carole,

I will try to give you a little ■ my early experiences.

I arrived in Saskatchewan by train from Ontario in 1905, and stayed in Saskatoon a short while. At that time it was mostly tents. I was prepared to file on a quarter of land, which later would have been practically the centre of Saskatoon, but decided ■ move further west — much to my regret years later ■ I saw how the city grew.

I finally settled in Ruddell District and broke my land with four horses on a walking plow. Took off my first crop in 1907, — a good crop and very encouraging.

I recall one bad prairie fire that narrowly missed my land and was started by cinders from a passing train.

Having no way to travel and wanting more groceries than I could take on horseback — I found a plank and hitched my horse to it.

By 1909 when my wife came out from Ontario, I had a very small frame shack with a cabinet, stove, two chairs and a bed. When we weren't using the chairs, they were put on the bed ■ make more room to walk around the tiny floor. Nevertheless it was home until it burned in 1915 and I had the present house built.

Sincerely, Grandpa
(Mr. S. Abbott)

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Custer, Sr.

Mrs. Custer went to Ruddell as a young woman of 18 years. Mr. and Mrs. Dave Custer had been married in 1912. Goo (Albert James) was born in Baljennie. They bought the livery barn from Herb Tremble — had traded the Plew's place in Baljennie for it. Dave, Junior, was born while they lived in Ruddell. She recalled living not far from the tracks on Mrs. Shield's place when the turkeys were making a dreadful noise due ■ an approaching train. She looked toward the tracks and saw Goo sitting in-between the rails. She said she just managed ■ rescue him in time. He was about 1½ years old at the time. They had the contract to haul mail and did draying. When fire took the barn they sold the lots to the Turnbulls and used the insurance money ■ buy the William Lachman farm which was just west of A. J. Custer's present farm.

Muriel Alison Crowder (Nee Butterfield)

My first claim to the fame was that I arrived before Dr. Scratch and from then on "I had it made". I had three older brothers and a sister to spoil me. Although we lived two and a half miles north east of town I was educated in Maymont and during those years, experienced the same type of "junior years" as my contempories. I walked to school, rode horseback, used the buggy or cutter and finally got my grade twelve. Very often in the fall I would help at harvest time by hauling grain to one of the elevators in town.

During my school years I was allowed the privilege of learning to play the piano — a factor that was to be a distinct asset and gift for the rest of my life. As everyone knows those were strenuous, rough, "slim" years. Years during which everyone was bound to his neighbour by the common factor of poverty. Having obtained my degree in music I began to teach piano, often using team and cutter to reach my pupils as far north as Richard, and by car or train to Fielding. I played for Church and later on found the piano a distinct advantage after I got my schools teaching certificate. I first taught at Keystone School (for $500 a year) and then at Hughton near Rosetown. It was during this time I met Bob, a young Anglican minister, and in 1943 we were married in the little Church of All Saints, Maymont. We have now been married (1979) for 36 years and have two children, Louise and Gordon, (both married) and four grandchildren. Louise obtained her degree in Business Administration Environment Control. The past years have been very rewarding and we now live in Calgary and "my beginnings" in Maymont have stood me in good stead. I am now retired and Bob has his Doctorate in Theology and is the Archdeacon of Calgary.

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Crozier
Mr. and Mrs. Norman Cheal
Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Beaudoin

told by Mildred (Crozier) Beaudoin

My Mother, whose maiden name was Eva Parker, was born May 1, 1898, and moved to Maymont with her family, the William Parkers, and lived on the same land as Grey School. Marve Crozier was born in Ontario. He came to Brandon and then to Edam where he met Eva Parker who was teaching school at that time.

Mother and Dad's 45th wedding anniversary, Nov., 1947. Back row — Eleanor, Wayne, myself and Gug. In front — Mother and Dad.

On a trip back to Glaslyn after 38 years, I am standing beside the old log house Dad built on the homestead in the 30's.

They were married and had 2 children, Jim and Mildred. Mildred was born in Eatonia, Sask., on March 28, 1921, and Jim was born June 23, 1924, at Edam Sask. My Dad and Mother farmed at Edam and then moved to Carnduff, Sask. Dad ran a poolroom. Here he took an appendix attack and passed away in hospital. I was around 5 years old then. Mother came to North Battleford and did odd jobs and looked after us kids.

In a few years Mother married Norman Cheal who was working around Maymont. We lived on a farm not far from Grandpa Parker and Jim and I went to Grey School, (the same school my Mother had gone to). Then we moved to a homestead at Glaslyn. We went with a team of horses pulling a rack full of worldly possessions. Here we had good and bad times.

My Dad built a log house and barn. We had lumber on half the floor; the other half was just dirt. Our horses died and we used oxen for work and going to town. We often walked to town which was 5 miles away. Jim and I went to Glaslyn Rural School. We walked most of the time. Sometimes in the winter we would walk and catch a ride with a neighbour. The entire families went to school house dances. The women took lunch and someone played the violin and piano and that was the orchestra. We all had lots of fun. There was always entertainment at lunchtime; some sang, some played a musical instrument. I remember my Dad and Jim doing a step-dance. We made many good friends. We went to Sam Woods for Xmas several years. That was always a special occasion. I still write to 3 of my girlfriends from Glaslyn.

In 1936 we moved back to Maymont and lived in the house where Harry Wahlberg lives now. Jim and I finished High School. Jim worked out on the farm a bit. Jobs got scarce and war broke out so Jim joined the R.C.A.F. He graduated as an AirGunner.

In 1942 our family moved east and Jim came to our place on his last leave before going overseas. We sure had a memorable time and hated to see Jim leave. As it turned out it was his last leave home. We had word saying he was missing in action on the night of Aug. [illegible], 1943, on a mission over Hamburg. His crew were all English lads. I still correspond with his pilot's sister.

I started working out for $1.50 a week; then I got up to $13.00 per month and then $13.00 a week. I worked in a confectionery store in the east. Before that I had done housework.

In the spring of 1944 we came west again. Mother and Dad worked around Saskatoon and 8 years ago Dad retired from being a caretaker of schools. They still live in Saskatoon. They celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary this year, 1979.

Now to continue on with our immediate family, I, Mildred Crozier, married Ernest Beaudoin in 1944 and we had 2 sons, Jim and Wayne. The summer of 1945 Ernest, (who was in the army before we were married) worked for his brother Norman. We stayed with them until fall. Jim was born on Sept. 10, 1945 in Grandma Andrew's house with the help of Dr. Scratch, Grandma Andrew and Sarah Beaudoin (my cousin).

On September 20 we went to my cousins place in a bad snowstorm but October came out nice and hot as one day Sarah, Albert, baby Jim and I drove to Granny Parkers with a horse and buggy. We lived in the Warkentin house one winter and in the McNaughton house. Then we bought the land we are now living on but we had built a house 1½ miles north of Ted Sloan. In 1950 with the help of our good neighbours and relatives we got the house jacked up onto wagons and pulled by tractors to our present place. We had 2 boys by then. Wayne came along on May 20, 1948. Mrs. Herb Johnston and Dr. Scratch delivered him. Mothers had to stay in bed 10 days at that time so Mother came and looked after us.

Jim and Wayne started school at Keystone in the fall of 1952. Later to Maymont as our school was closed. They played hockey and ball (Ernest and I also attended Maymont School). The boys had a bus to ride instead of horse and buggy in summer and closed-in-cutter in the winter. The men used to have to get up early [illegible] do chores and milk cows before starting off to school. Our kids had 3½ miles to Keystone. One day the cutter upset with Rena and Margaret Andrew and the Ted Sloan kids. They all laughed later but at the time it was quite serious. The kids even got a few rides to school in the truck or car. That was a real treat at that time. Most of the kids now have their own car to go to school. Jim got his first car by working in the summer for Jim Tebay.

[illegible] 1954 we got electricity — What a luxury that was — no more oil lamps or smokey lanterns. When we first got electric lights the kids were busy switching lights on and off. With electricity came appliances and motors. We got an electric motor on the cream separator — no more turning by hand. Ernest sat down with his feet up on a chair and watched the milk separate into milk and cream. Then along came T.V. It was unbelievable to see a show in your own home.

We had a lot of sickness in our family but with the help of our neighbours, doctors and relatives we made it through. My garden was put in several times and vegetables frozen.

One year our crop was put in for us; some did the seeding, some harrowing and some gave money for gas. We will never forget their kindness and help given to us over the years. We seemed to be always needing help.

Another luxury was the water pressure system being put in the house. It saved a lot of carrying of snow and water. Before deep freezes came into being we had to carry in lots of water for canning vegetables on the old wood stoves. What a job [illegible] 90 degree above F. weather and having a roaring fire on. The deep freeze was a great help to farm women.

Sawing wood days used to be fun. The men each got a pile of logs or poles and then each had a day for sawing it up. The women went along, too, to visit and help the lady of the house. Threshing was another big time of work and visiting. Then the combine came along and replaced the threshing machine.

The boys left school, worked on farms and then left for greener pastures. Wayne was an Orderly for awhile. When he got laid off he went to a Sports Store business and Skateboard Park in Saskatoon. In 1969 Wayne married Eleanor Poulter from Richard. Eleanor is a secretary for C.S.P. Foods. They live in Saskatoon.

Jim went to Saskatoon and worked for $1.00 an hour. Then in the fall of 1969 he and his cousins, Dale and Russell Beaudoin, and John Hawkins went to the mines in Yellowknife. He came back to Saskatoon and then to Edmonton. He still works at the same place as a welder. He went to Welding School for 3 winters and now has his First Class Papers. In March, 1972 he married Lynn Leier. They have 3 girls and live in Spruce Grove. Lynn is a hairdresser.

Ernest and I still are on the farm waiting for the old age pension checks and retirement.

A Brief Autobiography of Josephine Shields Currie

I am presently living happily retired in the pleasant little town [illegible] Oakville here in Manitoba between Winnipeg and Portage la Prairie. I share residence with my youngest daughter while another daughter and her family occupy the larger unit of our duplex.

My life has been an intermingled career of raising a family and teaching school. While in Manitoba I spent nine years working with retarded children in Portage la Prairie and four years in a rural school.

Before moving [illegible] Manitoba my husband and I spent twenty-two years of our married life at Kakabeka Falls near Thunder Bay where he was an employee of

Mrs. Walter Currie, nee Josephine Shields, 1936.

My mother, Ellen Hibbert, her father, Joseph Hibbert, her brother, Edmund.

Ontario Hydro. It was here our family grew up and received their education.

Previous to this I taught school in Saskatchewan for several years. It was during one of these assignments that I met the man of my life, Walter Currie. At that time a married lady was not allowed to teach school. The Board would not give us a Unanimous decision to get married and allow me to continue teaching. So, after much planning we decided to take a "holiday trip" to Ontario to visit relatives and get married quietly there. I returned to Saskatchewan and resumed teaching still under my maiden name — a tacky thing to do, but it worked. Of course there is no need to hide the secret now.

My ambition as a little girl was always to become a teacher some day. I attended the little Baljennie school which was three long miles from my home. I walked, rode a pony, drove a two-wheeled cart, rode a bicycle and hitched rides with the neighbor kids sometimes. With great determination I passed every grade and finally obtained my elementary diploma. In those days our exam papers came from Regina and were returned there to be marked. Oh, happy day when I received the news in the mail that I had passed my entrance!

I had two lady teachers in elementary school. Do any of my readers remember Mrs. Wickens? She was a middle aged English lady and an excellent teacher. As well as the basics she believed that girls should learn to sew and knit. Once a week we had a sewing class — on Friday afternoon if I remember. I tried my best to make a handkerchief with a piece of cloth I took from home. When I had finished she examined it and commented, "It's as crooked as a dog's hind leg." I don't remember my reaction but I do remember the handkerchief. Then we got a more modern young lady teacher — a Miss Alice Wilson from Saskatoon. I was fascinated with her nice clothes and how well she could twirl her marking pencil around her finger.

The next step was to persuade my mother to allow me to go to High School. This wasn't easy. It took her a long time to make up her mind. Finally after a lot of coaxing the decision was that I could go on the condition that I pass every grade and the first time I failed that was it. Of course, I did not fail. My four years at the Battleford Collegiate cost me twenty-five dollars a month for board and room plus my books and a few clothes. My father, mother and I had to work hard to finance my way. After finishing High School I took one year teacher training at the Saskatoon Normal School. A young teacher had to get a school before two years expired or the interim certificate would no longer be valid. In the '30s competition among aspiring teachers was keen and one really had to try hard to get a school- make a personal application was most effective if possible. This meant that one would have to make a train trip to some location that you would really like to have. The wages at my first assignment were $550 a year. As time went on it was possible one might get a $50 a year increment. In some areas teachers worked for room and board moving from one home to another. They were promised their wages when the School

District was better financially situated. There were doubts whether these teachers ever did get paid their arrears.

I grew up an only child on a rocky little farm near the Baljennie hamlet that once was, in Saskatchewan between North Battleford and Saskatoon. It was a very poor 160 acre rocky farm with a large alkali flat in the middle. My Daddy grew a little grain and we had a few milk cows and some chickens. Farm work was done with horse power. We never owned a car. Father got this farm as a homestead deal for $10. As a poor boy raised in Tennessee and working his way north to Canada on the railroad he heard about the homestead deal and so he and a friend each took a homestead in Baljennie. Father not being very selective and not looking at what he was getting made a poor deal. However, we struggled along and made a meagre living. My father, Robert Allan Shields met my mother, Ellen Hibbert, born 1884 an English cotton-mill girl and got married. Ellen and her father, Joseph Hibbert left England to seek a happy land they heard advertised so much in England. They had a real struggle to survive — living in a sod shack, and battling the hard cold winters. Shelters for farm animals were made from poles daubed with fresh cow manure. My mother and my grandfather acquired two oxen to plow with. They were Moses and Aeiron. Mosquitoes and black flies made life miserable for both man and beast. Oxen were used to break up the sod to grow a little grain and a bit of garden. In fly time in the hot summer days they would run from the field where they were working to the nearest mud hole, harness and all and stay there until they were jolly good and ready to come out. My mother related how she would walk nine miles to get a pint of fresh milk for her and her father and by the time she got back home she had drunk all the milk. Wild duck eggs, saskatoons, wild raspberries strawberries and gooseberries provided a little variety to their food fare.

My grandfather Hibbert is buried in the Maymont cemetery, my mother in Rodddell cemetery and my Daddy in Baljennie.

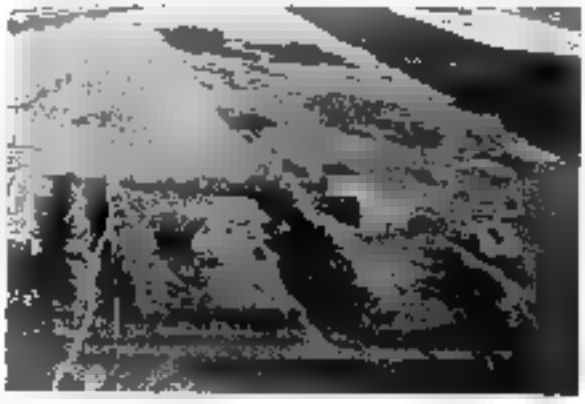
Do you remember when Charlie Johnson used to run the Ruddell hotel, Bill Kennedy was always on hand, George Sherwood ran the general store on the corner, two brothers operated the blacksmith shop (I can't recall their name just now), Mrs. Mosley served country home-cooked meals in her own home, and Ma Lee ran a short order cafe and store. Mrs. Collins was in the telephone exchange. Harry Best used to operate the ferry across the Saskatchewan River so we could cross over in the summer time to get from Baljennie to Ruddell to get groceries, sell grain and do our banking. This was before the railway came from Saskatoon to Baljennie. In the winter we would go straight north over the frozen river which was much shorter.

Many of my readers will remember the Friedman store in Maymont Bean's general store and Dr. Scratch. He and Dr. J. H. Storry of Rabbit Lake were two very honorable men who served the sick long and well for miles around. My mother suffered heart trouble for many years of her life. When she would feel sick, bored and depressed she would send for Dr. Scratch to come to her home. She would tell him how poorly she felt and finally [redacted] would suggest that she should rest in the hospital in North Battleford for a couple of weeks or so. This pleased her. While there she would have a good rest, good meals and meet many new acquaintenances. She would return home and carry on again for another year. She lived for several years alone in Ruddell but had many kind and helpful neighbors.

I was widowed in 1972 but a wonderful family helped fill the gap. Our oldest daughter, Jean (Mrs. Robert Gairns) and her family live in Ottawa. She operates a hair dressing salon. Her twin sister, Catherine (Mr. Ken Vezey) and her family live here in Oakville where she manages the dining room in the local motor hotel. Our youngest daughter, Frances is a correctional officer at the Portage la Prairie Women's Correctional Centre. She is also a qualified beautician. In between, is Eileen (Mrs. Gary Flath) who lives with her family in Courtenay, B.C. where she nurses. Our only son, Edward, a member of the R.C.M.P. resides with his wife, Theresa at Campbell River, B.C. Nine grandchildren complete the circle.

The Daoust Family

In 1916 the Daoust family left Plaisance, Quebec and headed west. A family with eight children, four boys and four girls ranging in age from just a baby to twelve years. Phil was just eight years old at the time. They settled in Gravelbourg for two years before moving on to La Fleche. By 1921 three more girls were born to the family. That same year Phil's mother died. In 1923 the family moved back to Gravelbourg. Three of Phil's brothers and sisters are still living there today. The rest have spread out and settled in different areas.



Aeroplane view of Daoust farm (now owned by B. Fletcher), 1952.

In 1928 Phil left Gravelbourg looking for work. He travelled as far as Windsor, Ontario but unable to get a steady job he returned to Gravelbourg where he worked on a farm as a hired hand for five years. When the Depression came Phil was out of work again. He finally got a job in Herschel. He worked there as a farm hand for two years.

In the fall of 1934 Phil went back to Gravelbourg for a few days. There he met with the Gaudet family who were moving to Denbolro. Phil came with them and went to work for Walter Parent. They baled and shipped straw to southern Sask. They worked from Brada to as far east as Ruddell.

At Ruddell Phil started working for Bern Robinson and worked for wages for three years. In 1938 Phil rented a half section from Bern Robinson. The first year Phil's share of the crop totalled $79. In 1946 Phil bought a house and farm from Lawrence Robinson and farmed it for twenty-six years along with the half section ■ still rented. Phil retired in 1972. He sold the farm and house to Bryant Fletcher and bought a house in Ruddell.

In 1938 Phil married Ruth Scott whose parents also farmed in the Ruddell area. They had two girls and a boy. Peggy, Annette, and Eugene.

Eugene grew up on the farm and when he was fifteen started working for Art Martynes during the summer and after school. When the farm was sold in 1972 Eugene was working at the North Battleford stock yard while continuing to work for Art. ■ 1973 Eugene married Debby Laughlin from the Richard area. He worked at the stock yard until April of 1975 then moved to Art Martynes' house at the feedlot to work with Art full time.

■ 1977 Eugene and Debby had a son, Lee, so that the Daoust name could carry on in the Ruddell area for some time.

The W. J. Davis Family

Although originally from Ontario, William John Davis and his brother Charlie came from Toulon, Manitoba, to take up homesteads in the Lilac district (W ½ 4-43-13 W3rd). His first wife had died leaving him with a family of five — two boys and three girls. Annie and Florence were older and never lived here but Catherine (then in her later teens) and her brothers Archie and Robert came out in 1908 to join their dad and uncle on the homesteads. They rode the 75 miles out from Saskatoon on a load ■ lumber and supplies. The trip was made even slower when along the way they picked up some cattle which the men had bought earlier and these had ■ ■ driven home. First they lived ■ tents until a log house could be built. Catherine told of making butter using an improvised churn and sharing this butter with other homesteaders. She also baked bread for the neighboring bachelors. In 1954 she recalled it as "a labor of love but it did not avail me much as I am still an unclaimed treasure at 68 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Davis about 1930.

She made two batches of bread in a day as her oiling pan and oven were both small. Bread, salt pork, beans, and oatmeal were staple foods.

Soon after this Mr. Davis married a Mrs. Bacon with two grown children but his new wife lived only a short time. By this time he had bought E½ 33-42-13 and moved there. Mr. Davis had a well-equipped blacksmith shop and was kept busy sharpening shares for breaking ploughs and other jobs for his neighbors. He bought the first steam threshing machine in the district — in 1907 or 1908 and did custom threshing for many of the homesteaders. He had a cook car and a sleeping car for the men — a crew of around 21. He also had a grain grinding attachment on his windmill in later years, so had to choose a windy day ■ grind his grain.

Catherine kept house for her dad until he married Rebecca Jane Ricketts (a sister of Mrs. Welford) in 1915. She was an English girl who had come out for a

visit but got stranded here due to the outbreak of World War I in 1914. They worked on the farm until failing health led to their retirement to North Battleford in 1928.

Mr. Davis died in 1949 and Mrs. Davis in 1973. Both are buried in Huddell Cemetery

Archie Davis went out to B.C. where he operated a successful ranch until his death Rob went back east to Toronto to work in a factory until he died. Catherine cared for an elderly aunt in Minnesota for many years and later came home to assist her stepmother in the care of her dad when he became an invalid. She then cooked on a ranch in B.C. — one belonging to the famous Douglas Ranching Co. near Merritt. She retired in Merritt but died in a Kamloops Nursing Home, May 2, 1967.

The Dawsons

written by Annie (Dawson) Thompson

William Dawson was born in Ireland on May 2, 1874. He had two older brothers and one sister younger than he. William, or "Billy" as he was known, enlisted in the Irish part of the British Army when war broke out in South Africa in 1899. On the signing of the peace for that war, he returned to Ireland, having earned a medal and seven bars for each major battle victory. He returned then in 1902 and immediately emigrated to the new colony — Canada.

He worked on farms in western Ontario and southern Manitoba till the homesteads were opened up in Saskatchewan. The railway was slowly moving west and Radisson was the farthest Post Office and that was where he started. He took up a homestead approximately 25 miles west of there. How this portion of the Western Trek was covered is not clear, but I possibly expect this could have been where he purchased a team of oxen, a walking plow and whatever other things he needed to open up a homestead. Billy homesteaded on the northeast quarter of Section 8, Township 42, Range 12, West of the 3rd Meridian. He built a sod shack and the first winter he had a companion, in the form of one George Holler It is not clear where he came from or how they managed to settle in together, but they did and many a story was told of how they baked hardtack biscuits on the tin heater and who was the best cook. George Holler went on and settled some six miles east on a homestead.

By this time, settlers were coming in quite quickly, and in 1905 a school was built across the corner from the Dawson quarter. The school was erected on the S.W. corner of section 16. It was named Gray School. Two or sometimes three generations of the original settlers got their education there.

There was almost open prairie in this part of Saskatchewan and the cultivation of the land was comparatively easy and was done by oxen and walking plow to start with. Even then, more efficient machinery was quickly being built and bought by the settlers, so the land could be cultivated and productive so much faster.

One of the big chores to most of the folks in this area at this time was the long trip to the flour mill in Radisson for a grist. The grist was the farmer taking his fresh threshed wheat and having it ground into flour. This was usually a long hard day's trip, especially when the oxen were used. Even after the advent of horses it was still a long day. By this time the town of Maymont was incorporated and with the advent of General Stores and machine companies, the new land opened up quickly and settlers were many.

One of these families was the Frank Bohn family that had come west the same time as Dawson, but didn't move his family until 1906 or 1907.

By this time Dawson had built himself a lumber shack and in 1908 married the eldest Bohn daughter — Wilhelmina, known as Minnie. They settled down to a family and the business of living.

Their first son was born one year later, delivered by the new young Dr. Scratch that had arrived to practise medicine in 1907. He was assisted by Minnie Dawson's mother, who had been a mid-wife in Manitoba and continued to be one for many more years. The second child, a girl, was born two years later in August. That was me, Annie As I write this biography, I will say that my Dad always told of the night that I was born was the night he was completely hailed out and I never did find out which he considered the bigger tragedy, my birth or the hailstorm.

Billy Dawson had learned the trade of plastering and bricklaying and he went out much of the time before 1914 and did this kind of work. Some of the larger jobs we heard much of, were the hotels built in Radisson, Fielding and Maymont. By the time he enlisted in the war of 1914-1918, he had another son and he went overseas late in 1914. The next spring my sister was born. My mother carried on the farm with the help of hired men. One man, Harold Coombs, stayed and helped with the farm till Dad returned in 1919. Harold Coombs stayed on for a time, then went on and eventually set up his own farm on the land close to the town of Maymont.

During the period between 1908 and 1919 another quarter of land was added to the Dawson homestead. It was the quarter on the S.E. corner of Section 8 and it was owned by a man named Herb Elliot. I do not recall ever hearing why he sold, but it was bought by Billy Dawson. That was the way the farm stood until sold in the fifties.

During our growing up and school days we didn't do much more than just live. The farming was done with the horses and horse drawn machinery The caring of the livestock and the machinery was a full time job. In this period a new barn was built to house the animals during the winter and a supply of food and bedding was kept in the huge loft. A barn warming was held as a barn dance. As I remember it was a huge success.

those days everyone brought food and lunch was served in that manner. In 1927, a new house was added and with a good supply of water it seemed no time until prosperity should have been a sure thing. But then, as always, follows a boom, there was a recession. In 1928, wheat was hard to sell and this was followed by a stock market crash in 1929. Then, things got worse. The drought set in and with grasshoppers eating the crops and no rain, crop failures were a sure thing. This went on for the next five to seven years. The drought seemed to let up in the late 1930's, but many people had moved farther to the north to new homesteads but Dawsons stayed on.

Billy Dawson was an Orangeman and his wife belonged to the women's section of this lodge. So the meetings of this lodge and the yearly July 12th celebration was a highlight of the time. They also belonged to the Veterans' Lodge that is known as the Canadian Legion. Minnie was also the President of the Church of England Women's Auxiliary, All Saints Church branch for nearly twenty years, and was a Life Member. This was an honor accorded to one with 10 or more years service in the W.A.

We, as kids, belonged to the Girl Guides and the Boy Scout movement. My older brother was also an Orangeman. Billy Dawson was also on the Board of Trustees for Grey School for a number of years.

During the late thirties, the rumblings of unrest in Europe had filtered to Canada. In 1939 things came to a head and war was declared. Billy Dawson, being military minded, tried to get into the service immediately but was declared overage. But, the family responded. The second son Bob and son-in-law Ivan Thompson (my husband) joined the army in 1941 and went overseas. Bob returned in 1942 because of a health problem and took over the farm. This left to Jim, the youngest son joining the Air Force. By this time, the West Coast was on guard because of the Japanese — U.S.A part of the war and Walter, the oldest son, joined the Merchant marines and served in that branch until the peace was signed. Bob was on the farm with his parents and kept up with the farm work, but by the war's end he had decided to go into construction which left the Dawson farm to be rented to others as Billy Dawson was too old to carry on by this time. The younger son was still overseas and on his return did not return to the farm, so Billy first rented the farm and lived in the buildings, then finally sold it to their nephew and niece. They lived in Maymont two years and finally moved to Saskatoon in 1954 and lived there in their house till 1962.

In 1960, the youngest son died in the Air Force, having reenlisted. In 1961, Minnie Dawson had a serious illness and could no longer look after Billy as he was in a wheelchair. So, Billy was admitted to the Veterans' nursing home.

Minnie lived with the second daughter, Alice, with visits to others in between. In 1962, Billy died at the age of 86. He was buried in Soldiers Field in Woodlawn Cemetery, Saskatoon. Minnie lived on with Alice and her husband Cleo Taylor until her last trip to have Christmas in British Columbia with the youngest daughter Mary in 1966. She took sick in January in B.C. and died there on February 9, 1967, at the age of 86. She was buried in Woodlawn Cemetery as well.

Charles W. Dickinson

by Verna Dickinson Galbraith

In 1905, Charles W. Dickinson, who had been a general merchant in Ontario, moved to Fielding, Saskatchewan and built a store. It was then on the mainline of the Canadian Northern Railway. His family moved later after the school was built.

There was a three-storey hotel facing the railway station and grain elevators.

There was a continental train each morning from West and one in late evening from the East. The evening train time was a popular time to meet at the station to see the train — seven coaches — arrive.

At a later time a daily passenger train also ran, in the morning from North Battleford to Saskatoon and returned in the evening.

Other stores at that time, a general store first owned by James McGregor and taken over by others when the McGregor family moved to Saskatoon; a blacksmith shop owned by Andrew Murray; a Chinese laundry; a butcher shop; two farm implement offices; Mr. Joe Giroux had a furniture store and he was later postmaster.

Our first church services were held in the school — later the Anglican Church was built. It had church pews and rich red drapes that came from some big church in England.

Mr. Robert Ireland from England, a farmer and former Sea Captain and talented artist painted a lovely window — "Christ the Good Shepherd" and several smaller windows for the church.

Nearby a Presbyterian Church was built and Methodists rented it — in years before union.

There was also a Catholic Church built, too.

At first, banking was done in Radisson and later a bank was built in Fielding.

Each little western town had a tennis court and a rink.

It was surprising the talent that came to these small places. As well as teachers, singers, and music teachers from Ontario, there were many talented singers from the British Isles. Each little town was able to prepare a concert.

In the summer of 1922 — late on Saturday night a fire broke out which burned most of the village down. Our store was the last to catch fire but it burned too. Some of our belongings and store stock was saved. We rented the town hall which was next door and carried on business until December.

A few years ago we motored from Calgary, to Ed-

monton, North Battleford, Maymont, Fielding, Radisson, and on to Saskatoon. I felt very much disappointed with all the little towns — stations all down — buildings not replaced — no longer was it a mainline railway. I recall when Speers was called New Ottawa because a number of the people had moved there from Ottawa. I believe it was named Speers when the railway was built in that area. Railways did so much in opening up the country. I had a trip on "the Canadian" a few years ago and did not think the service as good really as in 1907.

Dr. Scratch came first to Fielding and he was a friend of C. W. Dickinson. He moved on to Maymont and was thought of so highly by the whole countryside. I have heard when he arrived, his patients began to feel better!

Numerous names I recall: Walter Mason, his parent and sisters, Ethelbert Iveson and parents, Robertson Family, Geo. Elford Family, Brecht Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Pitt, Mr. William Ferris Family, Mr. Robert Ferris Family, Mr. Harrop and Family, Ridley Bros., Joe Prechtl, Mr. Schloemer, George Sloan, Vince Sloan, Carman Family, Jim Robertson, Tom Ferris, Glenn Family, Tommy Buchan, Sam Miller, Tom Miller, Herb Miller, Wes Sloan, Les Sloan, Alex Gunn, R. J. Scott, McGrath, Wm. Shanks, Mr. Busby.

Lillian (Nutbrown) and Doug Dodd

Lillian was born on the farm four miles from Maymont during the "dirty thirties". Early memories are of loving parents and grandmothers, wonderful aunts, uncles and cousins. How well I remember the April Sunday my sister was born. The air was so full of dust that Dr. Scratch had to watch the telephone poles to be sure that he stayed on the road during his trip to the farm. Top soil drifted over the fence lines and into the trees. It was very dry and Russian Thistle grew in abundance — no chemical sprays those days. We usually went bare foot in summer so we watched where we walked to avoid the thistles. As if the drought wasn't bad enough, there were infestations by grasshoppers. The bait was poison mixed with saw dust spread early in the morning in an attempt to control the insects. We also had army worms one year.

My mother carried water to irrigate the garden and we always had an abundance of vegetables and flowers. Wild berries — Saskatoons, Pincherries, chokecherries, wild raspberries, cranberries and strawberries were picked, then canned or made into jams and jellies.

Dad farmed with horses until he bought the "Hart Parr" tractor. In 1944 we had a new "Massey". During the early years of my life most people had several horses. Transportation was by hitching up the horse or horses to the buggy, "Bennett buggy"' or cart or wagon in summer and sleigh box or built in cutter in winter. We used hot bricks to keep our feet warm on a

Doug and Lillian (Nutbrown) Dodd and family.

cold day. Roads were not built up so the sleigh track got pretty bumpy at times if there were many snow drifts. At times we had to detour through farmers fields. Roads had no gravel or very little gravel so if it did rain it was very muddy.

Calais School was 3 miles from home so in summer we either walked or rode horseback. When my brother and sister started school I drove the horse. During the winter we skied or drove the horses.

Christmas concerts were the highlight of the winter. We would practice our recitation, plays, monologues, songs and drills for about a month before the big evening. The week of the concert a stage would be built at the front of the classroom and curtains were hung. The christmas tree was decorated, the big evening soon arrived and the school would be filled to capacity with relatives and friends to view the performances. Santa Claus and lunch completed the evening.

The final day of the school year ended with the annual picnic — ball games were played and races run. There was a "booth" and mother always made ice cream for it. Never have I tasted such good ice cream. Supper was a picnic lunch.

We usually went to the Spinney Hill picnic. This meant a trip across the North Sask. River on the ferry. Our Ross cousins lived at Spinney Hill and this was the time to have a good visit with them.

Church was held at the Calais School during the summer months. Anglican ministers I recall were Rev. Cousins; Rev. Saunders, Rev. Flegg, Rev. Crowder and several student ministers.

Before the advent of power most people had an ice house or ice well to keep milk, cream and food cool during the summer months. Ice was cut at the river during the winter, the blocks were hauled home by sleigh and placed in the ice well, packed in and insulated with saw dust and straw. We usually had ice into the late summer or early fall months. Power in 1952 also meant no more filling of lamps and cleaning of lamp chimneys. (Unless there was a power shortage.)

Grades 10 to 12, I attended Maymont High School — approximately 30 students grades 9 to 12 in one classroom with Mr. J. N. Armstrong as a most able principal. During these years I was active in C.G.I.T. and Homecraft and taught Sunday School 1949 to 1952 I attended the Saskatoon City Hospital School of Nursing. I was employed there after graduation until late 1954. I then was employed by the Sask. Anti-Tuberculosis League (at the Saskatoon Sanatorium), until 1956.

In 1953 Douglas Dodd and I were married at Maymont. Doug was born at Kandahar and had lived at Lone Rock, Dunfermline, Borden, Unity, Saskatoon and North Battleford. We lived in Saskatoon for 10 years, then on a farm 18 miles east of Saskatoon for 3 years before moving to Rabbit Lake in 1966. Our farm buildings are located in the north west corner of Rabbit Lake and our farm land is south and west of Meeting Lake. We own the land which was homesteaded by the late Harold Coombs.

We have 2 daughters — Mary Lou who is a Social Service worker is married to Bruno Bavaro (a teacher) and they live in Edmonton Alberta. Cheryl Lynn is a 1979 Commerce graduate from the U. of S. Both girls enjoy sports and were active in 4-H.

Doug, who played baseball with the North Battleford Beavers in the late 1940's and early 1950's has been instrumental in reviving baseball in this area — he still coaches. He also helps with hockey.

Lillian continues her nursing career at the Rabbit Lake Union Hospital. She has also been employed at the Borden and Spiritwood Union Hospitals.

We enjoy travelling and taking part in community activities.

Ken Doolittle Family

Kenneth Harvey Doolittle was born December 17, 1905 in Cedar Falls, Wisconsin. He was the youngest of four children, three boys and a girl.

He came with his parents and family to Maidstone, Saskatchewan. His father homesteaded about ten miles north of Maidstone. As a boy of five years old, [redacted] was sent to report a prairie fire. He had to run two miles to do this. A five-year-old made into a man in a hurry as [redacted] used to say. He and his friend, Elmer Rudler used to like trapping muskrats, camping and fishing together. Ken really liked the outdoors.

He started in Tee-Beau Corners country school and

Ken Doolittle.

completed his high school in Maidstone. He was always a good hardworking student. His mother wanted and saw to it that he would be a school teacher. He attended Normal School in Prince Albert and Saskatoon. He taught at St. Walburg his first year — a young man of eighteen years old. He taught in country schools — Lorenzo, Blue Bird, Wavie Bank, and Gunness (north of Sonningdale).

He met Agnes Beaudoin at her grandmothers while he was teaching at Lorenzo. They were married in June 1930. They spent their honeymoon camping on Kingsmere Lake where one day they went to visit Grey Owl. After they were married Ken taught in Saskatchewan [redacted] Raymore, Valparaiso and Glaslyn.

Ken and Agnes had one son, David, born in June 1936. He was born in Maymont at the old farm home of Agnes' stepfather, Ernest Andrew and her mother. He was delivered by Doctor Scratch and nurse, Pat McGrath. Dave is now in Montreal running his own business as Pro Shop Goods for Ten Pin Bowling. He used to be a pro himself having bowled on many occasions on T.V. He was once on a top (Juniors) bowling team in Victoria, B.C. He has three sons.

Ken joined the Navy at the beginning of World War II, where he began as a leading writer. He graduated to Lieut-Commander before the end of the war. He was a very conscientious service man and was respected by all his Commanders and Captains. He also taught Navy Manual at a school in Montreal. He had the organizing of this manual training school building and he wrote several training books for the Navy. He taught Wrens and Leading Seamen. He was Pay Master for sometime. (His wife, Agnes, always worried about him when he was in charge of thousands of dollars for salaries). He usually had two M.P.'s with him when he went to the bank. He carried the money in a large canvas bag. One day one of the M.P.'s asked him, "If we get held up, Sir, what should I do? Shoot?" "Hell no!" Ken said, "Give the money up." However they never had to do this.

During a tour of the Navy Band across Canada Ken was their secretary and paymaster.

After retiring from the Navy, Ken was back at

teaching as principal of Star City School. He then taught in a large high school at Fort William, Ontario for four years until he was stricken with cancer and had to quit a few months before he planned to retire. He was operated on and recovered.

Agnes and Ken retired in Qualicum Beach, B.C. There Ken was secretary to the Chamber of Commerce and also looked after the Tourist Bureau. Agnes pursued her talents in clay modelling and painting. Agnes could not take the damp winters and constant rain. They sold their house and moved to 100 Mile District in B.C. They were happy there for five years, living in a home on one acre near beautiful Horse Lake. Here the cry of the loon kindled a spark in their hearts. Here they didn't have to go far to enjoy camping. Ken loved to hunt and fish.

Ken wrote several articles for magazines. One of these was Cry of the Loon. He was a free lance writer who wrote many articles usually on the great outdoors. He had several articles published in Saskatchewan Outdoors and B.C. Sportsman.

The life in the Cariboo was too good to be true. Soon the lake that had no buildings and was beautiful and wild became a real haven for buyers of land. The quiet road by their front door that at one time only had one or two cars now became a freeway. The traffic noise and dust became too much for them so they sold their house and moved back to their home province of Saskatchewan. They lived in the municipal house as renters for the first winter. In the spring they bought a three-bedroom trailer in Radisson. Ken fell ill in January once more stricken with cancer, and after two weeks in hospital succumbed on February 8, 1979 — a sad way for such a learned good-living man to [redacted]. Agnes sold the trailer and moved into a small house in Maymont where she has not yet recovered from the shock for her great loss. She recalls Ken as saying in the hospital in Saskatoon, "Honey we came home to live our last years with family and friends, but someone threw a monkey wrench in our plans."

The Dows

The Dow family was one of the true pioneers of the west and of the Ruddell and Lilac districts.

William Gerrard Dow was born in Whitly, Ontario in 1849. As a young man he joined the first survey party sent out by the Canadian Government to map out the 49th parallel. He was taken prisoner by Louis Reil but escaped and enlisted to take up arms for his country during the Finian raids.

Later he returned to the farm at Whitly and was married to Anne McAllan. Together they raised five children — Isabella, Marion, Josephine, Anne and John, the only son born in 1882.

In 1887, he moved his family west to Pilot Mount (Manitoba) to farm and where the children went to school.

In 1903, [redacted] and his son John moved to a rented farm just outside of Saskatoon.

[redacted] 1904, John took a homestead 4 miles north of Ruddell, NW 32-42-13 and William took a homestead by what was known as Goose Lake. The railway was not completed to Ruddell so lumber for the house etc. was hauled by horses from Saskatoon.

The Dows moved in the spring of 1906 from Saskatoon to their homestead which at that time was north of Ruddell. Lilac did not appear on the map until 1915. The siding of Sweden was moved a mile and a half further east on the north east of John Dows homestead and was renamed Lilac after a Lilac Bush that Anne Dow grew in her garden. Daughters Josephine and Marion were teachers, both in Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

Josephine married Carney Ferry. [redacted] was the first wedding in St. Mary's Anglican church, Rev. Bunting was the minister. They had two children, Marion a Registered Nurse in B.C., and William now a Judge in B.C.

Marion married Thomas Pain, a farmer at Vonda, and raised three sons, Harold, Thomas and Arthur.

Annie Dow Sr. died in 1915 and daughter Anne stayed home to look after her dad and brother. That same fall, John Dow enlisted in the Army and went to Winnipeg with the 183rd Battalions and then transferred overseas in 1916. In England he met and married Marjorie Ellen Rake in 1918. He and his bride arrived back to Lilac in 1919, to a new house which William G. built in 1918 for his son's homecoming. The house was built across the road from John's homestead on the NE 31-42-13 and they lived in it until 1938 when he and his family moved to Saskatoon. The family consisted of four children, Herbert, Nora, David and Elizabeth. The Dow's were very active in all community activities. John was noted for poems he wrote about almost anything.

Herbert and David both saw service in the Navy during World War II. William G. fondly known as "the Gentleman" passed away January 9, 1957, [redacted] the age of 87.

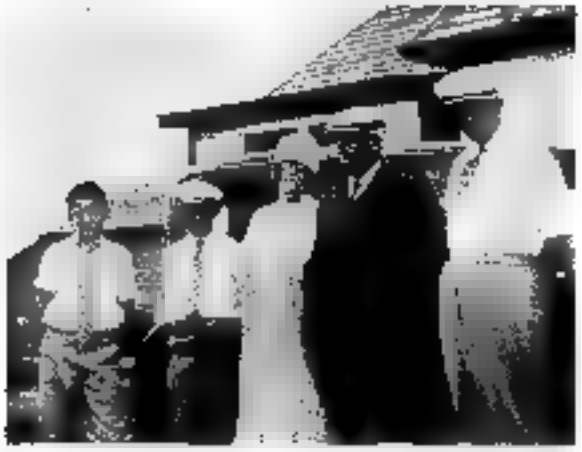
John died in September, 1969 and Marjorie passed away December 30, 1974. Anne Jardine, sister of John, died December 10, 1974 at the age of 94. She must be remembered also as a true pioneer, one who devoted her life as one who looks after others. She kept house for her dad after her mother passed away. Then raised her sister's family (Josephine passed away in 1922).

The Dows laid to rest at Ruddell cemetary are Anne in 1915, William G. in 1957, Josephine (Ferry) in 1922, Isabella (Gilbert) in 1948, Marion (Pain) in 1960 and Anne in 1974.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. A. Donald (Jack and Phyl)

Jack Donald was born in Saskatoon on February 24,

The Wm. Cook farm about 1920.



L. to r. — Alan Crossley, Jack Donald, Mrs. Cook, Mr. Cook, Dean Crossley.

1910 and came to Maymont at the age of 4 years to live with his Aunt and Uncle Mr. and Mrs. Cook.

He attended school in Maymont from grades 1 to ■ beginning in the church basement then to the "New" school on the site of the present newer school.

In 1940 he married Phyllis Burrows of Speers and Saskatoon whose parents Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Burrows were residents of Maymont from 1908 to about 1915.

In March, 1941 Jack joined the Canadian Army and Phyl went to various training areas when possible. After over 4 years overseas he returned and took advantage of the Veterans training program. He graduated from the University of Saskatchewan in 1948 with a degree in Mechanical Engineering.

After spending about ■ years in various Ontario centers Jack and Phyl returned to the West and lived in Regina, Edmonton and Calgary.

In 1972 they moved to Victoria where they still reside and expect to do so for some years to come.

The Robert (Bob) Downing Family

by Stella (Downing) Brown

My dad, Robert Downing — Bob to everyone young and old, and Mom 'Stella' came to Maymont with Irene, Everett and Valentine from a homestead in the Fielding, Radisson location — I don't know if there was a name to the district — but they were neighbors of Bodies and Fishers. This was somewhere in 1917-20.

L. to r. — Bruce Kerr, Orla Squire, Scottie Campbell, Irene Downing, Mrs. Kerr, Stella Downing, Mrs. Downing.

They came to Maymont after the war as Dad was in Radisson when he went to war. We were in Maymont in 1920 as I was born there in 1920 in the telephone office home with Dr. Scratch attending and Mrs. Marguerite Thompson of Fielding as mid-wife.

Dad worked the telephone switchboard in Maymont — he was also line-man and was out any hour of the day on lines. Mom worked the switchboard and Irene who wasn't too fond of school, quit early in her Grade Eight ■ work on the switchboard. Myrtle Johnston, now Mrs. Nathan Friedman, was Irene's friend and in time she was one of our big helpers in that Telephone Office. Mrs. Lets Bohn (Walton) was also one of the main operators and with Mom's help — and Dad's — they were open all day and mostly until nine and ten at night, and any emergency in the night. Mom and Dad's bedroom was just off the office.

As Everett, Val, and myself got older we worked the switchboard, too, and Mom was relieved more and able ■ have a home life. We lived in four rooms at the back. In the winter snow piled up between the joined part of kitchen and bedroom to the front. So in winter the kitchen was moved to the one main room, cozy, but we had a lot of happy days there.

Our house was a drop-in centre for many of our friends and we had a lot of music — sing-songs and get togethers. Doc Scratch was one of our favourite pianists. Could he play! Often when he was waiting for a call in the Telephone Office, he would come in and play — a joy ■ remember!

Kathy, Edith Hamilton and Val would play by the hour. These girls were Reverend Hamilton's girls, the United Church minister. Pink and Ronnie Scratch played the Banjo (I think) and they would join in. They were at our place a lot and were just like family. Most ■ the time the bank boys came into our place like home also. Irene, Mom and Myrtle Friedman were good at baking; the fresh cakes, etc. really caught it.

On our Sunday drives Dad would take us out to their old homestead. It was a mud hut and we did hear many stories. Mom used to shoot a gun to kill birds and rabbits. She would grab the kids and hide outside when she would hear anyone riding up.

We lived in Maymont until 1937. Dad had been out to B.C. with Mr. and Mrs. Kerr and he said when he came back he was going to move out. We thought of this as a joke but he was determined. He was a pensioner and had arthritis and French Fever disability of some kind, so he thought he'd feel better out here. Maymont people had a big Farewell Party for us in the hall which was next door to the Telephone Office. We were given lovely gifts. I still have the tray the Homemakers had given Mom. The carving set is still here, too.

Dad had a garage up the street towards the hotel beside the Bank and at the back he had the Power House where he controlled Maymont Lighting. Whenever and whatever was on for entertainment in the hall — the Dowlings were there, as that is how Dad took out his payment for advertising on the telephone of the event. This was called a 'General Ring' — a long, long, ring on all the lines, and the event would be read off — Great Memories. We went to everything in town. We made coffee on our kitchen stove for these events, putting a big boiler on, of cold water in the afternoon on the old wood stove.

Many meals we would be having and the lights would flutter. Dad would start to run and would work at that machinery until everything was in order again. I can remember even Christmas Days he'd have trouble. But that was his 'Baby' — anything in machinery was his work.

In the office part, Mom did the book work until Irene was old enough to take over.

Friedman's Store and Bean's was our source of food. Dad did have a good garden in the later years. We went to school in the school across the tracks — Many times we were late because the train was in and we were unable to cross the tracks.

I remember one time Dad was driving an old Ford Truck across that track. He had his big dog (Min) beside him. The dog was nudging him but Dad wasn't paying any attention (he was deaf, too). The train was coming and the engineers were waving for him to stop. He thought they were just waving 'Hello'. The train hit him, turned the truck around but no one was hurt.

Maymont and all other towns had their "Fowl Supper" downstairs in the church basement — What a gorgeous meal! I hope to see the United Church this fall when we come back. The concert was always great and one thing stays in my mind was Mrs. Kleper from Fielding who recited. She was great and it was Mr. Braithwaite (who is quite well-known for his books and writings now) did very good verse on occasions.

Mom, Dad, Mrs. Bruce Kerr and Mrs. Don Campbell were enroute to Radisson's Fowl Supper in our car one night. A team of horses was coming from Radisson with a load of flour with no light to show them on the road at all, and Dad hit them. Our car and four people were really a mess. Mom and Dad were badly cut up since they were in the front seat. Doc Scratch mended all in our living room. Mom's forehead was badly cut, just a little stitching by Doc. Dad had a piece of glass near the jugular vein in his neck somewhere. All the rest of his life he would rub that spot and say he could feel it. Scottie Campbell (passed away last year out in Richmond) said she'd never ride in a car again. But many times we've seen her out here and she got over it. Mrs. Kerr was banged up but not too badly.

Every summer when we kids were out of school, Dad took us bag and baggage to Meeting Lake. He would rent a cottage and with a tent for us kids we were fine. We were up there for two or three weeks every year. I remember still and can see it in my mind. Sam Miller's cottage (from Fielding) we rented. We kids each took a friend. Pink Scratch always went with Everett; Kathy Hamilton, Lillian Martin, Margaret Hickman, Verna Thorsteinson were some of the girls that went. What fun! Kathy Hamilton (Johnston) now lives in Victoria. Margaret Hickman married Ted Newboldt of Radisson Meat Market. They live in Merritt, B.C. near Margaret's brother and wife, Albert and Irene Hickman Lytton, Verna Thorsteinson (Honeybourne) lives in White Rock, B.C. These three people we still see quite often. Changed? But still a part of Maymont.

Meeting Lake then was a long drive but a great place to go, too. That sand and water! We have been back to Maymont three times but never did go to Meeting Lake or Meota.

The school we went to is not used now, or is it? Mrs. Maurice Martin was my first teacher and Ethelwyn Bean was Val and Ev's. We also had Miss Alice Mohler, George Gerta, Ralph Wensley, George Glover and of course Mr. McDonald, Earl, I think.

We as kids hadn't too much as sports to take part in. Everett was of course in ball and hockey, also rugby. He was always strong in sports. Every night for entertainment for most of us we would go to the station and watch the train pullout, then go over to the Post Office to get the mail — Daily! Mr. Coleman was a big tease and kept our tongues and minds alert.

Mom belonged to Homemakers and out here she belonged all her days (they were called Women's Institute out here). She was one of the first women of the Orange Lodge Auxiliary. Dad was a strong Orangeman, and Legionnaire. Mom was Legion Auxiliary.

Irene, Everett, Val and I were all skaters. We always had a season ticket. Irene played broomball as did Dad.

When Margaret Hickman and I were about twelve years old we did the Highland Fling and a Doll Dance on different occasions. Irene (Reid) Hickman taught and played the piano for us, as did Ethelwyn Bean. We were taken to Fielding, Reddell and Richard on occasions, to do our 'thing', going with the orchestra —

Bruce Kerr, Irene Reid and Ernest Tiffin. Sometimes Bon Scratch played in this orchestra as did Pink Scratch.

Maymont had a "Big Event" for Doc Scratch while we were there. It was countrywide in a field south of town Everyone was there. "Great Old Doc" was presented with a car and a big fur coat. (maybe more) but these I remember. He was one of the greatest. Since we have been out here Pinkie has been out here about three times We have great times talking of Maymont The last time was before Everett died We went to Val's at Cultus Lake — Dorothy Kerr, Mom, Everett, myself, Val and Pinkie all of Maymont. Pinkie hadn't changed we didn't think.

We have been back to Maymont a number of times — drove out one time — Irene went with us. It was the Centennial. We went to Fielding. It rained, so we stayed only a short time. Another time was a big church gathering at the park. We saw so many. Mom was with us then Another time we just made it there at the same time. Mrs. Brehon and Muriel were home at the farm. We did enjoy that as our family had spent so many days and nights with the Brehon's years ago. Val and Ev spent numerous holidays out there. I did also I went to Bates more Genevieve was more into the dolls like me. We did spend so much time with Brehons and Bates' Our first trip back to Maymont we were at Bates in town and at the farm of Brehons. Mom came with us each time; she loved it — whenever the car was ready. Mom was, too.

On one of our visits out there, Mrs. Neill took us inside the Anglican Church — it was a real treat. We were United Church people but at times had gone to the Anglican.

When we came out here in April of 1937, we came out in the same Chevrolet that Dad had the accident in. Mrs. Kerr (Jean), Bruce, and Myrtle Johnston were in their car and we travelled together. We had stopped in Edmonton and saw Mr Merrell. He had the Drug Store in Maymont before John Hope. We had a great visit with him, recalling Maymont days. We made the trip in a week. After a short time Dad got a home just on the outskirts of Chilliwack. He had pears, plums, apples, grapes and raspberries, and a garden. He loved it. He had cows, pigs and chickens. The first winter was cold but Dad worked hard getting wood chopped and cut out trees He was in his glory — made lots of friends Then in February, he went up town to buy a money order to send to Everett who was 'pan mining' with Bill Kerr and Walter Dawson up in the Lytton Area. (then that was a long way to go). Dad fell over dead in the Post Office. He always said he was going to "trip over a feather" to die, and he did. He died at sixty years of age

Irene lived in Langham. She had married Mel Squires, a C.N.R. man. His father worked on the tracks after Mr. Hickman — Alex Squires. Irene and her girl, Orla, came out twice regularly to visit us. She soon moved out here. Mom moved off the farm and for many years Everett, Val and I lived with Mom

Everett got working for a Meat Market here, then when war broke out, he joined up and went overseas, with the Westminister Regiment. He married over there, an English girl who was in the service. Everett was sent home on the first hospital boat in come out with tuberculous. We didn't know he had this until we saw a picture of him being carried off the boat by stretcher in Canada. He spent a year in Vancouver, Victoria, and Kamloops with T.B. He had one lung collapsed and ribs removed. (He had a crib board made from his rib) He stayed with Mom until his wife came out When he was well again he worked for the Elk Creek Water Works here in Chilliwack for years Then he worked for our Coliseum as manager and while there he took keen interest in skating, and hockey. "Boys Hockey" was his "thing", also ball He refereed and was really interested Having been a lacrosse player and hockey player when he was young he was interested in sports here. He was presented with the honour of being the "First Sportsman of the Year" Since then we have a Sportsman named every year. His picture hangs in the Lobby of our Coliseum. He was made presentations and given a "Big Occasion". After a few bouts of poor health, stomach trouble, etc. he was operated on for kidneys. He only had one kidney working — resulting in his death September 16, 1974 at age fifty-nine. He has a wife "Eddie" (Elyse) and daughter, Sandra, still in Chilliwack.

After Irene moved out here she worked for several Ladies Clothing Stores, then went to our Eaton's Store to work for fifteen years until she retired. She was in Mens Wear and saw many of her prairie friends come in. She had married the second time to George Schmieser, a man from the Army. After many good years she passed away with cancer. She was only hospitalized one month before she died May 22, 1976 at sixty-nine, after a year of heavy therapy in Vancouver. Mom, Stella Downing, after whom I was named when I arrived on her birthday in 1920, was a very small but very wiry person. She had her share of sickness but got over all. She was very fair in bringing us kids up. She had good health to the last — only sick about two weeks at the end. She passed away July, 1975. She was ninety-one going on ninety-two. As Mom got older, she got younger and she only weighed ninety pounds. She was always so fond of Mrs. Brehon and Mrs Bates.

Valentine lives in Cultus Lake. She worked after Dad died in Woolworth's, as I did, and at the same time She went to school as soon as we came as I did. She was married during war time to a Chilliwack man, Milford Buckingham, an airman. He has worked at the Army Camp here since it was built and they live at Cultus Lake where they moved after the war. Val has two girls, Jodi — who trained as a policewoman in England after school and working as a stenographer

here. She came back from England and had to train again as Canadian Policewoman. She graduated in Vancouver and I'm glad Mom was here for that! Linda lives in Vancouver, too. She is a Bank girl. She spends a [redacted] of time on sports and skis.

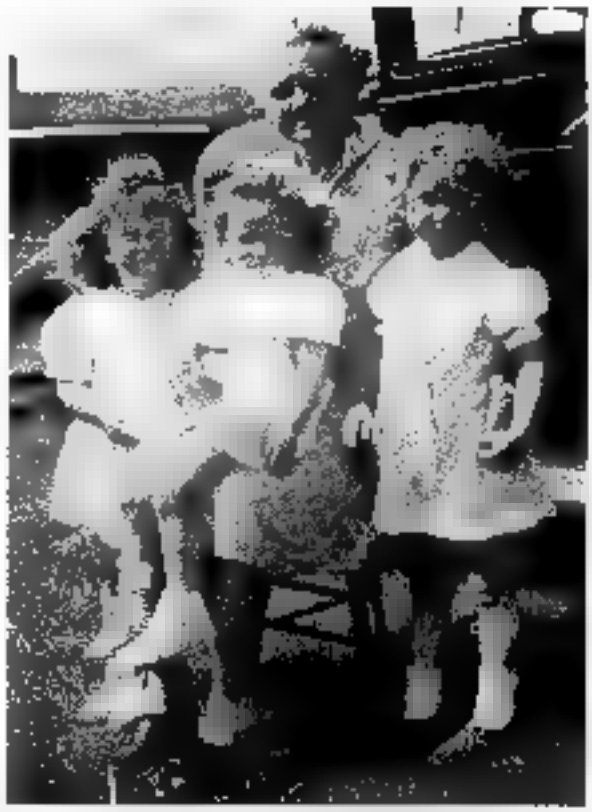
Myself, Stella Brown — married Victor Brown when he first joined the Army. He was a Post Office employee — joined up in Postal Corps and after the war came back and went into the Post Office again. He worked thirty-five years then, retired. Now works from February to September in a nursery and is off work all winter. He just went there to help out one year and has been there five. He loves it. We have lived in this house twenty-five years. Victor was born in Sardis, five miles out of Chilliwack. We have three children. Dorothy is married; her husband works at the same nursery as my husband. They have two girls. Terry works at the C.N.R. station in Kelowna. He has two children, a boy and a girl. Shelly lives at home. She graduated last year and has worked since, working first at the nursery where her dad did, then at Zellers at a new mall just out of Chilliwack.

Joseph and Ellen Ducharme Family

by Bernice Ducharme

Joseph Ducharme was born into a large family at Drysdall, Ontario, on August 10, 1889. He took up homesteading in the early years on a farm south of Maymont overlooking the North Saskatchewan River. The river was a source of joy to Joe all his life. He never tired of watching it through all its moods and seasons. He was an avid hunter, gardener, trapper, as well as a farmer. This is a trait he passed on to his sons and grandsons. He raised and used large hounds in his coyote hunting in the early days, being a familiar sight to his neighbors in the community.

Joe Ducharme with hunting hounds.



(Mrs. Joe) Ellen Ducharme and nieces.

Joe Ducharme Family. Della, Mark, Desmond, Delmar, Adolph, Stella, Mabel, Francis.

Some of his early friends were Alex Gunn, Alex Garnett, Leo Gelinas and others from Fielding. Some early neighbors were Mike Burns, Charlie Sherman, Nuthrowns, Dobertys, Deakmys and Bill Edge.

Joe married Miss Ellen Englisbee on August 12, 1912 at Fielding. She had come from the county of Longford, Ireland with her parents, brothers and

Francis and May Ducharme.

sisters to the Fielding Area. Ellen Englisbee was born on July 11, 1890.

Joe and Ellen had a family of three girls and five boys. Ellen was a quiet reserved person. She was a loving mother and grandmother. She had a friendly manner and welcomed visitors to her home. Joe was especially happy when there was music being played. He could tap dance and dance so enjoyed school dances and neighborhood gatherings. They were faithful members of the Catholic Church both at Fielding and later in Maymont. Joe had taken his turn at being a trustee of the Calais School where their children took all their education, walking through some severe weather up and over the river hills, three miles. Three of their sons served during World War II, namely Adolph, Desmond and Delmar.

Ellen passed away suddenly at the age of sixty-four years on February 14, 1954. Joe passed away on March 17 in 1971 at the age of eighty-one.

Their children are: Francis, Stella, Mabel, Delmar, Adolph, Desmond, Mark and Delia.

Francis who farmed east of Maymont on the Ernest Tyhurst farm married May Miller, daughter of Sam and Edith Miller. They had one daughter, Mary; who became a nurse. She married Dave McIntyre ■ Ruddell. They now live at Kronau, Saskatchewan. They have two children, Robbie and Sheri. May passed away in May 1977. They had been retired to Maymont for four years.

Stella is married to Gus Desnomme at London, Ontario.

Mabel is twin to Stella. She is now married to Douglas McKnight in London, Ontario. Mabel has two children by a former marriage.

Delmar now lives in Pictou County, Nova Scotia. He has raised four sons.

Adolph married Bernice Johnson, daughter of Reuben Johnson, ferry operator for many years. They have six children, two girls and four boys. Brian lives in Maymont. He is presently employed in Cranham City as a truck driver, owning his own truck. Cheryl is a nurse. She married Robert Stack from Moose Jaw. Robert a Captain in the Air Force is currently stationed at the Canadian Armed Forces Base in Baden Baden, Germany. They are enjoying sightseeing and will be away three years. Their home is in Calgary, Alberta. Gregory is a pipe fitter on Robert Johnson's backhoe operation. Michelle, Darren, and Lorne are all at home, still attending school in Maymont.

Desmond and his wife Violet live in Calgary, Alberta. They had two children.

Mark and his wife Betty live in Surrey, B.C. They had one son, Larry.

Delia is Mrs. Stan Bedard of Courtright, Ontario. They had five children.

Englisbees

Ellen Ducharme had two brothers Pat and Tom who farmed two miles west of Fielding. Their parents passed away, 1925 for Mr. Englisbee and 1935 for Mrs. Englisbee.

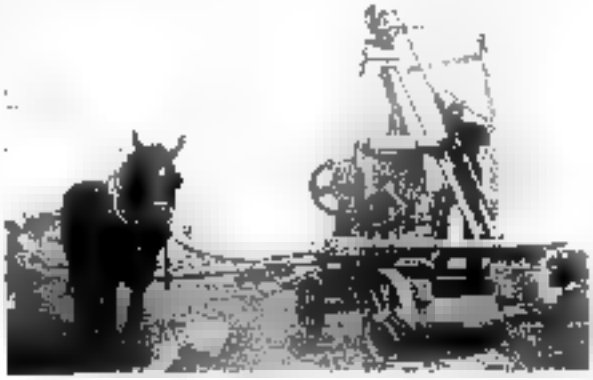
Tom married Myrtle Davis of Sonningdale, Perdue Area. They had four daughters, one passed away as an infant. Tom died in 1943.

Pat married Lorraine Rash of Mullingar Area. They raised four children: Joe, Marie, Eilleen and Jimmie. Joe married Diane Kostyk ■ Mayfair. They have three children. Eilleen a school teacher lives and works in London, England and Jimmie married and has no family. Marie married Dave Kostyk of Mayfair, they have two children.

Mrs. Ed Neumeyer was also a Miss Englisbee so she was Pat. Tom and Ellen Ducharme's sister.

The Alwyn Ebach History

Alwyn Ebach and Mable (Sarry) were married November 4, 1940, in North Battleford. They lived in Hepburn until 1942 when they moved to the Ruddell District to the Jack Arnold farm (where Lyle and Lillian Daan now live). In 1951 Alwyn and "Mac"



Well-boring machine — Len and Alwyn Ebach, 1941.

Elmer and Agnes with sons Clarence, Leonard and Alwyn Ebach.

Alwyn and Mable Ebach, Linda, Carol and Betty.

moved to the Lilac area settling about one mile east. They raised a family of four.

Al served as councillor in Mayfield Municipality, resigning when he moved to Lilac as Lilac is in the Rural Municipality of Douglas. Al became active with the Ruddell Rural Telephone Company and soon became president. He held that position until the government took over the telephone system.

Alwyn passed away in March 1978. Mae still resides at the farm home.

Len Ebach

On May 28, 1938, Mabele Ayers and Len Ebach were married at Laird. They farmed in the Hepburn area until 1944, when they moved to Lilac. Len bought the South ½ of 5, Twp. 43, from H. P. Voke, and the West ½ of 5 and N.W. ¼ of 8 from Stephen Prescesky. Later he sold the "Voke half" to his brother, Alwyn, and bought the Jack Evans farm. Mr. Evans was one of the

Lenhard and Mabelle Ebach.

Garnet and Douglas, Sept., 1959.

Summer of 1978 — Lia and Doug.

original Barr Colonists who, with his mother, homesteaded section 6.

Garnet was born in 1953, and Douglas in 1954. They attended Lilac School until 1968, when they were bussed to Maymont School to continue on into High School.

In February, 1974, Thelma Sanders and Doug were married at Wilkie. Elaine Saunders and Garnet were married in Borden the following June. Thelma and Doug have one daughter, Lia Carreen.

Len still farms, but any spare time in summer is spent at Turtle Lake. The winter months find Len and Mabele at their house 2032-99th St. North Battleford.

John Evans

This letter was written the spring of 1954 in answer to a letter from a Lilac school student as part of Homemakers project to celebrate Saskatchewan's [illegible]-tieth Birthday in 1955.

I arrived in Saskatoon April 7, 1903, with the Barr Colony. There was some confusion there, as some of us looked round for a job and were referred to A. T. Bell of Prince Albert. We went up there and worked a while at a sawmill thirty miles north, about south of the present Waskesiu Park. It was all forest there then. Then about the end of June, S. Semple and I walked up from Rosthern and arrived on Township 43-14 about June 31 where the Harper Bros. and Semples were camped in tents. This was the first of the new settlers that I know of, as the land was not surveyed that summer and was quickly taken up. The only family before this was Cheves Nolin, on his ranch on Section Twenty, three miles north of Lilac. I went to Battleford and filed on my homestead June 28, 1903 and was I believe the first to do so, and then returned to Prince Albert and the sawmill. The sawmill burned down, and to fill up time while it was being rebuilt, I returned and spent Christmas with W. J. Davis on the southwest quarter of 4-43-13. Then when the sawmill had been rebuilt I went back to Prince Albert on the ninth of April 1904. I returned to the homestead with tools, etc. and built a sod shack, 12 x 14. It was very comfortable for three years. The first year we got our mail at Battleford, but there was much confusion there, so I altered my mail to Great Bend, north of Radisson. I had to walk there, stay overnight at the post office, the next day walk back. Later in 1904 the mail was carried to Richard by S. Nolin and we got our mail there. Then in the fall of 1905 the mail came on the train to Ruddell.

You will see in No. I issue of the Ruddell News that a house party was held at Houstons. This was a wedding party and there were a hundred or more in that house where Mrs. Belerle . ... now lives; quite a party. In No. II issue, November 26, another party at M. E. Harper's at the NW 8 celebrated his wedding; another overflow event.

My last trip to Prince Albert by road was May 1905. I walked via Richard Speers, Marcelin, and Duck Lake; after that civilization caught up with me and I travelled by train. In December 1906 in the election for municipal councillor, my mother voted, being the first woman to vote in the township. It was forty below that day. We voted in a sod house belonging to Henry Allen on Section 18.

The first church services were at W. T. Davis' house. The first threshing I know of was Jim Little's and Richard's in 1906.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. (Walt) Evans

told by Mary (Evans) Edgelow

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. (Walt) Evans came to Fielding in 1923, moving into the house formerly owned by Mr. and Mrs. Bob Thompson, and lived there for nearly 40 years.

Walt was a contractor and carpenter and built schools, homes and barns in the Meota, North Battleford, Speers, Borden, Radisson and Fielding districts. He was a hard worker and expected good results from his helpers. "Nail 'er boys!" was often heard on his construction jobs. Walt was the Imperial Oil bulk dealer for many years, and a good many barrels of gas were delivered to farmers in a small trailer behind W.D.'s car.

He was overseer of our village for over 20 years, as well as serving on the hall and local school board. One Christmas concert time the school board was not really in favor of a dance following the concert, and were told in no uncertain terms — "No dance — no concert!". Who was the ring leader? W.D.'s daughter.

Mrs. Evans was active in church, Sunday School, Ladies' Aid and W.M.S. work. She was noted for boarding teachers, baking for fowl suppers and washing church windows. Her embarrassing moment was entertaining a certain politician for coffee after

Following Old Custom

W. D. Evans, 81, retired Fielding carpenter and contractor, is seen here collecting sap from his soft maple trees at his home. The flow was good and he was able to bottle a number of quarts of syrup. According to his neighbors, his syrup was just like the Quebec product.

he had told her daughter she should have stayed at home from the meeting!

The Evans' took pride in their yard and garden and when Walt was retired he made some syrup from his own maple trees.

Walt passed away in 1960, and Jean in 1979. Their daughter, Mary, taught school in Saskatchewan for 16 years, married George Edgelow of Meota in 1950, and now live in Edmonton. They have three daughters and two sons.

Mr. and Mrs. George Fair

written by Betty (Stott) Fair

George and Betty (Stott) Fair were married in 1936, by Rev. Cosens in the Anglican Church at Fielding.

George came from London, England to Canada and Sherbrooke, Quebec, at the age of 14 years, to foster parents Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Fraser. In 1923 he came to Fielding with a harvest excursion.

I came with my parents to Canada from London, England, first to Hamilton, Ontario, then to Fielding in early spring 1911, where I lived until 1951, when we moved to Saljennie where George took over the Pool Elevator as agent. We resided there until his retirement in 1966, then moved to Radisson, Sask.

We had two children, Joan and Robert. Joan was born 1937 in City Hospital, Saskatoon where she had her Aunt Kay (Stott) as nurse.

Robert was born 1939 at Fielding. Ron Scratch, who was assisting his Dad at Maymont was our Doctor. Mrs. Alex Garnett was nurse.

They both attended Fielding School until we moved to Saljennie. Joan took Grades IX and X by correspondence and then graduated at North Battleford Collegiate. After attending Teacher's College in Saskatoon, her first school was Keatley. The next year to be nearer home, she taught at Prongua. She spent a year at the University in Saskatoon before teaching two years at King Street school in North Battleford.

In all she spent 13 years teaching, the balance in Nipawin. During that time, July, 1962, was married to Dave Nelson of Saskatoon, formerly of Richard. He was then employed at Squaw Rapids dam, as an electrician. Since finishing there, owns his own electrical business in Nipawin, Sask.

They have a daughter Joanne, born in 1968.

Bob finished schooling at Saljennie and Grade XI at North Battleford Collegiate. He worked for Moffat Motors, North Battleford, where he apprenticed as a mechanic. In 1960 he married Patricia Becker, of Spinney Hill, who was secretary with S. Mighton, Q.C. in North Battleford.

They have three children: Juanita, born in North Battleford, Robert and a chosen daughter, Sharlene in Calgary, Alberta.

After moving to Calgary, the first ten years Bob was employed with Dominion, also Esso Motors, the latter as a transmission expert. The past six years with City of Calgary, Mechanical Services Division, as heavy duty mechanic.

I have witnessed many changes, particularly in the grocery business where my sister Molly and I assisted Dad. Such things as raisins, currants, dates and dried fruit came in bulk and had to be packaged into paper bags soon as they arrived. There were no plastic bags, waxed paper or saran wrap in those days; also tea came in fifty pound cartons. Bananas, complete with stalk, were pulled to the ceiling with a rope and pulley. We couldn't keep up with the demand for their containers, a large basket sold for 25¢ and used for clothes hampers. Cheese came in a large round and cut as needed with a special cheese knife. Many groceries were exchanged for eggs, 10¢ a dozen and butter 25¢ a pound. Many of these went to the nuisance ground; eggs contained chicks and butter rank with French

Weed. Candy came by bulk and put in a candy display case, where many children longingly eyed them, especially the Christmas candy with its large swirls. Chocolate bars were 5¢. What we could have done with refrigeration and deep freezers.

The store lights were gasoline mantle lamps until Dad got his own electric light plant; this was used until the power came to the district.

When the river was frozen and until Sonningdale had its own railroad, it was quite a sight each winter, at noon, to see a long line of horses with loads of grain coming to town. Their teamsters clad in buffalo coats walking beside them to keep warm. At times you could hardly see their faces for frost.

Since retiring to Radisson, George and I have kept busy and are enjoying our retirement, George with his garden, I have my plants and hobbies. We are both active with the Agricultural Society and 71 Senior Club. I enjoyed being news correspondent for the North Battleford News Optimist while in Fielding, Baljennie and Radisson.

Gerhard A. Fast and His Family

Gerhard A. Fast — Fielding, Sask.
Katherina Fast — died Dec. 24, 1913 after ten years on the homestead.

Much has already been written of the Fast family, who came from Gladstone, Nebraska in March, 1908, settling on Sec. 24-41-12-W3. Gerhard Fast's and Jacob Fast's account of their early days on the homestead are told in **To Find The Daily Bread**; which had the honor of being the first book printed by Prairie Books, Western Producer, Saskatoon. It was reprinted serially in The Western Producer in the summer of 1976 to celebrate the anniversary of the coming of age of Prairie Books, also the first serial in the series'; they were all accounts of pioneers in Western Canada.

After retiring from active farming, Gerhard and his second wife, Anna, tended a large garden each year. He supplied fresh vegetables — cabbage, cauliflower, carrots, beets, and potatoes — to the hotels in Fielding and Maymont, and to the farmers who had large crews of men to feed during harvest and threshing. He, with his democrat buggy drawn by "Jewel" were well known as far as Ruddell, Richard and Speers. He had a day each week for certain customers. He was also a director of Mayfield and Douglas Agriculture Society and always exhibited vegetables.

When the Wheat Pool was being organized, he accompanied his son, Jacob, to meetings and was asked to speak of his journey experiences, after travelling so far under such adverse conditions.

He was very happy to have achieved his goal — land of his own and for each of his sons, and he spoke to try to better conditions for all.

After his death June, 1934, Anna Wall Fast returned to her former home in Henderson, Nebraska.

Gerhard H. Fast, (eldest son), was known as George. He and his wife, Augusta and children, Mary and William G. (Bill) Fast. A man of many talents; a builder, blacksmith which was a help to all his brothers in those early days. Always interested in home, school and church. He retired to Fielding where [redacted] continued to be active in the community. After the death of his wife, Augusta, he lived with his daughter, Esther, in Saskatoon.

Jacob H. Fast — also homesteaded on the same section as his father. Well known in the Co-operative movement, Wheat Pool and politics. Perhaps Rev. F. Myers said it best; "He was an ardent missionary in the cause in which he believed." With his wife, Paulina, he built up a prosperous farm in addition to the original homestead where he lived all his life.

William C. Fast, after ten years on the homestead and working out, brought his bride, Laura, from Kansas, where they returned to live after spending several years on the homestead. In Kansas he worked for the Santa Fe Railroad which had a round house and yard at Herrington where Bill and Laura spent the rest of their lives. Bill returned several times to visit.

David D. Fast, after proving his homestead, became one of the threshermen with a steam engine. He did not keep it or the homestead long; preferring to work at jobs other than farming. Being mechanically inclined, [redacted] operated engines and turned to carpentry which continued to be his trade after retiring to Vancouver in 1949. Dave and his bride, Florrie, lived in a small house on his father's farm for several years. During this time, he was interested in photography. He moved to Rosthern where his ability to speak several languages and his carpentry were invaluable in managing a lumberyard for Monarch Lumber. He was transferred to Vonda. After a number of years in the lumber yard, they moved to Saskatoon where the children could get a better education. Dave returned to carpentry at this time.

Mary Fast married Leslie Sloan whose story appears elsewhere in this book.

John A. Fast (See separate story.)

The Jacob Fast Family

(As written by Jeanine and John Fast and Marjorie Hunden)

Mr. and Mrs. Gerhard Andrew Fast came to Beatrice, Nebraska, U.S.A. in September, 1884, after a long trek through Europe and Asia. They lived there with their family of five sons and one daughter. Mr. Fast worked [redacted] various jobs. He owned and operated a shoe store and a shoe repair shop. Repairing shoes, but more so, making shoes was his trade, as in 1855 he was apprenticed to a cobbler where he learned the trade for three years in Europe. Due to a chest ailment [redacted] started farming. A brother in Canada helped him find a homestead, so in 1902 he came to Rosthern, N.W.T. and filed on a homestead near where Fielding now

stands. He returned to the States and the following year brought his wife and family out. There were no railroads, so everything had to be hauled from Rosthern to his homestead by horses and sleigh, across the river where the Borden Bridge now stands. The homestead of Gerhard Fast was NE¼-24-41-12-W 3rd. They lived in a tent until they built a sod stable, then lived in the stable for a couple of months till a sod house was built. In this house they lived for fourteen years. The first two years they had to go to Rosthern for groceries. Their mail came to Great Bend (north of where Radisson now is). Later a post office was built at Fielding. The railroad was being built from Saskatoon west at this time. By Christmas of 1904 the roadbed was ready for the steel track up to the North Battleford railroad bridge site, west of the place to be North Battleford. There wasn't much work for men to do in the winter time, so Jacob (one of the sons) went to Rosthern to work. He got a job for the winter of 1904 and 1905 cutting firewood. In April he came back to his homestead and broke more acres of land. In the summer of 1904 Gerhard Fast helped Julius Schloemer (Slomer) build a sod house on SE¼-30-41-12-W 3rd. That house was lived in for twenty-four years. In October Jacob, Mr. Schloemer and Dave McKay got the loan of John Sexton's covered wagon to go to Rosthern to bring Mrs. Schloemer and their three youngest children back to the homestead. Later Mrs. Schloemer helped in many maternity cases as a midwife. The two oldest girls, Paulina and Annie stayed in Rosthern doing housework. Annie later married Bill Lewis. Jacob and Paulina corresponded for the next few years and finally got married February 25, 1905. They lived in the sod house till 1926 when they moved into the house they had built, which is on the farm, now owned by W. Hamp. Julius and Mrs. Schloemer moved to London, Ontario in 1924 to live with John, one of their sons. They passed away in 1934 and 1936.

Of their family in which there were three girls and three boys, as I said Annie married Bill Lewis. Elfreida married Rollo Smith. Walter and Harry both went to the States. At this time John and Harry are the remaining living ones. Rollo Smith took over the Schloemer homestead.

Neepawa School District No. 1517 was organized in the spring of 1906. An acre of land situated on the SW corner of NW¼-30-41-11-W 3rd, was donated by George Northcott. The first school opened with seven pupils with T. A. Amos as the teacher. This school burned down in July, 1920. Everything was lost. School was held in the school barn until the new Neepawa School was built later on that year. The new school was located on the NE corner of NE¼-24-41-12-W 3rd and operated till 1949. At that time it was closed, for lack of pupils. In 1953 it was moved to the Keystone District where it was put to use again. Then in 1959 it was moved to Maymont and used as a classroom until the new portable classrooms were added. Bobbie Johnston bought it, moved it to the SW corner of Maymont, where in 1973 it accidentally got burned down. So ended the era of Neepawa School. At the present time John Fast has the outside bell mounted on a stand-plaque in his yard — a reminder of Neepawa School District No. 1517.

At one time there were twenty-three children going to the country school. Now three generations later, in the same district, there are only four children of school age. Jacob Fast was secretary-treasurer for the Neepawa School for twenty-five years. Some of the teachers were Mr. Amos, as mentioned, Lydia Ballerud (Mrs. Alan Bean), Muriel Elliott, Muriel Harris, Kay MacKinnon (Mrs. Roy Kieper) and Max Braithwaite among many others during the years.

In the old sod houses they had phones. The Fielding telephone exchange started up near 1920. In the very early 1920's Jacob Fasts had the phone.

The first threshing of grain was done in the fall of 1904 with a Case 20HP steam outfit owned by John Swain. The straw was burned to generate steam which furnished the power to move and operate the machine. The grain was hauled to Radisson where the Topper Elevator Company had built the first elevator. They got fifty-five cents a bushel by the wagon load.

If you wanted a new sod, or log house built, or maybe a barn, or help with getting up the winter supply of wood, bees were the thing amongst the homesteaders. Then also when it came to the day of worship, in 1904 they headed to the home of Gerhard Fast. At times the minister was Mr. Matheson, at other times ministers came from Rosthern or a small place near where Borden now stands. The first Community Christmas celebration was also held in the same house. This sod house was 18 x 40 feet inside measurements, thus making it a foot or so more on the outside, so quite a few people must have had many good times in it.

Dr. John A. Scratch came to Fielding in the fall of 1904. He put up his sign in the window of his room in the hotel. That was his office, until he moved to Maymont in 1905.

Mrs. Gerhard Fast passed away on December 24, 1913. Gerhard married Anna Wall later the next year. She had two sons, Herman and Jacob who resided in the Fielding District for some time, and a daughter who only came for visits. Gerhard died June 29, 1924, just forty years to the day he left Orenburg on the boundary between Europe and Asia, many thousands of miles away. Jacob Fast took over his dad's farm as well as his own and farmed for many years, through many hardships what with prairie fires in the early years, to drought, grasshoppers, etc., in the later years. He and Paulina had no family of their own. The one daughter who was born to them May, 1910 lived only a few hours. So they adopted two children, a boy

John S. Fast, born October 18, 1913. Later they adopted Marjorie born in 1920.

John stayed on the farm and farmed, until 1965. He had married Gladys Nelson in 1938. The marriage dissolved some sixteen years later. He then married Jeanine Doll from Sonningdale. They sold the farm in 1965, bought a house in Fielding, moved it to Maymont and live there. John does some carpenter work and gardening, while Jeanine does the sewing, gardening and helping with the carpenter work.

Marjorie married Wilbert Hanlon of Sonningdale, and lives on a farm there. They had three children. Glen the oldest died of polio in 1949. Valerie came next in 1950 and Louis in 1952. Both are married. Valerie has a daughter, and Louie and his wife, Bonnie, have two children, a boy of their own and an adopted daughter. So this is the family of the Jacob Fast branch.

During the mid thirties Fielding was quite a hive of entertainment. The Chautauquas toured the country. Some of the more spectacular things they had were the Swiss Bell Ringers. Then also a Mr. Hoffman with large rings that he jangled together to make many patterns. Now we see the same thing on TV. Fielding young people with their Young People's Club put on numerous three-act plays. Every March 17 was Irish Night. The Irish people put on the program. Also there was Scot's Night in January. — Even to the bagpipes, highland flings, — all Scottish entertainment. The Fielding Community Club had dances every week or so. People every Friday night hooked up the team and sleigh and away they went, young and old. Young kids learned how all the dances were done there, and they did them. Dads danced with girls six years and up. How enjoyable it was! Of course it was radios at home then, and before that the old gramaphones with the cylinder records,updated to the disc records. We in our area had a lot of house parties during the winter. We would go to houses in the neighborhood. There we would play games — spin the bottle, musical chairs, and many more. Much singing went on. In the summer we played ball every Sunday at Les Sloans. This was during the depression years. The mode of travel was horseback for many, although buggies, wagons, etc., were used. No money for gas so people did what they could. The depression years were tough on everyone. So were the war years what with gas rationing, sugar, butter, coffee and all the other rations we had to deal with. Even vouchers for clothing and groceries at the store. Each family were allowed so much money to go on. It naturally went for the things that were needed the most. The men that worked outside, of course, had to have the most of the clothing voucher.

Gerhard A. Fast and Jacob H. Fast have written a book "To Find the Daily Bread" about their struggles and hardships of travels and homesteading in the late 1800 and early 1900's. The book is in the Maymont Library.

John A. Fast and Anna C. Fast
Maymont, Saskatchewan

submitted by Gladys (Fast) Zimmer, Edmonton, Alberta

My Father, John A. Fast, came to the homestead — N.W. 2-42-13-W3 from Fairbury, Jefferson County, Nebraska, to join his parents and brothers and sister who had come from Nebraska in March, 1903.

No. 73 ... NUMBER OF PROPERTY ON ASSESSMENT ROLL
LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT 24 - J - 3

RECEIPT FOR TAXES.

Received from Mr. J. A. Fast ...
of ... Great Work ... the sum of
... Two ... Dollars.
On payment of taxes due to Local Improvement District 24 - J - 3 for the year 1913 in the following Lands:
N.W. ¼ 2 - 42 - 13 - W3rd
Dated at Sec. 2 - 42 - 13 this 4 day of July 1913
$ 2.00 David Mitchell
Secretary-Treas.

John Fast receipt for taxes.

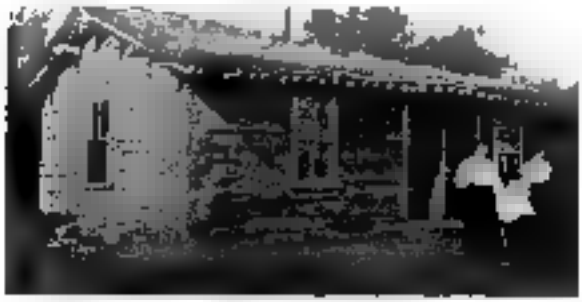
John, Anna and Gladys Fast.

He brought a carload of settler's effects by rail to Saskatoon, arriving on Christmas Eve, 1904, after ten days travelling. He was met by his brother, Bill, (William C. Fast). They loaded what they could on wagons and leading the extra horses and shivering colts, drove out to my grandfather's sod house, later returning to Saskatoon for the remainder of the goods that had been stored there.

He brought the basic farm implements, plus whatever the family had left behind in Nebraska. There was a wagon, bob sleigh, and two buggies. There were walking plows, single furrow ■ and 16 inch share for stubble and breaking. I am sure one plow had a wooden beam cut from a single piece of oak. Perhaps the slant tooth drag harrow survived the longest. He had a certain amount of optimism since he brought the corn planter which was called a lister plow and used for the 44 years he lived on the homestead for ridging in the garden and plowing out potatoes, after the seeding attachment had been removed. I believe that my Uncle George Fast who could do blacksmith work made a garden cultivator. The wheels became the base for a harrow cart; otherwise, one walked miles a day in the dust.

My father brought horses. He never did farm with oxen as many others did. The two colts, whose sire was of the same blood lines as the famous Dan Patch, grew up to be the driving team. They were never used for field work unless there was urgent need for an extra horse at light work as they were too light for the other work. Since he brought a top buggy and an open one they were often borrowed by the Andrew boys for taking their lady friends to the dances. The light wagon was soon only used for the road or as an extra wagon at haying as the high wheels and narrow tires were not suitable for use in the fields hauling sheaves as they cut too deeply into the fields. There was machinery bought — a disc harrow to work down the breaking, and later a Massey Harris drill and a Massey Harris binder, the Bain wagon and box, Deering mower and a Massey Harris rake for haying.

There was seed brought from Nebraska — corn, alfalfa, and timothy proved unsuitable for the climate. Also seedlings of trees — oak, walnut, hazel did not survive the winter.



Mrs. Anna Fast, Miss Lily Martin and Miss Lura Hartwell — log house with sod roof — 1908.

My mother, Anna Fast, came to Saskatoon in January, 1905. By this time there had been snow, so her drive to Grandfather's was in the sleigh. The horses were not used to the cold weather or to travelling on a snow road. They took a wrong fork in the road and her first experience in a sod house was at a neighbor of Grandfathers, the Frank Bergmanns. Mrs. Bergmann put her into a bed warmed with well wrapped stones which had been heated in the oven and rubbed her chest with the good old Dr. Thomas Eclectric Oil to ward off the chill. She was very cold despite the fur coat that Aunt Mary Fast had sent for her to wear home on the trip.

The balance of that first winter was spent at Grandfather Fasts. They moved into the log house with sod roof in June, 1905. The house had been built by a bee of the neighbouring settlers.

Mother was fortunate to have a floor of plain boards. Many early houses had only the earth floor at the start. She also had new furniture, table and six chairs, wooden bed, dresser and washstand, and her prized sewing machine. Mother had been surprised when she arrived in Saskatoon to be given a note from Grandmother instructing her to buy suitable material for a wedding dress for Mary Fast. That was her first dressmaking in Canada. She had spent several weeks ■ Fasts each year sewing for Grandmother and Mary. The wedding dress was worn on March 13, 1905, when Mary and Leslie Sloan were married. It was the first wedding in the new settlement. Mother also sewed a wedding dress for Paulina Schlomer when she married Jacob Fast, February 25, 1906. Both these dresses were worn as costumes more than twenty years later by Adeline Sloan and Eva Rinehardt, winning prizes and attracting much attention at masquerades.

The balance of the furniture was from my father's bachelor days — a small cook stove and an Oak heating stove; kitchen baking table that had two pull-out boards for bread and cutting boards and two half round pull-out bins for flour under the cutlery drawer; several kitchen chairs and packing boxes with a curtain in front made other storage cupboards.

At first the house had no partitions. Rooms were divided by curtains strung on wire. Later, when the sod roof became very leaky after heavy rains it was replaced by a half-story frame gable and shingle roof. The rooms were properly partitioned then.

Little has been said about the women settlers who were used to different houses and manner of living. Perhaps the men found it easier to adjust with being busy getting the required ten acres per year broken and working wherever they could ■ earn the extra cash that was needed to carry on. There was always a need to buy staple groceries and seed, plus whatever repairs ■ harness and machinery that they could not do for themselves.

I believe that my parents were better able to manage, as they had a farming background, than the

neighbors who came from England and were used to city life and factory work. Mother had worked in the city for bankers who were from Boston, so had learned special cooking. She was an excellent cook and baked five wedding cakes. The first was for her fine friend, Maude Martin, who married Percy Barrett, the pioneer photographer. She also baked the wedding cake for Lilly Martin who married Seager Wheeler. For these two cakes she did the icing herself. For Maggie Bouskill, who married George Florence, she baked the cake and Maggie and her sister, Rose, walked more than a mile across the prairie in deep snow to help do the decorating. This was the largest and most elaborate cake she made. Later, she baked the cake for Nellie Milman who married Rev. Schoolfield and for her sister, Emily Milman, who married Dick Williams. These cakes were decorated by Mrs. A. E. Bean, who was artistic.

Mother always had a garden but some years tender plants were killed by late spring and early fall frosts. It was many years before tomatoes survived long enough to bear fruit. She also sent to Indian Head Experimental Farm for tree seeds and perennial flower seeds. These were planted in Grandmother Fast's garden as it took several years to get a suitable garden spot prepared. She also brought seeds of the wild plum. The Manitoba maples planted there are still living. After many years the plum trees bore fruit and Grandfather received a special prize at the Agriculture Society fall fair held in the Maymont school.

I was born in the log house. Dr. J. A. Scratch was the doctor and Mrs. Margaret Thompson, a nurse from England, lived-in for several weeks, leaving her two little girls in the care of her sister who lived on a homestead some six miles east. Mother had a hired girl, whose parents, the Hartwells, lived a mile east of Keystone School which I later attended.

My first two or three years of school were at the old Neepawa Public School, No. 1517. T. Alf Amoss was the teacher. He taught us phonetics, a sound foundation for reading. Also instilled an interest in good literature. After there were enough pupils in the district, Keystone Public School No. 1144 was re-opened. I finished my schooling there with Miss Grace Japp of Speers for Grade VIII teacher and Miss Flora Geary of Keppel, Sask. for Grade IX.

During that time the Rev. R. W. Hardy drove with his horse and buggy from Speers one afternoon a week to give Sunday School instruction after the afternoon recess. Church services were held in the school every second Sunday afternoon during the spring and summer, usually ending with Harvest Home.

There are many stories told of prairie fires. I was so frightened that I still remember the last one that came our way although this must have been before I went to school.

A beautiful spring day when suddenly the clouds of smoke could be seen coming from the east. Lew Andrew saw it where he was plowing his field south of our house and came straight across the prairie throwing up two furrows all the way and extra furrows near the house. My father plowed deep furrows and ridges in the open grassland to the north till he and Lew had made a circle on the sides the fire was coming from. Those deep furrows remained until the pasture was finally broken. As the fire advanced rapidly, the animals from the bush dashed across the yard in headlong flight, coyotes and many bush rabbits paying no attention to each other. Even deer which weren't seen often then.

Mrs. Rogers who could see the smoke more than a mile away, put her pre-school children in the buggy and came across the prairie. She brought with her a tub of water and sacks and a broom with which to beat out the sparks. The roar of the fire was dreadful and the wind generated by the flames carried the sparks far. All watched to beat out any that came inside the fireguard. The fire was turned from the buildings and burned itself out when it reached Lew Andrew's plowed field.

Neighbourly help was always given unstintingly where it was needed and I hear that the pioneer spirit still carries on at Maymont.

I expect that others have written about the old time threshing. My father hauled water for the huge steamers for five years — three seasons with Ernie Andrew and two with Les Sloan. Mother was left at those times to care for the stock. When the large outfits came they had a cook car and a bunk house for the men so mother only cooked for the grain haulers. Much farm work was exchanged with neighbors, a day's work for a day at whatever job help was needed.

My parents spent 44 years on that homestead until failing health forced them to retire to Saskatoon where they spent the rest of their lives. Both are buried in the Maymont Cemetery.

After 20 years in Saskatoon, I moved to Edmonton.

Prices of Groceries and Supplies — 1906, 1907

Flour (one sack)	$2.75
Tea (lb.)	.40
Coal oil (1 gal.)	.40
Sugar	.50

(Sugar, Tapioca, rice, dried fruit, raisins, apple, currants, apricots, prunes — no quantity specified, bought by .25 or .50 cents worth.)

Lard	.75

(likely 5 lb. pail)

Pork (4 lb.)	.40
Coffee (1 lb.)	.30
Broom	.30
Baking Powder	.30
Baking Soda	.10

Barbed wire must have sold by pound.

4 spools wire 491 lbs. $18.30

Axe handle	.35
Garden rake	.35
Stove pipe elbow	.25
Overall jacket	1.00
Hat	1.50
Lamp Glass	.10

Our Neighbors

by Gladys Zimmer

Albert Boshill — came from Manitoba with his daughters, Maggie and Rose, and sons Percy, Ed, Steve and Stewart. The girls often told this story. Mr. Boshill was a carpenter and while the young folk went to a dance he decided to change the door to the other side of the house. The girls got a surprise when they couldn't find the door when they came home in the wee hours! The farm was taken over by the oldest son, **Percy Boshill**, who lived there the rest of his life. Percy farmed with horses long after others had changed to tractors. He had extra men as his farming land needed at least two outfits. He had several house-keepers. The one who stayed longest and was best known is Mrs. Rose Schmidt, and her daughter Betty. Betty attended Grey School till Grade VIII and then went to Saskatoon. Mrs Schmidt stayed on at the job till Percy's death, then she returned to Saskatoon. The neighboring homestead was taken by **William Holmes** with his wife Katie. They came from Nebraska. Mrs. Holmes was also a mid-wife and helped Dr. Scratch many times, sometimes driving for miles with her horse and buggy or by cutter in the winter

Henry Christfield also came from Nebraska and homesteaded the adjoining quarter. After proving his title, he became an implement agent in Maymont. After selling that business he moved to B.C with his wife and family

Mel Shrock came from the U.S.A. with his parents and wife, Cora, and three children, Treva, Leland and Moody. Their homestead years came to a sad conclusion in 1911 when Cora died at the birth of a tiny daughter. The neighbors offered what help they could to the grieving family. Mrs. Holmes took care of the baby, Mrs. Wm Parker and Mrs. John Fast attended to the necessary task of preparing Cora for her last rest. Someone stayed with the family till after the funeral. The Grandmother felt she could not care for the frail baby Cora beside the other children, so the baby was adopted by George and Eva Holler with whose love and patient care she grew. The Shrock family returned to the United States, and happily, after many years, Cora found her family and was able to visit them. The baby Cora is now Mrs. Frank Miller.

Hector Cowan homesteaded next to the Shrocks. He was a bachelor who lived in a very tiny shack.

All of the original homesteaders of Sec. 36-41-12 have gone. Some stayed only a few years.

Henry Knight from Neepawa who suggested that name for the school

Frank Bergmann and family. Theirs was a stopping place on the trail and they did not stay very long. Last heard of in Washington State. Their daughter, Martha, a popular young lady became Mrs. McKeller and lived at Radisson. Son Walter and his mother in Vancouver, B.C.

Julius and Maria Schloemer(Slemer), came from the U. S. A. in 1[illegible] Mrs. Schloemer was a mid-wife and called to help many times. She also baked bread for the bachelors, did laundry for the Hotel before there was a Chinese laundry in Maymont. Her daughters, Annie (Mrs Bill Lewis) and Freda (Mrs. Rollo Smith) helped when not out working. (In those days they were called hired girls.) Julius Schloemer also grew vegetables for sale. Their sons, John and Harry, played the violin and Freda played the organ. Many sing songs were enjoyed there. Harry became quite an accomplished musician and now lives in Washington. John and Walter went to Ontario where Julius and Maria soon joined them.

Dave McKay came from Manitoba in 1908 and was a bachelor for some years. He spent a good deal of time at Schloemers with the young people. Dave was a good shot and his [illegible] supplied meat for the table. One time he asked Mrs. Schloemer to cook for his threshers. He was to supply the meat so shot rabbits. Being a resourceful cook, Mrs. Schloemer made the meat into hamburger meat balls and all enjoyed a good meal. It was the duty of N.W.M.P to visit the district. One fine spring day, Dave shot a duck, cleaned it and was cooking dinner when a Mountie rode up. Dave invited him to share his meal. The evidence of the illegal game was still by the door, but nothing was said! Dave McKay and Bessie Cook from England were married in Schloemer's house. Bessie had baked her own cake. She was a good cook and soon learned to use all the wild fruits. Bessie always had a garden and was especially interested in new varieties of perennial flowers. Their son **Stanley** was also a hunter and trapped. Weasels and other game in the area did well to avoid him. After Dave's death, Bessie and her daughters, Violet and Pearl moved to Fort William, Ontario and Stanley lives in Edmonton.

S. E. Chambers came from England with his wife and family. The older daughter and sons soon went to Prince Albert. Lily, Howard and Leonard remained with their parents. Mr. Chambers helped build Keystone and Grey Schools. Some of the first Keystone teachers boarded at Chambers. They were a musical family; Leonard played the accordion and Howard the violin and mandolin or banjo. After the death of their parents, Lily was married and Leonard also, elsewhere. Howard left the farm and was last heard of in Vancouver. The adjoining homestead was taken by **Ben H. Martin** who came from England with his wife, Hannah, and sons, Ben and Harry. His wife could not survive the climate. After her death, Mr. Martin sent for his daughters, Maude and Lily to join him and keep house. Ben Martin was an organ builder and brought

materials. One of his organs is (was) in the Anglican Church at Maymont and one at Grey School, besides the one his daughter had in the home. They, too, were a musical family and good singers. Ben senior returned to England. Harry worked in Mrs. Beans store and had the undertaking business, later joining his brother, Ben, in Lethbridge. Lily married Seager Wheeler and lived at Rosthern. After some years in Maymont where her husband Percy Barrett was photographer, Maude and Percy returned to the farm.

Henry Bergmann was well known in the district although he became a resident of Maymont only after retiring from his farm at Spinney Hill. Henry came from Beatrice, Nebraska in 1913. Homestead land was all taken so [illegible] filed on a homestead near Cando. When not putting in his homestead duties there, [illegible] lived with his aunt and uncle John Fast.

He worked during the summer, seeding, haying, harvesting and threshing and then returned [illegible] the homestead. He sold that and bought a farm [illegible] Spinney Hill, usually returning to his aunt's for the winter. Like all retired farmers, he still found little jobs [illegible] do in Maymont besides curling in the winter and playing cards.

The William Fast Story

I was born in Nebraska in 1902, and came with my pioneer Mother and Father in 1904 to a homestead in a district which was later called Neepawa, 5½ miles north-west of Fielding. I was the eldest boy in a family of 3 boys and 3 girls, 2 of which are still living, Esther of Radisson and Arthur of Edmonton.

We grew up on the farm and when Neepawa school was started, I was one of the first pupils. Mr. Amoss was the teacher for [illegible] years, and I still hear from his son, Bruce of California, every Xmas.

In due time the railway went through the country and the village of Fielding came into being. We had good times going there to dances, picture shows, and sports days.

Later on the Curling rink was started, and everyone was very enthusiastic. I curled there many winters and later on in Maymont.

I married Violet Laidlaw on July 9th, 1928. She was a school teacher at Beckwith school south of Fielding.

We rented the William McNaughton farm and while there we boarded the teacher at Neepawa school. He was Max Braithwaite, who has since become a well-known writer.

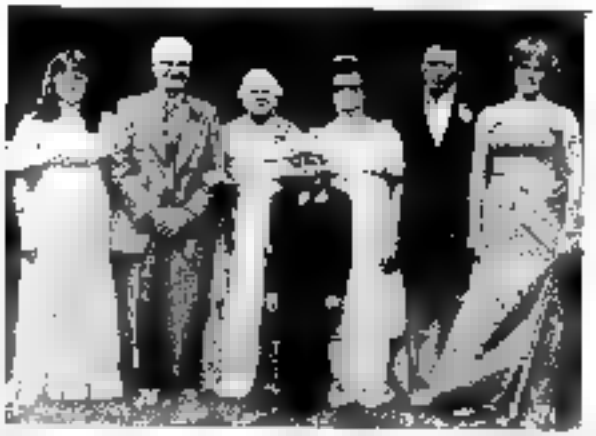
We have a daughter, Maxine, who was born in 1936. She started school at Neepawa and her teacher was Miss Lillian Martin, now Mrs. Kimbel of Lapeland who boarded with us.

After one year the school was closed as there was only 3 pupils. Maxine then went to school in Fielding. She stayed with her aunt Esther who was the telephone operator there. She graduated from Grade XII in 1954. Later on she took her nurse's training at Saskatoon City Hospital, and graduated in 1957. She is married to Darryl Dodds, an electrician, and lives at Snow Lake, Manitoba. We have two granddaughters and one grandson.

We lived on the farm 4 miles east of Maymont till 1968 and then moved to Maymont. We sold our farm in 1973.

We celebrated our golden wedding on July 9th, 1978 with a Come and Go tea in the Community Hall. Vi heard from [illegible] of her former pupils, and 8 of them were present, and helped with the program.

We enjoyed our life on the farm, good times and bad, and if it was possible, would gladly do it over again.



Bill and Vi's 50th wedding anniversary — July 9th, 1978. L. to r. — Heather, Bill and Vi, Darren, Maxine andDarryl, Kim.

Cecil Ferris Family History

by Betty Ferris

Cecil was the seventh child of a family of thirteen born to Robert and Maude Ferris. He began his farming career by working on the home farm. [illegible] 1935 he moved to the farm which his father had purchased from Will Ferris. He remained there for six years until [illegible] returned to the home farm after his father's death. He and his brother, Chester, farmed together for one year until Chester joined the armed forces. Cecil has farmed the home place ever since.

I came to Fielding in 1945 to teach the junior room at Fielding School. It was a two-room school at that time. Raymond Kachur was the principal the first year that I taught at Fielding School and Bob Olson became principal the second year. I boarded with Mr. and Mrs. Walter Evans and they remained very dear friends of ours until their deaths.

Cecil and I were married in 1947. We had little but love to live on that first year. The first rain of the season came in the form of a cloudburst in mid-August, the evening of our wedding dance in the Fielding Hall.

Many of the crops came up after that rain. Feed for livestock was scarce as there hadn't been enough moisture to produce a hay crop.

As luck would have it, the drought of 1947 was followed by a severe winter with above average snowfall which stayed with us till near the end of April. Many farmers ran out of feed for their livestock and poor quality hay was shipped into Fielding. The hungry animals were ravenous when fed this mouldy frozen fodder but it kept them alive.

We soon found our home livened by "The patter of little feet". We had five children in all, Lesley, Ronald, Audrey, Gregory and Joanne.

July 21, 1968 was the saddest day of our lives when our eldest son, Ronald,was killed when the tractor he was operating overturned, pinning him beneath.

Lesley became a teacher and is now married to Dennis Morgan, a farmer at Marsden.

Audrey is a nurse married to Constable Edward Miller of the R.C.M.P. They live at LaRonge but this summer are being transferred to Meadow Lake. They have one son, Gregory.

Our son, Greg, has joined his father in the farming operation.

Joanne became a Laboratory Technician and is presently employed at St. Joseph's Hospital at Ile-a-la-Crosse.

Through the years we have witnessed many changes in rural life. When we were first married we travelled by horses and sleigh in the winter. Nowadays if the roads become heavy with snow we wait for the municipal plow to clear them so that we can get out with the car.

In about 1954 the power line was put through this area and this did much to brighten the homes and enable the farm homemaker to acquire many of the appliances which made her work lighter and more pleasant.

We had many neighbors in years gone by whose homes now stand vacant or have been demolished. Farms are larger and farm homes ar farther apart.

The farming operation itself has become more complex. It seems strange that with all the efficient farm machinery, and gadgets, farmers still work long hours and under even more stress than their forefathers. There are fertilizers and numerous chemicals which are applied to the land and standing crops, to combat weeds and insects. Granted, we do grow higher yielding and cleaner crops than in years gone by but I often wonder what the long term effect of this "chemical farming" will be.

Mr. and Mrs. Chester Ferris

This is another branch of the Ferris Family and one of the larger ones in later years.

Chester, youngest of five brothers, went off to war in 1941. After four years had past the second World War was over. Then while still in Holland he met a Dutch girl called Willemijntje Liefhebber. They were married in Delft, Holland in December, 1945. After returning home with his wife they raised a family of six children namely:

Diane who married a farmer, Robert Quick of Radisson, and are now farming at Mayfair, Sask.

Robert William, who married Patricia Patchoma of Krydor. Bob is Customer Service Manager for Air Canada and lives in Saskatoon, Sask.

Terry Donald who married Carrol George of Livelong and is a school teacher in Blaine Lake, Sask.

Edward Allan, who married Mary Maxwell of Radisson. He is a store clerk and living in La Ronge, Sask.

Marilyn Ruth, who married Ian Massar. He works in the oil fields at Lloydminster and are living at Lloydminster, Sask.

David Lloyd at home going to school, living with Dad and Mom.

Chester was postmaster at Fielding, Sask. for 28 years and is now in his own insurance business at Radisson, Sask.

Willemijntje is now Postmistress at Fielding, Sask., where she and Chester still make their home.

Mr. and Mrs. William Ferris

by Gladys (Ferris) Tapley

Mr. and Mrs. John Schrader and young daughter, Jennie, came by covered wagon from Iowa, U.S.A. and took up a homestead in the early 1900's in the Yorkton District known then as Assiniboia. Later after building a log house Jennie's father had an accident and he passed on. Then the mother and her daughter were left alone on the homestead. So the daughter, Jennie, got a job cooking in the hotel at Yorkton.

In the meantime my father, Mr. William Ferris, and his brothers, Bob and Harry, and Telford and Tom Ferris decided to go west from Ontario. After coming west my father, William Ferris, worked for the T. Eaton Company in Winnipeg as he had experience in working in a store in Ontario. But his older brother, Harry Ferris, insisted that my father come west. They could get one hundred and sixty acres for ten dollars. Well, this looked good at the time. Then my father

William L. Ferris born June 30th, 1880, passed away Dec. 26, 1964.

Mrs. Wm. Ferris with Gladys age 6.

came ■ Yorkton where he worked for some time in the Flour Mill. It was here he met my mother, Jennie Schrader; later ■ married her on March ■, 1904. They were married by the Reverend Bennie of Yorkton. Father worked for awhile in the Flour Mill but came west with his brothers and got a homestead three miles east of Fielding. The railway was not through yet but the family would come as soon as they could.

I was born at the Yorkton Hospital on January 30, 1905, the year the Province ■ Saskatchewan was formed. After I was six months old the railway had gone through ■ they decided to come to their homestead. It was fall and we had no buildings so my father's brother let us live in his tar paper shack for the winter as he was a bachelor and was not home. Tom was a good carpenter so was ■ demand We got our log house built the following summer — also log barn and chicken house. My father came with the livestock and machinery in a car. He had to haul it all thirty miles to Canora so he went through many hardships. Mother and I came by train. The engine broke down ■ we stayed for sometime.

After our buildings were built my father had to plough a fire guard around in case of prairie fire as the land was all prairie.

Our first close neighbor was Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Thompson who lived northwest of our homestead. Mr. T. Thompson had a steam threshing outfit. So my father got a job hauling bundles as money was scarce in those days. The land had to be broke up and worked so it took a number of years before you had a crop. The neighbors were very good to help each other in those hard years.

My mother told me that she used to take me in the baby carriage to town with eggs and butter and walked three miles each way. We did not have a horse and buggy, only a wagon and my father was busy working and breaking up his land. The first winter my father had the misfortune of losing two of his horses so he had only one horse. A Methodist minister gave my folks his team for the winter. My father was very grateful for this kind act.

When I started school I walked the three miles each way and I got the mail also a few groceries. I remember my first year at school in Fielding. It was a large room and only one teacher. His name was Bennie Summers. He taught the beginners to High School and you could hear a pin drop in school the order was ■ good.

Every fall we had a prairie fire when the wind got in the South, because there was a muskeg and when it got dry a spark from the railway engine would start the fire. The slough in front of our place always saved our buildings.

We lost our barn in the fall of 1914 and a lot of hay. But the hired man and I saved the animals. My father was away hauling grain three miles when he noticed the fire. So my father got a contractor and built a new barn as winter was coming on and the animals needed shelter. My father also had purchased another quarter of land east of us. It had a shell of a house. After the harvest was finished Tommy Thompson moved it over for my father. So we got the house fixed up and moved in. The house and barn still stand.

My sister was born September 15, 1916 at the City Hospital in Saskatoon. The telephone was just being put in. In those days we had no radio or phone. There were Dr. Scratch at Maymont and ■. Whitemarsh at Radisson. Our travel was by horseback, or buggy or wagon. So my mother administered the old time remedies and they worked.

Finally we got a buggy so that was sure nice to drive ■ town. The cars were just starting to show up. The horse was very scared at first but got used to them.

I remember the bad 'Flu' after the First World War the fall of 1918. There was no school as you were to keep away from crowds. The doctor had a man driving his car as he went from patient to patient. The people who got the 'Flu' had to have doctor's care or they died. So we owe our early doctors a lot for saving lives. We were lucky and missed the 'Flu'.

We had our good years of crops and some were poor. But we managed to live as we milked cows and shipped cream ■ buy our groceries and clothing.

Later years Mr. Wes Sloan used to thresh our grain with his steam outfit and cookcar. The cook car fed the bundle teams, twelve in all.

I received most of my education at Fielding School — getting all my Grade XI but a couple of subjects. Miss Blakely was my last teacher. We went to the

United Church for High School as the old school was not large enough.

However I got married quietly, July 21, 1925 and moved to Radisson where I still reside. My mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. William Ferris, had celebrated their twenty-fourth wedding anniversary quietly on March 23, 1928. During the two years after I got married mother had not been feeling well. However we did not realize that she was so sick. So on Easter Monday, April 9, 1928 my mother passed on in her sleep. I really did miss her. My sister, Mildred, was only eleven and a half years old.

My father sold the farm after mother's passing. Later he bought a John Deere Agency at Battleford which he operated for ten years. Then he sold out. Then he lived with my sister, Mildred, at Allan and her husband, John, for awhile. Then he came back to North Battleford. He was a night clerk in the Clarendon Hotel in North Battleford. He worked there [redacted] his eyesight failed. He was then eighty-two years of age. My father also loved hockey and baseball.

In the later years my father stayed with me at Radisson. He liked talking of the early days. His memory was wonderful for his age, although he had been ailing for sometime. My father passed on in the City Hospital, Saskatoon, December 26, 1964. He was laid to rest by mother at Radisson.

My husband, Raymond Tapley, passed on June [redacted], 1940. My girls Gladys and Barbara were small then. But they have grown families and are doing fine in life. It gives one great pleasure to see your grandchildren grow up to be good citizens. My sister's families have grown up and have their own families. So I have seen a lot of changes during my life time.

My sister, Mildred and John have retired and live in Saskatoon.

The R. W. Ferris Family

by T. L. Ferris

Robert William Ferris had come to western Canada a little ahead of the homesteading era. His place of birth was Alliston, Ontario. The beginning of the 19th century found him engaged as a lamp lighter for the burgeoning city of Winnipeg — gas lamps were in vogue at that time. Mrs. Ferris (Maud) practiced her trade in millinery. Their rented home while not pretentious, was reasonably comfortable, and served as home for a couple of unmarried Ferris brothers. These brothers were railroaders, working westward with the foreward push of the C.N.R. and the C.P.R.

Early in 1903, an unfortunate boiler explosion crippled one of the brothers for life. At that time the great homesteading boom had begun, and the Ferris brothers were caught up in the lure of a ¼ section of land for only $10.00. Now they all headed westward in search of land. The C.N.R. had not yet built the bridge across the North Saskatchewan river — like many others, the Ferris Brothers crossed by Gov't ferry.

The R. W. Ferris family. Back row — Cecil, Keith, Enid, Vivian, Edna, Telford, Russell, Verna. Front row — Father, Chester, Ruth, Mother, Norma. Missing from picture is the eldest daughter Leota.

They chose their future homes not far from present day Fielding. At that time, the man who had settled on that particular quarter, was named Peter Shack. So when the nuclei of the village began to form, it became known as Shacktown. But with the arrival of the railroad it was changed to Fielding.

Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Ferris laid claim to the NW¼-22-41-11-West 3rd. This ¼ was located 3 miles north east of present day Fielding. The most noticeable thing about the topography of the ¼ was the presence of two large, flat topped hills, in the southwest corner. Mr. Ferris built his log house on the top of one of those hills — this afforded a panoramic view of a large area to the south, including the site which was to [redacted] Fielding. The old "Battleford Trail" passed by just at the foot of the Ferris hill, and I can remember our parents saying how the sound of wagons and democrats passing by helped to relieve the loneliness of homestead life. That hill upon which the Ferris home was built, was the reason our Dad named the Farm "Observation Farm". I should have mentioned how the ruts in the virgin prairie, made by the wagons on the Battleford Trail, remained visible for many years, because it crossed what was to become part of our cow pasture.

I was born in that log house on the hill — but by the time the next child arrived, Dad had built a new house of sawn lumber. That house sheltered the family up to, and including No. 13. We were eight girls and five boys. Everyone worked in our family — even the young ones had jobs assigned them suitable to their age. It is hardly necessary to say it required exceptional management to feed and clothe us all. Yet we were well fed, and while plainly dressed, it was entirely adequate. Looking back now, I cannot but marvel at the ingenuity of our parents.

Even so, or perhaps because of our large family, R. W. Ferris found time to serve a growing community in many ways throughout the years. He served on the council of our municipality — he served as a schooltrustee — on the church board, and just anywhere he was needed. To illustrate — I might mention one bit of conversation I overheard some 50 years ago. Two of the town fathers were discussing a mudhole in the street which needed filling — "we'd best get Bob Ferris", said one man, "he is the busiest man around, but he will get the job done" — the other man agreed. That bit of philosophy has stuck in my mind over the years.

As time passed, our father bought the other 3 quarters on our section. That farm is still intact, and is home to C. R. Ferris, third son of Robert William. Though the others in the family have of necessity, spread over the whole of Canada, our roots still tug with nostalgic longing for the old prairie homestead.

Dad bought one of the first automobiles to come in our area. It was a seven passenger Studebaker, but carried the entire family on occasions. The car was bought in 1917 from Boyd Brothers, who had gone into the business after having farmed near Radisson, Sask. Other neighbors soon blossomed out with new cars also. Some of the more popular makes at the time were — Saxon Six, Grey Dort, McGlaughlin and Overland, as well as the Ford, the tin Lizzie, as it was popularly known.

Dad also purchased one of the first combines in the district. It was a 16 foot J.I. Case, and must have been 30 feet wide, including the body. We pulled the machine with an 18-36 Hart Parr tractor, at a speed of about one mile an hour. It should be remembered no one really knew how to prepare a crop for harvest with a combine. Since all previous experience had been with a binder and stooks, we did not realize how dry the grain must be for combines. Grain testers had not evolved to useful proportions — so we had lots of heated grain on our farm that year. Our farm was cross fenced in several places, to accomodate a large herd of cattle. Those fences were badly breached by the time harvest was over — that big combine didn't suit the gates, as we had to cut the fence to get from one field to the next.

I am not sure when our town of Fielding really began — probably about 1902. Since the railway came in 1905, that is the time the village began to grow. In those early years there was no rail line south of the river in the Scoungdale area. So the farmers from that area hauled their produce in Fielding as soon as facilities were available. So the town prospered, and by the time I started to school, it was a boisterous, thriving frontier town. There were all the usual businesses — right from a chinese laundry to a well equipped hotel — complete with a stand up bar of course, to satisfy the thirsts of the more rambunctious element — not unusual in any frontier town.

Those early days in the life of Fielding were very different from the present. The Ferris clan lived 3 miles from the school in town, where we were obliged to attend. Because horses were scarce, and needed for farm work, we walked to school in the summertime. Even in the winter, if the weather was not too severe. It has always seemed to me I might have been an inch or two taller, had I not worn it off from the bottom and walking to and from school. Later on, we did drive to school with a horse and buggy — or "jumper", in the winter time. As many as seven Ferris kids clung in our vehicle to and from school, as family size demanded.

It has always seemed to me that those small hardships of the early days, served to promote resourcefulness above all else — a quality that diminishes with affluence. This is likely why these quarrels erupt with the modern bussed to school families. They object even when the bus won't come the last 100 yards in to the house. Our family had to cross a small ravine on our way to school. Most of the year this ravine was dry, but the spring run-off changed it to a raging torrent. Since it had to be crossed twice a day, we just urged our reluctant pony into the water, and hoped to arrive at the other side reasonably dry. At least once, I remember when the water proved too deep, and we saw our school books and lunch boxes float away downstream. We did manage to fish them out from a vantage point down the stream a bit, much the worse for the ride. As well, there were many accidents over the years — such as run-aways, upsets, broken wheels or harness, not to mention frozen toes or fingers in the winter. But we survived it all without undue hardship.

I do think our parents did not come through those early years unscathed. Their consideration for the welfare of their offspring required much dedication. Perhaps they did not live as long as they might have under less rigorous conditions. Our mother passed away in 1929, while dad lived on until 1940. But they had left good memories in the life of their chosen community. I like to think they left a useful family for society. I know we are proud of our pioneer parents — we are proud of the community that sheltered us during our formative years.

Fielding has since suffered many reverses over the years. Three disastrous fires have decimated the village. Circumstances of economy has shrunk the place to near oblivion. Yet it is far from dead - since those who remain insist on supporting their tiny town. As one of the babies born on the almost virgin prairie, I know I can speak for the family when I say we are proud and thankful for having been born and reared in and around Fielding Saskatchewan.

I think it might be suitable to the intentions of this book that the names of such a large pioneer family should be recorded here — they are as follows. Leota, Vivian, Verna, Telford, Enid, Russel, Cecil, Edna, Keith, Jean, Chester, Ruth and Norma.

Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Ferris

submitted by Mrs. Evelyn (Ferris) Webster

My mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Ferris, raised and educated their family at Maymont. T. D. Ferris came west to Saskatchewan in 1904-1905. He hauled lumber with horses and wagon, between Saskatoon and North Battleford, for a living. He took up a homestead at Fielding. In 1908 he married Bertha Johnston of Maymont.

Tom Ferris

In 1908 my mother and father farmed on the homestead. Earl Ferris was born in 1909. Dr. Manly of Fielding delivered the baby. In 1911 Evelyn Ferris was also born on the homestead, Mr. Scratch delivering her.

In 1914 the Tom Ferris' moved to Maymont and farmed next to Jim Reid. He bought a J.I. Case Threshing Machine and cook car and did the threshing for all the farmers around for years. In 1917 and 1918 Lola Ferris and Lorraine Ferris were born, Dr. Scratch again being the doctor.

Tom Ferris was on the school board for years. He was a prosperous farmer and was fond of everyone in Maymont. In 1918 Tom Ferris drove Dr. Scratch during the winter when the flu was so bad as Doc was too tired to drive himself had to answer all calls. Tom Ferris was a councillor for the rural municipality when the new school was built.

He passed away in 1976, being ninety-two past. He had many trips back to Maymont. Bertha Ferris in her ninety first year lives in Winnipeg.

I enjoyed growing up in Maymont. I have many pictures of the school kids and Sunday School group I was in when Mabel Merrell was our teacher. She formed a club called M. A. D. (Up and Doing). I left Maymont when I was seventeen years old. All us Ferris kids married. Earl is in Vancouver; Harold in Montreal; Lola and Lorraine in Winnipeg. I am retired at Brighton, Ontario. I am now sixty-eight years old.

Our children have done well. You may be interested to know my son, Dr. Ferris Webster, an oceanographer, was appointed by President Carter to be in charge of all research and development of the oceans and the weather in the U.S.A.

I have many recollections of Hallowe'en escapades. When one of our teachers was living at Andrew Reid's, we knew which room she had, so we tried to put a ladder up to scare her. Mr. Reid came out and someone said he had a gun so we ran. His yard had a barbed-wire fence and I still have the scar on my throat where I cut myself trying to get under the fence. Dear Andrew Reid would not take a gun to any child! I feel I could write a book about my happy times in Maymont.

My mother is a sister of Grace Foulston, Herb Johnston, Alex Johnston, Bob Johnston and Lawrence Johnston. Their father was Mr. Alex Johnston.

The Ron M. Firth Family

In September, 1933 Ron and Joy Firth, their son Brian and daughter June, moved to Lilac from the Lloydminster area. Ron was the Wheat Pool elevator agent there from 1933 until he joined the Air Force as a mechanic in 1941. The family moved to Ruddell for one year before going to Saskatoon in 1942 when Ron was posted to the No. 4 Air Training base in that city.

While in Lilac Joy Firth was active in the Anglican Church Ladies Aid and Sunday School occasionally pinch hitting at the organ when the regular organist could not get in for services.

For a number of years Ron played drums in a local band with Herb Mabey on violin or Sax and Annie Lewis at the piano when the local dances were the highlite of the winter entertainment scene.

Ron Firth passed away in 1970.

Joy Firth is living at Oliver Lodge in Saskatoon.

Brian, Joy, Ron and June Firth, 1942.

The William Fisher Story

told by Will Fisher

William Fisher was born in 1883 in Ashburn, Ontario — near Toronto. He attended school there for a few years, going to school in the winter and working at home on the farm during the summer. In those days it seems that education was secondary, work came first. Anyway he got a few grades during the winters.

In 1905 he came to Fielding and got a job herding cattle for Bob Anger. It seems that these cattle were from several owners around Fielding and Radisson.

Eastbourne Ladies' Aid, 1914/15, Mrs. Johnston, Mrs. Hockley, Mrs. Schreiber, Mrs. Fisher.

He told stories of a very bad winter when he hauled a load of straw, from straw stacks, every day. It seems that it stormed every day and was cold. He had a good sheepskin coat with a big collar and it protected him from the cold. He had to travel a good distance for some straw.

He took a homestead when that area was opened up — must have been 1906-1907. He built a log cabin, dug a well and built a log barn.

Dad's uncle, Ed Bodie, was homesteading at the same time, half mile south and they helped each other with a lot of work.

In 1910, Dad took a trip back to Ontario, where he met Nellie Ball — fresh out from London, England. They corresponded for a year, then in 1912, January 24, they were married on the next trip he took. He had lots of company those days. There was always someone visiting. Lady cook, I suppose.

That must have been about the time they built Eastbourne church. I don't know where the financing came from but Wm. Kerrod was carpenter and Dad was main helper. The other neighbours must have been helping, too, but I don't know much of that. Kerrod and Dad built Hillsborough school about the same time and the school started in 1911.

Dad was on the church board most of the time. Mr. A. H. Johnston, Fred and John Wilcox were serving quite often, too. There were others but these are uppermost in my memory.

Then of course there was the Ladies Aid who had their meetings — I don't know how often.

In 1917 Mom's sister, Ada, married Dan Hockley and came for a honeymoon visit and settled across the road and raised their family. It was great company for Mom and Ada to have each other so close. They had a wonderful time tormenting the men and more than once they got their feet stuck in the water trough in retaliation. Mom and Ada had tea every afternoon without fail — Old English Custom you know.

Dad's brother, Alf, came west about 1916 and got a homestead on Section 14. Alf joined the army in 1918 along with two or three others that the game warden caught poaching — deer hunting, of course.

There was at that time a government sponsored rifle range operating on Section 15, west of Hillsborough School, where the young men spent a lot of leisure time.

Then one must not forget the annual Eastbourne Picnic spent at Dubbins Lake. That was the event of the year. Ice cream, pop, chocolate bars, peanuts — the only time I ever saw pop bottles. There were the pillow fights, races, prizes and ball games, and horse shoes. Decorated booths and ladies all dressed up in pretty gowns.

Louis Flath even had a canoe there one year. Then the slough went dry and when they had the picnic elsewhere, it seemed to have lost something.

In 1924, Dad got his first hive of bees from Eaton's. I think it came complete with mask, smoker and gloves. Anyway it became a life hobby with Dad and he kept at it until he was not able to lift the supers to the top of the hive anymore. In hard times he took honey to Speers and the proceeds from the honey paid for the twine to tie up the crop, if there was any.

Dad never got very rich but he was happy and contented on the homestead he chose. He lived there until 1958 when he died at the age of 75. Mother lived on until 1972.

Grace Foulston

In 1903 three of my brothers were working in North Dakota when they heard of the homesteads to be had in Saskatchewan, and several men from the Dakotas were going over to have a look so our boys went too. The result was they each filed on a homestead.

Alex and Will got their homesteads on the same section 5½ miles north of Maymont. Bob got his in the Lilac district.

The boys went back to North Dakota and worked during harvest, and then came back to their homesteads.

The boys in the meantime had written to father in

Ontario and [illegible] in turn talked to two of his brothers and they moved out with their familys and homesteaded.

Father and Uncle Robert got homesteads on the same section 3 miles north of Maymont. Father shipped a car of settler's effects, in the spring of 1905, and also brought 2 more sons Herb and Maurice. Herb worked on the railroad when it went through in 1905.

Father drove the mail from Great Bend to Maymont. Richard, and New Ottawa. Mother, Bertha, Lawrence and I came out in September, 1905. The railroad was completed then. The people who moved in with their settler's effects had [illegible] unload in Saskatoon, as there was no railroad in here yet. The boys had horses and they did a lot of hauling freight from Saskatoon. They also hauled for the Batr Colony.

Will had to give up the first homestead he filed on because of ill health, so he went back to Ottawa and studied for the ministry. But he still wanted to farm and have horses, so he filed on another homestead and started farming. He shipped in a lot of horses from Ontario and also some McFadden Bronc's from Alberta. Some of his family still live on that homestead.

In 1905 Aler shipped the first car load of wheat to leave Maymont. He had to go to Radisson to bill it out as there was no agent at Maymont.

He lived on his homestead for a while then went to B.C. where he worked on a telegraph crew. Later he took a pre-emption in Buckley Valley, B.C. He came back to Maymont, got married and settled down.

Herb homesteaded in the Eatonia district and Maurice homesteaded north of Richard. Lawrence never had a homestead. He worked in Bean's store for a while and later in McGregors store in Fielding. Then he farmed for a while and later moved to Rabbit Lake, where he had a store and Livery Barn. He married and later moved to Duncan, B.C.

My husband, Albert Foulston arrived at Maymont in 1912, coming from Balmoral, Manitoba. The first couple of years [illegible] worked in Maymont then he and my brother Lawrence rented some land north of Speers.

We were married in March, 1917 and moved to Tatsfield, Sask. We farmed there for 15 years then came back to Maymont. In 1941 we moved to Speers and in 1944 we bought a farm at Lilac.

In 1958 we moved into Maymont where we still reside. We celebrated our 62nd anniversary in March, 1979 and Albert just turned 90 years of age in May.

A lot of changes have taken place since then but it is nice to look back and think we played a small part in the settling of the west.

They have [illegible] children, 5 are still living. They have 25 grandchildren, and 20 great-grandchildren.

Mr. and Mrs. John Foster

told by Dorothy (Foster) Crowley

My parents, John and Dora Foster, were not pioneers in the true sense of the word, but [illegible] hard work, hardships, and doing without were some of the

Mr. and Mrs. John Foster, Frank and Dorothy.

qualifications, then I'm sure they qualified many times over.

We came West from Nova Scotia in 1919, to live a year in the Reddell district and the following year in Maymont.

My dad was a professional gardener by trade, having worked on estates in Boston and later in Market gardens in Nova Scotia. How forbidding the prairie must have looked to him! He hired out to various farmers working with horses which he loved.

When we moved to Maymont he and his brother-in-law, George Reid, bought the A. Hawkins farm, a partnership which failed partly perhaps because of inadequate equipment, lack of experience in prairie farming on my dad's part, and overall a clashing of wills! A herd of milk cows and large bountiful gardens were our mainstay [illegible] those days.

Dad became school janitor after we moved into the village — of both the two-room school and later when it was moved and additions built. My mother was a dressmaker and also made beautiful hooked rugs-sale of which to the more affluent, added to the family income. We also had a milk route-milk being 10¢ a quart at that time.

Some say that my dad was a stubborn old Englishman — I remember it wasn't a good idea to get into an argument with him even if you knew you were right. My mother was very outspoken and when she knew she was right she backed away from no one — teacher, preacher, doctor, lawyer, or Indian Chief if there had been one!

I remember one occasion when she had a run-in with the minister of the Anglican Church which she and dad attended faithfully. Mother went to Church one evening minus a hat — something frowned on [illegible] those days. All would have been well if the Minister had spoken to Mother about it in private, but the following Sunday he made the grave mistake of bringing up the matter during the service. That's all my mother needed! She cornered him after the service

and among other things gave him to understand that with, or without, a hat she thought it was better to attend than add to the increasing number of empty pews, evident since his ministry.

My dad passed away in 1947 at age 85 — my mother in 1958 age 90.

I live alone now, my husband Noel having died in 1974. My two bachelor brothers, Jack and Frank, live near me. All in our 70's, we look after each other whenever and wherever possible and will continue to do so until health fails.

Mr. and Mrs. Torrance Free

by Mrs. Free

March, 1918 Mr. and Mrs. Ben Free and family of Red Wing, Ontario settled on a farm in the Radisson District. They were Vinie, Torrance, Hilda, Clifford and Clarence.

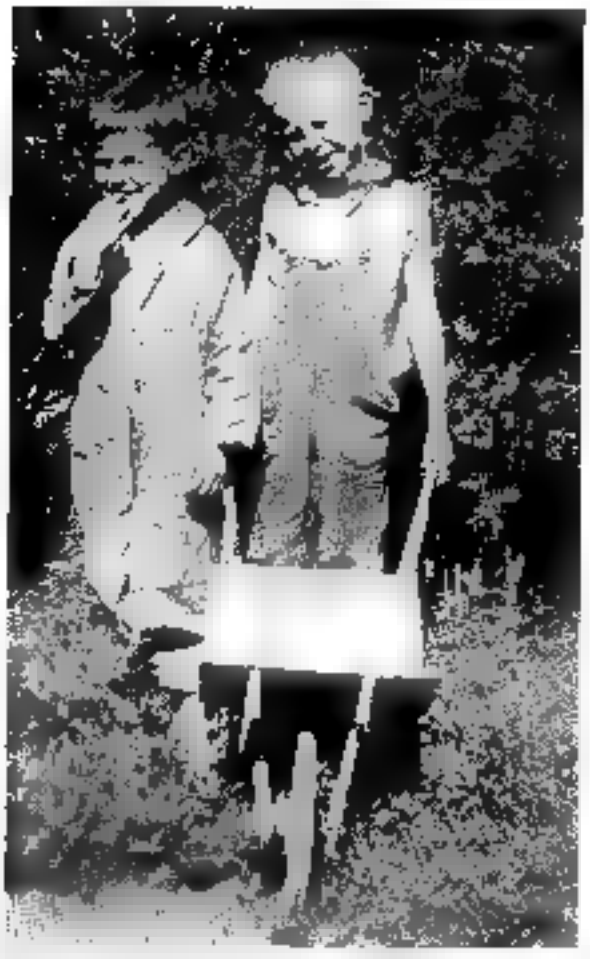
I, Allyson Frances Buell, eldest child of Edward and Evangeline Buell, married Torrance Harold Free in 1929 in Fielding.

Torrance started to buy grain for the National Elevator in Fielding in 1928 and was in the same elevator for thirty-nine years.

We have two children. Chester who is married to Mary Warkentin and Shirley who married Bob McAuslan. Chester and Mary had four girls. Barbara (was killed in a car accident in 1975) Audrey, Donna and Betty with their parents live in Radisson.

Shirley and Bob have two adopted children, Barry and Kelly, living in Saskatoon with their parents.

Torrance and I moved to Radisson in 1968.



Chester Free, and Jack Allen.

Isaac Montgomery Fry

Dr. Fry was born at Tiffin Ohio in 1841. He was married in 1871 and with his wife crossed the central plains in a covered wagon to Empire Prairie, Missouri. His wife died in 1872 at the birth of a son. He married Ellen Ellis in 1874 and they moved to Hebron, Nebraska where they resided until 1906. He practised dentistry and was a lay preacher. There were 6 children born to this union. In Feb., 1906 Dr. and Mrs. Fry with a son and 2 daughters took a homestead at Maymont, Ellen Fry died Dec. 29, 1907 and Dr. Fry returned to Nebraska. In May, 1915 while on a trip to visit his family he was taken ill and died in Minneapolis. He was brought back to Maymont to lie beside his wife.

Ernest and Margaret Garnett

Ernest E. Garnett was born in 1874 in Mount Pleasant, Ontario, while Margaret Mary Halliday, his wife, was born in 1881 in Minniska, Manitoba. They were married in 1906 and farmed first at Russell, Manitoba. Then Ernest and his brother, Harry, came west to C.P.R. land they had purchased southwest of Fielding. Their families came in June, 1917.

Two boys, Elgin and John, came to Fielding with their parents while two more sons, George and Malcolm, were born in Fielding. Both Ernest and Margaret 'May' took an active part in the Fielding community. Ernest had been choir leader, organist, a member of the session, and Bible class teacher in the Fielding United Church. He was also secretary-treasurer for ten years of the Beckwith School District.

'May' was an active member of the Ladies Aid and the Women's Missionary Society.

Their four sons joined the service of their country during the war years. Elgin and John in the army and George and Malcolm the airforce.

Ernest passed away in January, 1936, while Margaret passed away in May, 1958.

The boys all married — Elgin to Emily Iveson of Fielding; John brought home an English war bride named Mai[illegible]; George married Kathleen Katerynych of Radisson; George passed away in January, 1973. Their three children are Ronald, Billy and Sandra. Kay resides in Fielding. Malcolm married Irene Stewart of Saskatoon. They make their home at Penticton, B.C.

Mrs. Mary Glynn holding nephew Ron. Garnett, and Mrs. Ernest Garnett holding granddaughter Gail.

About One Branch of the Garnett Family

by Elgin Garnett

■ was in June of 1917 that the Ernest Garnetts and the Harry Garnetts came to Fielding from Russell, Manitoba. Ernest and Harry had come a few weeks before and had houses under construction on the C.P.R. land they had bought.

I went to school a few days in June, through July and the rest of the summer. The school was closed most of the winter. The summer was not too good, however, we got through it — and the winter also.

1918 was quite a year! I can remember about September, we went ■ town and there was quite a celebration on. It was the last day the bar was open. A Saturday, I believe it was, and it came to be known as "Prohibition". The bar was never re-opened as the hotel was burned down. A few weeks later, in November, the phone rang and we heard the news that the war was over.

The winter of 1918-1919 was particularly bad with the flu. We all survived it but it was some experience.

1919 was a dry year. It seemed to us that things were going from bad to worse except the years from 1925 to 1928 when we had four good crops. In 1929 prices dropped and like so many others, we had troubles.

The thirties were hard years — little money or crops, plenty of drouth, dust and thistles — especially Russian thistle. My father died in January of 1936, at the age of sixty-one. The depression and hard winters were too much for him.

In 1937 I left Fielding, except for short visits, and went to The Pas, Manitoba, and back to Hudsons Bay Junction where I met a Fielding neighbour Cliff Elliot, who told me where to get a job. ■ was only a farm job but I kept it for three years until I joined the army.

My brother, John Garnett, had also joined the army. He got back to Regina about the same time I did in 1945, and in 1946 he came to Cayenne where we had settled. Now we are both retired and enjoying our homes here.

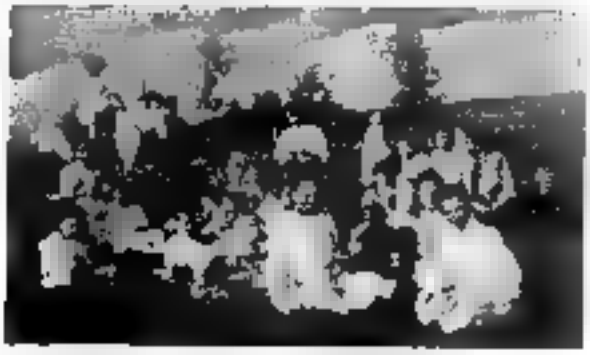
Editors Note — Elgin Garnett passed away in June, 1979, after submitting his story.

The Giffard Family

On November 24, 1906, Falconer and Bertha Giffard with their four daughters — Ethel, Maryadelle, Lucile, and Hazel — arrived in Maymont by train from Omaha, Nebraska. The family had become interested ■ Maymont through their relatives, the John Careys, who had lived there since 1907. Preceded by a car of settlers' effects and farm animals, Falconer and Bertha were well prepared to face life as pioneer prairie farmers. Their new five-room house on 7-42-■ was just across the road from Bohn's farm buildings and only 2¼ miles north of Maymont.

Maryadelle, Lucile, and Hazel first attended Grey School. The building had windows on both sides, a blackboard across the front and neat rows of double desks in varying sizes. Winter heat was provided by a barrel-shaped, cast-iron, wood-burning stove. Readers were supplied by the Department of Education, but the pupils supplied their own slates for "figgering." Early teachers were Miss Barbara Waters and Miss

A group that went to hear Swiss Bell Ringers in Maymont — probably early in 1909. Back row, l. to r. — Stanley Bohn, Mae Davis, Ethel Giffard, Flora Bohn, Minnie Bohn, Olive Parker. Centre row — Grace Johnston, Delma Davis, Gladys Carey, Francis Bohn, Eva Parker, Henry Bohn, Percy Parker. Front — Lucille Giffard, Laura Parker, Maryadelle Giffard.



Birthday party at Giffard's 'Ball Rock Farm', eating Jack Horner pie.

McLaren. Later the Giffard sisters transferred to the two-room school, half a mile south of Maymont with Mr. and Mrs. Ephriam Weber in charge.

As our father always grew a big garden, the whole family was involved in planting the potatoes on May 24. Harvesting this crop usually occurred on a Saturday near Thanksgiving Day when a very extensive family effort was followed by a festive supper to make up for the weary backs of the potato pickers. Corn roasts - actually corn balls — were the Giffards' August contribution to the social life of the district.

Even now we remember these and other happy parties arranged by our mother who was a most enthusiastic party giver. After Cometta was born on May 18 while Halley's comet brightened the night sky, there were five girls' birthdays to celebrate in addition to Hallowe'en, Christmas, Valentine's Day, Easter and many others. We enjoyed strawstack-burning parties, hayrack rides, Jack Horner pie surprises, music, dancing, and homemade ice cream at any time. We rural children enjoyed a very pleasant childhood.

In the early years our winter transportation was provided by a double-seated red sleigh made by father and drawn by a team of black horses. In summer we travelled in a two-seated carriage complete with fenders and steps on which we were sometimes allowed to stand while the carriage was in motion. When cars arrived, they were at first such a novelty that school children were sent from the classroom to stand against the pagewire fence and watch the vehicle pass, often in a cloud of dust.

Our first farm implements were drawn by horses. We girls were taught to drive two- or four-horse teams, and if farm help was scarce we frequently served as grain haulers. Hoping to be able to thresh his own crop, father bought a small Stanley Jones outfit which we used for a few years. Large steam engines and later gasoline engines provided the power for the custom harvesting which suited most farmers better.

Our first Sunday School teacher was Mrs. Fisher and we met at her home in town. Later student ministers came to Maymont in the summer and held services in a large room above Patterson's Pool hall and Barber Shop. Finally the Presbyterian church was built and there we young people held our school Christmas concerts after which Santa Claus came with treats for all the children. For the church bazaars mother made a huge bread-mixing pan of popcorn balls, a popular children's item.

Maymont was a thriving village in those early days and the true centre of the community. Dr. Scratch was a busy young doctor, Dr. Fry was the dentist; the druggist was Mr. Mawhinney. Bean's Grocery and Dry Goods store and John Reid's store served the needs of the people. There was a butcher shop and a harness maker, a hotel and a post office. Main street was a busy spot, especially in the evening just before the "train came in." Literally everyone went to the station to see this important event. Then the people gathered at the post office to wait for the mail to be sorted. When this job was completed, the wicket would be opened for a short time to give out the mail to those who did not have mail-boxes.

On August 10, 1912, our crop and many others were wiped out by a hail storm. As the grain was almost ready for harvesting, such a total loss was a heartbreaking disaster. Many were financially troubled that year. Still we could enjoy the Mayfield and Douglas Agricultural Fair, the Annual Fowl Supper in the church basement, the Chautauqua, and open-air skating; baseball was popular with an excellent men's team and for a few years at least, a ladies' team.

All five Giffard girls became teachers and three married teachers. Ethel taught at Estonia, Maryadelle at Montro, Lucile at Neepawa, and Cometta at WavyBank — all in the Maymont area. The family's teaching service in Saskatchewan schools totals 183 years. Added to this are 17 years of teaching in the United States by our father and seven years of Adult Education night classes by Cometta who is still teaching at Camosun College in Victoria. Moreover, the family tradition is being carried on by Ethel's granddaughter, Dianne Murray, who now teaches in a Vancouver High School.

In 1918, Ethel married George Murray. Both passed away in Victoria in 1968. Their three sons and families all live in Canada. Maryadelle married Cecil Holtby in a Maymont wedding at the Giffard home in 1921. Cecil passed away in 1976. One of their sons, Norman, lives with his family in Canberra, Australia. The other son, Earle, has recently moved to Victoria with his family after retiring from the RCAF. Lucile married Larry West and both taught in several towns in Saskatchewan before retiring in Victoria in 1963. Hazel and her husband, Hailey Goodman, farmed at Carrot River where Hazel taught for over 25 years; Hazel's son, Dr. Ron Goodman, is engaged in research in Arctic waters. They welcome his visits to their Victoria home several times a year. Cometta married Charlie Hall and at one time lived on the farm at Maymont before moving to Meadow Lake and later to Prince Albert. They now live in Victoria, retired more or less. Their

daughter Ann is still with the Royal Bank and her children live in British Columbia.

Maymont remains as an essential part of our family history. At our frequent Gilfard gatherings in Victoria, Maymont reminiscences are sure to surface. We all have such happy memories of our young days there and we are proud to have had a share in the community life of the district.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank H. Gillatt

Frank Herbert Gillatt, son of Herbert Samuel and Sarah (Clifton) Gillatt of Wroot, England, was born June 5, 1891 at Graizeloand, England. He was the third child of eleven — seven boys and four girls. His parents started as farm labourers and eventually became estate owners.

Frank, his brother Alfred and an uncle, Albert Clifton, came to Canada in 1913. George Gillatt, a brother, had come to Canada in 1912 and had found Frank a job working for George Langley, on the Langley farm, north of Maymont. One can imagine the differences Frank must have found coming from a country of small farms, moderate climate, and large population, to one of large farms, severe climate, and sparse population.

After working on the Langley farm for two years, Frank and George Gillatt bought the livery barn in Maymont. Thus began a different type of life; — buying and selling horses, providing feed, shelter and water for travellers' horses, and providing livery.

One man who often called on Frank to drive him was Dr. Scratch. These were often trips in the night to farms surrounding Maymont as well as those further away. It seemed that an emergency would often occur during the coldest and stormiest part of the winter. One such trip took them over twenty miles north and it occurred during a terrible blizzard. Roads were impossible to see and as they travelled home Frank was certain they were lost, so he wakened the sleeping doctor. Doc. told Frank to sit down under the blankets with him and let the horses take their own lead as the horses would find their own way home. Frank consented and eventually he woke [illegible] to find the horses stopped by the livery barn.

On June 23, 1920, Frank married Mary Olive Parker, of Maymont, and they moved to a farm on the west half of 33-42-13 that Frank was buying northwest of Maymont in the Lilac District.

Olive, the oldest daughter of William G. and Elizabeth (Bird) Parker, was born March 1, 1896 at Rosendale, Manitoba.

The Parker family had moved to the Maymont area in 1904. Mr. Parker, as well as farming his homestead, had a road construction outfit and helped build many roads in the Maymont-Richard area.

Olive attended Grey School, then completed her High School at Battleford Collegiate. Following this she attended Normal School in North Battleford where she acquired her teaching certificate. She taught at Bromley School, Prolific School and Grey School. The Frank Gillatts had a family of three sons: William Herbert, Wesley Alfred, and Clifton Percy.

Incidents in the Life of the Family

FIRE!

Fires of many kinds have always been a worry to rural people. Prairie fires were one of the worst kind

Herbert, Sarah and Mabel Gillatt.

Frank and Olive — June 23, 1920.

Wesley, Clifton and William Gillatt.

to plague people of Saskatchewan. Therefore most families ploughed a fireguard around the farmstead to protect buildings and livestock.

Fires in buildings usually resulted in total loss of the building and at times lives, livestock and feed were also lost. The Gillatts lost three barns but were fortunate in that chickens were the only animals lost. Ed. Irvine, of Richard, was called upon each time to help rebuild the barn. Once the lumber was obtained, Ed would come and cut the beams, studs and rafters. When this was completed, a building "Bee" was organized and the construction completed.

A fire in their home could have resulted in tragedy but a little house dog began barking and aroused the sleeping family. The fire had started in the back porch and Frank and Olive were able to extinguish the fire using the water from a barrel kept in the kitchen.

ACCIDENT!

In the fall of 1935, Frank was hooking the disc to a John Deere steel-lugged tractor when the bands on the hand clutch broke allowing the tractor to back over him. Dr. Scratch and his nurse, Pat McGrath, were called upon to care for Frank at his home as his many injuries prevented moving him to the hospital. Thus the doctor whom Frank had driven so many times, was able to return service for service.

From his years in the livery barn, Frank had learned a lot about horses and so was often called on to do veterinary work.

He served his community as well by being on the local school board and as a member of the Lilac Wheat Pool Committee.

World War II brought many changes and often sadness to many families and Gillatts were no exception. William joined the R.C.A.F. on May 13, 1941. He served with the R.C.A.F. in Europe and while there gave his life for his country on February 6, 1944. Frank also joined the R.C.A.F. in October 1941, but his term of service was spent in Canada. Frank suffered a broken neck in a bus accident while stationed in Alberta. So during this wartime period Olive was left on the farm with only two teenaged boys, Wes and Cliff, to do the farming. Add to this worry of a husband and son in the services, and then later the loss of William and one realizes that Olive had courage and faith.

Olive, besides caring for her family found time to take an active part in the Lilac community. The Lilac Community Club helped to provide entertainment, relaxation, and community togetherness. They sponsored drama, card parties, dances and garden parties.

Having been raised in a very Christian home, religion was very important to Olive. She took an active part in the Ladies Aid of the United Church as long as it functioned at Lilac. Each fall the Ladies Aid had a supper in the school. Some family would bring a cook car to the school and place it so that food and dishes could be passed through a school window. Water had to be hauled, dishes brought, food prepared at home, and transported hot, coffee and tea made in boilers on the stove, and then the meal served.

In later years Olive belonged to St. Mary's Anglican Guild and attended church in the little church at Lilac during the summer and the United Church at Ruddell the remainder of the year. When St. Mary's Church was moved to the Museum in North Battleford, the Lilac Ladies Guild had a Cairn erected to mark the place where the church had been. As Olive was the president of the Guild she helped in the unveiling of the Cairn.

When a U.C.W. (United Church Women) was organized at Lilac, Olive took an active part.

Frank, due to poor health, had to lead a quiet life in later years. He devoted his time to gardening, chores, and advisor to Wes and Cliff who had taken over the farming operation.

In the fall of 1949, the family moved to S.E. 5-43-12-W3, to the Semple house one-quarter mile north of Lilac.

Wesley married Charlotte Boutilier, August 8, 1953, and he built a house in the same yard. They have a family of two sons: David and Gerald, and three daughters: Sandra, Catherine and Susan. These grandchildren were a great pleasure to Olive and Frank.

Clifton married Ida Boutilier August 4, 1956, and Cliff moved a house from the Mike Kornish farm into the yard.

In June 1964, Frank and Olive took a trip to England so after fifty-one years Frank returned to his birthplace and saw his brothers Harold, Arthur, Thomas, and sisters Hilda Markham, Edith Prentiss, and Mabel Bowshill, as well as other relatives.

They spent a few days with Dave Boutilier in London and he took them to an uncle, Charlie Clifton. When they arrived at the address they found the lane-

ment buildings were being torn down. They asked one of the workers if he knew where the Veterans had moved to, and the worker said that some of them had been moved to tenements several blocks away. Dave and Frank decided they would drive on and ask at the first tenement they came to. They had only travelled a block when Frank said, "Stop! There's Charlie on that porch." Sure enough it was Uncle Charlie! They stopped and Frank visited the uncle he had not seen for over fifty years.

George and Mabel Bowskill came to Canada in June 1969 to visit Frank and Olive. They were able to see the country that Frank had told them about.

The following May 30, 1970, Frank passed away and four weeks later, June 30, 1970, Olive followed. They were buried in the family plot in Maymont Cemetery.

Mr. and Mrs. Wesley A. Gillatt

Wes Gillatt was born at Lilac, Saskatchewan, Jan. 4, 1926, the second son of Frank and Olive Gillatt; attended Barnley School (later to be re-named Lilac School) where he completed ten grades in nine years. He received his Gr. XI and Gr. XII in the two-room Ruddell School, graduating June 30, 1942. Because both his father and older brother, William, were in the R.C.A.F., Wes, with his younger brother, Clifton, engaged in farming full time on N½ section 33-42-13 W3rd.

Charlotte Boutilier, (who later became Mrs. Wes Gillatt) was born at Meota, Saskatchewan, Feb. 19, 1929; as a baby in arms with her parents, Roy and Anna Louise Boutilier, older sister Anna Louise, and two brothers, David and Leaman, moved to the Sandhill Farm, 2½ miles east of Richard, in August of 1929. Her brother Leaman died in Dec. 1929. A sister Ida Mae, was born at Richard, June 4 1930. In 1937 the Boutilier family moved into the village of Richard. Charlotte attended Richard School for 10 years graduating June 30, 1948. The first week in July of that same year, Charlotte entered the Normal School in Saskatoon for the last 14 week crash program of instruction for teachers which had been used to help alleviate the teacher shortage caused by the exodus of so many young men and women into the Armed Forces.

Wes Gillatt family (25th Anniversary — Aug. 8, 1970). (l-r) Gerry, Sandra, Wes, Charlotte, Cathy, Susan and David.

Although Lilac and Richard are only 7 miles apart, it wasn't until Charlotte was teaching the 1948-50 school term at Badger Bluff that she and Wes had the good fortune (?) to meet. They were married in the Richard United Church, August 8, 1953.

Their first home was a house Wes had built in the yard of his parents (S.E. 5-43-13 W3rd — where the Semple Bros. homesteaded and had built a two storey house). It was a 4 room bungalow, 24' x 28', with a full basement and a cement cistern for soft water, with electricity but no plumbing. Much of the lumber in their house had come from the F. Gillatt house on N½ 33-42-13 W3rd. While living in this home their five children were born.

David — Dec. 10, 1955 — licensed Electrician, Feb. 1978.

Sandra — April 12, 1957 — Registered Nurse — August, 1977.

Gerald — October 16, 1958 — Grade XII graduate June, 1976, now farming with his father and uncle (Gillatt Bros.).

Catherine — Jan. 3, 1962 — Grade XII graduate June 30, 1979. U. of S. College of Education.

Susan — Nov. 1, 1965 — Grade IX student at Maymont Central.

Following the death of Wes's parents (father May 30, 1970, and four weeks later his mother, June 28, 1970), Wes and Charlotte and family moved into the Semple house, December 19, 1970.

Sometime after Cliff and Ida were married in 1956, it was decided that a second outhouse was needed. So one Saturday morning Wes and Cliff loaded on to a truck the "Biffy" from the old place and headed for home through Lilac. As they passed in front of Mabey's General Store the outhouse fell off. Mail morning, too! Life's embarrassing moments.

In early days prairie fires destroyed all in their paths, taking no pity on man or beast. They too, experienced fires. In the last ten years many fires were started along the railroad right-of-way when grass along the track was ignited as a freight train passed by on its way west. The Harold Pains, Joe Moffatts, Alwyn Ebachs and Pete Wood yards were all threatened at one time or other. Gillatts yard was threatened once, when the fire came across the stubble on Grant Reid's field. In all cases only quick action by neighbors prevented a disaster. Lilac itself could have been wiped out. A C.N.R. work crew had been burning debris along the spur line and had gone home. Later that evening a pile of ties were noticed burning. Apparently the fire had travelled through the undergrowth. That was one work crew who had very little sleep that night.

Putting in fence posts with a tractor-driven post

driver is a vast improvement over doing all the work by man power. In June of 1971, while using a post driver, Wes had two fingers of his left hand smashed. The driver was accidently released when he was lining up a post. It could have been much worse as he could have had the whole hand smashed.

Many changes have taken place in their 26 years of marriage. In 1953 F. Gillatt and sons farmed 3 quarters. This has now increased to 15 quarters and 80 acres (1954 — 3 quarters from Mike Kormish; 1964 — 5 quarters and 80 acres from Clarence Reid, 1974 — 2 quarters from Albert Foulston). All farm machinery is larger and more powerful. Horses are not used anymore not even for winter chores since they purchased their first snow tobaggan. Deep well water is pumped by an electric pump — jack and carried to the livestock by a pressure system and heated water bowls. Since their home is now heated by a propane furnace it is no longer necessary to saw and pile wood, nor haul in a winter's supply of coal. A Silage Co-op with Gillatt Bros., Ralph Rafuse, Ray Rutenky, Bill and Walter Jess was formed in 1966 to enable the production of nutritious green feed for the livestock in winter. Steel machine sheds and granaries are used for storage. They now use heat bulbs for brooding chicks instead of an oil brooder. They used to haul their year old laying hens to North Battleford to be sold live: then for a time they butchered them all at home and had to hand pluck them all; now four families (Harold Paine, Walter Bazuka, Elsie Beserle McIvor and Gillatts) own an electric plucker and in just one morning 100 or more birds are made ready for the oven. Since 1959 a milking machine has been used to speed up milking and eliminate the "hand work". Now they are one of the few district families who still milk cows and keep laying hens.

Changes have come in the house, too. A deep freeze in 1964; their first refrigerator in 1957, T.V. in 1956, electric clothes dryer in 1958, running water late in 1961, a propane "gas control" propane furnace, a microwave oven and a dishwasher, easy care carpeting on most floors except kitchen and bathroom.

Both Wes and Charlotte have helped in the community. Wes has been actively involved in sports especially softball, curling, broomball, oldtimers hockey, and golfing. He was a member of the original LILAC SOFTBALL team. He was the municipal councillor for Division 3 of the R. M. of Douglas No. 436 from July of 1962 until December, 1974. In 1967 he received the Centennial Medal for his work as a councillor. He has been on the executive of the West Side Snow Plow club, Lilac School Board, Lilac Wheat Pool Committee, Lilac Community Club, and together with Charlotte was one of the directors of the Speers Old Time Dance club. He was the Douglas Municipal representative on the board of Directors when Glenburn Regional Park was started. In the fall of 1966, Wes started a school bus route for Lilac pupils commuting to Maymont Central School. Later when Wavie Bank school closed the route was altered to pick them up also. He is still driving the bus.

Charlotte taught Lilac School the 1954-55 term, also a Sunday School teacher in Ruddell until the United Church there was closed in June, 1966. She has been a 4-H leader for eight years five years of which she was the General Leader of the Mayfield Multiple 4-H Club. She was a member of the Richard W.M.S. and later the U.C.W. at both Richard and Lilac. She is now on Mistikwa Community College Board, and Maymont Library Board. She is Secretary of the Lilac Ladies Guild and has been named to the "Lilac Celebration Saskatchewan Committee".

The first 50 years of Saskatchewan history was a growing process and the last 25 years has been a re-arranging, a declining of rural families and community life as well as a swing to centralization and urbanization. The Lilac store, Post Office and Ruddell United Church closed in 1969 and their School closed in 1971. then their elevators were closed and soon there was no train service at the Lilac Station. There has been a gradual move to more straight grain farming.

The telephone System has gone to 24-hour Direct Dialing; telephone wires are buried and many fence lines have been removed. Many electric or mercury vapor "electric eye" yard lights are visible all hours of the night. Many of the conveniences that we take for granted would have been real luxuries to our parents. What changes will the next 75 years bring?

Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Gillatt

written by Mrs. Ida Gillatt

Clifton Percy, third son of Frank and Olive Gillatt, was born April 15, 1938 at Lilac. He received his formal education there and in Ruddell. Miss Annie Lewis was his teacher for years.

Ida Mae Boutilier was born June 4, 1939 at Richard and went to school in Richard. In 1949 Ida attended Normal School in Saskatoon and in the fall of 1959 began her teaching career in Prolific S.D. — north of Richard. Following two years at Prolific, she taught in Richard, Battleford Central, and Spinney Hill.

On August 4, 1956, Cliff and Ida were married in Richard United Church with Rev. Myers officiating.

Cliff had moved the house from the Mike Kormish farm in to the yard of his parents; Cliff and Ida lived there until the fall of 1976.

Cliff has taken an active part in sports all of his life. Playing softball at school, then for the Lilac Men's team. In 1951-52 he and Wesley played for the Saskatchewan Hospital in Provincial Competition. In 1951 they lost in the Northern final whereas in 1952 they lost in the Provincial final.

In following years Cliff played for Maymont, Mayfair, Ruddell and Richard Oldtimers.

Baseball was always a love of Cliff's. He played for Mayfair and Maymont for several years. Then in 1977 and 1978 he joined the Twilight (everyone over 35)

Cliff and Ida Gillett.

playoffs with North Battleford. In 1977 they played in the Provincials in North Battleford and Assiniboia in 1979.

Curling started in Lilac in 1948 with the erection of a one-sheet Curling rink. Since that time Cliff has been an enthusiastic curler and especially enjoys competitive curling. In four different years the team he was with were able to go to Zone, Northern and Provincial playoffs.

1962: Mike Kateryuych, Cliff, Harold Pain, —

1972: Bob Lagoffe, Jack Rowley, Cliff, Al Stade.

1973: Doug Scott, Vern Bannerman, John Kaberuff, Cliff.

1979: Ed Zawada, John Saranchuk, Cliff, Les Moffatt.

Ida continued to teach school, after marriage, and taught at Ruddell and Maymont. Now she substitutes at Maymont when required. She has also taken part in Richard Women's Missionary Society, Lilac U.C.W. and Lilac Ladies Guild.

Ida was a 4-H member during her school years, later she acted as Camp Hostess at North Battleford Farm Girls' Camp, then taught sewing for several years. Now her main interests are the Richard W.I., Embroiderer's Guild and Lilac Ladies Guild.

Ida also enjoys sports and she is a member of the Battleford Ladies Curling Club. In the winter of 1955, while curling with Mr. Leslie of Battleford, they laid an eight-ender.

Farming has been their way of life, a life they both enjoy. There is a lot of hard work involved but there is always variety and sometimes a lot of laughs. These laughs are the result of unwanted visitors — SKUNKS! They usually put in an appearance when the chickens are running loose and especially when they start to lay eggs. They also usually appear after dark and the result is a nocturnal hunt.

In the fall of 1976, Cliff and Ida moved six miles north to the Russell Reid farm where they had built a new home. Therefore for the last while their time is spent finishing the house and working on the yard.

Mildred (Mohler, Scrivens) Glass

Some of Mildred's childhood memories:

It seemed that very often men from the British Isles or Europe were sent out from Maymont to help Dad on the farm. These men carried on very interesting conversations with Mom and Dad and they shared goodies with us children such as sweets in tins, preserved ginger in squat ginger jars, or chestnuts to roast in Franklin's "fort" fireplace. Then there were the two men who painted saucer-size bright red spots on our old white horse so they could join the parade. And too, there was the one who climbed up on the roof of our house to pour salt down the stovepipe that had caught on fire.

One of the earliest memories dates back to the day Marguerite was born. Bessie, who was helping Mom those days, took Mildred to Schmidts for the day. And though Mildred recalls the excitement of having a baby sister her most vivid memory is of a muskrat with that strange tail which Mrs. Schmidt showed her. Twice Mom took her young family to spend some weeks on Grandpa's ranch in Montana. Alice and Mildred had many ways of amusing themselves such as collecting snakes' rattles, testing "soap holes" by sticking in fingers to see how far they would be pulled down, or skating down the creek to a favorite resting place where they sat on old "Macroni and Cheese" two ranch horses that hadn't survived the winter. They also learned not to chase the goldfish around the bowl with a long lead pencil or to feed them bits of oleander leaves. I think, out of self defence, and even though they were very young Mom taught them to embroider, knit, crochet and even tat.

Other memories of childhood were the dresses Mom made for her girls. And since Mildred's birthday is in June she had many birthday parties. One in particular stands out. The men unloaded the hayrack in the yard. Mom wove leafy branches into both ends and arranged tables in the centre. Soon the young guests arrived all bright and shining with their gifts of yards of shimmering satin hair ribbon and bottles of "perfume". Remember old Major, the shiny brown horse, that took all the children to school? Dad made a skating rink on the croquet grounds every winter. And he made a flat-bottom boat which he named the Marguerite. Many children from town came out to pole the boat around the slough north of the house. And Franklin and Dad made a tennis court which the family was expected to keep in shape.

Some of Mildred's memories of days at the old Maymont School:

Each spring there was the excitement of a paper-chase. The "hares" with school bags stuffed with bits of paper slung over their shoulders were given a head start. They were quickly out of sight behind the bluffs leaving an exceedingly scant paper trail. After a few minutes the "hounds" followed. Once the children were out of sight of the school they slowed down, everyone relaxed. Some brave enough to risk itch went swimming in the sloughs. Others picked wildflowers while still others enjoyed a snack. After an appropriate length of time had elapsed all returned to the school only to find that some of the more conscientious "hounds" had indeed caught some of the slower "hares".

The basketball court was some distance north of the old school. There the girls spent their noon hours in energetic play. When Miss Neale left Wm. Reid's house all play stopped. Though many years before it became so popular, Miss Neale jogged all the way down that little path to the school. And in order to cover twice the distance the girls sprinted.

Those were the horse and buggy days. And that could be exciting too. In the mornings the drivers would position the vehicles facing the wide school gate. As the hands on the big clock approached four o'clock desks were cleared, homework was gathered and everyone prepared for a quick exit. Once out of the schoolrooms everyone getting a ride rushed out and climbed into the vehicles, all except the persons who held the horses heads and the ones who fastened the traces. That done with a whoop and a holler they too jumped on the rig as the excited horses raced for the gate. Once through there was a sharp turn onto the road toward town and here the race continued slowing down as they approached the tracks. Though two vehicles sometimes tried to go through the gate at once, sometimes on two wheels; and in the winter a sleigh box was known to roll, to my knowledge no one was every hurt.

Before some of the girls were old enough to become C.G.I.T they formed a club which they named U.A.D. "Up and Doers". Miss Merrill, a favourite teacher, helped design a club ring which the jeweller made for the members of sterling silver and heavenly blue enamel. Mrs. Giffard and Mom helped the girls make their uniforms which consisted of "bloomers", white caps and blouses.

Later most of the girls joined C.G.I.T. Mrs. Blacklock was one of the leaders. One summer holiday when no leader was available to take the group to the lake for camping Mom offered and thanks to her we didn't miss our annual outing. Those were the days when we learned to swim, row a boat, learn water safety and to take our turn at K.P. Even in those days "doing your own thing" was sometimes attempted. Like the time the two girls, who were cooks for the day couldn't agree who should peel the potatoes. So they comprised deciding to boil them with their jackets on. However the whole operation took considerable time since neither girl was prepared to scrub those potatoes and they were forced to change the water a couple of times when it became somewhat muddy.

Mildred attended Bedford Road Collegiate and Saskatoon Normal School. Her first school was in Bapaume. A brand new school: a janitor: a low salary but a cheque every month; Annie Reid as sponsor; Mr. Osler, who had worked for Dad, as secretary of the school board; and Rex Ferris, brother of Mildred's special friend, as superintendent. She had it made.

In 1936 Mildred married Bill Scrivens, brother of Alice's husband Ted. In 1940 Dale was born. Bill was president of North Rosetown Telephone Company and a steward for the United Church in Rosetown. He had a fatal heart attack in 1968.

Mildred returned to the classroom in 1958 when she began teaching her friends' children at Camberly School. She taught there for seven years spending her summers taking university classes and travelling. In 1966 she began her work with the mentally retarded. The eight years she taught at the Opportunity School were very demanding but vastly rewarding.

In the meantime Dale had earned his B.A. and Law Degree at the University of Saskatchewan where he met Marlene LeBoldus who was taking nursing. They were married and set up housekeeping in Regina. Dale articled with MacPherson, Leslie and Tyerman and a few years later became a partner in the law firm Koch, Bertram and Scrivens. Marlene and Dale have one daughter, Laura, and three sons — Mark, John and Paul.

In 1966 Mildred and Frank Glass were married. Frank retired from his work with the Department of Highways in 1973. In the following spring Mildred retired. Frank is active as a member of the Vestry, a founding member of the Museum and Art Centre here in Rosetown and he spends many happy hours in his dark-room as an amateur photographer. On fine summer mornings you may find both Frank and Mildred with friends on the golf course. For perhaps twenty years Mildred taught Sunday School pupils. For six years she was Provincial Secretary for the Homemakers. Having been president of the Rosetown Red Cross she continues in that line by assisting with the local blood donors clinics. Both she and Frank continue to work with the handicapped at the workshop, organizing special recreation. She wishes there were more time to spend at her potter's wheel and at oil painting.

Over the years Frank and Mildred have travelled to many parts of world, to Hawaii, Fiji, New Zealand, Australia, the British Isles, Europe, five countries, in Middle East, five countries in the Orient, South Africa, Brazil and Cuba. They have toured Canada from coast to coast and each summer they go junketing around Saskatchewan in the camper van. All the while they take slides so they can share their experiences in a

small way with school children, church groups and various clubs.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Gollan

by Alice M. (Gollan) Hill

Thomas Gollan was born in Lucknow, Ontario. Because of reason of health he came West in late 1905.

He took up the dealership of Frost and Wood Machine Company, travelling for this company until he took up farming four miles west of Fielding in 1907. He met, and married Mary Dietz in 1907 who had previously lived in Manitoba. From this union five children were born. The eldest passed away as a small baby.

Alex, the eldest born on the farm where he lived, helped with farm work at an early age. He was interested in mechanics and carpentry of which he has done quite a lot.

Thomas, the second to be born, on the farm, was interested in all to do with farming, animals, etc. He served in the Second World War overseas for five years. Some years later, after being sent home he farmed. Ill health necessitated him being hospitalized in the Veterans' Hospital in Saskatoon where he passed away April 4, 1979.

Alice who was born on the farm lived at home until September, 1938. She moved to White Rock, B.C. She took up nursing becoming a Licensed Practical Nurse. She nursed fifteen years on Surgical and Intensive Care Unit. She married in 1939, lived on a dairy farm and raised four children. Two daughters are Registered Nurses. Two sons are Heavy Equipment Operating Engineers. She has five grandchildren and is now semi-retired.

John, born on the farm, was interested in farming and livestock. He is now living in North Battleford, retired because of ill health.

Most of the children were delivered by Doc Scratch, the older ones by a doctor in Radisson whose name I can't remember at this time.

Early days were ones of hard work and many set backs for our parents, but in the spirit of true pioneers they kept on looking ahead to better times. Their means of living were mixed farming, grain, livestock, shipping cream, chickens and hogs. Their mode of travel at that time was horse and buggy or wagon. Many years later we acquired a Model T Ford which in those times was a big thing.

We were all educated at Calais School and had a varied amount of teachers.

The friends and neighbours were close-knit, always ready to help one another in any way possible, which I don't think we will ever forget. They were happy days in spite of the hard work; days in which everyone made their own pleasure and all joined in. A spirit in which, in many ways is lost in many parts of the country and I think the world in general.

Dad passed away March 17, 1946 after quite a few years of ill health at the age of seventy-two years. Mother and the boys moved to Marshall, Saskatchewan to take up mixed farming. Mother passed away February 28, 1969 after a long period of ill health. She was eighty-one years of age.

Memories of Early Days

[redacted]Ena (Sherman) Gould

I was born on a farm near Fielding, Sask. in 1918. My father came to the prairies in the early 1900's and my mother came in the spring of 1910. My early recollections are of very cold winters and it was always a relief when the warm spring sun came out and the snow disappeared. Later when I was about 11 we moved to a new home then we did not mind the cold winters so much.

Most of my school days were spent at Calais School except for two or three months that I went to Beckwith School just before we moved to our new house in 1927. I managed to get through grade 8 and then took three years high school with the help of the Government Correspondence course and a very good teacher we had. While growing up we did not have all the advantages of children in the later years and sometimes felt quite frustrated because we could not do the things we would have liked to learn or do because we did not have the money or the facilities to do them.

I still remember quite well the depression years of the 1930's. I don't need to describe them as anyone my age will remember them. Toward the end of the 30's, (in 1938) about Sept. I came out to Vancouver, B.C. That brought quite a change in my life. Jobs were not easy to get but we managed and we did enjoy the milder climate and the ease of getting around and just seeing something different than the dust and dry prairies. It was quite exciting to me and my sisters as well to travel and start a new life.

I met my husband in 1939 and we were married two years later in 1941. We enjoyed working together building our home in Burnaby and lived in Burnaby for 36 years. We had two children, Kenneth and Sylvia who are both doing quite well on their own now. Kenneth is married and Sylvia is thinking about it. We have no grandchildren as yet.

While we lived in Burnaby we were quite active in our church and thus in the community as well. Just this June we moved out to Crescent Beach area of Surrey so have to start over again in meeting new friends and becoming involved in the community. My husband, Eliott took early retirement two years ago and we built this house starting last year. It is pretty well finished but there are things to do to keep him from getting bored for another couple of years. We hope to travel more in the next few years, but this will be our home till we can't look after it. We hope our friends will come to visit us here.

William and Rosetta (Paine) Gray Family

by their youngest daughter, Marion (May) Rogers

Bill, as he was known to his friends was born in Hamilton, Ontario in 1864, of Scottish parents. His wife, Rosetta, was born in England in 1870 of English parents. Rosetta came to Canada with her parents when she was a small child. They came from England on a sailboat, and the crossing took them six weeks.

In 1891 Rosetta and Bill were married at Uffington, Ontario and made their home for several years near Bracebridge, Ontario. Here seven of their children were born. Dad worked as a lumberman.

In 1909 Dad and Mother came west to Saskatchewan and brought the children, Rosetta, Malcolm, Robert, Roy, Jim, Emma and Marion (May). Later another son, George, was born on the homestead here in Saskatchewan.

My dad acquired a homestead located on S.W.¼-22-41-13-W3rd.

The first summer while Dad and the older boys built a shack on the homestead we younger children and Mother lived with a cousin of mine. Dad managed to break ten acres of prairie sod, with two horses and a walking plow that first summer. In his spare time Dad worked for the neighbors helping to build [illegible] houses and in the fall threshing grain.

Dad was often called on to help on the Ruddell Ferry when extra help was needed. This ferry was located on the river south and west of Dad's homestead.

Once we were settled on the homestead it was necessary for the older children to find work away from home, so there was no more thought of school for them.

As there was no school in our district at that time, we younger children attended Maymont School when weather permitted. We had to walk five and one-half miles, so didn't manage to go very regularly. Dad rented a house one winter in Ruddell and the following winter in Maymont, so the younger children could attend school.

In 1917 Montro School District was formed. This school was located on N.W.¼-35-41-13-W3rd. Montro was a bit closer for us but we still had three and one-half miles to walk. We always had holidays from Christmas to the first of April, so school was open all summer. My dad was one of the first trustees on this school board, and I was one of the first pupils. I believe there were about eighteen pupils the first fall school opened. Some of the teachers I remember that taught at Montro while I attended were Maryadella Giffard, Phyllis Adamson, Hilda Foster, Gertrude Thibeault, Dorothy Chisholm, Mary Reekie, Mary Patterson and Olga Isaac taught just a few weeks as sub.

As the years went by Dad and my brothers acquired more land and in time all five sons married and settled in Maymont District.

My older sister, Etta (as she is known) married Ayton Moffat of Denholm. Ayton had a livery stable in Denholm at that time and later a hardware store. They later moved to Saskatoon where Ayton worked for the C.N.R. He retired and moved to Vancouver, B.C. Ayton passed away in 1966 but Etta still resides in Vancouver.

Malcolm, my oldest brother, farmed in the Ruddell District for several years. He married Clara Larson,

L. to r. standing — Etta, Bob, Malcolm. Sitting — Dad, Emma on his knee, Roy, Jim, Mother, May on her knee. Taken just before we left for the west from Ont. In spring of 1908.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Gray's 60th wedding anniversary — 1951. L. to r. — Malcolm, Jim, Emma, Roy, Etta, Mr. and Mrs. Gray, Bob, May, George, Mr. Myers, Mrs. Myers.

and they had three sons. Malcolm homesteaded S.E.¼-21-41-13-W3rd. On account of his wife's poor health they moved to Ontario, where he found work for a few years, later moving to Calgary, where he worked for C.P.R. Malcolm passed away in 1975. His wife and two sons predeceased him. His youngest son, Lyle, and two daughters live in Calgary, Alberta.

Robert married Vera Frondell, farmed for a number of years, have now retired and make their home in Maymont. Roy married Charlotte Cossey (Nellie to her friends) and farmed several years. Roy homesteaded N.W.¼-15-14-13-W3rd. Roy and Nellie have two children. Roy was catcher for the Maymont ball team for years and is still an ardent ball and hockey fan. They have retired and also live in the village. Their son Kenneth, teaches school and their daughter, Delsie, is a nurse and now makes her home in Edmonton.

Jim married Wilma Winters, farmed several years and is now retired. They also live here in Maymont. They had one daughter.

Emma married Angus MacDonald. They had three children. Angus passed away in 1939 and Emma remarried to Arthur (Doug) Johnston. They now make their home in Regina. They have one daughter.

Marion (May) married Oliver Rogers in 1939. We farmed for four years in Ruddell District; then bought land northeast of Maymont and lived there until 1962, when we retired and bought a home in Maymont. We had two children. They are both married and farm near Maymont.

George, my younger brother, who married Freda Mikkelborg is still active in farming and lives one mile south of Maymont. Freda and George have a family of six.

Dad and my four older brothers were all members of the Loyal Orange Lodge. The highlight of our summer vacation was the picnic at the Maple Grove at Ruddell on the First of July, and the Orangemen's parade and picnic, on the Twelfth of July. We didn't always get to the Twelfth of July picnic, as it was sometimes held too far away for us to travel with team and wagon.

William and Rosetta Gray retired in 1935, and bought a home in Maymont, where they lived until mother passed away in October, 1953. Dad spent his last four years with his son, George, and wife, Freda, on the farm. Dad passed away in September, 1957.

We did not get to church very often in early years. After Mother and Dad moved into the village they both attended church regularly; and mother was a faithful member of the Ladies' Aid. Her specialty was knitting for the bazaar.

Mother and Dad lived to celebrate sixty-two years of married life, and in spite of many hardships I'm sure my parents must have endured through the early homestead years, they both lived to enjoy good health to a ripe age. Dad passed away at ninety-three years and mother at eighty-three.

Bob Gray History

written by Vera Gray

Bob and Vera were married in 1925. Bob came from Ontario with his parents, the William Grays. Vera came from Morris, Manitoba, in 1918 with her parents, Mary (Gunness) Frondall, who came from Brockville, Ontario, and Herman Frondall. He came from Stockholm, Sweden.

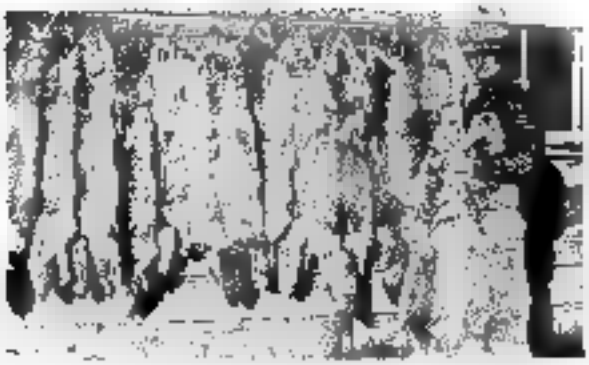
Vera came from Morris to Semmingdale in 1918 and lived there for seven years.

Bob had some interesting experiences crossing the river to visit Vera. He went over one spring for the week-end. The ferry was taken out and he had to drive around by Battleford with the team and buggy. It took him from 9 A.M. to 7 P.M.

They first lived about 4 miles from Maymont in a very large and cold house. It wasn't plastered inside on the upstairs floor. In those days the only insulation was tar paper. In the winter they used three or four rooms and had to keep three stoves going. It was a good thing Bob was a good wood cutter.

They had three children born there, Phyllis, now

Bob and Vera's wedding picture.



The spoils of the hunt!

Mrs. Wilfred Johnston, living three miles north of Maymont; Dorothy married to Craig Stewart in North Battleford; and Murray married Valerie Neill and they are living on the farm about a mile and a half from town.

The mid-wife was Mrs. Duncan McLennan and Mrs. Mansell from Sonningdale. Dr. Scratch was the attending physician.

They lived about a mile from the river and Bob hauled water for the stock from the C.N.R. pumphouse which was run by Joe Davidson.

As they were 4 miles from school the children had to be driven. In the winter they had to keep the road open pretty well by themselves, across the fields. In the summer the children drove themselves with a two-wheeled cart, drawn by a shetland pony.

Like everyone else they had their hard times in the 1930's. Bob had a new Model T when they were married, but later on there were a few years they could not afford to drive it, so they had a Bennett buggy made by Mr. Fry.

Bob liked trapping in the winter, which helped a little. One winter he got twenty-two coyotes and got $75 for the hides.

■ January 1932 Bob was very sick with pneumonia and typhoid fever. The weather was very cold. They had two nurses, one for forty-two days and the other for twenty-five days when he needed twenty-four hour attention. Dr. Scratch was very wonderful. When he decided he would like another Doctor's opinion ■ was quite a thrill in those days to have Dr. Anderson fly from Saskatoon, by airplane and land in the field near the house. Luckily the snow wasn't too deep to get a clearing made.

In 1943 they moved nearer town to the William Melrose farm which they later bought. The house was smaller so they only used two stoves.

Murray and Valerie took over the farm in 1965 and Bob and Vera built a house in Maymont where they still reside. They have eleven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. They celebrated their 50th anniversary in 1975.

The George Gray Family

written by Freda Gray

George, the youngest son of the late Wm. C. Gray, is my husband. I, Freda Gray (Mikkelborg) came to Maymont District as a teacher for Moutro School during the dirty thirties. Harry Skinner was the chairman, Roy Gray and Billy Pickford the trustees. I taught for six and a half years before taking over the job of a housewife. For twenty years I remained at home before starting to teach again for nine more years. Five of these were at Ruddell School. During these twenty years six children were born.

George Gray family, Dec., 1978. Back row — Norman, Keith, Tom and Gordon. Front — Maxine, George and Freda, Kathleen.

Gordon, son number one, was born in September, 1938. He has remained on the farm as a partner with his father. He married Donna Munn ■ Denholm and has three children Karen, Ian and Jason. He has been an active and successful, leader of the 4-H beef club since 1965.

Norman, son number two, was born in June, 1941. He became employed with the Sask. Power after getting his Grade XII. He married Lorane Geisbrecht of Ruddell and has three children — Brian, Christopher and Mark. Norman is still with the Sask. Power, now being a Gas Fitter in Meadow Lake.

Kathleen and Keith, twins, were born in March, 1943. Keith, like his brother, Norman, worked with the Sask. Power at first. They helped put up those high power towers that go through our land, across the river, on to Saskatoon and beyond. Keith married Sharon Bell of Nipawin. They have three children — Ricky, Reggy, and Leann. Keith now works at an Alfalfa Pellet Plant in Tisdale. Kathleen, the other half of that birth, and our first daughter attended a Business College in Saskatoon. After working as a receptionist for Dr. Palmer in N. Battleford for

several years she moved to Saskatoon. There she worked as a receptionist for a dentist and later on accepted a job in the University Hospital at the Admitting Office where she worked for five years becoming acquainted with many people and those on the staff. She married Gordon Moore of Speers and has three children — Bobby, Deanna, and Douglas.

Thomas Charles, son number four, was born in September, 1945. He worked for the Bank of Commerce in North Battleford for one year before deciding to continue his education and became a teacher. His first school was in Meadow Lake. He liked teaching very much so decided to get a school in Saskatoon and continue to work for his degrees. He taught eight years there at Albert, Queen Elizabeth and Buena Vista and succeeded in getting his degrees. He is now employed at a Meadow Lake School as Vice Principal. He is still a bachelor.

Maxine, the youngest of our family, was born in April, 1955 and is daughter number two. After attending a Business College in Saskatoon she accepted a job in the City Hall in the Treasurer's Office and has been there since 1975. She married Alen Scott of Fielding who is now working for United Drugs in Saskatoon. Alen excels in all sports.

Raising our family during the forties after the dirty thirties was a hard but rewarding struggle. Those really were the good old times. Our favorite sport in winter was being towed on skis behind a sleigh or car sometimes.

George has worked hard all these years, clearing the land of bush, removing unbelievable amounts of stone and having flood dams and sloughs drained.

George and Gordon have a large herd of Hereford Cattle sprinkled with some Simmentals. This creates a great deal of extra work all year round. Calving time starting in March requires a twenty-four hour a day vigilance until spring work starts on the land. After the crops are in the cattle are all prepared for pasture. No little job! Then after the summerfallowing, starts the big job of haying. Several methods have been tried to make this easier. The first great improvement was the tall hay sling George made. By the hay fork grabbing into the hay and a team of horses hitched onto a cable on the other end the hay was lifted from the hay rack and swung over onto the stack in three or four good lifts. Next came the square baler and the bale loader. Stacking bales was a back breaker. The harvester was purchased. It travelled up the swaths of hay or straw grinding it up and blowing it back into the truck. But feeding the loose hay in the winter was the next difficult problem to overcome. A round baler has proved to be the answer. A front end loader with two long spikes on it handles the bales both for loading and feeding. A straw bale rolled out for the cattle is like a carpet for them to sleep on.

The work in the fields has also become easier but more expensive. With the purchase of bigger machines and expenses increasing, more land was required. First the Bill Reid farm was bought and later the Clarence Reid farm. George and I have made the latter our permanent home. Gordon and his family have a new home on the old family farm.

George is about ready to retire, I hope. He cuts and polishes stones for a hobby. He is very fond of fishing when he has time. I like painting pictures. Gordon is very handy with the welding machine. He made a smart looking cattle van last winter. He also has wonderful ideas in remodelling his rumpus room and building handy corners. Norman revels in making old discarded furniture into unbelievable articles of beauty. He also has good ideas for remodelling. Keith is somewhat like Gordon and Norman but hasn't produced anything out standing like they have yet. However, he and Sharon built themselves a lovely home. Kathleen, is the number one mother, housekeeper, and outside worker. Tom's life is his school children. He also is very clever at remodelling rumpus rooms. Maxine has many talents but swimming and water-skiing is her big thing. Animals are her weakness.

Timely Reflections
Wilma and James Gray
Elaine and Ron Nuthrown

told by Wilma (Winters) Gray

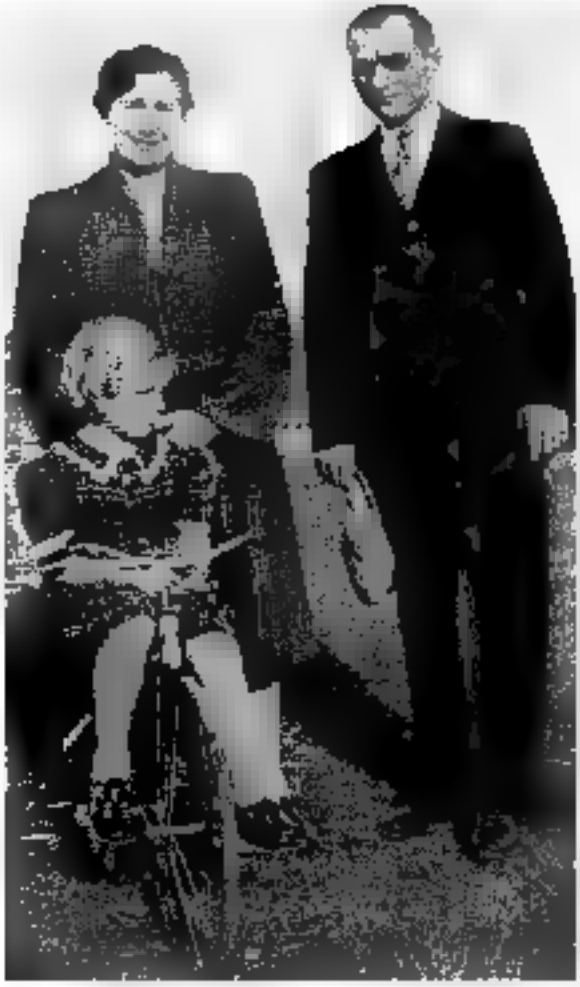
A desire to leave the open prairie for a new area, led me to a rural school west of Maymont, January 30, 1936, into the lovely Saskatchewan River country.

As the train pulled away, I received a set-back to my enthusiasm though. Finding my luggage missing, except for the one small case I carried, my anxiety was eased when the agent, Mr. Fred Porter, was able to locate it by wire in Saskatoon. Mr. and Mrs. Malcom Gray, with whom I was to board, met me and we proceeded to their home. They and their two little boys lived a mile west of Monitro School where I would teach.

I was then Wilma Winters, youngest daughter of the late Mr. Wm. George and Catherine Winters, who came from near Napanee, Ontario. In 1910 they had arrived with settlers' effects at their farm home five miles north of Viscount, Saskatchewan. I attended a rural school near our home and High School in the village. My teacher training was obtained in the Saskatoon Normal School.

Monitro school, the modern cottage style, in operation seven years, was not too roomy for the twenty-six pupils enrolled. Allowing all across the front for entry and cloak rooms, one large corner for the "Waterbury", (not the real answer to a prayer for heat), the seating was too crowded. During cold or rain, playtime indoors grew quite hectic.

Rural schools, in general, had lack of supplies in every bracket. Monitro was two years back on library grant, no playground facilities or craft material provided. Horrible thought today. These inadequacies were appeased by good quality blackboards of ample



Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Gray and Elaine — 1941.

size (a joy to a teacher), also a quite presentable organ (under the grime). After removing the nests of the furry invaders, repairing the pedal straps with binder canvas tape, we were set to sing.

By degrees supplies came and through dint of steady work the pupils began to show improvement. With only one convention per year to bustle up as many new ideas and methods as possible, lack of reference material in the school, the rural teachers needed to possess an abundant initiative and perhaps leaned heavily upon the basics — maybe not such a bad idea.

After the snow was gone and the slough supply was exhausted, water was at a premium. It was ironic that on the school grounds was a well with pump — very dry. A board having being pried loose the previous fall, still allowed the boys to explore the depths, a situation I soon had remedied. Some pupils carried their own drinking water, as the janitor supplied but one pail of water per day for washing and drinking.

Spring was so lovely, apart from slush, wet clothing and colds. The lush green poplars and dainty willows; song birds, many new to me; bush rosas; warm sunshine; and at last a few hours to spend by the river. The air was heavy with the scent of wild fruit bloom.

Spring also brought the gophers — CASH to the pupils, for whom a stern law forbade capture of these creatures outside school grounds during school hours. Warm days brought the desire of some to return to their fall habit of dashing the quarter mile to Sam Nutbrown's home where the radio proved an exciting pastime at recess or noon hour — soon to be discontinued.

They were not difficult to discipline, though full of tricks — such as having to climb up to the roof top when the flag rope "oddly" tangled. After the "magic touch" of a neighbour, that rope slid neatly into place.

Mainly the children walked, six of Chas. Wood family drove some miles, while on occasion, four of the Skinner family rode on one horse. Their manner of mounting was unique — a leap, a handful of horse tail, foot on the horse's hock and each in turn, slid onto the horse's back.

Owing to Mrs. Gray's ill health, in September I went to stay with Roy and Ellen Gray, living south and west of Montro three miles — they kindly provided a horse and buggy for my use. "Joe" was a nice driver, though given at times to shy at a tumble weed, partridge taking wing or a shadow, at which time he either took off like a dart, or made an off-the-road-side jump. One winter morning we had nearly reached the school (Joan McAllister was with me luckily) when a small rabbit startled Joe, who promptly landed in a ditch full of snow. Joan and I plunged in to release the harness, pulled the cutter back, then a snorting Joe, and soon we were off to school. We decided he was too well fed and needed more work, so trusty "Toots" took his place, now one had more time to admire the scenery.

I always enjoyed preparing Christmas programs, as did my pupils. In the case of Montro, it was a district half way between Maymont and Reddell, as a result little visiting was done. It made me happy, that at the festive season friends and families met at the school. Santa with treats adding to the joy.

Dominion Diamond Jubilee celebrations were the main topic of conversation in 1927, Maymont was a centre of activities. Montro School was to portray "Alberta" in the parade of school floats.

All school grades entered into a thorough study of people, products, industries, then planned our float. To my joyful surprise an offer to assist us came from Mr. and Mrs. E. Wilmot. I'd heard of their interest and success with young people, so knew our project was away.

Malcolm Gray provided a large rack and drove his grey team. The central feature was the mountain scenery (devised and painted at the Wilmot's), with the large silvery "Prince of Whales Feathers" denoting his Alberta ranch, floating at the forefront.

Flags, certainly, whilst built out at the back, the float boasted an oil derrick.

All pupils, in suitably costumed groups were arranged on either side, a settler's family, lumbermen, gardeners, cowboys, miners with coal, Indians, farmers stacking hay and sheaves of grain, which Mrs. Wilmot and I selected from the stacks at the Roy Gray's and a tall Mountie to keep the peace.

Weather wise Dominion Day was perfect; a very large crowd to view the many entries in the parade, renew friendships, take pictures and enjoy the basket lunches. It was a distinctly exciting surprise when the school floats were lined up, to hear that "Monitor for Alberta" was in third place. Each of us realized much honor and credit belonged to a good pioneer couple who had shared their time and talents with us in our endeavor.

From the end of January, 1929, I filled in a half term at a school south of Langham, while waiting to join the Saskatoon Public School staff in September, as a Grade I teacher. After rural school routine it was a pleasant experience — association with other teachers, supplies at hand, numerous advantages — then the depression years crept in. Overcrowded city homes, likewise our classrooms. The primary teacher and I were coping with about 50 pupils each, ill clad, ill fed, relief a pittance, nor work for fathers, sad for us to see learning ability lowered — very heartbreaking for parents.

Certainly it seemed best to be in the country. My co-teacher married in August, 1934, going to live in Manitoba while I left King George School, December, 1934. After James Gray and I were married at Viscount, on a bitterly cold New Year's Day we returned to Maymont and rural living.

Our home for thirty-seven years was formerly that of Jim's parents. Sheltered by a fine tree belt, the house was located at the top of a lovely southern slope, commanding such a view as would have stirred the late Edna Jacques to poetry. Ravines as haunting in winter shadows, gorgeous in autumn foliages; the hills; a sparkling flash of the river, all the puffs of smoke which told us where our Spinney Hill friends lived. Mirages often appeared to bring the Eagle Hills into our neighborhood, even Saljenaie, normally seen from our doorstep.

In season, if a good year, wild fruit grew in quantities, so many sealers could be tastily filled and lots to share. The cattle ate the berries, so did our collie dogs — one Laddie found Jim's pail, from which he had a good meal.

Naturally we knew dire times in the "Dust Bowl" era. Others may tell that tale — I have no wish to recall the strain, only to be thankful we survived it, though the scars remain. People were relieved when times became easier in the early 40's, though wages were low, employment scarce.

Happiness for Jim and me along the way had been the cars and love for our little daughter Elaine, born in the fall of 1939, in Saskatoon — the event surpassing all others. Time slipped along — in 1942 Elaine was to start school in Maymont (4¾ miles). Thus began a twelve-year series of twice daily trips, except for the two winters she spent living in town, one with Grandma Gray and one at Uncle Roy Gray's. We used the car until too cold, then her Dad drove a team with a closed, heated cutter. It was a full day, yet we each managed some involvements in sport, church or community affairs.

Completing Grade XII in 1954, Elaine went to business college in Saskatoon, was married in December, 1958, to Ron Nuthrown. They live in Saskatoon with teen-age son Allan, and daughter Shelley.

Elaine, after five years of secretarial work, has preferred homemaking as a full time job. The family has found time for church activities and participation in sports, music, and community involvement. Ron is General Manager of Saskatoon Central Linen Supply, operated under the University Hospital.

Sadly, we had parted with Jim's mother in 1953, his father in 1957 after a long illness. My mother, Mrs. Winters, spent her last six years with us, no stranger to the district, she had many friends. She passed away in our home August, 1958, 96 years and 11 months, still an alert person.

We were once more able to help with the church, W.A., community affairs, etc. Work I so loved was as volunteer visitor to the Provincial Hospital, where I assisted with handicraft and music, plus just visiting, until arthritis forced me into a semi-retirement, gladly took it up again for awhile, but eventually found myself unable.

By degrees we had improved our home, insulation and brick siding in 1952; a cistern; then a pressure pump system after the electricity line was extended in 1956. A propane furnace was a 25th wedding anniversary surprise.

In 1968, Jim felt it necessary to sell the cattle because of labor and feed problems, but since Wayne Acaster, who owned the land west of us, purchased the herd we could still watch them roam and graze the hills.

In the early spring of 1972, Jim's health was not up to par, nor was mine, so when a home in the village was available we purchased it, and sold the farm to Bob Johnston. While having the village house renovated and enlarged during August and September, we lived in Roy and Ellen's home — they were visiting their daughter in New Brunswick.

We are nicely located here but — the view from the windows or door step still lacks the rural beauty — no sound of spring run-off roaring along, ice crunching in river break-up, and so much more. No one need be surprised to find us driving on the river hills, where the sunset is so fantastic, or across the river to gaze back upon our northside hills and dwellings.

Roy and Ellen Gray

William Roy Gray and Charlotte Ellen Cuzzey were married on a Wednesday afternoon, January 20, 1926, in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. After a few days in Saskatoon, they came back to take up farming on a homestead and half section of land purchased from Henry Ross. This farm was to be their home for forty-three years. It was located one mile south and four miles west of Maymont. Their worldly possessions consisted of three cows, two calves, six horses, a trunk full of miscellaneous articles that Ellen had made or collected, the above mentioned homestead and a log cabin to live in which had been build about 1910 by Roy's father Bill and Mr. John Reid. With these, their lives began together and with their combined desire to work, laugh, and struggle, their domain began to grow. Life had many hardships and also great rewards.

Roy and Nellie drawing water from the North Sask. River.

The first few years were devoted to breaking sod, growing a garden, preserving fruits, vegetables and meats. The fruits were mostly wild gooseberries, raspberries, saskatoons, pincherries (which often took a whole afternoon to gather a small pailful), chokecherries and cranberries. Pigweeds, in the spring, were often used for greens. It was a constant challenge to increase the herd of cattle, swine, fowl and horses so as to cope with the increasing land acreage and the desire to have more cream to sell and meat to sell and eat.

Then on September 6, 1928, a son Kenneth was born at their farm home. He was delivered by the well-known Dr. Scratch in addition to Mrs. McLennan a nurse and midwife, who had to be brought up from Saskatoon by train. He was a healthy young lad and continued to be so until he contracted typhoid fever about the time of his fourth birthday. There was much anxiety over his recovery as he developed a raging fever which lasted many days and nights. Dr. Scratch made several visits to the farm home to see this child and had given up on any hope of recovery; however, Roy and Ellen never gave up hope. Roy would work the fields all day taking off the crop with the horses and binder. In the evenings, he would drive five miles with a horse and buggy to town in order to secure ice from Mr. Tiffen to help combat his son's fever. Ellen sat by his bed night and day sponging him, feeding him water with an eye-dropper, and undoubtedly doing a bit of praying. Finally, one morning he opened his eyes and whispered, "Mom" His fever and delirium had left him. He was on his way to recovery. The same fall, November, 1932, Roy and Ellen had a daughter, Delcie. She was also delivered in the farm home with Dr. Scratch and midwife, Mrs. Andrews, in attendance.

The following several years rushed by, filled with a lot of hard work and little free time. During the winter months, the cattle and some of the horses were kept inside so there were barns to be cleaned each day, a water hole to chop out each morning in the nearby dam so they were able to get a drink, straw to be hauled into the barn for bedding, hay to be brought in for feed, plus grain to chop for the pigs and chickens. Then as wood was used for heat and cooking, there were dead trees in the ravines to be chopped down with a hand axe, trimmed and piled in order to be hauled up to the farmyard in the spring, all to be sawed again by hand into short lengths to enable them to go into the fire boxes of the stoves. Later on, as the gas engine came into existence, the engine driven saw was used to cut all the wood up in short lengths. This was done in one day by a bee of men (usually brothers and neighbors) During the summer and fall there was the land work to be done which was a slow process when done with horses. When fall came, large threshing crews would go from farm to farm to thrash the grain. This large group of men took many hours of baking and cooking by Ellen to keep them all well fed. She was a great cook and it is possible that they sometimes stayed a little longer than necessary due to the delicious food.

The days work began at five in the morning and did not end till dark. Ellen milked eight cows by hand, mixed her own butter, baked the bread, preserved, set all the old hens in small coops until the eggs hatched (she usually built the coops by herself from old apple boxes), fed pigs and kept a well weeded garden. These chores were accompanied by the preparation of three large meals every day and the weekly wash which was undertaken with a scrub board and washtub. When these tasks were completed there were usually potato bugs that had to be picked off the plants by hand and destroyed. The one time the garden was found in poor condition was in the year the army worms marched through the area, eating all the garden greenery in sight.

One of the highlights of the farm life was Ellen's freshly fried chicken. It was caught, killed, plucked and cleaned in the morning, then fried in cast iron pans at the back of the wood cook stove all afternoon. That was chicken that really tasted like chicken!

An important activity on the farm each week was

drawing water from the North Saskatchewan River. It was to be used for washing and watering some of the livestock. This tank was filled by hand with Roy and Ellen pailing from each side. Then it was drawn up the river hills with two teams of horses.

It was not all work and no play. Ellen took great delight in knitting, crocheting, tatting and sewing. She also enjoyed making great feasts of taffy on snow during the long winter evenings and homemade ice cream on summer Sundays which was often enjoyed with relatives and friends. Roy got his enjoyment out of playing hardball with the Maymont team from 1916 to 1947 during which he was their catcher. He often recalls some excellent pitching done by Mr. Mike Doll, Albert Hickman, Ross Arnold, not to mention some impressive coaching done by Mr. John Blacklock and Nathan Friedman. He also enjoyed playing hockey in the winters of his younger years, eventually turning to curling when he grew a little older.

After World War II in 1945 both rural and urban economy seemed to improve. Mr. James, a neighbor, had a sale in 1944 at which time Roy and Ellen bought their first car, a 1944 Model T Ford. (Gosh, this was a wee bit of heaven). They could now make a few occasional trips to North Battleford to the Exhibition. In addition the trip to Maymont took only fifteen minutes instead of the hour by horse drawn vehicles. Then a new barn, double garage and ice house were built. The ice house was filled with ice blocks cut out of the North Saskatchewan River which were covered with straw and utilized to keep milk, cream, and other perishables cool during the summer months.

About this time (1946-47) Kenneth, their son, completed grade twelve and after a brief bit of farming with Roy decided to take up teaching as his occupation. Thus, he left home for further education in Saskatoon.

In 1949 a new Fargo truck was purchased. It was a real joy for hauling grain and travelling in on the way to church, picnics, sports days, and other activities, which took place in the nearby area. Farm work was also beginning to modernize quite quickly in the 1950's. Roy and Ellen purchased a tractor to replace the horses and a combine to replace most of the threshing machines work.

Their daughter, Delcie, graduated from grade twelve in 1951 and left home to train for a nurse at Saskatoon City Hospital.

They continued on farm until 1960 at which time they owned seven quarters of land, some worthwhile pieces of machinery, and a nice herd of Hereford cattle. They sold and retired in the Village of Maymont in the old Dolden home just west of main street. Since that time, they have enjoyed trips to Ontario and the Maritimes, and have celebrated their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary. That occasion took place in 1976.

The Gordon Gray Family

written by Donna Gray

In June, 1964, Gordon William Gray and Donna Marie Munn were married in the Third Avenue United Church in North Battleford by Rev. Bruce Wartman.

Our first home was the Frank Schaefer house in Ruddell. We rented the house for the summer months while Schaefers moved to the Meota area to take up their farming operations. As Gordon worked with his father, George Gray, on the farm, he drove back and forth to work from Ruddell.

Gordon Gray family Jan., 1979. Karen, Donna, Ian, Gordon, Jason.

In the fall of 1964 we bought the old Drug Store and Pool Room buildings, on the main street in Maymont next door to the DeLong Locker Plant, with intentions of demolition and salvaging lumber for a new farm home. We fixed up the Drug Store part to live in and during the winter commenced taking down the old buildings. In the process there were many folks stopping in with stories relating to "years back when". Some of the avid pool players would stop in to see if we found any of the special coins that must have dropped below the floor boards around where the tables used to sit. We were hoping to find some old papers or treasures but came up with very little.

The first addition to our family arrived on June 25, 1965. Karen soon became the center of attention in our family as she was the first grandchild on the Munn side and the only granddaughter on the Gray side.

As the summer passed, we made plans for the site of our future home at the farm. In the fall of 1965, Murray McIvor dug the basement. The cement was poured and the floor was nailed in place. We worked on the basement in all our spare time. After the New Year we decided we would live in the basement and save the expense of driving back and forth.

After we moved out of the Drug Store in 1966, Bob Bell, the furry operator at the river decided to open a Barber shop and later a Sewing Machine Shop. Later

that fall Roy Millman purchased and moved the building to use it as a grain bin on his farm.

In 1967 we purchased the Bill Reid farm. At that time Gordon's brother, Keith and family, lived there until they moved to Tisdale where Keith is a foreman in an Alfalfa Pellet Plant.

The summer of 1967 was a very wet one as we remember quite clearly. We had some difficulty keeping dry with our flat roof which convinced us we better look into a top story. On November 17, 1967 our future home arrived in pieces to be put together like a puzzle. In three of the coldest days that winter the shell of the house was put up. For the next four months, with help from Stan Long, we worked like beavers nailing up walls and plastering seams. By March, 1968 we had moved upstairs.

On November 14, 1968 the second addition to our family arrived. Ian quickly grew into a fascinating playmate for Karen. Then April 16, 1971, Jason arrived on the scene. With Karen off to school that fall, Ian became greatly amused by the new baby.

In the spring of 1971 we purchased the Clarence Reid farm and Gordon's folks moved there so that there would be one of us at each end of the work.

Over the years our family has taken part in 4-H activities as Gordon is a leader of the Beef Club, curling, figure skating in which Jason won the McIvor trophy for the Most Improved Skater in 1975, hockey, swimming, and the latest sport — downhill skiing to which all of us take a fancy.

Let's only hope that the years ahead will be filled with as many pleasant memories as those in the past.

Richard (Dick and Flora (Bohn) Greenslade

Richard (Dick) and Flora Bohn were married in Maymont Sharon Presbyterian Church on October 15, 1919 by Rev. Schnell. They were the first couple to be married in this church. Flora came to the Maymont District at an early age and attended Grey School. She was active in the church as a Sunday School Teacher, Mission Band Leader and she belonged to W.M.S.

Dick and Flora lived on Dick's homestead, situated one mile south of Meeting Lake Store. Dick had lived there since 1908, except for the years he was over seas. When their new home was built on his Soldier Settlement Land they moved to it. This land was 5¼ miles from Rabbit Lake. They named their farm "Loon Pine Farm".

They had five children, Harold, living at Maymont, Phyllis at North Battleford, Alder, Millet, Alberta, Ivy, Prince George, B.C. Morris died in infancy. Harold, Phyllis and Alder were married in Maymont.

In 1942 they sold their farm and lived in Alberta and B.C. In 1945 they bought the Royal Cafe in Maymont. Due to ill health they sold it in fall of 1947 and retired in Penticton, B.C. Dick passed away in May, 1965 and Flora moved back to Maymont. She later moved into River Heights Lodge, North Battleford and remained there until her death Oct. 8, 1973. Her funeral was held in Maymont United Church and she was buried in Maymont Cemetery.

Greenslade family taken at a reunion, Sept., 1963 at Harold and Kay's home on the farm. L. to r. — Phyllis, Harold, Flora and Dick, Alder, Ivy.

Harold and Kay (Andrew) Greenslade

by Harold A. Greenslade

I, Harold Albert Greenslade, the eldest son of Dick and Flora Greenslade was born at Maymont at the farm of my aunt and uncle Herb and Teenie Johnston. I was raised and educated at Athelstan School of the Meeting Lake District.

As a kid ten years old, I remember different neighbors used to hold house parties consisting of card games in the smaller homes. In larger houses, we used to play cards till 11:00, then would have lunch and pull all the furniture aside for dancing until 2:30-3:00 in the

Eva, Kay, Harold, Betty and Clifford, 1979.

morning. All the folks used to bring their children of all ages and after midnight they would put the younger kids on coats or blankets in corners. This took place just during the winter months and only once a month. (There were no telephones and very few radios). The music was supplied free by people attending the evening and consisted of violins, guitars and accordions. There was no liquor.

I left home when I was finished school. I worked on farms in the district and one winter at a saw mill. I also spent time building and repairing roads. When I was older and working on one of the farms I drove four horses, walked behind harrows in barefeet because I couldn't afford shoes, working from 5:30 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. and only got fifty cents a day.

I came to Maymont to work on many farms making my home with Mr. and Mrs. Jim Gray. Then I went to Edmonton, Alberta working at many jobs. When I left Edmonton I went to work for seven years with the Crescent Shows; homebase in Penticton, B.C. Also worked in Vancouver and New Westminster, B.C.

Came back to Maymont in 1951 where I worked and ran the old skating rink located then where the Senior Citizens low rentals are. Boy! Talk about snow that year. The next year went to North Battleford and worked in the Savoy Cafe for one year.

In June 1955 I started to work for Mr. Vanderhaegan in the hardware store. I worked there until 1959.

I married Josephine Kate (Kay) Andrew, the only daughter and the only child of Alfred and Dorothy Andrew, on September 23, 1959 in All Saints Anglican Church. The ceremony was conducted by Reverend Randy Wood of Colonsay. We lived for three and a half months in a rented house owned by Mrs. Jimmy Reid, located south of the present skating and curling rink. Kay was born in City Hospital, Saskatoon. She grew up on her parents farm and was educated in Maymont School.

January 15, 1960 I went to Saskatoon Sanitorium for nine months. Kay also moved to Saskatoon and for fifteen months worked at City Hospital.

May 1, 1961 we both moved back to Maymont where we rented Kay's dad's farm. We lived on the farm for two years.

Eva Joyce was born on February 20, 1962 in North Battleford Union Hospital. Kay's dad passed away January 1, 1963. The day of his funeral was a very mild day being in the 40's. The flowers didn't freeze over night and next morning they were beautiful with dew drops on them. The next day it turned cold and went to 40 degrees below zero and stayed very cold for the next six weeks.

In the fall of 1963 we purchased the Oliver Andrew house in Maymont. After remodelling it we moved in on November first but still farmed until 1969.

Centennial year 1967 our son, Clifford Lee, was born May 23 in Borden Hospital. Kay's mom passed away the day before in Borden after a lengthy illness of cancer.

That fall we remodelled and built on mom's house and moved in.

In 1969 the farm was rented to Wilfred Johnston and boys for a three year term. Then in the spring of 1972 Glen Boyd rented the farm. On January 1975 he purchased the farm.

In March 1969 we purchased the Vanderhaegen Store and opened and operated a poolroom for four and a half years. During the summer we operated a store and cafe at Glenburn Regional Park from 1964-1974.

Betty Lynn was born January 20, 1969 in North Battleford Union Hospital.

For three years Roy Gray and I took over the C.N. Dray Business.

In the spring of 1973 I put a new roof on the old poolroom and July 17, 1975 we officially opened Greenslade's M & M Store of groceries, meats and hardware. Wholesaler of I.G.A. at this time of writing we are still in business.

In the spring of 1979 we took on the caretaking of the Memorial Hall which we had had previously from 1967-1969.

Since I have lived at Maymont I have been a member of the Board of Trade, time keeper for the skating rink when it was built in 1964, and fire chief for five years.

Kay's been very active in her life with church, community, former 4-H student and leader. Now she is a Sunday School teacher in the United Church, member of Rebekah U.C.W. unit and for the past 15 years correspondent for the News Optimist at North Battleford. In May 1979 she took on also reporting the Big Country Voice, a Hafford paper.

Eva is taking her Grade Eleven in Maymont Central School but is very active in the church, Sunday School teacher, C.G.I.T., 4-H member and now in the assistant librarian for Maymont Branch of Lakeland Library Region.

Clifford is in Grade Five, active in Sunday School, plays hockey in winter, is a 4-H member in Sportsmen, and swims in the summer.

Betty is in Grade Four and is also active in Sunday School and Explorers. She figure skates in Maymont and in March 1979 won the Wendy McIvor Trophy for most improved skater 12 years and under.

The Life of Alex Green — From 1909

told by Alex Green

I was born in Lambton County, Ontario, Feb. 4, 1909. My parents were Joshua and Alice Green who were also born in Ontario. They had answered the cry of the west: "Go west, young man, you make more money."

They came west in 1912 to Fielding by train with a car load of machinery, horses, cattle and household effects. I, Alex, was just three years old, the youngest

Joshua Green with vegetables and cream, to sell in town.

Joshua and Alice Green.

Alex Green family, 1948 — Alex, Charles, Alice, Gordon, and Margaret.

of the family. The first year we lived in a sod house near Fielding. The next year Dad built a lumber house and building on the quarter section of land he bought four and a half miles N.E. of Fielding. Dad and the older boys cut logs all winter with a cross cut saw. Then in the spring they sawed them stove length by hand with the cross cut, and split them with the axe. Then the little boys helped pile it. At this time my oldest brother was over seas in the army, in the First World War. I started school in the town of Fielding in 1915. When I was still going to school I won a ■ rifle for getting the most Gophers in the municipality.

Dr. Scratch from Maymont was our Doctor and my mother helped him for many years as midwife. She also went on her own when necessary in the Fielding district. As far as I can remember I was still going to school early in the 1920's when a fire broke out in Shank's Implement Shop, then the Post Office went, the livery barn, Nelson Hotel. The strong wind from the west took it across the street to Gunn's General Store, then to Dickenson Store, Brickwell garage. All that saved the hall was that it had eave troughs and so the water was caught and reused. It seems to me there was a fire later when the Bank ■ Nova Scotia and some other buildings burnt. All they had for water was one well on the south end of the street. It was still there when I was in Fielding last.

Besides farming and milking cows Dad was a great gardener. Joshua Green and myself are both life members of Radisson Agricultural Society. Back in the early days in Ontario Dad had a fruit orchard, vegetable and flower garden. I still follow my Dad's foot steps and keep up the garden work but in a small way just for ourselves.

After thirteen years in the west, in the early spring of 1925, Dad passed away, age 64.

In the fall of 1925 Mother and I decided to go to what was later Carrot River. Mother filed on a quarter section of land. It was heavy timber in that time. The C.N.R. Rail did not come till 1930. I was too young to homestead so mother filed and held a quarter for me. Then we went back to Fielding. I went working where I could find jobs; in-between I cleared enough land so Mother could prove up. I did it with axe and grub hoe. We travelled up to N.E. Sask. with a team and democrat, took a stump puller to clear a spot for a tent. We were loaded; oats for the horses, groceries enough for awhile, horses with nose nets, us with netting over the top to try to keep the bulldogs and mosquitoes out a bit.

I got a house built for Mother on her homestead, but in 1929 she passed away at the age of 83 years. As I was next of kin I kept clearing my land in the summer and worked in the saw mill in the winter months. Then I got some machinery and got a little crop for a few years.

In 1935 I married Evelyn Morgan; we had two sons Gordon and Oliver. In Feb., 1945 Evelyn passed away. After two years in Oct., 1946 I married Margaret Bowthorpe. We had one daughter, Alice. We still lived in the same house I built for Mother back in 1926 up until 1953 when we bought a ten-room house and had it moved in. At that time Margaret's parents came up and lived in the little homestead house. It was still in the same yard. They lived there for seventeen years. Her Dad died in 1967 at the age of 90. Her mother still lived in it alone for the next three years. The last year we moved her in to our house as she needed a little help. It broke her heart to leave her little home although she knew it was better for herself and Margaret. She still cared for herself. In Dec., 1970 her Mother passed away at the age of 92.

There has been lots of water gone under the bridge since 1925. We got all the homestead cleared. It was just the last seventeen acres that I was able to get a bulldozer in and clear the stumps out. Then I was able to put the whole quarter in crop in 1947. In 1952 I got another quarter of bush land and started all over again. But this time I got a bulldozer and piler in. We still had to pick and burn the root piles for a few years. By this time the boys were through school and on their own. We still had the girl at home for eight years. She was much younger. By 1960 we had all the land in crop, that meant a half section to farm. Along with this we milked ten cows, kept a hundred hives of bees, was Government Apiary inspector for ten years. We had a large garden and fruit trees. This was a lot of work in the fall canning along with harvesting. In 1966 the girl finished school and went to Saskatoon.

In 1972 we had a sale and in 1974 we sold the farm and bought a new house in Carrot River where we still live. The family are all married and there are four grandchildren.

Now I sit and think of the days gone by when we first came to this part of Sask. in 1925, left the old farm at Fielding, headed straight east, crossed the Hepburn ferry onto Rosthern ferry then Melfort, Tisdale cross-country all the way. When we stopped at Rosthern we got the horses shod. They were getting sore feet. We bought some bread baked in a clay oven. It took us over a week to make the trip which was about two hundred and thirty miles.

The Fielding School had a good baseball team and the store keeper, Mr. Gunn, used to take us to all the Sports days in Borden, Radisson, Maymont, and Ruddell. Radisson was the only team that could beat us. We have been back to Fielding a few times. In 1968 we went back and I put covers on my parents, Joshua and Alice Green, and my brother Joshua E's graves. I have two brothers, Alfred and Arthur, a sister Daisy buried in Carrot River, a brother Robert in Ridgedale, Sask., sister Mae in B.C.

There is one brother, William, left in B.C.

The Gurney Story

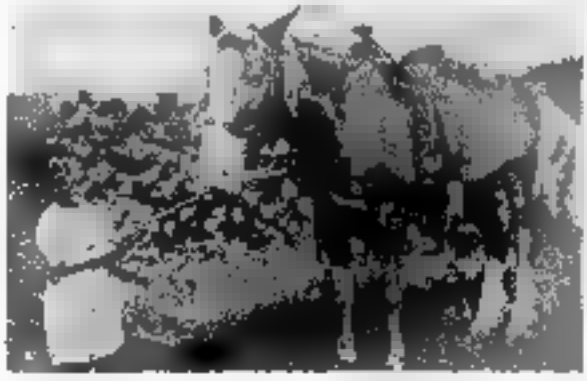
by Betty Mohler

I am asked to tell the Gurney story. Where do I begin? It is not much different than that of hundreds of other pioneers. Keep it brief. Make it interesting!

They were both born in England; my father, Frank B. Gurney, the eldest of ten, my mother, Rosa Kingsnorth, the third in a family of ten. They met when Mother's eldest sister married a man from Daddy's home town about 1907 or '08. They became engaged in 1908 but were not married until January 20, 1914.

Like so many young people of that time they read the glowing accounts of life in Canada. "Make your fortune" in the new land. One hundred sixty acres for $10. "There was "no future" in the old land, jobs what were available were "dead end" positions. So in 1909 Daddy left for Canada to make his fortune. He worked on a farm in Ontario for one year and then came West.

Mr. Arthur Morris, farming near Denholm was a friend of my great-uncle in England, and Daddy came



Betty and Pete, the pet horse — about 1926.

to him. Mr. Morris came to Canada with the Barr colonists in 1903 and like many others decided to homestead on his own before they reached Lloydminster.

From Denholm my father looked for a homestead. I do not remember how it was that he settled on one twelve miles north of Ruddell, but that is where he settled. He built his homestead shack and broke the necessary land, working with neighbors as so many did to help one another.

Mother remained in England, waiting for the home to be built; Daddy's English pride would not let him marry until he had proved up the homestead. That is, he had to have a certain number of acres in cultivation, have a house and have lived there for at least six months for each of three years. Mother had a sister living near Strasbourg, Sask. and in 1913 she came to her. There they were married in 1914. They came by train to Ruddell and Mrs. Alice Christie was the first woman Mother met at Ruddell. Now in 1970 she and Mrs. Christie are both residents in the River Heights Lodge in North Battleford.

Mother did not know what to expect when she reached the homestead. Her brother-in-law had told her to expect a dirt floor. To her joy, but not surprise, she found clean boards and a roll of linoleum standing in the corner waiting for a warm spring day to lay it. That particular inlaid linoleum was to be moved several times and serve them for many years.

They had many bachelor neighbors and I think my father was proud to have them for Sunday dinners.

Three years went by before I arrived to "bless their home." Well, isn't that what little ones are supposed to do? I did not make my appearance without creating excitement anyway. Arrangements had been made for Mother to go to Nurse Taylors nursing home in North Battleford about the middle of February. At 4 a.m. February 1 Mother woke Father-to-be with the news that the stork was on it's way. (Remember when the stork brought babies?) The nearest phone was four miles away. A hasty horseback ride to phone for the doctor. The doctor came twenty miles with a livery team, on arrival he sent the team back to the city and decided to go with Mother to Lilac to meet the train. Lilac was a flag stop i.e. you waved the train to a stop. But it was foggy and the train did not see them: it kept on going.

Neighbors got fresh horses, warm stones, footwarmers, etc., and drove the doctor and expectant parents on another four miles to Ruddell. Mr. Tom Patterson was one of those friends and he remembers the trip too. The thermometer was around 40 degrees below fahrenheit they tell me. About 24 hours after that horseback rider left home to phone for the doctor the maternity party boarded the train at Ruddell. At 10:30 a.m. Feb. 2 I made my entrance into the world. No wonder I was their only child!

The homestead was ten miles from Richard and twelve from Ruddell. Once every two weeks in the summer Mother drove a single horse on the buggy to one place or the other to trade butter and eggs for groceries. In winter Daddy did the driving.

I cannot leave those days without a word about our driving horse. Pete was a light sorrel with a silver mane and tail. His previous owners had taught him to come for a handful of sugar and he never forgot. Some days he was a perfect horse carefully missing stones and rough spots. He could find his way home anytime but if he should decide he did not want to go he would pretend to be lame or shy at the least little thing. Mother was equal to the occasion, she could and did give him a few well aimed strokes with the buggy whip when needed. If he was lame and she turned toward home he would trot out with ease; that just meant turn again and go to town! He lived a long and useful life that ended suddenly one day as he was running in the pasture playing, his noble heart stopped and Pete fell, a fitting end to a faithful, clever horse. I know he was not the only clever horse, no doubt every family had their favorite but [redacted] was the Gurney pet.

In 1923 they had a chance to sell the homestead and they decided to move nearer to town and to school. For four years they rented a farm a mile north of the Maple Grove southwest of Ruddell. I can remember when we lived there we would see sleighs crossing the river on the ice hauling grain to Ruddell from the Baljennie area before the railway, which now is closed, was built.

What a different town Ruddell was then, to now. I hope someone writes that story. Three elevators, a lumber yard, two general stores, a hardware and furniture store (as children we used to go there to listen to the gramaphone), a machine agency, bank, blacksmith shop, hotel (one or two years some millionaires from the United States stayed there for the goose hunting season), pool room and barber shop, telephone office (dear Mrs. Collins, the operator until the early 1940's was a second mother to all the children although she had a large family of her own), railway station, section men, a tennis court, and the church, manse and school. What a difference the years have brought to the small towns as people became more mobile! I am sure the younger people will think I am exaggerating. I forgot the Maisleys' eating house where the men who were hauling grain could get dinner.

In 1928 we bought the McNeil farm four miles west of Ruddell. I attended Harringay school, a typical one room country school. It was built in 1907 by and for the pioneers. Three generations of the Steele family were to attend it before it closed for lack of pupils. In the early 1930's there were 35 children in grades 1 to 10. Today I do not think there is one child in the district. In the 1930's when we had dances at the school we had 30 young people between the ages of 15 and 20. The school has since been torn down, the yard worked in with the rest of the field.

Those one roomed schools; in those I know the

stove was at the back near the door. The stove pipes ran the length of the room to the chimney at the other end. The oldest boy had the job of lighting the fire, he often boasted of having the pipes red hot for several feet. I do not remember any fear of fire: our guardian angels must have been caring for us. Daddy was a trustee and secretary-treasurer of our school district for many years. First on the homestead, where [redacted] was on the school board when Ellastvoe school was built then at Harringay. Anyone who attended the country schools will remember the Christmas concerts. Near the end of November the teacher gave the parts to be memorized and we started to learn Christmas songs, plays, recitations, drills, and always a pageant depicting the Christmas story. The last period of the afternoon was used for practicing. Then a week before the concert a makeshift stage was built and wires strung for curtains, the curtains were often white sheets, sometimes special material. The night of the concert the desks were put outside and benches appeared for the audience. A tree was decorated for Santa's visit; gasoline lamps or lanterns were hung in the school for light. In those days schools did not have electric lights.

They bought the farm in 1928, in 1929 the bottom fell out of the economic world including farm prices. Then as the thirties went on drought came to the area and grasshoppers! We spread poisoned sawdust to kill them. We gathered what feed we could for the horses and cattle. Some of the stacks were mostly Russian Thistle and if you have never helped to handle that you do not know what prickles are. But the rains did come and life styles changed for the better.

In 1943 the young men were overseas in the services and teachers were in short supply. Seven years after I had completed my grade eleven by correspondence I went to Normal School in Saskatoon. By September, 1947 I had had the year at Normal, completed my grade twelve, two and a half University classes, taught two years at Grey School and one year at Richard. In November Franklin and I were married and I left the classroom for fifteen years. When I returned it was as a substitute teacher at Maymont for a few years.

Back to my parents. When I left home they gave up the cattle and gradually eased out of farming, first hiring some custom work and finally renting the farm. In 1955 they retired to Maymont. Their health was not good and in 1965 Daddy passed on. Mother lived with us for a year until there was a room for her in River Heights Lodge, in North Battleford. Never a large woman, never really healthy she never-the-less survived the pioneer years and today at 94 she alternately walks behind the wheel chair and rides in it when tired, still writes the occasional poem and generally takes an interest in the activities there. Their lives and mine involved the Lilac, Ruddell, and Maymont areas.

As I said, Franklin and I were married in Nov., 1947. We had a quiet ceremony in the United Church manse, Maymont, with the Rev. H. L. Myers officiating and our parents in attendance.

The next years were busy. Franklin took an active role in many organizations. He specialized in registered seed growing on the farm and we met many other farmers from many areas through this work. He was president of the Sask. branch of the Canadian Seed Growers Association for two years and then one of two Saskatchewan directors for the C.S.G.A. This gave us the opportunity to travel. Finally in 1973 we decided to retire to live in Maymont. The farm was sold and we retired but time does not drag.

Again turning the calendar back; Joan was born March 28, 1951. When she graduated from grade 12 in Maymont Central School she went to Saskatoon Business College where she took a Secretarial course. From there she went to work in the office of the eye department at the University Hospital.

In 1972 she married Bill Hajt. He had played Junior hockey for the Saskatoon Blades while attending high school and University. He was drafted by the Buffalo Sabres of the National Hockey League and now in 1979 they are living in Williamsville, New York, a suburb of Buffalo, with their two children, Angela and Christopher.

The Prairies

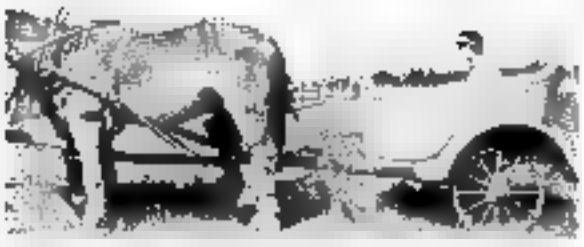
by Rosa Gurney

The prairies are where neighbors stand by,
Where no words are needed. To answer a call
Without hesitation, they come one and all.
A prairie fire, a house burns down,
In a matter of minutes they all gather round.
With a helping hand, a cheerful smile
Though some have travelled many mile.
They are there to help no money down
They are there to help without a frown
A case of sickness, perhaps a death
Nothing stops them while they have breath.

The Bennett Buggy and Anderson Cart

by Betty Mohler

The "dirty thirties" would be a story in themselves, one that anyone of our age could tell. The bottom dropped out of the economic world with the crash of Wall Street in 1929. Prices dropped rapidly; wheat down to twenty-five cents a bushel and even nineteen cents; eggs, five cents a dozen; butter fifteen or twenty cents a pound; a cow sold for ten dollars — the cow — all of it — alive! As if that was not enough, drought spread across Saskatchewan, drought, dust storms, grasshoppers. It hit southern Saskatchewan first and families discouraged by life there, loaded their belongings and trekked north to greener pastures. We saw families in old cars or trucks. We saw them driving wagons with their household goods and family, and leading their milk cow asking "How far to Meadow Lake? Are we nearly there?" How did you say, "Another 150 miles"?



An Anderson Cart, 1937. Horses show result of poor feed due to drought (note lack of tires).

Then the drought, dust, grasshoppers reached us. So little rain the grass turned brown, the leaves fell off the caragana hedge early. What crop there was, was too short to harvest in the usual manner. We cut it by any method we could to salvage it for feed for the livestock. Horses were worked for half a day only then turned into the sparse pasture to graze because the stacked feed would be needed to keep them alive during the winter. In the winter the government shipped in bales of hay and straw and rationed it out to keep the bare minimum of livestock living. The rest had to be sold for whatever you could get or killed. Imagine being able to see a gopher running through a wheat field. Gopher tails were worth one cent each from the Rural Municipality.

Eastern Canada, though suffering from the economic depression, realized that Saskatchewan people were worse off and shipped carloads (freight) of dried salt cod from the Maritimes (few knew how to use it) apples and cheese (both very good) to be given to the needy.

In 1938 in order to give some of the unemployed men a place to live for the winter the government offered a farmer five dollars a month to take the man and gave the man five dollars. Some were lucky and got the farmer's five dollars if the farmer did not have to have it for groceries.

Money was very scarce, unbelievably so! Many farmers, unable to afford to run their cars took the engines out, remodelled the chassis, put a tongue on and hitched on a team of horses for power. Because R. B. Bennett was prime minister at that time he had the dubious honour of having these vehicles called "Bennett Buggies". The others, whose cars had reached a more advanced age cut the car in two and having the seat and two wheels plus a team of horses named them after the premier of Saskatchewan at that time and called them "Anderson carts". It was 1937 that was the worst year for wide spread drought.

Yet we survived, the rains came again, crops and gardens grew and the economic situation improved. Unfortunately, the economic picture changed for the better in the first place when war broke out and no one could be happy about that. Men who had been unemployed because there were no jobs to be had were needed for the war effort and became heroes overnight.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Gustafson and Ruth and Lorne Thomson Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Johnson (Mr. and Mrs. Spence and Edith and Herman)

as told by Ruth Thomson

My parents, Ida and Dan Gustafson came to Canada in 1911 from St. Paul, Minnesota to homestead. They settled at Park Bluff. Money was scarce so Dad went to work for McMillan, owner of the sawmill at White Court, Alberta. Rather than be alone on the homestead my mother answered a "want ad" from Ruddell Hotel. Mother and I came off the morning train from North Battleford to be interviewed by Mrs. Spence, wife of the owner. She kept glancing at this busy year and a half old child and finally said, "I don't know if we can pay you twenty-five dollars a month with that baby." Yet Mrs. Spence showed her a room, told her to get into working clothes and come to the kitchen. Apparently all the doors intrigued me as I was enjoying

Ruth Gustafson, Bill Kennedy.

Left to right — Gordon Blair, Viola Abbott, Larry Collins, Ruth Gustafson, Walter Whitlaw.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Johnson.

myself opening and closing them. Finally Mrs. Spence added in her salty Eastern tone, "Now I'll need to hire someone to keep the doors closed." Many a laugh and jest resulted from these barbed remarks but it didn't deter from a lasting friendship being formed between Mother and Mrs. Spence which lasted through the years; each seemed to be there to help each other in time of need.

After Mr. Spence died Mrs. Spence married Charlie Johnson who had come west with the Spences. Charlie worked with the lumber company in Ruddell but before that I believe he ran the bar at the hotel. A roaring business was carried on in the bar and the dining room. Farmers from Scottingdale and Baljennie hauled their wheat across the frozen Saskatchewan River during winter to Ruddell Elevators. Many times Mother Johnson, my mother, and a waitress by the name of Cora (later married Warren Robinson) would serve as many as a hundred people at noon. I made a nuisance of myself by peeking through the swinging doors leading to the dining room. I was finally locked in my room during the peek hours.

Later when we were in Ruddell during winter months I attended the public school. Miss Duff was my first teacher there. She taught all grades. I thought it was something to see such a tiny person teaching big boys. She later married Mr. E. Reid.

One period that stands out vividly in my mind was the year of the influenza outbreak. I was the one of the first to be ill. I was well looked after but most important to me was the day Mother Johnson brought in a lovely doll for me. I often wondered how she had time to make its lovely clothes. Soon many people were coming down with the flu. The cooking kettle on the big kitchen stove seemed always to be simmering with chicken broth. Mother Johnson carried a pail of it to be served as she tended the sick in the village. At times the hotel was filled with patients whom my mother helped to look after. Dr. Scratch from Maymont was a frequent visitor to the sick in the Ruddell Area.

During these busy times George Negus, a war veteran, also worked at the hotel. George was very deaf. He was always so kind to me that George was not only appreciated by me but by many others. A permanent roomer at the hotel was Bill Kennedy. Bill was a source of information on all subjects — always the same and I don't think I ever heard of him complaining or being cross. He seemed to be caretaker at the C.N. Station and other places.

Hotel business petered out with roads being gravelled, so cars were used by travellers; people started going to larger centres and only a few stopped overnight. This was the beginning of the end of many small towns. I came back to take Grade [redacted] and X at Ruddell High School staying with Mother and Charlie.

This period was our "depression era". A time of dust, drought and despair. A vivid memory of a still peaceful morning till around ten then the "blow" would begin. One could hardly see across the street; around six the wind would die down but a film of dust would cover floors and furniture. We would dust and mop to be repeated the next night. These dust storms usually lasted for three days.

This is a brief note in the Johnsons. Mr. and Mrs. Spence came from the part of the east coast of Nova Scotia called the Spence Settlement. They came west and started in the hotel business at Prince Albert, then moved to Ruddell.

Charlie Johnson who was born in the south of Sweden boarded fishing boats at an early age. He could tell you many tales of his trips around the world. He landed at the east coast and came west with the Spences. In the early days he tended the bar at Ruddell, later ran the Lumber Yard at Ruddell and several other lumber yards when the one closed at Ruddell. He married Bessie Spence a few years after her husband's death.

A few years before his death he was called to go back to Sweden to settle an estate that was his due. He refused his claim so never returned to his homeland.

Mother Johnson came by her name honestly. I can remember the baking that was sent overseas — large jumbo cookies, homemade taffy, knitted wool mitts and socks. Many letters came from soldiers that enjoyed her efforts but were strangers to her. She had two children, Edith and Herman, from the first marriage.

The hotel seemed to be a "drop in" for many people — Not just her contemporaries but also young people who needed someone to "listen to them". Saturday night was farmers' night, to shop, get mail, sell their produce, then visit. Mr. and Mrs. McCann brought

eggs and butter to Mother and Charlie. I believe butter was twenty-five cents a pound and eggs ten to fifteen cents a dozen.

Good Friday, Mother Johnson always made Hot Cross Buns so many came for the afternoon. Names that I remember were Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Ferguson, Mrs. Laurence Robinson, Mrs. Brandt (mother of Marvin Brandt who became a respected doctor at Dauphin) Ivy Turnbull, Mrs. Stally and Mrs. Schaefer, etc. She seemed to know whose footsteps sounded on the dining room floor as she would sit knitting in the evening at the kitchen table

Charlie's garden was always something to admire for people as they walked along the board walk. Charlie shared many of his vegetables with neighbors.

After finishing school I taught at a school in the Blenheim area. I usually spent every third week at the hotel. In the fifth year I met Lorne Thompson who was the relieving Station Agent. The following August we were married. My husband and I have lived in a number of larger cities in Canada but have now retired to the farm at Prince.

As the years go by we must and will see changes. I do feel very nostalgic about Ruddell as one drives past on the highway. The hotel is gone, even the last lonely elevator had been moved to a farm. I think of it as once a "humming" centre. People were filled with high aspirations and hopes. Let us hope that the future may once more find our small towns a "hub of activity".

The Hill Hamilton Family

by E. E. (Hamilton) Johnston

Hill Hamilton was born in 1885 near Belfast, Ireland. He emigrated to Canada in 1910 and settled in Griffen, Saskatchewan as a student minister of the Presbyterian Church. His wife, May Reid, born near Dublin, Ireland in 1883, followed him to Canada in 1912 and they were married in 1912 in Toronto. They had two daughters, Edythe, born in Griffen, and Kathleen, born in Perdue, Saskatchewan. Hill was ordained as a minister of the United Church of Canada from the Theological School of the University of Saskatchewan in the mid 1920's, with B.A. B.D., degrees. Other charges included Adanac and Rosthern, Saskatchewan before he accepted a call to the church in Maymont, Saskatchewan in 1930-31. During his stay in Maymont he had charges at Maymont, Fielding, and Swathmore. He ran as a C.C.F. candidate in the Federal election in the mid 1930's but was defeated. May was very interested in drama and directed a number of plays with local talent much to the pleasure of all who saw them. They travelled to various towns by sleigh to stage these plays and had many exciting experiences to tell. Old-time residents like the Reids, Melroses, Mothers, etc. would remember those days.

L. to r., standing — Dorothy Kerr, Marguerite Mohler, Jack Donald, Sadie Johnston, Muriel Melrose. Seated — Helen McCorkle, Norval Scratch.

During the depression years the manse was a marked house for all those who "rode the rails" and many free meals were handed out to those on their way to nowhere!

The Hamiltons left Maymont in 1937 to accept a charge in Richles, Saskatchewan. From there they went to Moose Jaw and thence to Wolseley, Saskatchewan and then left Saskatchewan to accept a charge in Wallacetown, and finally St. Thomas. Rev. Hill Hamilton and his wife May were killed in a car accident just outside of St. Thomas in February, 1957.

Edythe went in to training as a nurse at the Saskatoon City Hospital just after moving to Maymont, and then worked for Dr. Chas. Biro for several years before meeting her husband-to-be, Henry Fast. She flew to Yellowknife in 1940 to marry Henry who was then a mining engineer with the Negus Gold Mine there. They returned to Saskatoon in 1940 at which time Henry accepted a position with the C.N.R. in St. Thomas, Ontario. From there they were transferred to London, Hornepayne, Levis, Quebec and Montreal. Henry accepted a special assignment with the C.N.R. in 1970 and they spent the next five years in Kabwe, Zambia, Africa. Leaving there they moved to Vienna, Austria where they are presently residing in semi-retirement. They plan on retiring in Victoria, B.C. in 1981. Edythe and Henry had two children, Karen living in Vienna, and Jerry in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Kathleen took all her high schooling in Maymont, Saskatchewan. Mr. MacDonald is one teacher's name that sticks in her memory — the student's call him "Old Mac".

They were years with many fond memories and ones in which many lifelong friends were nurtured. Sports days in Radisson, Ruddell, Richard, Fielding were days to be remembered. Val Buckingham (nee Downing), Helen Spence (nee McCorkle) and Kathleen were inseparable friends and many great holidays were spent at Meeting Lake where Everett Downing (now deceased), Ros Scratch and Norville (Pinky) Scratch used to go roaring in on the weekends in "Old Bertha", Ron's Buick with a rumble seat!

After graduating from high school, working on the telephone switchboard in Maymont and Langham for a short period, Kathleen went to Saskatoon to take a secretarial course at the Saskatoon Technical School and then worked for a chartered accountant's firm, Ronald Griggs & Co. She married Robert Johnston, a serviceman from Fort William, Ontario, in 1941, and they were subsequently transferred to Winnipeg, St. Thomas, Trenton, Ottawa, Montreal, Penhold, Alberta and Clinton, Ontario. Bob retired from the Forces in 1969 after serving over thirty years, and the family decided to take up residence in Victoria, B.C. Bob is presently working with the Canadian Bank of Commerce; Kathleen is semi-retired from secretarial work.

Kathleen and Bob had three children — Richard, born in 1946 in St. Thomas, went into Military College in St. Jean, Quebec in 1963 and graduated from Royal Military College, Kingston, Ontario in 1968. He married Jacyln Griffiths of Montreal in 1968. They have two children — Brent, age seven, and Deane, age four. Richard is presently stationed in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Kathleen, Jr., born in 1951 in Belleville, Ontario, took her high schooling in Clinton, Ontario, and worked in Victoria, B.C. as a secretary until her marriage to Gregory Bush in 1972. They are presently living in Namaimo, B.C. where Greg is a teacher. They have one daughter, Tamara, age two.

Maureen was born in 1952 in Ottawa; took her high schooling in Victoria, B.C. went in to banking and subsequently into clerical work with the Provincial Government where she is still employed. She married Ian Maitland in 1970, who is also working with the Provincial Government in the engineering field.

The following poem was written by Helen Spence (nee McConkie) as a memento of a holiday at Meeting Lake.

SUNDAY
Downing's house on Sunday morn,
Full it was of luggage worn,
And the jolly lake-going crew,
All were in one grand old stew.
Finally the truck did come,
And we piled in one by one;
Each with our mind on the fun
We'd have at the Lake when we arrived at one.
The truck proceeded without mishap,
Despite eleven riding in the back.
Arrived at the Lake we went for a swim,
And it restored our nearly lost vim;
Followed by dinner, piping hot,
And needless to say we ate a lot!
Then Ronnie took us over to Peters,
And we treated so we wouldn't be cheaters!
Kathie and Val, they played duets,
Then home we went for a much-needed rest.
We met the boys and went for a dip,
Dark it was, but we didn't give a rip!
This ended our first day at the Lake,
And we could hardly wait for morn to break!

MONDAY
'Twas nine o'clock on Monday morn,
Before we opened eyes forlorn.
The day was raw and cold;
And we'd wanted fine weather untold!
Bacon and eggs, jam and toast,
This was the breakfast of which we boast!
True stories we read in the kid's tent,
This was the way our morning was spent.
Horseshoes we played in the afternoon
And hoped we'd be better players soon!
Kathie and Val played for the dance,
This being a way their funds to enhance.
The Speers and Halcyonia boys were there,
And only to one did we give the air!
After the dance, home we came,
Ate cookies and talked of Val's new flame!

TUESDAY
Tuesday morning we rose at ten,
And in we went for a swim right then.
A visit to Speers camp then we made,
And for them their gramaphone we played.
Their dinner, it was on the table,
And they ate, as well they were able.
Pie, and coffee made in a pail,
Howard fed us, so we wouldn't wail,
To the meadow we went to watch the ball game,
And we razzed our boys as they gave us a pain!
To the dance at night we all did go,
Blaine Lake Orchestra ran the show!
We danced until our shoes were thin,
And we had used up all our vim.
Ate cookies until the boys were fed,
Then, off they went, and we to bed.

WEDNESDAY
Wednesday morning was nice and sunny,
So we were feeling extra funny.
Suddenly Bertha came raring in,
With Ron, and Ron Gurney, neat as a pin!
To the exhibition we went after dinner,
Eight in Old Bertha, she's a humdinger!
Val played ball with the Halcyonia crew,
They won, as we knew they would, too!
Kathie and I came home with Ronnie,
And dolled up till we looked quite bonny!
Back with us, we took Val's clothes,
Then helped her dress, and powder her nose!
We went to the dance in fine array,
Hoping 'twould last till break of day.
We danced to the music of Battleford Band,
And hoped they'd all be buried in sand!
Home we came when all was over,
Happy as if we'd been in clover.

THURSDAY
Thursday was a cold old day,
And we felt like hitting the hay.
Nevertheless we played catch,
And many a blister we had to patch.
With Halcyonia, Val and I played ball,
And our kids, as rooters, were no good at all!
Bananas we had and gum and pop,
Until finally we had to yell "Stop"!
To the dance we escorted our Ladies fair,
Each one with bonny brown hair,
Finally eleven o'clock drew near,
So we had to part with our loved ones dear,
Which we gracefully did without one tear.

FRIDAY
One P.M. came, breakfast in bed,
Indeed we were quite royally fed.
From home came another camping crew,
And we helped them all their bundles undo.
Went to the meadow to a ball game,
And found two players worthy of fame;
Curly and Mac, very good to behold—
Who we hope, didn't think us bold!
Off we went to the dance at night,
Glad we did, it was a delight!
After the dance, home we came,
And Val parted with her new flame!

SATURDAY
Saturday dawned bright and fair,
We, each with a wash we'd willingly share,
From Mrs. Andrew we borrowed the tub,
Feeling dismay at the pile to scrub!
From home, soon came our dear old crew,
So, you can guess, we were in a stew.
Down [redacted] the meadow to watch the ball,
Arch took us, and minded not at all.
To the dance at night we all did [redacted],
And of a keen time we can surely blow.
After the dance, home once more,
And us, to our good bed on the floor!

SUNDAY
Sunday was our day to cook,
Which we did without the aid of a book.
Church time came — 'Twould help us lots,
But we were too busy scrubbing pots!
In the pavilion old and queer,
The orchestra played [redacted] bring us cheer.
After the concert we met OUR Curly,
Who, if we wished, would play ball early!
So to the meadow we went to watch our bunch,
But had to leave early to get the lunch.
Nathan saw us, and thought we looked thin,
So bought us marshmallows to fatten our limbs.
Behind the boy's tent we made a bonfire
And toasted marshmallows to our hearts desire!
Muriel, Wes, and Jackie all came,
Er, and Pink wouldn't, and said we're to blame!
Frenchie sang songs out in a boat,
And for him, ev'ry time we'll vote.
Finally to bed we went,
Feeling our Sunday was well-spent.

MONDAY
Monday it was nice and fair,
So we lay on the beach in the balmy air;
We read stories most of the morn,
We're sorry to say, our books got torn.
The Hamilton family arrived at noon,
And we hoped they'd not be leaving soon.
They invited Kathie and Val to move in,
And I went to Margaret's, to become one of them.
Val and I took our sweet ladies fair,
[redacted] the dance [redacted] night — what charming pairs!
The dance, it was free, so of course we stayed,
As long as the Blaine Lake Orchestra played!
Then we parted [redacted] the door,
I to my separate home once more.

TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY
Tuesday and Wednesday were very hot,
So swimming, again, was our main thought.
The water, it was lovely and warm,
[redacted] you can guess, we went in in swarms!
Our water ball we remembered to take,
But nearly lost it out in the Lake,
I was invited to Hamilton's for tea,
Kathie and Val, were the cooks, you see.
After supper we went to play ball,
Fielding didn't know, so came not at all.
So Wednesday eve we played with them,
And they beat us twelve [redacted] ten!
Dances on both nights we took in;
Which were keen, tho' the crowd was thin!
We dressed again as triplets three,
It being my last night with them to be,
I had to leave Thursday — too bad for me.

THURSDAY
Came Thursday, my last day at the Lake,
Packed my luggage, so it was ready to take.
Went for a swim, my very last swim,
And how I hated to have to [redacted].
Said goodbye to all my pals,
Friends [redacted] mine, Kathie's and Val's.
Ron with Old Bertha soon came by,
Then the Orchestra played to bid us good-bye,
And we left the Lake with a heart-felt sigh,
But hope to be back again next July.

Helen McCorkle

Hugh Harkness — Village Blacksmith

submitted by Grace Melrose

Hugh Harkness bought the Blacksmith Shop in Maymont in 1911. The shop was located at about where Mr. and Mrs. Broom live. After a few years he rented the shop to Mr. McBrettony, and went back to Ireland. However he loved Canada and wished to make his home here.

Previous to 1911 Mr. Harkness was in Canada in 1906 or 1907 and lived at Virden, Manitoba with his wife and small daughter Maria. His son James was born there in 1907, the only one of the family born in Canada. However he had to return to Ireland again as his wife wasn't happy in Canada.

During his many trips to Canada in the early years, he once worked on the Fraser River in B.C. at Tete Jaune Cache.

In October, 1919 Hugh Harkness came to Maymont from Ireland with his family of six children. This was after the first World War and also after his wife had passed away in Ireland. He had quite a responsibility getting his family settled for the winter and everything done in preparation for his work as blacksmith. Our thanks went out to Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Reid and family who were so very kind and generous to all of us. They took us into their home until Dad could get us settled for the winter. We moved into the house which is now occupied by Mr and Mrs F. Clayton.

In 1920 Mr. Harkness bought an old church which he moved and converted into a house for us in town. Its location was where Mr. Penny now lives. We lived there for quite a few years, and went to school first in the basement of the United Church. Miss Carter was our first teacher. She is now Mrs. Wilf Langley. One other teacher was Mrs. M. Martin. Some others I can't remember.

Hugh Harkness made an important contribution as blacksmith and woodworker to the farmers in this area in the early days. He shod many horses and sharpened many ploughshares.

Dr. Scratch was our family doctor and served us well. Mr. Hugh Harkness' last years were spent in Saskatoon. He died at the age of eighty-seven years in 1967. He was predeceased by his wife, Margaret, in Ireland and son, James, at Saskatoon in 1929. Another son, John, passed away in B.C. in 1976. Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Bill Reid and Mrs. Norman Melrose who are still living at Maymont, two sons, Hugh and Crawford in B.C. Crawford is a War Veteran from the Second World War. Also surviving are twenty-seven grandchildren, twenty-two great grandchildren and one great great grandchild.

Oswald C. Harper's History of Ruddell

by Marjorie M. McCallum nee Harper

My father, Oswald C. Harper, was born in Therefield, England, in 1880, and emigrated to Canada on the same boat as the Barr Colonists in 1903 with his brother M. E. Harper. They came by train to Saskatoon and then purchased oxen and wagon and a few necessary supplies; eventually locating in the Lilac district where they farmed together until the fall of 1906. There my uncle married Miss R. Reeve. Theirs was the first marriage in the new church at Ruddell.

My father, Oswald C. Harper and Mr. G. M. Robinson were partners in the farm implement business until he left for overseas in the 1914-1918 war. When he returned he married Grace Robinson who was born in Paris, Ont. She was the daughter of Charles and Jessie Robinson and sister of Lawrence Robinson, who married Ruby E. Winkler in 1913. After farming the home farm east of Ruddell, he later had a harness shop. He died in Victoria, B.C., in 1962.

First log house built by M. E. and O. C. Harper in Green Bluff (Lilac) district in spring of 1903 in the North West Territories. M. E. Harper and dog Jacko at doorway. O. C. Harper taking photo. Power for farming, yoke of oxen, Bell and Frank used until 1910. Wheat raised was sold as seed to incoming settlers. The seed grain used for this was bought from M. G. Dow who had rented a farm at Smithville 7 miles west of Saskatoon. Our first crop was flax cut with a sythe and threshed with a flail, but it was frozen. Wheat crop was threshed ox powered outfit owned by J. Swain of Jackfish.

My grandfather, Charles Robinson died in 1937, my grandmother in 1948. After their marriage my Father and Mother lived in Saskatoon where my Father worked for the Soldier's Settlement Board. My sister Ora and I were born there. In 1926 we moved back to Ruddell where my father was again in partnership with Mr. G. O. Robinson. This time in a General Store. My mother died there in 1941. My sister Ora married Orval Gibson in 1945. They were both in the Royal Canadian Air Force.

They have two children, Garry and Gail and one grandchild. Orval and Ora now live in Victoria, B.C.

After my Mother's death my Father and I spent the winters in Victoria, B.C., returning to Ruddell for the summer months. Father died in Victoria in 1966.

I met and married John McCallum in 1970. We are now living in a new home near Sidney, B.C.

Reeve Harper Story

Item from the Ruddell News December 1906

Mr. Madill successfully tied the knot on November 28, for Mr. M. Harper and Miss R. E. Reeve, who had just arrived from England. The ceremony was witnessed by a large number of friends, and all agree that it was a very pretty wedding.

I was born Charles William Reeve Harper February 7, 1908 on Father's homestead, a few miles north of Ruddell. My birth certificate reads Ruddell, Saskatchewan as place of birth, as so often was the case, instead of the homestead legal description. The doctor in attendance was from Maymont, a Dr. Scratch. My father, Montague E. Harper, and his brother, Oswald, came to Canada from England with the Barr Colony in 1903 and landed in the then tent town of Saskatoon and from there, by oxteam, to Ruddell. It is difficult to recall but I believe Father said this took something over a week. My mother came from England in late October of early November, 1906, staying with the senior Dow family until her marriage.

My brother M. E. (Ted) Harper was born November 14, 1909. Same doctor in attendance. My brothers, Oswald H. and Allan C. were born in North Battleford in 1912 and 1914 respectively.

Father moved the family to North Battleford in 1911. Here he worked at various jobs, auctioneering, assisting Dr. Glass, Veterinary Surgeon, etc. During 1914-1915, Mother was taken to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, N.Y. My brother Ted and I were cared for by Uncle Oswald at Ruddell, brother Oswald by the Dow family. Following the second visit to Mayo Clinic in 1915 the family went to Florida, U.S.A. in the spring of 1915 for Mother's health. We returned to Canada in the fall of 1915. The spring of 1916 saw us on Uncle Oswald old homestead where we remained for the duration of World War I. Brother Ted and I attended Ruddell School in the winter and Bathgate School in the spring and summer. Bathgate School was then two or three miles east of Lilac.

Father had to buy a pony in order that we could attend the school called Bathgate (some five miles from the farm). The school boards in those days did not pay transportation costs as they do now.

Bathgate School closed when winter set in hence the move into Ruddell. I drove the pony, hitched to a two-seat buggy, and picked up some neighbor children the spring and summer of 1916-17-18-19.

I was told by my mother, who incidentally is alive and currently resident in Willowhaven Private Hospital, age 98, that I was the first white child to be born in Ruddell vicinity. This was also referred to by Mrs. Edna Gibson (nee Robinson) of Victoria, B.C. in her Christmas letter last year (1978). This, of course, I cannot substantiate.

My memory of life on the farm and in Ruddell is a very pleasant one really. Ruddell, to me as a youngster, was a busy active community. Times were tough but we had our pleasures. The time the kids tied an animal to the school bell rope at Hallowe'en and everyone turned out at midnight wondering where the fire was. The time a cow or calf was hoisted to the roof of a barn and the struggle to get it down, the changing of the front wheels of a buggy to the back. The sleigh rides in winter and the picnics in summer which were sandwiched in between the busy life of a farmer. We children, at a dance, were wrapped in blankets and put to sleep in a corner while the older people danced the night through. The dances were not that frequent as I remember but people thoroughly enjoyed themselves when one was put on, usually at the school house.

The Dow family was very important in the lives of our family. To we boys Mr. and Mrs. Dow were Grandpa and Grandma and their daughters Aunties as was their son, Uncle Jack. William Dow fought in the Riel Rebellion.

A story that was told me — that Uncle Oswald rode horseback to Maymont to fetch the doctor that cold blustery February night that I was born. That must have been some ride, there and back.

In December 1919, just before Christmas, we left the farm and Ruddell for Prince George, B.C. It was that same December, as I recall, that Uncle Oswald married Aunt Grace (Robinson).

Among various other jobs, Father was appointed a Deputy Sherriff for Cariboo County and in 1926 was appointed Sherriff of South Kootenay at Nelson, B.C. He occupied this position until his retirement in 1951 at age seventy-four.

My brothers are living and in good health. Ted at Solana Beach, California. Oswald in Vancouver, B.C. and Allen in Vernon, B.C.

Father passed away in July of 1955, the same year as his brother Oswald.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Owen Hawkins

by Lily (Hawkins) LaRoque

Alfred Hawkins married Annie Andrew in 1905. He was born in England, came to Canada in late 1900. Annie came from Manitoba with her father, William Andrew. They had six sons, two daughters and one stepdaughter, Ilia. The children were called: George, Ernest, Lily, John, Robert, Oswald, Philip, and Barbara.

George married Stenna Samway. They have two sons, Owen and Glenn, and two daughters, Sylvia and Leona. George and Stenna lived at Meadow Lake in 1929 and moved north of Dorintosh which was then called "Syrup". Their oldest daughter was born in Meadow Lake, Saskatchewan. Glenn and Leona were born at a lady's house who looked after mothers and babies. They moved west to Pleteveland, Saskatchewan and later went to Victoria, B.C. where George passed away in 1978. Leona died a few years ago. Stenna remarried and lives in Victoria; also Glenn. Diane and family. Owen lives with his wife near Vancouver.

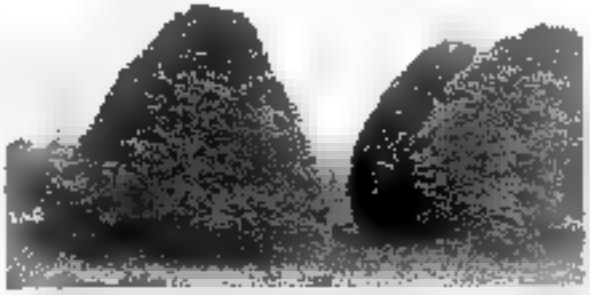
Ernie married Frances Dugan. They have no children and live in Wainright, Alberta.

Lily married William Robert LaRoque. They lived in Meadow Lake, and had two sons, Robert and Brian, and one daughter, Betty. Robert married Frances and has one son William Robert, ten years old and in Grade Four in school, and one daughter, Brenda five years

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Hawkins.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. LaRoque.

George and Stenna Hawkins.



Grain Stacks — Hawkins farm — Maymont.

old. Brian married Alice, has one daughter, Shelley six years old and in kindergarten. Betty married John Murray. They have two daughters, Susan, five years, and Linda four years old. LaRoque farms, raises cattle and works for the Friendship Center in Meadow Lake.

Brian, a mechanic, works for Meadow Lake Car Sales. Betty's husband, John Murray, built their own house on ten acres in the country. He works for Revelstoke, driving a cement truck.

John married Emily Jones. They had five children; one boy died in infancy. The others were named, John, David, Donald, and Nancy. John Sr. died in 1968. Emily still lives in Maymont.

Robert married Mary Ellen Cornet. They have two sons, Alfred and William. Robert was in the army and served overseas. He farmed until a few years ago when he sold his farm to a nephew, Robert LaRoque. He is retired now but still lives on the farm twelve miles west of Meadow Lake.

Oswald died young in 1933.

Philip and his second wife live in Saskatoon.

Barbara married Thomas Whiteman who died in 1973. She still lives in Saskatoon with her son, Roger. Her daughter, June, married Herman Friesen; they have one girl and two boys.

Things I Remember

by Lily LaRoque

Brother Ernie was home from school for some reason. He took John, (about three years old) and myself (about five) out to play. He made a fire for us to get warm. He made it at the edge of a straw stack in the field. The boys had dug holes to play in, but we went up on top of the stack to play. Ernie thought he had put the fire out, but it came up the stack and we tumbled down the other side. I ran to the house and told Mother the haystack was on fire which really was the straw stack. Father was away working so mother phoned a neighbour who came to help. Mother always said he was slow. It was a hired man who came with a horse, but he walked and led the horse. They didn't save the straw stack but they kept it from spreading. I can't say what Father said when he got home!!

We moved from Maymont to Lilac in November of 1918. Father had bought a section of land. Our house wasn't finished so we moved to another house a few miles away.

We went to school at Bathgate School.

I remember how our horses used to always be running away. One day Father was going back to Maymont to do some farm work. He had two horses hitched to a wagon load of grain with a horse on each side and two behind hitched to a plow. I held the horses until Dad, Mother, and Barbara got on the load. Then Dad said, "Let them go," and go they did! Out the gate at a run! I was sure someone would be killed. But the bolt came out holding the double trees and the tongue came down. Away went the horses. The tongue ran into the bank at the side of the road, broke the wagon reach and stopped. The railway repairmen saw the horses. A couple of them ran to the road and caught them. The other team ran away with the plow and tipped it over; but no one was hurt.

I remember Father talking about winning a car. I found the clipping in Mother's papers after she was gone.

"It was a Five-Passenger Touring Car. It was for the winner of the Free Press Prairie Farmer Oat Estimating Contest.

Principal J. B. Reynolds of Manitoba Agricultural College announces the number of oats in the jar of Banner Oats to be 34,396.

Alfred O. Hawkins of Maymont, Saskatchewan, estimated the number of kernels to be 34,394. The prize was for the number nearest to estimate of number of kernels contained in 31 lb., 558 oz. of Banner Oats."

I don't know for sure what year this was, but it was in the years of the First World War, as I remember them saying. Father gave part of the money he got instead of the car to the Red Cross and I came across his Life Membership from the Red Cross.

Emily Hawkins, Maymont, Saskatchewan, 1979

In 1941, April 4, I came to Maymont as a young girl (then Emily Jones) from my home town at Rabbit Lake, Saskatchewan. I came to work for an elderly couple, namely Mr. and Mrs. William Cook who lived on the farm where Mr. and Mrs. Colles Brehon now live. Mrs. Cook became ill and died of cancer about a year later. I stayed on and kept house for Mr. Cook until I got married.

Oct. 12, 1963. Back row — John Jr., Emily, John Sr. Front row — Nancy, Donald and David.

On June 26, 1945, I married John William Hawkins. We lived and worked on the farm of my husband's father's homestead, about one mile north of Maymont. John's mother and father moved into the town of Maymont. His father passed away in May, 1961. His name was Alfred Owen Hawkins. We moved into the town of Maymont in 1952. His mother lived with us until the time of her death in 1955.

We had four children, John, David, Donald and Nancy. My husband farmed until 1966 when he became ill and passed away in the University Hospital October 6, 1966 of cancer at an early age of fifty-two years. So I was left a widow with four children between the ages of ten and sixteen.

In 1969 I sold the farm and bought the house where Mrs. Ada Bates lived, and have been living there since. My family have all grown up now. My oldest son, John, worked for different farmers until four years ago when he got some land of his own and got married to the former Deloris Chastney. They live between Maymont and Sonningdale. The other two sons, David and Donald, went out to Mackenzie, B.C. to work in a sawmill as soon as they had finished high school, and have been there ever since. My daughter Nancy works in North Battleford at the present time.

My two sisters Edna and Hazel lived here for about four or five years and both worked for Mr. Cook, and also other people around Maymont. Edna married my husband's brother, Phillip Hawkins. They farmed

south of Maymont. They had no children of their own, so adopted a baby boy who they called Ronald. When he was four years old, my sister passed away with cancer. Philip married again and is now living in Saskatoon. My sister Hazel went back to work at Rabbit Lake where she met her husband-to-be, Telford Speerbrecker. He passed away three years ago.

So throughout the years we have had our good times and bad times.

Walter P. Hewer family

by daughter, Shirley

Mr. Hewer was born and raised at Lumsden, Sask. His birthdate was June 21, 1891 and he had 3 brothers and 1 sister. His father had a business in the town of Lumsden.

During World War I, Walter served in the Third Canadian Infantry Battalion from 1914 to 1919 during which time he was a prisoner of war in Germany for 27 months. Upon his discharge from the army, Mr. Hewer was an elevator agent for 14 years at Richard and later Lilac. While at Richard, [redacted] married Alma Boskill of Maymont on Nov. 30, 1929 and they had one daughter, Shirley.

Mrs. Hewer was born Nov. 3, 1899 in the Winnipeg area. In 1905, she moved to the Maymont area with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Boskill, 2 brothers and 5 sisters. Alma received her education [redacted] Grey school. She stayed at home helping her parents with the farm work until her marriage to Walter Hewer of Richard in 1929.

In 1935, Walter, Alma and Shirley moved to the Boskill homestead after the death of Alma's father. This family farm was located three-quarters of a mile south of Wavie Bank school. The land description was W½ 24-42-13-W3rd.

"Alma's brother, Frank Boskill, who farmed north of Richard used to hunt coyotes in the Wavie Bank area with his horse drawn sleigh and 3 wolf hounds".

In 1947, the Hewer family bought a grocery store in N. Battleford. The farm was sold to nearby residents, George and Grace Patterson.

Walter and Alma Hewer.

Shirley Hewer.

Boskill Family (about 1921). Back (l-r) — Maude, Alma, Andy, Frank, Eva (Frank's wife), Bill Nolan (May's husband), May, Olive. Front — Charles F. and Sarah (parents).

Shirley Hewer completed her high school education at the N. Battleford Collegiate. Then she worked at the Saskatchewan Hospital for 7 years, then moved to Saskatoon where she continued doing secretarial work for the next 11 years at the Land Titles Office at Kelsey Institute.

In 1960, Walter and Alma moved to the River Heights Lodge, N. Battleford, upon selling their grocery business. They enjoyed travelling upon their retirement. Mr. Hewer died August 18, 1965 after a brief illness.

Mrs. Hewer then moved to her own home in N. Battleford where she lived to the time of her death. She took pleasure in her garden, was adept at sewing and was a crossword puzzle fan. She was a member of the Old Timers Association. Mrs. Hewer died on April 2, 1970.

Shirley was married to Hurley Boldt, formerly of Frocmont, Sask. on Aug. 2, 1968. They reside on an acreage 13 miles west of Saskatoon. Hurley is in residential construction during the summer and quite frequently they travel during the winter months.

The Hickman Story

Jack Hickman was born in West Bromwich, Staffordshire, England and his wife, Florence was of Welsh descent.

Hickman family and Irene and Jim Reid.

Before coming to Canada they had two children — Ida Geddie who lives in Sarnia, Ontario and Albert who lives in Lytton, British Columbia.

When they planned to come to Canada, they had a booking on the Titanic — fortunately for them, their booking was changed to the Royal George instead.

Jack Hickman got a job on the railroad, starting in MacDowall, then to Speers and Richard, where Margaret Newbold was born. She now lives in Merrit, British Columbia.

He was the first section foreman when the branch line opened between Prince Albert and North Battleford. He was then transferred to Davidson and in 1925 moved to Maymont. Their younger son Keith was born in Maymont. He now resides in Toronto.

While in Maymont Jack's hobby was Gardening — he took a very active part in Mayfield and Douglas Fair each year. He also put many entries in the Saskatoon Exhibition.

His retirement from the railroad was in North Battleford. His death in 1973 took place in Sarnia, Ontario. His wife predeceased him in 1951, at Borden, Saskatchewan.

The Dick Hiltz Story

as told by Ken Hiltz

Dick Hiltz was born in Nova Scotia in 1880. He homesteaded on SW 23-42-12-W3rd alongside the Jack Nugent farm. He lived with the Nugents until, he married Winnifred Duffnee in 1912. He then moved to the Speers area and farmed there.

They raised a family of three sons, Chester, Kenneth, and Arthur, and three daughters, Belle, Margaret, and May. A son, Ken Hiltz, still owns the land.

Dick Hiltz — gang plow.

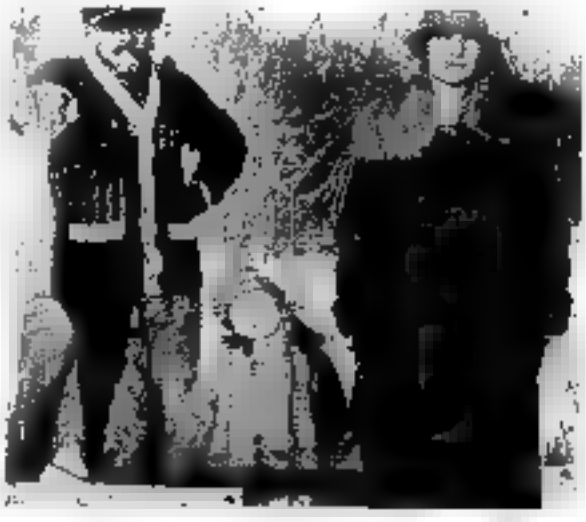
William Hill

William Hill came over from Scotland (Glasgow) in 1908. He bought land in Fielding but later sold it to go back and join the army (World War I). He came back on the "S.S. Tunisian" on May 31, 1919 from Liverpool, England, with his bride Jeannette (MacDonald) and baby son, George William, two years old.

In 1913, he applied for a homestead patent on the North West Quarter on Section 4, Township 42, Range 11, West of the Third Meridian, was received by the Commissioner, approved the twenty-first day of April, 1913, patent issued.

Later on they had another son, Hugh John, and a daughter, Mary Elizabeth, but sold the farm and furniture by public auction and moved to Saskatoon, because his wife Jeanette became very ill and needed to be closer to doctors and medication.

She died about two years after of cancer, at the age of thirty-eight. While at Fielding, she was very noteworthy for her activities in the Saskatchewan Homemakers (W.I.) and other women's organizations.



Mr. and Mrs. William Hill and son George on their farm at Fielding.

She also used to play the piano and organ and sang at most functions. She was very well liked and missed by many.

William Hill continued to live and work in Saskatoon alone with the children, but found it quite hard. He was forced to give Mary up for adoption but kept the two boys. George and his wife Betty had three children — two boys and one girl. George lives at Mississauga, Ontario, Hugh in California, U.S.A. and Mary in Ontario.

The Hinchcliff Family

Father — John Hinchcliff
Mother — Sarah Ann Hinchcliff
Son — Leslie Hinchcliff
Son — Harold Hinchcliff,
Daughter — Muriel Towras Hinchcliff (born in Ruddell)

John was formerly a school teacher, then a coal merchant in Hull, Yorkshire, England. The family of four sailed to Canada on June 11, 1911, and first settled in Montreal. Moving to Ruddell in 1912. John worked at many jobs, including butcher, laborer, on the railway at Maymont, section foreman and station agent at Dacre, Sask. Times and conditions were very hard for providing a living for the family. During this period the family moved around from Ruddell to Maymont, to Dacre and Denholm, and back to Ruddell. Muriel was born in Ruddell during this period.

In 1915, when Leslie was 13 years of age, John and Leslie joined the army, and were sent overseas. John served on the western front, and was wounded in action and hospitalized in England, and sent home in 1918. Leslie was returned home in 1917. The family moved to Regina in 1918, where John served to recieve the returning troops at Wars end.

John now decided that farming was his great desire, and so the whole family moved back to Ruddell to farm land in the Harringay School District. Harold and Muriel attended the Harringay School, and Leslie assisted in the farming operations. Harold attended High School in Ruddell 1924-25. The farm was a nice place to live, and the neighbours were friendly. However for a farmer to start off in a small way the going was difficult, and at times very hard. Crops suffered from drought, hail or snow before harvesting. Horses were used for farming operations, and transportation. Power machines were not used, and it was not until the last year on the farm that the family owned a car, a Ford touring model T.

Therefore in 1925 as a result of the difficulties of the farming operations the family sold the farm, and moved to North Battleford, where John worked as an accountant.

Ted Clark who was an acquaintance of John's in England came to Canada on the same ship, the "Corsican", and farmed nearby in Ruddell, and also sold out and moved to North Battleford.

Dr. Scratch of Maymont was the family Doctor, and on one occasion drove in horse drawn buggy to the Harringay S.D. farm to see Harold who was sick. He was a great man.

John and Leslie were members of the I.O.O.F. lodge in Ruddell. John was also active in community events, organization of the Wheat Pool, telephone board etc.

John passed away in Vancouver in 1957. Sarah Ann passed 1970 in Vancouver.

Leslie married May LaBorde in North Battleford, and they have one daughter Ann, (now Mrs. Robert Jaeger) and four grandchildren, Rick, Dean, Jana, and Gregg, and one great-grandchild.

Harold married Doris Frost of Edmonton, and they have one son Rodney, and three grandchildren Charlene, Nadine and Daryl.

Muriel married Fred Barrass, and they had one daughter Betty. Fred died in Vancouver, and Muriel married Tom Goodman. Betty is married to Henry Harris.

Highlight of the social season in the winter were the Whist Drives and Dances held periodically in the Harringay School, which were very enjoyable. Music was supplied by a piano player and one or two violinists. Lunch, especially box lunches were a looked-foward to part of the evening. All styles of dances were danced, including waltzes, fox-trots, one steps, quadrilles, etc. Of course all the children came to the dances with their parents, if there was no one at home to stay at home with them.

In summer there were community picnics, usually near the river, with races for the children and cash for the winners, and a big community lunch table.

The big sports events of the summer were the baseball tournaments, with most towns or communities represented by a baseball team. Combined with this event was foot races, and ice cream stands. Quite a gala occasion.

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Hird

by Ann (Sherman) Hird

I was born at Fielding, Saskatchewan in 1918, December 3, one of eight children of Charles and Annie Sherman. I went to Calais School to the age of thirteen and a half. The teachers in the rural schools were not compelled to teach high school and as the depression came along, jobs were scarce and even if a person finished school, it was impossible to find a job. I worked at housework for several neighbors. At age nineteen I came to Vancouver, B.C. with my sister, Emma, and her young daughter, Darlene. Her husband had come out the year previous and was working.

I worked at doing housework, also cafe work, around Vancouver for several years also went to work in a shingle mill cook house on Vancouver Island. I met and married Ted Hird. He had one son, Dennis, from a previous marriage, and we had two daughters,

Patricia and Gloria, and one son, Kenneth. War was declared in 1939. Ted had his call to go into the army but failed the medical. He was working in the shipyard in the toolroom.

When our first daughter was one year old I too went to work in the shipyard as we wanted to start buying a home. Even in those days it was hard to get a start on one wage. I worked until we were expecting our second daughter. When the girls were in school I worked at the T. Eaton Company on the Auxiliary Staff, working on sale days or busy seasons, which I enjoyed. When Kenneth came along I said I would work no more, but when he was a year old, Ted had a heart attack at the age of forty-one, I was afraid he would never be able to work again so decided to look for work. I was lucky as I got on at the Telephone Company. By this time Pat was a big help in taking care of the baby. She was thirteen and even ten year-old Gloria helped. Ted eventually went back to work and later had an operation on his heart. This seemed to help him for awhile but I beleive other arteries are pretty well plugged and they are not able to do any further surgery on him. He will retire shortly.

I retired from the Telephone Company after twenty-three years of service and lots of good memories. Dennis and Patricia are both teachers and married to teachers. Gloria is a teacher aid, and Kenneth has just graduated and will be teaching in Nanaimo in September.

We have done a bit of travelling and hope to do some more. We went to Europe and England twice and to Hawaii twice and to California several times. I hope to see a bit of Canada next year, perhaps drive across in our van, along with another couple in their mobile home.

Dennis and wife, Dennise, have two children — a boy and a girl.

Patricia and husband, Kenneth Walach, have three girls — Chemaine, Michelle and Dionne. They are presently in Lahr, Germany for at least two years teaching on the Canadian Army Base.

Gloria and husband, Ian Oke, have three children — Michael, Tammy and Rosyln.

Ken, our youngest, as I mentioned earlier, is a teacher.

The Robert Hodge Family

As a young man our father Robert Hodge lived in Kitchener, Ontario. He came west in the early years of the 1900's. He told tales of having to raft across the river at Borden as no other means of transportation were available.

His first homestead was on Section Four north of Fielding. This was in 1904. Later he bought a half section in the Calais School District. Thus he broke with a steam engine. In 1910 he was married to Grace Morgan from the Carlyle Area. Morgans had come from there to a home across the river. They raised a family of eleven children — all are alive and have homes of their own.

Our father was a competent thresher and many tales could be told of those days. He used steam threshing outfits. He also was an ardent sportsman; baseball and horseracing were among the things he enjoyed. For many years he raised standard bred horses which were entered in races.

Our mother Grace passed away in the spring of 1930.

During the dirty thirties some of the family moved from the Calais District north to Pierceland where our father eventually became a butcher. He passed away in 1953. In 1952 Cecil Hodge came back to the family farm where he farmed until it was sold in 1963.

Mr. and Mrs. John Hope

submitted by Barbara (Hope) Paleshnick

Around the year 1933 John and Winnie Hope came out from Saskatoon to live in Maymont. John was starting up as the druggist in town. They had two daughters, Barbara and Lorraine, and the Hopes lived in Maymont until about 1943 when they moved to Prince Albert. John Hope died a few years ago, and Winnie is living in Winnipeg. Also in Winnipeg is Barbara (Mrs. Moe Paleshnick) and her family. Lorraine (Mrs. R. Byers) is living in Coquitlam, B.C. with her family.

Winnie Hope fondly remembers going out to Tom Sawyers at Christmas time over the years. A group of friends would go there by sleigh for dinner and entertainment. A highlight of the entertainment was a racing game — even when the Reverend Myers was present!

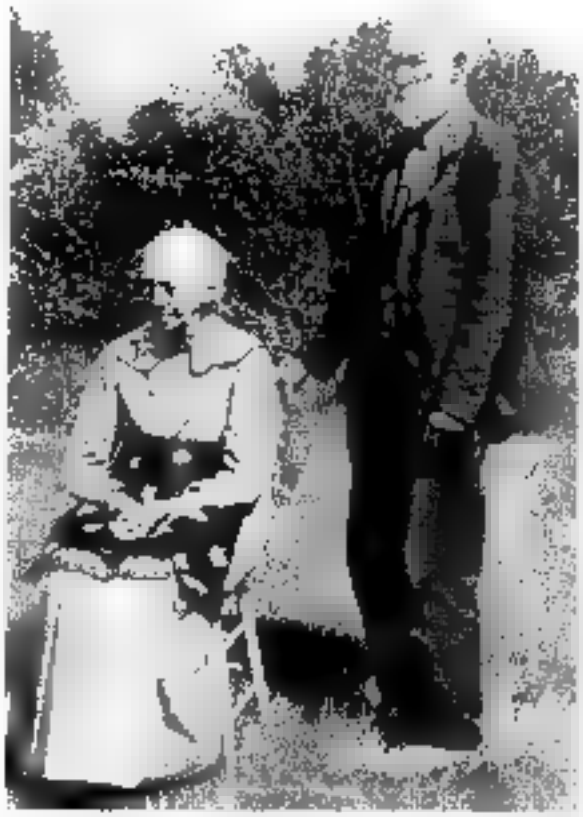
Some of the Anglican Church ministers remembered are Mr. Cozens, Mr. Saunders, and then Mr. Crowder, who married Muriel Butterfield. Doc Scratch often took Mr. Crowder along for company on long trips. And if Doc had car trouble, Mr. Crowder just laughed at the language Doc came out with! One of Doc's favorite foods was hot bread — he couldn't resist it — but was often sick after he ate it!

A couple of teachers from long ago were the principal, Earl McDonald and Edith Butterfield.

Iveson Information

by Emily (Iveson) Garnett

My father, G. E. (Bert) Iveson came to the Fielding district in 1902 and homesteaded east of town. His father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Iveson came soon afterward and homesteaded on N.E. 28-41-11, 4 miles north-east of the town. Bert found that his homestead was rocky and poor, so in 1903 he moved and lived with his parents. He bought the half section east of theirs. They built a log house, plastering it with soil dug from the cellar. That plaster set like cement and remained on the walls for the fifty years the Ivesons lived in the house.



Mr. and Mrs. George Iveson.

My grandparents lived there until their deaths. He died in September, 1932 and Grandma died in January, 1934. Both were two months short of 86 years old. Both are buried in Fielding Cemetery.

In 1915 my parents were married. Mother was Annie L. Mason, who came to Fielding with her father, L. A. Mason, and brother Walter, in 1906. They settled on the property later owned by Mr. Jack Brant south of Fielding. The Mason's first home was a pioneer sod shack. Eventually they moved to a farm south of Radisson where they were living when Bert and Annie were married.

I do not know just when the railroad went through, but before it came my Dad had to walk to Saskatoon for flour and other supplies. The trip would take several days. He found the Doukabours north-west of Saskatoon most hospitable. He would stay with them over night, and often was given a loaf of bread.

Father was a blacksmith by trade, so helped as such when the railroad came. I think he had the first blacksmith shop in Fielding. He took an active part in community life. He sang in the church choir, taught a Sunday school class, and took part in community plays and operettas. He was secretary of Fielding school district for some time, municipal councillor for Mayfield municipality, and road construction foreman when needed. He attended a course in Regina to learn about telephones, and became the repairman when telephones were installed. About 1915 he received 50¢ per hour for his work. (I learned this from his records.)

Mother too was active in church work, singing in the choir and teaching Sunday school, as well as helping with Ladies Aid and W.M.S.

Their two children were born and raised on the farm at Fielding. Emily became a schoolteacher, married Elgin Garnett and moved to Vancouver Island. Lawrence obtained his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Saskatchewan, worked for Imperial Oil Co. after serving in the Canadian Army. He married Joan Ashdown and died in Edmonton in 1972. In 1953 Bert and Annie Iveson moved to Vancouver, B.C. He died in January, 1970 in his ninetieth year. Mother was almost ninety-seven when she died in Feb. 1978.

* * * * * *

Before the days of refrigerators it was a problem to secure fresh meat in summer so the folk of our area formed a meat ring. I do not know just how many families were in it, but Mrs. Stewart, Ted Neumeyer, Bob Ferris and Bert Iveson were some. Each farmer supplied an animal for slaughter during the summer. Mr. Bodie was the butcher and prepared an animal every two weeks, dividing it so each member received his share, to be the equivalent of his animal at the end of the season. Neighbours took turns going for the meat. It was always a pleasure to be allowed to go with grandfather when he went for meat.

Each spring a pig was killed and the pork cured, using a dry salt cure, or fried and sealed away for summer use.

In winter, fresh killed meat was allowed to freeze after being cut up, and used as needed.

* * * * * *

I started to school in Fielding. Sometimes I walked across the field to Wes Sloan's, [redacted] in with their girls, Doris and Edna. On the way there I crossed a sandy hollowed out spot, which Grandfather explained was a buffalo wallow. We thought the Indians had hunted buffalo there because we found arrow heads in the sand there.

One winter Father or Grandfather took me each school day to Joe Bracht's, one mile west, and I'd go to school in Fielding with their children, or we'd go all the way and take them. Father had to sit up on the seat to drive the horses, so had to face the frosty wind. To prevent frostbite he hung a chamois shield over his face, with tiny slits to peek through.

One day, I suppose it was in the spring, Mr. Bracht took me along with his family up to Mrs. Stewart's to see a stampede. She had riders there riding her animals and putting on a show.

In later years we went to school in winter with the Neumeyer children. Father made a covered van with wooden walls and canvas top, with seats along each side to sit on. Mr. Neumeyer supplied the horses and

Charlie or Jim would drive their sisters, Gilberta, Margaret, Florence and Lillian and the Iveson children to school. We kept our feet from freezing by using a foot warmer, heated by glowing carbon bricks. We were very grateful to the school janitor, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Wooden, who would get the 'warmer' going before school let out, so it kept us warm on the way home.

In summer we drove ourselves (when we got big enough to handle the horse). At first we used a covered buggy, but when it wore out Father made us a Bennett buggy with rubber tires. I'll never forget the first time we took out this new buggy. We had an old mare to drive that was due to foal before too long. It was a lovely Sunday and Lawrence and I were going to Sunday School with our new rig. All went well until the britching broke as we went down the hill near Sloans. This allowed the buggy to roll up on the mares heels, so she took off. The more we pulled in the reins to try to stop her the faster she went. We knew we were pulling the buggy up to her but we were afraid to stop pulling. We raced along, turning the cemetery corner on two wheels. Finally, more than a mile further down the road, I took the reins and Lawrence hung on the back and [illegible] himself drag I steered into the ditch and we got stopped. Just then Hilda Garnett and her beau came along. They escorted us home. We were most grateful to them and that no harm came to the mare or her colt.

Jens and Anne Jensen

by Nellane Thomas

Jens and Anne Jensen with their two children, Curtis and Nellane, came to Maymont in 1948. Jens built a John Deere office and shop which is now the Senior Citizens' Complex. The family resided in the Harris house until January, 1951 when Jens began buying grain for the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool and they moved to Mervin, Saskatchewan where Jens and Anne still reside. Curtis now lives in Richmond, B.C.

Mr. and Mrs. Archibald Robert Johnston

by Dorothy (Johnston) Prynallt

My dad, Archibald Robert Johnston came west in 1905 from eastern Ontario. He bought Section [illegible], Tp 42, Rge 12, W 3rd, in Saskatchewan and proceeded to become a farmer.

The winter of 1910 [illegible] returned to Ontario and married my mother, Lucy Fern Presley on February in Ottawa, returning to Saskatchewan in the spring. I, their only child, Dorothy Merrill, was born June 19, 1911.

A few years later my dad bought a farm three and one-half miles northwest of Maymont. He farmed with horses and later on bought a tractor.

[illegible] the early years mother helped at harvest time by driving a binder. My dad built a box and attached it

Lucy and baby Dorothy at the homestead.

below the seat of the binder and apparently I had many rides around the field.

As I grew older threshing time was a big deal to me as I got to haul grain, but it sure was a busy time for my mom.

I started to school at Grey which was a mile east of us, from there I attended classes in the United Church basement, and from there to the Maymont School built in 1920. In 1925 a new three-room school was built known as Maymont S.D. No. 1155 and it was there I finished the education I took.

My dad passed away in July 1927 in Fournier, Ontario at the home of his half sister. A couple of years later my mother remarried and in 1930 they sold out and moved to Eugene, Oregon. On November 1, 1930 I married Edmund Prynault of Balcarres, Saskatchewan. We lived in Maymont and raised three children, Leonard, Patricia and Fern. These were depression times and Ed worked at several different jobs. I had taken a hair dressing course in Saskatoon and was able to help out occasionally. Later on Ed got a job trucking for Werb's Livestock Ltd. in North Battleford. Later he went buying cattle for Mr. Werb, and continued until his health gave out in 1948. He had emphesema, a lung condition. In October 1959 he passed away. During this time I clerked in T. C. Saunders' Store.

[illegible] 1960 I sold out and moved to Calgary, Alberta; and lived with Fern and Doug for a year. While there I took the ten month nursing course at the nursing Aid School. I nursed in Calgary and Edmonton. I am retired now and still living in Edmonton.

My mother is still living. She is eighty-eight years old and went into a nursing home last summer (1978) in Roseburg, Oregon.

Leo and Bev live in Richmond, B.C. They have three children — Valerie married to Greg Aitkin, and they have a son, Sean.

Steven is employed in a music store. Bryan is learning a trade and their father, Len, works for LaFarge Building Supplies in Richmond.

Pat and Sam Campbell live in the town of Lumsland, Saskatchewan. Sam is a grain farmer and Pat nurses at Kerrobert. They have three children — Duncan married and living at Buffalo Narrows, Janice going to University, and Dean who was a grade twelve grad this year.

Fern and Doug Riley live in Calgary. They have two adopted children, Alison and John both in school. Doug works for Shell Oil and Fern is a buyer for the "Tall Girl Shop" in Calgary.

Emma Jessie (Gray) MacDonald Johnston

told by Emma

I was born at Bracebridge, Ontario, October 18, 1905 and came west with my parents, William Charles and Rosetta Gray in April, 1906. I attended Maymont and Montro Schools.

■ October of 1923 I married Angus MacDonald. There were three children ■ my first marriage. Mary Elizabeth — September 6, 1924; Donald William Angus — July ■, 1926; and Wilma Georgia — July 27, 1928.

Angus MacDonald passed away December 26, 1929. I spent some time with my parents on their farm southwest of Maymont. When the children came of age to attend school I built a house in the village and moved in with my wee family.

I joined the Ladies Aid and Women's Missionary Society which I served as president for ten years and served in numerous other offices. I also joined the Sharon United Church, was a C.G.I.T. Leader, also served as Baby Band Leader and taught Sunday School.

This was mostly during the 1930's and money was scarce. I made over old clothing into dresses, coats and even footed stockings for the children from my mother's cotton hose. A few yards of cotton print was a luxury. Some of my better off friends gave me used clothing for which I was very grateful. I had to make everything I possibly could as the Mother's Allowance was only fifteen dollars a month. How I managed I will never know, but God was good to us. My parents and brothers helped me as much as they could, but they, too, were finding it hard to carry on.

Mary worked out during the fall to make enough money to buy her books for the new term. She was only twelve years old. I did sewing for some of my neighbors and friends to make a little extra money.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Johnston and Mr. and Mrs. S. F. and Family

told by Jim Johnston

My Grandfather Frank Johnston came West from Rockland, Ontario in the Spring ■ 1905 to file on a homestead, situated North of the hamlet of Maymont, on the S.E.¼ sec. ■, T43 R12 W3rdM. This he did by walking to Battleford, Sask. the Head Land Office for the Territories, crossing the river by steam ferry.

Farmstead of Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Johnston.

Mr. S. F. Johnston.

Mrs. S. F. Johnston.

Grandfather stayed the summer months, returning home to Ontario to prepare for the departure of his family the following Spring 1906. Dad who was married in December, 1903, worked in the logging camp, gave up his job to come West with his Father and brother Robert by freight train and two cars of settlers effects'. On their arrival a tent and sod house made temporary shelter for the summer months.

Dad bought homestead land from a cousin, the S.E. ¼ sec. 30, ■, 12-W3rd. and the N.E.¼ sec. 19, 42, 12. W3rd. of C.■.R. land. He began building a house on this quarter with the help of cousin George Johnston, neighbours and friends. Additions were added later then stuccoed in brick design as it now stands.

Mother, Grandmother and brother Lorne who was 15 months old came in the summer. Dad's sisters Annie and Margaret (Mrs. Joe Campbell) and family coming later ■ make our family complete. Mother and baby stayed with Uncle Alex and Aunt Jennie until the house was built.

The men were kept busy building a stable too, breaking land and cutting hay, of which there was plenty on the treeless prairie. There was sufficient water for the animals in the sloughs, but drinking water came from the neighbours, who had come out earlier and had dug wells by hand. It was hauled in milk cans brought with them from Ontario.

Dad tried digging a well in his yard without success. He heard of Mr. Jack Smithe who was digging wells in Fielding area with a horse-drawn boring machine. Mr. Smithe came, dug down 180 ft., the water coming up within 70 ft. of the top. This well served us for many years. A windlass was used for a

time, later a pump and windmill. A cistern dug beside the well, a building built over it and a stationary engine in it to run a pump-jack attached to the pump. This method was needed to fill the cistern and trough when the wind did not blow.

When I was 19 Uncle Robert's windmill needed greasing, I never was afraid of height, so on this windy day I was up doing this, the windmill began to sway, I finished but got down the 40 ft. in a hurry. The next morning it had fallen to the ground. I never could go up high again.

As Dad's family increased to six boys and three girls, one more quarter of land was bought, some rented. More horses were necessary and a larger barn 60 ft./40 ft. was started in 1916. The first 8 ft./2 ft. wall was of stone and cement. Stewart Muir was the stone mason, and with help of cousin Sam, Uncle Robert, Frank and John Cooley. Jack Easterday and friends. The following year the lumber half was built by carpenters Art Martin of Maymont and Wilson Warcup of Sonningdale.

Our school days began at Grey School and ended there too. I often talk about those days, some good, some not so good. Our first teachers were Francis Christfield, Helen Wood, Dorothy Chisholm, Louise Elkerton and Mr. Henderson. Some had a hard time to stay and live with the gang that went to school then.

Dad had a herd of Aberdeen Angus Cattle in the later years, so needed more pasture, the school section adjoining his farm was rented for many years. Here loads of hay were cut, some put in the loft with slings and some in stacks left in the meadow.

Farming was done with machinery brought from Ontario. Ben Wooden came from Fielding district to thresh with his Steam threshing machine. In a few years Dad bought a Sawyer-Massey wooden machine, when we finished school Lorne and I ran the outfit for him. A Case 36/54 was used until Combines became the method of harvesting. Then more modern machinery, trucks and cars became a necessity.

I remember the summer I was eight years old, Grandfather was harrowing in the North field, a lightning storm came up suddenly, struck the three horses and killed them. Grandfather was only partially knocked unconscious but after resting a week he had recovered. During this time we took the opportunity to raid his garden, but we did not go unpunished as he never forgot any mistakes we made.

Sunday was a day of rest and Church services were held in the settlers homes by travelling Ministers. Grandfather and Grandmother always made them welcome at their home as he did of anyone who came there; this tradition followed in Dad and Mother's home, too.

I was eight years old when Grandmother passed away in September, 1916, eleven years when Grandfather passed away in January, 1919. Those first years with them were very meaningful to each of us and many food memories remain.

As each of us were married, we made homes of our own some near some far away. There are 28 Grandchildren and 8 Great Grandchildren.

Lorne and Gladys, a family of four at Duncan, B.C. Dean deceased. Donna (Mrs. Jack Crandon) Chemainus, B.C. Keith of Campbell River, B.C. Kathaleen (Mrs. Robin MacDowell) Duncan B.C. Gladys deceased 1976. Ernie and Ada a family of two at Parksville, B.C. Grant and Delbert at Parksville, B.C. Ernie deceased 1971 Cora and Don a family of two in Victoria, B.C. Mark and Ricky Victoria, B.C. Alma and Alec at N. Battleford Sask. Myrtle and Nathan Friedman a family of three at N. Battleford, Sask. Lorraine (Mrs. Marshall Pollick) and Harvey of Toronto, Ontario. Robert of N. Battleford, Sask. Russell and Alice a family of seven at Fort Saskatchewan, Alta. Yvonne (Mrs. Jim Garnet) Margaret (Mrs. Ken Samielzakt) Arnold and Wayne of Fort Saskatchewan. Alta. Debbie (Mrs. Nick Plooy) Edmonton, Alta Betty (Mrs. David Foster) N. Battleford, Sask. Russell deceased. Patricia (Mrs. Ernie Newbauer) Winnipeg, Man. Carl and Edith a family of five at Fort Saskatchewan, Alta. Beverly (Mrs. Don Stannard) Calgary, Alta. Lois (Mrs. Norman Wallace) Dale and Wilfred of Fort Saskatchewan, Alta. Dean of Edmonton, Alta. Arthur and Emma a family of one at Regina, Sask. Ruth (Mrs. Ron McLeod) Regina, Sask.

The farm is sold now and no one lives on it.

Mother passed away in September, 1946. Dad moved to town in 1953, later residing at Duncan, B.C. and River Heights Lodge at North Battleford, Sask. until 1970, when he passed away.

I, Jim live on my farm East of Dad's.

Our Pioneer Women

From the very beginning women shared the disappointments and the setbacks as well as the rewards that attended life on the Western prairies in the early days. They cheerfully endured the hardships of homesteading, the loneliness and the gruelling hard work. Many of them lived in sod houses or rough log shacks, far from civilization and with none of the amenities of life such as Western farm women, for the most part, know today. Even the most gently-natured ones — and there were many of this kind — had to learn to do everything for themselves, pump water, trim lamps, bake bread, milk cows, cook for hungry men, raise children without help and sometimes even do their stint in the fields.

written by Jim Johnston

Arthur Roy Johnston

written by "Doug"

I was born May 3, 1914 at the farm home of my parents Samuel F. and Julia Johnston. I attended school at Grey School.

I worked on my father's farm in the summers and

worked in logging camps in Northern Ontario and Northern Saskatchewan for two winters.

■ 1940 I married Emma MacDonald (nee Gray). Emma was a widow with three children, so I became a step-father. ■ 1941 we were blessed with a daughter, Ruth Darlene Julia.

I continued to farm until 1969 when I rented for two years and finally sold. I moved to Regina and took a job at the Regina Inn. After one and a half years I moved to the Y.M.C.A. where I am still employed.

While in Maymont I joined the Sharon United Church and served on the Board of Stewards, was a member of the Wheat Pool and served as a director. The last eight years I farmed from town having moved in in 1960.

I attend Zion United Church in Regina. I am a member of Tor-Hill Golf Club, of the Y.M.C.A., and the Health Club.

I have two grandchildren and thirteen step-grandchildren and fifteen great step-grandchildren.

In 1977 I spent a month in Great Britain visiting England, Scotland and Wales. In 1976 I took a tour of California, Mexico and U.S.A. In 1978 I spent two weeks in Jamaica, West Indies.

I lived in an apartment for some time and finally moved in to a small apartment on the ground floor of our daughter's home where I am at present.

I spent one winter ■ Vancouver with my step-daughter, Wilma and husband, Garry, and have visited Vancouver Island many times. I curl in the winter and golf all summer. I am a Senior Citizen now and plan to get involved in some of their activities.

I am known to many as "Doug" a name I got from school days.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Johnston and Family

told by Lauriette Johnston

I came from Soaringdale, Sask. in August, 1932 as the bride of Jim Johnston, to his farm on S.W. 29, 42, 12, W3rd.

Jim built our house that summer with help of family, neighbours and carpenter Art Martin of Maymont. The basement dug with horses and scraper also much done with pick and shovel. The rough spruce lumber hauled with two team ■ horses and wagon gear from the saw-mill at Rabbit Lake 50 miles North. The round trip taking 2 days. Remaining lumber etc. bought at Fred McCorkle's lumber yard at Maymont.

Jim Johnston family — 1969. L. to r. — Glen, Ilene, Kirk, Lauriette and Jim, Eleanor.

Log barn built in 1933.

A straw barn made shelter for a team of horses that first winter. This was made by spacing a double row of ■ ft. long poles every 4 ft. apart upright making a 14/16 ft. size barn. Page wire attached to the outside line and inside line and straw put in between the wire. The roof ■ small poles and sod.

During that winter Ed Rothney and Jim made several trips with a team and sleigh to the West ferry crossing, to haul logs off the island in the river, to build our barn and sheds. There was a shack near by with an old cook stove in it, where they stayed overnight. It was only a shelter, sleep was impossible, as they were kept busy filling the stove with wood to keep from freezing, and waiting for daylight to come ■ as to get back haulings logs. Even then their tea-pot on the end of the stove froze and broke. Roy Gray, who lived near there, came in the morning and invited them to stay with them, they gladly accepted the invitation, no need now to endure another cold night.

There were many hours of hard labour those first years, all the farm buildings were made of logs and sod roof. This log barn now 47 years later is still standing 4 miles East of here on Ira Thompson's farm as we knew it then.

In 1951 we bought a lumber barn 36/50 ft. from Sam A. Johnston. It was moved by Bill Perkins of North Battleford with two local tractors and a catapillar tractor of our neighbour Jake Prescesky. Gradually as we could afford it, lumber buildings replaced the logs ones.

After a few years, Jim bought a driving team from Mr. Bradshaw, often driving Doctor Scratch and cattle buyers in the winter throughout the district. Extra money was needed those years of the depression.

Many times in those days of 1934-37 the winds blew every day, so much sand and dust in the air, a lighted lamp was used ■ day. We saw many people travelling North past our farm coming from Southern

Saskatchewan with just what the wagons could carry, cattle being herded along with them. We had very little straw those years too, we bought straw from a neighbour and hauled it from his old straw-stack that had been left a few years previous, for just such an emergency it would seem. We considered ourselves fortunate not having to move away too.

The sawing of the wood was a Spring event for every farm. The neighbours gathered at each other's place, usually it took six men to saw up at least 10 loads of dry and green wood for the year. Most of this wood was hauled from across the river 20 miles away in the winter.

Two bored wells were dug in 1933 by Gordon Downey, one 90 ft. and one 231 ft. both unsuccessful. Jim then hauled water in barrels or tank with horses and wagon or sleigh from the neighbours well for most of 15 years. A dug-out made with horses and scraper in the later Forties became our source of water. Later in 1960 a large one near the buildings was dug by Cliff Spence Construction Co. of Speers, Sask.

Everyone attended Church and Sunday School held at the country schools in summer. Rev. Frank Myers of Maymont came to Grey School, Rev. David Cline of Ruddell came to Wavie Bank School. These schools were the center for entertainments too, Christmas concerts, social evenings and dances. Always a school picnic at end of the school year in June. Home-made lemon-aid and ice-cream .5¢ a dish. Games and races for everyone of any age. But there was always the cows to milk when you got home.

Power came to our yard in 1954, making work easier, no more cleaning of lamp globes and lanterns being blown out on the way to the barn on a windy night. Most noticeable was the refrigerator replacing the ice-well, where cream, milk, meat and any food needed to be kept cold was stored. This was a square hold dug by hand in the ground near your house 8 ft. wide 8 ft. deep or larger, filled with blocks of ice cut with an ice-saw at the river. Each layer covered with saw-dust and straw to preserve the ice for summer months and a small building over it.

Our farming was done with horses for 15 years, a Hart-Parr on steel wheels the first tractor. Another quarter of land was bought, some rented, then modern machinery, trucks and a car became a necessity. We sold our cattle and horses in 1967, but continued farming until 1976 when our land was rented out.

Our family of four went to Eatonia and Wavie Bank country schools and town school in Maymont. Most of their school years they drove a shetland pony and cart in summer and a driving horse in winter. Later the school bus being the way of transportation.

The family are married and live at the following places.

Eleanor (Mrs. Bernard Spence) a family of three at Maymont, Sask.

Darrell, Lana, Karen.

Ilene (Mrs. David Zwack) a family of three at Saskatoon, Sask.

Dana, Jamie, Sheila.

Glen and Elva, a family of five at Langham, Sask. Glen deceased in 1972.

Michelle, Darren, Desmond, Laurie, Barry.

Michelle (Mrs. Stuart Wurtz) a family of two at Langham, Sask.

Kirk and Lorraine in Lloydminster, Alberta.

Jim is now deceased this February, 1979.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam A. Johnston and Daughter Mrs. Bernice Wood

written by Bernice Wood

Sam A. Johnston was born at Plantegenet, Ontario, in the year 1886. He came west with a carload of horses and bought land from Walter Sholdice between Maymont and Richard in the Wavie Bank District.

He married Jessie Sutherland (born 1897) in the year 1917. Jessie Sutherland came west in the year 1915 to her sister's place, Mrs. Joseph Kinmond at Speers. She worked at different places — Alex Brebon's and S. F. Johnston's where she met Sam A. Johnston.

One son, Raymond, (Ray) was born July, 1918 and farms the homeland. Ray married Laveta Klassen of Richard. They have one son Lloyd and two grandsons.

A daughter, Bernice, was born January, 1920. She married George Wood in December, 1943. They had a family of three — Kenneth, Dorothy, and Lyle. Kenneth was killed in a car accident in 1965. Dorothy, born September 1949 married Robert Bell. They live in Edmonton and Dorothy works in a bank. They have two children, Kenneth and Sandra. Lyle was born August 3rd, 1953. He married Kathryn Doble in 1975 and they have one daughter, Lindsay. Lyle is a postman. He also worked 4 years with the Hudson Bay. Lyle spent one year at Mackenzie, B.C. before he came back to work in Saskatoon.

The winter of 1920, Sam A. Johnston went to B.C. to work in the bush. He farmed with horses for many years. They used coal oil lamps to see with and they travelled with a horse and buggy. They got their first car in 1920. Dr. Scratch was their doctor in those early years.

Sam had his first combine in 1928. He used it one year and then got a threshing machine.

Sam was on the School Board of Wavie Bank School which was built in 1938. Ray and Bernelce went to Wavie Bank School driving to school, 2 miles, with a horse and buggy. They had both started school at Bathgate but went to Wavie Bank after it was built, as it was closer. Also by that time Bathgate had been moved to the hamlet of Lilac. Some of their teachers were: Miss Bailey, Ken Doolittle, H. Broley and Mr. McFarlane.

Sam played the violin for dances in the 30's.

Sam A. was on the Municipal council for a number

of years as well as on the River Heights Lodge board in later years.

Saro and Jessie bought a house in Maymont in 1952. They moved back and forth from the farm until he sold the farm to Ray in 1961. He was on the Maymont Village Council until his health got too bad. He enjoyed curling.

Berneice makes her home in Maymont. She likes to crochet, knit, make quilts, and garden with flowers around the house.

The Herbert Johnston Family

written by Nellie Johnston

Herbert, son of Alexander Johnston and Janet Shane came west to Maymont with his parents and family of nine children in 1905 from Ontario to take up a homestead. His older brothers Alex, Bob and Will were working in North Dakota. They heard that Saskatchewan was opening up for homesteads so came up with two other lads in 1903. They filed homesteads and wrote back home. Our grandfather's homestead was three miles north of Maymont where Wilfred now lives. Herbert married Ernestina Bohn, daughter of Frances Bohn and Sarah Parker in 1910. They were a family of twelve children and came west in 1907 from Manitoba. Mother and Dad lived in our grandfathers house and our grandparents moved another 1½ miles further north to the homestead of Fred McCorkle as they farmed the land. Mr. McCorkle did have the first store there hoping the railway would come that far north. When it didn't he built in Maymont and sold his land to our grandparents. Dad and mother had eight children Hazel, Harvey, Nellie, Sadie, Gordon, Wilfred and Grace and Allan who was deceased in 1931. We went to school at Grey School which was built in 1905. We had numerous teachers two or three a year. I'm sure those young teachers were frightened with over thirty pupils and so many grown boys much larger than they.

Herb Johnston family, 1951.

Group of young people at Rob Johnstons.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Johnston.

We children had our chores to do. Some did the milking others looked after the horses. We always had a big garden so had our share of pulling weeds. We had our fun also playing hockey in the winter and baseball in the summer. We had a rink in the backyard in the winter. I have spent hours standing in goal while pucks were fired at me both at home and at school. Hockey sticks were made of poplar wood and the pucks were also pieces of wood. Every child who could hold a bat had a chance to play ball the extra players went out in the field. The students were anxious to play games at recess and noon hour. The year I attended the town school I found it lonesome as so many pupils went home at lunch time and the ones that stayed just wanted to hang around the school. At the country school we frequently had a little program Friday afternoon. We had plays and recitations with every pupil taking part at some time and Christmas Concert night I'm sure no movie star was as important as our student actors. At Valentines day and Hallowe'en our parents and younger brothers and sisters were invited to a party at the school. Our parents enjoyed these as much as we did as it gave them a chance to visit with their neighbors. At Maymont School in the winter we got out to see the Senior hockey games. We got Bob McCorkle with his charm to ask permission from the

principal. We gave up half an hour at noon and our recess so we would be out for the game which cost us a whole dime.

Our father supplemented his farm income by breeding horses and buying and shipping carloads down east to Ontario. We had some merry rides to school when he was breaking in the new ones. Hazel inherited her father's love of horses and wasn't afraid of any of them. She gave us some scarey moments when she would slide down the straw stacks onto the back of any horse and they would stampede into the farm yard. She took Harvey and I on a fast buggy ride before any of us were old enough to go to school. Dad was away with the new buggy but Hazel managed to harness a horse with some old harness and hitch it to the old buggy. She sat me down at the bottom and she and Harvey on the seat. Our mother came up from the cellar as we were going out the gate. She thought we would head for our aunts place so phoned her. I can still see my aunt with her arms outstretched as we drove in the yard. Hazel became a fine horsewoman and in her early teens hauled grain from the threshing machine.

We had interesting neighbors. Tom Sawyer a story book character to us who came from England. One of our cousins was staying at our grandparents place and Mr. Sawyer came to get some water he asked Mr. Sawyer "What's your name?" He replied "Tom Sawyer, what's yours?" "Huck Finn" came the reply.

The Giffard family came from the United States. They had a flag pole on their front lawn and always flew the American flag on the 4th of July. When we took the lunch out to the field in threshing time, Mr. Giffard would tell his stories of some event in the United States. Mrs. Giffard was a quiet woman and a lovely dressmaker and made us some very pretty dresses. Their youngest daughter Cornetta married Charlie Hall and came back to the farm for awhile and was our neighbor once again. She taught school at Wavie Bank and their daughter Ann was born while they lived there.

Our father loved public life and served on the school board, church board, and was a municipal councillor for many years. On Sunday he took over minding us, made sure our shoes were polished and got us ready for Sunday school. Mother was a home person and kept the home fires burning as some one had to stay home with us all coming and going. She belonged to the Women's Missionary Society and made tea and coffee for church functions for many years. She enjoyed her quiet time and would stay up after all had gone to bed to tend the fires, write letters and do Bible study. She was good at looking after the sick and was often called to help a neighbor lay out the dead at the passing of a loved one in the early years. She acted as mid-wife and helped the local Doctor bring many children into the world. We had an open house to travellers with free food and lodging. During the hard times when men were walking the roads, mother would see that the men would bathe their feet and she would wash and mend their sox or give them a new pair before they went on their way.

When we took a contagious disease all the family were quarantined for 3 weeks. We had many a game of marbles or table tennis on our long dining table as many a time there would only be one sick. Gordon took polio when he was 3 years old. We took turns rocking him in our cradle until he improved. Death struck our family in 1931. Our grandmother, Mother's mother and our grandfather, Dad's father and our youngest brother, Allan died within three weeks. After the death of our grandfather my grandmother spent the winter at our house and went back to her own home in the spring.

As the crops failed, those who could got winter jobs. Gordon went to Fort Frances, Ontario to play hockey for $25.00 a month but could get $40.00 working in the bush so changed to that. Harvey and an uncle also went. Harvey then went to Kirkland Lake and worked in the gold mines. Hazel went to southern Sask. and worked on the Gilchrist ranch. Sadie was training for a nurse at Cranbrook, B.C. I went out with my cousins to B.C. to work. All but Harvey had returned when the war broke out.

The first harvest during the war was a trying one. Gordon had been called to the army. By this time we had a small threshing outfit and Gordon ran the tractor. Wilfred was young but did his best to take over. He spent many late evenings studying the tractor manuals. By the time Gordon's leave came through harvest was nearly over.

Later when Wilfred was married mother and dad moved into a house they bought from the Nathan Friedman's which was built by Fred McCorkle. They lived to celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary and both died in their 89th year two months apart.

Sadie married Lasinas Le Beau and they lived in the Okanagan Valley. Lee worked on the boats on Okanagan Lake and was on the gate at Rogers Pass until his retirement. Sadie still nursed until then. They had two children, Wayne and Karen. Wayne has three children and works for the D.N.R. at Fort St. John. Karen is Mrs. Steve Brown of Calgary and they have 4 children. Sadie and Lee now live in Okanagan Falls, B.C.

Grace is Mrs. Bob McKenzie and they live in Saskatoon. She had two children, Donald Patterson of Edmonton and Diane, Mrs. Gene Matechuk of Calgary. She has three grandchildren, Jim and Rose, and Heather Patterson of Edmonton.

I went to Ontario during the war and worked in an ammunition factory filling shells at Ajax, Ontario for defense Industries Ltd. for three years. After the war I worked at Oshawa, Ontario. There I met my husband James Johnston. After our marriage we went back to Northern Ontario where he used to live. He got a job working in the gold mines. Gold was $38.00 an ounce then, not $300.00 like it is now. After my husbands

death I came back to Maymont with Helena, four, and Ralph, seventeen months old. We lived with Gordon who was farming the Dawson farm. Later we bought it. The children loved the farm. We had lots of water but had a windmill. You would see it turning, grab the water pail, and by the time you got there it would stop. We had a windmill at home also but had a cistern so could always get water. I think the highlight of those years was getting electricity. I don't think anyone really dreamed of having power on the farm. I think the day the power was turned on we had every room lighted, it was such a thrill. Percy Parker lived with us in the summer. He worked and had his land farmed also. The children loved him and he always had time to fix anything they wanted fixed. It was a sad day when he passed away.

I enjoyed my years on the farm. We had very good neighbors, so willing to pick the children or I up to take us to events. I was glad I came back to Maymont. The church groups, 4-H leaders and choir leaders who had such a great part in helping me bring up my children. We are now living in town. Ralph is with us still. Helena is Mrs. Randall Bell and lives in Saskatoon. She has two children Jim, 8 and Roxanne, 6. We had an anxious time when Roxanne was born. She was an undernourished child and weighed 2½ lbs. at birth. To me she looked like one of those Biafra children, was so thin. She responded to loving care and was a real fighter. By her first birthday she could do anything other children her age could do. She starts to kindergarten this year.

The Harvey Johnston Family

Harvey Johnston is a son of Herbert and Ernestine Johnston.

Greg, Alan, Merle and Harvey.

Harvey married Merle McGregor of Kirkland Lake, Ontario, on June 23, 1941. They have two sons -- Alan and Gregory, both born in Kirkland Lake, Ontario, now both married and residing in Saskatchewan.

Harvey served in the armed forces in World War II and was Prisoner Of War in Italy, Austria, and Germany. After the Armistice he returned to farming until taking over the Post Office from Clem Coleman in 1958. He retired in 1977 and is living in Maymont.

Harvey is a village councillor and a member of the Maymont Library Board and the Maymont Legion.

Margaret Emma Johnston

Margaret Emma (Lough) Johnston was born in Alpen, Michigan, U.S.A. April 24, 1882. She was the elder daughter of a family of five children of William Lough and Elizabeth (nee Somers) Lough. Prior to her marriage she was a professional dressmaker.

In 1912 she was married to Robert Frank Johnston and moved to Maymont, Saskatchewan where she resided with her husband, farming one and a half miles north of the Village of Maymont. Later upon retirement she moved into Maymont where she resided until 1968 when she moved to Edmonton to be near her family. She had three children, Clifton, Norman, and Leola all born at the farm residence with Dr. J. A. Scratch being in attendance.

Mrs. Johnston passed away in Edmonton in April 1979 with funeral services in the Sharon United Church, Maymont, and interment was made in the family plot in the Maymont Cemetery.

Mrs. Johnston was a member of the Maymont United Church, Women's Missionary Society, Maymont Homemakers since 1922, and the Ladies Aid. She assisted in drama in Maymont in the early years, and gave much of her time to this project. She gave demonstrations in both sewing and glove making. She was leader and organizer of the first Homecraft Club held in Maymont. She was an instructor for the Farm Girls Camp and acted on the Board of Camp Leaders in North Battleford. She was a member and one time president of a weaving class brought to Maymont through the Searle Grain Company, this being a six-week course. She was the first lady appointed to the local cemetery board and was active until 1958.

Robert Frank Johnston

Robert Frank Johnston was born at Horseshoe Bay, Quebec on October 10, 1875. He came to Maymont in the year 1906. In the early years he bought horses and shipped them east for sale. Later he took up farming in Maymont one and a half miles north of the town.

In 1912, he was married to Margaret Emma Lough in Alpen, Michigan. Then she returned to Maymont and resided with him on the farmstead.

Mr. Johnston was the second eldest of four children of the late Frank Johnston and Margaret (nee Lough) Johnston.

Mr. and Mrs. Rob Johnston raised three children, namely, Clifton, Norman, and Leola all born at the farm in Maymont.

Mr. Johnston passed away on May 9, 1960 with funeral services in the Sharon United Church in Maymont on May 13, 1960. Reverend Frank Myers officiating, with interment in the Maymont Cemetery.

Mr. Johnston at the time of his death was a member of the Sharon United Church in Maymont and a Life Member of the Mayfield and Douglas Agricultural Society.

Muriel and Howard Johnson and Son

Muriel and Howard Johnson came to Maymont in April 1957 — had one son, Bernard. Howard worked for the Rural Municipality of Mayfield for four years. In November of 1961, we moved to North Battleford. We came from Bracken, Saskatchewan where Howard had worked for the Rural Municipality of Lonetree. Bernard attended school in Maymont when Mr. Armstrong was principal.

We enjoyed our time there. We were there for Dr. Scratch Day.

Sven Axel Waldemar Johnsson (1904-1972)

by Muriel Johnsson

Sven Johnsson was born near Linkoping in southern Sweden on April 12, 1904. This area of Sweden is a rich agricultural area, wheat being the main crop. He was one of the younger members of a family of eight, five girls and three boys. At the age of eighteen he entered the army for one year compulsory military service but remained for three years as an instructor in demolitions. He also became an avid cross-country skier, winning races in that sport.

In the spring of 1928 he emigrated to Canada, landing at Halifax and came directly to Kitscoty, Alberta where he worked for a farmer named Wayne Randall for two years.

Back (l-r) — Jo-Ella, Charlotte, Lynne. Front: Sven, Erik, Muriel, Nancy — 1963.

In the spring of 1930 he came to Ruddell, Saskatchewan, where he hoped to obtain work on No. 5 Highway which was then under construction. Work had been halted on the highway but through the help of Bill Kennedy who lived at the Ruddell Hotel he obtained work at the farm of Dave Alexander where Pete Prescesky now lives. Sven planted the trees in the windbreak which shelters that yard.

The Alexanders were much impressed by this young Swede and when fall came Mr. Alexander came to my father, the late John Swan, to recommend that he hire him. My father was crippled by arthritis so he had to have year round help on the farm.

So Sven came to work for us on the farm in the Lilac Area. He stayed until the spring of 1936, when he went farming on his own on land rented from Mr. O. C. Harper south of Lilac, land which is now owned by Harold Pain. Sven continued to farm for the next four years, returning in the winters to do the chores on my dad's farm.

In the meantime I had grown up and finished high school and these were the depression years.

Sven and I, having been in love for many years were married on December 23, 1940. We continued to live in the farm home; my parents had both died in 1940. We raised four girls and one boy, JoElla, Charlotte, Lynne, Nancy and Erik.

Sven raised purebred Hereford cattle, starting with two cows from J. S. Palmer and Sons of Marsden, Saskatchewan at that time the premier Hereford breeder in Saskatchewan. This was in 1944. We raised Herefords with success until we had a dispersal sale in 1969. We showed the grand champion at the North Battleford Bull Sale in 1957. Two years later (the bull) was brought back to the Bull Sale and was Reserve Champion. From 1958 on we had a small feed lot.

Sven died on February , 1972, due to a heart attack while on the way to Saskatoon to keep a doctor's appointment.

I continued to live on the farm until the spring of 1976 when the farm was sold to Henry Welford, Bill Welford's oldest son. Since then I have lived in North Battleford.

It was hard to leave the farm where I had lived all my life and where my father had homesteaded.

I have so many pleasant memories especially of a truly wonderful man who came from so far away to be my husband and the father of my children. I have no regrets. It has been and continues to be a good life.

The Jones Family

told by Kenneth Reid

Warren B. Jones and his wife Emma, lived with their four children in Fremont, Nebraska. Mr. Jones was a teacher in Fremont College. The family were comfortable and happy in this beautiful city. However, they too heard the exciting stories of the north west and decided to move to this new land to make their for-

time. The family arrived in North Battleford in 1911. It was a drastic change in life style and the young people found the adjustment very difficult.

Wilmetta was the oldest daughter. She used to sit and cry and she watched the trains leave North Battleford. As far as she was concerned, they were heading to Fremont, Nebraska. She later returned to Teacher's College in that city. However, upon graduation, she returned and taught school in the Medstead area. Here she became close friends ■ Mr. and Mrs. Bill Doidge who helped her to survive. She later taught school in the Harringay district where she met her future husband, Grover Reid.

Herschel was the next eldest child. He also returned to school in Nebraska. He then joined the army. After returning from the service, he moved to Buena Park, California where ■ lived until his death in 1983. He had two daughters, Iris and Betty.

Alta also returned to school in Nebraska. She never returned to Canada to live. She taught school in Nebraska and later married and lived there until her death in 1961. She had two children, Evelyn and Alan.

Alan Jones was the youngest son. He learned to enjoy living in this new land and he decided to remain. Alan married Matilda Johnson and they had one daughter, Maxine, who is now living in Prince Edward Island. Matilda died in April, 1977 and Alan only lived one year later.

■. B. Jones
Lilac

written by Mrs. R. H. Turtle

My name is Maxine Turtle, and I am the only child of Allen and Matilda Jones, who were early settlers in the Lilac district.

My Grandparents, Jones, immigrated from Nebraska to North Battleford in 1912, where my grandfather started a livery stable and taxi service. (Horse-drawn of course). Grandpa was Warren B. Jones, and all his life was referred to by his friends as "W.B." His primary interest was politics. A staunch supporter of the Liberal party, he was always a campaigner, and often a candidate. Since the Liberal party was not too popular in the west in those days, he was never a successful one, although he had been a member of the Legislature in his native Nebraska. He and my grandmother Emma, had both been teachers in Nebraska, but neither of them pursued their profession in Canada.

They had four children, all of whom came ■ Canada with them. My father and his brother Herschel made the trip in a stock car, taking care of the horses that were being imported, too. The girls, Alta and Wilmetta, travelling in a little more luxury, with their parents in an immigrant car. I believe Alta, the youngest attended school in North Battleford, but they were all sent back ■ Fremont, Nebraska for their higher education, attending the Normal School there. Both of my aunts later taught school in Canada. My Aunt Alta at the Badger Bluff school, but the boys came home to work with grandpa in his various enterprises, and in 1915 they moved to a farm in the Lilac district.

At one time my grandfather, always a "horse-trader", owned a great deal of land and property in the district, but as happened to many people in the 30's, ■ was land poor, and lost most of it in the depression years.

The "home place" was on land now owned by Mr. Mike Odishaw. Grandpa moved his house from North Battleford, so it was one of the few houses in the district that was wired for electricity and had a bathroom. Unfortunately neither of these conveniences was very practical, as rural electrification was far in the future.

Both daughters were married from this home, Wilmetta to Mr. Grover Reid, also of the Lilac district, and Alta to Bob Aldrich, a young man she met while attending school in Nebraska. She returned with him to the United States, where she remained until her death in 1965.

My Uncle Herschel returned to the United States when W.W. I broke out, and joined the U.S.E.F. He went overseas with the American Army and on his return home, went to California, married and had two daughters Iris and Betty Ellen. He died in 1968, but his daughters and his widow Ethel still live there.

My father, Allen, joined the Canadian Army, but served only briefly. After their initial training, men who were needed on the farm were granted leave to help with the harvest. By the time he returned from harvest leave, the war was over. He and my mother, Matilda Johnson, were married in March of 1919, and moved to the "English place", where they continued to farm until about 1940. Then they moved to the "home place" where they continued to farm until Dad retired in 1962.

In about 1924 or 25, my grandparents moved to the "Shaw place", where they lived for a few years, selling it to a family named Berryman, sometime in the thirties. The Berryman's were an American family, father, son and their wives. They came from Detroit and had always been urban people until this time I'm sure. I think rural Saskatchewan was quite a shock to them. Mrs. Berryman Jr. was a beautiful pianist, and they all had good singing voices. They busily organized choral groups, a dramatic society, a mixed quartet and kept us all ■ busy that I'm sure they helped us all endure the grim years of the depression. Eventually they gave up and returned to Detroit. Experienced farmers were having a rough time making things "■" in those years. I wonder if anyone still hears from them. They were a nice family.

Grandpa and Grandma then moved to a house about two miles from Lilac, that had been owned by a Mr. Henry Barnett. They lived there until they retired to North Battleford in 1939.

Grandpa wasn't a very successful retiree; he started a stock yard and ran that for several years, in addition to selling cars for Gladwell Motors. He and Grandma had been married for 64 years at the time of his death, in 1958. Grandma died a year later.

My mother's people were also early settlers in the district. My grandfather Johnson (John) was born in Oslo, Norway. He was a carpenter and cabinet maker. He originally emigrated to North Dakota where he and my grandmother, another Emma, met and were married. Mother, her sister Anna and brother Hjalmer were [redacted] born in North Dakota. Grandpa came to Saskatchewan ahead of his family and built their home and much of their furniture himself. The original was a log cabin, later enlarged one room at a time, as the family needs and finances allowed. Grandpa Johnson homesteaded on a farm about equidistance from Lilac and Denholm, but Denholm was their post-office and home village. My aunt Anna had completed her education and was sent to Secretarial School in Saskatoon. There she met and married Mr. Allan Patterson and they went to live in Arcola, Sask. They had two children, Audrey and Carol.

My mother attended Nutana Collegiate in Saskatoon and then went on to train as a nurse at St. Paul's Hospital there. She graduated with the class of 1915 and at the time of her death, was very proud that she was the oldest graduate of her training school. In the early years, after she and Dad were married, she delivered, either alone or with Dr. Scratch [redacted] Maymont, a good many of the babies in our district. I remember many mornings as a child, waking up to Dad getting breakfast because mother was away "having a baby".

My Uncle Hjalmer attended the Badger Bluff school and later, the school in Denholm. Then he stayed on the farm, which on the death of my grandfather, became his own. He married Margaret Curtis and they had three daughters, Thelma, Lenore and Jean, and two sons, Roy and Earl. He will be best remembered as an ardent sportsman — baseball, hockey, softball, curling, hunting, fishing, — he did them all, and well. He was always a great hero of mine.

I grew up in the cottage on the "English place". Mr. Bill Parent's were our closest neighbors. They were a big family and since they lived only half a mile away, I didn't have time to be an "only" child. We shared rides to school — horse and buggy in summer, the old closed-in "jumper" — sometimes with a heater installed in winter. It was a long three miles to the Barleston school in the winter. My first teacher was Mary Hopkins, who later married Herb Mabey and for many years they ran the general store at Lilac. On Friday nights we all, young and old, went to whatever school or hall was having the weekly dance. Remember you took a quarter and your lunch and we all danced from eight o'clock until three in the morning. Any local people who could play made up the band — sometimes Mr. Parent and his violin, or Herb Mabey and his sax — Mrs. Berryman on the piano — sometimes the Wade family. We went as far afield as Baljennie and sometimes to Ruddell or Maymont where they sometimes had a real band. Remember the Tiffen boys and Miss Reid on the piano and Garnett May and his violin?

We all took our higher education by correspondence, with a lot of help from the already overworked public school teacher, then wrote provincial exams just to prove we had really done it. I took my last two years of high school in Ruddell and then on to U. of S. for a year, before going into City Hospital for nurses training. After graduation, I worked at the Provincial San in Saskatoon until I married Len Turtle in 1942. Len was a pilot in the R.C.A.F. whose parents were pioneers in the Marshall district. We were stationed in Souris, Man. when our daughter Eloise was born. The war was over when Len was killed in an air crash in Estevan in 1946.

After Len's death, I worked at the D.V.A. hospital in Saskatoon until 1950, when I married Len's brother, Bob.

Bob was also a pilot in the air-force, so we were posted to many different parts of Canada — Edmonton, Alta.; Goose Bay, Labrador; Trenton, Ont.; and finally to Summerside, P.E.I., where Bob retired. Bob also spent a year with the U.N. forces in Egypt and we had a tour with the U.S.A.F. in Smyrna, Tenn.

Our son Garth was born in Edmonton, attended Acadia University in Wolfeville, N.S. where he graduated with B. Sc. and his B. Ed. He now teaches Physical Education in the Summerside Secondary School. He is married [redacted] Lynn McKinnon of Summerside.

Our youngest daughter, Jennifer, is married to Irving Doucraft of Lowell, Mass., and they have one son, Daren. They are both graduates of St. Francis Xavier University, Jennifer with her B. Sc. in Nursing.

Our elder daughter, Eloise graduated from the Kingston General Hospital School of Nursing and is now married with two children, daughter Lee and son Mark. Her husband is Jack Caverson, a major in the Canadian Forces, presently serving in Kingston, Ont.

Since retirement, Bob and I have been operating a motel and cottages on P.E.I. Gives us a very busy summer and a long winter vacation.

My mother died in 1977 and my father in 1978. They had been living in North Battleford since dad retired, though dad retired like his father, to selling cars and worked for Victory Motors for several years. He also had done some carpenting on a part-time basis for the P.F.R.A.

My parents had been married for 58 years at the time of my mother's death, and had lived in Saskatchewan from the days of sod shanties and ox-carts to the days of jet-liners and air-conditioned tractors. I hope I may see as much and enjoy as much as they did.

Louis and Catherine Karpan

told by Louis Karpan

With the surge of immigration to Canada, my grandfather left Poland and settled in southern Manitoba, where my mother was born. Later the family moved to Krydor, Saskatchewan area just east of Redberry Lake. My father left Poland early in 1905, worked for Canadian National in the vicinity of Saskatoon where he met my mother, then employed in the city of Saskatoon. They moved to a homestead west of Krydor. My father passed away in early 1916 due to illness, leaving mother with three young boys. It was two years later that my mother remarried and in 1927 the family moved to Borden and I left to attend Nutana Collegiate in Saskatoon, and on graduating attended Regina Teachers College graduating in 1930 at the age of eighteen years.

Garage built in 1947, Lots 10 and 11, Block 4, Main Street, Maymont.

My first school was just north of Hafford, then called Canada School, later I obtained a teaching position at Sand Lake School near present Petrofka bridge. There were forty-eight pupils with eleven grades. This was a very friendly district the pupils were eager for learning and the parents were cooperative and helpful.

The Barchuk family emigrated from Poland and settled in the Krydor northwest area. It was here that Catherine with three sisters and one brother were born, moving to Krydor-Blaine Lake area in 1927. They all attended Krydor public and high school, graduating. Catherine attended Regina Teachers College, graduating with a teachers certificate. Her first school was Lost Lake east from Hafford at thirty dollars per month and she had to pay for her board and lodging.

Due to low teachers salaries, early in 1934 I decided to try my hand at farming. Catherine finished the balance of my term and in July of 1934 joining me for better or for worse. Farming was most interesting and challenging, plenty of work with small returns. It was 1940 that daughter Lucy Elaine came to share our lives. She was a healthy baby, and with a terrier named Patsy for company she was no problem but a bundle of joy.

War broke out in 1939, my brother Peter joined up and left for the front lines of Italy and Sicily with the Transport Division of Saskatoon Light Infantry. Catherine and I were faced with more land, more work and due to enlistment help was impossible to get. The load was getting too heavy so we decided to leave the farm and try a business venture. In the fall of 1943 we purchased Molan General Store at Speers from Louis Senum. Speers was a progressive community full of new ideas of cooperative movement, and spring of 1944 Speers Cooperative Association was organized and approached us in purchase of our business. It was end of January of 1945 that the final agreement was just about completed when on Saturday afternoon a customer using the office phone dropped a cigarette into a box of excelsior, and in about two hours the building and contents were burned to the ground; unfortunately no insurance was carried. The fire seemed to end what looked like an interesting venture, but with the fine support and cooperation of the residents of Speers and surrounding community we were able to re-establish the business and build a new building, the present Coop Store. It was spring of 1945 that Speers Cooperative Association took over the business and I was hired as manager. I liked my work very much, the authority all came from Federated in Saskatoon.

Our desire was to own a business of our own, so we looked into the possibilities of locating in the immediate area. Consulting some credit rating executives Maymont was recommended to us as a good location. We began to investigate these possibilities. Driving from the north down Main Street, there were two old original stores, one on each corner of the business block on west side of Main Street with a hardware, poolroom and drugstore in between. On the east side was a telephone exchange, bank, light plant, cafe, hotel and service station. The C.N.R. depot was located on the north side of C.N.R. tracks with three grain elevators located on the south side of C.N. siding. Across from the C.N.R. depot was the post office and Esso service station.

A Chinese gentleman by name of Sam Williams was operating a restaurant, in the hotel owned by Bill Sowden. This seemed like the best place to obtain the necessary information, regarding business, people, church, school and community in general. On the South West corner of main block was a general store owned by Allan Bean, this was one of the oldest buildings in town built in 1906 by Allan's father Edgar W. Bean. This was a flourishing business operated by Allan and Lydia Bean. On the northwest corner of the same block was another old building built by John Reid and his brother James in 1906. This business had changed hands several times, but was now owned by Nathan Friedman, who had just returned from Armed Forces and was wishing to dispose of this business to undertake livestock business.

Just north of Bean's store was a hardware store built in 1908 by Steplar and Carveth and in 1915 J. M. Blackiock purchased this building and opened a hard-

ware store with I.H.C. Implement Agency. This place was purchased in 1945 by M. E. VanderHaegen.

Listening to Sam Williams, watching the buzz of the customers, I felt that in a friendly town where you could see a few Model T's, a few horses at the tie rack, a friendly gambling joint back of the old restaurant, that this could be a real challenge to move in with a family and try to make a living.

I approached Nathan Friedman about purchasing his business. we made a deal and our next move was to obtain permission from Wartime Prices & Trade Board to sell and to buy. Mr. Symmonds was in charge of Battleford Wartime Prices control board, and Nathan assured me that he knew Mr. Symmonds quite well so we should have no difficulty in obtaining necessary permission. We arrived at the Prices Control Board office, set down and Mr. Symmonds said, "What can I do for you gentlemen." "I have sold my store business." said Nathan. "Oh I do not know if you have, you have not got my permission to sell." "Oh, that is why we are here," I interjected. "Nathan wishes to obtain permission to sell and I wish to get your permission to buy." "That's different," said Mr. Symmonds, "we will see what we can do for you." Filling a few forms, answering a few questions, we obtained our permits, concluded the deal and on November 15, 1945, we took stock and took over the business.

There were no homes available to rent or buy, my family remained at Speers where we had built a new home in spring of 1945, while I moved into the Imperial Hotel. The hotel had ten bedrooms, a sitting room and one pot-belly heater in the living room that heated all ten rooms. If you desired heat, you kept your door open, since there was no central heating system.

New Year's Eve was a gala event, everybody came out to celebrate. I never realized that a ten-room hotel could hold so many people in one night, so happy, carefree and gay. I got caught in this gala event, since I was lodging there, with two young ladies sitting on my bed covers, trying to convince me that this was New Year's Eve and that this particular one will never come again. It was some time before I was able to convince the two young ladies that I am in no hurry, I shall see many more New Years' Eves. When they left I turned the central heating off and fell asleep.

Our family did not move into town until January 28, 1946. Mrs. Holmes was kind to rent us her home for the winter months, the house next to Sharon United Church. Spring of 1946 I began to look for a location to build a home. When I inquired at the Village office, I was surprised when the secretary told me there were not any lots for sale. It seemed odd so I began to inquire for a location from other residents, who seemed to own more lots than they needed. On inquiring I was also surprised that they did not own all the lots. We were able to buy three and build a home, presently owned by N. R. Bates.

Those who remember the old store building will recall the building was divided by a partition and the back half was used as storage for hides, frozen fish and meat. We proceeded to enlarge the building by removing the centre partition. When we arrived in the following morning we found that all fruit and vegetables were frozen solid. We proceeded to insulate and reline the inside walls to keep out the weather and cold.

The spring of 1946, Ted Saunders had arrived from Canadian Armed Forces and since he was the employee in the store before enlistment, he expected to be re-instated so he took the position from Donald McDonald who was temporarily employed. Ted worked as an employee, but had a desire to start a business of his own. With a little coaching from the Canadian Legion Ted went into butcher business in the south wing of the general store. This venture did not prove too prosperous and Ted returned to the old store as manager and finally purchased the business in 1950.

Spring of 1947 we could see that there was need of a garage outlet in the town, so we purchased the old metal building which housed the town light plant, demolished the building and put up new garage building. We were able to obtain contracts with General Motors to sell Pontiac-Buick cars and G.M.C. Trucks also an implement contract to sell J. I. Case machinery. Rae Walton, Jack Cash and Lloyd Parker were hired as mechanics. The community owes these three gentlemen many thanks for kind services that they faithfully performed.

1951 was an eventful year, daughter Gladys Linda joined her sister Lucy Elaine, which made our family complete.

In 1953 the Provincial Highway bypassed the town quarter of a mile to the north. We could see possibilities of highway service. We approached Mr. J. M. Martin, who was executor of Whitehouse Estate SW 32-41-12-3rd and were able to purchase the property on which we built the present Esso Service Station, which was opened for business in the spring of 1954 with Walter Starosta as manager and the family operated the lunch counter. The following year two duplex bungalows and a bathhouse were added just east of the service station. This proved to be a profitable addition to the enterprise, but help was difficult to get so after two years the cottages were closed and sold. In 1958 we sold the whole operation to Imperial Oil, with Gordon Leach as operator.

After selling the service station we decided to build a new home on SW 32-41-12-3rd about 1500 yds. east of the service station. This was a landmark, the little red house our family home. Our family resided here until 1975 when it was sold to Bob and Marg Johnston. At present we reside in the Village of Maymont.

In 1948 the residents of the Village of Maymont petitioned the village council to adopt Daylight Saving Time. The council passed a bylaw adopting Daylight Saving Time, apparently this did not please all the residents and another petition was presented to revert

to Standard time, this annoyed the council and the whole council resigned, leaving the village without any administration. Some of us did not like this situation, so M. P. VanderHaegen, Fred Porter and myself decided to ask the Department of Municipal Affairs to set up machinery to elect a new village council. Mr. John Brocklebank, the minister of Municipal Affairs appointed James Rogers as returning officer and a new council, M. P. VanderHaegen, Fred Porter and myself were elected.

Maymont community sports were under the direction of Sports Committee headed by J. D. Blacklock. This organization was disbanded in 1947 and replaced by an active Board of Trade, which looked after sports day, skating arena, planting of trees and general advisory to the village council. I had the privilege of serving the village as overseer from 1948 to 1957 at which time I took a challenge from the municipal reeve, contested the municipal elections and chaired the municipal council for the next six years.

With the fifties came the end of minor municipal problems, herd law enforcement, weed inspections, grasshopper control and relief vouchers, and councils were faced with more serious and progressive programs. The Provincial Government embarked on a Grid Road Assistance Programs, whereby municipalities could get assistance to provide a better class of engineered roads. The ratepayers were enthused and demanded that better roads be provided. In the spring of 1956 the municipality started on the grid road south of Maymont to the Saskatchewan river. The following year Schmidt's Construction contracted to build five miles of grid north of Maymont.

The sixties brought more changes, farms were being mechanized, the provincial highways were better, people were equipped with better class of transportation, and demanded still better roads. The provincial government developed a Farm Access Road Program, to assist municipalities to build more and better class of roads and assist to provide rural residents with urban living.

Seventies brought in the Main Street Improvement and highway connection program, under direction of Minister of Highway and Transportation, Elling Kramer. This linked small communities with black top and provincial highway system. The demand for winter road and better summer roads forced the municipalities to invest in bigger and better equipment. Also gravel more roads making them all weather as much as possible.

Our family was growing up, daughters Lucy Elaine graduated from University of Saskatchewan with a degree in Education and specializing in primary work, while Gladys Linda being more adventurous joined the Canadian Navy and left for the East coast. We continued in our business venture until the spring of 1968, when we sold the business to Lloyd Parker and continued with grain and hog farming enterprise.

In my spare time I attended classes in Law and Administration at the University of Saskatchewan and took a course in municipal accounting from Regina College. In completing my studies I received my certificates of standing and the family left on a summer holiday. In September of the same year Mr. Ivor Westerberg took ill and was forced to retire. I was engaged as secretary-treasurer of the R.M. of Mayfield No. 406 in 1967.

My previous association with the municipality made my work interesting and challenging for the next eleven years. The reeve of the municipality was Richard Voegeli, with foresight and progressive achievement. Throughout his term of office the municipality took advantage of winter works programs and built a new residence, office and a heated shed for winter storage of road clearing equipment. The municipality also built many better class of Farm Access Roads. He was followed by Victor Prosecky as reeve who had visions of even a better class of Farm Access Roads engineered to grid road specifications. It was during this period that Fire Fighting Equipment was purchased in partnership with Villages of Maymont and Ruddell.

Throughout the years our family was busy trying to make a living, that it was not until 1961 that we took our first holiday with a trip to the west coast. We were overwhelmed by the beauty of the rockies and the Pacific West Coast. We took in all points of interest from the Boulder Dam to Buchart Gardens in Victoria. We visited Stanley Park, the Acquarium and took pictures of the whales of the Pacific Ocean and the black bears of inner British Columbia.

In 1967 Catherine, myself, Lucy and family made a trip to Eastern Canada, visiting along the route legislative assemblies, museums, parks and some industrial points. We spent a week at Expo, toured city of Quebec, visited one of the first churches in the province, also visited the slum areas and industrial developments. Visited Halifax, where daughter Gladys, Ron and granddaughter Kathy were making their home, crossed some of their wooden bridges, toured New Brunswick, the legislative building, some fisheries and watched the fisherman bring in their oyster catch. Visited Prince Edward Island, the House of Anne of Green Gables, tried our hand at digging for clams. We were taken with the red soil on the island which seemed to be quite productive.

In 1970, Catherine and I took a trip to the Orient, visiting Japan, Hong Kong and Taiwan, visiting the border of China proper. In Tokyo we visited parks, palace grounds, the golden palace, rice paddies, fishing villages, tea plantations, botanical gardens, industrial manufacturing plants and pearl culture beds. Japan is beautiful with their cherry blossoms. We also visited their beautiful cherry blossom dances. While in Japan we took in the Expo, visited with many students

and school children. Hong Kong was a very interesting place to visit, with its financial sky scrapers on one hand and crowded poverty overcrowded apartments and cave dwellers. We took in the parks and many commercial developments

In 1971 we took a trip to the British Isle, visited the rural areas across to the Irish sea and north in Scotland, the city of Edinburgh and the castle. We also visited historical buildings, botanical gardens. Buckingham Palace. watched changing of the guard Spent a day in London Museum, shopped in Piccadilly Square and used the underground trains to get around in. Leaving London by train and boat we landed in Belgium from where we toured Holland, with beautiful fields of tulips with an occasional windmill. Denmark was a country of dykes and dairy farms. Sweden with beautiful tivoli gardens. Norway reminded one of our British Columbia, with mountains, fjords and ferries. The scenery was beautiful.

In 1971 we took a trip to the British Isles, visited Switzerland, Austria, Italy, Isle of Capri, Monaco and France We found Switzerland very interesting, went through Italy where the Canadian troops were making their stand against the Hitler armies. Visited the Isle of Capri, a beautiful resort. a real treat for the western tourist We also visited Monaco, a beautiful principality ruled by Prince Renier, and Princess Grace. This was the only place in Europe that we saw large American automobiles.

In 1979 Catherine and I together with my brother Walter and his pretty wife Olga took a trip to Fiji. the garden of Eden, beautiful island with warm climate and happy carefree people Here seems to be an abundance of wild fruit and coconuts. They seem to live simple happy lives. From Fiji we went to Australia, a nice kangaroo country, good warm climate and moderate amount of rainfall. The hilly terrain is covered with sixty million sheep and many herds of range cattle. Here we visited many parks. resorts, botanical gardens, wineries and canneries. We visited and toured a few orchards. many were looking for help to pick their fruit In the area of Tamworth we visited an irrigation farm, they grew a huge crop of sorghum and wheat. Leaving Australia we visited New Zealand also a beautiful country, with climate much the same as Australia and here again their chief occupation was sheep and cattle ranching. They grow grass all year around so we did not see anyone putting up any forage. Most farms we visited had no farm equipment other than garden tractor and lawn mower with a four-wheel jeep for supervision of pasture land. We also visited a stud farm where they raise race horses. They had a beautiful two million dollar sire. They raise two-year-olds and sell them to Great Britain and Australia at thirty to forty thousand dollars each.

On our way home we stopped at Hawaii, a beautiful group of islands, very scenic, beautiful beaches, highly commercialized with one of the finest harbors in the world. We toured Pearl Harbour, saw the spoils and memorials of Japanese invasion in 1941 We visited the ocean shores and watched water surfers being hurled out at terrific speeds and in general we loved the islands very much. This a home away from home.

Leo Keefer

I am Leo Keefer. My father Philip Keefer came from Pleasant Valley, Michigan, to Fielding in 1906. My mother, Anne Johnston was the daughter of Frank and Margaret Johnston who lived five miles north of Maymont. My parents were married in 1907 by Reverend Madill and they lived in Fielding where my dad operated the livery barn. In 1908 we moved to the farm on the S.W. 6-41-11, where we lived on the north side of the quarter.

I have two sisters living and I lost my younger brother in Lake Athabaska in 1936. In 1927 I moved from north of the river to south of the river where I started farming. on the NE 10-40-12, where I still live and farm.

This story started in the winter of 1907 some six months before I was born, and told to me by my mother.

It seems she developed a very painful toothache. so she asked my father to get Doc Scratch to come and pull the offending tooth out. I believe Doc was still in the hotel in Fielding and my folks were either in Fielding or out on a farm some three miles southeast of town at that time. My father went into Fielding to see Doc. but Doc would not come out He gave my dad his forceps and told him to keep them. as he had lost a little girl in his arms when he had tried to remove her tooth and because of this he would never pull another tooth This part of the story is only hearsay and those of us who knew Doc Scratch are certain that he was in no way responsible for the death of this child. Now my dad was a veterinarian, so Doc told him to go home and pull mother's tooth saying. 'You can pull horses teeth so her tooth should be no problem.' According to my mother he came home and asked which tooth hurt, she opened her mouth to show him and in a very short time the tooth was out on the table. She told me that it was the easiest tooth that she ever lost.

Sixty-five years later I lost my father in the Yellowstone River in Montana After his funeral, before I left to come home, I asked if these forceps were still in his little black bag that he kept his veterinary supplies in. My relations knew of the forceps but he had given them to a neighbor some ten years before. My nephew didn't give up and tracked them until he found them in Nebraska and sent them to me. I still have them, a very valued part of early family history.

Now to complete this story of the forceps I wanted to know who the little girl was. I asked different older people around Maymont, if they knew. some had heard the story but didn't know who she was One day in Sonningdale I asked Tom Niven if he knew anything about this as the Niven family came to the

Spinney Hill District in 1980. To my surprise he said, "Yes, I know, she was a relation of mine and I could take you to the land they lived on in the Maymont District." She was a niece of Mrs. Tom Young who used to live at Spinney Hill and of Mrs. Bert Langley who lived north and east of Maymont. She is buried in the northwest corner of the Maymont Cemetery under a maple tree. I was told years ago that the original tree could have lived this long but I can believe that the trees there now are seeds from the original.

This story happened in the fall of 1908 in Fielding, and was told to me by my father.

Dr. Scratch at that time practiced his profession from a room or rooms in the three story hotel in Fielding. My father had a livery barn on the street parallel to the railway just west of the hotel. Both these buildings were lost in the big fire in Fielding in the summer of 1922.

As the story goes, word came into Fielding that some Indians who were camped out north by Redberry Lake, near Hafford, were sick and starving. The good storekeepers of Fielding got four sides of beef together in some way and my dad and Doc were to take this beef out to the Indians. Now Dad had a pair of bronco ponies that had never been broken and he thought this would be a good time to educate them. With the help of other Fielding men they hitched the broncos to a democrat, inside the barn. With the beef in the back, Doc's satchel full of equipment and medicines that he might need, and a ten-pound sack of Epsom salts, they were ready. Doc and my dad climbed up on the seat, they threw open the front door and away they went at a high rate of speed, east across the tracks and away north. According to my father they got about five miles north before the horses commenced to slow up a bit and he had a little more control over them. When they looked back the beef was gone. The question was would they turn around and go back and find the roast which could be anywhere back on the road or would they go on without it as this was a very long trip to make in one day with a pair of green ponies. They decided to go ahead and get the beef out there on another day as Doc still had his satchel and the Epsom salts and he said that was all he needed to treat sick Indians.

The year 1908 tells us that they were both quite young men at that time. They went ahead and found the Indians. Doc went from tent to tent to care for the sick. Dad found some dry wood and a bucksaw and spent the time sawing up some wood as he was afraid to go inside as they didn't know what contagious disease these people had, but not Doc. He went wherever the sick were, regardless. They returned to Fielding with a much quieter team of horses. The meat was found and sent out later.

This story is a part of the history of Grey School, now retired at the museum in North Battleford.

In the winter of 1918 there must have been about thirty or so children attending Grey School. The school trustees had a discipline problem at that time, caused by some of the bigger boys who worked at home all summer driving outfits of horses in the fields and came to school in the winter maybe to bring the smaller ones and so they were not much interested in learning English history. A couple of teachers, one a man, had given up and left.

One morning, when we came to school there was a lady who was not too big and certainly not very old, up at the teacher's desk. We wondered just how long she would last, but we had underestimated the calibre of this lady. At the beginning she gave us a little talk saying that if we all behaved, attended to our lessons and caused no trouble she would have a pot of candy cooking on the stove for the last recess on Friday, and that everyone of us would go home with a generous portion of taffy. But if any single one of us stepped out of line and caused any trouble there would be no candy.

Well that first week you wouldn't know it was the same school. After school was over on Friday the big boys carried the big pot of taffy outside and spread it out on the clean snow. The bigger girls with buttered hands doled us all out a generous portion of taffy. If I remember correctly it was the late Roberta Walton who gave me my first candy.

But this was all too good to last and in the next week one boy stirred up a little trouble and on the last recess — no candy went on the stove. After school somebody asked why not and the lady said she believed in keeping her word and named the boy who was responsible. Here was one lad who had no friends, all at once. This teacher must have learned something from the Boy Scout Movement, where there are no better disciplinarians than boys themselves. But needless to say we never went home without taffy for the rest of the winter.

This lady's name was Helen Woods and she came to Maymont from either New Brunswick or Nova Scotia with two other girls who taught at the Maymont School. One of them married Wilfred Langley and I believe still lives in North Battleford.

This story happened, as near as I can remember, in the summer of 1915. The three Johnston boys, Lorne, Ernie and Jim, and myself were walking home from Grey School, all barefooted and carrying our dinner pails. We were on the grade near George Tebay's house when we heard a noise behind us like we had never heard before. Well, we all dived into a willow bush that grew close to the road. That sound could be compared to the sound of the first jet aeroplane which was heard in later years. Well what it was — was Ernie Richard and his son Conrad in their Model T Ford which had a brass radiator and a brass horn on the side which was activated by a rubber bulb and Conrad had squeezed the bulb. They stopped and called us to come out and have a ride home the next mile. We piled in the back seat and had the ride of our lives all of fifteen or twenty miles per hour. Something to remember!

The Kieper Story

On March 28th, 1914, the Kieper family arrived in Fielding by train . . . Charles Kieper, formerly of Russell, Manitoba, his pretty young wife, Maud, and four small lively children, Roy, Edna, Ethel and Florence. Their hired man had come ahead with eight horses, a fox terrier Tippy, and the furniture and household goods. The previous year Charlie had traded his flourishing livery business in Hawarden, Sask., for Phil Keefer's farm at Fielding, which he had already visited and looked over. The farm he had leased for three years to Mr. J. Campbell who farmed at Maymont, before returning to Russell to live. When he was not satisfied with the way the farm was being managed he terminated the lease and brought his family to live on the farm south west of Fielding.

During that first busy year the young couple built a 24' x 36' barn with a loft designed to hold 5 loads of hay, and bought a good milk cow from R. W. Farris. They grew a crop, which was threshed by Les Sloan, and also broke 35 acres. A second son, Earl Charles, was born at the Fielding farm, and the older children started to school, driving a quiet school pony Victor. The family got acquainted with their new neighbors and became part of the community.

Before long misfortune came to the Kieper family when Maud became ill and had difficulty looking after her family. However they began making plans to build a new home and barn, and chose a building site half a mile south of their present home. In the fall a Saskatoon doctor diagnosed Maud's illness as tuberculosis, at that time a very difficult disease to cure. By winter she was no better, and fresh air was prescribed, so she was brought home from the hospital, put in a nurse's care, and established in a tent where she stayed for the coming year. Here she could see the children come and go, and be near her husband. During this time the new house was built. In November, 1918, they carried Maud to see the outside and the inside of her new home before they put her to bed, where she stayed until her death in February, 1917. This left Charlie Kieper with a farm to work, a home to care for, sometimes with the help of a housekeeper, and five small children to look after. He nursed the youngsters through the usual ailments, including the time Edna and Florence had diptheria. He increased the family farm by buying a quarter to the west at $20.00 an acre, and he dug a deep well and bought a windmill for it.

Charles Kieper Family. Back row, L. to R. — Ethel (Mrs. Tom Roberts), Earl, Edna (Mrs. Morley Wager), Roy, Florence (Mrs. Doug Groff). Front row — Mrs. C. Kieper, Ruth (Mrs. E. W. Martin), Mr.Charles Kieper.

Horse racing was popular at both Fielding and Radisson at that time, and Roy was a proud boy when he raced his school pony Victor and won second money at both towns. Even little Earl got into the act, and rode Victor in one of the races.

That summer Mr. Kieper bought his first car, a new Model T Ford. Though he had never driven before, the dealer at Fielding put two gallons of gas in it, showed him how to start it, and he started for home, sometimes hitting a high of 15 miles per hour! He didn't make it all the way home that time, but soon learned to manage a new mode of transportation.

It was November, 1921, that Charlie Kieper married Miss Mary Pfrimmer of Stanley, Wisconsin. She was a good mother to the growing children, and made a real contribution to the community. She took part in many plays, concerts, choirs, and became well known in the whole area for her monologues. They had a little daughter, Ruth Marie, a sister for the others to care for, love, and tease.

The years brought changes to the family, of course. Edna was the first to leave home when she became the bride of Morley Wager, an elevator agent. They had two children, Warren and Beverley. Years later Edna came back to make her home in Fielding. Roy got married to Kathleen McKinnon who had taught Neepawa School for two years. They settled on the former McClintock farm and stayed there until they retired in 1978. They had two daughters, Phyllis and Marjorie. Ethel married Tom Roberts, and they had one daughter Dorothy. Ethel died in 1977, after a long painful struggle with arthritis. Florence married Douglas Groff of Winnipeg, and they are the proud parents of four daughters. Earl took a course in agriculture at the university, and later married Elaine Walz of Moose Jaw. During the drought period in the south Elaine's brother Don had left the dry south and came to Fielding where he worked the Frank Summers farm for four years. Elaine and brother Don had attended High School in Fielding. Earl and Elaine had one son, Dale, who farms with his father, and three daughters, Cheryll, Wendy and Melanie. These girls were very interested in sports, and played on the Fielding Ladies Softball team for many years, as their mother had before them. Ruth, the youngest Kieper

girl, married Bill Martin, and lives in Winnipeg. They have one daughter Maralie and one son Bob.

Charlie and Mary Kieper retired when Earl got married and was ready to take over the family farm. They lived in Radisson, and became active in that community until Mr. Kieper died in 1967. Some three years later Mrs. Kieper moved to Oliver Lodge in Saskatoon, where she still lives.

During the dry years of the 1930s crops were poor and money was very scarce. Farm produce brought very little return . . . a can of cream brought little over $2.00, eggs sold for 5¢ a dozen a real highlight for Roy's small girls at this time was a visit to Aunt Ethels when she gave them Real eggs to use in their mud pies. There were plagues of grasshoppers and army worms, dust storms and hot dry months, but all survived. Gardens usually were reasonably good, and each farm had milk, butter, eggs, chickens and beef, so there was an abundance of good food. And there were plenty of good times too, with the Fielding Community Club, Sunday School and School picnics and concerts, and the plays and concerts put on for special occasions. There was good community spirit. In fact going through the depression and the anxieties of the war years brought people together and made them more sympathetic and helpful

The Kiepers have remained a close knit family who enjoy and help one another, and are proud of the younger generations growing up. Earl and Elaine still live in the house that Charlie Kieper built in 1916, Edna has a home in Fielding, and Tom Roberts still runs a gas station and small store there. Roy and Kathleen live in near-by Radisson. All have enjoyed, and still do, being a part of the Fielding community, where people are the most important asset.

Harry Alfred King-Turner
George Burnaby Adams
Mary Ruth Adams
Margaret Irene Adams

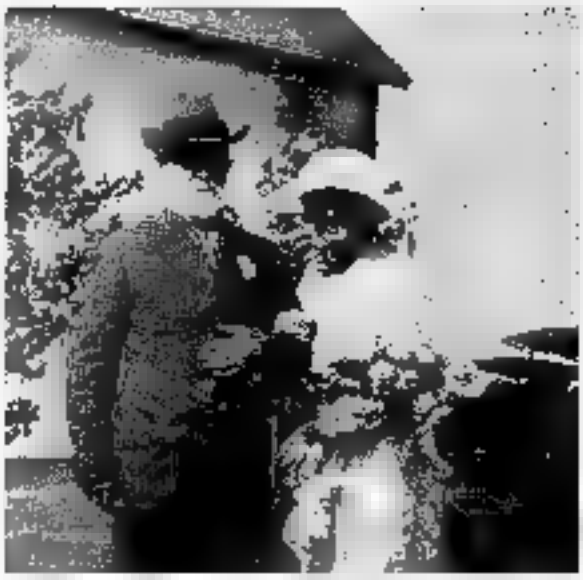
by Mary Ruth (Adams) Moore

George (Jim) Burnaby Adams and Harry Alfred King-Turner left England March 2, 1910. They arrived at Ruddell, March 17, 1910. The land was being worked. Jim worked for Alfred Tyson. Harry worked for Mrs. Evans and her son, John Evans. That winter, 1910, Jim and Harry kept house for Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Welford who went to England. In 1911 Jim and Harry bought the old Tyson farm. Their first crop was hailed out.

In April of the year 1913, Mary Ruth Adams, a sister of Jim Adams came to Canada. In 1914 Harry enlisted in the Medical Corps. Ruth had intended to train for a nurse at St. Paul's Hospital in Saskatoon but instead stayed with Jim. Harry returned in 1919. The following March, my sister, Margaret Irene Adams came out and she and Harry were married March 11, 1919 by the Reverend J. B. Bunting.

Harry King-Turner, Jim and Ruth Adams.

Margaret Adams, Harry King-Turner.



Dad Dow and Ruth (Adams) Moore.

During the year 1919, we all moved to the Tom Snowdon Farm (Belerie Farm) and on June 4, 1919, Ruth married Samuel Leroy Moore of Speers. On September 19, 1924 Jim married Iris Mae Hill who came from England. Two years later Jim passed on, October 26, 1926.

Harry was always most helpful in sickness and accidents having taken almost full exams to be a doctor. He was also very musical.

In 1935 Harry and Margaret returned to England to stay. Harry died on April 1, 1980 and Margaret March 6, 1977.

Four of the Adams family were married by Reverent J. H. Bunting — three in Canada and a brother in England.

Roy and Ruth Moore had two sons — Thomas Wendell and John Leroy, Thomas after my father and Leroy after his dad.

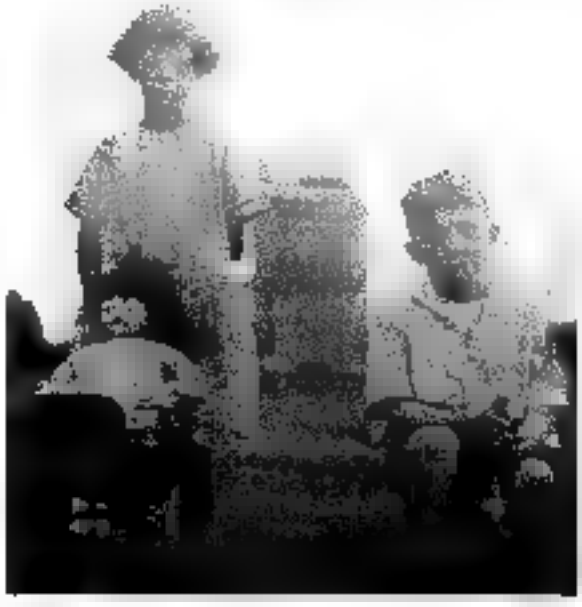
Samuel Leroy (Roy) Moore died at Hafford May 17, and was buried May 21 in the Memorial Gardens, North Battleford.

History of D. A. Klassen and family — Lilac

I, Wier, the son of Dave Klassen, my mother, the former Agatha Wiebe and my sister, Eunice, arrived in Lilac from Langham, Sask. in 1920. Dad arrived to take over the job as agent of the National Elevator.

Our first residence was the farm house north of Lilac (now occupied by Wes and Charlotte Gillatt). In the fall of 1920 we moved to the Church Manse and whilst there, Mother took over the position of postmistress. In the spring of 1921 we moved into the newly completed National Elevator house.

Roy and Ruth Moore.



Eunice and Weir Klassen — Lilac — Pool Elevator construction in background (about 1921).

Preparing to go to school about 1924. (l-r) Florence Nystrom, Julie Patrick, Weir Klassen, Jimmie Patrick, Eunice Klassen.

In about 1921 the construction of "our opposition", the Pool Elevator, was commenced. In 1923, the annex to the National was erected which again placed "our" Elevator in a position of superiority over that other one.

Eunice and I commenced school in 1922 at a location approximately 2¼ miles east of Lilac.

The school later was moved to Lilac, circa, 1924-25. There were some disagreements as to the desireability of this proposed relocation. Mr. Welford headed up the group anxious to leave the school where it was and Mr. Jones was the leader in support of the move. The final meeting, of all interested, was held in the National Elevator when the decision was taken for relocation. This move, of course, contributed a great deal to the economic and sociological welfare of Lilac.

The depression years with the drought, created lasting impressions on all who lived through this period. Our family was luckier than most in the district since Dad received 40.00 to 50.00 dollars a month. This total income was greater than the majority of farmers, many who had to rely on relief cheques. It was a period of sharing and helping each other and without this wonderful philosophy, many more families would have had to leave the prairies just to survive. Dad was interested in fixing machines and as a result the yard around the elevator was always filled with implements and cars. One winter our house was was filled with clocks of every description. Dad also provided barbering services and during the period when ladies were having their hair bobbed, I recall Mrs. Grover Reid coming to have her hair cut. Mrs. Reid's hair had never been cut and the luxuriant growth was long enough for her to sit on. As soon as Dad took hold of the scissor, Mrs. Reid commenced to cry and without her insistance, through many tears, Dad would not have proceeded.

Eunice married Jack Wright, whose family farmed west and north of Lilac, in 1959. Their son, David, was born in 1938. Dad died from a heart attack on March 29, 1955 at the age of 55 and was buried in the Ruddell cemetery. At Dad's death, Jack Wright took over the agent's job and Mother stayed on as Post-mistress. I had finished high school in Ruddell in 1935 and during the next few years worked at the Lilac store, owned and operated by Herb and Mary Mabey, and various farms in the district. In 1940 I joined the R.C.A.F. and from that time onwards, my associations with the Lilac people were restricted to annual visits to the districts.

Jack Wright also joined the R.C.A.F., in 1943, and Eunice and David moved into North Battleford. Mother stayed on as Postmistress and moved into a small house between the store and the elevator house. In 1946 Mother relinquished this position, and moved into North Battleford to live with Eunice.

In summary, the first Klassen arrived in Lilac in 1920 and the last left in 1946, a period of 26 years.

As a postscript, Mother died in Abbotsford, B.C. in 1967. Jack Wright was killed overseas and Eunice is now Mrs. Peter Hornby, living in Victoria, B.C. I married Margaret Woodfin of North Battleford in 1946 and we spent the following years in various locations in Canada during my service with the R.C.A.F. We have four sons. In 1966 I joined the Federal Public Service in Ottawa and retired from this service in December, 1978. Curently, we are living in Ottawa.

T. Russ and Mildred Knight

by Mildred Knight

My husband and I with our two children, Horace and Bea, came to Maymont in 1930. He was a barber and the children went through school there. Our youngest daughter, Shirlee, was born in 1933. We were both members of the United Church and I belonged to the W.M.S. and U.C.W., also the Homemakers and Legion Auxiliary. Russ was a member of the Legion and was fond of curling and golf. The children skated, played hockey and ball.

We had many friends in and around Maymont but Mrs. Bean, Reverend and Mrs. Myers are the only ones I correspond with now.

Horace was in the anti-airforce and died of wounds in 1944. He is buried in France. Russ died in 1951 of a heart attack. Bea and I live in an apartment. Shirlee is married and lives in Anaheim, California. She has five children.

We left Maymont in 1940 having spent happy years there in spite of the depression.

A good many friends have visited us in Winnipeg. Mrs. Cozens and Walter different times.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kormish

Dick Kormish, the younger son of Mr. and Mrs. Nick Kormish of Mayfair, was born Sept. 7, 1919. He had one brother, Mike, and two sisters, Olga (Mrs. Walter Kalyn) and Annie (Mrs. Henry Kulpa). He

attended Eldorado School. His parents had come to Canada from the Ukraine.

In 1948, Dick bought E½-1-43-13-W3rd, from Bill Carnahan and moved then to the Lilac district.

On October 25, 1949, Dick married Doris Pushee. Doris was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Hamilton Pushee. Doris had two brothers, George and Hamilton, and two sisters, Norma (Mrs. Walter Bulmert and Dorothy (Mrs. Louis Lavallee). Her dad, William Pushee, had come from Antigonish, Nova Scotia, and was one of the first settlers in the Lorenzo area. Mrs. Pushee had come from Sifton, Man.

During the first years in the Lilac area, Dick did a lot of custom baling and swathing for his neighbours.

Dick and Doris lived in a little, old house that had neither power or phone. For many years they kept 6 milk cows, chickens and pigs as well as raised beef cattle.

In the spring of 1956, the spring run-off flooded their yard and all their buildings. That same year they built a new home, 22' x 30' and moved into it. In 1957 they had the house wired and the power turned on. In 1974 a 10' addition was built on to the east end of their house.

In 1969, once again in the spring the farmyard was flooded and a lot of water came into the basement.

Dick and Doris raised two sons. David was born Aug. 27, 1957, and George on April 11, 1959. Both boys attended Lilac School and later Maymont Central. David graduated in 1975 and moved to North Battleford to work.

On January 13, 1978, David married Gail Keyko of North Battleford. They have two sons, Lee and Daniel.

Dick passed away in May, 1979 after a lengthy illness. George went on farming and he and his mother still reside on the farm.

The Russell Frederick Krake Family

by Doreen (Krake) Griffith

My father was born in Cavalier, North Dakota, U.S.A. in 1910, one of a family of five children. In 1912 the family moved to Elrose, Saskatchewan where they had the dray business. Later they moved to Turtleford, Saskatchewan where they farmed.

In 1933 my dad married Margaret Andrew of the Drummond Creek District, south of Battleford, and they worked on the farm for D. W. Phelps for one year and then moved to a farm at Fielding. Here they farmed for four years before moving to a farm one mile west and two and one-half miles north of Ruddell.

We were a family of six children, three girls and three boys, myself the eldest, Russell Jr., Eugene, Mary Rose, Roy and Margaret.

Dad and mother, like everyone else, went through the depression years, no modern machinery, drought and grasshoppers. We always had a good garden which certainly helped with the food problem. I can remember one year when the grasshoppers were so bad, my dad tethered a hen in the garden to eat the grasshoppers and scare them away and in this way we saved a lot of our garden produce.

In 1954, I married Keith Griffith and we are presently living in Meadow Lake. We have three daughters — two of them married — Karen living at Lloydminster with their two little girls, Valerie living in Meadow Lake, and Penny still at home.

Russell Jr. married Aldeen Ramsay and they live in Calgary with their four children, three boys and a girl.

Eugene married Goldie Gualag of Norway and they are living at Oyama, B.C. with their three little girls.

Mary Rose married George Scotton and they are in Paradise Hill with their one son and one daughter.

Roy married Arlene Pederson of Mount Nebo and are living in Saskatoon with their two little girls and one boy.

My mother passed away in July 1960 and sister Margaret passed away in February 1975.

Dad stayed on at the farm till 1968 when he sold to Charlie White of Ruddell. He then retired to live in North Battleford. In 1969 I married Nora Andrew of Turner Valley, Alberta and they now reside at Battleford, Saskatchewan.

We have fond memories of our growing years. All of us attended school at Ruddell and Maymont and drove to school with the horse and buggy in the summertime. Dad drove us in the winter time until the boys were able to take over this task. Russell, Eugene and Roy furthered their education by attending University in Saskatoon. — Russell and Roy are chartered accountants and Eugene as a school teacher. Mary also attained her C.N.A. in Saskatoon.

My dad has enjoyed his retirement and still keeps very active — playing horseshoes, fishing and gardening in the summertime and curling and doing woodworking in the winter time.

Alice C. Langley

(The eldest of the family recalled some of her experiences.)

"In 1893, the city of Saskatoon was a small village of about one hundred people. As we crossed the river and pulled into the station we saw a huge heap of buffalo bones on one side of the track and a tame deer trotting up and down the platform. The Indians and Metis collected the bones and sold them to a firm in Eastern Canada — which used them to make charcoal for refining sugar."

She had attended a girls' school in England until she was fifteen. After settling on the farm at Outer she went to the village of Duck Lake where she boarded with the postmaster and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Grundy. In exchange for her board she gave music lessons to the Grundy children and assisted in the post office. When Mr. Grundy was killed by a renegade cattle rustler "Almighty Voice", she became Mrs. Grundy's assistant in the post office.

Alice Langley.

The rest of the family had now moved to the homestead at Maymont and she joined them there.

In the early days, with no telephones to summon help in case of emergencies the family used an SOS signal adopted by many pioneer families. They hoisted a flag up a pole in their front yard to notify their neighbors when they needed help.

Feeling a desire to get out on her own, she went to Prince Albert to take business training. Her first position was with A. P. McNab at the Saskatoon Milling and Elevator Company in 1907. The next year Mr. McNab was elected to the provincial legislature and appointed Minister of Municipal Affairs. She went to Regina as his secretary. When her father was named Minister of Municipal Affairs in 1912 she became his secretary and worked with him until he retired from politics in 1921.

Following this she embarked on a new career. She studied household science at Guelph, Ont., when she was forty-four, then went on to Columbia University for courses in dietary and institutional management.

During the next few years she worked at a number of hospitals in Western Canada and became travelling dietician for Saskatchewan. "I would go to little hospitals and stay with them until the kitchens were on a good running basis. I also trained nurses in invalid cookery at the smaller hospital schools. After three years of this I grew tired of living out of a suitcase."

In 1931, she was appointed Dietary Matron of the Provincial School for the Deaf in Saskatoon. She remained there till 1950, when she retired to care for her Mother who, since the father's passing in 1939, had lived at the family farm.

At the age of 53 she undertook to receive lessons in reading Braille. Her eyesight had failed and after three years of concentrated and tireless effort she became proficient. She also learned to use the typewriter so she could correspond with her sighted friends.

At the age of 93 she was quoted as saying, "people who become blind in later life should keep themselves busy. Find things to occupy their hands and their minds. Be interested in their friends, both young and old. Make the effort to attend a variety of social functions so that they can meet and talk to people."

Our Early Years in Canada

by John V. Langley
submitted by Margaret (Langley) Strautman

On the evening of March 23rd, 1893, George Langley and family embarked from Euston Station, London, England. The following morning we were in Liverpool, and it was not long till we were aboard the Allan lines; "Parisian". It was thus that the Langleys were to become Canadian citizens.

The voyage was vastly different to that of the immigrants of today. The steerage passage, a low cost form of ocean transportation, was such as to ensure that the passengers would arrive at their destinations, at least alive.

Our Dad and we four boys seemed to take the rugged existence very much as a rough sport, but for our mother and sister it was a gruelling hardship.

Our family consisted of seven; our parents, sister Alice, sixteen, our eldest brother Bert, fourteen, Frank, twelve, myself, Jack, ten, and Wilf eight.

We disembarked at Halifax and started on the long journey by rail, to Regina. No cushioned seats in the tourist railway cars in those days, instead they were hardwood slats about two inches wide, and spaced about an inch apart. A stove at one end of the passenger car provided the means of heating water and the four-day trip was a succession of meals out of a picnic basket; but I well recall that as those four days passed, the cold meals, hard seats, and stuffy car soon became far from a picnic.

We arrived in Regina on the sixth of April. The winter had been an unusually severe one, with more than an average depth of snow as well. Our destination was to be Saskatoon. However, when we reached Regina, it was to find that the railway from Regina to Saskatoon had been blocked with snow for more than two weeks. The twice a week train from Prince Albert had become stalled where the track climbed the side hill out of the Lumsden valley, and the blizzard was then still pouring snow over the hill, and onto the track behind the stalled train. Eventually it was hopelessly bemused in. A relief train and plow was sent out from Regina which met with the same fate of having more

snow than it could plow through, and having no plow at the back of it, the continuing blizzard blocked the second engine, too. There must have been a lot more grief on the railway besides all this, because it was almost the end of April before rail service on the branch line was again in business.

In the meantime all of us billeted in the Immigration Hall in Regina, which could not be classed as anything more than a shelter from the weather. There was a table and seats, and a stove. All of our beds were on the floor. And here again, we boys took the whole thing as a great adventure, but for Mother and Alice it must have been an endurance of courage.

As soon as rail service was resumed, our Dad, along with another immigrant, Mr. Hibbard, who had just arrived from England, took the train for Saskatoon. It was Mr. Hibbard's son, Arthur, who had come to Saskatoon three years previously, who was really the pivot point of making Saskatoon our destination. They met up with Arthur Hibbard, and also Seager Wheeler, then a young chap of twenty-three, who later became prominent by winning the highest award for producing the highest quality spring wheat to be grown on the North American continent.

It was Seager Wheeler who was instrumental in assisting our Dad in locating on a piece of land where we were to make our first attempt at farming.

It was on the sixth of May that we finally left Regina. Our Dad had purchased two quite good oxen and harness, a milk cow, a used wagon, a walking plow and three sections of diamond harrows; also some lumber to make a table and some seats, and wooden bedsteads.

On his former trip he had contacted a Thomas Malloy who had homesteaded and obtained title to a quarter of land, on which he had built a small log story and a half house, and also a small log stable. The roof of the house was in poor repair, and so cedar shingles were also brought from Regina to re-roof the house.

In due course our luggage and settlers' effects had arrived in Regina, and with all the items I have mentioned and very little more, they were loaded into one of the regular cars. Dad had entrusted Bert and Frank to ride alone in the car along with the animals and other things, while the other five of us rode in the passenger car of the mixed train.

Osler station, about eighteen miles north of Saskatoon was to be our final destination. Word had been mailed ahead of our date of arrival, and we were met by Mr. John Caswell, who with his team and buckboard, drove mother and Alice to our prairie location. Seager Wheeler was also there to assist our Dad in building up a ramp of railroad ties to unload the oxen and cow. The freight car was unloaded of the rest of our belongings, and after assembling the wagon and loading a part of our world's belongings on to it, the oxen were hitched to it and we were away.

That was seventy-five years ago, and I can see myself and Wilf perched up on the load behind the yoke of oxen just as clearly as if it were a day ago. We had come out of London where horse transportation was seen everywhere, but these oxen were like something out of a zoo.

The snow was about all gone, but there was water everywhere. There was a trail that had enough traffic on it to barely be able to follow in, and of course these temporary patches of water would have the trail covered, some up to the oxen's knees, some up to their bellies.

Dad being an expert in ox driving, took the safe and easy course of leading them, which meant that he was wet well past his knees. This was not much after the snow had finished thawing and the water must have been extremely cold.

Prior to everything else, the first task was the shingling of the roof of the house. A snapshot of that shingling job would today be a real museum piece. Dad had been told of the general rudiments of nailing on shingles, that you started at the lower edge of the roof, and finished at the top, and to be sure not to expose more than four and a half inches to the weather, and an explanation of what all that meant, but none of the advisors had mentioned anything about using a straight edge tacked to the roof to butt the shingles to, and regulate the amount of lap, and so, each shingle was pencil marked four and a half inches from the thick end. There must have been some real artistic waves in the rows of those shingles by the time that it got to the top tier. I can still see the boys pencilling and carrying the shingles up the ladder to where Dad, with a rope around his middle and the other end thrown up over the roof, and anchored to the wagon on the other side of the house for added safety, was placing and nailing the shingles.

On the Malloy land, besides the house and small stable, there were about fifty acres of cultivation. Plowing and harrowing twenty acres and hand broadcasting with wheat and oats, was our first commencement of farming. The cultivation included what had been previously used for a garden quite close to the house, and with everyone eager to help, such as leading the oxen, breaking up the lumps with a rake and hoe, and sowing seeds, I remember it as being quite a respectable attempt at a garden, and, of course there was a potato patch as well.

The coming of spring in 1903 had been a late one. Even though it was the end of the first week in May, the few scattered settlers were still waiting for the land to dry enough to start spring work, and so even though it was getting on in the end of May before our small crop was in the ground, we were pretty well on schedule with the rest of our neighbors.

What must have been of great concern to our Dad and Mother was that there was no school closer than Saskatoon, and for the three years that we lived at this first location, there were no facilities for school of any form, which for the two youngest of us at least, was something for parents to well be concerned about.

With the seeding over, Dad shallow broke ten acres of prairie, and summerfallowed the remaining part of the broken land, thirty or forty acres. Later, he 'backset' the breaking which was to re-plow it, and turn up two inches of subsoil from below, the first plowed furrows. As our first haying time approached, Dad had commenced to mow the slough hay with a scythe, but later was fortunate in having Percy Wheeler come with their mower, with Dad tramping along over the cut swath and leading the oxen, while Percy rode and controlled the mower over stones and humps. The raking was done with homemade wooden rakes. Then there was the making of a hayrack to put on the wagon. This Dad made with poles from the river. Dad harvested the small crop entirely with a scythe, with we boys raking together the swath and tying it into sheaves. The straw was so short that we pulled the wheat up by the roots to get enough length to make straw bands.

A horse power threshing machine that had come from Saskatoon to thresh our neighbors' crops, threshed ours as well.

Our first attempt at building was to construct a sod chicken house. Probably a snapshot of that sod house would also be a museum treasure!

Our location was on a tractless prairie, although we were only a mile from the river. The river here was only a little more than a large ditch through the open prairie, with a very sparse growth of trees.

The time was fast approaching to when provision would have to be made for winter fuel. Dad knew the winters could be long ones, though we had yet to learn about how severe they could be, and it was by good fortune that the telegraph line patrol man, by the name of Sam Hamilton, left the trail which bordered the wire line, and drove in with his horse and buckboard to see who was living in the house that had long been empty.

As the conversation drifted along, our Dad mentioned the problem of the winter fuel supply, and Sam Hamilton told him that as he followed along the telegraph line with his work, he thought he could see in the distance dead trees showing above the second growth, which could be worthwhile investigating.

So it was, the next day, Dad, Frank and Bert started off with the oxen and wagon, following the telegraph line to the spot that Hamilton had described.

It was good firewood, though difficult to get. The trees had been killed by a prairie fire, and second growth had grown up among them, but it solved the fuel question for the three winters that we were there. It was about twenty miles in a northwest direction from where Dalmeny now is situated. Twenty miles might not sound like much of a trip these days, but you had to keep those oxen gently slapped with a stick to maintain a pace of two and a half miles an hour.

Naturally, we did not call it Dalmeny in those days, it never went by any other name than Timbuctoo.

One of the trips stand out in my mind. It was when the tire on one of the hind wheels of the wagon came off. It was after dark, and the tire fell to the ground unheard. It only took a few revolutions of the wheel without the tire to start going to pieces. We had about ten miles to walk, part time Frank and I rode the oxen, but I think it is easier to walk than to ride ox-back.

Fishing, that is dear to the hearts of both boys and men, was one of our earliest sports. It was the Wheelers who showed us about the general idea of baiting and setting night lines in the river, the outlay for lines and hooks was quite small and there were periods during the summer when our catch was a big help to our diet which was practically meatless.

It was Percy Wheeler, too, who showed us the method of curing and smoking fish.

There was the thrill of finding the nest of a pair of Canada Geese, only a week or two after our arrival, which we brought home and incubated under a broody hen, and successfully raised them to maturity. Also worthy of mention is the fact that the pair of geese returned to the nest for two successive springs and on each occasion laid seven eggs at the same spot as their former nest had been and these also we hatched and raised successfully.

Our first serious setback occurred in the autumn, when our cow died as the result of swallowing a small turnip and choking to death, all the more disastrous because there was not enough money to buy another one.

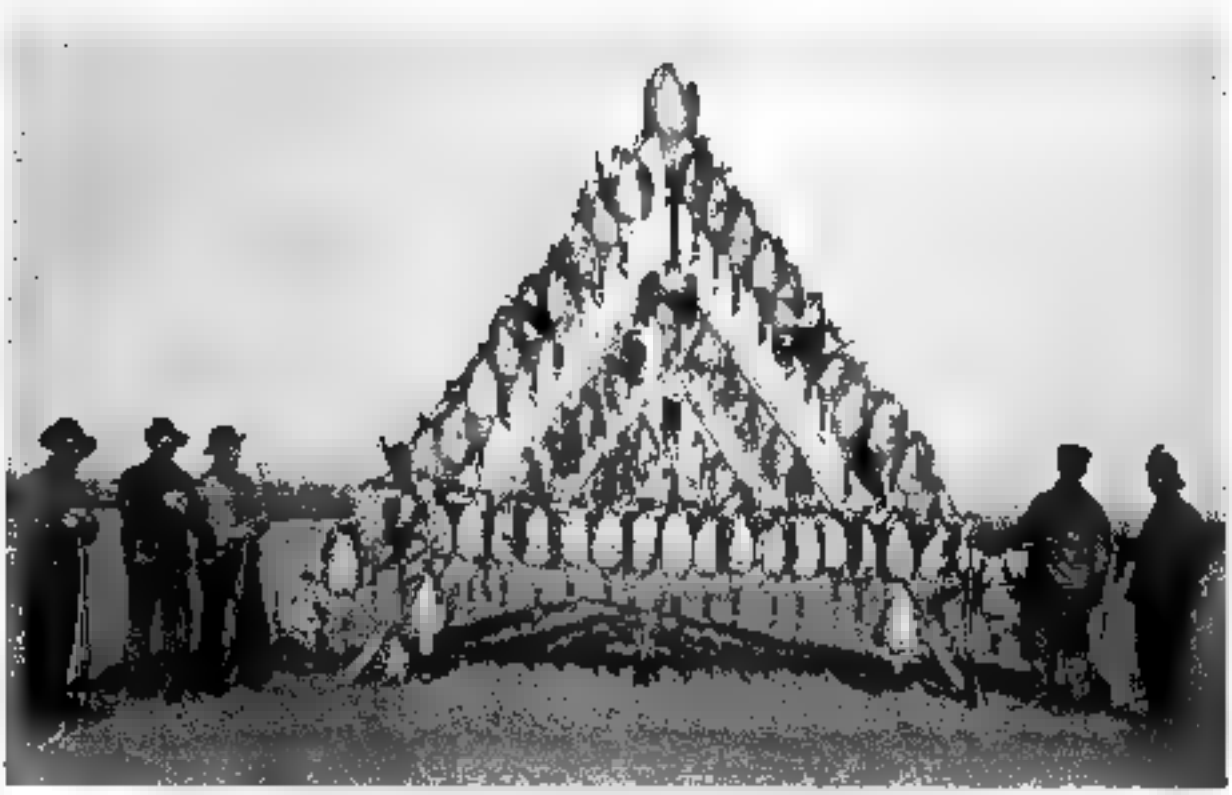
It was not many days later that Providence entered the picture. A stray cow, within a few days of having her calf, came wandering into the yard, and what I suppose was a most natural thing to do we tied her up in the stable. In due course the calf arrived, and it was not long until the milk and butter requirements were again back to where they were before the loss of our cow.

Those were the days before there was any Official Gazette to advertise about lost or found animals, and two decades before the rural telephones, so it was spring before the owner of the cow, who thought she must have perished, came and claimed her.

It was Seager Wheeler who showed us the first arts of trapping. Christmas was fast approaching, and although we young people had already realised that the Christmas presents which we had always enjoyed, were completely out, it was the prospect of not having the rich Christmas plum pudding, which we had always regarded as being the real 'emblem' of Christmas, was threatened also.

Even with our lack of know-how in the art of trapping, we caught a few foxes. It was with their furs that Dad walked to Saskatoon, seventeen miles, and with part of their value, which was the barest few dollars, brought back the ingredients for the Christmas pudding.

The story of our first winter on the bald and open prairie would have to include what could easily have been a tragedy. Our Dad had ordered from Regina one



L. to r. — Frank Langley, Will Barrett, Wilf Langley, Jack Langley, Bert Langley.

hundred sacks of what in those days was called Strong Baker's flour. Word had been recieved of it's arrival. Not having a good set of bob-sleighs, Dad hitched the best of the two oxen to the homemade stoneboat and went to Osler station for it. All went well until, with the gathering darkness it commenced to snow and blow, and it was not long until all traces of the track he was following was completely obliterated, and he found himself with nothing to guide him excepting the direction of the wind, which unknown to him was changing direction. Finally with the snow piling up in front of the sleigh, and greatly increasing the load, the ox tired out. There remained no apparent alternative except to put in the night and wait for daylight, because by this time Dad realized he was hopelessly lost.

It was 38 degrees below zero, and snow and wind continued all of the night.

Dad related that with the ox tied to the sleigh, he had tramped out a circle around it, and walked briskly around and around, sitting on the load of flour only long enough for a short rest and then again continuing the walking. That night must have been like an eternity.

We had a dog, and I don't think there ever was a more useless dog than that one was. However, she had followed Dad and the ox that day, and was still with him throughout that long night. Dad was wearing only heavy English boots, and he always gave what we had called 'useless old Sport' full credit for keeping his feet from freezing, by always lying on his feet during the spells that he would be resting.

Daylight finally came, and by the time the sun rose, the wind had dropped and there was enough visibility for Dad to get his bearings. The poor ox, although probably half perished, was at any rate, well rested for pulling the heavy load and about two hours later saw them at last safely home.

Dad had always grown a moustache before leaving England, and since coming to Canada had also allowed his beard to grow. I so well recall the state he was in when he came into the house. His moustache and beard had completely frozen together from his breath, and only nostril breathing was possible. It was not until he had stood over the hot stove and thawed the ice seal from his mouth that he was able to tell us of what had happened.

As the winter wore on we ran into a water problem. The shallow well went dry. Dad, Bert and Frank commenced digging a deeper well, but when they got about thirty feet down, came to a large stone which almost covered the bottom of the well, and I suppose that it was with the thought that the same thing could happen all over again, that the attempt was not made again, and so for the rest of the winter we melted snow for the two oxen and the cow. It is only when you start to melt snow over a small four lid top wood burning stove, that you get to know how much three grown cattle can drink. How well I remember how the steam

from those boiling pots and kettles that we poured on the barrel of snow in the kitchen formed ice on the windows, well over an inch thick, and of course, shut out most of the light too. The following winters we drove the stock to the river a mile and a quarter away.

Winter entertainment was naturally all of our own making. Night lighting was in the form of a wick coal oil lamp in the middle of the table, and a small carrying lamp that was used to carry from one part of the house to the other which also included the small upstairs which was not much more than a roof, very cold in winter and very hot in summer. As I remember it was cards, checkers and tiddley-winks though all of us were ardent readers.

Dad was first class at reading to us. It was at about the same year that we came to Canada, 1888, that the Aberdeen's were Canada's Governor General and it was Lady Aberdeen and her daughter who organized a worthy movement of collecting used magazines around Ottawa and parceling them into nice sized parcels, and mailing them to the few scattered settlers on the prairies, postpaid. Those receiving them would pass them around among themselves. I am sure that those early day settlers will have always remembered the pleasure and information that we got from the "Aberdeen Parcels".

An account of our first prairie fire must not be passed over without some comment. It started at the railway, from hot cinders from the stack of a locomotive. It was late fall, and we had been enjoying a fine spell of Indian Summer, which our neighbors had told us was always a regular thing on the prairies.

Night frosts and warm weather had reduced the prairie grass to a state of dryness, so that once started, in even a light wind, it would soon spread out of control.

On that day there was a stiff wind. The railway was five miles away, and those who first noticed it said that it spread at a rate of a mile every five minutes, and with what we learned later about prairie fires, I can well believe it.

With thick, heavy grass growth the smoke tends to slow up the progress of a prairie fire, but this had been a dry summer, and the grass being both short and thin, it was more as though it was just singeing over the ground with a minimum of smoke, and that, of course, would account for it's speed of travel.

It was fortunate that the ten acres Dad had broken that summer lay in the path of the approaching fire, so that at no time were our buildings or haystack in any danger, but without that strip of black land things could have been a lot different.

Bert and Frank, along with a young neighbor chap, had been away to the river with the oxen and wagon, and it was not until they were up onto the prairies after coming up the river bank that they saw the fire bearing down on them. To Bert and Frank this was a new experience, and their first urge was to head the oxen and wagon back to the protection of the river, and wade in the water if necessary, but Malcolm Copeland, a veteran of the ways of the country, and fortunately having some matches with him, started a fire in the grass which quickly spread, leaving burned off ground, where they drove the oxen and wagon, and none too soon, as the fire was soon all around them.

With the clearing away of the smoke, they lost all thought of their own danger, and were elated to see our buildings in the distance, unharmed.

Our first winter 1893-94, was a tough one. Long severe cold spells, which, although we did not have a thermometer of our own, we were told reached forty below for days at a time. Prince Albert had a record of 71 degrees below. Blizzards had a longer duration then than they seemed to have in later years. A three day storm was an almost household expression.

So the long first winter finally ended, and the spring of 1894 came. Dad had produced enough seed for the ten acres of breaking and thirty-five acres of summer-fallow. The oxen had wintered well on the slough hay and a little oat straw, although no grain feed whatever. Dad had broadcast the seed on the forty five acres, while Bert and Frank took turn about leading the oxen to draw the three sections of harrows, raising them occasionally when they plugged, and tapping the oxen along with a light whip. Later some more breaking was done, but this was with some difficulty, because after the moisture of the spring thaw had gone, we entered into a hot dry summer.

Misfortune struck again, when a smudge, which everyone used to protect their cattle from mosquitoes, fanned into flames and crept through the grass, which resulted in burning up the [illegible] stable. Following that, a second cow Dad had bought, sickened and died.

It was now that I changed from a carefree boy of twelve, to a wage earner, to help pay for another cow.

The deal that Dad made for the new cow was that I would herd Mr. Caswell's cattle from May until November, for which he would allow twenty dollars off the price of the cow. In my memory that was a heart tearing summer. If ever there was a homesick boy, that was surely me. Mr. Caswell was located at Rosthern, over thirty miles away, and it was only the distance that kept me from running home.

It was not long before the miles that I was covering on foot, made it necessary for me to have a new pair of boots, which in those days, providing that you did not want anything fancy, cost about a dollar seventy cents. My employer got me the boots, and some few days later he drew me off to one side and quietly told me that if I was a good boy, and kept the cattle out of the hay sloughs and crops, he would give me something all my own.

I sure was in good training for the Marathon at the end of that summer, because I had fully made up my mind that at the end of the summer, I would be leading home one of the Caswell calves. My legs served me well, and I did everything Mr. Caswell requested me to do.

The long summer came to an end, and time for me to go home. It was then to have Mr. Caswell tell me that I had been such a good boy, and that he would not be charging me for the boots, which needless to say, were by this time worn out, too. We hear that it is the hard knocks in early life that makes big men, if so I should have grown into a giant.

By this time Dad was becoming unsettled, and rightly so. The nearest water was the river, a mile away, the supply of wood had been found by others and was fast running out. The Caswell's had already moved north to Rosthern, and the two Wheelers, Seager and Percy, had both made trips there. The attraction was that water and wood were more available, and also that the rainfall was better too. And furthermore, with more settlement, there would be no difficulty in organizing a school.

A litter of pigs had been raised that summer and we fared quite well that winter. Game was particularly scarce out there on the open prairie but at the river, there was the odd spot with enough bush to harbor some bush rabbits. Dad had bought a second-hand ten gauge, muzzle-loading double-barrel shot gun before leaving England, and when the weather was not over severe, with a supply of black powder and shot, caps, and a pocketful of paper for wadding, away we would hit it off on foot, just as enthused as any nabob riding to hounds.

In the fall of 1884, a flour mill was put into operation at Prince Albert. It was there that Dad and Frank started out with enough wheat to be grinded into flour for a year's supply. Prince Albert was over one hundred miles away, and with oxen travelling much less than three miles an hour, (really two and a half would be a safer estimate), so when I say they were away ten days, it is quite plain that they were on the road all of those ten days.

In the fall of 1885, it was arranged to again make the trip to Prince Albert and it was myself who was to go on the exciting expedition this time. But the snow came early that year, and not having any bobsled, we started out with the wagon wheels grinding through several inches of snow. It was far from the pleasure trip Frank had had the year before, which was all nice Indian summer days. With the days very cold, and the snow getting deeper as we got further along, Dad wisely decided to have the gristing done at Duck Lake.

The Duck Lake flour mill turned out a good wholesome flour, but it did not separate as much of the bran and shorts with the result that the bread was much darker in color and did not rise quite as well, either.

With the homeward journey the cold became much more intense, and those metal tires made a monotonous grind which I think in an imaginary way I can still hear. The oxen were becoming tired and even more slow, and time and time again I used to run back over the road in order to catch up at a pace to warm me up. Then there were times when, with the wind in our face, I would walk partly sideways beside one of the oxen with my nose pressed against his ribs for a little warmth.

With an extra load or two of wood from 'Timbuctoo', which Dad always insisted on to be on the safe side, our house was always livable during the day, but a wood burning cookstove has to be constantly stoked, and there is no means of banking it at night as is possible with a coal stove, and so the fire would go out soon after we retired. Fortunately we had brought an ample supply of bed material from England, and we kept warm during the night, but it was no unusual thing in the cold spells, in the morning to see quite a collection of white frost on the bed covers around your face.

A supply of shavings, which we boys made with our pocket knives, and fine split kindling was always ready to get a quick fire going in the morning.

Another thing never to be overlooked as a last chore was to be sure never to leave the dipper in the water pail, as it would be sure to be frozen in the morning. Covering the potatoes in the earth cellar well was of the utmost importance, too.

We had no musical instruments of any kind, but the Wheelers were both musicians. Seager had his concertina and Percy his banjo, and they would quite often spend an evening with us. On the nights of their coming, down the trail we would see the flicker of a lantern which they always carried. If the night was rough they would have a fox pelt to protect their face and neck. All of the early settlers wore the customary fur caps and buckskin moccasins.

The financial aspect was now becoming increasingly acute. The wheat that was harvested amounted to little more than enough for the next year's seed requirements and what was needed for grinding into flour.

Fortunately, through it all we had all enjoyed exceedingly good health. Even better still, our Mother's health was better than it had been for some years before coming to Canada.

With the coming of the third summer, 1886, the three eldest of us were away earning a few dollars that were needed to keep the home together. The farm income in total was that of the grist of flour, and while the Good Book probably had it's own meaning about us not living on bread alone, we had our own version of it, and knew it to be all too true. Over the whole area where we were, including Saskatoon and miles beyond, everybody was a homesteader, and we were all experiencing the same bad effects of the continuing dry summer. It was only the barest few of them who had the means to employ anybody at all, and the wages were such, that were they compared with the wages of today, what we received for a month was even less than is now earned in a single day. And so it was that the three of us together earned less than twenty dollars a month, and they were long months too, because we worked longer days.

By now a modern Exodus was under way, and a

year later the whole area was a deserted camp. Right to this day, I cannot think otherwise than that our Dad had suffered a quirk of Fate that had him settled on what I think was about the most unproductive piece of the prairie to be found anywhere.

In the spring of 1899 Dad sowed the crop, but did no further breaking, as it was his intention to move to Rosthern. He had abandoned the quarter he had filed on at Osler, which gave him the right to homestead again.

Had Dad gone west from the railway it could have got better land, but there was no other settlement there other than the Mennonite folk. The land around us had been picked over, and the quarter that Dad filed on was light and sandy, and with the still continuation of the dry summers that were there during the next three years, our efforts were not crowned with much success.

It was not long after we were there that Dad first met T. O. Davis, then Federal M.P. for the constituency of Prince Albert.

T. O. Davis was a Liberal, and as Dad's politics before leaving England had always had a Radical leaning, and although not having much knowledge of Canadian politics, it was not long until T. O. Davis had him recruited as one of his campaign assistants, which was to become the first stepping stone of our Dad's political life in the future Province of Saskatchewan. Progress was slow because that was a good number of years before Saskatchewan was granted her autonomy.

Those three years at Rosthern were mostly of a subsistance sort of life. Dad had previously bought an extra ox, and more recently three medium sized horses. All of us had been out working and even at the still existing very low wages, in some way they were paid for.

By now we boys had become quite competent trappers, and the Rosthern country, being more in the park belt, with considerable scrub and bush, coyotes and foxes were quite plentiful, and although we received very low prices for the furs, they were at least an addition to our income.

I can't recall that we ever produced a crop that could even be classed as fair.

In the meantime a Federal election had come around, I think it was either 1899 or 1900, and Dad had been away a lot with T. O. Davis, who was re-elected in the election.

With some addition to our horse power, and arrangements underway to add still more to it, Dad had entered into an arrangement with the owner of a section of land four and a half miles north west of Rosthern, wherein we were to break up the most of it, and fence the rest, and also to erect some buildings with the owner of the land supplying the building materials. In return for our work we were to receive all that the land produced during the four years that we were there. It seemed a good deal, but unforeseen bad fortune lay ahead. The seasons of limited rainfall still persisted, and the light land that we had been farming tended to make things still worse, so when we had the opportunity to move to heavier land we regarded it as a streak of good luck.

We had added, by means of optimistic financing, another three teams of horses to our working force, and the first summer saw us with over two hundred acres of breaking disced, and all ready for the drill, and the crop went in satisfactorily the next spring. But it was now that we had come to the end of the dry cycle, and that summer we had some good rains, and also long spells of cloudy days followed them, and also it was to find that a lot of the land was inclined to be low-lying. To make a long story short, our two hundred acres of wheat on the low heavy land was as green as a leek at the coming of the first severe frost, and every bushel of it graded 'feed'.

It was at this time that the farmers around Saskatoon and Indian Head had commenced to give vent to their grievances, and had organized the Grain Grower's Association. Rosthern was not far behind in organizing their own local of the same movement as well.

Then began the Grain Growers Association yearly conventions, which alternated between Regina and Saskatoon. We were still in the Territorial days, and the population was still quite sparse, but these conventions drew big gatherings of delegates, each delegate representing every ten members of the organized locals. Motherwell, Partridge and his brother-in-law, Ralston, had previously tangled with the Winnipeg Grain Exchange, which had grown into the line of thinking that it was the farmer's job to grow the wheat, but after that it was their God-given right at the exchange to manipulate every device, honest or otherwise, to secure the farmer's wheat at the lowest possible price, by "Bearing" down on the market, then dispose of it by "Bulling" the market up. It was some years later that Dad had been chosen as spokesman for the farmer in a further controversy between the Grain Exchange and the Grain Growers, in which Dad declared before the Judge of the Court and a lawyer for the Exchange, Isaac Pitblado, quote "no highwayman who held a gun to his victim's head demanding his money, was any more guilty of theft, than were the manipulations of the Grain Exchange in their dealings with the producers of the grain."

This statement was not followed by any demand for apology, or any threat of libel proceedings either, because they knew full well what he said was perfectly true.

All of this was in Winnipeg the seat of the Grain Exchange, but there were still more grievances which were to become more and more acute with the growing numbers that were coming to the prairies to seek a livelihood at farming. And thus in 1901, the first delegation of western farmers moved on Ottawa. Their grievances were many. To mention the main

ones, freight rates, revision of the Grain Act, lowering of duty on imported farm machinery, reciprocity with the United States to allow freer trade, lower interest rates, etc.

Dad was the appointed spokesman for that first delegation that moved on Ottawa from western Canada, and I don't doubt that he proved himself as a diplomat, because in later years he was appointed spokesman on a number of occasions.

Our years at Rosthern were drawing to an end, and plans were being made to move to unsettled territory where we could locate homesteads. I suppose it was partly due to Dad's association with T. O. Davis, M.P., that he was offered the job of operating a sub-land office where the Barr Colonists had pitched their tents on the spot that was later to become Lloydminster. His office was just another tent where he recorded the survey number of each of the Colonists, and these he sent in batches to the Land Office in North Battleford. This was a service set up to save the necessity of each of the colonists travelling the ninety miles himself to file on the piece of land he had chosen.

Dad travelled to Lloydminster with a team of ponies and a buckboard, following the old Carlton-Battleford trail as far as Battleford, and he later wrote us that he was impressed with the country that the trail wended through that started fifteen or twenty miles west of Redberry Lake, and suggested that we should drive out and look it over.

Bert had a good job at Lloydminster with the Massey-Harris Company, setting up farm machinery that was being bought by the Colonists. This was being freighted from Saskatoon mostly in the crates, and it was Bert's job to set them up in working order.

With Wilf staying at the Rosthern home with Mother and Alice, Frank and I outfitted ourselves for the land seeking expedition. Our outfit consisted of a team and wagon, and behind this we led a third horse hitched to a buckboard, this was to be able to travel light while looking the country over in the search for suitable land.

On the wagon we loaded a walking breaking plow, a few hundred feet of scantlings and shiplap for a shack, a quantity of feed oats, camping equipment and some grub. A cable ferry had been installed over the North Saskatchewan river at Petrofka, where we made our crossing. We picked up the old Carlton trail that snaked it's course around the north of Redberry Lake.

Arriving in the area that Dad had previously described, we pitched our tent and being careful to securely tie up the team to the wagon, we commenced scouring around the country with the third horse hitched to the buckboard. We were practically 'lord of all we surveyed'. Not a furrow had been plowed, and apart from the old trail, there was no other road that led to anywhere.

Frank and I covered a lot of country. We were as far west as where Lilac stood, and south to where today are Maymont and Ruddell. There was a land surveying party that were camped nearby where the Keystone School was later built, and from them we got a lot of information concerning the lay of the better land. In the course of it all there was the spot where we had first pitched our tent, and though we had fanned out for a good many miles in every direction, it was the tent site that held our greatest attention.

I have told of us having received suggestions from the foreman of the survey camp. It was in the later part of our search in the area north of where Fielding now is that we again called in at the survey camp. We were met by the foreman, an elderly man who said he supposed we had got some good land, and Frank and I replied that we had not yet made up our minds, to which the sage old fellow replied "Well, either the kind of land you want is not here, or else you do not know what you do want."

I would not go so far as to say that it was that which snapped us out of our indecision, but it was not much later that we were reading the Roman Numerals that were chiselled into the iron stakes that were driven into the ground in the centre of the four pits that the surveyors had dug, and we soon had the section, township and range of some of the better quarter sections recorded. Being only recently surveyed, it was not until the following December that the surveyor records had been registered and we were able to file our application to homestead but our earlier application had given us assurance of first homesteading rights. Without any further delay we lined up strike out stakes, and with the three horses on the fourteen inch breaking plow, we proceeded to plow a few acres of the full half mile on each of the quarter sections.

It would not do to omit the erection of the first shack. I think it was ten by twelve, only a shell, not even a floor. It was already apparent to us that we were in an area that seemed more subject to high winds. Our first building was only a bare few days old when a black cloud that gave promise of rain that would help our breaking job, proved to be only a hurricane of wind, and noticing as we were sitting in its shelter that the inside walls were creeping over the grass, we thought it better to be getting outside; and none too soon either, as moments later it went rolling over, not to stop until it came to a small low place on the adjoining quarter section. The few acres of breaking I have written of was intended to be evidence that application for filing had been made.

The winter of 1903-04 was one of more than average snowfall and seeding every where was late in commencing. We did not go to work with a great deal of optimism except to get it done and make preparations for the move to the new location. It was early in June by the time that everything was set to go. There was a haul of seventy miles, counting the detours and winding trails. There were no improved roads of any description, or bridges either. I think we considered it

fortunate that there was the recently installed ferry at Petrofka, otherwise the only other alternative would [redacted] to go to the Carlton ferry an extra fifteen miles north and then back south again. Even the essentials made up into four heavy loads for our wagons I suppose it was due to the experience that Frank and I had the summer before when we had travelled comparatively light and had not had any trouble whatever in getting through even the worst spots, that we were not more cautious. As it was found water across the road where there had not been any before, and the creeks were deeper and wider, too. We were fortunate not to have had any serious mishaps, and with the month of June speeding along, we immediately had every horse hitched to breaking plows. These consisted of what was then known as a twelve inch low lift gang plow with two furrows, no seat, but instead a pair of handles to help steer it when turning at the end of the field. The other two were wood beam walking plows, one twelve and the other fourteen inch. We had got about two hundred acres broken when the weather became so dry and hot that we could not keep the breakers in the ground. However, we built the stable, 24 by 24, added an addition to the little shack, 12 by 16, dug a well, and put up the winter hay.

The steel was laid as far as Radisson that fall.

Although we had been having quite dry conditions on the new land, there had been more than enough rain at the Rosthern farm, and black or stem rust had damaged the wheat more than it had ever previously done.

Bert, Frank and Wilf went back there to look after the harvest.

I rarely saw anyone during that time excepting the Potter's who had come in that summer. Mrs. Potter baked my bread. And also the George Walton's; George used to keep my plow shares pounded out for me, at twenty-five cents each. Mrs. Potter baked my bread on the basis of receiving as much flour for her own use as she used to make my bread.

It was a glad day for me when the boys arrived back, they had brought the cattle, and we proceeded to get things in shape for the winter.

As I write this and think of those early winters, I think that we must have been a fairly hardy lot. At that time there was not as much as a twig to hold back the snow from drifting right up to the door, and over the tops of the feed stacks and low buildings. We were right on the open prairie and our small farms in the making, in the distance across the snow, were like a group of spots on the landscape.

There was a job for all of us that winter. Wilf stayed at the Rosthern farm, Bert and I were on the road every day making trips back and forth, bringing loads of feed, seed grain, machinery-binders drills, etc. to the new farm. Frank stayed on the new farm, caring for the stock and extra horses, and also busy every day making or repairing something for future use, as was characteristic with him all of his life.

1905 started as an unusual kind of year. There had not been much snow that winter and mild winds in the first week of March had it all melted. On the tenth of March, Frank and I started harrowing down the backsetting with two outfits, but it was a short lived spring, because in only a few days it again turned cold, and with more snow falling, we did not do anything more until well on into April. The land did not need much further preparation and seeding was soon finished, and we got a lot of breaking done that summer. The crop was no better than medium in yield, but the quality was excellent, grading No. 1 Northern.

This was 1905, and Saskatchewan had been proclaimed a province, with powers to legislate and govern itself, though of course with limitations similar to those of the other seven provinces which were already in Confederation.

The date for the first Provincial election had been set to be held in late October. Dad had been moving in among the then quite sparse settlement that was in a general way in the Redberry constituency. His conveyance was a single horse and buckboard.

The Liberal nominating convention was to be held in Radisson and Dad had arranged for a Mr. McShean to nominate him, and I so well remember Dad's account of it.

Mr. McShean had come to the district from the U.S.A. As to whether he had ever taken part in a Presidential nomination was not known, but the eloquence that went into that nominating address should [redacted] preserved in the Provincial Archives.

Dad was not without a contender, Mr. Emil Richard, whose cattle and horse ranch was six miles from us, had aspirations also. Mr. Richard was known for miles around. He has sold good numbers of unbroken horses and steers to the homesteaders, many of them without money were given credit, and there would seem to be every good reason that this would render him some support, which doubtlessly it did, too, because while he had quite a strong appeal in private conversation, he had very little ability when speaking to an open meeting. It was when addressing a large gathering that Dad was at his best. It was a close vote, the closest possible. In his first appeal for public political support Dad had won by a majority of one!

The Liberals won the election and the Redberry Constituency elected Dad also.

George Langley was elected Liberal representative for the Constituency of Redberry and was a member at the first sitting of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Saskatchewan in 1905. In 1912 he became a member of the government and was given the post of Minister of Municipal Affairs in the cabinet of the Honorable Walter Scott. In 1913 he also held the portfolio of Minister in charge of the Bureau of Public Health. He held this portfolio until his retirement in 1921. Always prominent in farm activities and organizations, he was most active in the formation of the Saskatchewan Co-Operative Elevator Company in

Though the land they chose as homestead NE½ 35-42-12 was not rocky, there would be occasional large boulders that required ingenuity, sweat and brawn on the part of the young men.

1911. He retained a remarkable hold upon the imagination of all those with whom he came into contact. He possessed a great sense of humor and a magnetic platform presence.

The story of the Langley family homesteading in the Maymont district now continues.

Submitted by Mrs. Margaret (Langley) Strautman.

As the mother and sister were to join them from Northern a house had to be built. Frank designed and built the two-storey building as it stands today. There was an earth basement, cistern and coal bin and a new coal and wood furnace. Trees had to be planted by hand and numbered well over two thousand. Spruce were brought from Meeting Lake to complete the grove. The cement posts that surround the yard were individually poured into molds, wire threaded through for the later attachment of a wire fence. The home became the centre of gatherings for church and some dances or other such social occasions. Alice played the organ and Wilf kept toes tapping with his violin. It is known that many times he was across the river playing at a dance and most reluctant to get up for work the next morning.

Bert as eldest and more studious looked after the financing and records. Frank was the organizer, builder and repairman. Jack had the drive and was a very hard worker. Wilf often was delegated as the cook. On one occasion he went down to the hillside sod chicken house to collect the eggs to find the door shut and a growl coming from within. As he pushed open the door a furry body flew through the window, down the hill and across the prairies — a lynx. The floor was strewn with dead chickens. Wilf checked them carefully and could not see how they had been killed. He took one and prepared it for dinner but no one could bring themselves to eat it. There were fortunately a few chickens left but their supply of fresh eggs and poultry was severely limited.

A carload of lumber was ordered in 1918 from Fred McCorkle of Maymont, for the construction of a large barn. They were now going into the breeding of the Belgian horse with a purebred stud "Barney". The well was a considerable distance from the construction sight so an underground pipe was laid well below the frost line, to fill a cistern dug beneath the south end of the barn. The water was raised by hand pump to an indoor water trough. The floor was cement in the main barn, but the leanto had the foaling stalls with dirt floors — and just a cement walkway. In the winter the main barn would be partitioned off at the harness rooms, to retain heat for the few head of horses kept in for driving during the winter months. The cow barn was a smaller area with drainage ditches and stanchions for each individual animal. The large loft provided shelter for the stock of feed. Two chop bins in the north corners would be filled with either oats or chop. Sheaves were elevated by a system of pulleys and slings. The slings would be laid on a rack and piled high with bundles. At the barn from the peak a very heavy rope ran along an overhead track and out the side of the barn, through a system of pulleys a team of horses were able to raise the load up from the rack to the track that ran across the entire roof. As the load came into position the smaller rope would be activated, the sheaves dropped when the slings opened and the slings would be pulled back and out by the operator. The ropes mentioned were made from twine and woven by their own "rope maker". In the playtime memories we can recall the adventures of the younger people who would ride those slings and drop off into the piles of hay below.

The farm site was on the crest of a hill, overlooking a valley and across ten miles to Maymont. Hailstorms had a pathway that often followed the crest of the hill along this valley. Many windows had been broken at the barn and Frank had finally replaced them all. August, 1944 would stay in the memory for during a sudden thunderstorm the barn was struck by lightning. The whole loft interior must have been on fire for the

In 1926 the Senior Langleys celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. The members left to right are: Wilf, Mother Ellen, Jack, Alice, Frank, Father George, Bert.

JOHN LANGLEY — In 1796 came from Ireland (Ulster Rebellion) to Saffron Walden, England.

JAMES m: Mary Barker

JOHN

WILLIAM

WILLIAM

JAMES

JOHN

GEORGE b: 1852-1933
m 1878 m: Ellen Hales

ALICE
1877-
1972

HERBERT m:
Sarah Stephen
1879-
1952
Helen
Bill
Ian
Jean

FRANK m:
Kate Smales
1880-
1964
Margaret

JOHN m:
Margaret Turnbull
1883-
1973
George
Jim
Stuart
Arthur
Con
Edna

WILFRED m:
Mary Carter
1885-
Alice
Victor
Fred
Howard

roof was burning from end to end. It burned quickly and completely as it stood, never collapsing. Neighbors soon arrived to help prevent further destruction of other buildings by flying debris. The few pigs that were in the barn escaped injury. The wheat stored inside smoldered on the surface but the grain underneath was saved and a special permit had to be obtained to ship this smoke damaged feed.

The four brothers and their wives taken about 1950, Jack and Madge, Wilf and Mary, Bert and Sally, Frank and Kate.

The years have passed and the original brothers are no longer here to tell their tales. Many descendants still live in the immediate area and in Saskatchewan. Some have moved to warmer areas in Vancouver while one great-granddaughter now resides in Holland.

Mrs. William Leask

submitted by Helen Sophie (Langham) Leask

In my teaching days after you had finished Normal School training, the only position available was to teach in a rural school. I never could understand the reasoning behind this. Surely it would have been much better to put the inexperienced teacher in the city schools with only one grade to teach! And, also, there would be some supervision.

However, after teaching several years in rural areas, I decided it would be much too monotonous to teach one grade.

On August 15, 1925, I stepped off the evening train at Maymont. A gentleman stepped forward, took my arm and said, "This way Miss - - - - - ." I said, "I'm sorry I am not Miss - - - - - . I am Miss Langham." Mr. A. Brehon came forward and joked with Dr. Scratch for trying to take off with his school teacher. Apparently Dr. Scratch had been expecting a nurse. As I was the only lady getting off the train I should have been his nurse.

I taught in Keystone until December, 1928. Believe, me, it was never monotonous! There were sixteen to twenty-six pupils from grades one to ten. Two boys in grade nine were taking their lessons by correspondence. I was supposed to correct their work and help with any problems. The boys had decided they wanted to take French as their second language. The principal where I had taken my high school had majored in Latin. Problem number one! I had to do each French lesson and send it away to be corrected. At least, I learned a smattering of French.

The first day I entered Keystone School I noticed there were "spitballs" all over the ceiling but I didn't say anything about them. It takes time to get faces organized with grades. So far there hadn't been any spitballs flying but it was a problem to deal with before it got going. One day I decided "where ignorance is bliss 'tis folly to be wise". I innocently

asked, "What are all those things on the ceiling?" ■ course the answer came back "Spitballs". "What are spitballs?" I asked. They proceeded to show me "Who put them up there?" Many hands went up. "Well," I said, "You put them up there. You will have to find a way to get them down."

The next morning the two boys in grade nine came armed with trestles, planks and corn brooms. Much to my surprise they got the spitballs off.

I usually played with the pupils during the noon hour — ball, tag, knife, whatever the season dictated. One day I had some work to correct and didn't go out. All of a sudden everything was still — not a sound to be heard. There was one girl in the room. She had just come in so I said, "Where is everyone?" She said, "They are all down in the bush and each boy has a girl on his knee." I rang the bell. They all came running and stood in two lines. The older pupils were all looking a bit "sheepish" Suddenly it just seemed so funny that I burst out laughing. I never said a word about it! What could one say after laughing?

I taught in quite a number of rural school but I enjoyed my teaching days at Keystone most of all. So to all my students of those days I say "Thank You."

Doris Evelda (Sherman) Loftsgaard

I am the fifth daughter (seventh child) of Charles and Anna Sherman. I was born on June 13, 1926.

My recollection of life on the farm near Fielding, Saskatchewan is very sketchy, but certain things in my young life do stand out such as walking to school, rain or shine, or perhaps I should say snow or shine, spending hours trapping, snaring or drowning gophers from their holes for the precious one penny bounty. I now shudder to think that at one time I was very good at it, I thought. Besides the gophers that were a constant bane to a farmer's existence I also distinctly recall the hoards of grasshoppers that my father and brothers tried ■ destroy by mixing poison with grain and scattering it from a wagon around the perimeter of the fields.

What wheat stands they were able to salvage were harvested in the fall, and I remember trying to stook the bundles of wheat and somehow I never could make them look so neat as the grown men. I wish young people today could see the memory I have of fields with neat rows of stooked wheat waiting for the threshing machine to come in and complete the harvest.

As a young girl on the farm so many years ago I was not spared the drudgery of herding cattle, milking cows, feeding pigs and chickens, carrying drinking water from the well to the house, chopping wood, butchering chickens, churning butter in a rotating barrel churn, and scrubbing clothes on a wash board, all before I turned thirteen years of age. But these times were interspersed with such goodies as — building playhouses in the trees, dividing the rooms with binder twine and hearing how angry my brothers got when they would get caught up in twine while chasing animals through the bushes; and happy times running and hopping and singing out through the fields with all that freedom from care; and the dances and the Christmas concerts at Calais School; and oh, what a great joy to get to go to town with the horse and buggy.

Winter was different. I remember freezing my fingers and ears walking to school in a blizzard. The alert teacher saw me coming toward the school with cap covered ear distended, and knew enough to put snow on my ear before letting me near the pot-bellied stove in the classroom. But along with blizzards came snow drifts, and though they made it difficult to work or travel in they were fun to play in, and made great mountains to sled on.

Going to school in one room with other students up to the eighth grade was not as disruptive as one might think. I believe getting a glimpse of your next grade gave us a bit of incentive. However, two of the most terrifying things in my early school life were the visits ■ our school by the District Superintendent of Schools, and the doctor. I remember Dr. Scratch came periodically to vaccinate and inoculate all of us. The fear of these incidents was passed on by others and was worse than the actual happening. One of the fun things I remember was the inter-school track meets we used to have. Although it was ■ very frightening to me to have ■ meet and compete with strange people. We were not very worldly in those days.

Those were a few of my recollections of life up to 1938 when we moved to Vancouver.

March 4, 1949 I married Bennett A. Loftsgaard, a school teacher from Klamath Falls, Oregon. After six years we moved to Sacramento, California and raised our three children, Evelda, born January 15, 1950, living in Southern California now; Catherine, born July 18, 1951, now married and living in Minneapolis, Minn. with her husband and tiny daughter, and Bennett, born October 4, 1952, now living in Sacramento.

My husband and I now publish a daily report on planned Construction in our area. It still keeps us tied ■ Sacramento, but hope one day ■ visit my home town. I am a licensed private pilot, so we do have an opportunity to cover a lot of territory in a short period of time.

The Donald Long Family

Donald Long was born on the Fred Long homestead, south of Maymont. He attended school in Maymont — often walking both ways. During the winter months, the family lived in Maymont and returned to the farm in the summer. Mr. Fred Long worked for the C.N.R. for many years. In 1926 the family moved to the Calais School District — southeast of Maymont.

■ 1952, I, Margaret McGaffin, of Sonningdale was hired as teacher for the Calais School. I taught there

Don Long family. Back row, L. to R. — Jim, Margaret, Donald, and Bob. Front row — Linda, Beth and Donna.

until June 1935. Money was scarce and times were tough; but the families and the school had a wonderful relationship. Each pupil pulled his weight and we all learned how to work as a unit. We had many happy times at field days, Christmas trees and picnics. Calais always did well at Area Field Days.

■ 1936, Donald Long and Margaret McGaffin were married. We farmed near Fielding. In March, 1937 our son, Bob, was born. Beth was born in July 1939 and Donna arrived in January 1945.

In 1946, the Ivor Longs and the Donald Longs moved to farms, south of Lloydminster. We bought adjoining farms and farmed together for a few years.

Our Linda arrived in July of 1947 and Jim came along in November 1951. Times got better and we have had a good life. We now have a few oil wells on our land.

Beth and Bob attended Calais School with Jean Downey as teacher.

The three girls went through Teachers' College in Saskatoon and taught for a number of years. Beth is now Mrs. Charlie May of Lloydminster, Sask. They have four boys — Eddie, Greg, Gerry, and Mark. Donna married Zbyg Staszczak, a teacher. They live in Creston, B.C. and have two girls — Deanna and Sharla. Linda married Don Holt, a teacher, and lives in Cranbrook, B.C. They have a girl, Gina and a boy, Geoffery.

Bob had two children, Murray and Marlyss, when his wife passed away. He remarried and now Bob has five children — Pam is sixteen; Murray and Kevin are fourteen; Martyss is twelve and Deirdra is eleven. Bob was elected M.L.A. for Cutknife-Lloydminster, for the N.D.P. in the fall of 1978. He still farms with Jim.

Bob showed early that he would be a politician. During the war, we lived on the Cameron farm, near Fielding. The airforce were training at North Battleford and came down the river valley and up our coulee. One day they flew so low that the dishes in the cupboard rattled; and we saw the wing extending over the south window. Bob was in Grade II and had to take a news item to school. He told of the airplane rattling the dishes and showing over the roof — but — he added, "I got up and ran around the house and there was the wing showing on the north side too". Miss Downey wondered about that one!

Jim attended U. of S. taking Sociology. He works as a Youth Counselor during the winter and farms with Bob during the summer.

Don and I are semi-retired and still living on the farm south of Lloydminster, Saskatchewan.

The Ivor Long Story

told by Ivor Long

My parents, Fred and Florence Long, and my older brother and three sisters, came from England in 1908. After working on farms to gain experience, my father filed on a homestead on the north bank of the Saskatchewan River, about five miles south of Maymont. I was born in 1910, being the first of family born in Canada. As the school at Maymont, where I received all my education, was some distance away, my father purchased a house in Maymont in 1918 from a Mr. Andrew Kerr. We lived there during the winter months, moving back to the farm in the spring, for the summer. My father was employed by the C.N.R. working on section. Then in spring of 1926 he purchased a farm four miles west of Fielding, which my younger brother Philip is still farming today.

As for myself, I received all my education in the original two-roomed school at Maymont which at that time was located on the west side of the road. My school days ended in June, 1923 when I completed my grade eight. As my father was still employed with the C.N.R., I was kept at home to help with the farm work. My first job at threshing time, was hauling straw for a large steam outfit owned by Jack Spies and Wes Rolfe. As I had to be there when the fireman was getting up steam in the morning, it would often be a fourteen hour day. After about twenty-five days of this kind of work, I began to realize that going to school had been a pretty soft life. I continued to work at home and for farmers until I was able to rent land and make a start at farming myself.

In December of 1938, I married Bethene Nutbrown and we lived on a rented farm owned by Alan Patterson, where our only son, Leonard, was born. In spring of 1940 we moved to a better farm, formerly owned by Robert Hodge, where we lived for six years. Our only

daughter, Evelyn, was born here. We purchased and moved to the farm ten miles south of Lloydminster in 1946 where we are still living.

Our son Leonard was married to Eveleen Mann, from north of Lloydminster and they have three children. He purchased a farm about two and one half miles away but chose to build and live on the home farm. Our daughter Evelyn is teaching in North Battleford.

Fred and Florence Long

Mr. and Mrs. Long arrived in Maymont from London, England in the spring of 1908. Mrs. Long was born in Gloucestershire, England; After leaving school, she went to London where she worked as a nursemaid. There she met Fred Long and was married in 1900. Fred worked as a bus conductor in London. At that time they were using horses, but later switched to motor driven buses.

When they arrived in Maymont they had four children. They stayed for awhile with Mr. Long's sister, Mrs. Percy Knowles, in Maymont and then moved out to a log house with a sod roof on Mr. Knowles' homestead, where they spent two winters. Their closest neighbours at that time were Mr. and Mrs. Wilmot, who were homesteading on a quarter about half a mile east of there. Harvey Denomy owns the land at the present time.

The Long Family. L. to R. — Stanley, Marjorie, Peggy, Molly, Ivor, and Don. In front — Philip, Mother, Miriam, Father and Gwen.

After moving around for some years, Mr. Long worked on farm and road work, he also did some carpenter work and helped to build the United Church; he finally took up a homestead down by the river. He broke up the land with oxen. He managed to break up twenty-three acres and the following spring worked with Mr. Holmes and helped him to put the seed in. Mr. and Mrs. Holmes lived at that time where Glenburn Park is now situated.

There was a very good crop that year and Mr. T. Turner thrashed it with the big steam outfit. Fred bought some CPR land next to the homestead. He sold the oxen and bought some horses and broke more land. They farmed there for some time. In 1926 they sold that land and bought land in the Fielding District so as to be close to a school, that was Calais School. Phil Long is now farming the land.

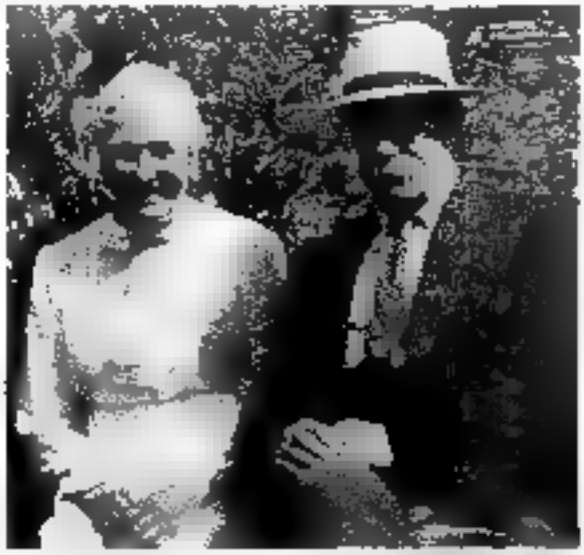
Fred Long passed away in March 1939 and Florence carried on with the farm for some time and then built a house in Fielding where she lived for several years. She passed away at the age of 84, April 3, 1956.

They had a family of nine children, five girls and four boys. They are: Stanley Long, Muriel (Mrs. Ed Larson), Marjorie (Mrs. Frank Clayton) and Phillip Long of Maymont; Ivor and Donald Long, Gwendolyn (Mrs. Reese Holden) of Lloydminster and Miriam (Mrs. Ken Barber) of Vancouver, British Columbia and Alice who is predeceased.

The George Mabey Family

told by Mary (Hopkins) Mabey

In March, 1905, George Mabey homesteaded five miles northwest of Roddell. Mr. and Mrs. Mabey and small son Walter emigrated to Canada from England in 1901, and worked for a farmer at Carmen, Manitoba. Their son Herbert was born in 1902. Mrs. Mabey remained in Souris until after Frank was born in April of 1905, and at the end of May joined her husband, travelling from Saskatoon on the construction train. Mr. Mabey had bought oxen and wagon and supplies at Saskatoon, and travelled across country to the homestead with his brother-in-law, Herbert Dagnall, who was a carpenter. They built the first frame house in the district — a little grey home in the West — with two rooms, and a log lean-to kitchen and bedroom. During the first winter their main source of meat was



Mr. and Mrs. George Mabey on their 50th wedding anniversary.

jackrabbits. With plenty of water in the sloughs, there were many ducks, and also prairie chickens and partridge to shoot. Periodically an R.C.M.P. officer rode through the district to check on the welfare of the settlers but no charges were ever laid when he was served meat out of season. Visitors were always welcome, and always invited to remain for meals or a place to sleep.

At first Mrs. Mabey was the only woman for several miles radius, as most of the homesteaders were bachelors. She baked bread for several of these during the summer months while they were doing the necessary improvements on their land. In the winters they would return east to earn money for the next year. The nearest town was Ruddell, and as soon as a school was built, Walter and Herb walked five miles each way to attend. When Frank was six, they bought a buckskin pony and buggy for transportation. Till then, they used a wagon and yoke of oxen.

With no fences, a light was always kept burning in a window during blizzards in the winter in case anyone was lost. Myrtle was born during a three day blizzard in 1911, with Dr. Scratch of Maymont in attendance. During the summer, prairie fire was a potential hazard until most of the land was cultivated. The last one was in 1914 to the west of the farm. Mr. Mabey and neighbours hurriedly plowed fire guards, and backfired to save the buildings. Walking over the burnt prairie later was an unforgettable experience.

Mr. Mabey and Herbert Dagnall, with other neighbours, built the Anglican church at Lilac, St. Mary's, which is now a part of the Pioneer Museum in North Battleford. Mr. Mabey was a Warden for many years, and Mrs. Mabey played the organ for services until they sold the farm and retired to North Vancouver in 1945. Mr. Mabey died in 1950 and Mrs. Mabey went to live in Toronto, where she died in 1964.

When more families settled in the district, people would gather in different homes for an evening of fun and entertainment. Both Mr. and Mrs. Mabey were good singers, and Mr. Mabey could stepdance and also recited amusing poems. Each summer a community picnic was held in the Maple Grove on July 1st, with races and games for all ages. This event is still continued today.

Wood for building was scarce, as the bluffs were of small willow and poplar. The men would go several miles south to the Saskatchewan river valley to cut logs and bring them back on sleighs, or about the same distance north to the Whitewood hills. Keeping a fire going during cold winter nights was a problem until coal was shipped in from Alberta.

Herbert was the only son to remain in the home district. After completing a mechanics course in Saskatoon, he opened a garage and implement repair business in Ruddell. In 1933 he and his wife Mary bought the general store in Lilac. He also operated a garage and oil business there, and they became an integral part of the community. Herb was very musical, and played the violin and saxophone. With Harry Turner on piano and Bill Buttrey on drums, the trio played for the dances in Ruddell hall and the area schools. Herb and Mary became avid curlers and played in many bonspiels. They sold the business in 1965 and retired to the West Coast.

Walter Mabey joined the Royal Canadian Airforce in 1918 in Toronto, and lived and worked there till his death in 1966. Frank became an accountant, and lived in Saskatoon, Winnipeg and Vancouver. He died in a drowning accident in 1950. Herb lived in White Rock, B.C. until his death in 1977. Myrtle married Adalor Glover, and lives in Toronto.

Pioneer Days as Remembered by Mrs. George Mabey

written in 1964

We took up our homestead in 1904, and my husband and a friend came to Saskatoon with our settlers' effects in March, 1905. The bridge at Nutana was out, so they built a shack and unloaded the car, storing their belongings until they could return later. They took a few necessities loaded in a wagon drawn by two oxen, Buck and Bill, and travelled on to Borden. There they crossed the Saskatchewan River by ferry and continued west. There were no roads and very few places to inquire the way. Eventually, they came to what is now Ruddell district and called in at a shack there and found they were five miles south of their destination. They set up a tent and looked over a section of land which was virgin prairie. There was lots of water in the sloughs, for the oxen, but no drinking water, so they boiled the slough water to make tea and coffee. They returned to Saskatoon, which was 84 miles, and loaded another freight car with the stored goods. The rails at that time were laid as far as Radisson. The towns were just called siddings until the rails were laid to North Battleford.

In June 1906, I came from Souris, Manitoba with my three sons the youngest 9 weeks old. My husband met us in Saskatoon, which was a very small place then. We came on as far as the Diamond which is now Warman, and where they were building a hotel. We had to stay there for a day and night to wait for the construction train which took us to the 37th siding. It was the roughest trip I ever had, for the rails were not solid and we wobbled from side to side. We finally arrived and our friend loaned us his horse and buggy to drive the five miles to the homestead. So we arrived on our land the SW¼ 28-42-14-W3rd. The house was of lumber brought from Nutana and used previously there to store our belongings and it was 14' x 24'. The winters were very severe, 40 and 50 degrees below zero and my husband banked the house with sods to the roof for warmth. We had only wood for fuel, as there was no coal for 2 or 3 years.

In 1905 my husband broke the soil and planted potatoes and other garden, but the gophers cleaned out

everything. The boys trapped hundreds and in later years we poisoned them. Good drinking water was a necessity and after several dry wells our boys discovered goose grass, a sign of water. My husband dug and I emptied the pails of sand and we had a good well. Many people came there for water for themselves and their oxen. There were no horses used at that time.

The many bachelor homesteaders stayed in their shacks during the winter months doing their homestead duties and in the summer worked out and had some neighbour with oxen break up the land. Spring came late and we never started seeding till May, often having snow then. We treated the wheat with bluestone and cleaned it in a small hand mill. There was only Red Fife and later Marquis varieties and year after year it would be frozen, as the heavy rains in June kept it growing tall. Red and Black rust would strike and the resulting grain harvested was only feed grade.

A kitchen and bedroom were added to the house upon removal of the sods and the outside covered with drop siding. Our home was the rendezvous of all the nearby bachelors and later the many student ministers. We had several prairie fires which were terrifying. They burned out all the grass and left the prairie black, showing up all the stones which had to be cleared from the land. The last prairie fire I remember was in 1914. The small bluffs of poplar and willow had to be cleared with an axe and mattock before much land could be cleared. Most of the breaking was done with 4 oxen.

There were no schools until 1907 when a one-room school was built in Ruddell. Our two oldest boys Walter and Herb walked the five miles to school each day from spring till Christmas. Later on when Frank was old enough to go to school, we bought a buckskin pony named Nancy and the children drove in a buggy. In 1908 the men began to build the Presbyterian Church in Ruddell. Previously the visiting ministers held services wherever they could in home and stores. Some homes were just sod shacks and dugouts. Sending and receiving mail was quite a problem. It came to North Battleford by train and was taken to Richard. The men took turns to walk to Richard for the mail and on Sunday we all gathered for a church service and to get our mail. Later it went to Baljennie and an old-timer crossed the river on Saturday afternoon to take and bring mail back. The settlers gathered and played football until Mr. Kennedy returned with it. The Mounted Police came around frequently to see how we were getting along and what news there was and if anyone was in want. They would stay for a meal and water and feed their fine horses. We enjoyed happy social times and dances in some of the homes, the music being played on a mouth organ and violin.

Ruddell at that time was a very busy town. Two grain elevators were built and farmers hauled grain during the winter from 20 miles north and from across the river. There were several stores and a hotel. Mr. Turnbull who farmed just south of town used the first tractor. Threshing outfits were horse drawn. Mr. Paquet owned the first Ford car and I think Herb Mabey owned and sold the first radios.

I remember one of the homesteaders nearby went to Prince Albert to work for the winter and came back in the spring pushing a wheel barrow loaded with flour and other necessities all the way. Some of the men cut logs at the river during the winter and hauled them home for building purposes and fuel. About Christmas time in 1908 two neighbours shot a bear at the river, so everyone had some bear meat, which was tender and good. There were also deer and red foxes, but they disappeared as the country was settled. There were lots of jack rabbits, which we called "jumping beef" as we had to use them for meat. At one time we had thirty-six rabbits hanging up frozen in a pole teepee. Some years there were lots of Saskatoon berries at the river, so we used to hitch up the oxen and take some neighbours and come home with pails of berries to preserve. On July 1st we had an annual picnic at the Maple Grove near the river and that is still held each year.

At the beginning we had a sod barn for the oxen. After nine years we bought horses and raised colts and built a log barn with a hay loft. We built a log barn for the cattle and a hen house of lumber. These had a roof of poles covered with a heavy layer of flax straw and on top of that sod. This was dry and warm. I made butter and traded it and eggs at the stores in Ruddell for groceries. I used to bake bread six days a week for our bachelor neighbours and our own family.

In 1906 fifty young Catechists came from England to Prince Albert, as there was no University then in Saskatoon. In the early summer they were sent to all the little towns to build and establish the Anglican churches. Mr. Good came to what is now Lilac (it was Ruddell District then). Mr. Davis gave half an acre of land on which to build the church. All the churches built were of the same pattern and just one ply of lumber. Later on when the money was available, the men lined and finished the inside of the building and a good heater was installed. My eldest son made the alter table and the Women's Auxiliary supplied the linens and bought and made the matting. A new organ was bought and consecrated in the church. At the beginning there was also a sod stable, later replaced by a frame building. Later there was a manse built for a resident minister.

We had a different student minister each year from May to September, when they would return to college. Then we had resident deacons and later on ordained men. The church was named ST. MARY'S. Mr. Harry Welford acted as the minister's warden through the years and Mr. George Mabey as the people's warden. In the early years the people were mostly Anglicans and there was a good congregation. I played the organ for 32 years at all the services.

Mallows, Albert, Dorothy, and June

Albert Mallows came from Comberton, Cambridgeshire, England, to Canada in 1906. He worked on a farm in Stratford, Ontario, until heading West in 1910. He worked on the farm of the Charles Robinson family in Ruddell.

During the 1914-18 war, Albert joined the Canadian Forces and served Overseas. He acquired the name 'Shorty' because of his stature. His brothers were very tall, so no doubt many comments were made re his height. 'Shorty' remained with him through the years as did his barbering, which he took up during the First World War, of which he loved to recall many stories.

Albert Mallows holding the horse in front of his pool room and barber shop, Ruddell.

In Ruddell, he operated a Pool Room and Barber Shop on Main Street. The upstairs portion of the building was rented to various lodges for their meetings. The morning of November 11th every year, that big room hummed with the sound of the Legionaires making their delicious ham sandwiches for their annual Remembrance Services and social evening, in the Village Hall.

During the World War 1, Albert met Dorothy Lawson, and she came out to Canada in 1921 to marry Albert. The Ruddell folk gave Dorothy a Bridal Shower, complete with some Canadian recipes. She used these and became very Canadianized in every way.

Together, Albert and Dorothy Mallows operated the Ruddell Post Office for many years. At first in a small building, next door to the house they rented, opposite the Cenotaph. Later, in a building which remains at this date, on the Main Street, he had the Post Office in one half, and the Barber Shop in the other.

Albert used to greet the trains, morning and evening to pick up the mail. In the stormy, wintery weather it sometimes meant waiting up all night. More than once, the evening train would come in from 7-8 a.m. While Dorothy sorted that mail and operated the Post Office, Albert would be at the Railway Station to meet the regularly scheduled morning train heading East. He was always well acquainted with the Railway Station agent, as they sat around the big heater, exchanging stories. In the early years the Mallows handled mail for Baljennie area. In winter drivers would cross the ice on the Saskatchewan River to transport their mail to and from the district.

Before retiring from the Post Office, Albert and Dorothy bought May White's house, where they resided until their passing in 1970 and 1978, respectively. In 1971 Dorothy married Jack Humphreys, a lifelong friend of Albert's.

Jack and Albert, both from Comberton came to Canada together in 1906. Jack went back to England and joined the English Forces during World War 1. He and his wife Ada, (also from Comberton) operated their farm in Eston, until Ada's passing in 1965.

Jack still lives in the house in Ruddell. He enjoys visits from his family and neighbours. Dorothy and Albert Mallows only daughter June, with her family, also visits Jack.

June is Mrs. Milton Bingham, and married Mrs. Beth Easterbrook's son. They reside in Comox, British Columbia, where Milton retired after thirty-three years, in the Canadian Armed Forces. Their eldest, Milton works in a Bank in Vancouver, while the youngest, Beverly is attending the University of British Columbia there. Daughter, Dorothy, is Mrs. Earl Kelly and they reside in Mackenzie, B.C., where they both are employed at B.C. Forest Products.

The Martin-Barrett-Roy Rogers Story

written by Irene (Barrett) Rogers

When Benjamin Martin of Leicester, England was advised by his doctor to 'go abroad' for health reasons he chose Canada. He owned a Musical Instrument Store and manufactured reed organs. He brought an organ and the parts for several other organs with him when he, his wife, Hannah, and two sons, Benjamin Bennifer and Gerald Harry, arrived in Canada in 1904. He took up a homestead on Section 12, Township 42, Range 12, W 3rd in Saskatchewan northeast of where Maymont now stands.

Here they put up a 14' by 16' frame building where they spent the first year. With their possessions were many fine linens which had to be stored in trunks and with no place to keep them from getting wet they mildewed and were lost. Hannah was very homesick and lonesome; as a result her health failed and her two daughters, Maud Mary and Lillian Agnes, made plans to come to Canada to be with their mother but she passed away three weeks before they sailed. They arrived in April 1905. As she lay sick and dying her husband and two sons had to go and fight a prairie fire

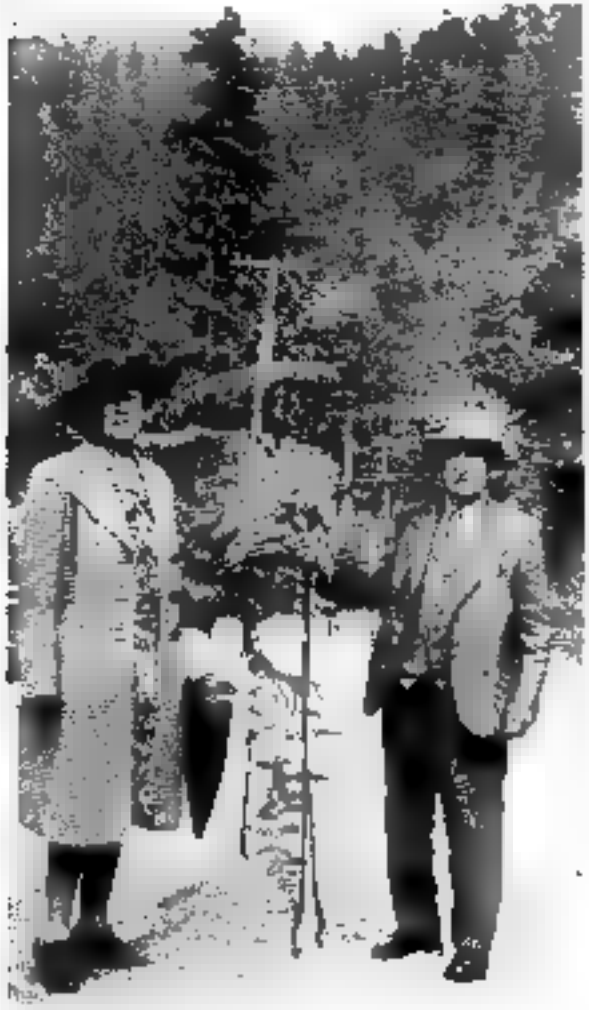
even though this was in February. Benjamin made the casket and she was buried on the homestead. Later when the cemetery was established in Maymont, the body was moved there. This was the first death in the area.

Keystone School opened in May 1905 and Benjamin was on the first school board.

He made one of the organs and played it for the church services held in the school. This organ stayed in Maud's family for fifty years. About 1955 it was shipped to Lethbridge ■ one of Benjamin's great-grandchildren. I. Maud's daughter, remember as a child playing, in the late 1920's with the rest of the organ parts that were still stored in boxes outside, never made up. We didn't have toys in those days.

Benjamin stayed for only two or three years and went back to England leaving his four children in Canada. A fifth child, May Ruth, had always remained in England.

In 1907, the second son, Gerald Harry Martin,



Mr. and Mrs. Seager Wheeler in beautiful Victoria, soon after retiring.

became the manager of a store in Maymont when Edgar Bean, Maymont's first storekeeper, was thrown from a buggy and killed. Harry continued in this position until 1925. During this time he started up the first furniture store in Maymont and his brother, Ben, worked with him. Harry then bought the Harness Shop from Henry Christfield and in 1913 Ransom Rogers went to work for him. Harry also started up the first undertaking business in Maymont.

Harry bought one of the first cars around Maymont, a Rambler.

Ben was called to war but by the time he got to England the war was over so when he came back he went to Lethbridge, Alberta and started an undertaking business there. By 1925 Mrs. Bean's son was old enough to manage the store so Harry left to join Ben, selling his business here. They had a very successful undertaking business in Lethbridge which their sons still manage. Ben who had three sons and Harry who had one son, have both passed away.

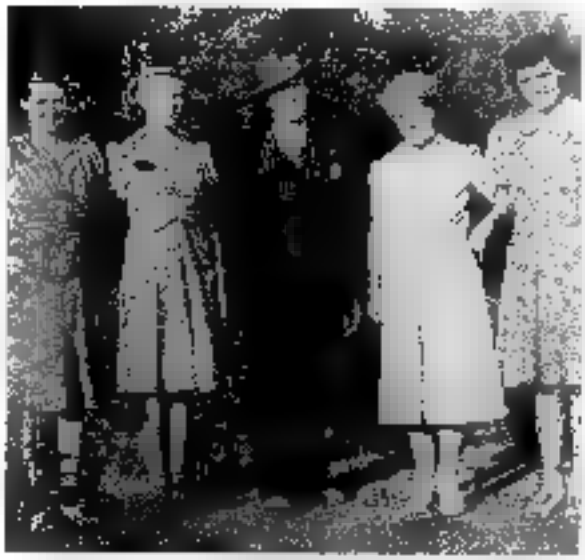
Seager Wheeler came to Canada from the Isle of White at age seventeen, in May, 1885. He lived in Moose Jaw for awhile and then took up a homestead in Rosthern. In December 1908 he married Lillian Agnes Martin, Benjamin's youngest daughter, the first wedding in the Anglican Church in Maymont. The inside of the church still wasn't finished. He continued to farm at Rosthern, becoming very famous with his wheat, potatoes and fruit trees. He won the World Wheat Championship five times. Upon retirement they moved to Victoria, B.C. They have both passed away and are buried in the Bergthal Cemetery ■ Rosthern.

They had four daughters. Two are living in Saskatoon; one in Edmonton; the other one in Rosthern, and her son farms the original farm.

George Barrett came to Canada from the Isle of Wight in 1884. His wife, Sarah, a sister of Seager Wheeler's mother, and three sons Fred, Percy and Will, came two years later. Will, the youngest, was six at the time. They lived in the Moose Jaw area where a cousin lived, then moved to Rosthern. Will came to the Maymont area around 1913 and took up a homestead on Section N.W. 28, Township 42, Range 12, W 3rd. His parents, George and Sarah, came to live with him. Percy came to Maymont and started the first photography shop. Many of the early pictures of Maymont were taken by him. Fred was killed at the age of eighteen, when thrown from a horse.

Will married Annie Wetton in 1913. Verna was born in 1914 just before Will's father, George died. His mother died in 1917 and they are both buried in Maymont Cemetery. A second daughter, Estella, was born and in 1918 Will left the farm to manage a grain elevator. A third daughter, Ethelwyn, was born after this. They lived many years in Denholm, Saskatchewan then moved to Lloydminster where he retired. Will passed away about 1953 and his wife still lives in Surrey, B.C. with Verna, now a widow. Estella

Will Barretts' wedding picture.



The Barrett family — 1942. L. to r. — Ruth, Ethel, Stanley, Mrs. Barrett and Irene.

Percy Barrett and Stanley — about 1912.

passed away at an early age with multiple sclerosis. Ethelwyn has two daughters, married and all living in the Coquitlam area in B.C.

Percy married Maud Martin in 1907 and lived in Maymont for a few years. Stanley Frederick was born in 1909 and Lillian Ruth May in 1909. They then moved to the Martin homestead. Irene Maude was born in 1918 and Alice Ethel in 1924.

While Percy was breaking land with a walking plough the plough shear hit a stone causing the handles to strike him in the chest. From this he developed tuberculosis and after spending several months in the Saskatoon Sanatorium passed away in August 1925.

Stanley then took over the farming. A neighbor on the adjoining farm, Howard Chambers, gave up farming and Stanley rented his farm, too. He later married and lived on this farm but this was the era of no crops and low prices so he gave up farming and went to Vancouver. Stanley took the only job he could find at the time, washing dishes in a restaurant. He stayed with the restaurant until he became Head Chef. He didn't like being inside so much so got a job on a tugboat handling logs and kept with that until he was Captain of a tugboat. He also built and owned two apartment blocks in Vancouver. He died in 1962 at the age of fifty-three and is buried in Vancouver.

Ruth married Roy Schmidt of Sonningdale, Saskatchewan in 1930 and he farmed the land Stanley had farmed.

Irene and Ethel took all their schooling at Keystone School. We lived seven miles from Maymont and the only transportation was with horses and wagon. Later it was with a version of the Bennett wagon, a car chassis with rubber-tired wheels. Lucky were the ones

who owned a pony to ride. Usually it was the work horses we rode and they couldn't be ridden when they had to be worked in the fields.

We used to catch a ride to school with the neighbors but that meant sitting by the window from anywhere up to an hour watching for them. We had no phone.

Before Stanley left the farm he bought one of the first battery operated radios, a large black box about twelve inches square and two and a half feet long with numerous large dials and knobs which all seemed to need turning at once. We would walk half a mile to his place in the evening to sit with our ear close to the machine to hear screeches, squeals and faint far-off music. . . Very exciting at that time!

The highlight of the school year was the Christmas concerts when I'm sure we practised for a month ahead of time. At the school there was a big evergreen tree but at home we always had a poplar tree which we trimmed with homemade decorations for Christmas.

Then there were the school picnics with lots of lemonade (from real lemons) and ice cream.

The school dances were great fun with one squeaky violin and someone chording on the organ. Then every second piece was "Red Wing"?

The babies or smaller children were put to sleep on top of the coats piled on the desks all around the room.

The stove was burning at first until it got too warm in the school, then it was picked up and carried out by three or four strong men, which meant more room to dance too. Everyone brought some lunch and it was pooled and passed around. Coffee was made in a wash boiler. A pound of coffee was sewn into a white cheesecloth bag and it was thrown into a boiler full of water which was then brought to a boil. This was often made in a nearby house and carried to the school at lunch time. Card parties later became popular. Usually two a year; one to raise funds for Christmas presents and one to raise funds for Red Cross.

In 1939 Irene married Roy Rogers, youngest son of Ransom Rogers, who lived on N.W. quarter, 4-42-12-W3rd. In 1945 Ethel married Jimmy Steele. Our mother spent her summers on the farm and winters with daughters or her sister, Mrs. Seager Wheeler, at Rosthern, later at Victoria. She passed away in 1960 and is buried in Maymont.

Roy and Irene continued to farm. Ransom still had the harness shop and undertaking business with which Roy still helped him. He worked under Cotton Funeral Home, North Battleford. A casket in those days was thirty-five dollars. Many of the people who couldn't afford that much had a municipal funeral. Ransom and Laurie Curry made the caskets out of cedar and spruce, covered the outside with grey flannelette and Mrs. Rogers lined the inside with white satin. Handles were purchased and put on. These caskets cost fifteen dollars.

There were five children born to Roy and Irene; Elaine Ada in 1940; Christine Ethel in 1942; Carol Marie in 1944; Louise Marilyn in 1950 and Brian Edward in 1956. The three oldest went to Grey School until Elaine finished her Grade VIII and then they went to Maymont. Grey School was closed shortly after and is now in the Western Development Museum in North Battleford.

Roy Rogers family. Back row — Wayne, Christine, Ron, Elaine, Brian, Carol. Front — Tammy with Darryl, Irene, Jeff, Roy, Louise with Michael.

Crops were poor the first ten or eleven years we were married, ranging from five to ten bushels to the acre. We always had several cows to milk. Feed was very scarce at times. One year Russian thistle was cut green and put up for hay.

Once farming with tractors became common better farming methods were practiced and crops have been good.

Elaine married Ron Bohn and moved to Campbell River, B.C. in 1969. Ron has worked in a Pulp Mill ever since. Both being farmers at heart they bought fifty acres fifteen miles south of Campbell River along the Island highway and kept a few chickens, cows and pigs for awhile. They have three children — Connie Arlene, born in 1956, was married in 1975 to Henry Nickel and is living at Black Creek, B.C. Dale was born in 1959 and works for Pacific Playgrounds; Laurie Roger born in 1962 is still at home.

Christine took a secretarial course in North Battleford and has worked in North Battleford, Saskatoon and Calgary. She is presently working in Saskatoon.

Carol married Wayne Bright in 1962. Wayne taught school in Hudson Bay, Saskatchewan for one year and then in Plenty, Saskatchewan where he still is teaching. They have two children; Tammy Anne born in 1963 and Jeffrey Lee born in 1964. Carol works in the Royal Bank.

Louise finished her high school in Plenty where she babysat for Carol. She is the town secretary for Plenty and is married to John Doering who is a carpenter. They have two boys; Darryl Brent born in 1972 and Michael Kurt born in 1973.

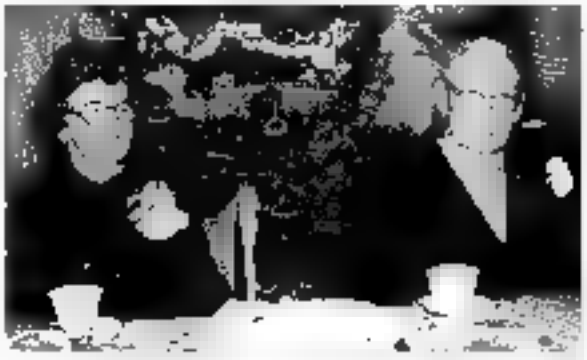
Brian after finishing school worked for a while with an oil company at Longview, Alberta, then with Alber- ■ Power ■ Grand Cache, Alberta. He now works for Redi-Mix in Saskatoon.

Roy and Irene still live on the farm but rent the land to a nephew, David Rogers.

Roy runs a tractor during busy season for another nephew, Harold Meens.

Jean and J. Morris Martin and Daughters

J. Morris Martin, his wife Jean and baby daughter, Lillian, arrived in Maymont from Sioux Falls, South Dakota, July 20, 1929. They are still living in the district.



Mr. and Mrs. Martin's 50th wedding anniversary, Dec. 20th, 1970.

Morris, familiarly known as "Moe", and his partner, H. Christfield bought the Maymont livery and feed barn from F. Gillatt in 1920. Moe did most of the driving so soon became acquainted with much of the country and many people. A car was used for summer driving. Horses were usually used for winter driving. During the winter months Moe was often called at any hour of the day or night to drive the doctor on his calls. The trips were often long, the weather bitterly cold and the winter roads, at times, almost impassable. It was not uncommon ■ make a forty mile trip with horses. Moe and the doctor made a long remembered trip in the winter of 1923. The doctor was called to a home several miles beyond the North Saskatchewan River. The day was cold, the time was 4:00 P.M. and the Model T car that they were driving was old. They had just crossed the river on the return trip when the car hit a snowbank and died. The only way to get to help was to get to a telephone in the empty ferry house. They were both tired and numb with cold when they reached the house only to find the door locked. They found a way to get in. Dr. Scratch went straight to the telephone. About 2:30 A.M. the phone rang in the home of William Gray, a farmer who lived about a mile from the river. His son, Roy, answered the phone. The call was from the doctor who said, "Moe and I are ■ the ferry. We are both terribly cold. The car is in a snowbank and we need help." Roy rushed to the ferry with a team of horses hitched to a sleigh, ordered the two men to get into the car and they were soon on their way up the long river ■. About 4 A.M. two cold hungry men reached the Martin home where they found the house warm and the tea kettle boiling.

J. M. Martin sold his business in 1927. Shortly thereafter he started to buy grain for the Searle Grain Company and continued for more than twenty years.

In 1933 the Martin family made their home on land near the village that had been purchased from the C.P.R. in 1924 — S½, 31, 41, ■, W3. It was convenient for Moe to enjoy life on the farm and also to be close to the elevator. After retiring from the Searle Company he took up farming in earnest until 1976 when he moved to the village.

In 1920 when Mrs. Martin first came to Maymont she taught the junior grades in the basement of the Presbyterian Church. Later she taught for over eleven years at the Maymont School, most of the time in the primary room. She also taught in Grey School three miles north and one mile east of Maymont; in the Asgard School near Sochingdale and ■ the Gunness School south of the North Saskatchewan River.

Mrs. Martin found that the North Saskatchewan River was a barrier between her home and the rural schools of Asgard and Gunness. There were times, especially in the spring, when she was not too happy about crossing the river. One Monday morning she arrived at the river expecting to cross on the ice. The river was filled with great chunks of ice slowly floating down stream. Mr. C. Coleman, the ferryman, was standing near a heavily laden rowboat. ■ motioned to Mrs. Martin to get into the boat and warned her to keep very still if she didn't wish to sit ■ the bottom of the river. Then he casually seated himself in the boat, picked up the oars and skillfully found his way through a channel in the ice.

Mrs. Martin made her first trip to the Gunness School when the ice on the river was unsafe to cross and the roads were unfit for wheels or sleighs. She was driven to the river in a wagon; was obliged to climb a high tower to reach a box hung from a cable that crossed the river; pulled into the box by the ferrymen and enjoyed a swift ride across the river. Mr. Ira Price, a school trustee, was waiting with a horse and buggy to drive her to the school house. The children were waiting and ready for the day's work when she arrived at her destination.

Jean Martin's mother was nine years old when she left Scotland, her native land with her twenty-one year old brother to make her home with the family of an older brother who lived in the Niagara Peninsula near Ingersol, Ontario. Jean's father was born in the same area.

When Jean's parents married they decided to 'go West' to Manitoba where land could be had for ten

dollars and other land for about two dollars per acre. They filed on a homestead and built a log house for their first home. It was situated a few miles north of Fort Ellice, a fort that was built near the meeting place of the Qu'appelle and Assiniboine Rivers. Her parents could often hear the squealing ■ the Red River carts as they passed along the "Old Fort Ellice Trail."

Jean Martin was born near Binscarth. She was educated in Binscarth and Winnipeg. She taught school in Marquette and Russell, Manitoba. Morris Martin, was born in Minnedosa, Manitoba. The family moved to a farm near Binscarth when Morris was nine years old. He attended the Crescent Ridge School near the farm home.

Morris and Jean Martin were married in Winnipeg, December 28, 1918. Their first home was in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Their older daughter, Lillian, was born in Sioux Falls. Their younger daughter, Jean, was born in Maymont, Saskatchewan. Lillian was educated in Maymont and Saskatoon. She attended the University of Saskatchewan and received her B. Ed. Degree. For the past sixteen years she has been teaching in the Luseland High School.

R. R. Kembel and Lillian were married December 20, 1947. There are three children. Raymond has his degree in education and taught school three years before moving with his wife to Lloydminster, Saskatchewan.

Leslie attended school in Luseland and continued her education in Lloydminster. At present she is in Red Deer, Alberta.

Joy attended school in Luseland, trained for a nurse at the Foot Hills Hospital, Calgary and is now an R.N. in the Royal Alex Hospital, Edmonton.

Mrs. Martin who joined the Homemakers Club in 1936 is a life member of the organization.

In March, 1976 she received the Marit Award from the Saskatchewan Women's Institute in recognition of service.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Martin celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary December 28, 1978.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Martynes

From Russia, Martynes with brothers, sisters, father and cousins, eight ■ all, arrived at Ruddell train station on February 14, 1930. The temperature was a cold thirty degrees below. They were met by Bill Kennedy who notified brother Gerald Martynes who had arrived earlier. Gerald picked them up at the station. The Martynes made their first home in Jake Presceaky's house. They found jobs on farms in the district.

The following winter the Martynes group rented the Anderson house, spending the winter there. In the spring they rented the old homestead.

Peter married Agnes Epp, December 16, 1931. This

The Anderson Place present home of Mr. and Mrs. P. Martynes.

is when the relatives left to make their own homes. Grandpa Martynes passed away March 22, 1931.

A happy occasion on October 6, 1932 when Arthur Hugo was born.

■ was a difficult life for the family ■ there were continual crop failures. Farming finally improved in 1939. During the depression there was always enough to eat in spite of all the problems.

■ 1940 the Martynes moved back to the Anderson house which is their present home.

Peter under went major surgery in Saskatoon while Agnes carried on with all the tasks that were waiting on the farm.

Their farming methods improved when a tractor was bought. Money was very scarce so a friend, John McKenzie, helped them out in order to be able to make this purchase. In 1940 a threshing machine was bought and they did custom threshing.

The crops improved in 1942 when they really started to farm.

Arthur attended school at Ruddell and attended Rosthern Junior College where he graduated.

Lots of hard work and long hours was the life of the Martynes. They enjoyed it!

Arthur began to take over the farm at about the year ■ married Ida Hamm from Norquay. Three children were born in this family. Konrad born November ■, 1963 — a very exciting time for both

First homestead, of Mr. and Mrs. ■. Martynes, and Arthur's birthplace.

parents and grandparents; Markus born April 4, 1978 — a little brother for Konrad. At present Konrad is in Grade V; Markus is Grade III.

Konrad and Markus were always hoping for a sister. They would mention this in their evening prayers now and then. September 19, 1978 Natasha joined the family — a very happy occasion. The Martynes are still farming. The days aren't quite as long and the work isn't as hard. They still find farming an enjoyable and rewarding life.

Maxwell (George and Hazel)

George and Hazel Maxwell retired to Maymont in February of 1957 where they could be close to their daughter, Anna. They took up residence in the former Anglican parsonage on the north side of the village.

George Maxwell and Hazel (Dankert) Maxwell were married in November, 1933, at Chatsworth, in Grey County, Ontario. They farmed for several years in the Chatsworth area.

George's father, Leonard Maxwell, was born in Dublin, Ireland, and came to Canada as a young boy with his family who settled in Ontario. George was the second son of a farm couple, Leonard and Hannah Maxwell, who had a family of four girls and four boys which included twin boys.

Hazel was the youngest of a family of eight children of John and Susannah Dankert who lived in Hepworth, in Bruce County, where John was a machinist in a furniture factory and Susannah operated a bake shop. Later, the family moved to Chesley where John was a carpenter and his wife continued the bake shop business. John's father had come to Canada from Germany.

Four generations, April 10th, 1977. Great-Grandma — Hazel Maxwell; Grandma — Anna Brehon; Mother — Janet (Brehon) Eckel; Baby — Pamela Lee Eckel.

In 1929, George and Hazel, with their two small daughters Ruby, and Anna an infant, moved to Saskatchewan settling in the Mount Hope School District, 18 miles north and east of North Battleford. A small lumber house was built over an earth cellar for the family, and a log barn provided shelter for the horses and cows. There they managed to struggle through the dirty thirties on a quarter section working hard for long hours with very little returns.

In 1928, their second daughter died a few hours after birth and, in 1933, at the age of nine, their eldest daughter, Ruby, died from a ruptured appendix. Anna was the only child from then until 1936 when son Robert was born.

By 1944 they decided to look for a bigger farm and late that fall moved to the Baljennie district where they farmed a half section for several years until George's failing health forced them to give up farming and they moved to Maymont.

Daughter, Anna, married Colles Brehon in 1950, and they farm just a short distance east of Maymont. Son, Robert, quit school after Grade VIII and went into the R.C.M.P. when he was eighteen. After completing his training at Rockcliffe, Ontario, he was posted in Two Hills, Alberta. A few years later he left the R.C.M.P. and moved to Edmonton where he began working in the Social Services Department and today is the Director of the Regional Offices for Alberta. Bob married Elaine Tymchuk of Two Hills, and they have two sons, Glenn and Grant. Elaine has become an assistant for a podiatrist in Edmonton. Glenn now has his commercial pilot's license and is taking further pilot's training. He shares his father's interest in flying, his father having built his own aircraft, a two— passenger Jodel. Grant is working towards his Bachelor of Music degree at the University of Alberta.

George Maxwell died at the age of eighty-four, and Hazel carried on alone for a few years till ill health forced her to move to River Heights Lodge in North Battleford where she receives the necessary care.

Memories include the days in the fall when Hazel would take the mattress ticking, made from floor sacks, and fill it with freshly threshed straw for the bed. The first few nights you slept quite high off the floor but gradually as the straw packed you eventually got down to a normal mattress thickness.

Living so far from town meant one didn't go to town very often, especially in the winter. It took four hours to go to North Battleford in the sleigh with a load of wheat, wood, or sometimes a cow. The horses were left to feed and rest in a lot reserved for that purpose or put in the livery barn. Late in the afternoon when

the shopping had been done one would start the long drive home again. George had a big fur coat he always wore and walked behind the sleigh for a short while to keep warm when the weather was extra cold. Anna accompanied her Dad on several occasions and remembers making a trip alone at the age of eleven with a wagon load of stove wood, her folks having met her at the out-skirts of the city ■ go with her to deliver the wood, and on the trip home they kept stopping and waiting to make sure Anna was coming along all right. Her dad rode the last five miles home with her as it had gotten dark by then.

The family would go down into the cellar during the big wind storms as it was feared the small house would be blown away but it withstood many storms.

Donald William Angus MacDonald

by Emma Johnston

Donald William Angus MacDonald was born July 23, 1926. His parents were Angus and Emma MacDonald. He attended Maymont, Montro and Wavie Bank Schools. He worked on the farms of his uncle's for a few years; was also employed by Friedman and Karpan in the store for awhile. Finally in 1946, Donald went ■ Kinistino where he was employed by Harold Dodds as a butcher. He met the former Doreen Ramage who was teaching school in Kinistino and on October 10, 1948 they were married at her home in Star City, Saskatchewan.

They lived at Quill Lake where Donald was working in an auto body shop. Their first child was born at Quill Lake in 1949 — Sharon Diane.

Later Donald moved ■ Watson and was employed at the butcher shop until he took over the Auto Body Shop. His family increased. The six children born in Watson are: Maxine — May 4, 1950; Earl Lawrence — June ■, 1952; Beverley Dawn — October 28, 1956; Dale Arthur — November 17, 1958; Dennis Boyd — October 7, 1962 and Donald Bruce — February 7, 1967. Donald is known to his friends as "Duffy".

The three girls are married and have children ■ their own, so we boast five grandchildren. Two of the girls are school teachers.

Donald has always been a great sportsman. He has been very active in hockey, both playing and coaching, and baseball where ■ played the position of pitcher for many years.

He is a member of the Lion's Club and has served on the Fire Brigade for twenty-eight years, the last thirteen as Fire Chief.

The last two years has found him busy building a lovely ranch house on his six-acre country lot just south of Watson. He spends all his spare time among his trees, lawns, flowers and gardens, barbecuing and entertaining friends and neighbors. He is proprietor of Watson Auto Body Shop which he and his eldest two sons still operate.

In November, 1940, I married Arthur Roy Johnston and moved out ■ the Samuel Johnston farm, where Arthur (Doug) worked with his dad and brother James. Donald and Wilma were with us, Mary stayed in town with her grandparents to finish high school. In August, 1941 we were blessed with a daughter, Ruth Darlene Julia. We remained on the farm until Ruth was married in 1960 when we moved back into our house in town.

We continued to farm from town during the summers but closed our house up during the winter for a few winters. One winter we spent in Watson, Saskatchewan near our son Donald; one winter we lived with our daughter and son-in-law at Vonda, and another in Saskatoon, and one in Wadena, Saskatchewan.

In 1969 we came to Regina. We had rented our farm and Arthur got a job and we decided to stay. We lived in an apartment for five years and finally Ruth and Ron built a new home and kindly asked us to share it with them; so they built us a lovely suite on the lower floor.

We are both Senior Citizens now and sure appreciate being near our family. I lived at Maymont for sixty-two years. I have made many good friends in Regina. We attend Zion United Church. I quilt with the ladies in the church basement every Tuesday, and go five-pin bowling every Monday. I have gone to Bible class for a year and a half and really enjoy it; also belong to the Senior Citizens' Drop-In Centre and New Horizon Group.

We are happy in our little home. We are close enough to Donald and Mary that we can visit them on week ends.

I have thirteen grandchildren and fifteen great grandchildren. In 1977 I spent a month ■ Great Britain with some members of my family. We visited England, Scotland and Wales. In 1976 I had a tour of California, Mexico and other U.S. states. August, 1978 spent two weeks in Jamaica, West Indies. I have made two trips back to Ontario and visited by birthplace and saw where my grandparents were laid to rest. We still have some relatives there which we visited. I have made several trips to the West Coast where we also have relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. D. J. U. MacLennan

Mr. and Mrs. MacLennan came to Maymont about 1908. Duncan was a carpenter and Margaret a school teacher from Tatamagouche, Nova Scotia. Mrs. MacLennan, a kind friend and neighbor, was a practical nurse and assisted Dr. Scratch and looked after many women during childbirth. Both she and her husband were active in church, school and community activities. They left Maymont in 1929 and lived in Montreal. Both Mr. and Mrs. MacLennan passed away in Montreal, also Kay, a nurse. Their son, Donald, was killed in active service in World War ■. Three

daughters survive. Maurine was a nurse in New York and married a West Point graduate, R. H. Davey III. She and her husband were stationed in Honolulu at the time of the bombing of Pearl Harbor. They have two children and several grandchildren, and reside in Texas. Louise lives in the Eastern Townships, Quebec. She has a son and was predeceased by her husband and a son. Mr. and Mrs. Don Oulton (Anne) are retiring in 1979 to Tatamagouche, N.S. They have two children.

William MacLeod

William MacLeod was an early pioneer settler of the Fielding district Sask., born in the year 1882 in Lucknow, Ontario of Scottish ancestry. In early manhood he participated in the Caledonian Games held annually by the Clans of the area. In 1907 he came west and took up a homestead six and one-half miles southwest of the village of Fielding, Sask; and farmed there until 1942.

Several years later he met and married Leticce Harlow Woodin, daughter of the late O. T. Woodin, also an early pioneer. Woodin operated one of the largest and first straw burning steam driven threshing outfits in that area in the 1900's.

In the 1920's when rail and elevator facilities were not yet available to farmers of the Scottingdale area, grain so harvested had to be hauled by them north across the Saskatchewan River, after freeze-up, to Fielding, Sask; this was the nearest rail and elevator point to them, necessitating a round trip ranging between 20 and 28 miles. Often the weather was bitterly cold with poor road conditions and deep snow. This caused much discomfort and hardship to these hardy pioneers. The rural road used by the Scottingdale farmers ran parallel to the MacLeod farm, situated 1½ miles north of the river. On many an occasion, either due to a storm or exhaustion of horses and teamster, someone would stop at the MacLeod farm. There they were provided with food, shelter and rest. If found necessary to remain overnight at this small farm home, accommodation even though somewhat cramped, was soon comfortably provided. These grain haulers were always considerate of the hospitality and assistance provided, however meagre. It was customary in that era when either due to sickness, misfortune or unusual circumstances that neighbors were always ready and willing to lend a helping hand. The true pioneer spirit really existed in those days.

The depression years were grim, however these pioneers survived by hard work and great determination. All made many sacrifices. One cannot forget the relief shipments from the east coast or dry salt cod fish, which was doled out to aid families through the winter.

William MacLeod is survived by his wife, one son Kenneth and two daughters Evelyn and Ileene. A daughter Jean died in infancy. The children attended Beckwith Rural School No. 586 and later a High School at Fielding, Sask. The family belonged to the Fielding United Church and despite the long distance they resided from the church, attended faithfully via the medium of horse and buggy for many years.

Beckwith School was usually the center of Social and Sunday School activities in the early days and also during the depression. Many competent and faithful teachers served the district during that period, namely a Mr. Ford, Miss White, Violet Laidlaw (Mrs. Wm. Fast), Miss Edna Hainstock, Miss Ann Robertson. It is sad to note, this and many such rural schools have since been disposed of or demolished, with little thought given or effort made to preserve such a landmark.

In 1942 William MacLeod and his wife rented their farm and moved to Saskatoon, Sask. At this point he took up employment with the Field Husbandry Dept. at the University of Saskatchewan, under Dr. Patterson until retiring in 1952.

William MacLeod passed away in his seventieth year. His wife is a resident of Central Haven Personal Care Home in Saskatoon, Sask. Both married daughters also reside in that City. The son Kenneth retired from the RCMP and also served in the Navy in World War II, combining a total service of twenty-nine years in uniform. He is presently residing at White Rock, B.C. and has a married son living nearby, practicing in Dental Surgery.

Boyhood Memories of George E. McAdams in Ruddell, Sask.

Born in Ruddell, Sask., June 27, 1907

At the time of my birth we lived in a small cottage about one block to the rear of the store.

Later we lived in rooms on the second floor above the store and I have clear memories of seeing muskrat pelts tied in bundles and stacked like cordwood on the landing of the stairs. Obviously my father traded with the Indians. I also have memories of seeing Indian women and children sitting on large rugs and blankets spread on the floor around the large wood stove which was used to heat the store. Most of the Indians were from the Sweet Grass Reserve and were very civilized and of a high character. When I was about five years old I was allowed to spend a day on the Sweet Grass Reserve with an Indian boy who had become my friend. I think I met him at the Ruddell school.

I also have memories of the busy excitement around the store in October. I can remember several large horse-drawn wagons loading up with great quantities of flour, sugar, coal oil, tea, etc. This was the homesteaders of the region laying in their winter supplies before the first snowstorm.

I also have some very keen memories of a great amount of excitement and horseplay on Hallowe'en night. The year would be about 1911 or 1912. Looking from our front window in the suite above the store I

George E. and Ada E. McAdams, baby is E. McAdams.

saw men shooting rockets into the door of the pool hall across the street. Some boys had set fire to a straw stack near the railway track and while our one policeman was checking on that problem the older boys determined to attack the poolroom. A small fire started but the local volunteer brigade soon had it all under control.

My father owned a fairly fancy democrat (four-wheeled buggy) and it was a great joke next morning to find that the "gay young blades" of Ruddell had perched it up on the roof of the local church.

We learned later that this was done with great care and much work as they had removed the wheels in order to get the buggy up there and then carefully replaced them when on the roof.

It shows the moral character of the men of that time as the next day the policeman brought in a note to say that it was all in fun and if my father would lay no charges the beautiful buggy would be brought down and re-assembled. This was done and Dad said he couldn't find a scratch on it.

I also have some clear memories of my first day at the Ruddell School. It must have been a trial affair (kindergarten style) as I was only five years old and spent most of the day playing with crayons. I think it was a one-room school with about twenty children.

I also remember my Dad buying a team of fancy coach horses called Hackneys. These were used with the four-wheel buggy mentioned above. One of the great items made by the Indian women was the famous "rabbit robes". These were made of tanned rabbit hides with the fur left on. The fur was cut into strips about an inch wide, then plaited into a blanket then Mother covered the whole thing with thick flannelette bag coverings. This was the greatest thing for a bed cover or a riding sleigh during the deep zero weather of winter. These rabbit robes were often traded in our store and fetched quite a price as they were much sought after by the people of "down East" Toronto and Montreal.

Like all children of that time I was much impressed by the spectacular thunderstorms of the Prairie summers. They were usually followed by a hailstorm and displays of static electricity. I can clearly remember seeing a flash of static fire dance off Mother's needle during one of these storms. Can also remember seeing a wagon with a hayrack racing across the prairie as the wind drove it along.

Close friends of my parents at this time were Mr. and Mrs. Spence, proprietors of the Ruddell Hotel.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred T. McCorkle

Submitted by Helen Spence (McCorkle)

Fred McCorkle came to Maymont in 1905 from Welsford, N.B. He homesteaded a quarter section north of Maymont, and ran a store. His fiancee, Agnes MacDonald, Welsford, joined him, after their marriage in Winnipeg, in 1907. As Fred saw the local need for lumber, he opened a lumberyard, and later also operated a garage on Main Street and hired a number of mechanics over the years. He passed away at Maymont in 1942 at 69 and Agnes in Ottawa in 1952 at 72.

The McCorkles whole-heartedly endeavoured to make Maymont a town to be proud of and a good place to bring up children. They had four children; Margaret (Mrs. Trevor Parry), Ottawa. Margaret taught school at Keystone, Speers and Beechy. The Parrys have a daughter and two grandchildren.

Helen (Mrs. Alex Spence), Fielding. They farm at Fielding and have three children and three grandchildren. Don (mentioned elsewhere) farms at Maymont. Brian, is in the audio-visual field, and Marjorie is a nurse. Marj is spending 1979 touring New Zealand and Australia. Bob and Irene McCorkle live in Ottawa. Bob was an instructor-pilot in World War II in Britain. A chartered accountant, he has worked in the Department of National Revenue since the war. They have three children and seven grandchildren. Donald McCorkle with the R.C.A.F. air crew in W.W. II, was shot down over France and is buried at Evreux, France.

There were several school fairs at Maymont in the early years. The Mayfield-Douglas Agricultural Fair replaced the local fairs.

Sunday School picnics were a highlight. The clouds were watched carefully and prayerfully in hope the picnics wouldn't be rained out.

The McCorkles had a few of the early cars. One which comes to mind, an E.M.F. which was jokingly called "Every Morning Fix". The old touring cars with the side curtains to put on when it rained were perhaps more lovingly remembered than some later cars. Roads were rough and speed was slow.

One event stands out — two of the children were ill with scarlet fever in October when the barn/garage went on fire. What a time! Friends and neighbors hurried to help and managed to push out the McLaughlin Buick car with the canvas top on fire and holes burning in the upholstery. Friends sprayed the house with extinguishers. A new top and patched upholstery repaired the car. We were in quarantine until after Christmas with scarlet fever without our father being allowed to stay at home. Our mother became exhausted and we had a nurse, Miss Whiteman of Saskatoon, for the four-year-old who was critically ill with complications, but fortunately recovered. Friends and neighbors were very kind.

Dr. Scratch delivered most of the babies at Maymont in the early years. He was a warm, kind family doctor who was available at any hour to see a sick child. He worked day and night during the 'flu epidemic and only lost one patient. He was a good diagnostician and if in doubt sent his patients to Saskatoon for more expert advice. I recollect begging the doctor to bring us another baby so we would have five, the same as our neighbors.

In the depression many young men riding the rails came for a meal. A few were angry, all were young, and most were full of optimism and glad to have a chance to see some of Canada before settling down or going back to school.

In the "dirty thirties" a Mr. and Mrs. Love, with an infant daughter stopped at Maymont, walking the railway track from Ontario to make their home in British Columbia. They were given a meal and some necessities for their journey.

A "corn roast" at Ball Rock Farm, north of Maymont, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Giffard was an event for the district each fall. The Giffards provided tubs of steaming corn cobs with pounds of butter to rub the corn on. The Giffards came from the States and had a family of five girls, Ethel, Lucille, Maryadelle, Hazel and Cometta. Giffards always had a wonderful garden including a fine bed of asparagus. They had progressive ideas. Mrs. Giffard, in all weather, drove her girls the three miles by team and buggy or cutter to and from school at Maymont.

A trip to Saskatoon by car was an event, with a ferry crossing at Borden and roads dependent on the weather. One such outing stands out — a trip to see a wonderful six-ring circus. Roads were good and the circus spectacular. Bob, a pre-schooler, became lost in the crowd, and was at last found feeding the elephants. He was the only one not alarmed. Another time we spent a night in Langham due to muddy roads, only to find next morning that the roads from the ferry to Maymont were dry.

Eliza, Alice and Ida McCorkle

Eliza, Alice and Ida McCorkle, all nurses, came from Welsford, N.B. in 1906 and spent some time with their brother, Fred McCorkle. Eliza nursed at Swift Current where she passed away in a typhoid epidemic. Alice later nursed in Boston, Maine, and Ida, Mrs. W. J. McKim, nursed at Medicine Hat, before moving to Nelson, B.C.

The McCready's

The McCreadys, Bill and Eleanor, are uniquely resident in the Maymont village where so many families have been firmly rooted for generations. We came not as pioneers nor even to retire but initially to find temporary storage for our belongings from the Richard teacherage.

However, Maymont had churches, a bank, a store, a restaurant, and friendly people (many of whom we already knew). It was on the Yellowhead Route close to North Battleford and Saskatoon. So here we decided to stay. We bought from Bill Langley the old elevator house on Second Avenue. Bill did a renovating job during a rainy muddy August and the following year we installed water and sewer and a furnace. Water and sewer lines in later years have occupied much of Bill's time as councillor and later as Mayor of the Village.

Bill helped to organize the New Horizon Group and along with other civic-minded oldsters spent much time and labor "fixing" the building which became the Senior Citizen Centre.

Bill has enjoyed fellowship there and at Coffee Row and in the Municipal Office. He helped to renovate the Locker Plant and make suites in the old Bank of Commerce building. He is well acquainted with various culverts and drainage ditches as well as the water pumps and sewer lift and even with the lagoon (which is definitely not of the drowsy blue variety)!

All this he has enjoyed. For a few years he became an eager golfer but had to give up that sport as well as the curling game.

I have enjoyed my contacts with friends and neighbors and with the Women's Institute and the U.C.W. groups of ladies but I do miss the school connection. For a few years I was still able to do some substitute teaching and to spend many hours with my garden and flowers. Nature recently decided to take over the house planters by surrounding the house with trees.

Speaking of trees, our roots started in the British

Isles. Bill, was, in fact, born in Ireland and came to the Rabbit Lake area with his parents and two small sisters in 1910. They homesteaded there and his father also taught school. He taught in the Waldheim District and other places before coming to Bresaylor in 1915. There Bill finished his schooling and started farming at an early age

My grandfather, Dolan, also came from Ireland as did great-grandfather Sloan. They lived in and near Ottawa which was then Bytown. My parents reared a family of seven on a farm at Aylwin along the scenic and historic Gatineau. We were happy there, attending a small school which still stands with its neighboring town "Hull" on the bank of the river. Although living in Quebec we were not bi-lingual and the school and teachers had a separate and English curriculum.

When we came west to the prairie country in 1919 it was quite a transition. For one thing the teacher had an over-crowded classroom but no Grade Eight. Since she did not relish having my sister alone in that grade she demoted me and my brother also. Our parents should have objected but I enjoyed the novelty of having seven others in my grade. The work was easy as we had a good grounding and could have handled our respective grades. But there was a wealth of extra-curricular to learn, including baseball. At Aylwin we had played with a flat bat and a rubber ball (which often had to be fielded out of the river). Each home run cancelled an out so one side could spend all day at bat!

Many years and events between the bald prairie and the beautiful park country where I met Bill, I came by the teaching route. On my first day as a teacher I turned the tables on a big boy who was chasing his older sister with a large snake.

After having spent ten years in prairie country I was enchanted with Arbor Hill between Bresaylor and Paynton. Incidentally, it was there that I met Mrs. Petty who is known by all Homemakers and most teachers; but more to the point of this story I met my husband-to-be. He was well used to the idiosyncracies of teachers in general. His father had just retired from teaching and his sister, Edith, was at a school in the Medstead-Glenbush area.

When I moved from Arbor Hill to was to the Glenbush area where I had many, many pupils. This was the "dirty thirties" era and very often tired horses pulled their loads of family and fitted by the school. Unfortunately for Miss Teacher, some had relatives of friends with whom to enjoy a visit and my bulging classroom really bulged. I was not lacking in compassion and honestly tried to teach my transient scholars. Fortunately discipline was not a problem in Avery School.

One thing I well remember is the north-bound scholars waiting after school to accompany teacher. They played the little game of "Touch-last" and as I was the most popular target I was usually happy to be touched by the last trio and slowly skimp home. There I was quickly refreshed by the warm welcome I usually received from the baby of the house.

While at Avery I was the owner of a 1926 Chevrolet sedan. Why I did not drive to school I do not remember unless it was that I saved gas for the weekends. At that time a car was a mixed blessing as there were dips and dives and hills and dales between there and Bresaylor as well as a shortcut which involved a scary stunt with the ferry at Delmas. Depending on the current crossing, one sometimes had to drive off the ferry and into the river before eventually reaching a steep bank which sometimes held onlookers who bet on your "making it"!

Driving on the by-roads in the thirties was often a problem. One Saturday Edith and I became firmly entrenched in mud. Inspiration prompted us to literally dig our way out. We fell to with our hands and flung mud balls in every direction. A very muddy pair arrived in North Battleford a few hours later.

In July, 1934, Bill and I were married by a minister in a manse. During the brief ceremony my six-year old niece cried copiously but my sister and the older niece were more cheerful.

These same little nieces accompanied us on our honeymoon. They sat on the edge of the back seat and issued instructions and comments. Highway Five being then on the square, we drove through Maymont and had a picnic lunch by the roadside. On the return trip (sans girls) a live wedding gift of twenty "Barred Rocks" cackled from their crate in the back.

That wedding gift from my young brother played an important part of our rented farm after we had convinced the biddies that the car was not their home away from home.

Although they were supposed to have been culls to provide eggs and companions. For them the sun rose and set on their newly-married mistress and one afternoon I came home at six o'clock to find that all twenty had retired to roost.

But I must get away from the hens and the pet pigs and cows and run-away horses as I am still miles from the Maymont connection. In the fall of 1938 we returned to the Bresaylor side of the river where Bill continued farming while we lived with the senior McCreadys. To the community then I became "Mrs. Willie". I loved my mother-in-law dearly and we were happy on a busy water-less farm. I was more or less queen of the kitchen and yard area as I washed and scrubbed and cooked. I also gardened and continued my association with the hens and chickens as well as with the cows and the calves.

Then came the saga of the RIVER. During this period we were truly pioneers. I accepted a position of teaching a school about four miles distant but on the other side of the North Saskatchewan. For a short time I lived in a small unfinished, privately-owned teacherage. The field mice held summer games of the nocturnal order and my first night I rose at two a.m. and carried my cot out to sleep under the stars! The

next week a cat prevented some of the cross-town events but made so much noise jumping from floors to rafters and windows that I still could not sleep

During that semi-drowsy period I had the honor of becoming one of the newly-appointed inspector's first teachers. Bill Brennan remained a good friend throughout the years. Soon I was rendered mooseless by becoming houseless! And after spending a few nights in the school we came up with the idea of becoming boat people. This was not truly depression days on the farm and it meant getting up at four a.m. in order to be sitting in that row boat before 7:00 a.m. I waited to see Bill back to his waiting horses before I began my alpine walk to the school. Always I was drenched with dew and sometimes soaked by showers. The late afternoon trip left hours for farm and housework before retiring at midnight. Canning and churning could always be done by lamplight.

It was a foolhardy venture for neither of us could swim. When we beached on a sandbar Bill had to man the oars while I hopped out and dislodged the boat. Later on, when ice was forming I was the hatchet man who chipped our way in to the bank. For a period of a week or so I stayed with the Larke family until it was fairly safe to cross on the ice. Then I could do at least a mile of jogging on the river (usually being followed by three coyotes). The really stormy days Bill drove me all the way, but he still had his farm work to do at home. Fortunately, he was able to take home with him barrels of water or loads of ice or logs. Breaking up the flood times I shall try to forget but I still wake on windy nights thinking, "How can we cross that river?"

We had still another over the river job but the Battle River was not formidable and it had a bridge. I went there to substitute but the ratepayers or trustees had me return as full-time teacher several times and years. Our daughter was born in one of the intervals. We went home only on week-ends and holidays and I had a written understanding that I could quit any time I wished.

Another term at Arbor Hill School where I got to school by various means and returned on the three o'clock Greyhound in the afternoons.

Meanwhile Bill had sold his farm and had torn down and re-built the house for his parents in the village of Breaulyor. We farmed out our milking cows to a neighbor and went to Girvin for the summer months. We were persuaded to come back to Arbor Hill again in the fall and this time rented a house and barn about one mile distant. In the spring we again farmed out the cows and Bill went to farm with my family. However, Rheumatic fever cut short that term and I spent several months in Davidson Hospital.

However Sheila was now five years of age so she came along to Girvin School with me in September.

Incidentally, there had been some good farming years at Girvin but not '47, '48 or '49.

In the fall of '49 we went to a school with a teacherage. Fitzgerald proved to be our happy home for seven years before we moved to North Battleford where Sheila could attend N.B.C.I. I taught at Connaught and Bill did carpentry work.

When we left there in 1956 it was to live in the Maymoot area of Keystone School. It was a small teacherage so Bill enlarged it while we lived out of boxes and suitcases. Bill was working at Biggar at that time and my Connaught pupils decided I should not live alone. Anne Marie's parents agreed that I should have her live with me. She was an active and interesting as well as a devoted pupil who fitted in well with the three girls at Keystone. Her happiness was complete when she was able to take so many "parts" in our Christmas concert. She even did a ballet number (in which her costume assumed a rosy nude look from the improvised foot-lights!)

Since we are now in the Maymoot country I shall say we became acquainted with some of the villagers as well as the teachers of the Denholm-Ruddell-Maymoot Local. At one of our meetings which was held in our teacherage and co-hosted by Trudy Sloan we played a joke on Mr. Foulds. He had prophesied that since we lived in the "sticks" we would probably serve moose meat for lunch. Accordingly Mrs. Sloan made a huge bun and Bill visited our friends at Fitzgerald for mooseburger. The meat was really delicious and we later learned that Mr. Armstrong would have relished it, too.

In May, 1959, a movement was on to transport the school and its pupils to Maymoot. This decision was pending for weeks and my bedding plants remained in the back of our car. Finally, on the last possible day Mr. McKinnon told me that the Unit and the Richard trustees would be happy to have me teach in the Richard School.

That move I have certainly never regretted. While we were in the process of planting flowers and redecorating the teacherage a very unfriendly [illegible] dog did his best to dissuade us from our activities. He seemed to appear from no-where so we concluded he was just the town bum. And that is what he had become since he refused to move to the farm with the former owner.

Now Teddy could come home, and he did. He accompanied me to school around seven, and later escorted the grain buyers to wind up later with Mr. Boutilier or the little neighbor girl.

Life was very busy and very pleasant at Richard. Bill worked at various places and also did much building and helping locally.

At Richard I became known as "Mrs. 'Cready" and I loved my large family. I received co-operation and helped from all quarters and never lacked rides for our field and festival activities. I must pay tribute to Lavita Johnston for her invaluable help with the concert and festival music. She is a superb accompanist.

And when the time came that I was forced to retire for physical reasons I was given a wonderful retirement party by the Home and School, parents and

pupils, teachers and friends who invited pupils and friends from former schools to share the evening. I realize now that I did not perhaps properly show my gratitude. How could I? One of my very important teachers was there as well as one of my very first pupils. These two have now passed away but I shall never forget them.

Now that I have us up to 1968, the year of our transition to Maymont I have not much more to say. I did enjoy some substitute teaching at first and enjoyed having the Hallowe'en goblins say. "But Mrs. Cready, you should know us. You teached us." I can still remember a velvety kiss on my cheek when one child met me in the corridor and said, "Mrs. Cready, bend down for a minute. And I can also laugh when I recall that one morning after a prolonged term in Mrs. Robinson's room it was reported to me that , having seen me through the window, said "Cready Creep is here again"!

So Maymont I salute you and those friends who have passed away or gone to live elsewhere! I regret that I am not always at home and that sometimes when I am here people do not know it. I hope that our family of two will continue to be part of the community for many years and that we can continue to visit our daughter and small son, Jamie, and husband, Ed, in Winnipeg. Bill's father, "Grandpa Cready" was part of our life in Richard before he died just before his hundredth birthday. His sister, Edith, lives in Edmonton and Bessie near Winnipeg, while his younger brother, Doug, is teaching in St. Louis.

My sister, Ruth, and brothers, Henry and John, live in Saskatoon with two other sisters in California. We all keep in touch. Ask Sask-Tel.

In reminiscing Bill likes to remind me that he is one of the few people now living who can remember being on the deck of the Titanic shortly after its launching.

Meanwhile Bill has certainly enjoyed being a friend in need and a dedicated promoter of Maymont. This summer a four-year old who refers to Bill as "my mayor" gave his definition of that honorable office as: A mayor is a man who always helps everybody.

Mrs. Mabel (Merrell) McIntosh History

I was born Mabel Mildred Merrell in Gilbert Plains, Manitoba where I started school. My father then moved to Roblin, Manitoba, where he was principal of the public school for many years. After graduating from high school, I attended Normal School in Dauphin, Manitoba then taught in that province for six months.

My brother, H. C. (Bob) Merrell, graduated from the University of Saskatchewan in Pharmacy, and he and his wife, Ella, bought Mr. Mawhinney's Drug Store in Maymont, Saskatchewan in 1920, I believe. In August, 1921, I started teaching in the intermediate room at Maymont, and remained there until the end of

Mabel Mildred Merrell, Lydia Margaret Ballsrud, at the Turner farm.

Up and Doing class at Maymont.

June, 1926, except for another term at Normal School in Saskatoon.

I taught Sunday School, and my class of girls called themselves, "Up and Doing". They bought rings with the insignia U.A.D., also Indian Clubs, and I taught them all I knew about club swinging. I often meet former pupils, but they are grandmothers and grandfathers now. It's wonderful to see them.

On January 8, 1930, I married Robert Gordon McIntosh (Gordon) from Winnipeg, at the home of Ella and Bob, in Edmonton. Our first home was at Lloydminster, then North Battleford, and in Saskatoon since January, 1935. Our son, Gordon, his wife Norma, and their three children, Bob, Marcia, and Patti, live in Edmonton. Our other son, Kenneth, his wife Joyce, and their children, Cathy and Phil, live in Ottawa. The three families get together once a year, if possible, in the East one year, and in the West the following year.

Lydia Ballsrud and I attended Normal together, and we boarded at the same place. When Neepawa School District needed a teacher, I asked her to apply, and she was accepted. The night she arrived in Maymont, there was a corn roast out at Giffards. We have been very close friends ever since.

George Hilton McIvor

George Hilton McIvor was born in Kearny, Ontario November 14, 1896. He had one brother and three sisters.

At age eight, "Mac" as ■ came ■ be known, moved with his parents to Neepawa, Manitoba. ■ the spring of 1906 his father was accidentally killed when his gun went off while he was crawling through a fence to shoot a coyote.

Later his mother remarried but Mac and his brother didn't get along with their stepfather so they left home. Mac was twelve years old when he went to work for Leonard McMahon at Kinley, Sask. He got along so well, he stayed there for eight years until he had enough money to start farming on ■is own at Aberdeen, Sask.

George and Freda McIvor's 25th Wedding anniversary. Standing — Doreen, Ron, Clair, Lyle, Murray. Seated — Mona Gail, Mr. and Mrs. McIver.

Memorial race at Edmonton, Sept., 1975, in honor of George McIver.

Those were exciting winters for him as he used to take his horses in Big River where he worked for the sawmill. However, he wasn't allowed to use his own horses while there as his job was to bring provisions from Big River to the Camp. There was no transportation for workers. They walked to and from work which was more than a total of twenty miles. Mac drove good skid horses while there which was tricky because of the icy roads. His horses wintered well and he always came out in the spring with enough money to carry him through, if the crops were not too good.

In 1918 George had to go into the army but never left Winnipeg as the war ended. When he came back in 1921 he sold the farm at Aberdeen and bought the livery barn in Fielding. He enjoyed that very much and made many long cold trips with Dr. Scratch. He had round the clock service and had good horses but the depression brought that to an end too.

George married Winnifred Thompson in 1928. Of that union they had two children: Clair William and Lyle Raymond.

When the depression hit and he couldn't make it in the livery barn, he moved his house from Fielding to the homestead which he had taken four miles north of Fielding in 1931.

In October, 1937 his wife, Winnifred, died and he tried to carry on with housekeepers but that didn't work too well.

In the spring of 1938, Freda with her son, Ronald who was 1½ years old, came from Lampman, Sask. to keep house. George and Freda were married March 8, 1939. Of this union there were three children: Murray Hilton, Mona Gail, and Doreen Ethel.

Clair, Lyle and Ron all attended Keystone, about five miles west of Fielding, for Public School and attended high school in Maymont. Because Keystone was closed, the other children went to Maymont for all of their schooling.

Clair graduated from the School of Agriculture in Saskatoon and Ron apprenticed for his C.A. in Saskatoon.

Clair married Anita Lesko of Speers on July 2, 1951. They had four children: Donald, Karen, Lorraine and Glen. Anita died in 1970 and Clair remarried in 1973 to Elsie Beierle of Lilac.

Lyle married Shirley Parker of Maymont in June, 1958. They had two children: Wendy Ann who unfortunately was born with kidney disease and despite all efforts she died July, 1969. Dwight, a son is working in Alberta.

Ron married Eunice Smith, a nurse from Saskatoon City Hospital who graduated in 1955. Ron is a chartered accountant and lives in North Battleford. They have two children: Ross and Shannon.

Murray married Dorothy MacArthur of Vancouver in 1972. They have two children: Donald and Sarah. They live at Lander, B.C. where Murray is employed by B.C. Hydro and carried on with his father's sport of horse racing as a sideline.

Mona Gail married David Miner of Speers in 1961. They have six children: Kelly, Shelley, Sharon, Mark, Christopher and Gina. They have a farm at Speers but live in Regina where David is Vice-Chairman of Sask. Land Bank.

Doreen married Carl Schmidt formerly of Maymont and Keystone district. They have one son, Dale, and live in Surrey, British Columbia. Carl is a foreman for Weldwood Canada (lumber company).

Freda now lives at Cloverdale, B.C. since she retired from Harness Racing in 1977. George and Freda started racing in 1963 on a full time basis after George suffered a stroke in 1962. It seemed the one and only thing for him and he pursued the sport with great

enthusiasm until his death in 1975. George and Freda travelled across Canada with their horses. They raced their horses from the West Coast to Windsor, Ontario as well as, at Bay Meadows in San Francisco, California. They spent the winter of 1972-73 at Orlando, Florida. Freda raced at Sacramento, California in 1975 and the next two years in Edmonton, Calgary, and Cloverdale, B.C. She still visits the farm at Maymont where her two sons, Clair and Lyle, do the farming.

It might be of interest that George was a councillor for Mayfield Municipality for ten years. The old house on the farm has been replaced by two nice homes with modern conveniences but I guess the happiest part of our lives was when our children were young. Sure it was depression times but we were all in the same boat and had wonderful times with our neighbors. The fun times were the Christmas concerts, picnics and whist drives at the different schools. The wood sawing in the spring as you always had to have a years supply of stove wood ahead. Children in those times were never bored. They were too busy and they all learned to work. They took lunch to school and never once complained about the lunch. Clothes were washed on the wash board at our house until we got a power washer in 1944. Had lots of water for the stock and drinking but too hard for washing. The first detergent "Drift" was a great help. We baked our bread and kept our children well clothed in hand me downs and make overs. We never had too much sickness but having Doctor Scratch handy was such a relief and he always came when called or went for. It seemed so fitting that George had the last years to devote entirely to horses as horses had always been part of his life. He always had a good driving team and the work horses were no slouches either. Its been a good life and we are glad we were there to make our contribution to the Maymont and Fielding communities.

The Clair McIvor Family

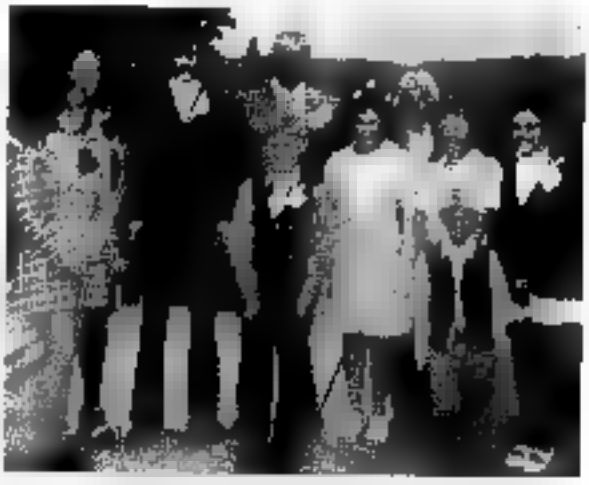
written by Elsie McIvor

Clair McIvor is the son of George and Winnifred McIvor and was born in Fielding on April 23, 1928. He went to school at Keystone and Maymont and graduated from School of Agriculture in 1951.

In 1953 Clair married Anita Lesko of Speers. Anita was a teacher and taught at Hillsborough school after they were married and was also a substitute teacher in Maymont for several years. Anita died in 1972 of cancer.

Clair and Anita had four children. Don was born on April 4, 1954. He married Adelle Copelle in 1977 and lives in Saskatoon and works as a backhoe operator. He graduated from Maymont Central School in 1972. Karen was born on June 12, 1956 and graduated from Maymont Central School in 1974. She took two years of Journalism at Ryerson's in Toronto. She is presently in Burnaby, B.C. Lorraine was born on October 17, 1957 and graduated from Maymont Central School in 1974. She took Radio and T.V. Arts at N.A.I.T. in Edmonton and is presently employed in the radio station in Red Deer, Alberta. Glen was born in June 25, 1962 and is a

Clair and Anita, Karen, Don, Glen and Lorraine.



Clair and Elsie McIvor — their wedding day June 30, 1973 with their families (missing — Alan Belerle).

Grade Eleven student at Maymont Central School. He is very interested in the cattle business.

On June 30, 1973 Clair married Elsie Belerle of Lilac and operates the farm along with his brother, Lyle.

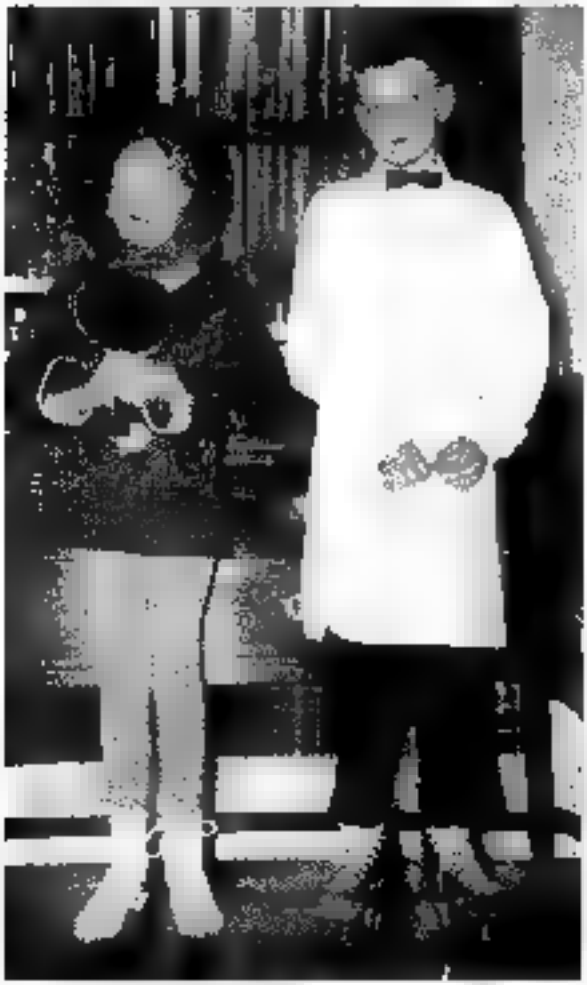
The Lyle McIvor Family

by Shirley (Parker) McIvor

I was born in the old farm house in the Grey School District on 16-42-12-W3. I was the eighth child born but two weeks after my birth we lost a brother, leaving me to be the seventh child. Two years later a little sister, Reta, came along. I lived on the farm and attended Grey School until Grade Ten.

We never went much further than the functions that

The four Parker boys with sister Shirley. Sleigh was being pulled by the Billy goat.



Wendy and Dwight in Figure Skating Carnival costumes — 1967.

took place at Grey School, like the whist drives, Christmas concerts and the annual year-end picnics. We sometimes went to town Saturday afternoons with our mother in the horse and buggy and had an ice-cream cone which was five cents and a great treat for my little sister, Reta, and myself. Life on the old farmstead was far from dull. Being a big family we had no trouble entertaining ourselves, and if we found life boring the Billy goat, gobbler or a cranky rooster gave us something to lift us. Our Billy goat was like a guard dog around the farm and made it clear to any newcomers, and us kids, that he was boss. Reta and I could be minding our own business very nicely when, all of a sudden, we found ourselves being chased (as fast as our little fat legs could carry us, up the steps and into the granary) by the goat. He wasn't satisfied at just putting us in there, he stood right there making sure we stayed in the granary. Finally someone, usually one of our brothers would come to our rescue and get us out of there. I remember an old turkey gobbler that didn't like Gladys hanging the clothes on the line and he made it pretty rough for her, flying at her until one day someone (I can't remember which one it was) laid him out cold with a club. (I can't remember whether they killed him at that time or not. We always had to pass the chicken house to go to school. Very innocently we'd be running to get to school when all of a sudden a mean old rooster would fly up at us and the screaming and running that took place! Everyone ran out of the house because they thought for sure we were getting killed. It gave me a scare for life, as right today I'm petrified of poultry. I raise chickens but Lyle gets the majority of the work when it comes to touching them.

As the years passed the kids started leaving home, until it was just Dad, Reta and I at home. Dad, being a farmer and working out, wasn't home too much of the time, so we looked after ourselves (well if you can call hiding under the bed looking after ourselves). We had thunderstorms then, worse than we have now, at least it seemed to us they were worse. The lightning sent sparks from the telephone and made it ring. We were sure it was out to get us. Finding Reta in a storm wasn't hard to do because she was under the bed and I was on top of the bed with my head covered up. I was safe as long as my head was hidden.

Lighting gas lamps gave us a lot of trouble. I never liked those gas lamps and could never pump enough air into them, so rather than fighting with the lamp we stayed in the dark until Dad came home to light them for us.

I remember one time when I should have had the padding of my life, but I didn't get one. It was one Christmas when the family were all home and all the relatives were there for Christmas. There was also a couple of air force men in uniform, friends of my cousin. When everyone was preparing to leave for home they offered to take my sister, Gladys, back to Maymont where she was working. I decided Gladys

wasn't going with anybody in uniform and the stink I kicked up was unreal. I bawled and screamed and the air force men tried to give me candy, gum and you name it, but I was having no part in their bribes. They weren't having my sister and that was that. I don't remember who calmed me down or maybe Gladys just walked out the door and left me howling, because she went to town with them anyway.

We attended church services at Grey School through the summer months with Reverend Crowder being the first minister I remember and later Reverend Myers. After a few years when we got a car we attended church in Maymont with our Dad. At the age of fifteen I attended Maymont School and boarded at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Herb Johnston. The next year my Dad, Reta and I moved to Maymont and lived in the George Walton house now owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Bohn. After three years we moved into the old cafe on Main Street then converted into living quarters. I attended Teachers' College in Saskatoon for one year, obtaining my Interim Standard Certificate. In June of 1956 I married Lyle McIvor and went back to the life I enjoyed the most, that of farming. We live on the McIvor farm northeast of Maymont on Section 17-42-11-W3. Our first home was a little house fourteen feet by twenty feet with a kitchen and a bedroom. We had a coal and wood stove that heated the entire house, summer and winter. We had power so I had no problem with gas lamps. We didn't have television for a while so our big outing was going to town on Saturday night to Mr. and Mrs. McIvors and watching the wrestling on T.V. There was always lots of work to be done and one of the big jobs was getting up a big wood pile so it would do for the winter and the next summer. Haying was a big job and all the bales were hauled by manual labor on trucks and trailers and stacked by hand. Today we get them hauled in by a self-propelled bale wagon and everything is done by machine, right to making the stack.

Our first baby was born December 21, 1956 and to us she was the most precious baby ever born, a sweet little girl named Wendy Ann. We were as proud parents as ever there was. After all the baby sitting I had done, since the time I was twelve years old, I finally had my own baby to look after. When she was two and a half months old we found out she wasn't well. We took her to a doctor in Saskatoon and had to leave her in the hospital for two weeks. When we went to bring her home she was smiling and happy and such a different baby, until she was eleven months old, when back in Saskatoon to the doctor again and we found she had kidney trouble. The bottom fell out of our world then, but we carried on and did everything possible for her.

In May, 1958 our son was born and I was so grateful to hear the nurse say he was strong and healthy. A few years were good, happy years with our son and daughter, and they gave us a great deal of pleasure. In Wendy's few short years with us she took part in United Church Sunday School and belonged to Baby Band until the age of six years, then into Messengers until nine years of age and joined Explorers. She graduated from Explorers to C.G.I.T. in June of 1968 and passed away July 29, 1969.

She took figure skating from the time it started in Maymont in 1964 through 1967. In 1968 she became very ill and could no longer take part in activities she enjoyed. In November of 1968 the doctor told us her kidneys had failed and there was no alternative, but to put her on the kidney machine at St. Paul's Hospital, Saskatoon, for dialysis, and await hopefully a kidney transplant. She got out of hospital in December and we had to take her to Saskatoon every Tuesday and Friday so she could go on the kidney machine. It was a tough struggle but the only way left for her, so regardless of weather or roads, she had to be there at a certain time on the given days. Thanks to our friends and neighbors for being so thoughtful and helpful to us we never missed getting her there on time. Ray Jordan, at the Esso Service Station, kept our car in tip top shape and the Vougeli Bros. had their snowplow always ready in case the roads were blocked. We were never snowed in, fortunately, but many days were very cold. There was one time the forecast was for a blizzard so we left home on Monday and were welcomed at the Gordon Leach home in Saskatoon to spend the night and take her to the hospital the next day. When she had to have long stays in hospital I was always welcomed and made feel at home at Auntie Eva and Uncle Norman Chasl's in Saskatoon. For a few years I think I spent more time with them than I did at home, paying regular visits to the hospital to spend as much time as I could with Wendy.

All this time Dwight was growing up and trying to take part in the things he enjoyed and being left at Grandpa McIvors, George Brehons, or Les Parkers. He wasn't too sure where home was either.

Our kids attended Maymont Central School travelling by bus through all their school years. Dwight with his sister attended Maymont Sunday School, was enrolled in Baby Band, then into Messengers, and from there joined the Tyro group for boys from nine to twelve years.

When the Sports Centre opened we spent seven days a week at the rink, three days hockey practice, three days figure skating and Sunday was public skating. Dwight is a very ardent sportsman and gives everything his best whether it be football, hockey or any other sport. Dwight was in hockey starting in the WeePee age group under ten years and progressing on up through PeeWee, Bantam, Midget, and now a Senior. In his first years in WeePee he was the goalie, then moved to a forward. When in PeeWee hockey he played in the North Star Tournament in Saskatoon held in April, so away we went to Saskatoon to take him to the tournament. The next year in PeeWee he played with the Asquith team in the North Star Tournament in Saskatoon. Getting ready for the tournament meant

taking him to Delisle, Asquith, and Rosetown for exhibition games then into Saskatoon for the week-end tournament. All this was a great experience for him. We felt it was just as good for him and taught him more than having his nose in a book of ancient history that would never mean anything to him or be of any help either. He played hockey on several provincial teams throughout the years and got to travel the greater part of Saskatchewan. In 1975-76 he went to Notre Dame College at Wilcox and played on the Junior team, travelling by bus throughout Saskatchewan for their league games. In the winter of 1979 he was one chosen from the Maymont Senior Team to play in the All Star game of the 5-40 Hockey League when the South played the North. The South made up of players from Maymont, Borden and Radisson defeated the North made up of players from Hafford, Leask and Blaine Lake. He was chosen most valuable player of the game, bringing home his first trophy.

He is very active in fastball and started out playing fourteen and under ball, playing first base and doing some pitching. At the age of fifteen he joined the Maymont Marauders. He was also part of the Maymont 747's provincial team. His first year with the team in 1976 they won the provincial championship played in Rosthern and from there went by plane to New Castle, New Brunswick for the Canadian Finals. When they arrived in New Brunswick the team was struck by a flu bug so could not play their best ball, but the experience they gained and the new country they saw was a great experience for them.

When he was eleven and twelve years old he spent his summer holidays travelling with Grandpa and Grandma McIvor and Murray in the harness racing circuit and helping them with the race horses. At that time he obtained his groom's license in the racing business. One time he went from Regina to Calgary in a box car with the horses and fed and watered them for two days until they were unloaded in Calgary. At present he is employed with Unicom Pipeline and works most of the time in Alberta.

Perhaps Dwight's love of sports and ability comes from his Dad. Lyle has taken a great interest in his family and always took time to drive them wherever and whenever the need arose. He's been a coach, goal judge and when he was being called everything from a "bald-headed old so and so to skin" by fans and players alike, guess what he was doing, yes, he was refereeing. Well refereeing is the professional name for it but people call referees almost anything. Lyle loves hockey and has given Dwight every chance to as because when he was young he never had the chance. They lived ten miles from town and there were no cars or trucks to get them around and no winter roads for vehicles. The snow got so deep on the roads they quite often got stuck with the horses and sleigh and made roads through fields and got out that way.

Lyle was born in the old farm house on the McIvor farm on section 17-42-11-W3 in 1932. That is the same yard as we live in today. The old house was torn down in 1973. At the age of four he lost his mother, so they had housekeepers until Mrs. McIvor came to work for them and married his Dad.

He attended Keystone School until 1942 when the family moved to the Alfred Andrew farm northeast of Maymont. He then attended Maymont School and drove his brothers and sisters in horse and democrat in the summer and a cutter in the winter. When attending Keystone School they walked the mile across the field to school.

He belonged to the Mayfield Calf Club for a few years when Mr. Blacklock was the leader. He attended Maymont Sunday School when Mr. Andrew Melrose was the teacher. They moved back to the present farm in 1948 with his family and still lives on the same farm.

After our marriage and as the kids got older and more involved in community activities he also got involved. He coached Minor Hockey from the time Dwight was in WeePee, in 1964, on up through Midget moving along with Dwight. It worked out well as only one trip to town had to be made. He coached the Radisson Senior Hockey Team for three years from 1974-76. While coaching at Radisson they came from a last place team in the 5-40 League to a first place team and made the finals in playoffs. He then coached the Maymont Senior Team in 1977 to a first place team in league play, and they came second best in playoffs. He again coached Maymont Seniors in 1978 and came out second in playoff action. He was assistant coach for the Maymont Marauders for a few years. Lyle served as a councillor in Division Three in the R.M. of Mayfield for nine years and attended the R.M. Conventions in Regina and Saskatoon.

At present time he is concentrating on building his herd of Limousin cattle and in 1979 took a steer to Regina Agribition placing third in its class. Being flagman for Walter Paul's aerial spraying, looking after his cattle, and all other farm jobs keeps him presently very well occupied.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave McKay

by Bessie (Cooke) McKay

My mother and father (Mr. and Mrs. Cooke) were both born in England. My father worked as a gamekeeper and my mother worked as a midwife. I was one of three girls but no boys. I went out to work on a farm two or three miles from home when I was ten years old. I went to school every afternoon for half a day. I stayed home in the mornings as I had to help do the chores. I milked three cows, tended to the calves and pigs, but I was happy. The schoolhouse was two or three miles from where I was working, I had to walk to school and back again. The school was right on the side of the road, a side road. We had to play on the road when we were let out of school, no playground. No one in my time ever got hurt on the road when we were out

Mr. and Mrs. David McKay and baby Stanley — 1917.

to play. The Westly Chapel was in the top floor of the schoolhouse. They held church services in there every Sunday.

When I left school I worked out up until I came to Canada in 1913. I was twenty-three years old then. I came in May all by myself to my cousins on a boat called the "Royal Edward". The boat was sunk not too long after that about the time of the First World War. I took the boat as far as Quebec. By boat was a good trip, fine weather. Then from Quebec I took the train to Maymont station. My cousin was there to meet me in a broken old buggy. The horse's harness was all tied up with binder twine. I thought it would break down before we got to his house. He came to Canada to live. He got a homestead, a nice farm. The Maymont Cemetery is one corner of it close by the road.

Now I left my cousin's after a day or two of rest. I went to work on a farm. While I was working in the Maymont Hotel which at that time was owned by Sowden and Pernata, a livery barn beside the hotel owned by Joe Vessey burned down. I was in my bedroom at the time and I put my hand on the wall. It was so hot I could not keep my hand on it. I was single then.

I got married in 1918 to a farmer whose name was David McKay. He came from Wingham, Ontario, about 1903 to take up a homestead. He used to go to Saskatoon for repairs and some groceries by team and wagon. Later he went to Langham to get lumber and he also went to Radisson to get the wheat ground into flour. Dave built a long house on his farm, the first part being log with lumber additions on either end, which he lived in until his death in 1949.

We were married at the neighbours who had come to Canada to get a homestead around the same time as Dave McKay came. They had built a sod house and I was married in that sod house on the farm. The preacher that married us was a single young man who preached in the English Church in Maymont. He left Maymont a few years later.

We had a very nice meal the day we were married. We had it at the neighbour's because I had asked a number of the neighbours around to my wedding. Two days after we were married we gave a dance at the schoolhouse and a lunch which everyone enjoyed. It was in Neepawa, that schoolhouse which burned down, and they built a new one on the side of the main highway on the south. Now they have taken it away to Maymont.

My neighbour was a midwife so when my children were born she attended me. I had four children, two boys and two girls. I went to England in 1920 to visit my mother. I took my two boys, one was in arms, the other could walk. I went alone. When I came back my husband met me. The two children did not know him. I went home on the boat and came back by boat to Quebec, then by train. A short while after I was back home again, my youngest boy died.

My husband and myself always worked together. I would help him outside at harvest time and he would help me in the house to make butter, wash dishes, scrub floors. When I came in from helping in the fields, stooking the grain, cutting brush, picking rocks off the fields I was so tired he would get the meals for me but I used to be too tired to eat, just drink tea. We were always happy.

I went to England again later by plane, by myself, and back again. My mother died before I went so I did not see her. My father died before I came to Canada. I had two sisters but they are dead now so I am all alone of that family.

My son lives in Edmonton, Alberta. My two daughters, one is not married; the other lost her husband. She is alone now. I live with her. She has two girls and one boy, now all are away and married.

Dr. Scratch was our doctor at Maymont. We lived five miles from town, three miles from the school. My children had to walk to school and home again. In winter, Dave, would drive them. In summer he would drive a horse and buggy to town or the neighbours would take us if they were going. Mr. Hawkins was an old-timer. He was out there for years before me.

My youngest son was buried in Maymont Cemetery, and Dave was buried beside him. I am to be buried next to him when my time comes. I will be ninety

years old on the third of December, 1979. I have not been sick since 1952. I feel fine now only have arthritis which makes me walk lame.

The Fry and McLaren Families

submitted by Mrs. Gertrude (McLaren) Wilson

I was born in Maymont, Saskatchewan July 9, 1906. [redacted]. Scratch attended my mother. My mother was Beulah Fry who came to Maymont with her sister, Margaret Fry, and their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Fry. Isaac Fry was a dentist and a lay preacher. They homesteaded about two miles out of Maymont. Both are buried in the Maymont Cemetery.

My father Ernest McLaren came West with his brother Robert McLaren. He came as far as Edmonton and barbered for some time in what was then Strathcona, then returned to Maymont. The brothers subsequently met and married the Fry sisters, Ernest married Beulah Fry and Margaret Fry married Robert McLaren.

My father had barbered in Maymont a[redacted] then took up a homestead. They lived there until 1912 and then moved to Ontario for about five years where my sister Beatrice was born. The West called again and they moved [redacted] Ponoka, Alberta where they made their home on a farm northeast of Ponoka. There a son Ernest Jr. was born.

Both my parents passed away in Ponoka, Dad in 1958 and Mother in 1964.

John McLaren

(submitted by Catherine McLaren)

John McLaren is the eldest son of Robert McLaren. Born at Maymont in December 1909, he was delivered by Dr. Scratch. He married Catherine Johnson in 1933 at Ponoka, Alberta. Ever since that time he has farmed east of Ponoka raising grain and cattle.

There are seven children living, one died in infancy.

Sheila a R.N. married Ted Harper, a farmer, at Ponoka. They have one daughter married and nursing in Ponoka.

Gordon married Frances Borasi of Winnipeg. They have three boys and one girl. Gordon has a trucking business in Sherwood Park, Alberta.

Gail married Reverend [redacted] Ruggles. They have pastored twenty-four years in Saskatchewan and B.C. They have a boy and two girls. One girl and one boy are married.

Alan married Judy Gallager of Edmonton. They have a girl and a boy. Alan has a trucking business hauling [redacted] well equipment.

Arthur married Diane Fiest of Ponoka. They have one boy and three girls. Arthur is an oil well consultant. Brian married Darlene Stewart of Ponoka. They have four girls and two boys. They farm near John at Ponoka.

Stanley married Evon Weiss of Bashaw, Alberta. He farms with his dad. They have three little boys.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert McLaren

told by Robert

I, Robert Fry McLaren, was born to Robert and Margaret McLaren in Maymont Apr. 5, 1914. Living there with my parents, and John, Ramona and Margaret until about 1918. We lived in several places, until about 1924. Since then we have lived in the Ponoka District.

Thelma Conner and I were married on October 27, 1937 [redacted] Ponoka. From this union was born four children — Wayne, Robert, Sharen and Daniel.

Wayne married Eileen Eby and they have two children, Scott and Linda. Wayne is minister of Cameron Memorial Baptist Church in Regina, Sask.

Robert married Patty Tustian and they have four children, Brenda, Robin, Ian, and Caroline. Robert is the minister of First Baptist Church in Cranbrook, B.C.

Sharen is married to Garry Schaber and is living in Camrose, Alberta. They have three children, Giesel, by Sharen's former marriage, and Shari and Wanda by Garry's former marriage. Garry is a field supervisor for Sherritt-Gordon Fertilizer Company.

Daniel married Bonna Lee McLeod. They have four children, Archie and Leann, both adopted, and Lori and Todd. Dan is a building contractor and lives on an acreage on the home farm. We live six miles east of Ponoka.

Robert McLaren

Robert McLaren was born in Villa Nova, Ontario on January 27, 1879. There were 13 children in the family. He died June 19, 1964. He was greatly loved by his family and friends. His grandchildren never tired of his stories of his experiences in the early days. The following (in his own words) is an excerpt from a short story of his life.

"In 1900 I came out to Indian Head where I worked for Cameron Downing for a year. Then I went to Grenfell and worked for my cousin Tom Wright for 3 years. In 1904 I started a small grocery in Grenfell. On the recommendation of a Traveller I made a trip to a new country that was being opened up by the C.N.R. west of Saskatoon. The country looked good to me and I returned to Grenfell, packed and shipped my goods to a siding called 15th siding west of Humboldt, afterward named Maymont. I arrived the 22nd of May, 1905 and on May 24 hoisted the Union Jack at the front of my store (the first building on the townsite.) After operating the store for 3 years I sold out [redacted] Jim and John Reid.

I was the first postmaster [redacted] Maymont and held that office until 1918.

In the spring of 1906 Margaret Fry arrived with her parents Isaac M. Fry and Ellen Fry, who took up a homestead about a mile west of the town. That winter

we became engaged and were married at her parents home on May 15, 1907. We moved into our first home across the railroad tracks and our first 2 children, Ramona and John were born there. In 1912 I sold that house to an elevator Co. and built a house beside the Post Office across from the railway station where we lived until the spring of 1918. Bob and Margaret were born in this house. About 1912 I took a homestead near the Saskatchewan River where I grew alfalfa. I broke this land with oxen."

After leaving Maymont the Robert McLaren family lived on Vancouver Island, in Alberta, Ontario, Colorado and finally back to Alberta in 1925, where they bought land from the Hudson Bay Co. He grew alfalfa for seed developing, some which he got from Siberia. We sold his seed all over the west and got the title "Alfalfa Bob." Their 3rd daughter Eloise was born in Ontario and Donald in Alberta. In 1936 he became a Farming Instructor on the Montana and Sampson Reserves at Hobbema. After 8 years there, they moved to Ponoka where he spent his last years. Margaret died in 1970 at the age of 86.

Five of the children live in or near Ponoka and Eloise Fink lives at Nelson, B.C.

H. B. McLeish Family

Mr. and Mrs. H. B. McLeish (Mac and Grace) came to Maymont in 1924. Mr. McLeish came to manage the Imperial Bank of Commerce.

Mr. McLeish was born in Blairgowrie, Scotland, and moved to Toronto in 1913, at the age of 16, and began work with the bank. He served in the First World War as a medical orderly, and returned to the bank after the war.

Mrs. McLeish, (nee Wigmore), came from London, England, to Port Arthur in 1920.

The McLeish's had two children born in Maymont, Jim and Doreen.

During the tough years of the thirties, Mr. McLeish was very sympathetic to the financial difficulties of the people in the district and I'm sure will be fondly remembered by many.

Mrs. McLeish was well known for her wit and humor and was active in the Ladies Aid, Homemakers and the Maymont Curling Club.

The McLeish's moved from Maymont to Brandon in 1941. Jim was married in Brandon to Vivian Jackson. They had three children, Wendy, Penny, and Ron. Wendy died at the age of four months. Jim was stricken with polio in 1951, and was paralyzed from the neck down. He was forced to live in an iron lung, until with much fortitude, he learned to frog breath. This freed him from the lung during his waking hours. With the help of an electric wheelchair, he spends a very active and useful life in the King George Hospital in Winnipeg.

Doreen was married in Winnipeg to Jack Miller and they had three children, Cathy, Carol and John. They moved to Saskatoon in 1962 and Jack Miller died there in 1973 at the age of 42. Doreen re-married in 1975 to Cy Rouse and they still live in Saskatoon.

Mrs. McLeish died in 1946, Mr. McLeish died in 1977.

Mr. and Mrs. Don McLeod

June 1st, 1978 the Don McLeod family moved to Maymont. Don, Cathie and their seven month son moved into the Rural Municipal house. That June, Don started his job as Rural Municipal secretary of the Rural Municipality of Mayfield No. 406.

Don was formerly from Swift Current, Sask. and Cathie from Hodgeville, Sask.

Don, Cathie and Kevin McLeod.

Their son Kevin was born in Herbert, Sask. where Don was Town Administrator before their move to Maymont.

The McLeod family were made to feel at home right away by all the friendly people of Maymont and community.

Mrs. Ruth (Johnston) McLeod

told by Ruth

Ruth's parents Arthur and Emma Johnston, were living at the farm home five miles north of Maymont when Ruth was born on August 12, 1941. She attended school at Wavie Bank, Grey and Maymont Schools. She graduated from Grade Twelve in June, 1959.

Ruth attended Teachers' College in Saskatoon in 1959-60. She was married to Ronald Arthur McLeod on June 11, 1960. From 1960-62 she lived and taught school in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan.

In June, 1962 Ruth and her husband, Ron, were

transferred to Wadena, Saskatchewan where Ron became an accountant.

On November 24, 1962, Darla Joan McLeod was born at Wadena Hospital. She was attended by Dr. Almond.

In 1963-64 Ruth taught Grades V and VI at Rose Valley, Saskatchewan.

In June, 1964 the McLeods were transferred to Vonda, Saskatchewan where Ron became the manager of the Canadian-Imperial Bank of Commerce.

On September 15, 1965, D'Arcy Robert Arthur McLeod was born at University Hospital, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

July 1, 1966, the McLeods moved to Saskatoon, where Ron attended the University of Saskatchewan and Ruth taught at Greystone Heights and Hanltain Schools.

In 1969 the McLeods moved to Regina where Ron accepted a job with the Saskatchewan Power Corporation.

Ruth resumed her teaching duties teaching at Argyle School in 1969. Hanltain School in 1970 and M. J. Coldwell School from 1971-1976.

From September, 1976 to July, 1977, Ruth attended the University of Regina having been granted sabbatical leave by the Regina Public School Board. May 26, 1978 Ruth received her Bachelor of Education Degree. September, 1977, Ruth returned to teach at M. J. Coldwell School.

Ruth was an active member of the Baby Band, Pioneers and C.G.I.T. groups while living in Maymont. She was organist of Sharon United Church from 1955-58 and also sang in the choir. She was also a member of the 4-H Club.

Ruth has also filled the role of church organist while living in Wadena and she was organist for a number of years at St. Michael's Anglican Church, Regina. She is a member of the Regina Highland Dancing Association having served as president and also on several committees. She has been a representative and is Past President of the Highland Dancing Association.

Mr. and Mrs. John Malcolm McNaughton

John Malcolm McNaughton will be remembered as one of Fieldings community leaders and business men. He was born in 1888 in Guelph, Ontario and came to Saskatchewan in the early 1900's. After attending Teachers College he taught school for a short while near Hafford, took up a homestead near Keatley but moved onto Fielding where he decided to make his home. During this early period he was a grain buyer for the British American Grain Co., as well as a hail adjuster with the North-West Hail Adjusting Co.

In February, 1917 he married the former Florence Harris, who with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Percy Harris came originally from Nova Scotia. In her early married life Mrs. McNaughton was an ardent tennis player. She was an active member of the Fielding Ladies Aid and after taking up residence in Saskatoon, an active member of the Legion Auxiliary. She passed away in Saskatoon in 1971.

Mrs. McNaughtons father, Mr. Percy Harris, before coming to Fielding, had spent a number of years as a sailor and a cook on a sailing vessel which plied the eastern sea board. He took out a homestead north of Fielding, and later acquired land south of Fielding where he built his home. During his years of farming he played an active part as a councillor of the Mayfield Municipality.

Shortly after his marriage, Mr. McNaughton answered the call and went overseas with the Canadian Army. A crack shot, he was soon detailed as a sniper against the enemy force. After his return from the war he continued to buy grain for awhile and then he purchased a farm which he operated for many years in partnership with his brother William (Bill) McNaughton also a World War I veteran. Mr. Bill McNaughton was married to the former Patty Smith of Guelph, Ontario. He passed away in 1937.

In 1922 Mr. McNaughton became an automobile dealer. We feel that it is of interest to note that he sold his first car, a Model T Ford to Mr. Alex Garnett one of Fieldings earliest pioneers and we believe he has the honor of being Fieldings oldest living pioneer. Mr. Garnett now resides in Vancouver, B.C. In 1923 Mr. McNaughton obtained a franchise from the Ford Motor Co. as well as the International Harvester Co. to sell their products. In 1927 he built the Ford Garage, a Fielding landmark for many years. These dealerships were later moved to Radisson under the name of the Great Bend Farm Equipment Co. which he operated until his death in 1963.

During his business lifetime at Fielding he was the recipient of three gold watches commemorating 25 years of valued service with each of the following. The Ford Motor Co., The International Harvester Co., The McCall Frontenac (later called Texaco) Oil Company.

Mr. McNaughton was an enthusiastic hunter, fisherman and card player. He enjoyed a friendly partnership in cattlebuying and hogbuying with his long-time friend Alex Gunn. Mr. Gunn was also a farmer and storekeeper in Fielding for many years, and had emigrated from Scotland.

Mr. McNaughton took a keen interest in all community affairs and had given dedicated service as a member of many years on the local school board, as overseer of the village, and as a member of the board of the United Church. He was a distant cousin of the late General A. G. L. McNaughton, commander of the Canadian Forces during World War II.

Mr. and Mrs. McNaughton had 4 children: Malcolm, Jean, Ross and Chester who died in infancy. Malcolm, Jean and Ross grew up in Fielding and Malcolm has spent 40 years there in the business of farming. He still does some farming and makes his home in Saskatoon. Malcolm married the former Kathleen Robertson. They raised a family of three

boys. Brian a graduate in Agricultural Engineering and now operating the family farm at Fielding; Darryl a medical doctor and specialist in pathology in U.S.A. and Canada, now practising at Kamloops, B.C. and Ross Jr., a member of the R.C.M.P. Drug Squad stationed in Vancouver, B.C. Brian is married to the former Olga Skrumida of Sundown, Manitoba. Olga and Brian have one son, Robert, born in 1968. Darryl married the former Freda Torrance of Elrose. Freda and Darryl have two children: Maria Ann born 1972 and Andrew born 1976.

Jean McNaughton married Vaughan Lafoy and they are presently residing in Ft. Frances, Ontario. Jean and Vaughan have 2 daughters, Marnie, a registered nurse, married to Robert Beninger and residing in Emerson, Man. and Bonnie, a graduate of the Ontario Police College and now stationed with the O.P.P. at Thunder Bay, Ontario.

Ross McNaughton served his country in the Signal Corps of the Royal Canadian Navy in World War II. After the war he worked for many years with the Civil Service in Ottawa. He married the former Marguerite Peirler. They are now retired and living in Victoria, B.C.

The McNeils

My father and mother Randy and Agnes McNeil (nee McVicar) — both of Scottish origin arrived in Ruddell from Alvinston, Ontario in October, 1906 — my father Randy made a scouting trip to the west in 1905. In the spring of 1906 he again came west — purchasing a team of horses and a democrat in Saskatoon he spent several months locating a homestead which was the SE ¼ 20-42-13 W3rd.

At this time he gave a contract to build a two story building in which he operated a hardware store from 1906 to 1923. My mother and myself, Russell, came in October, 1906.

In 1923 he turned to farming — although he and my mother always resided in the village.

Randy McNeil's car. Left to right — Bess (Turnbull), Murison, Grace (Robinson) Harper, Peggy (Granger) Johnson.

June, 1927 at Bessie McNeil's shower for Louise Thrower. Back row — Mrs. L. Steele, Clara Robinson, with Frances, Mrs. Turnbull, Hanna Robinson, Mrs. McNeil and Betty, Jessie Arnold, Joanne McMillan, Florence Steele. Front row — Mrs. J. Geddie, Mrs. White, Mrs. Ferguson, Grace Harper, Bess Murison, Eleanor Robinson, Mary Thrower, Mrs. Stelly, Mrs. Arnold, Maxine McNeil, Brynelce Stelly, Jean Murison, Louise Thrower, Phyllis Molsley.

In 1915 a young cousin Peggy Grainger came to live with us. She received her education in Ruddell and Battleford and taught school in Alberta, Calais and Ruddell. She married a high school sweetheart Dave Johnson of Maidstone and resides in Portland, Oregon.

My father Randy died in 1936 — after his death my mother moved to Calgary where she died in 1954. Both are buried in the little cemetery in Ruddell. Randy 1866-1936 — Agnes 1870-1954.

For myself Russell, I attended the one room school in Ruddell. In 1919 I married little Bess Turnbull. In 1928 we moved to Calgary. We have two daughters Maxine and Betty both born in North Battleford. We have four grandchildren and three great-grandsons.

Meena Family History

written by Mrs. E. Meena

Thomas and Mary came to Saskatchewan from Ontario to settle in the Keystone district. They bought land from a Real Estate Agent, Mr. R. J. Scott in Speers. They came by train, which also brought their settlers' effects.

Thomas' sister, Jennie, accompanied them to help care for the small children, Ruby, Everett, Jean, John and Adella. Thomas was a bricklayer and plasterer by trade, so went to work at his trade, while Mary took care of the farm. This meant the older children had to take their places at an early age, and many hardships went with growing up, as Thomas went as far away as Manitoba and was away for weeks at a time.

At the opening of the first school, classes were only

Their first car, 1922. John, Thomas Sr., Everett, Dell, Mary, Thomas Jr.

The Everett Meena family ready for school, 1942.

held in the summer months, so Jean and John went to stay with their Aunt Jennie and Uncle Richard Wilcox, (who had recently been married) and walked to school.

In 1910, Thomas Earl was born. Their Dad had left instructions with Everett (who was 10 years old) that there was to be a new baby and showed him how to harness and hitch the driving horse to the buggy. When his Mother told him he was [illegible] to the neighbors for help, Everett went to Mr. Alex Brehon's, who went for Dr. Scratch and Everett went to get Mrs. Smith, another neighbor, who was the mid-wife [illegible] that time. All turned out well.

Thomas put in the crop the following spring, but went away to work again.

A new binder was bought to harvest the crop. Everett, John and their Mother did the harvesting, while the girls tended the baby and the household chores. A step-sister, Melinda Meena, came to stay with them and teach school at Keystone about the time Thomas Earl started school. Later, she retired to Leader, Sask. where she passed away.

When dances were held in the school, Thomas played the violin. He was a keen gardener and Mary took great pride in her flowers inside and out.

Thomas returned home to take over the farming. Ruby went to work in the telephone office in Maymont. Jean worked for a time in A. E. Beans' store, but with more work being involved in the farm, she returned home to work there. John worked at home and Everett hired out with his Uncle Dick and George Holler when he could be spared at home.

Most of the grain was hauled in the winter time a distance of nine miles, so much walking was done behind the sleighs to keep from freezing. A load of wheat would be taken to the mill in Radisson and exchanged for flour and bran.

A herd of Holstein cattle was bought and the family started milking a number of cows by hand. The cream was taken, first by horse and boggy or sleigh and later by car, to Fielding and shipped by train to Saskatoon.

Prices and crops were poor and the work hard. As the family had married and taken their own homes, Thomas and Mary decided to move to St. Walburg to a semi-retirement. The land in Ontario was sold and a small farm bought and new buildings set up.

Thomas passed away from a heart attack in August, 1942. Mary made her home among the family and passed away while staying with Dell and Jim in Meadow Lake in December, 1944. Thomas Earl took over the farm.

Ruby Meena married Frank Coakey in 1918. They had a family of three boys and two girls. Harland, married, with a son, Kenneth and a daughter, Debra, farms at Rocky Mountain House.

Mervyn, who served in the 2nd World War as a dental technician is married, now retired, living in Calgary, but still works repairing dental machines.

Everett John, when five years old, was run over by a team and wagon and spent many weeks in the Notre Dame Hospital, under the care of Dr. Nunn and nurse Ella Biddle. With careful nursing and care, he was nursed back to good health. He is married and has two step-daughters and lives at Sylvan Lake, Alberta.

Connie is married to Elmer Buck, has a girl, Linda , (married), a son, Lyle (married) and a girl, Margo, at home in Lacombe, Alberta.

Zona went to work in Calgary as a young girl and married William David, has two girls, Sandra and Marilyn, and a boy, William.

Everett Meena started in farming for himself in the Grey School district. In 1932, he married Gladys Rogers and they rented a farm at Lilac. With poor crops and prices, after two years, they filed on a homestead at Goodsoil, where several people from the southern dust bowl were going. Land was rented at St. Walburg. With another two years of work without pay, they came back to Maymont by team and wagon for harvesting and the following spring brought their equipment back and rented land at Baljennie, but times had not improved. Dry years meant doing with

whatever you had and hoping the next year would be better. The Russian Thistle was the only crop that did well, if put up in the early stages, did make feed.

In the fall of 1938, land was rented south west of Ruddell, where there were kind and helpful neighbors. By 1940, times were improving and better prices were realized.

With the closing of Harringay School, a farm was bought west of Ruddell. A tractor and larger machinery was bought and the horses sold. A small dairy herd was started and a milk contract was taken, shipping milk by train from Ruddell to North Battleford. Later, it was taken by truck.

When bulk tanks had to be installed and a bulk tank truck was to deliver the milk, the dairy cattle were sold and replaced by beef cattle.

Poor health forced Everett to retire and the boys took over the farming, buying more land.

Everett and Gladys bought a house in North Battleford, where Gladys resides in the winter (on the farm in summer). Everett passed away in March, 1974 leaving a family of four boys and a girl.

Ronald married Laurienne Dore in 1966, having a family of two boys, Everett (married) and Grant, two girls, Lois and Marilyn. He is an engineer at the Saskatchewan Hospital and has acreage where Everett lives, having horses and cattle.

Ken, married Shirley Acaster in 1968, has a family of Colleen Caldwell, Sharon, Murray (married) and Lyle. He bought the former George Mohler Seed Farm and other land at Maymont.

Harold, married to Treva Miller in 1961, with a family of Gwen, Carla and Kurt, farms the land at Ruddell. Also bought the original homesteads of William and Alfred Andrew at Maymont.

Eileen, married Vernon Curry, a carpenter, in 1960, has a son, Terry and a daughter, Sheila. She is employed as Deputy Sheriff at the Court House in Battleford.

Glen, married to Barbara Sjoberg, with a girl, Shawna and a boy, Kelly, is a chartered accountant, a partner in Gasgoine, Swanson and Company. He also has farm land where he lives west of Battleford and farm land at Ruddell.

Jean Meena married Elmer Rogers in 1928 and they farmed north east of Maymont where they built a new home. With the depression years, land prices were too high to compare with the operating costs and payments, so like many others, they sold and moved north to take up a homestead at Goodsoil. They moved with covered wagons taking what possessions they could, Jean driving one team. They had one small daughter, Maxine, at this time. Times were very hard here and the work hard, as the land had to be cleared and broken with horses. After clearing the homestead, they sold it and moved back to Meadow Lake, where Elmer went trucking. This kept him away from home much of the time and Jean took over a store at Blue Bell for a time.

Three more girls were born into the family. Later, they retired in Calgary, where they still live.

Maxine is a stenographer, married to Ken Nelsen and works in Calgary.

Marlene, married to Harold Scott, has a family of three girls, Debra, Shirley and Lynn and a son, Darcy. They are in a hog enterprise at Bashaw, Alberta.

Myrna, before marrying Gil Burton, worked as a stenographer, now lives in Coquitlam, B.C., with a family of two girls, Lou and Deanna.

Merle, a daughter, died in infancy

John Meena married Ella Biddle and started farming in the Keystone district in 1929, but with the depression years moved to take a homestead at Goodsoil and to farm at Makwa and the Horse Head River district where they worked hard milking cows, etc., but gave up when times did not improve. They moved back to North Battleford in 1944 where he started working for Massey Harris, then turned to carpenter work with Miners Construction, building on the Capitol Theatre for 50 cents an hour.

Ella went back to nursing at the Notre Dame Hospital, as well as caring for the home and family of three girls, twins, Elaine and Evelyn and Ellajean.

With the closing of Miners Construction in North Battleford, John took work with the City Parks, where he worked until his death in September, 1960.

Ella is retired and living in North Battleford.

Elaine taught school before marrying David Charbin in 1964. She is living on a farm in the Prince area. They have a family of five boys, David, Douglas, Donald, Darryl, and Craig.

Evelyn worked at secretarial work before marrying Gordon Thompson, a teacher, in 1958. They have a family of Robert, Brian, Cathy and Sherry and live in Edmonton.

Ellajean married John Roman in 1955, who is employed in Burns Packing Plant in Calgary. Their family is a son, John and two girls, Debra and Dianne.

Adella Meena married James Spence in 1934. They first farmed at Bright Sand district. Times were hard, but with hardships, there were also some good times with good neighbors and social gatherings.

Selling their land here, they moved into Meadow Lake where Jim went into the water business, but when the sewer and water was installed, he sold out and bought land at Sincere Lake, north east of Meadow Lake. Times were better here, but with Dell's failing health, they sold the farm and retired to Taber, Alberta where Dell passed away in October, 1976. Jim is still there.

Thomas J., their son, married Isabelle Armstrong. He lives in Calgary, took a plumbers trade, worked as a pipefitter for the schools in Calgary and now inspects and orders repairs needed for same. They have a family of two sons, Ross and Guy and a daughter, Lynne, all at home.

Ruby, married to Gail Fitch, worked as a secretary in Calgary. With Gail receiving the dealership for

Canadian Tire, they moved to Taber where ■ has a tire and work shop. Two boys, Gary and Grant, are both in school.

Thomas E. Meena married Annie Spence in 1934, first farmed on the family farm, later moved to St. Walburg working with his Dad but with land getting harder to rent he sold the land they had, to run the livery barn and draying business in town

For a time they had a pool room and barber shop in Maidstone but again left this ■ move to a small orchard in Salmon Arm, B.C., while here he was repairing a roof when a shower of rain came up, ■ slipped off and injured his back, so sold this and went into the taxi business. After selling this they managed the Eisenhower Motel in Calgary until ill health of both brought an early retirement where they still live. Their family consisted ■ three boys, Earl, Armand and Wayne.

Earl married, had one daughter Cindy. He worked at different jobs. Mostly as a salesman, and passed away in 1974.

Armand worked for a short time with his Uncle Clarence Reid at Maymont, from here he went to work in Calgary and married Della in 1959, worked with sheet metal and roofing then as a roof inspector, lives in Edmonton with a family of three girls, Judy, Carol, and Karen all at home.

Wayne married to Bonnie MacIsaac in 1970, worked at different jobs but always kept busy, now works with building of Mobile Homes in Calgary. Has a son Gerald in school and a daughter Candy at home.

Although this story all appears gloomy we all had some good times too. Every one made good times the best we could, had berrypicking and other picnics, having basket lunches and games for all. School dances and house parties were held. All who could sing or play an instrument of any kind were always welcome.

Blankets were laid on the floor or the school desks and the small youngsters slept till the party was over sometimes at daybreak.

Baseball, football and basketball teams were made up in the school districts and competitions held. School Fairs also make a chance for each child to show their ability in ■ sorts ■ handicraft etc. 4-H clubs were formed and many exhibits and cattle were shown, by young folks, going to the Agricultural Fairs at Saskatoon and Regina, winning watches, trophies and scholarships.

The Andrew Melrose Family

submitted ■ Norman Melrose

The Andrew Melroses moved from Leeds Village, Quebec to Maymont in the spring ■ 1907. My father took a homestead north of town, where we lived while Dad was in the livery barn business. My brother Allan was a baby, and I went to Etonia School, and my first teacher was Mrs. Alec Brebon or (Miss Arkley). After the homestead duties were over, my dad bought land south of town. He built a small house, for us to live in, and carried on farming until 1916, when he decided to build a larger house a little farther north. Allan and I kept going to school. I stopped school to help farm when the First World War was on. My brother went on for more education, and had a job with the Grain Exchange in Winnipeg for years. Allan served in the Second World War. When he came back from the War, he married in Winnipeg and they had one child. Some years later Allan passed away, in 1968.

My father enjoyed mixed farming, and especially horses. Both my father and mother were active in the community, and in church work.

I married Grace Harkness in 1936, and I bought the farm, and farmed until 1972 when we sold to Murray Gray and moved to town.

We had three children. They are married now, and have children of their own. We are grandparents of nine children. Dr. Scratch was our family doctor for years.

Mr. and Mrs. Archie Melrose

Margaret Macdonald, a nurse from Welsford, New Brunswick, came west about 1909 and was one of the first nurses ■ City Hospital, Saskatoon. When her sister, Agnes, and brother-in-law, Fred McCorkle, were hospitalized with typhoid fever she looked after their home in Maymont. She married Archie Melrose in 1913 and they resided at Maymont for several years. Archie owned some valuable horses which he hired out, also did driving for the doctor and others. When the livery barn burned, he lost his horses, and as the livery trade was declining, tried to buy land ■ Maymont. None was available. He purchased a farm at Cheviot where they farmed until retirement to Saskatoon, about 1945. Archie passed away in 1955, at 76, and Margaret in 1975, at 92.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Melrose

submitted by Winnifred (Melrose) Dunn

William Norman Melrose was born in 1884 at Les Mesurier, Quebec. He married Annie Elizabeth Gray, born in 1888 in Portsmouth, England. The Melrose family were born of Irish parents, the father being in the Irish Army.

The family came from the east to Maymont in 1906. Andrew Melrose, Will Melrose and Andrew Reid had a livery barn known as Melrose Bros. and Reid. Will homesteaded west of town, sold it and bought the farm where Murray Gray now lives.

Nan Gray came from Binscarth, Manitoba, in approximately 1910. For a time she worked in Bean's Store. She married Will Melrose in 1912. There family were: Alice Eileen Jean born June 1913 died 1924; Muriel Gertrude born Sept. 1914; Winnifred Mary born Sept. 1916; Keith Gray born Oct. 20, 1920 died 1924; Velma Jean born Nov. 1925.; Doris Isabel born Feb. 1927; William James born May 1928.

We have fond memories of [redacted] Buhr, engineer for Turner's steam threshing outfit (later known as the big four Turner, A. Reid, A. Melrose, W. Melrose) chasing us around stooks, greasing our necks and ears. Every Saturday night we would [redacted] to get chocolate puff cookies from him.

The old gray mare, known to the community as "Fan" was our mode of transportation summer and winter with the jingling bells in winter. She was called by Mom her "Gray Dort".

Bell, our Shetland Pony, educated us all with a little four-wheeled buggy.

Dad died of polio in 1937, leaving Mother with five children. The funeral was held outside at our home, as we were all in quarantine and no one was allowed to visit.

Mom rented the land and moved into town (the old Kerr house) and started a maternity nursing home. She moved into North Battleford in 1946, took an apartment, nursed in the maternity ward of Notre Dame Hospital.

The Bob Merrell Family

My husband and I arrived in Maymont about November 1, 1920 shortly after our wedding in Winnipeg. We lived in Saskatoon about three months, where Mr. Merrell had gone to University and worked part-time for Pinder's Drugs. In the fall we heard of the Mawhinney Drug Store [redacted] Maymont and in November we became residents of Maymont and owners of the drugstore. At first we occupied two rooms in the hotel owned by Bill Sowden. Then Mr. and Mrs. Taylor decided to go to their farm and we were lucky enough to rent their house, next to the post office and opposite the station. We enjoyed our years in Maymont. The people were nice and friendly and sport-minded so we danced and skated and had baseball and hockey teams. The orchestra had Hazel Patterson or Ethelwyn Bean on the piano, Bruce Kerr and Ernie Sykes on violin and Bob Merrell on the banjo. We also had a tennis court one year and many of the mothers had a game in the afternoon while the babies slept in their buggies nearby.

There were three active churches in Maymont while we lived there, Anglican, United and Roman Catholic. Of course, each church had a Ladies Aid which worked to raise money for their church by way of handwork and cooking sales and suppers. Prairie towns are always busier than they look from the highway or passing train. They are good fun and a dandy place to live.

We started our family while in Maymont. Mary Louise arrived August 2, 1921 and William Lorne on April 11, 1923.

Dr Scratch was the doctor in Maymont then and he and my husband got on well together; and Doc drove many miles, summer and winter, to look after sick people. We couldn't have wished for a better doctor than he.

My husband's sister came to Maymont to start her teaching career, and lived with us for the few years she taught in Maymont. She was Mabel Merrell and eventually left to go [redacted] Normal School. We enjoyed having her and she liked Maymont and the other teachers who taught there.

At this time my mother died in Winnipeg [redacted] my young brother, Lewis Jackson, came and spent a couple of years with us before going back to Winnipeg when fourteen years old to be with his dad and brother.

About this time we moved to Prince Albert and Bob worked in Mitchell's Drug Store. They had a music department [redacted] their store [redacted] that time and Bob became interested [redacted] that. When [redacted] had a chance to [redacted] [redacted] Mason and Rische Piano Company in Edmonton in 1928 he took it and we have been here ever since. While in Prince Albert, our younger son, Bruce, was born on January 25, 1928.

When the war came, Bob enlisted in the R.C.A.F. as a pharmacist in the R.C.A.F. Hospital [redacted] Calgary. Lorne became a pilot in the R.C.A.F. in Eastern Canada and England.

During the war Mary married Harry Cochrane a navy lieutenant, went East for a time, then returned to Edmonton with their baby daughter, Bonnie. After Lorne came home [redacted] decided to go to B.C. and settled in Powell River where he married and had a family of two girls and a boy. He died suddenly in January, 1976. His family still live in Powell River.

My son Bruce, now lives in Etobicoke, Ontario with wife and son and the rest of his family is in B.C. and Alberta.

Bob came back from Calgary and began a drugstore which he operated for nineteen years before getting bone cancer from which [redacted] died in 1967.

Mary and Harry still live in Edmonton and at present, I live with them. Their family is scattered too — three in Edmonton with four children; one in Ottawa with two children; and one in Brandon, Manitoba with two children.

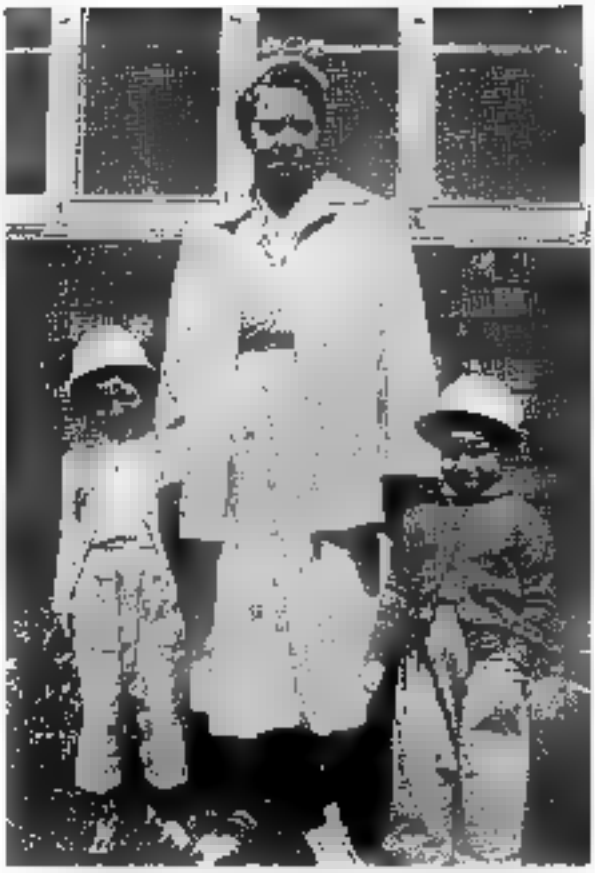
Mr. Merrell's family came originally from England and France via U.S.A. to Canada, where their large family have scattered. My parents originally came from Ireland and England, to the Ottawa Valley from where they live in Eastern and Western Canada. We both have a fair record of the family.

The Jack Miller Story

Jack Miller was born February 13, 1893, in Lucknow, Ontario. His father was a road builder, gravel contractor and farmer. They lived a few miles from Lucknow. There were five boys and two girls in the family — one of these boys was Samuel Miller — a long time resident of Maymont and Fielding District.

Jack grew up an average teenager, working piling wood for fifty-cents a day, while still going to school. There were always lots of chores — cows to be milked on the farm. He enjoyed playing ball with his friends.

Jack Miller.



Mrs. Jack Miller (Florence).

Their farm team was strong enough to beat the Lucknow High School boys which pleased them very much.

Sam had already gone west and established his home in Maymont area. He went home to see his family and urged Jack to come west to homestead; this was in 1911. The homestead Jack came to was about twenty-six miles north of Maymont. It meant a long haul for wheat, so many farmers travelled together; it took all day. They put their horses in the livery stable to rest and travelled back the next day. What a change from 1979's modern trucks!

Jack proved up that homestead, then traded it for one nearer Maymont, the SW2-42-12-W3. He worked for brother, Sam, and stayed winters up North, so it worked out better for him to be closer; also he had become interested in getting married, which he did, to Miss Florence Northcott; her father was a blacksmith, George Northcott. This event took place on March [illegible], 1914.

Their first son was born on April 5, 1916. His name was Allan. Another child, a wee daughter, was born during 1918 and she passed away with the 'flu epidemic'. Jack has nothing but praise for "Old Doc Scratch" who gave so much of his time to everyone during those trying days.

Jack remembers there were many trips over the river in the winter for wood; prairie fires had been hard on small bluffs.

Another son, Robert, was born on November 26, 1919. Laura was born September [illegible], 1921 and Margaret, November 26, 1926.

Jack never worked with oxen but used two five-horse outfits for several years. Ettie Andrew always threshed for them with a steam outfit, though one time he owned a small gas tractor, and Hummingbird Separator.

The children all went to Keystone School, it being north of their farm. Allan remembers going to school with a horse pulling a small stone boat with a box nailed on for him to sit on. He stayed with his grandparents to go to school at Neepawa as Keystone was too far away in winter time.

Jack was Master of the Orange Lodge for some five years. At one time there were ninety members in the Lodge. July 12 was Orange Day. There were many good Sports Days on Orange Day. They had their own Band, also.

Jack had the dubious honor of being president of the Maymont Telephone Company during the "dirty thirties; he remembers threatening phones to be cut off, if back taxes were not paid. People started working on setting in poles, etc., until their bills were paid.

Son, Bob, joined the army in the spring of 1941, then after a few months he switched to the airforce, being in it until the end of the War. He came home to farm; he married Mary Garnett of Fielding; they have three daughters and one son. They now live in Saskatoon.

Laura trained as a nurse in City Hospital nursing for several years. Then she went to Toronto to take training as a Public Health Nurse. She is now Mrs. Lloyd Sheppard of Barrie, Ontario. They also live in Grenada during the winter months. They have no family.

Margaret trained as a teacher. She taught in Bromley School and several others. She is now Mrs. Bill Hallet of Holden, Alberta, — a farmer's wife. They have three boys and one girl.

Allan is still at home with Jack.

Mrs. Miller passed away in April 1958; Jack remembers the children's growing up years to be the happiest times. They had good times together.

Allan and Jack live now in a suite of rooms uptown in Maymont. Jack celebrated his eighty-sixth birthday at a Come and Go Tea in his honour in the Senior Citizens' Centre.

History of the Sam Miller Family

S. R. Miller came from Bruce County, Ontario in 1903, with ten dollars in his pocket. He still had the ten dollars homestead filing fee and he and four others walked the seventy miles from Saskatoon to his homestead.

He married Edith Fitzell, who was also from Lucknow, Ontario. In 1917, they built their brick house, which is still standing and a landmark. When the No. 5 Highway went by the door, it was a stopping place for many motorists travelling from North Battleford to Saskatoon.

They raised a family of three boys and two girls. All remained in the communities of Fielding and Maymont and were engaged in farming.

Sam Miller's Harry S wins first heat — Maymont, June 21st, 1912.

Chester and Shirley Miller family. l. to r. — Gary and Marlene Swain with Craig and Kelli, Shirley and Chester, Glenda and Eugene Pidwerbesky, Fay, Dennis and Dean Hofer.

The oldest boy, Frank, is now living in Creston, B.C. and is married to Cozy Roller of Maymont.

The oldest daughter, Reta, is married to Bill Brown and is now residing in Radisson.

The second son, Walter, who was married to Olive Thompson, passed away suddenly in 1982.

The other daughter, May, who was married to Francis Ducharme passed away in 1977.

Chester, the youngest, ran the family farm, taking over in 1950 from his dad. He moved to Maymont in 1977; but still actively farms with his son-in-law and daughter, Garry and Marlene Swain.

Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Miller retired to Maymont in 1950, where Mr. Miller passed away in 1954 and Mrs. Miller in 1957.

During their life time they were active in many community projects, mostly all connected with the agriculture aspect and their church. Sam served for twenty years as reeve of the Rural Municipality of Mayfield. His hobby was horses and at one time he owned race horses and did a lot of racing in many parts of the province. Enclosed is a picture of races being run in Maymont in 1912.

Edith O. Mills

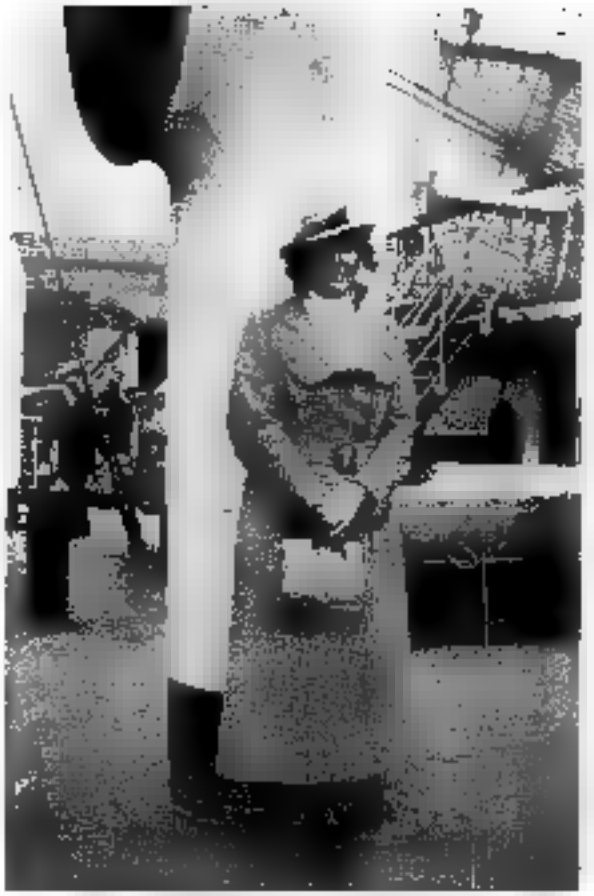
A Brief History of my Life in Canada

To begin with 1936 seemed to be a turning point in history.

The Duke of Windsor abdicated the British Throne in 1936.

The blueprints were drawn up for World War II in 1938, and I came to Canada in the spring of 1936.

There was much talk of war in 1934 and 1935. Hitler was blaming the Jews and saying they were in all the good positions and were wearing the silk shirts while the Germans were wearing the cotton. Many Jews were getting out of Germany and coming into the city of Manchester, England and some going to the U.S.A.



On the boat "Antonia". On my way to a new life and land. Where I thought nursing could be done and some was.

At that time I was a nurse attached to a nursing home in the city going out on call to the sick. With talk of so much trouble ahead, I decided I could nurse in Canada. I must say coming to Canada from a big commercial city felt like dropping down into the wilderness.

Well, I got married to Ernest Newton Anderson and inherited two young stepdaughters. Both did well in school and married happily.

I liked the farm for I was brought up on one. Mr. Anderson passed away in 1954.

I remarried in July 1956 to A. D. Mills and have been a widow now for many years.

My nephew, Marshall, came out to farm, also his mother.

The Milman's

submitted by Jean (Milman) Lanegraff

Grandpa Milman and three sons, Charles, Arthur and Harold came to Canada in 1903-04 from Thorne, Yorkshire, England. They landed at Montreal, and came by train to Saskatoon. It took approximately twenty-one days to come across on the boat, and a week to come to Saskatoon by train from Montreal.

A small house was built in Maymont in the area near where Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Thurlow had their houses. It was a low two or three room house.

Later Grandpa homesteaded the quarter section where Mr. and Mrs. John Thurlow lived. This land is approximately eight miles north and east of Maymont. Lionel Milman is farming this land now.

Our Dad, Charlie, did considerable land breaking for various people, including some for Melrose and Reid. All land breaking was done by oxen in those days. Dad was eighteen years old at the time. He took any job he could get to work at. Finally he was able to file on a homestead, Sec. 33, T [illegible], W 3rd nine miles north and east of Maymont. Uncle Arthur and Uncle Harold were able to obtain their homesteads northwest of Richard.

Grandpa Milman died at Maymont about 1934.

Dad, Uncle Arthur and Uncle Harold, harvested together for many years, using an old separator and a large Fairbanks-Morse engine.

Our Mom and one of Dad's sisters, Aunt Emily (Mrs. Williams), came over, leaving Liverpool in August or September the same year. Mom and Dad were married at Barlow Anglican Church in March, 1916. Mom sang a solo at her own wedding reception.

Dad's sailing ticket was a 'return' and that called for him to return to Canada shortly after the wedding. This was during the first World War when passage and tickets for civilians were at a premium.

Our Mom played the piano and the violin.

Dad liked farming, and farmed as many others did, with horses. Four or six horse outfits were used on most of the machinery. A John Deere tractor, an A R, which gradually took the place of the horses, is still at the farm and used occasionally by Ron or Dick.

Our Dad served as school Trustee on the Etonia School Board for some 22 or 23 years. He was also an original member of the Sask. Wheat Pool, hauling most of his grain to Richard, five miles away.

Seven children were born to Charles and Henrietta Milman. The oldest son, Dick, and the youngest son Ronald, still live on the original homestead.

Five of those children still survive. Stanley, the second boy of the family, died in Oct. 1978.

Dad was born Oct. 21st, 1885 and died March 3rd, 1975. Mom was born June 26th, 1894, and died Jan. 4th, 1974.

The Milman Story

Mr. Charles Senior came to Canada from Selby, Yorkshire England in 1901 with his two daughters Nellie and Connie and two sons Arthur and Harold and settled on a farm about eight miles north of Maymont, Sask.

Charlie Milman Junior, at that time a Bank Teller, attracted by the films shown by the Canadian Pacific

Railway about the many opportunities in Canada, decided he would come to Canada in 1903. He stopped off in Ontario where he was told there was lots of work. The job he got was hauling logs with a sleigh and team of horses. Working conditions were hard and the weather was very cold. Living conditions were much worse and food consisted ■ mainly potatoes. He

Charles J. Milman and Henrietta Mary Milman's passport pictures — March 22nd, 1916, one week after their wedding.

Dick Milman's 29½ pound fish caught at Meeting Lake.

walked thirty miles to get flour to make bannock. Not being accustomed to the cold and poor living conditions he became ill.

When he had recovered he went west and located on a farm near his father. He built a small house and worked his land with his first team, a team of oxen. He had a garden and grew enough vegetables to last the winter. He walked to Radisson for his mail and supplies.

In December 1915 he went to England to visit his sisters and a friend who was Postmistress ■ Barlow, Yorkshire. In March 1916 Henrietta Mary Wilson and Charlie decided to get married and go to Canada to live. He returned to Canada and his wife and sister Emily came over on the next boat. Charlie and Hettie had five children — Winnie Hawkes ■ Abbotsford, B.C., Dick farming near Maymont, Mary Brahs of New Berlin, New York, U.S.A., Stanley — deceased October 1978, Joan Lanegraffe ■ North Battleford, and Ronald of Maymont. Dr. Scratch was the only doctor in that area, and he spent many long cold nights and days travelling by cutter in the winter to care for his many patients scattered around the country. He was a very wonderful person, always willing to help and often never sent any bill for his services.

Nellie stayed with Mr. Milman Senior until she married Donald Schofield, who was Rector of All Saints, Maymont. He left the ministry a short time later to join the staff of the Technical School in Moose Jaw, Sask. Mr. Milman was unable to look after the farm on account of his age so moved into a small house in Maymont. He passed away in the spring of 1932.

Connie left to go teaching at Bellevue, Alberta. She later met and married John Thurlow. They returned to take over the farm formerly owned by Mr. Milman Senior. They lived there until John's death, then Connie moved to Maymont. She passed away ■ 1970.

Emily married Dick Williams. They lived near Fielding where he farmed and raised purebred Clydesdale horses. Dick was very fond of music, had a good singing voice and played the violin so was very popular in various ways around Fielding. They had a son Owen of Campbell River, B.C. and a daughter Ruth deceased March 1979. Emily passed away in May of 1988.

Arthur and Harold married and both farmed north of Richard, Sask. Arthur and Jennie had four sons Dean and Bob of Kamloops B.C., Arnold of Calgary, Alberta and Lionel farming near Richard, Harold and Pearl (McDonald) had a son Lloyd farming north of Richard and a daughter Marguerite of Calgary, Alberta.

Ronald Milman is farming north of Maymont. He met and married Bonnie Jeane Beach of Vancouver, B.C. They have three children Glen, Denise and Neil.

Dick is farming the Charles Milman Jr. homestead.

Hettie Milman was an active member of the A.C.W. of All Saints Anglican Church and played the organ for the Sunday Service for quite some time. She passed away January 4, 1974 and Charlie March 1975. They will both be dearly loved and remembered for the important part they played in the home, school and community. They suffered many hardships as did so many other immigrants but you only heard of the good times from them.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Moffat

Joe Moffat was born on the farm of the late Mr. and Mrs. William Cook of Maymont and moved with his parents in 1918 to a quarter section in the Bromley district north of Richard. Here he attended public school. At age 15 he had to take over the management of the farm as his dad had a serious illness. Active in both Boy Scouts and Farm Boys' Camp (as both leader and participant) — he gained much useful information from both. In 1941 he married Mary Welford of the Lilac district and they lived on the Bromley farm until 1948. A short experiment with Co-op farming left them at loose ends until they moved their new house, barn and other buildings to the former J. B. Bulmer homestead one-half mile east of Lilac (SE 4-43-13), in 1951. Here their two daughters — Marion and Jean — went to school until Grade 8 and then boarded in North Battleford to complete their Grade XII at N.B.C.I. Marion graduated from University of Saskatchewan with her Bachelor of Education in 1964 with great distinction and was the top student in the graduating class. She married Bill Doidge of North Battleford in 1965 and they live in Swift Current with two young sons. Jean took two years of the degree course in Nursing at the University of Saskatchewan before marrying Jim Harren of Penzance in 1964. They have a boy and a girl and currently live in Calgary.

Joe and Mary Moffat have taken their part in community affairs. Joe was a former councillor of the R.M. of Douglas, a trustee of Bromley School, a director of the Mayfield and Douglas Agricultural Society, on the United Church Board at Bromley and later at Ruddell, on Saskatchewan Wheat Pool Committee, being Secretary for over 20 years, a director on the Speers Co-op, and on the North Battleford Co-op Board for [redacted] years — all of them as president. Being a real handy man, Joe is "Mr. Fixit" for many neighbors in his well equipped shop and has been of assistance in minor veterinary cases.

Mary taught school at Redfield and Ruddell prior to her marriage and at Hoffnungsfeld (Borden) and Lilac during the teacher shortage. She has been a member of the Lilac Ladies' Guild since coming to the district and a member of Lilac's U.C.W. during its brief history. Now a life Member of the Richard Women's Institute she has served as Secretary at local, district, and provincial levels. She is currently (1979) 1st Vice-President of the Battlefords' District W.I.

Now strictly grain farmers, this couple have travelled extensively during the winter months and have shared their experiences on six continents through slide presentations.

Joe and Mary Moffat — 1979.

The Mohler Story

by Franklin and Betty Mohler

In February 1871 a young wife in Saxony, Germany, died giving birth to a son, the first and only child, George Moritz Mohler. His father was a Captain in the German army occupying Paris, during the Franco-Prussian War, at the time, but soon after he emigrated to the United States to get away from army life. The young wife's parents looked after the young child. He went to school from 7 a.m. to noon and worked in a garment factory in the afternoon. While his grandparents were good to him they prepared him to be as independent as possible and to develop initiative. There was a well equipped gym and a swimming pool at the school, and unless a doctor gave a certificate prohibiting it both were compulsory. This helped develop strong bodies and self-confidence. He was blessed with an excellent memory, and in later years often amazed his family with the information he remembered from the reading he had done in the excellent school library. In his later years at school he was assistant librarian and learned about the movements of people from Biblical days on, as well as geography. He was intensely interested in History. He read German translations of literature that he later re-read in England.

His father repeatedly asked for his son to come to the United States but the grandparents would not let him go until they felt he could look after himself. In 1883 his father lost hope of him coming and sold his farm in Nebraska and moved into the town of Hebron; he also re-married.

In the spring of 1885 his grandparents finally decided to let George go. He came over in a ship that was sail as well as steam. It was a very rough passage and a late spring in the U.S.A. The young boy landed in New York with bare trees and snow here and there. This dampened the spirits of the newcomer and there was less enthusiasm for the Statue of Liberty. The weather continued cool on the long train ride to Nebraska. It was very discouraging because he had

left an area where spring had come. His father's move may have been fortunate for the young immigrant as it gave him more time at school than he might have had if they had been on a farm with chores to do. Years later he was to find himself farming close to that teacher's brother for she was Miss Fry and her parents are in the Maymont cemetery. "It's a small world."

The new home life did not work out for young George and six months later he left home forever. He started working on farms mostly in a Scottish settlement. These people gathered frequently for sing songs and his love for good music was increased. There were also Irish and German settlements there and he noticed some of the prejudices that grew in some of the communities that were predominately of one nationality and he decided that he would settle in a district where there was a multinational population. This we believe he found at Maymont, an area where people of many different origins are all "CANADIANS".

In 1881 he bought a razor and an Elgin watch for $20. Wages were $15 a month. The watch still keeps perfect time.

In 1893 he went to the World's Fair in Chicago. He saw the famous Annie Oakley shoot down balloons from different positions including backwards and using a mirror. He shook hands with Buffalo Bill after seeing his show. He rode on the original ferris wheel which many said could never work. Its axle was over six feet in diameter and was hollow.

1899 George Mohler and three friends went to the fair at St. Louis. There was a large midway with many booths. One was a fortune teller. The friends decided to have their fortunes told and persuaded George to have his told, too. Reluctantly he agreed. The woman told him that his grandfather was dead, that she saw his spiritual body beside George. George protested, saying he had just had a letter a week before saying Grandfather was in good health. She then named the day that he had suddenly passed away. She also told him some other things that later came true. In due course George received a letter telling of his grandfather's death on the day she told him. So the Mohler family have a confirmed belief in the spiritual body.

In 1898-99, on the recommendation of the local bank manager, he was hired as manager of a large feedlot. The stockman bought 500 Texas longhorn steers and 1000 weanling pigs. In the spring as one steer was feeding at the bunk another upset it and broke its neck. George was there and bled it immediately so it made good meat. Otherwise all the livestock came through fat and healthy. On the evening of July 4, 1899 the railroad spotted enough cars to hold the 400 steers and 1000 hogs. They were hauled into town with the help of many neighbors. They all graded well and the stockman made a good deal of money. It was surprising that it was very many years before there were large feedlots in Saskatchewan.

About this time a friend of his was interested in a nice looking young lady. It was mutually agreed that he would come to her home on a certain day to meet the family. Much to the girl's embarrassment he arrived the day before and found her busy helping her mother prepare for the next day. He was very pleased. He then knew that she was industrious as well as beautiful!!

Dad then went to work in a mine near Denver, Colorado for the next four years. When he started mining there were many men from the Maritimes in Canada, who were working to pay off mortages, etc. Surprisingly many could not read and write. Dad helped by writing letters for them. At the end of his four years he and another man were the only miners that were not Welshmen.

While at the mine there were some incidents that seem worth recording. For some period of time a Mexican made the dynamite used for blasting at their particular mine. He made it close by, in a large kettle, heating the mixture which had to be constantly stirred by a helper using a wooden spoon. The Mexican sensed that the helper was becoming scared, so he warned him to continue stirring vigorously and not to try to run away for if it boiled over the blast would kill him before he could get far enough away. "He surred" but when it cooled down he left for good. This liquid was then mixed with sawdust and wrapped in waxed paper forming sticks. Since it freezes at 8 degrees Centigrade many of the miners would warm the sticks up by the heat of a candle. Often one could see the liquid in the paper cyclinder as you moved it back and forth. The mine was not far from Denver so over the years Dad got acquainted with many different people. One was a private money lender. One time when visiting him, it was pay day for Railroad men. The man suggested that he pretend reading the paper and listen. First the Conductor came in, repaid the loan, then borrowed it back again. Then the Trainman came in and did the same. Then a third man paid and borrowed same again. After they had gone the lender remarked, "None of them really needed to do this, but instead of waiting are trying to keep up with the Joneses. If they are willing to pay me the interest, I will continue to lend it to them". It appears that millions of people are and have been doing the same thing and in increasing numbers. When and how will it end?

Another acquaintance was the Warden of the Penitentiary. He invited Dad to make the rounds with him and taking a good look at the prisoners. When they got back to the office he asked for his comment. "They are all young good looking fellows". "Yes, they are. Their only fault was that they were not as smart as they thought they were!"

Early in the spring of 1904 Dad and five others came up to Canada. Township 43-12-W3 had been surveyed in 1903 and opened for homesteads. Dad, Frank Hutchison, Bill Schmidt, Oscar Brumbaugh and Henry

Christfield scouted around the area in a wagon with a team of horses. One horse was owned by Henry Christfield the other by Wm. Holmes. Dad decided to apply for N.E. 6, Oscar Brumbaugh the S.W. 6, and Bill Schmidt the N.W. 6. Oscar Brumbaugh the S.W. 6. When evening came they were somewhere near where Richard is now. They made camp under the stars. Some said they should hobble the horses at least for the night but Henry Christfield was sure his horse would not leave him. In the morning no horse was in sight. Wm. Holmes and Dad started walking straight east thinking that as they were bought in Southern they would likely head for home. They walked south of Redberry Lake until they reached the North Saskatchewan River at Petrofka Ferry and then south to the Elbow Crossing, and Lovell's ferry, but no sign of the horses. It was night by this time so they slept on the river bank. In the morning they heard a rooster crow across the river. They crossed the river and found some Doukabors living there who gave them breakfast. They posted a notice at the ferry offering a $12 reward for the horses and began the long walk to Battleford to file on their homesteads. Three weeks later a man named John Swain found the horses and got the reward.

On the way to Battleford Frank Hutchison developed blisters on both heels. Despite the pain when they broke, the men continued their journey. They crossed the river on a steam driven ferry. They were able to file on the homesteads of their choice as Battleford was the main Land Titles office and had not received entrees from other offices on that land. They were pleased that their great effort had paid off.

While in the United States, those many years, they had gone along with some of the traits we associate with the Americans, even today. They show a love for their flag, like bands and the stirring music they play, like fireworks and lots of noise in general. Canadians on the whole, do not appear as emotional, though their feelings may be just as strong. For example July 4, 1904 dawned clear and calm. Suddenly a loud shotgun blast came from one homestead on Section 6, then another, then two more. Then faintly they heard "God Save the King", by Alfred Hawkins, whose homestead was the N.W. of 32, where the present cemetery is.

The soil was good with plenty of moisture, but only 25 to 30 acres of each 160 acres was clear of brush and trees and those acres were hills where most of the stones were. Dad bought a one-furrow walking plow, with a breaker bottom which turned the virgin soil over flat, keeping the share and mouldboard smooth and shiny, especially so, in later years when plowing the fields for crops. Some areas, such as Rosetown area that was heavy clay, were bypassed till the disc plows were brought in because ordinary plows would not clean.

While the horses were eating and resting Dad would go out and dig brush and small trees with a grub hoe as well as stones with a crow-bar, to add a few more furrows to the field. Some of the stones were too large and had to be left to be dug out later. Many too large to be rolled had to be chained off, some with a scraper turned backwards, others with a stoneboat.

Until wells were dug they used water from the many "loughs". For household use this water had to be strained through a gunny-sack or cloth to get out "the wigglers" — second stage of the many mosquitoes that were present a good deal of the time to bother both man and beast. There were houses to build as well as stables. Most were built of logs, but many with sod. Frank Hutchison built his of sods, including the roof laid carefully over poles with some clay spread over top to help run off rain and melting snow. "The Soddies", were usually quite warm but darker because of the thick walls and generally leaked during heavy rains. Frank's house stood on the hill until the late 30's when we tore it down and farmed over the site.

In 1907 I was seeding summerfallow with a press drill. Coming to the end of the field west of the big slough I looked over the drag chains and disks to see if I had picked up some staples, which stopped the disks turning resulting in poor seeding. I found a bent spoon in one of the chains and threw it into the tractor tool box. Within two weeks, George Hutchison, who was named after my Dad, (I was named after his father) came to visit from Pennsylvania, U.S.A. While we were visiting I remembered the spoon. I got it and they recognized it as part of their mother's silver, which their sister, Mary, now owned. It was a strange coincidence that the site had been farmed over for 40 years but the spoon turned up two weeks before their first and only visit.

In the winter of 1904-05 there was very little snow and Dad hauled gravel and stones on the wagon for the first grain elevator at Maymont, "The Western". He picked some of the stones from fields that had been broken in 1904. One morning when he stopped to ask permission to pick stones the man invited him in for a cup of tea, he was only just up and the kettle was frozen on the stove. It took awhile for the wood fire to produce enough heat to boil the kettle.

Dad and my Uncle Henry hauled freight between Saskatoon, Battleford, Lloydminster and Edmonton. They travelled west of Saskatoon on the south side of the North Saskatchewan, the same route that the Barr colonists took. There was one very bad hazard — the steep banks of the Battle River — that necessitated rough-locking the hind wheels going down the bank, then in the river, getting down to take the chains off before climbing the other side. They did not have hip waders, just dried off as they continued.

In December, 1906 Dad married Anna Malmgren. J. C. Madill, the Presbyterian minister at Maymont officiated. In the spring of 1906-07 after sowing the crop he left his young bride on the homestead while he went with his father-in-law to build railroad grade.

That fall, 1908, their first child was born, a son,

Franklin, in the log homesteed house. Our Faithful Dr. Scratch assisted, as he did for hundreds more in his lifetime service to the large area from Maymont, including many across the river. In summer by ferry or in-between by basket on the ferry cable or over the ice when it got thick enough. None of his babies and others can say how much we appreciated his ability, knowledge and readiness to come to people's aid when needed. From the '18 flu, he only lost one patient, Rev. Garlick.

By 1911 Dad had the most acres to date ready to harvest. He was going to start cutting on Monday. Sunday night there was a terrific hail storm. There was terrible thunder and lightning besides the pounding hail. I can still remember it. We were glad to be alive! All the crop was a total loss. Dad tried to make some of it into feed but it wouldn't dry up enough so it all spoiled. As it was the first hail storm he hadn't any hail insurance. It was a terrible shock to lose such a promising crop. He did find some good friends who helped him get seed and feed. He borrowed money for other needs. I also saw my first coyote by one of Dad's spoiled stacks, it was likely catching mice.

I would also like to record one of our neighbor's experience in that storm. He was S. F. Johnston, familiarly known as "Sam on the Corner". He saw the awesome cloud approaching so went upstairs and on his knees prayed that the hail would not fall on his crop. The hail did lift over his fields then dropped causing further damage.

Since Dad's new home quarter was the S.W. of 6 and Bill Schmidt's the N.W. of 6 they had the west half transferred to Maymont S.D. from the Grey S.D. since Maymont was closer. Our parents took turns taking us to school till we were old enough to drive ourselves. Schmidt's school horse was "Old Bill" and ours "Major". We had many a race along the trail across the C.P.R., Section 31, that we hoped our parents didn't hear about.

During the latter part of the First World War able men were scarce. The Government gave bronze medals to boys old enough to help on the farms and leave school, calling them "Soldiers of the Soil". Those I remember were Frank Butterfield, Lyman Reid, Ed Schmidt, and Henry Wilmot. None went back to school, but Lyman Reid went to U. of S. to get his "Steam Papers" which he used to run steam engines boilers at oil well sites and buildings.

The original pattern of settlement in the Maymont District was small farms. To the East and West were larger farms in general. With more families we had a larger school population which continued for quite awhile making it possible to teach Grade 12. Later as the rural population dwindled, coupled with the location between Radisson and North Battleford, smaller schools closed and started coming to Maymont for High School. Then all grades came. With better all-season roads school buses started. Many small snow plough clubs were formed until eventually it (that is, snow plowing with a wing grader) was done by the R.M. majoring on the school bus routes, then other roads.

There was a transition from the one-furrow walking plow to a walking gang. One day when Dad and our neighbor, Bill Schmidt, were fall plowing, they met at the line fence. Dad asked him if he didn't get cold riding the plow with an iron seat. He replied, "I'd rather shiver like a dog than walk!" Before long Dad bought riding gangs too. After the switch from horse to tractor power there were 3-and 4-furrow plows. The make of the first walking gang was a "Paris". The first riding gangs were "Oliver and Great West". The next were two 14-inch "John Deeres". The first tractor was a 15-30 McCormick-Deering and International Harvestor three-furrow plow and packer. I drove that steel-wheel, single-plate clutch for 20 years before the first J.D.A. on rubber. We also found out the first day that the rubber-tired tractor would not pull the same implement through wet ground as the steel-tugged 22-36 Mc-D would.

In 1936 we bought our first I.H.C. One-Way which was used instead of plows. It did hundreds of acres of working the soil and seeding and fertilizing in one operation. Then came the discer which did thousands of acres well. Then preparing the soil with cultivator and rodweeder, then a double disc press drill in two sections that deposited the seed and phosphate fertilizer together for the greatest benefit. We sowed a half bushel to acre and reaped a forty bushel crop of Manitou this way.

The trees in this Parkland country presented quite a problem in the earlier years. Dad and Mr. Alfred Hawkins bought a grub machine. They anchored it to two or three stumps. They unrolled a cable with hook on the end, then after fastening around tree or trees, hitched a horse to a sweep on the drum winding away till the trees were where they piled them by hand to be burned later. While this method was hard work the roots usually came clean, compared to bulldozing when quite a bit of earth went into the piles with the roots, but it took less physical labor. Then we cut many acres of brushland with the axe after freeze-up or snow got too deep. After the brush piles were burned we plowed it with our first "Brush Plow with Wood Beam". We used twelve horses hitched six and six. Dad drove the lead six and I the rear besides putting the plow in the ground and taking it out with a lever. We plowed about fifty acres that way, before tractor use. Then we rented a pull brush cutter, which also required about six or seven men to move the brush out of the way before the next round. We exchanged quite a bit of this work with neighbors.

Then we bought a steel beam high-clearance plow and push brush cutter. Harold Curry, an excellent welder and mechanic, built a push brush piler which saved a lot of manpower. Then we had the trees and brush bulldozed into windrows and I then used the brush plow.

Frank Butterfield and I bought Ford Model T axles then cut them in half, sharpening one end. We made an A-frame of 6x8 fir timbers placing the axles about sixteen inches apart. We used it for over twenty years to work the roots out of the brush while plowing and levelling the soil. We picked all the roots by hand putting them in piles to burn or hauling them off on a hayrack. We saw in the Peace River Area where they were clearing thousands of acres of solid brushland with a root digger with points on a drum driven by tractor power take-off through a three-ton truck rear end to reduce the speed thus adding power to shake dirt off the roots and windrow them. There have also been many successful stone pickers built and used to clear land. They reduced time, expense and physical labor.

Dad was also a Maymont School Trustee from the 18's to the 30's. By that time a hall and second room had been added to the original school. Each was heated with a jacketed Waterbury coal-fed stove. An 18-inch square grill and pipe brought cool air into jacket cracks and spaces between the stones in the four-foot foundation wall. This kept cold air under the floor in winter, so we kept our feet off it, as much as possible, when sitting at double desks which we had in those earlier years. The outdoor toilets were back along the west fence. The snow built up in huge drifts from the open field west of the school yard and also often inside those old toilet buildings. Many young children became ill from not going there. Dad suggested a better, heated building should be provided for health and comfort sake. One trustee said, "All we had back East was a pole in the bush". Anyway a new school was built grudgingly. When a third room was needed the basement in the then Presbyterian Church was used till 1925 when the two old rooms were moved to near the present school site. A third room was added over a full basement and a large furnace to heat it all. There were pail-a-day toilets put in the basement, too, which was a great change for the better. Also with the addition of a chemistry room Grade Twelve has been taught ever since.

We were proud of our "Reach for the Top" team which consisted of Leslie Brehon, Audrey Ferris, Brian Spence and Linda Voegeli. Although they were in grades ten, eleven and twelve they competed against teams of grade twelves and made a commendable showing in both knowledge and sportsmanship. When they reached the finals against Aden-Bowman Collegiate which were televised in the new Auditorium in Saskatoon many of us from Maymont were there to support them in spirit.

Dad was Rural Municipal Councillor for Division Four in the 30's and 38's. The latter years were very trying times for everyone. It was much worse on the prairies in the south of the province. Finally many left taking just what they could get on a hayrack or box. When they got to the parkland areas in the North they had no experience or equipment to deal with clearing this brushland. Some soil was the gray-wooded variety and needed fertilizer that they didn't have money to pay for. There were also some urban people transported there who had no idea what to do. Also in those early days practically every farmer had some chickens, pigs and cattle. This also meant they had to have a lot of fences. Some were not looked after very well so cattle often got out into neighbors' crops, which was unfortunate all around. Strangely looking back most of the bluffs were cleared to the fence lines, but not on the roadside. The snow naturally drifted off the clear fields and piled onto the roads through the fringe. Finally in co-operation with councillor S.A. Johnston for Division Four we took down our fence on the north and south side of our road running west a half mile. The R.M. Cateloser pushed the brush and trees back about fifty feet. Then I plowed and worked it down and seeded it. This was under the main long distance line, as well as a local pair of lines. We found it was considerably better than before but the brush was not pushed back quite far enough. Then we got together and planted four ¼ miles of caragana back in the fields along what was later to become a grid road running north from the Maymont Cemetery. It has proved to be of great value in keeping the snow off that road. There had been further plantings further north and along other roads. Also in areas such as Conquest, hundreds of miles of hedges running north and south opposite our prevailing east and west winds. It keeps the wind off the ground, thus preserving enough moisture to produce profitable second crops, and stops soil drifting which was very serious before and still is on some land without the field hedges. Later it has been found that if the road grade is gradually sloped into a broad shallow ditch and also, very important, the ditch to the field is gradually sloped, the wind that usually blows during a snow storm will keep the road fairly clear for free. Hurrah!

In the earlier years, and they lasted a long time for some housewives, there were few aids in keeping food for any length of time. One exception was meat that was salted heavily or smoked or canned in sealers (some call it bottling) generally done under pressure.

Then we had a "Beef Ring" that lasted over forty years. We all took turns taking a good steer to the Beef Ring butcher on Thursday so it would be starved till Friday evening when it was killed and hung till Saturday morning. Then it was cut up in whole or half shares in a planned manner so each got a different piece each Saturday. For most of the years the butcher was Tom Sawyer who lived four miles north of town. Sometimes when I went to pick up our meat I rode horseback and tied the meat in the nice clean sack onto the horn of the saddle. One time on the way home I stopped at Giffard's farm, which was the section just north of our land (now owned by Walter Sadowsky). They had a large slough south-west of their buildings and a short flat-bottomed boat on it. Commeta and I went for a boat ride and somehow upset the boat.

Maryadelle was very patient with us. She lent me some of her husbands clothes for me to ride home with. To keep the meat and other things cool, we put up ice from the North Saskatchewan River for 27 years, hauling it up the 500 foot slope that faced south and often required carrying snow to put on the winding road to the top where there was usually plenty of snow still. Only one year, 1922, was it hauled in wagons. The last three years we hauled it from new dugouts. The last time it was only a few yards from our home dugout to the ice house. Then since we had 110-220 Saskatchewan Power we bought a refrigerator. On June 7, I took the ice saw and tongs to the "Western Development Museum in North Battleford. I also took Dad's three-horse slip that he used to help build railroad grades and move earth around the farm and in the present Maymont Cemetery sometime in the early years.

This was the male side of the story; in the meantime:

On November 30, 1883 in North Loupe, Nebraska, Anna Amanda Malmgren was born. Her parents had emigrated from Sweden earlier. She was the first of a family of six children to be born to them. School days came and went and she taught school until her parents decided to move the family to Canada. Her father Frederick O. Malmgren filed on a homestead east of Richard (It was later part of Watt Smith's farm). In September, 1903 the family arrived. Anna drove a team of horses on a democrat from Wyoming. They forded rivers when necessary.

Through the years she talked very little about these early years.

While the family lived on the homestead at Richard she often rode or drove a horse to Great Bend post office north of Radisson. During the summers of 1904 and 05 she stayed with her youngest sister and brother on the homestead while her mother went with her husband to cook for the crew. Mr. Malmgren was a contractor and built railroad grade in different places. Those known to us are Mansville, Alberta; near Manitou Lake (south of Marsden); Bruderheim and Asquith. The work was done with horse teams moving the earth. Quite often the route was through fairly level, wet low-lying areas which held up the work. One idea he developed was to cut a mower cutting-bar to three feet in length and mow the brush off to allow the ground to dry. One year as the crew was moving home Grandma Malmgren strapped boards to her feet to walk across the thin ice of the river south of Maymont and then walked the fourteen miles north to get home to the family while the men went to the railroad bridge at CeePee to cross.

Their first home was built of sod.

The story was told that one day after Geo. Mohler arrived in the Richard area he saw a young girl in a boat on a large slough and said to his friend, "There's the girl I'm going to marry." She later saw him standing on the wharf and to punish him for his audacity she pushed him into the water. Apparently the ducking didn't discourage him as they were married in December, 1905 and lived on his homestead N.E. 6-42-[illegible] W3 where their first two children were born.

In 1908 the Brumbaughs decided to move back to the States (they later returned to Saskatchewan) and the Mohlers bought their homestead and moved to the S.W. 6. There Mildred and Marguerite were born and there they lived for almost forty years.

They built up the farm and landscaped the yard. Mother did most of the work in the yard as well as beautifying the house herself, for the men were busy with the farm work. If she wanted a cupboard she built it. If a wall needed paint or paper she did it. The yard became a beauty spot with well-trimmed lawn, shade trees, ornamental shrubs, perennials and of course a large vegetable garden all fenced to keep out the chickens.

An amusing incident when one of the babies was born; as was usual then, the new mother stayed in bed for quite a few days after delivery. This meant that help was needed for some time. On one occasion Bessie Cook (later to become Mrs. David McKay) was helping. One day she played a trick on Harold Coombs. She baked a wonderful looking pie — filled with potato peelings and handed it to him when he was ready for dessert. He had the last laugh. He took a piece and ate it without a word or change of expression, much to Bessie's surprise.

[illegible] Anna Mohler's time was not spent in the home. She was a charter member of the Maymont Homemakers Club (now the Women's Institute), was its first secretary, and went to many district and provincial conventions. In later years she was given a life membership and a few years ago an award of merit. She helped with Homecraft and Farm Girls' Camp, taught young girls how to sew as well as sewing for her own family. She belonged to the W.M.S. and Ladies' Aid and was made charter life member of the U.C.W. in recognition of her work in them. She was an ardent member of the quilters group and worked with the ladies' committee of the Memorial Hall for many years. When a group of ladies took a class in weaving in the 30's she was among them and created beautiful work on her loom. Until she was in her 90's she enjoyed doing embroidery work. While she could knit and crochet, she did not enjoy it like embroidery work. So all of these activities were of interest to her in her retirement.

In March, 1961 they were given a cruel blow when their farm home burned. Thanks to the quick response of friends and neighbors to a fire alarm via a general ring by Mrs. Cassidy many men were soon there in spite of the cold northeast wind. They saved most of the furniture from the downstairs but all their clothes and bedroom furniture were gone. It must have been a devastating experience for they were not "young" and many treasures were lost. Living in a granary and

cooking for carpenters as well as family would tax the strength of most people to the limit but she carried on.

In 1947 when Franklin married they built a bungalow in Maymont to retire there but George never retired. His heart was on the farm and for the next few years he spent most of his time helping there during spring, summer and fall. When the snow came he was content to stay in town. At age 88 he would walk the one and a half miles to the farm, if he was not fetched "early enough" in the morning. "I can't do a day's work if you don't fetch me until 9 o'clock," so trying to cut his hours by fetching him late didn't work.

Then in February, 1956 he suffered a massive stroke. The family came home and were with him for five days when he quietly slipped away. He had always said when he heard of someone going quickly, "That is the way to go," and as the years went by we agreed. We were thankful Dr. Scratch was there to care for him.

His wife continued to live in their home until she was well into her eightieth year. In Maymont as on the farm she had made the yard a beauty spot with trees, lawn and flowers and she cared for them until her daughters persuaded her to move to the Centennial Lodge, Rosetown in 1971. It was hard to leave her home but she was happy to be near her two oldest daughters and for six years made herself a good life there. In December, 1977 failing health made it necessary for her to have more care than the Centennial Lodge could give so she moved to River Heights Lodge, North Battleford where she has lived since and celebrated her ninety-fifth birthday there in 1978. The pioneers had to be hardy to survive the hardships they faced and they continue to take each day as it comes.

What of the family?

Alice, Mildred and Marguerite all trained to be teachers. They have sent their stories to this project.

Franklin carried on the farming until retiring in 1973.

With the exception of (a) a short course at the University in farm mechanics in 1928 (b) a brief period at Dundurn with the Battleford and Prince Albert volunteers (c) a winter at an Abitibi pulp camp in Ontario in 1941 (d) a winter at Britannia Beach copper mine in 1942, he was farming. He was, is and I suppose will continue to be, active in many organizations.

Franklin says he is grateful to his parents and family for making it possible for him to join various organizations where he has been able to meet so many interesting people. From the local and district organizations he went on to wider fields. The late J. D. Blacklock and N. W. Symonds both encouraged him to join the Agriculture Society and through it attend Farm Week at the University. There he got interested in the Field Husbandry Association. As a registered seed grower he went to the Saskatchewan branch meeting of that organization. So through the years he was a director then president of, first the Field Husbandry and then the Saskatchewan Branch of the Canadian Seed Growers Association. From there he became one of two Saskatchewan directors of the C.S.G.A. and through the Saskatchewan and Canadian Seed Growers he was enabled to visit most provinces in Canada and met many people.

Locally he was actively involved in the work of the United Church for forty-five years. He is still on the manse committee and represents the Presbytery on the Chaplaincy committee. He is a loyal member of the Masonic Lodge, as well as being involved with other organizations. A year ago he enrolled in an oil painting class through the Community College and has enjoyed trying his hand at that.

In November, 1947 he married Betty Gurney of Ruddell, and they lived on the farm. See the Gurney story for their daughter's story.

In 1973 they sold the farm to Ken and Shirley Meens and retired to live in a mobile home in Maymont.

Retirement does not mean lack of activity. The days pass quickly in a maze of activities. The pace, of necessity, is slower and the days do not start as early as in former years, but there are still many things of interest waiting to be done.

Registered Seed Production

written by Betty Mohler

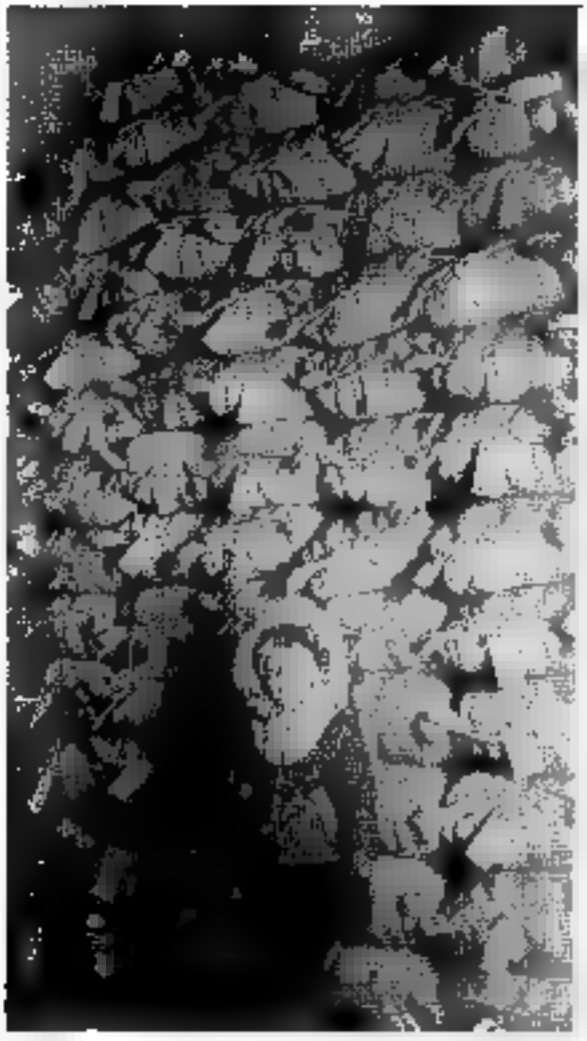
1930 was the first year the Mohlers grew registered seed. Because of the drop in prices it was not a paying project but they continued to grow registered seed from then on.

Growing registered seed and cleaning it for market is a painstaking business. Anyone who has not been involved with it does not know the extra work that is needed. One must be a perfectionist by nature and derive satisfaction from a job well done.

First the fields must be weed-free. The machinery must be free of all other kinds of grain. If a few kernels of wheat are in the drill when you start to sow barley, for instance, you will find yourself walking through that field pulling wheat out of it in the summer.

Before harvest an inspector from the Plant Products Division, Department of Agriculture, inspects each field of seed being offered for registration or certification. There must be isolation from other fields; there must be few, if any, weeds or other grain; there must NOT be any other variety of the same grain. When it has passed inspection the department issues a crop certificate.

At harvest time care has to be taken not to carry grain of one kind into another field on the swather or combine. Every nook and cranny of the combine and bins was cleaned, using the vacuum cleaner. As the grain was combined a handful was taken from each load and put in a pail to have a representative sample of grain from each field. A sample of this went to Plant



Jean Mohler and stack of sacks of sealed grain, 1958.

Products for germination test. Seed must grow well, not just sprout, but produce healthy plants.

■ 1958 Franklin built a seed cleaning plant on the farm, with elevated bins, dust-free electric motors, augers and two and sometimes three cleaners. Compared to the way they had cleaned seed for the years before it was a speedy process; compared to many of the big seed growers it was small. The seed was sacked for a great number of years. An inspector came from Plant Products, this time probing each sack to get a sample which ■ looked over very carefully. When it reached the required standard he printed a tag which went on each sack with a seal. So long ■ this seal is not broken the customer knows the grain meets the required standard. ■ later years bulk certified seed was permitted, enabling the customer to get it in his truck without sacks. It could not be re-registered as the sealed could. A seed grower would buy the sealed grain.

Cleaning plant ■ Mohler yard.

To start the cycle the seed grower has a small quantity of seed from a plant breeder. This is sown in rows in one ■ one and a half acre plots. It is carefully rogued (i.e. you weed it and walk through it looking for any heads that are not true to type). These plants must be pulled. It took many hours to tend this small plot.

Franklin and his father grew wheat, oats and barley for seed, keeping up with the changes in varieties over the forty-three years.

■ 1949 George Mohler was given the "Robertson Associate" by the C.S.G.A. This is an award given to only a few growers in Canada each year in recognition that they "Have fulfilled with conspicious fidelity and success his obligations as a member of this Association". ■ 1959 Franklin received the same honour and he wears his button with pride.

This is an example ■ how much work may ■ involved. In 1969 we saw barley in a wheat field. After four people had walked the field for some time we realized that the barley plants we were pulling were ■ clusters in paths running to an opening in the trees. We decided that deer had been feeding in barley swaths on the north side of the road during the winter (that was the year the rains came in the fall and much crop was out over winter). Heads of barley must have stuck in their hooves and fallen off as they crossed the field to shelter.

Franklin and has father never seemed ■ mind the extra time they spent on cleaning the machinery and bins. They derived satisfaction from knowing that good, clean seed means better crops; uniform variety means better quality grain; and the more good quality grain the country produces for export the better Canada's reputation in the world markets. I am sure this must be the philosophy of seed growers everywhere; certainly there is not enough difference financially to pay for all the work.

Personally, I am far from being a perfectionist and my patience would have been short lived.

The Sidney Moore Family

submitted by Vi (Moore) McIntyre

My Dad, Major Sidney Moore, arrived in Canada from Pontypridd, South Wales, in 1912, just after the

Titanic went down. He went to work for a farmer in the Eagle Hills district. My Mother, Bessie Moore and I arrived in Sept. 1912. They moved to the John Parkinson farm for awhile. My sister, Ivy, was born in Saltcoats in April, 1915. They then moved to the Ruddell district and farmed for George Robinson until Dad joined the army in 1916 and left for overseas.

My mother, Ivy and I followed soon after and arrived at my grandmother's home in South Wales.

My Dad was wounded in the war and as soon as he was well enough they came back to Canada. They farmed in the Ruddell district until 1939, then moved to a house in Ruddell. The crops were never very good while they farmed.

In 1940, during the second World War, he joined the Reserve Army and moved to Prince Albert for a time. He then moved to North Battleford where he worked in the Unemployment Office until 1963, when he had to retire because of a bad heart condition. He loved golf, and made two holes in one the year before he passed away, in 1964.

My Mother is ninety years old and lives in the River Heights Lodge in North Battleford.

Mr. and Mrs. John Morgan
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Davidson

by Irene (Davidson) Galloway

When the John Morgan family came out from England to settle in the Spinney Hill District, it was to a very different life!

Joe had been a police detective working with Scotland Yard and was inexperienced at farming. But many were the same way — with a lot of study, with help from neighbours and a lot of ingenuity they stuck with it; With his wife, Angie, sons, Walter and John and daughters, Margaret (Daisy) and Gwen, John started out in a sod shack at least for the first year. That spring when they looked in on Gwen (four months old on arrival) they found a garter snake curled up on her neck — a nice warm spot!

Joe and Daisy Davidson.

Later they built a log cabin and they made tools and utensils. Having little money for toys they would use string from groceries to crotchet dolls' clothes whittle small animals and use twigs and string for the "fences". There was often logs and boards floating down the river which were well utilized.

It was a lovely spot for their homestead, tucked in at the foot of hills in the fork between where the creek ran into the river, and surrounded by trees, shrubs and wild flowers. Not too far away were the Saskatoons, pincherries, chokecherries, hi-bush cranberries and wild raspberries — for jam and jelly — and wild fowl to grace the table.

It was not an easy life, but along with the hardships were sing-songs around the piano with Angie playing (as she occasionally played at the church) and Johnnie on the violin. There were picnics — and a telegraph along the fence wire that the boys had fixed up. There was photography with the snaps developed at home — and artistically arranged in paper cut out frames.

When Daisy was in her twenties a jaunty young bachelor moved into the house across the river; where the new C.N.R. pumphouse was built — and that was it! Joseph Roy Davidson had come from Ontario. He was born at Oilsprings, Ontario. He had a sister, Annie, in Bothwell and his dad stayed in Oilsprings. Joe left home very young and had been on merchant boats out of Vancouver. He had travelled with cargoes as far as the Orient. But now it was time to settle down. So Joe and Daisy married in 1924.

It was a busy life for both with cows, chickens, huge garden (watered by water from pipelines) and a C.P.R. farm.

Even then the piped water was brought into the house — hot and cold running water. Later a wind-jammer gave electricity for lights — This in the Thirties.

That thick cream from Jenny, the Jersey, and Susie, the Holstein, was a real treat with the strawberries and raspberries.

But it was quite a distance from town and even neighbors were one and a half miles away — a far distance to walk — all uphill. At times in the long winter, Daisy didn't leave for four to four and one-half months. There was nothing easy about that.

At that time in summer there were visitors — friends and neighbours. Some to get fresh water — some to share berries — grown and wild — most right in the yard.

Eventually a daughter, Irene, arrived — delivered at home by Dr. Scratch and Mrs McLennan in the middle of winter!!!

Almost all of these years until he retired, Joe supplied Maymont with their drinking water. No one ever thanked Joe really but perhaps they didn't even know. Mr. Fred Porter, the station agent, would phone down and say, "Getting low, Joe", and these times between filling the C.N.R. water tower, he would start

the engine for a half to one hour and fill the pipes up and Maymont would have water. Most people were not even aware where their good water came from. When asked one person said, "Well, a well of course." But there were problems with well water — so behind the scenes was a real asset. It really did keep the town.

I remember my dad getting typhoid fever and Mrs. Elsie Young coming over to nurse him.

After that a chlorine gas machine was installed in the pumphouse. One time it sprung a leak. There were men there with gas masks to fix it and two kittens died from the poisoning — so it was pretty dangerous.

I also remember during the war having guards pacing on top of the pumphouse all night, as it was an essential service to keep trains running.

Then I remember some kids at school saying my dad sure drove fast over the Melrose Hill!!! It was 40 M.P.H. but he did always get a real pleasure out of his car.

And I remember catching fish — Goldeye by fishing rod, and Pike or Pickerel by night-line — one was thirty some inches long and weighed six and one-quarter pounds. They did taste good — with a desert of homemade icecream!

And I remember when the C.N.R. automated the pumphouse to an electric pump. The old engine lay in pieces on the side of the [redacted] and it nearly broke my dad's heart. He dearly loved that engine. Anyone who relieved him for holidays had an easy time keeping it going as it was (I believe) the second largest semi-diesel pump in Canada.

Then the folks retired to Maymont and set about with composting and plain old elbow grease to make a most lovely yard. Mostly the yard and the plants were my mom's love. They also joined into the community activities. My dad enjoyed people, Mom was busy with Homemakers (W.I.), Anglican Ladies and Hall and Quilting.

So many people in this area contributed so much. When I was young Mrs. Mabler, and Mrs. Johnston, Mrs. Butterfield, helped teach sewing and embroidery so Jean Steele, Dorothy Gray, and I got Grand Aggregate at the North Battleford Fair (Homecraft) and Jean and Dorothy the top marks.

So many people influence us, in good ways, Doc. Scratch, the Myers, the Armstrongs, in the teens — and even Jack Whittacker, Jack Wong and [redacted] Buhr who just liked us as kids. How important that was!

My folks had an awful [redacted] friends — the fallout has come back to me in so many ways.

Since the pumphouse was so far from town I had to board "uptown" to go to school. In grade I staying with the Knights and later with Uncle Mike and Aunt Molly Burns — How lucky we were!

I also remember the Christmas concerts — the excitement and the fear!

The tragedies — Mom's brother, John Morgan, would swim across the river and pull his boat. But one Sunday at a picnic he was drowned. It was meant to be as he did love the river.

My dad particularly enjoyed people and my mom especially understood nature. Between them they didn't have too much formal education but they had a lot of knowledge and down to earth sense.

And me — Irene — went on as so many did then to train in City Hospital — married a druggist and lived in Rockglen and Central Butte. Joe and Daisy had two grandsons, Scott, now a pharmacist in Thunder Bay and Keith, working in Calgary with plans to go to SAIT (Southern Alberta Institute of Technology) in Calgary taking electronics.

Irene lives in Saskatoon now and is at present working part-time in a Health Food Store, things come full circle — as I learned from my mom about natural foods.

It was a good district to grow up in and I especially appreciate those lovely river hills.

Memories of Bill Pickford and Mike Hutt

by Irene Galloway

There are a couple of bachelor neighbors that I would like to mention. Bill Pickford lived just up the road from where Bob and Vera Gray lived. I was quite small but I remember I was impressed with the neatness of the yard. He always used to tell us he was related to Mary Pickford, the actress. He was probably 'pulling my leg', but a wee portion of my mind still says — I wonder if he might have been?

I also remember Mike Hutt — such a nice, nice gentleman, rather quiet and shy a round face with a gentle smile—.

He lived on top of the river hills, half way between the pumphouse and the south (Johnston) ferry. He would walk over the hills and come to our place for supper and a visit every so often — Usually when the moon was full so the walking was easier. Dad would say, on a bright eve, 'I bet Mike will be over tonight! I would sit on his knee and admire an opal stick-pin he wore. He even gave it to me, and the special thing about it was the gold it was set in. He had got it by panning for it himself in the gold rush. (Klondyke, I'm assuming).

When we went to visit him, [redacted] had a real cuckoo clock that seemed pretty special to him. I suppose now it may have come from the old country. He told my mom where to find the wild cacti growing on the hills. He had a relation or two that were contacted after his death but I believe [redacted] was pretty much alone.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Mylrea Family History

I am Ivy Mylrea Elling, daughter [redacted] Edward and Jessie Mylrea. My dad and mother had thirteen children. They lost two girls when they were infants. They raised eleven, six girls and five boys. I made the even dozen. I had a brother Fred born two years after

me. We were all born in London, England. My father and his father before him were organ builders. My dad had charge of the Westminster Abbey for thirty-five years and worked on all the Royal pianos and organs. I think the first abbey organ was built in the thirteenth century. Dad put in two manuals and two or three new pipes. I understand they are still using the pipes but

Mrs. Mylrea — 1917.

Frank Basil Mylrea, 1884-1943.

have a new console. Mother kept a maid at this time. My parents thought that London was no place to raise children, so they moved to Canada, about 1904. We travelled to Canada by ship. That took thirteen days because we were held up by fog. We sailed into Halifax, from there to Manitoba, near Winnipeg. There my older brothers and sisters got jobs on different farms to learn everything they could about life on a farm.

My parents stayed in Manitoba for about one year. They left Ed, Reg, Phil, Ruby (now called Mona) and Elsie in Manitoba, to be sent for later. Dad, Mother, Bass, Doris, Corrie, Fred and I went to Saskatoon. There Dad and Bass left us to go file on a homestead. We lived in a house near the river. All I can remember are the coyotes howling and the thunder storms. It seemed that Dad and Bass were gone so long. Finally Bass came and said they had found a farm. Dad had stayed there to dig a well, etc. Bass soon put all things right. He bought a cow, chickens and other farm needs. We started out in a covered wagon with the cow tied behind and some chickens in a coop. I don't remember how long it took us to go the one hundred fifty miles, but I do remember in late afternoon Bass would tell us to listen for frogs and this meant water, where we would spend the night. Bass would put hobbles on the horses so they wouldn't go too far. We'd start out early the next morning. Finally we got to where Dad was living in a tent. He had dug the well, but it was so full of alkali that we couldn't use it. There was a ravine with a nice little stream and also a spring on the quarter section they had filed for Phil. They had a quarter section for Dad and a quarter for Ed. Reg and Bass got a quarter section each somewhere north of our place. I remember going down to the stream for water and always expecting some wild animal to get us.

We soon started to build the sod house on NE 10-42-14. When they had the walls up and started on the roof (just the poles) Mother moved us younger ones into the sod house. That night there was a big thunder storm and rain. We got soaking wet. Dad and Bass were staying in the tent and came after us. Dad carried me and was very near the well. Luckily for us there was a flash of lightning and we were saved from falling in the well. The next morning was a beautiful sunshiny day. We had clothes hanging everywhere to dry. Mr. Dillen, a bachelor, came over to see if we were alright.

They had just put the Indians on the reservation. I remember there were many old bones of wild animals all around. We were twenty-five miles from North Battleford and as Bass and Dad were anxious to get to work on the fields, they would only go to the store when we were out of everything, as it took two days to go. Mother would cook wheat for us and we had the cow. Mrs. Haggas lived near us. She lived with her son, Purcie. Her daughter married Mr. Hill.

One day we saw a lot of men working, they were

building the railroad. They started a post office about three miles from us. I don't remember the man's name, but we all liked him. He had candy and things in barrels, and would give us some.

Dad sent for Phil, Reg and Elsie. Ed and Mona stayed in Manitoba a while longer. They came by train and brought a pedigree Collie named Lady Louise. We were so proud and happy with her. It seemed like no time at all before people started to move into town and around us. They soon had stores and a hotel and a school. Dad and our closer neighbors started a school about two miles from us. They named the school Harringay after a street in England. We also named our farm High Gate after the street our home was on in England. We went to school with the neighbor children. I don't remember all their names. There was Mary Reikie, Herb Mabey and his brother. The school was near Dilleau house and during our lunch hour we used to go and visit him. We felt bad when he moved away. He left a fine collection of butterflies which he spent most of his time collecting. One day as he was out after butterflies down the big ravine near our house, he saw something big and brown. Thinking it was an old rusty stove he went over to investigate and found it was a live bear. He came to our house out of breath.

My sisters Doris and Corrie went with my brothers to the river to get wood. Doris and Corrie got tired of waiting so they started home. On the way they saw a big animal and two small ones. They thought at first that they were large gophers, but as they got nearer they found out it was a mother bear and her cubs. One day Doris came into the house and said there was a cat with wings in the ravine. It turned out to be an owl. Dad saw a little black animal with a white stripe and thought it would make a fine fur piece for Mother, but the skunk got him first.

They used to take a load of wheat to Battleford to be ground into flour. One day we went to the river to pick berries. We saw bear tracks, but went on picking berries. The horse started to make a big fuss so Doris thought it best to go home. We told the men about it. They went out and shot the bear. The Reid Brothers were good hunters and good carpenters. We all had a piece of bear meat. Another day Corrie and Mother went to pick berries and when they got down to the river Dusty Brown stopped them. His wife was having a baby. His wife couldn't be left alone so mother stayed with her while he went for help. He went into Maymont for Dr. Scratch. Corrie went for Mrs. Steele. When they got back Mother had the baby all dressed with the help of their small daughter who told her where to find the things she needed. Dr. Scratch wanted mother to help him with other patients but she said she had all the work she could do.

After awhile they built a big granary. When it was finished Mother moved us into it saying her family was more important than the wheat. I remember Phil would go hunting, and come home with rabbits, prairie chickens strung on his shoulders, back and around his waist. When we would run out of money Dad would go away to tune pianos. I remember him going to Moose Jaw, Swift Current, Lethbridge and other towns.

Dad bought a threshing machine and steam engine. It had a wide belt that would often break. We had a cook car and a caboose. My mother and sisters did the cooking. They would thresh our neighbors grain and then move anywhere there was wheat. They would start about September and finish about December. It was always so cold when they came home.

Mr. and Mrs. Kitchen had a store in Ruddell. They had a piano. Mr. Kitchen died and Mrs. Kitchen later married Ed Ewing. Ed ran the ferry across the river. Dad traded some cattle for their piano. As we had the only piano around every time there was a dance or any entertainment we would load the piano and all go. Reg, Phil and Ed played it. Ed also played the violin. Mona, Ed and I would sing, sometimes the whole family would sing together. Dad was so amused with the way they would call the square dances that he would feed the pigs by banging on the pail and singing "alemand left with the grand right and left all swing". The pigs would come running from everywhere.

There were many bachelors who after working in the field all day would be too tired to make bread. Mother would often give them a loaf. They would make a biscuit dough and put the whole thing in a pan and call it Bannock. The bachelors came to our house a lot because there was always something going on. We would have as many as fifty people for Sunday dinner. Mother had very good luck with turkeys and my sisters were all good cooks. We had lots of music and they would play baseball, tennis and croquet. One year they decided to have a parade in Ruddell and came to our place to practice. As they were practicing a stranger came around the bluff. Frank Murphy met the man and told him he wasn't crazy he was only the keeper!!

We would go to Maple Grove July 1 for a big picnic.

Bass bought the store from Mrs. Kitchen and put in a brick oven where he would bake lots of good things. Bass also put in a telephone. Both the telephone and the oven were the first in Ruddell and in that part of the country. Elsie ran the switch board, Reg ran the poolroom over the store.

The Indian chief's son died and they wanted to take him to the old Indian Burial ground. They came to Ruddell. It was late afternoon. There were women and small children but the hotel wouldn't let them in. It looked for awhile like they would all have to sleep outside and it was very cold. Bass and Reg let them stay in the poolroom. After that the old chief wouldn't let the braves buy from anyone but Bass. Bass never had to buy any more wood. The Indians would bring him big loads of wood.

Mr. Best and his daughter moved to Ruddell. She started a millinery store. When Bass and Grace Best married, Reg moved his poolroom to another building. Phil and Art Ewing bought the hardware store. Ed

moved to Vegreville and became freight manager. Reg later joined the North West Mounties.

It was a dark and stormy night
When Phil woke with an awful fright,
"Go! Go!" it was his cry
To get mother, doctor and a nurse
And hire the best horses in Mike's barn.
Phil dressed himself in record time
And from High Gate Farm made a beeline
Ewing ran to Maymont town
And brought out Scratch in his night gown
The doctor nearly swore a swear
When from his warm cot he had to tear
Into the damp and midnight air
To Ruddell town.
He arrived at Bass' bakery shop
Through the pickles, tarts and pots
And up the little winding stair
And flopped down on the great arm chair
To regain his breath
The doctor soon put all things right
The twins arrived with great delight
They called them Margaret Jessie, Bessel Jimmy Best
They would have given them more names
But forgot the rest.

Every May [illegible], Queen Victoria's Birthday, they planted the potatoes in the morning and then would [illegible] to Ruddell for a picnic and a baseball game. We had a fine team. We used to root the boys on by singing a little song to the tune of "There's a Happy Land". Here is the song.

There is a little town not far away,
Where the Ruddell boys play baseball every day.
Oh you should see Maymont run,
When they see Ruddell boys come,
Three scores to Maymont's none,
Three times a day.

When the boys would clear the fields of stones they would bring the best in the yard. Later we had a stone mason put in the foundation and cellar for our real home. It was going to be a very nice one. One Sunday night everything was ready to start cutting the wheat and the carpenters to start the house. The lumber was to come out first thing Monday morning. That night we had a great thunder and hail storm. It took down all the wheat, everyone was so heartsick. As the boys had [illegible] moved away from the farm, Dad just rented it and moved into town. He bought the big livery barn. At first we lived in the station house. Mr. Smith was a bachelor and lived with us. They transferred him and sent a married man so we moved to the section house. There mother boarded all the men that worked on the railroad. Dad bought a house in town where we lived until we moved to Calgary about 1914. Dad took care of the organs and pianos in Calgary.

While in Ruddell Corrie, Fred and I went to school. They would put on Christmas programs in the church. All the children would practice for weeks and Dad would play Santa Claus.

Dad took the mail across the river once a week when the river would freeze and the ferry couldn't run. They had a hard time trying to get the mail over until the river was frozen so the horses could cross. The same thing in the spring.

They made Dad Justice of the Peace and we held the first election on the farm.

[illegible] Mylrea married Margret Britian in Vegreville. They had one son and two daughters — Edward, Peggy and Laurine. From there they moved [illegible] Mountain View and his family still live there.

Bass married Grace Best and had four children. Jim and Margret are twins, William, and Dorothy. Bass died of heart trouble, Grace died also.

Reg married Violet Dougage in Victoria. They had two boys and one girl, Jack, Frank and Vi. Jack was lost in a plane over France. Frank is in Vancouver and Vi is in Southern California. Reg died in Los Angeles of cancer.

Phil married Margret who worked in the Ruddell Hotel. They had three boys and one girl. Reg was captain on a ship and is now in Victoria teaching college. Douglas is retired in Victoria. Russell was last seen during World War [illegible] Phyllis is living in Victoria.

Ruby Mona was married to Dr. Dewalt a veterinary doctor. Doc died of cancer. Mona came to California where she is now living at the age of eighty-seven. She lives in Terrance, is in good health and has no children.

May married Herb Hornbrook and they had three children, Jim, Bob, Doris. The boys own their own tool and die shop in Michigan. Doris took care of her mother in Long Beach until she died in 1978. Doris is still living there.

Elsie married Carl McFarlane and had five children, three boys and two girls. Elsie died in 1977. The children are all living in Southern California.

Jessie died of cancer. Cliff and Ronald are both roofers. Ruth works for the government.

Doris married Thorp Sweetman and had seven children, four girls and three boys. Edward is living in Trail, B.C. and is a furrier. Rat was wounded in World War [illegible] and passed away in 1978. Vi is living in North Battleford. Geraldine and Marian in Victoria, Doreen in Saskatoon and Ken in Ontario.

Doris passed away in 1930.

Corrie married Karl Hudson. They had no children. Corrie died in 1971.

Ivy married Wade Elting and had two children, Jane and Walter. Jane is in real estate. Walter works for Air Research.

Fred married Grace Bass and they had two children, Mona and John. Fred died in 1977. Mona works in an office.

Dad, Mother, Corrie, Fred and I moved to San Francisco in 1918 where we lived while Dad rebuilt the Civic Auditorium, Fred helped him. Now John and

Fred's sons live in Los Angeles and take care of many of the organs in and around Southern California.

Dad died at the age of seventy-two and Mother died when she was one hundred and two.

Mona and I are the only ones still living.

The Myers Family

by Ruby and Frank Myers

(Recollection and changes we have experienced during thirty-eight years as minister and his wife on the Maymont Pastoral Charge of the United Church of Canada — 1937 to 1975).

Reverend Frank L. Myers arrived with his bride, the former Ruby Imrie, on the morning train from Edmonton, the first Saturday in December, 1937. December the fourth to be exact. They had been married at the farm home of the bride at Adanac, Saskatchewan on November 30. Ruby was a registered nurse having graduated in 1932 from Saskatoon City Hospital and the following five years nursed at Unity Union Hospital.

It was —50F, the morning we arrived in Maymont.

Rev. Dr. F. L. Myers and Mrs. Myers, taken in the Holy Land — July, 1964.

United Church float in 1967 Centennial Parade. Rev. F. Myers, minister, the organ at the front of the float is the first organ used in the United Church.

According to tradition, this particular Saturday was the United Church Bean Supper and Bazaar, so this was the bride's first event to attend in Maymont. The Ladies Aid had worked hard all year, doing fancy work, pillow cases, table cloths, dresser scarves, aprons and knitting socks and mitts. They were all beautifully arranged in decorated booths in the church basement, with the Christmas theme and colors predominating. Supper of baked beans, brown bread, pickles and pie was served for twenty-five cents in those days. We received a warm welcome and made many new acquaintances, even though Frank had been in Maymont since July first.

Thinking he was going to be a bachelor for awhile, he had arranged for Bill Love, the Pool Elevator man to live with him — Bill's family having gone to the Maritimes for the winter. Bill was with us until his family returned in the spring. At that time we lived in the old manse, presently owned by Bill Reid. It wasn't very warm, as a pipeless furnace with one register between the livingroom and diningroom was not adequate to heat the upstairs bedrooms too well. The coal and wood stove in the kitchen as well as the furnace, made it necessary to chop a lot of wood, carry coal from the coal bin in the basement and carry out a lot of ashes. As the kitchen was built on, later than the original frame house, it was very cold in winter and even when fires were well built up at night, the kettle would be froze on the stove in the morning on coldest days. The walls were covered with felt paper over lath before being papered with wall paper. It looked nice but did not keep out much cold. Also a lot of cold came in around the windows, even with storm windows on. With the help of some ladies of the congregation it was always quite a chore to re-paper the front rooms as cracks in paper had to be first closed with strips of cotton. The kitchen had V-Joint up four feet, then a plastered wall which was calsomined in your color preference. However it was a lovely homey house with a bright bay window to the south. It wasn't long before the decision was made to put wall board on the two rooms and they were painted. Also the kitchen was lined with wallboard. Several other improvements were made such as cupboards instead of the kitchen cabinet and a small bathroom off the kitchen and windows changed, which all made for more comfort and convenience which we always found the congregations ready to supply. We were fortunate to have a galvanized water tank in the basement to supply soft water with summer rain, and a pump on the sink to pump it up, however, the supply ran out quickly as melting snow in winter and having a barrel beside the kitchen stove supplied our winter water supply except we had to carry drinking water from the town pump.

We had an outside biffy in summer but we did have an inside chemical toilet in the basement for the winter.

This life style was very typical of all family homes in the community, even better than some, so we felt

very much at home in these surroundings and enjoyed it. We had a lovely yard with natural trees at the back and a good garden spot, and there is nothing today that compares with the good old clothes line outside.

Our two children were born while we were in Maymont. Donna Marlene was born on February 17, 1944 in Saskatoon City Hospital. The ladies of the community had surprised me with a lovely baby shower which included a pram and high chair as well as many useful items babies need. I think this was the first baby born to a minister's bride.

Ted was born on June 5, 1946, coming a month ahead of time so we did not get to hospital. Dr. Scratch was in attendance and Mrs. Herb Johnston generously gave of her time to come and assist. We were looked after later by my mother and sister, Jennie.

Ted and Donna both took their schooling in Maymont. Both took up to Grade Ten music, sang in the choir and played the organ for church, funerals, and some weddings as well as taking part each year in the Battleford Music Festivals and [illegible] the younger group organizations in the church, which we were very fortunate to have and we thank those who gave leadership over the years in this great service to the young people.

Donna pursued a career in nursing, graduating from Saskatoon City Hospital in 1965. She then went to Burns Lake Hospital in Northern B.C., which was then a United Church Hospital. She met Montie Harrison there, and they were married in May, 1968. They have two children, Scott Edward born in May, 1971 and April Marie born in April, 1973. Montie is an electrician and comes from a pioneer family whose history goes back many years in the Burns Lake area — a very pretty part of B.C. with many lakes and trees, so lumbering and mining and tourists in summer are the main industries — although some areas are more open for ranching land. Montie and Donna live ten miles south of Burns Lake on one of the lakes, on a paved road to a ferry that is on Francois Lake opening up the area to the south and Tweedsmuir Park Area. Many people live along the lakes and commute to businesses in the town. Donna still continues her nursing career part-time at the Hospital as well as being very active in church and community.

Ted took his B.A. at University of Saskatchewan, followed by a year of Arts and one year Theology. His summer work during university was at the Provincial Hospital at North Battleford and Psychiatric Centre in Prince Albert. In 1971 he graduated from the University of Manitoba, with a Masters in Social Work. The next four years he worked with Psychiatric Social Services in North Battleford. He was very active in the United Church Choir while there. In 1975 he went to the University of British Columbia graduating in 1976 with a Master of Science Degree in Health Services Planning. His thesis being on the non-medical use of drugs and special research into alcohol as it affects industry. In the fall of 1977 he prepared a paper which he presented at the International World Health Organization in Puerto Rico. He received a Fellowship in the fall of 1978 from U.B.C. and is presently at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital of Psychiatry, in Edinburgh, Scotland doing research on alcohol studies as it affects violence, family violence and criminology. After a short holiday with us he attended Convocation at U.B.C. and is now back in Scotland as of June 1, where he will be involved with non-violent and violent inmates of the prisons and follow up with families. This could mean another two years in Scotland.

While retirement made it necessary for us to leave Maymont, it is still home to us and our family. On going to Scotland and feeling the cold so much, Ted wrote home saying it took him back a few years to when he was a country boy, and could understand going to bed cold and getting up in the cold to practice his music lessons.

Of course this all changed when we moved into the beautiful new manse provided for us and which we enjoyed for fifteen years. Maymont will always be part of us as we look back on the many fond memories and happy experiences during the thirty-eight years we were privileged to [illegible] on the Maymont Pastoral Charge.

Now Frank's Story.

I was born in Yorkshire, England. We came to Rouleau, Saskatchewan in 1913, where my father operated a butcher shop. He waited until they had eight children, and then decided to go into the ministry. My father's last year in St. Andrew's College, Saskatoon, was my first year and we roomed together. During my college years I served on many summer mission fields — mostly in the North. My first student field was in the Loon Lake Area and my second around Meadow Lake. There I covered the whole countryside on horseback, visiting families and holding services any night of the week in different homes. It was the "Dirty Thirties" and hundreds of people had moved north to escape the drought. Homes were of log construction and small. I ate wherever I landed at meal time and slept wherever I landed at night. People were desperately poor but hospitality and friendliness were not in short supply. One of my summer fields was Sonningdale, Struan and Arlee. There I travelled by bike. Having been at Sonningdale, coming to Maymont in July, 1937 was like coming back home. I arrived in Maymont by bus after hitchhiking from my first ordained charge at Pierceland to Loon Lake. The Pool Elevator man, Bill Love saw me get off the bus. I heard years after that he went running over to Mrs. Knight's (the barber wife) and said, "The new preacher has arrived." Mrs. Knight said, "What does he look like?" Bill replied, "If you took a shot gun looking for fellows that looked like preachers [illegible] would be the last one you would shoot." I kept the story to myself and used it at a farewell we had later for the same "Bill Love". Incidentally Bill Love lived with us, so for a short time there was Love in the manse.

Coming to Maymont in 1937 and retiring in 1975, I saw a lot of changes. I consider myself highly privileged to have shared in so many peoples joys and sorrows. To start with -- 1937 was about an all time low as far as crops were concerned. Drought, Wind, and Drought, only the Russian Thistle flourished and some of it was put up for feed. In August, 1937 I bought my first car, a 1929 Chevrolet. I called it "Shasta" and when asked why that name, I replied, "She hasta" have oil, "She hasta" have gas, etc. Travelling in 1937 and for a few years after was so different than today. There were hardly any gravelled roads. The term "all-weather-road" was unheard of — as "Shasta" and I had some tough trips. In the winter, all roads were blocked, so I borrowed a team and sleigh to go to Fielding. In the winter, or sometimes the section foreman, Mr. Squires, took me on the Jigger. Getting to Sonningdale, Spinney Hill and Baljennie in the winter months represented a real challenge. Even summer travel was adventuresome at times. Once I was going to a funeral at Spinney Hill in summer and the ferry got stuck on a sandbar in the middle of the river. Since the ferry always had a rowboat, Rube Johnston rowed me to the south shore and Mrs. Johnston drove me to the funeral, just five minutes late. Sometimes travel to that area meant driving by the Borden Bridge, a long way compared to the fifteen minute drive today by Maymont Bridge. I have gone to funerals in Sonningdale in winter when the road was drifting in behind me and the only safe way to try to get home was to follow the undertaker back to Saskatoon. It was all a part of the game and I loved it, especially since I had such a good example in our late beloved Dr. Scratch.

One of the biggest changes in transportation was the abolishment of the passenger train. It was a daily ritual for people to meet the train when it came in around 6 p.m. The platform was loaded with people. The young people spoke to the passengers. I know this because when I was a young student riding on the train on the way to mission fields I had the window open and a young teenage girl came up to me and said, "Hi, Honey." When I returned to Maymont in 1937 I would have given anything if I could have remembered her face. The train moved on and we all followed Clem Coleman to the Post Office where we waited noisily for Clem to sort the mail.

I must not forget crossing the river at times in the Aerial Basket. I never did like heights and this experience never deepened my love for such heights.

The church was another area of change. Services were held in Grey School, Keystone School, and Anglicans had a service at Calais School. One of the big boosts to the Maymont Congregation came when the Grey and Keystone people started to come to church in town. In the winter months, because of roads, few people were able to make it any distance to town for services. At our service in town in the winter we used to open the service and then the Sunday School classes would go to the basement, and I led the whole congregation in Bible Study. This was followed by the regular worship service.

In my early years there we always had a senior choir. Later we developed a Junior Choir. There are many who look back on their years in the Junior Choir as really happy times. We usually took the choir to Sonningdale for a Christmas Service. The young people looked forward to that trip and many of them hoped we would get stuck in the river hill — that spelled fun for them. Sonningdale always provided a lunch after church and the young people ate heartily. You can tell by looking at some of them today, that they still eat heartily.

The area that I served was large. Sometimes I felt like John Wesley who said, "The World is my parish." There were many years when I was the only ordained United Church minister between North Battleford and Saskatoon — north as far as Rabbit Lake, south to Baljennie, Spinney Hill, Struan and Arlee. My first field included Maymont, Fielding and Eastbourne. Eastbourne was a "Little Church in the Wildwood", north and east of Fielding. Later the field was changed to take in Ruddell, and Eastbourne was closed. Presbytery in consultation with the area formed the present day Maymont Larger Parish, with a minister in Maymont and one at Speers.

So as I sit in my easy chair and reminisce I think of the hundreds of funerals and the families that I was enabled to serve. The many hundreds of weddings where I was privileged to share in the happiness of two young people. I think of the truckloads of turkey and other goodies that we ate in fellowship on these occasions. So many in fact where we ate turkey and I proposed the "toast to the bride", that when my wife served turkey at home, I automatically got up and proposed a toast to the bride. Ruby must have liked it, because she served cold turkey the next day.

I think of the number of sermons I was privileged to preach to faithful, loyal and devoted people. I think of the many times people came and said, "we need you". I think of the many times in different ways the people showed their heartfelt thanks and appreciation. So living among you I saw the meaning of the word community at its best.

I seem to be getting a little serious so I better tell you about the time I drove a local fellow home at two o'clock in the morning. Arriving at his home he was bound that I go in. I asked why? He replied with thick tongue, "I want the wife to see who I have been out with". I am almost persuaded that he must have been out with worse.

Rev. Frank Myers D.D.

Citation given to Dr. Frank Myers on his retirement at Saskatchewan Conference in 1978

Frank was born in England, and at an early age came out to Canada with his family. He attended

school at various places throughout Saskatchewan, as his father was a lay preacher. In 1930, he entered the University of Saskatchewan. His father's last year at college was Frank's first, so they roomed together for that year. In 1934, he received his B.A.

He took his theology at St. Andrew's College, graduating in 1936. He was ordained at Moose Jaw the same year. (39 summers ago)

From July, 1936 to July, 1937, Frank served at Pierceland, and in 1937, came to Maymont where he has been ever since — until his retirement in June, 1975.

He was chairman of Presbytery three times, has been Home Missions Convenor and held various other offices. At the Conference level, he had been President of Conference, secretary of Settlement Committee, convenor of Home Missions. Four times he was a commissioner to General Council. He served on the executive of General Council and on several special commissions. He spent seven years on the Board of Governors of St. Andrew's College. Frank received the doctorate degree in 1962 from St. Andrew's.

He married Ruby Imrie of Adanac in 1937. Ruby was a nurse. Their two children are Ted (with the psychiatric social services in North Battleford), and Donna, also a nurse (Mrs. M. Harrison of Burns Lake, B.C.). In 1969 Frank was chosen as citizen of the year for North Battleford.

The Munn Family

by Mrs. R. (Joyce) Munn

On September 28th, 1968, Rodney and I were married in Zion Lutheran Church in North Battleford. Rodney is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Munn of rural North Battleford, I am the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wakelin of North Battleford. We resided in Regina where we were both employed when we were first married. We lived in an apartment in a new building — we were the first ones to move into that new building.

Rodney worked for the Crown Lumber Co. and I was employed at McNeil's Drug Store Co. Rodney worked at Crown for a year, then went to work for Revelstoke Lumber Co. I worked at the drug store for a year and a half, then I went to the "Bay". I enjoyed working at the "Bay", where I was clerking. One day I was hauled up on the red carpet, so to speak, and offered a job in the ordering office. I took that position and really enjoyed ordering stock for my department. We moved into a house for the remaining two years we were there. There we were able to have a garden and a yard.

We moved to Maymont in October of 1971, to work for George and Gordon Gray. We lived at the Bill Reid farm. While we were there we had a hive of tame bees move in on us. We had quite a time trying to get rid of our little pets.

Rodney, Joyce, Corilyn and Stephen Munn.

We spent a year there, and then Ted Saunders' store came up for sale. We did a lot of serious thinking about it, and in November of 1972 we moved into Jack Thrower's house, next door to Bill McCready's, and Rodney worked with Ted Saunders until the end of 1972. In January, 1973, we bought the store and went into business. That spring we moved to the R.M. house and did some remodeling on the store.

On June 19th, our daughter Corilyn was born. With all the moving and remodeling that had been done we were glad when Corilyn arrived a healthy baby.

Corilyn grew up fast, she started skating when she was three years old. She has taken figure skating lessons for the past three years, she has also taken swimming lessons at Glenburn Park pool for three years. She attends Sunday School at Maymont United Church where we are members.

We try to take an active part in the community. I was president of the Women's Auxiliary to the Sports' Centre for two years. Since I resigned, I still try to do my part in the Sports Centre and in other community activities.

Rodney is also very active in the community. He is on two or three committees in the Sports Centre, he is on the school board, the Church Board and a volunteer fire fighter.

The summer of 1976 we built our first home. It was

a very busy summer, but we had lots of help from relatives and people in the community, which was greatly appreciated. We lived in my brother's fifth wheel trailer for two months while our house was being built. Rod said, "it was our holiday", the only thing was we weren't parked by the lake. While we were in the middle of building, Rodney took sick and ended up having surgery, but it wasn't too long before he was back pounding nails. We moved into the house the beginning of November, it was nice to be in at last. We spent most of the next year finishing the house and working in the yard.

On June 15th, 1978, we were blessed with a son which made us all very happy. Steven made quite a change in our household.

In the fall of '78, Corilyn started to Kindergarten, going every other day. She was very excited about it and enjoyed it so much she wished she could go every day. This year she got her wish, she's in Grade one and goes every day.

We have enjoyed our six years in the store business. Rodney found this poem and hung it in the store. It has brought a lot of comments and laughs:

TO ALL OLD GROCERS

A man knocked at the Heavenly Gate,
His face was scarred and old
He stood before the man of fate
For admission to the fold.
"What have you done," St. Peter asked,
"to gain admission here?"
"I have been a grocer, sir,
For many and many a year"
The Pearly gates swung open wide,
St. Peter touched the bell.
"Come in and choose your harp", he said
"You've had your share of Hell."

C. W. Murison, 1876-1955

In June 1902 a big Scotch lad, tired of firing on the railroad in Scotland left his home in Peterhead — north of Aberdeen to walk down the gangplank onto the "S. S. Sardinian". It brought him to Canada. Australia was the other alternative country at that time for immigrants. The boat docked in Montreal, his train fare brought him as far as Deloraine, Manitoba, where he got work and after three years joined with the ones there who had the homesteading fever and followed the newly laid C.N.R. further west. Their destination was Ruddell. Charlie in July 1908 walked to Battleford Land Title Office to file on a homestead five miles west of Ruddell on NE ¼ 22-42-14 W3rd. The settlers made much merriment amongst themselves as well as hard work clearing and breaking the land, which was covered with brush and plenty of stones to be moved. A team of oxen were bought. One Sunday the congregation at church was very small and the reason was, 'one of Murison's ox had fallen into a well' and all hands were helping get it out. Working with neighbors Gid.

Early snow Sept. 9, 1921. Chas. Murison, and Milker is Kenny Kemp.

Blair, the Arnold boys Bill, Jack, and Dave, logs were cut at the river and skidded up for their buildings. One time when Ernie Whitlaw was with them they met up with a black bear which was killed and bear steaks supplemented the winter's meat.

Charlie smoked a pipe and was never too particular about what all was in his pockets, while standing visiting with friends, a loud bang followed the lighting of the pipe, the bowl was blown off by a misplaced bullet leaving Charlie with only the stem in his mouth and a grin on his face.

Charlie, Bess Murison and Jean, 1921.

In 1918 he married Bess Turnbull in Glen Morris, Ontario. They continued to farm till their retirement into Ruddell in 1946. During the years Charlie enjoyed helping in community affairs. Ruddell Telephone, Wheatpool, church and giving his neighbours a hand at wood cutting and butchering bees. When they returned his help the pigs and beef on butchering day were done up in jig time and the cards were got out and a rousing games of "500" finished off the day.

For ■ years the same thresherman Charles Pethick made his rounds of the Arnold, Blair and Murison farms. Until the day Charlie left the farm ■ continued to use horses and the log barn that had stood the years.

Neighbors of Murisons

To the south of NE ¼ 22-42-14 W3rd over the railroad tracks were Harry and Mrs. Ryan with a family of Carl, Morley, Bert and Dorothy. Mrs. Ryan and her sister Gertie who married Alex Brown were daughters of one of the first settlers in 1903, Mr. McLellan.

Further south were the Irish boys McCallden brothers: Billy Ellison, with a Scotchman Bob Gordon.

To the southwest was Bob Peoples, his father and brother Frank came up from N. Dakota. The boys stayed on — Bob at present ■ a resident of River Heights Lodge in North Battleford.

West was George and Mrs. Anderson with a large family.

One of Charlie Murisons homesteading buddies was Bill Arnold — the oldest of the brothers, he met with an accident injuring his leg. Dr. Scratch was called and with help and on the kitchen table Bill's leg was amputated and buried on his land.

Elizabeth (Bess) Turnbull, 1880-1969

She was the youngest of a family of six. Along with her mother and brothers Graham, and George, they came west from Brantford, Ontario in 1905. They brought in a large outfit, amongst the horses were a pair of standard bred Clyde mares which had taken prizes at the Toronto Royal Fair. The Turnbulls continued to show and win prizes at the local fairs with their horses.

The Turnbull house was a stopping place. Sundays saw the furniture pushed around in order to get seats in for church service. They helped get the church built, Presbyterian at first, then when Union came in 1927 it became Ruddell Cavin United Church.

Bess helped the brothers farm and often was called on to drive supplies with "Old Dick" and the buggy to the cook on the second threshing outfit. Dances were held above Lowreys store to the tune of Jack Whites fiddle.

Bess and Charlie were married in February 1910. One daughter Jean Elizabeth was born, who now is Mrs. Frank Kingwell farming near Herschel, Sask. with a family ■ two boys and 3 grandchildren.

Both Charlie and Bess are buried in the Ruddell cemetery.

Peter Naklicki

Peter Naklicki immigrated to Canada from a small village in Poland. He journeyed and worked his way across the country, spending much time working in bush and railroad camps in British Columbia. He worked on crews that built tunnels near Revelstoke, B.C. The time spent in the mountains was an interesting part of his early life.

He was in later years employed on farms in the Speers area. He later lived on his own farm in Aberdeen, Sask. for many years. In the early 1940's he purchased land near Keystone School. S.E. 13-42-12 W3rd, the former Tom Meena farm. He retired later from farming but for many years enjoyed his life on that farm, close to nature, tending his little garden and strawberry patch. He was happy to have his son Eugene and family come to Canada from Poland in 1962. There are two daughters and their families still living in Poland.

After spending two years in Kelowna with his son Eugene, Peter passed away in October 1978 at the age of 90. He was predeceased by his wife the same year. His brother John and family lived in one time on a farm at Speers and later at Fielding. A niece, Mrs. Wilbur Peden (Wanda) lives on a farm at Maymont.

John Naklicki

John and Annie Naklicki moved to the Hillsborough School district in 1947 from the Tillotson School district north-west of Speers. The land they moved to was owned by Mrs. Stewart. They had a family of three. The eldest, a daughter Wanda, was at that time employed at Speers. She is now Mrs. Wilbur Peden, residing on a farm near Maymont. They have three children, Pat, Tom and Randy. Joe and his wife Marilyn and two children, Denise and Sheldon live in Calgary. Joe and Marilyn are employed with the Alberta Educational System. He attended Hillsborough Public School and High School in Maymont. Jean also attended Hillsborough School. She and her husband, Clark Tryhurn live in Kelowna with their two children, David and Linda. Jean is employed with the city.

After farming, raising cattle and shipping cream for nearly 9 years, John became ill, so it was necessary for them to retire from farming. They had a farm sale and made the big move to Kelowna, B.C. It was hard to leave the farm and friends and neighbors, but the move was good. For a number of years Annie enjoyed working in the Sun-Ripe factory until she was told she was too old to work there, much to her dismay, as she never felt younger or more capable, as this work was a pleasure compared to milking cows,

fighting black flies in the summer and snow drifts in the winter.

John passed away in Kelowna in March of 1968 after a lengthy illness. Annie still resides in Kelowna keeping busy with her vegetable garden, fruit trees and grapes. She enjoys city life and the mild Okanagan winters. But like all prairie people that have moved to B.C. she never tires from visiting with people from Saskatchewan.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Neill

We were both born in N. Ireland, Bob at Downpatuck, Co Down and myself at Ennes Killen, Co Fermanagh. [redacted] served on the Police Force for 5 years and when the police were disbanded in 1925 we got married and emigrated to Canada and landed at Quebec City on July 6, 1925.

Travelling was not too good around that time, as we spent one week on the boat and another week before we reached Saskatoon. It was a very long, boring trip, especially the train trip, as it travelled at a snail's pace all the way. Most of the immigrants at that time had to work on the farm. We decided to come to Maymont and started work on the Scott-Dudley farm where we stayed for seven months. Then on to Mr. and Mrs. Bill Cooke, Jim Reids, and finally Percy Bouskill's.

We had enough of farm life by this time, so moved into Maymont where Bob worked on the C.N.R. for 2 years and was town policeman for about 5 years.

By this time the depression years were upon us, and we went through some real hard times. When I look back on it all we were all in the same boat, so we just took it in our stride and made the best of what we had. We held card parties in our homes, put on 3 act plays and concerts, etc. for entertainment. Today most of these forms of entertainment just don't exist and are sadly missed by oldtimers. The Chatauqua was a yearly event which we all enjoyed. Church work kept us all busy as well, and we had quite a struggle to raise enough money for the minister's salary. We did have some real good times along with all the other disappointments, but I don't think I want to go back to cleaning stove-pipes, banking houses, coal and wood stoves, and ironing with flat-irons on a hot summer day, as well as having to chop wood for the fire and carrying water for washing.

Our children were all born at home with Dr. Scratch in attendance. The mid-wives at this time were Mrs. McClelland, Mrs. Holmes, and Mrs. Dawson. Iris (Mrs. Eldon Wiebe) was born at Percy Bouskill's on December 19th, 1929; Cyril was born in Maymont on October 27th, 1933 (married Norrie Crawley) and Valerie (Mrs. Murray Gray) in Maymont on June 25th, 1935. All attended Maymont School and graduated from here. As of now Iris lives in [redacted]monton, Cyril in Rocky Mountain House, and Valerie on the farm south of Maymont.

Bob joined the army on September 3rd, 1939 and served overseas for 7 years in the last war. He also served for 5 years in the First World War. When he returned home in 1945 he started work at the Mental Hospital in North Battleford, and worked there for 15 years. He retired in 1963 and died in April 1964.

Our mode of transportation during my earlier years was by horse and cutter or wagon box. In 1960 we purchased our first car. It was second hand at that, but served the purpose. The homes we rented left a lot to be desired, no insulation, frost on the nailheads on the floor, frozen water pails, etc. We purchased our first home in Maymont in 1942 and I lived there until 1977. I sold my home and moved into one of the Senior Citizens Units where I now reside.

Fifty-three years is a long time to spend in one district, but we have made a lot of good friends here and I will probably spend the rest of my days in my adopted home town. I do miss all my relatives in Ireland. I did visit them in 1966, but one visit in 53 years isn't a very good average. I am both proud and delighted to have 9 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren all residing in Canada.

Edwin Joseph Neumeyer Family

Edwin Joseph Neumeyer, a young musician with the Brandon, Manitoba City Band and Margaret Mary Englishee, a nurse from Longford, Ireland were married in Brandon on July 10, 1906 and moved directly to Fielding, Saskatchewan.

They settled just north of the railroad tracks on an improved homestead. There they remained until 1917 when they moved to their newly built home about 5 miles north east of Fielding.

In addition to being a hard working farmer, Edwin formed a small orchestra and always found time to play for the entertainment of the young people, both local and the surrounding communities.

As their family grew, so did the activity at the Neumeyer farm — community picnics, horseback riding, tennis, skating on the lake, skiing — but always music for dancing and fun — a treasured memory for all who shared! Each of their eight children received their basic education at the Fielding school.

Their eldest, Marcella Marie travelled to Tacoma, Washington to attend Nurses Training school, met and married Leo A. McGavick, a local attorney. They raised three children. Marcella passed away in 1979.

Joseph married and has one daughter in British Columbia. He spent his last years in Ontario, Canada where [redacted] passed away in 1979.

Charles remained on the farm for some years, married and raised five children. Now retired and living in Indio, California where he operated White's Steel & Welding for five years. Charles keeps himself very busy keeping everything in good repair for everybody — 'he can fix anything', but he and Helen

take time for many community activities and oil painting.

James graduated from the University of Saskatchewan Law School, migrated to Los Angeles, California where he entered the insurance business. He married and raised eleven children.

Maureen joined Marcella in Tacoma to finish her high school and then continued on to Seattle University. She met and married Doctor Harvey Samuel Johnson, a young naval officer, raised six children. They are now enjoying retirement in Lee, New Hampshire.

Margaret chose Vancouver, British Columbia, where she met and married Charles Edward Sanderson and raised eleven children. They are now retired and living in Los Angeles, keep busy travelling the world visiting their children.

Florida joined James in Los Angeles, married Doctor Leo J. Adelstein, neurosurgeon, and raised Doctor's two children. She has kept active in the medical-surgical field and is at present administrator of the Neuro Sciences Institute and serving as an officer in the Women's Auxiliary to the International College of Surgeons. After Doctor Adelstein's death, Florida married Charles Albert White, pioneer of Indio and since his death manages their ranch and business in Indio. Lillian also moved to Los Angeles, married Lawrence Ford, an engineer and raised four children. She entered the banking field and at present is serving as an officer with the California Federal Savings and Loan in Los Angeles.

Edwin and Margaret Neumeyer spent their last years in California near their children who will always treasure and be grateful to the memory of life on the farm in Fielding; but most of all Edwin's music and the joy he gave to all who knew him.

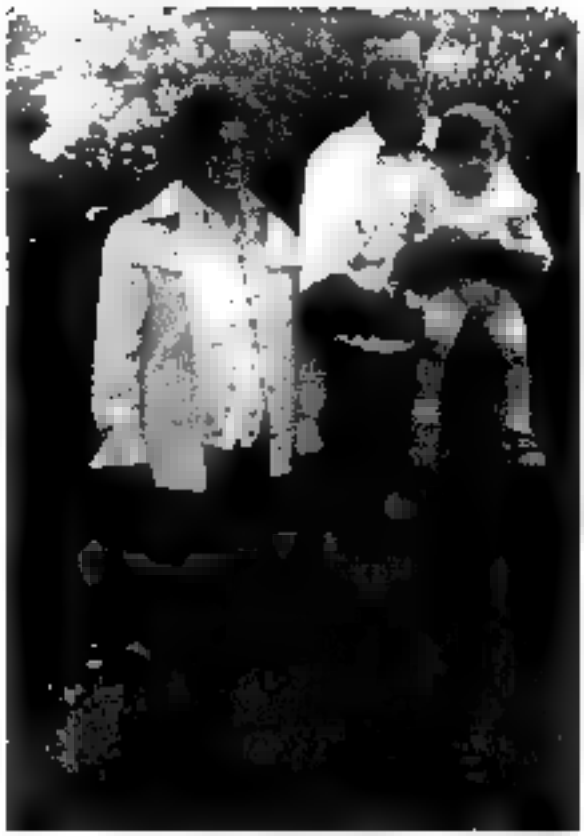
Mr. and Mrs. Alex Nimilowich

told by Elsie

Ruddell's present postmistress is Elsie Nimilowich. She had a University education and was trained for the post office right here in Ruddell by the former postmaster, Bill Buttrey, who still resides in this fair, quiet village. It is still possible to mail a letter in Ruddell without driving 8 to 10 miles to the nearest town to mail one letter. The elderly find it convenient to get their mail in town because some don't have their own vehicle to come out just to pick up their mail.

In the spring before coming to Ruddell she married Alex Nimilowich of Mullingar and they both make their home in Ruddell. They have one small girl to complete their family.

In 1977, Mrs. Nimilowich's mother, Mrs. McMillan and her son Alvin, moved to Ruddell from Saskatoon. Mrs. McMillan lives in the remodelled Mrs. Morrison's house. Alvin attends Maymont Central School.



Elsie, Alex and Ann Nimilowich.

Guy Niven

told by Evelyn Bates

Guy Niven was born in Saljennie, lived in Spinney Hill until the family moved to Saskatoon in 1947. He attended school there until they moved to Maymont on May 1, 1950. He finished his Grade XI in Maymont and worked in T.C. Saunders' Store. Then he worked for Power, Potash and finally moved to the Yukon for six years, working for Cassian Asbestos at Clinton Creek, Yukon Territory. While in Maymont he played hockey on the Senior Team after the new rink was built; also played fastball.

A Partial Biography of Allan Nuthrown's Grandparents

by Marjorie Nuthrown

We shall begin with Allan's great-grandparents, Thomas Nuthrown, and his wife, Anne Cotton, who came to Canada in the year 1830 from England with their nine children — eight boys and two girls, the youngest girl being born in Canada but she did not live very long. The family arrived in Quebec City and proceeded overland to the sparsely settled areas of St. Sylvestre and Leeds, Magentic County, Quebec.

The children's names were Thomas, John, George,

William, Robert, Elizabeth, Septimus, Henry, Octavius and little Frances was the one born in Canada and died. They were all born between the years of 1813 and 1830

Henry who was born in 1823 became Allan's grandfather years later. In the year of 1846 on December 8 he married a girl by the name of Elizabeth Beattie. They lived on a farm on Craig's Road, Province [redacted] Quebec. They in turn had six children — John, Henry, Octavius, William, Elizabeth and Ann, also Thomas George who became Allan's father.

Thomas George was born November 17, 1855 and on May 31, 1892 Olive Agnes Nugent became his wife. They had four sons by this marriage — Charles, Henry, called Harry, Samuel and Allan, all four born between 1893 and 1903.

Allan's father passed away in October of 1931 at the age of seventy-seven years with a heart condition. He had been a hard-working man and was still milking cows and doing chores around the farm yard up to a month before his death. I believe it was in 1954 that Allan's mother passed away. She was in her eighties. Both are buried in Maymont Cemetery. Allan's three brothers have also passed on as have all his first cousins in the Ross family, their mother having been Allan's father's sister Ann.

Allan's father and mother lived on Craig's Road, after they were married, for sixteen years. During that time Allan's father's parents died, then Allan's parents with their four young sons moved to another farm in Lomeseurie still in Quebec.

The farms were small, about one hundred acres. On this they made their living by milking cows. They had around sixteen all milked by hand. The milk would [redacted] taken every day to the cheese factory a mile away.

They did not grow any grain crops for sale except for a little wheat which they took to the mill for flour. It was soft wheat and made dark bread, the flour was put in bags which had to be kept near the kitchen stove and turned often as it dried. They also bought what they called white flour as well.

They would also keep twenty some sheep. Every spring these were sheared and the wool put in bags until later on when a man would come around either to buy the wool or take it in trade for cloth of different weights whatever the farmer wanted. This man also sold overalls.

Lots of turnips and potatoes were grown. Turnips would be fed to the cows in the winter time after the morning milking was finished. They had good gardens — pumpkins, marrows and cucumbers excelled in size. They also had and grew their own apples and hazel nuts. The nuts too would have to be dried in bags before eating. Having maple trees there was no shortage of maple syrup from which they made their maple sugar. In season there were lots of large wild strawberries, raspberries, pin and choke cherries.

The lady folks made their own soap, butter, bread, and raised some chickens.

They had some beef but mostly pork so had lots of home-made lard for cooking and soap making. Washing was all done with the scrub board in a tub. A lot of sewing was done by hand. Allan's mother was the eldest of a family of twelve children and she learned dressmaking. The Senior Nuthrowns had bought a Williams treadle sewing machine which we still have and which I used the first years I was married. It still sews very well, for all its one hundred and some years old.

The country in which the Nuthrowns lived in Quebec was very rough, rocky, lots of hills and ravines, little brooks, much swamp, and bush, a natural place for lots of birds, some deer, lots of bush rabbits and fox and many rats but not any coyotes. There were some very lengthy and bad thunder storms at times, but they spoke of dry years too with poor hay crops — crops which they depended so much on for the cattle's winter feed. They kept some horses. Plowing was done with a walking plow and still is in many parts which Allan and Alvin saw when they were down East a few years back.

In 1912 the Nuthrowns had a farm sale and sold everything in the East excepting six horses, a sleigh and a buggy which came out on the railroad. Charlie rode on the car with the horses as they had to [redacted] attended. Very little from the home in the East was brought West, just an organ, parlor set of three pieces two chairs made without any nails, some beds and quilts and family pictures. Mr. Nuthrown had his violin having played for dances when [redacted] was younger. Some dishes came too with the iron cooking pots.

Prior to 1912 Allan's father had come to Maymont where the Reids and the Melroses were already established having come from the same parts in which the Nuthrowns lived in the East, only they came a few years earlier. I expect Allan's dad wanted to see the country for himself. The next year Charlie and Uncle Bill Ross came out. A section [redacted] land on 9, Township 41, Range 13, west of the Third Meridian was purchased from Alex McClean which was five and a half miles southeast of Maymont town. Two hundred acres of land had been broken. Allan's Uncle Bill Ross bought land on the south side of the river.

The Nuthrowns arrived in their new country on March 11, 1912. There had been built a small house on the land, with a log barn and log granary, which was made to do until some years later they had a very large house built, also a large barn, a well drilled 234 feet from which they had all the water required. This was pumped up into a cistern by a wind-driven mill and from there hand pumped into a trough for the animals to drink out of and in pails for the house to be used for cooking and drinking. It was nice water but very hard.

The first spring in 1912 they bought a twenty-run Massey Harris seed drill and some oats and wheat seed to sow on their two-hundred acres. They bought a plough, broke up more land, cleared out bush and

trees, picked stones, bought a binder and Mr. Turner did the threshing. . . As the years went on for them as for all other farmers more land was cleared and bought, more and better equipment to farm with, more horses raised, cattle bought and increased, also pigs . . . Harry and Sam were started on farms on their own in the 1920's when they decided to get married. Allan and Charlie carried on with their dad on the home farm. This is as much as I know from what Allan had been able to tell me.

Our Married Life In Part

by Marjorie Nuttbrown

When Allan and I were married on January 28, 1926 Allan continued living with his parents. Charlie was married a year later and had a nice new home to live in. Allan felt he had to stay home to do the work for his parents, so he bought himself a quarter of land making three quarters to work on. After six years the big house was divided and I was happy to be able to cook and do for ourselves, with our two little sons, Nelson and Ronald.

I planted a nice size garden every year and for all we were then in the drought stricken years of the thirties, the garden growth was always good being protected on one side by bush, and with good soil, not too heavy.

My Dad gave me our first start in chickens, a nice young broody Black Giant hen, with her came thirteen eggs, and three weeks later there were thirteen little chicks. Most of them were pullets and proved good layers and a nice size for eating. In those days many people advertised their roosters for sale or trade in the winter time for breeding purposes. From that time on my chickens increased with the years.

By setting hens I eventually raised over two hundred chicks every spring. We were never without eggs or meat and traded eggs for groceries.

Surprisingly there would be considerable wild fruit in season — saskatoons, raspberries, just a few strawberries, chokecherries and high bush cranberries. We grew our own strawberries, raspberries and small fruit and lots of rhubarb. Preserving time was a busy time, for many years I did up seven hundred quarts in all consisting of bought, and garden fruit, which were made into jams and jellies and preserved whole. These quarts included pickles of many varieties, tomatoes, chicken, beef and fish. Pork would be put in brine for a few weeks depending what part, then taken out and dried off, wrapped and stored in the grain to be used when needed. Whitefish and trout were bought from Big River Fisheries and kept frozen outside. What would be left by spring were put in sealers. Vinegar was put in the sealers with the fish to soften the bones.

Before the Radisson Flour Mill burned down Allan and those before him took a wagon load of wheat to the mill where it was ground and made into flour. You could buy shorts and bran, too, to feed the pigs. Mixed with milk they had the best of feed. That was what my father fed his few pigs. Nuttbrowns had a grain chopper for grinding the different grains for the pigs and the cattle. It was called chop after being ground up.

In 1947 we had seven children, six boys and a girl, including twin boys. Most mothers did not go to the hospital when their children were born, I never did. Dr. Scratch was still the attending doctor and with good midwives we managed. My only other doctor at the time Marilyn was born was Dr. Merrifield. He substituted for Dr. Scratch while he had a well-earned holiday.

Our children all attended Calais School until they were ready for High School. When that time came they went to Maymont School. That was quite a long drive in the winter because it was five and one-half miles over some pretty rough roads, in some very bad weather. There were no car roads in those days in the country. Several of the school teachers boarded at our home which was very nice for us too as they brought new interests. There was a Miss Jean Downey, Miss Heather, Miss Plunket, Miss Prentice, Mrs. Brady, Marvin Hodgins, a Mr. Belick, Miss Saunders, Miss McGaffin, Miss Brownell, Miss Matthies and Miss Leask.

Our family are grown up now and married with homes of their own. I will put in a few lines hoping some of them will be able to carry on from there, but being young men now it is not very likely they will write up something for themselves. They may leave it to their wives as their dad has done. It would be nice if the men would write their part. How can we know what they might have to contribute — more than we can say.

As you know we haven't Nelson our eldest son any more as he lost his life at the age of forty-seven years in a dreadful cave-in accident on a farm in the Unwin District near Marsden, Saskatchewan on September 10, 1973. Nelson was a Backhoe Contractor, a member of the Lonach Lodge No. 182 at Marsden where they lived. He was also a member of the Neilburg Flying Club and owned his own plane. Sometimes he went out on mercy flights.

When he left the farm at Maymont he was nineteen years of age and went out to Vancouver where his friend Paul Reinhardt lived. He had work in the shingle mills out there for awhile, but it was pretty rough so he went into the watch repair business. While out there he married his girl friend, Helen Sherman, on December 4, 1947. Nelson still had farm life in his blood which brought them back to Maymont where he bought the Sowden farm just east of Maymont. Some years later they moved to Marsden after selling the farm where he continued the backhoe work which he began on the farm. They had three children Cambell, Richard and Deborah.

Ronald came next on October 27, 1929. Ron and Elaine Gray were married on December 28, 1956. Ron

has worked in and for the University Hospital in Saskatoon since the hospital's beginning twenty-five years ago. He is now manager of the Laundry for the University Hospital. Ron and Elaine have a son and daughter, Allan and Shelley. I will leave them to write anything further.

Brenton our third son was born August 18, 1932. He was married to Ruby Mitchell on April 5, 1958. She was a girl from Fort St. John. They met in the Air Force. Brenton was in the Air Force for many years. After he left there they moved to Dawson Creek and from there to Whitehorse in the Yukon to continue his work as Trailer Maintenance man until he had the misfortune to freeze both his feet which necessitated amputation of both feet, followed shortly by both legs just below the knees. He has had considerable difficulties with the artificial limbs but given time his walking will become easier for him. Only two years have gone by since this tragedy happened. They have three children — Maureen, Cheryl and Tom.

Marilyn, our daughter, whose husband is James Reid celebrate their wedding year of July 26, 1955. They have three daughters, Cindy, Zayne and Tess, also a son, Steven. I shall leave the rest for her to write.

The twins, Alvin and Earl, were born on May 8, 1940. Earl and Velda Cochrin were married in March, 1963. Alvin married her sister, Irene, in May, 1964. Alvin's marriage came to a sad end with a divorce in 1972, however, he remarried this time to Megan Foster in 1977. Alvin and Irene had two little girls, Roxanne and Dawn. Earl and Velda have four children: Wanda, Gerry, Linda and Timothy. Earl lives in Neilburg where he does plumbing, etc. Alvin and Garry live in Marsden where they carry on the backhoe work since Nelson's death.

Garry our last child was born on his brother Nelson's birthday twenty-one years later to the hour on November 19, 1947. He and Mary Jones from Marsden were married in November, 1971. They have three children — daughter, Jackie, and sons, Christopher and Michael.

We must go back in memory to the days of our early childhood and to those of our children, but first I must say that I still have the baby cradle that my dad traded his English night shirts for to a farmer by the name of Mr. Knowles. A Mr. Wilmot had made it from wood and willows gathered from the river banks. This little cradle was 36'' long, 20'' wide and 10'' deep. It stands on legs with rockers underneath. The top and bottom ends are hooped. There were no springs just a nice feather tick and feather pillow, with flannelette blankets and a feather comforter, it made a very cosy little bed for we children and our own years later.

When old enough to sit up and play in the carriage or whatever, their play toys in our home were such things as clothes pegs, saucepan lids or pie plates, rattles and a ball. Later for the little girls dolls and dishes, picture books, crayons. The coloring book were often Eaton's catalogues. The little boys had farms with sticks and bricks and little toy animals. In the summertime their farming was done in the bush. Some old iron would be dragged around to make their roads, etc. Machinery was made in the only way they knew how, but they had fun.

Outside in the summertime the little girls had play houses in the trees with mud and water and berries. Saskatoons and rose hips made their mud pies. Cakes had red sand for icing sugar. Tin cans were their dishes with the odd cracked dish from Mom's kitchen. Their dolls would be the children in their family.

As they grew older there were the farm chores to help with, bringing in milk cows, pumping water, helping to milk and run the hand-turned cream separator, feed the calves, and pigs, help some in the garden. The pre-schoolers could always help with the picking up sticks for Mom to light the fire with in the morning and to store for the same in winter, as well as haul over small toy wagon loads of wood for the inside wood box. There was always something that each could do. When radios came on the scene they all enjoyed listening to the children's programs.

We had some ministers come to Calais School Sunday afternoons — Reverend Saunders and Reverend Cousins. Our children all had Sunday School lessons by mail, and evening prayers at bedtime. We also attended the United Church in Maymont for a number of years. Reverend Myers took the services at that time.

Dear me, as I sit and type these pages it almost seems those times never were and yet one almost feels the people mentioned were living it over again. We are now living in such vastly advance time with almost every comfort. Even so we were happy then with what we had. We knew no different, and never expected we ever would have the city conveniences with electric lights and running water.

I do remember my sister Dorothy and I visiting our grandparents in Saskatoon when the waterman came around once a week with horses on a large water tank. He would fill a large barrel in the kitchen which was used for everything, drinking as well. The grocery man drove around taking grocery orders to be delivered later. The butcher, the baker, the milkman, and farm women called too with their eggs and poultry to sell.

No inside toilets then in the city, just little houses at the bottom of each lot. No holes underneath, they had a board floor and once a week very early in the morning a man would drive around and lift a trap door and clean these places out. In the country a hole would be dug underneath and when filled up, another hole would be dug and the outhouse moved over. The earth from in covering the first one, quite sanitary. A nice private place any other time than winter time. Then it would be too cold to stay and read the old papers or look at the catalogue.

In the early days of our marriage, and before, the

men worked the land with horses, some with oxen. When we were married they had two or three outfits of horses. Allan had two outfits, after Charlie left, to work so he had hired men until Nelson was old enough and by that time Allan bought his first tractor, a Massey Harris. I was very thankful to see that tractor come into the yard as I always felt so sorry for the horses and the men. Long days were put in sitting on those hard iron seats of the different implements, and many weary miles the horses went over.

Going back [illegible] the years in the thirties, the field crops were very poor everywhere. From one year to the next the farmer's hopes never died and with each spring with renewed hope the land was prepared and the seed sown. With almost every new day the winds never seemed to [illegible] down until sunset. The dust would be so thick [illegible] the air that often it obscured the sun. I have had [illegible] light the lamps sometimes in the afternoons and often during the day little piles of dirt heaped up under the doors and windows. Our houses simply dried out. There were many bush fires too. When we didn't have dust it was smoke so thick at times that the sun or moon just looked like a red ball. We do not see this anymore, thanks [illegible].

Feed for the cattle became less and less. The pastures dried up as did the water in the sloughs. Prices for livestock became practically nothing. The Nuthrowns had theirs pastured out in the north country where there was supposed to be more and better feed. After leasing them out for those years there was very little left to go back for. What there were, were very poor and skinny. Allan had kept a few milk cows back for our own use. Feed being so scarce they would go over the other side of the river and bring back loads of Russian thistle. At least it kept the cows alive and we had our milk, cream and butter and sold some cream to the creamery in Lloydminster at that time.

Allan had many nice cattle in later years after the rains came. He also had many losses as the years went on. Some were taken from the pasture with their calves which he tried in vain to trace. Others met their fate in the dugout and the river. Another time seven heifers went into a muddy ravine in the pasture and died because they couldn't get out. That was a sad sight. Lightning also took its toll. That was the way it was. Finally Allan gave up and sold them all except one that was to be our milk cow. A few days after the rest had gone, this young cow was found dying with froth and blood coming from her mouth. We wondered what happened but never found out. Really one must never give up hoping.

With the coming of the sixties more rains came. Farmers had many successful years with better crops, better prices, and were able to renovate and paint their buildings, and buy more and better equipment making farming easier.

This also meant more conveniences in the home with running water and electric appliances. Allan's health began to break down in 1970 but he never gave up until 1973 when we had a farm sale and sold the farm to Dick Clayton. Marilyn thought it better that we move to Mannville, Alberta. She was nursing in the hospital there and there were two doctors and a pharmacy. For me it seemed the sensible move to make and which has been greatly to her dad's benefit. We have a very comfortable home here, good friends and neighbors, good garden, grounds and lawn. The town's population is seven hundred. There are stores to supply every need, five churches, large Agriplex, very large school, five elevators in a good farming district. It lies one hundred miles slightly southeast of Edmonton, fifty miles northwest of Lloydminster and fourteen miles west of Vermilion. The hospital is new and the doctors are good. So far so good.

Nelson Nuthrown Story

told by Helen Nuthrown

On the farm South of Maymont, Saskatchewan, on November [illegible], 1926, Nelson Herbert Nuthrown was born. He was the eldest of Allan and Marjorie Nuthrown's seven children.

I was born in June, 1929 on a farm south west of

Nelson and Helen Nuthrown, Deborah, Cam, Rick and Shannon.

Nelson Nuthrown getting ready to fly.

Fielding, Saskatchewan. Annie and Charles Sherman had eight children of whom I was the youngest.

We received our early schooling in a one room school. One teacher taught all the subjects to all the grades. The "Social High Light" of the year was the Christmas Concert. All the children worked very hard to memorize their part for a play, a recitation and of course, Christmas carols. The Christmas carol singing would [redacted] no easier for Nelson than it was for me because neither one of us could "carry a tune in a basket." The desperate teacher must have had a hard time getting enough pupils capable of doing all the items that she wanted on her program because on two different occasions she had Nelson and me singing duets. I think the names of them were "Sunbonnet Sally and Overall Jim" and "My Sailor Boy". I only remember one part of the song where My Sailor Boy says, "What is your fortune, my Pretty Maid?" She answers, "My face is my fortune, my sailor boy." His reply is "Then I can't marry you, my Pretty Maid." The Pretty Maid becomes very indignant, stamps her foot with all her might and says, "Nobody asked you [redacted]. My Sailor Boy." It was about ten years later on December fourth, 1948 that we were married in Vancouver, B.C.

Classes were not the only activity that went on in the one room school in the 1930's. When the weather and roads permitted, a preacher held church on the Sundays. Several Saturday nights in the winter saw the school jumping with dancing. Nelson had the honor of having his Uncle Harry Nutbrown teach him to dance while he was still a young boy. Nelson always told it this way, — "He lifted me up off the floor and hitched me over the top of his big huge stomach and away we went. My feet didn't touch the floor again till the dance was over." That would be some dance lesson. What fun it must have been to be riding so high while Nelson was so small.

Nelson moved from his parents' farm in the fall of 1945 to Vancouver. My mother, Mrs. Annie Sherman, had already moved some of her family to Vancouver in 1939 after she had been widowed in 1935. As we had been neighbours of Nelson's family in Saskatchewan, he looked us up when he arrived in Vancouver. Nelson became an apprentice watchmaker while in Vancouver.

Living in a large city was not the sort of life style Nelson wanted, so in the spring of 1948 he tried to persuade me to try our luck at farming. I had been only ten years old when I left the farm. I had actually grown up in the city and had become very fond of it. I had learned my housekeeping skills with running water, sewer, and electricity at my fingertips. Could anyone go to a farm and make a home without these things when they had been used to them? I knew that Nelson liked the friendly prairie people so I felt I should move for his sake.

It was at Easter time that Nelson and I gave up our small city apartment and drove by car to Saskatchewan. My brother, Rudolph, and his wife and their two young sons were returning to their farm at that time, so we were able to ride with them.

I had forgotten how cold the prairie wind could be in the spring. I did remember that the "dry thirties" had killed some of the trees and bushes, but all the trees seemed to be dead. I looked and looked for some that had life to them but I just didn't see any leaves on any of them. I remarked to Muriel that it was such a pity that all the trees had been killed in the dry years. She kindly explained to me that they were not dead, they were still not green yet after the long winter months. We had left the green of the evergreens and the blue of the mountains, sky and ocean for the grey of the prairies. My nephews, being the good travelling companions that they were, tried to cheer me with their jokes and stories.

After some time we were able to locate rentable farm land near Nelson's family home.

Our first child, Deborah Anne was born on September twenty-eighth, 1949. When she was twenty months old we discovered she was a diabetic. For this reason we felt we should be closer to an all weather highway so we would have easier access to the hospital. We were able [redacted] buy a farm beside the town of Maymont. This farm had a comfortable home that had the ultimate of all luxuries, electric lights. After being without power for so many months I was truly happy to have [redacted] once again.

Nelson had always been a friendly, outgoing person, so once again [redacted] could enjoy the company of his relations and friends. He was also able to make new friends as we were so close to town.

The crops near Maymont in the fifties were not as good as they should have been. The year of the "rust" we had three bushels of wheat to the acre. Some people had less and were plowing their crops under. We were fortunate that Nelson had a diesel tractor so he could harvest the crop more economically. However, after we made our land and machinery payments, we didn't have anything left for our growing family. It was certainly not an ideal situation for someone who was just starting to farm. It was even hard on people who had been farming for some time or those who had taken over the family farm.

In the meantime, Nelson became interested in trenching and the installation of water and sewer lines. He had a friend who was interested in this work also. They decided to buy a backhoe and other equipment needed for construction work. They were fortunate to get the government contract to install water and sewer lines for farmers in the Lashburn area. This sometimes took Nelson into the Marsden area as well.

Nelson became more and more interested in the people and the beautiful country around Marsden. The people were kind and friendly and this appealed to Nelson's amiable nature.

The first few summers the children and I stayed in Maymont. Nelson and his men went to Lashburn after

seeding was done in the spring. The rest of the farming operations were coinciding with his construction work. Nelson realized that a decision had to be made between farming and his business. It was not really a difficult decision for him to make as he was happy with the work he was doing and he enjoyed being with people. The farm never did pay as it should have so he wanted to leave it. I decided his decision was the right one when we were driving through the picturesque Marsden country. Nelson told me that this was the part of the country he loved and he wanted me to like it too. The trees and rolling hills were very beautiful so I couldn't help but like it. I was content that Nelson had found his place and work in life.

It was after the beginning of June 1962 that we made our decision to move immediately rather than wait till the next year. Nelson and his partner divided the equipment between them and each one went his own way.

As we were unable to find a house in Marsden we had to take one in Neilburg for a few months. While we lived in Neilburg we bought a house and moved it into Marsden. I went to the house everyday that I could and painted, papered and put down floor coverings. On December fourth, 1962, our fourteenth Wedding Anniversary, we moved to our home in Marsden. The children changed schools at Christmas time.

We didn't have to wait long for the water and sewer lines to come to Marsden. I think everyone felt the same thrill that I did when we were able to turn on our taps. It was years since I was able to do that so I was indeed pleased.

The installation of water and sewer lines on the farms was one of the things that revolutionized the farms for all the people on them. Nelson felt his job was a rewarding one because everyone was so pleased to have running water. His customers became his friends and he always enjoyed himself with them.

Ever since Nelson was a small boy he wanted to fly. When the Neilburg-Marsden area started a flying club and offered flying lessons, Nelson was one of the first to sign up for them. He finished his lessons, passed his medical with "flying colors" and received his pilot's license. This inspired our son Cam and he started flying with his father when he was of age. Rick, our youngest son, thought it might be a good idea to learn to fly so he could get home quickly from his hockey and ball games.

Nelson also liked books and records that had a bit of human interest to them. He liked to let others enjoy them too. In the hot summer he liked to sit in a cool downstairs room and listen to his records. If his friends came to see him, they had the pleasure of joining him in his downstairs retreat.

In the spring of 1973, I decided for the family that the outside of the house needed painting. It became a family project with everyone spending all the spare time they could on it. When September came and we still weren't finished with the painting of the house, Nelson felt we must rush the job in order to be finished before the first snowfall.

Nelson was on the truck box reaching as high as he could with his brush, with paint from his full pail running down the front of his clothes. The boys, their friends and I being very helpful, stood around and laughed at him. When people we knew drove by, they saw us at work and came into our yard to give us words of encouragement or advice. I had such a hard time trying to get anyone to take over my paint brush. However, one friend became brave enough to try after I put on my "Tom Sawyer" act. We had had many such "fun days" in the past, but this was the last we were to have with Nelson.

The next day on September tenth, 1973, Cam and Nelson had moved the digger to a new job. Nelson had several things he wished to see to, so he left Cam capably digging while he came to town. He stopped at home to let me know what he was going to do. I reminded Nelson of his Mason meeting in the evening and told him that I would have an early supper ready when he wanted it. Nelson went to several business places and talked with many of his friends. He also went to Neilburg and then arrived back at the job in time to install the new material. Cam had just finished the new trench which joined an old trench and was about to help his dad by getting material from the truck. Cam heard a rumble and turned to see that the old trench had caved in on top of his father. He quickly started the digger and dug beside where he knew his dad was. When he got close to him, Cam was wise enough to dig with his hands. Cam's quick thinking and fast work had Nelson out of the trench in moments but it was too late. The nurse who lived on the farm and the ambulance attendants were unable to help Nelson. The coroner told me that the boulder-like material of the old trench was very damaging and did its work too quickly. He also said the old trench had been weakened by rain that we had had several days before.

When I was told what happened I was like many other people I talked to, I found it very hard to believe. Nelson had always been so careful with his machines and trenches. He understood the soil well enough to know what would cave in and what wouldn't. We all knew that if Nelson thought the first trench was weak he never would have gone near it and neither would his son. Nelson loved family, friends and life as they loved him but God had something better for him to do.

The children and I stayed in Marsden for over a year, but I found I had to sell our digger and make my own living. We moved to Saskatoon in November, 1974, where I turned my home into a children's day care centre. This was not an ideal situation but I was able to stay home with our youngest daugher, Shannon. After she experienced the loss of her father I felt this was important.

After I had been a widow for a year and a half, I was able to gain control of my life.

I met my present husband in Saskatoon and he

helped me accept life without Nelson. We were married on August 17, 1975 in the presence of our families and a few close friends. The older children were working away from home so Shannon was the only one left with me to move to Bev's home in Kindersley. My husband, Beverley Murdoch is a farmer in this area.

Our daughter Deborah is married and living in Lloydminster, Alberta. She has two lovely children, a boy Dean and a girl Crystal.

Campbell Nelson is working in Lloydminster and living in Marsden. His interests are still flying and biking.

Richard Allan also works in Lloydminster after taking a Water Science course in Saskatoon. He lives in Marsden and plays hockey and ball with his friends.

Shannon Michele Ruby still goes to school here in Kindersley. She has many interests.

Although Nelson Nutbrown is no longer with us and we have started a new life, his influence and memory remains with each of us.

Charles and Mary Nutbrown

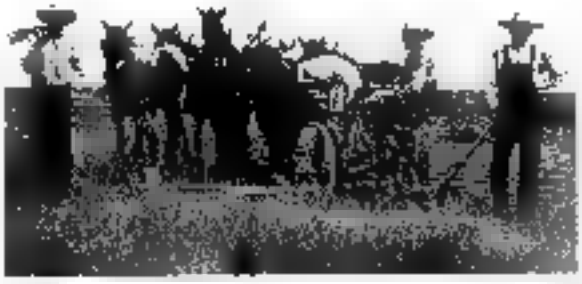
Charles Nutbrown grew up on a farm near Leeds Village in the Eastern township in the province of Quebec.

In the spring of 1911, as a young man he came west to Maymont where friends and an uncle lived. He worked on a farm during the year and liked what he saw. He found land for sale. Section 9-41-12 W3rd. He went back to Quebec and in the early spring of 1912 the Thomas George Nutbrown family had a sale to dispose of those items not required in the west and which could not be shipped with the car load of settler's effects. Charlie rode in that car to care for the animals and I know if he were living, would have interesting stories to relate. His father Thomas, mother Agnes and three brothers Harry, Sam and Allan arrived about the same time by train.

Early in March, 1925 Mary Miller arrived in the district to teach Calais School No. 3554. Trustees were T. G. Nutbrown, George Sloan, W. Hill, chairman of the board and Frank Collins — secretary. It was a small rural one room school with double desks and a pot belly stove for heat. There were twenty-seven pupils and grades one to seven inclusive. Their teacher was born at Centre Point, Indiana, U.S.A. and emigrated with her parents to Saskatchewan, Canada arriving on March 19, 1911. Her father homesteaded sixteen miles east of Hanley. In 1912 she and a brother drove with horse and buggy seven miles to school for 2 months. In 1913 their new school was built and opened for two months. Completing public school she continued her education at the Hanley High School; the Saskatoon Nutana Collegiate and the Saskatoon Normal School.

February, 1927 Charles Nutbrown and Mary Miller were married in Kenaston, Sask. and took up residence four miles from Maymont on the NW ¼ section 9-41-12

Charles and Mary Nutbrown — 1953.



The Nutbrowns breaking sod with a sulky plow, 1912. Sam on plow seat, Charlie standing beside him, Tom Nutbrown Sr. standing with the grub hoe.

W3rd. In the fall of 1926 Charles had drilled a well nearly 200 feet deep and was rewarded with an ample supply of good drinking water. He built a house and barn that same year. He built up a herd of good Shorthorn cattle, fed his cattle well and enjoyed seeing them well finished. The dry years came and in 1932 some cattle were let out on shares to a farmer at Spruce Lake. At this time the Quaker Oats Co. was selling "Nim" feed. This was ground oat hulls with a percentage of oat shorts and middlings which come off the product when they are milling rolled oats. Russian thistle grew when nothing else would and that was used for feed. Grain and hay were shipped in and sold to farmers.

In the spring of 1940 we received through the P.F.R.A. 1,375 trees to be planted for a shelter belt. It was still quite dry and they had to be watered. Some did not survive, but many did.

Two daughters — Lillian and Muriel; and a son Murvel were born in our home on the farm with Dr. Scratch in attendance.

Dugouts were being dug to store surface water on the farm and ours became a reality in the fall of 1945. The power line was built through Maymont and by 1952

we had electricity. Water and sewer were installed in 1967.

Charlie has served on the telephone committee, the Calais School Board and was keenly interested in the Sask. Wheat Pool — he served on that committee many years. We were members of the Anglican Church.

Mary served on the Calais School Board and became a life member of S.W.I. We enjoyed company and neighbors. Entertainment during the years were Chautauqua, concerts, dances and picnics.

Charlie loved the soil and spent the 60 years he was resident in the district on the farm. He passed away in January, 1972. Mary now resides in an apartment in Saskatoon. She enjoys travelling, concerts, S.W.I. church, and visiting with family and friends.

The Sam Nutbrown Story

by Bethene Long

My father, Sam Nutbrown, came to the Maymont District in 1912, from near Sherbrooke, Quebec, with his father and mother and three brothers. They had purchased a section of land the year before, located three miles south and one mile east of Maymont. My mother came with her parents and family about the same time, coming from Hebron, Nebraska. They farmed three miles south and two miles east of Maymont, for a time, then moved west of Maymont three miles. My parents married in 1915 and Dad had his farm three miles west of Maymont. There were nine of us in the family.

Bethene (myself), Dora, Kenneth, Norma, Eddie, Della, Helen, Don and Larry. The five older members of the family started school at Montro and the younger members at Calais and Fielding. My father served in the Air Force Transport Division from 1943-1945 spending this time at Macdonald, Manitoba. During this time the family lived at Fielding.

After the war Dad and Mother and Larry moved to Marshall and took up a farm under the V.L.A. The others in the family by this time were working in other areas. In 1959 they sold this farm to Jack Gollan and retired to the Coast at Burnaby near my brothers there. My mother passed away in March of 1965 and my father fourteen years later in March, 1979.

The family are very scattered now and live — myself (Mrs. Ivor Long) at Lloydminster, Sask. I have two children. Dora (Mrs. Donald Shelton) at Victoria, B.C. She has four children. Kenneth (married to Cervia Bragg) at Burnaby, B.C. He has five children. He passed away in August 1972 at age 51. Norma (Mrs. Roger Gee) at The Pas, Manitoba has three children. Eddie now living in Surrey, B.C. has two children. Della (Mrs. Tom Scott) at Flin Flon, Manitoba has six children. Helen (Mrs. Joe Noyes) at Taber, Alberta has four children. Don, living at Richmond, B.C. has three children and Larry living at Lloydminster, Saskatchewan has five children.

The Pains

Harold Pain, oldest grandson of William G. Dow took over the Dow farm in 1939.

A brief history of Harold, born at Vonda, Saskatchewan in February, 1912, the oldest son of Thomas and Marion Pain. He took his public and high school at Vonda, then went to McGill university at Montreal in 1929, hoping to become a civil engineer. Due to the great depression, could not continue so returned to the farm in 1931.

In 1929 his dad purchased a half section of school land, raw prairie, paid 20% down and turned it over to Harold and his brother Gerrie, who broke ninety acres that same year. 1930 was a very dry year, resulting in only six hundred bushels of wheat being taken off. They continued farming the land until 1933 and then gave it up. There was no crop in 1932 so they sold what wheat there was for nineteen cents a bushel.

In the fall of 1933, Harold arrived at Lilac and worked for Bill Agar with a wage of ten dollars a month, a far cry from the present wage. He also worked for John Swan and David Alexander over the years.

In 1937, Harold's father died in an accident and he returned to Vonda to help his brother and mother. The first crop in that year was one hundred ninety acres of wheat, threshed sixty-two bushels.

In 1939, Harold moved back to Lilac and took over the Dow farm. The only building on the farm was the house. The first thing to do was to build a barn for the horses.

Harold remained a bachelor until October 21, 1945 when he married Mary Prescesky. They raised a family of three children. Tom born in 1948, Harvey in 1950 and Dianne in 1955. They attended school in Lilac and high school in Maymont.

Harold and Mary and their family were active in the community. Harold was a warden for St. Mary's Anglican Church, school trustee for seventeen years, worked at the curling rink, a director on the Rural Ruddell Telephone Company for twenty years and on the Lilac Wheat Pool Committee for thirty years. Mary was also a member of the Lilac Ladies Guild for many years and also a member of the Ruddell Homemakers when they organized in 1946. Tom, Harvey and Dianne were very active in 4-H with the beef club being the main project.

Tom, Cheryl and son Stephen live in Battleford. Patrick, Dianne and daughter Stacey Becotte in North Battleford.

In the fall of 1978, the Pains moved in their new home in North Battleford. Harvey and his wife Beverely and son Adam moved on the farm. Harvey is the fourth generation of the descendants of the Dows to live in the same house on the farm. Maybe Adam could be the fifth.

Mr. and Mrs. William Parent

by Edna (Parent) Rowley

William (Bill) Parent was born in Range, Wisconsin, June 2, 1881. His wife, Jennie (Sauvie) Parent was born in Quebec, Canada, February 16, 1882. They were married in Conway, North Dakota, 1902.

Three children were born in North Dakota: Walter Leo, William Eugene, and Edna Catherine.

They moved to their homestead at Medicine Lake, Montana, where they broke land and farmed. During this time there were many hardships, such as using cow chips in stoves for heating and cooking. Coal was hauled for winter fuel from the mines, twenty-five miles away. Drinking water was hauled from pot holes and boiled for use. There were few neighbours but they helped one another.

Jennie and William Parent.

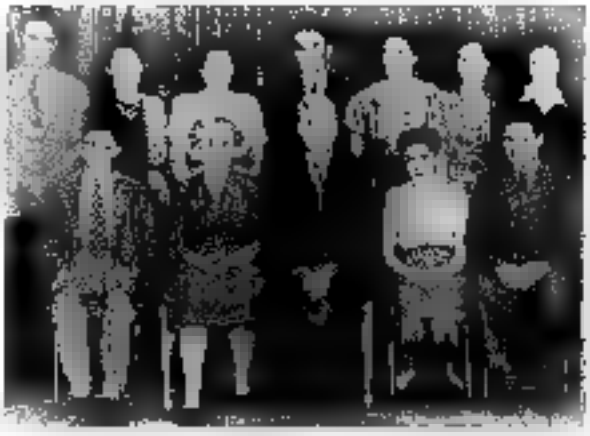
Bill Parent and Frank Fricholtz — Medicine Lake, Montana, 1910.

Five children were born in Medicine Lake from 1908 to 1917: Mabel Anna, Guy Arthur, Marie Agnes, Lucille Martha and Vivianne Margaret. Jennie, being a trained seamstress, did all the sewing for the family, using (dyed) sugar and flour bags for much of the material. There were good times as well as bad. Neighbours got together for house parties, with music and dancing. William played the violin and Jennie the organ.

The family were always afraid of cyclones, which came up unexpectedly. They took shelter in the cellar.

William and Jennie and family of eight immigrated to Saskatchewan, Canada, in February, 1918, arriving in Denholm, Saskatchewan, where there was no hotel. A kind family in Denholm put them up for the night. Next day, they travelled to Richard, Saskatchewan, by train staying in the hotel there for a week while waiting for their cattle, horses, machinery and household effects to arrive.

All nieces and nephews of Bill Parent.



William Parent family. (l-r) Back — Eugene, Edna, Mabel, Guy, Marie, Lucille, Vivianne. Front — Bertrand, Jennie (mother), William (father), Yvette, Harvey (missing — Walter Parent).

They moved to the W. J. Davis farm, one and a quarter miles north of Lilac Village. Here was born Harvey Lawrence. The children walked three and one-half miles to school in summer and drove by team and bob sled in winter. They sold the farm there and moved to the Sam Semple Ranch (near Goose Lake) where they stayed till 1926. Barney was the school pony, having faithfully served three families in this way. He was terrified of cars, rearing up and breaking shafts often.

They stayed until 1926, moving then to Vermilion, Alberta for one year and back to the Semple Ranch were Bertrand Lloyd (died in infancy) Yvette Marguerete, Bertrand Joseph, and Edith Rose (died in infancy) were born. They moved to J. Sharpe farm, (N½ 16-43-13-W3rd) four miles north of Lilac, where a home was built and they farmed there till 1946. They retired to North Battleford.

In 1956, a niece of Bill Parent celebrated her Silver Jubilee as a religious nun. Her name was Sister Fabiole. At her Jubilee were ten priests and eighteen other Sisters all of whom were nephews and nieces of Bill Parent and cousins to the Parent children. All of the twenty-nine were serving in Canada or the United States.

William Parent passed away in 1948. Jennie Parent, now ninety-seven years of age (1979) resides in River Heights Lodge, North Battleford, since 1970.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. William Parent:

Walter Parent, eldest of the family, passed away in February, 1979. He was married to Frieda Holmes. They had two sons.

William Eugene, married to Leona Burgarion; 9 children.

Edna Catherine, married to Les Rowley, Battleford; 3 children.

Mabel Anna Clifford, a widow in North Battleford; 2 children.

Guy Arthur, married Kay Nasson, North Battleford; 4 children.

Marie Agnes, married Wert Reid, North Battleford; 4 children.

Lucille Martha, married Bob Wright, then Glen Nelson; 5 children.

Vivianne Margaret, married Gordon Ranger, North Battleford; 4 children.

Harvey Lawrence, married Jean Degenstein, Stettler, Alta.; 3 children.

Bertrand Lloyd, died in infancy.

Yvette Marguerete, married Jim Barbour, Winnipeg, Manitoba; 4 children.

Edith Rose, died in infancy.

Bertrand Joseph, married Jean Radchuk, North Battleford; 2 children.

William and Jennie Parent: 11 children (2 died in infancy), 41 grandchildren, 35 great-grandchildren, 2 great-great-grandchildren.

The William H. Parker Family

In 1904 a covered wagon arrived bringing a family to their homestead on the Southwest quarter of Section 16, Township 42, Range 12 in what was the North West Territories.

William Parker family — early 1900's. Standing — Olive, Percy, Eva. Seated — William Parker, Laura, Elizabeth Parker.

This was the family of William Gibson Parker, born in Durham County, England in February, 1871, and his wife Elizabeth Duncan (Hird) Parker, born in Arbroath, Scotland in February, 1881, and their four children, ten year old Percy Valentine, eight year old Mary Olive, Millicent Francis Eva six years old, and Laura Elizabeth four years.

Bill and Lizzie Parker came first to Manitoba from the old country. Here their four children were born, Percy in Winnipeg and girls at Rosendale. Bill's brother Jack Parker had come out in 1902 and at that time one could obtain a homestead by proxy, so Jack filed for a homestead for Bill and in 1904 it was to this 160 acres of virgin soil the family came. They came as far as Saskatoon by rail, but since the railroad had not come any further as yet they made the rest of the trip by horse and wagon.

There was no home of any kind for them to come to so they stayed in a little sod shack owned by Mr. Billie Dawson who's homestead was kitty-corner to theirs. Billie Dawson had been away fighting in the Boer War and was then working on the railroad to get himself established. This was their home until Bill Parker built a small log house. A frame addition was later added making a more comfortable home.

Some of the people here when the Parker family first came were Mr. William Andrew, Sr., Mr. Madill who was a Presbyterian minister, and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Williams.

In 1905 three important events took place which

The Woman's Missionary Society
of the
UNITED CHURCH of CANADA
Certifies that
Mrs. W. Parker
is a
Life Member
in accordance with the terms of its Constitution
W. W. C. Lawe President
April 9th 1927 E. A. Jamison Secretary

Life Membership in W.M.S.

were to shape the future of these brave people. First, the railroad went through the area, and their daughter Eva many years later, recalled how people came for miles just to see the first train go through! What a wonderful link to the outside world for these early pioneers. Secondly, the Province of Saskatchewan came into being and thirdly, a school district was formed. There was a growing population in the area and the people decided they should have a school, so in 1905 the Grey School District No. 1358 was founded. Bill Parker donated two acres of this homestead quarter to the district for a school and schoolyard. On November 1st, of that year Grey School opened with Miss Annie Arkley (Mrs. A. C. Brehon) as teacher. Laura Parker started school when she was five years old as to make up enough pupils enrolled to open the school. The first school board consisted of Mr. Bill Parker, who was also Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. William Andrew, and Mr. J. R. Rogers.

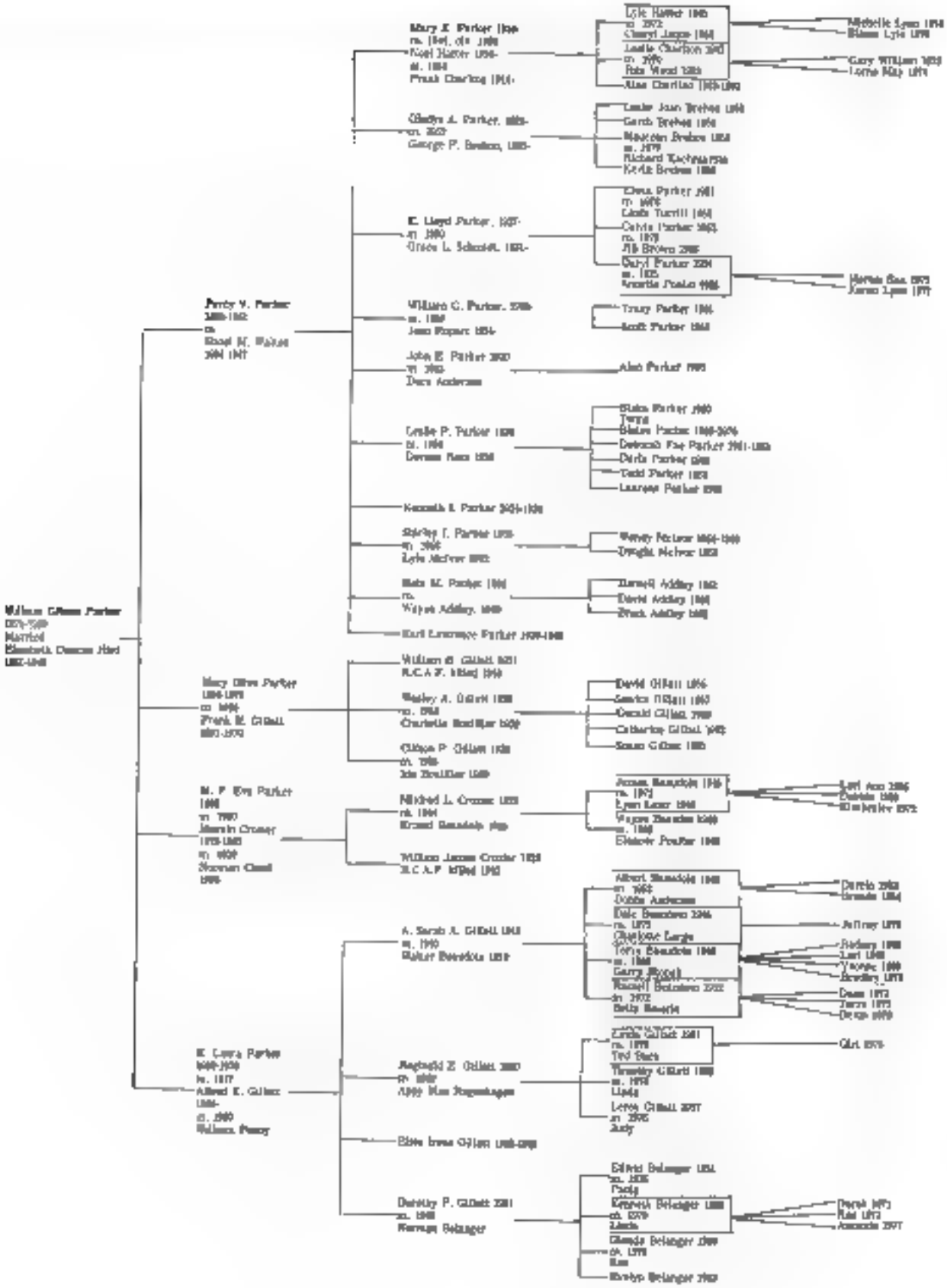
Building roads with wheel scrapers in the early 1900's.

The four children took their early schooling there. Later Percy, Olive and Eva went to the Collegiate and Normal School in North Battleford and graduated as teachers. It was shortly after this the Normal School was moved to Saskatoon.

The Honorable George Langley who was M.L.A. at that time asked Bill Parker if he would take the job as supervisor of road construction, so for several years he worked "on the road". Under his supervision roads were built north of Richard, in the Radisson area, down at the Saskatchewan River where the Borden bridge now stands, and also further south.

It was while he was away working on the road and the older children were in school in North Battleford, that their house burned down. Everything was lost including a lovely piano. This was a terrible blow to the family.

Bill Parker was one of the settlers who assisted in building the first Presbyterian Church. It stood on the lot east of what is now the Memorial Hall. In 1908 Bill Parker was "elected, ordained and inducted as an Elder in the Church."



He was on the Grey School board for many years. He helped organize and was a Charter Member and County Master of the Maymont Orange Lodge, an organization which was very active at that time. ■ 1914 owing to a lack of suitable meeting places the Orangemen built a hall which was used extensively for many years. Lizzie Parker was an active member of the Women's Missionary Society for many years and was presented with a life membership in the organization in 1927.

During the ■ epidemic of 1918, Dr. Scratch often called on Lizzie Parker for help. He would call her to a home where the whole family was ill and she would go wherever she was needed. For some miraculous reason she did not catch the ■ herself.

She was a great cook and her Scotch Shortbread was famous. She would never use butter with salt, when she churned she always set aside some butter unsalted for Shortbread The dough was carefully worked, and cooked in large round patties. When served she cut them in pieshaped wedges.

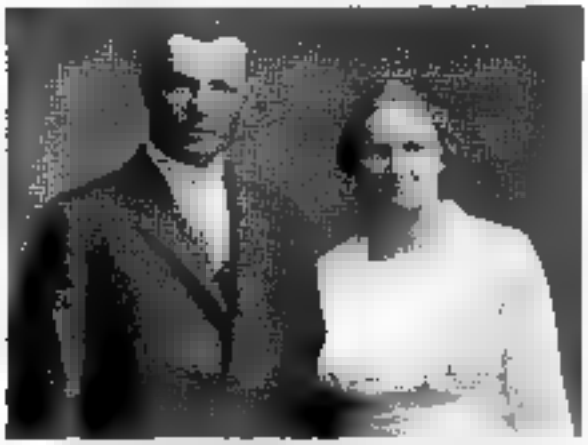
Some of their close friends were Mr. and Mrs. Irvine, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Pickett of Richard, and Mr. and Mrs. F. Butterfield.

Bill Parker died in May, 1939 at the age of 68 years. Lizzie continued to live on the farm with her son Percy and died November, 1946 in her 85th year.

Percy Parker Family

Percy Parker was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba on December ■, 1883 He came to the North West Territories in 1904 with his parents and sisters. From Saskatoon they travelled with the George Walton family who were also coming to their homestead. During the long ride from Saskatoon he helped to amuse the youngest member of the Walton family at that time, a baby girl called Hazel That little girl several years later became his wife and he often teased her after they were married of how he had held her on his knee and helped take care of her during the journey.

Percy attended Grey School, North Battleford Collegiate and Normal School and became a teacher. ■ 1918 ■ taught at Bluebird School which was East of the Village of Mayfair. He boarded with the Lafreniere family. A terrible diphtheria epidemic swept through the area and several children died. One German resident of the district lost a child and when a neighbour sympathized he said, "Well, we are sorry, but it was one less mouth to feed!" Times were very hard then, no money, no conveniences and people worked very, very hard to keep food on the table and clothing on their backs.



Percy and Hazel Parker — married July 3rd, 1923.

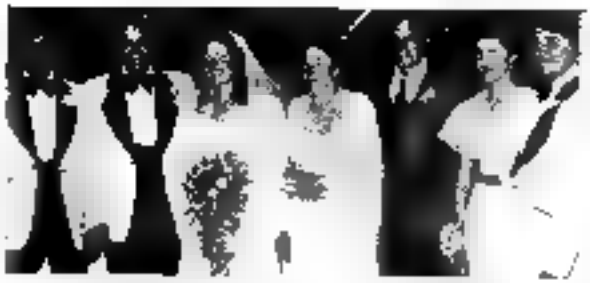
In 1923 he married Hazel Maud Walton who was born in Manitoba on February 27, 1904. They lived on the farm 3 miles North and 1 mile East of Maymont with his parents. Ten children were born to them, Mary, Gladys, Lloyd, Bill, John, Leslie, Kenneth, Shirley, Reta and Earl. Kenneth and Earl died in infancy.

Kenneth died in 1938 with spinal meningitis. At that time the disease was thought to be very contagious so the whole family was quarantined. Dr. Scratch would not allow the funeral to be held indoors so it was held in the farmyard. This must have been a terrible time for the family as Hazel was still in bed recovering from the birth of a little daughter. The cost of that funeral was $25.00. Earl died when he was four years old in 1943.

Percy was a member of the Orange Lodge along with his father. The Orangemen held picnics on the 12th of July. The fun would begin with Orangemen parading down the street to the picnic grounds. The ladies would have packed huge lunches of sandwiches, cakes and lots of other goodies and everyone had a picnic supper These were big events in the community and large crowds attended.

Percy and Hazel were both students ■ Grey School and all their family went to school there. At one time or another Percy was a student, teacher, trustee and caretaker of the school. He was always willing to lend a hand with anything that had to be done at the school. He always helped put the stage up and the trestles in for seating for the Christmas Concerts. Hazel was a quiet home-loving person and took great pleasure in her children. She went out very little but always enjoyed visits from neighbours and friends. She especially enjoyed meeting each new teacher as they came to Grey School and was always happy to make a cup of tea and have a visit with them. She made coffee at her home for years for various entertainment at the school as there were no facilities there. If one of the children from the school forgot to bring their lunch they simply came over to Parkers and had their dinner there.

The depression years were very hard on everyone. They worked long hours under difficult circumstances with no reward whatsoever. Percy and Hazel seldom got to Church until later years when Mr. Myers began holding service in Grey School, then they both attended regularly. Percy later became a member of the Maymont United Church Board and was also an Elder.



Lloyd and Grace Parker family. L. to r. — Cal, Elwin and Linda, Grace and Lloyd, Annette and Darryl — 1978.

Hazel died at the age of 43 years in 1947. Percy shortly after left the farm and retired in Maymont. He enjoyed his family and visited them often. He died following a heart attack on September 13, 1961 at 68 years of age.

The Lloyd Parker Story

as told by Lloyd Parker

I will endeavor to tell some of the story of ELWIN LLOYD PARKER, born the third child and first son of Mrs. Hazel Maud Parker (nee Walton) and Mr. Percy Valentine Parker, of then Maymont, Saskatchewan.

I was born on June 24th, 1927 in Maymont. ■ the years to follow I lived at home with three other brothers and four sisters whom are all living and all are married with growing-up families.

In my childhood days, things were much different than they are today. Money was something some people had, but our family were always short of, although our family was rich with love, and admiration of our elders.

There was no elaborate social life, no travelling, no drinking and lots of respect. We had a battery-operated radio, no T.V. — they weren't invented yet. We had kerosene lamps, and a wood stove. But we did have our own ball diamond; we used to go horseback riding, sleigh riding, etc. We trapped gophers in the summer and shared Jack rabbits in the winter. Our only swimming pool was a slough that filled with water in the spring when the snow melted. It went dry in July.

In the winter we went to school, helped with work around the farm and played "Shinney". Shinney was a game like hockey played on hard-packed snow, a small field approx. 40 X 80 ft. We used wooden pucks and curved sticks cut from willow trees with an axe and hewed to your own fancy. We played this game nearly every night (for two or three years) and usually had a game Saturday or Sunday also. Everyone played, I, my three brothers, some sisters, my Dad and Bill Penny. Every night we would be playing Shinney, it would get near 8 o'clock and Auntie Laura would phone up, "Tell that Bill Penny to get home for supper!", Walter Beaudoin was a wicked Shinney player. He spent some of the game riding on Dad's back. Dad always played goal (and on his knees).

Now I lived there on the old farm until 1950 when I married Grace Lillian Schmidt, eldest daughter of Mrs. Ruth Schmidt (nee Ruth Barrett) and Mr. Roy Schmidt of Maymont, Saskatchewan.

After being married July 19, 1950 we lived for a short time at the Roy Schmidt farm, then moved to live in a rented house in the Village of Maymont. This was in the fall of 1950, we rented a house from Arthur Milman for part of a year. Then we lived in several other houses in Maymont.

I began working in a General Motors Garage in January, 1951 where I stayed and worked for 7½ years. During this time we had the pleasure of having three sons of whom we are especially proud.

Our first son, Elwin Keith was born January 14, 1951; our second son Calvin Lynn was born April 13, 1953; and our third son Daryl was born July 2, 1954.

At this time, while the boys were going to school, and playing hockey and growing up, we had bought and were running a Service Station in Maymont. (The Tom Woods Service Station and Bulk fuel dealership.) It was called "Lloyd's North Star Service". Grace and I worked and run our business from 1958 to 1969, 10 years in business and many long hours, as the business had to be looked after as well as three sons to raise and a home to keep together.

While running the Service Station and with all the long hours and the poor economy in our area in 1969, we had to give up our business, as we were finally forced out. We closed up our business in April, 1969 and the changes that took place following were enormous, adventurous, and heart breaking. Grace and I had many exciting moments in Maymont, while the boys were playing hockey, of which they were all good skaters, also good ball players and all other activities. Each of the boys sang in the choir as they got old enough. Both Grace and I were members of Sharon United Church in Maymont of which I was an usher for sometime. I was a member of the Board of Trade, a village council man for some time and for a period of time I was Village Overseer. I was also the Fire Chief as well as being Secretary for the Maymont and Community Sports Centre.

Now all the Joys and Tribulations of living in Maymont, Saskatchewan came to an end on June 28, 1969 as Grace and I and sons left there and moved to Surrey, British Columbia.

One of the hardest things in our married life was to leave the place where we were all born; Grace and I, Elwin, Calvin and Daryl — we were all born, right there at Maymont or North Battleford. The agony of leaving the old home and searching for a new one, was the toughest thing we had ever undertaken in our lives up to that time.

On July 9, 1969, I got a job in a General Motors Garage in New Westminster, B.C. called Westminster

Chev-Olds Ltd. We lived for one month with Mr. and Mrs. Roy Schmidt, then bought a house in the Municipality of Surrey, B.C.

After the first three years it took the boys to finish school, we also became climatized, then soon, one by one, our sons began to get work and soon everyone became self-supporting, taking some ■ the load off Grace and I.

When we first moved to B.C., Cal and Daryl came, but Elwin remained in Maymont for a few years but then later joined us in B.C.

We now have three sons, three daughters-in-law, and to date, two grandchildren. Elwin married Linda Turriff, Calvin married Jill Brown, and Daryl married Annette Poulin. Daryl and Annette have two children, Martin Rae Parker, four years old in April of 1979 and Karen Lynn will be two years old in October, 1979.

We are very proud of our sons and daughter-in-laws and especially proud of our two grandchildren, Marty and Karen.

I am also especially proud of my wife, Grace, as we have shared many happy hours together, also our share of trouble and hardships and this July 19th we will mark our 29th wedding anniversary.

It is a nice springtime (May 16, 1979). We have our garden ■ planted and have many flowers in the yard. The winter is much shorter in B.C. especially here at the coast. We have very little snow, lots of fog and rain in the winter time. The climate is not extreme, like in Saskatchewan. There is a lot of rain, but the ground seems like a seive and the water just disappears (quite fast!).

Now everyone is in fairly good health and all are working, so as of May 16, 1979.

Thomas Patterson (Ruddell 1979)

by Elizabeth (Patterson) Wood

Tom Patterson came from Belfast, Ireland some sixty years ago with Sam Semple, Dave Alexander, and Tommy Caldwell, all three now deceased. He stayed with the Semples for some time, then started working for William John Davis and Harry Welford. Shortly after he started farming ■ his own in the Lilac District.

In 1923 he married Dora Bulmer of Lilac who came out with her family as a small girl with the Barr Colonists from England. They raised a family of three: George of Lilac, Elizabeth (Mrs. Rollie Wood) of Ruddell, and Robert of Maymont. To date they have seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. ■ 1960 they retired from Lilac and moved into Ruddell where they still reside.

In the early days Tom was a community veterinarian. He was sometimes called during the night to attend a sick animal.

He had many hardships during his farming days, what with the depression in the early thirties and losing cattle and horses. One time he lost five horses in the spring when the horses lifted the lid of the seeder box and ate treated wheat. Thanks were given to his kind neighbors who lent him their horses so he could get his crop in.

He was a true member of the Masonic Lodge and this year (1979) he received his sixty-year pin for being a loyal member.

Now at ninety-four years ■ age he still likes to get

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Patterson of Ruddell.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Patterson's first home at Lilac or "Uncle Tom's Cabin".

out and work around in his garden. He enjoyed his days ■ a farmer and can see many changes ■ the way farming ■ done today from when he first started, but with all the changes he still says back then, those were the "Good Old Days."

Robert and Thelma Patterson

told by Thelma (Rogers) Patterson

I, Thelma Irene (Rogers) Patterson am the eldest child of Oliver and May Rogers. I have one brother, Dean Oliver Rogers, who is 3½ years younger than myself. We attended Grey School for our elementary grades. The school was in walking distance of our farm. All our school mates were relatives and the school days at Grey School are looked back upon with fond memories. Dean and myself attended school in Maymont for several years. With our trusty pony, Ginger, we managed to travel to school by buggy and cutter. Dean and I decided ■ discontinue our education and help on the farm.

It was our job to bring in the cows for milking and

Thelma and Robert's 25th wedding anniversary, June 10, 1978. L. to r. — Heather, Brenda, Marion, Patricia, Thomas, Thelma and Robert.

to gather the eggs, a job which neither of us enjoyed. Every Saturday the family went to town with the eggs and butter which Mom had churned. Allan and Baily Bean bought our eggs and butter which helped to buy the other groceries we needed.

After keeping company with a handsome young farmer from Lilac for 5½ years, I became the bride of Robert Patterson on June 10, 1953. Our wedding was held on a Wednesday afternoon in Sharon United Church with Rev. Frank Myers officiating. The reception was held at my parents farm and a dance followed in the Rutfield Hall. We made our first home on a farm called "Sonshine Hill" three miles east of Lilac. We had a three roomed honeymoon cottage which lacked plumbing, electricity and a telephone. We had poultry, cattle and pigs along with our grain which kept us busy.

Our first baby, Marion Dora, arrived in May 1954. She was followed by two sisters. Heather Irene, in November 1957 and Brenda Lee in September 1959. In January of 1961 our only son, Thomas Roger was born. Many times the happy memories of our children — now that most of them have left home — fill our quiet evenings.

We farmed at Lilac for nine years and then moved to my parents farm. The farewell party that our Lilac neighbors gave us is a happy memory to us yet. With Marion in grade three and Heather about to start school we were anxious to have our children attend the larger school in Maymont. At that time there was no bus route so when my parents decided to retire Robert and I bought their farm. In July 1962 we moved back to my childhood home with our four small children.

In May 1967 our youngest child, Patricia Lynne, was born. She is the only girl at home and she keeps us young taking her to her music lessons and church group meetings. Marion graduated from high school and then went on to take a Food Service Management Technology course in Kelsey Institute in Saskatoon. After completing her course Marion became the manageress in the cafeteria in Regina. Marion has a wedding date set for June 30, 1979 when she will become the bride of William Smith of Ogema. Heather graduated from high school in 1975 and became a cashier in the OK Economy Store in North Battleford. On November 15, 1975 Heather married Dennis Prescesky. They live eight miles west of us on their farm. In February 1979 their first child, Leon Dennis, was born. Brenda graduated from high school in 1977. She married a farmer, Charles Horrell of the Mount Hope District, and lives 14 miles north of Denholm. Brenda worked for Bill Pihach Food Services and for OK Economy in North Battleford. In November 1978, our first grandchild, Beverly Dawn was born to Brenda and Charles.

Tom is still at home but is employed at Kindersley Transport in North Battleford. He plans to take up farming at a later date but thought it best to try the working world for a while.

Since the children have left home, I have taken up several new hobbies including ceramics and Ukrainian embroidery. Robert and I have always lived a quiet life and enjoy entertaining family and friends. Our door is always open for those who care to pop in for a friendly chat and a cup of tea.

Mrs. Earl Pattison nee Muriel Brehon

Muriel Margaret Brehon, elder daughter of Alec and Annie Brehon, was born at the farm home. Jack Langley often told her how her father came to tell them about this daughter after having two sons. He said she was always going to be dressed in blue, his favorite color.

One day Muriel decided to go to her Dad who was ploughing on the homestead. Unfortunately she picked out another farmer on the northeast quarter. When she was missed, her mother ran through the trees, around the yard looking for her. The pins were pulled from her long hair and great bunches left hanging on the branches. Then Mrs. Brehon decided to go to her husband. Just as she got nearly there, she remembered the big water trough so turned around and ran home to search it. Alec had seen her, so took the plough out of the ground and trotted the team home. They found the small tracks to the north east and found Muriel in a slough, with reeds and grass over her head, waiting to be rescued.

Muriel took grades 1-10 at Keystone and 11 and 12 at Maymont. Muriel loved the outdoors and sports. She helped get points for the two small trophies that Keystone school won at Field Days. Many were the good games of ball that used to ensue at school and on Sundays. Hide and go seek was another favorite with everyone taking part. When the game moved inside in winter, it did so to the detriment of their mother's usually clean house. Conversation still remembers the time at Roy Schmidt's when her mother hid Bernice in a big milk pail and hung it up on the kitchen wall. That hiding place had everyone fooled for some time. Our

mother spent a lot of time with us playing games and doing exercises. She was able to bend over and put her hands flat on the floor when the rest of us couldn't even touch the floor with our fingertips. Our parents encouraged us ■ read which helped pass the long winter nights on the farm.

When growing up we got 1¢ an egg for crow's eggs so after school Colles, Dick and I would be off to hunt them down. Because I was the lightest, I had to climb the slender poplars. In the process, my dress was often torn and always covered with the white off the trees. My brothers made sure they let me off at the house first to get the scolding from our mother while they put the horse away. One time when playing football, unfortunately Muriel got there first. A boy, who wore boots with steel toes, kicked her foot. When she complained at home her Dad said "If you weren't such a tomboy you wouldn't get hurt". Gone were her Dad's illusions of a daughter who was a lady!

Muriel went on to become a teacher. She taught at Hattringay, near Ruddell and at Grey School where her mother had been the first teacher. Here she taught children of those whom her mother had taught. Unfortunately her career was rather checkered because, like her Dad, she developed tuberculosis and had three sessions in the Saskatoon Sanatorium. ■ 1954 she married Rev. Earl Pattison. They have a family of two — Sheila, Mrs. John Nixon of Battleford and Doc, also of Battleford. Earl and Muriel are moving to Kinistino on July 1, 1979 after seventeen years in the Battleford charge.

Walter on homemade stilts.

The Pauls

written by Jessie Pauls

We came from two different places. Henry immigrated from Russia into Canada in 1926, and I was never out of Canada. I was born in the southern part of Saskatchewan, north of Rush Lake, on my father's homestead.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Pauls were married ■ Lucky Lake, Saskatchewan on January 5, 1941. We lived our first years of married life in the irrigation country of Alberta for awhile. Then came to Maymont in the fall of 1942. We lived that winter in the house that Dave Penners lived in for years.

In the spring we moved into the house Pete Nakilicki later bought. Mr. Penner had this land rented and we lived there 1943-1944-1945. In the spring of 1946 we moved to the Malcolm McNaughton farm. Henry worked for Mr. McNaughton that year. We lived on McNaughtons 1946 summer and 1947 winter. In the spring of 1947 we moved to Speers and lived on the Epp farm one summer and winter 1947-48. That was a long winter and lots of snow and spring came late in April 1948.

In the spring of 1948 we again moved back to the McNaughton farm. We had bought the N.E. quarter of 1-42-12-W3. We bought one quarter and Dave Penner

Henry and Jessie Pauls, Fred and John — 1943 or 44.

bought the quarter west of ours which Dave Penner sold later to Jesse Wood. We built our house on our quarter in 1948 and in 1949 we moved in. We moved on a beautiful sunny, spring day in March.

By this time we already had 5 children. At last our moving days were over! But we moved one more time to the Charlie Neumeyer farm, but that was a mistake.

Our children mostly went to Keystone School, a short while in Fielding School. Esther, our youngest daughter went by school bus to Maymont. Some of the teachers were Lilah Brehon, Mrs. Morez, Mr. Draegher, Mr. Brown, Mrs. McCready, Elizabeth LeGallais, and some of the teachers in the Maymont School were Miss Waters, Mrs. Bowes, Mr. Moen.

We raised seven children. Four of our children were born in a hospital. The three that were not in hospital were one born on a farm just south and west of Maymont, with a Mrs. Melrose who took in ladies and their new babies and Dr. Scratch attending; the second one was born in Pete Naklicki farm home with a Doctor from Borden attending; the third one in Fielding at Mrs. Garnett's home and Dr. Scratch attending. The time at Mrs. Melroses at Maymont, Doctor Scratch had just left her place for town. She had to phone him and tell him to come right back with his little black bag.

Our closest hospitals were North Battleford, Hafford, or Borden. In many cases Borden was without a Doctor.

We did not belong to any organizations, or clubs. We mainly visited our neighbours. Church do's in our homes. Whist Drives at the country school and Christmas concerts at the school, and some very good concerts were put on by the few pupils the country schools had. My children had no baby-sitters; I looked after my own.

In the summertime, Henry worked out and I cared for my children and home chores. When we lived on the Pete Naklicki farm we had a chimney fire. Henry was away working; I took my children out of the house, lucky it was summer time. The baby was only a few months old in a blanket. I laid him down away from the house. The other one already walking, I took him up the road a short distance and told him to stay there. I ran as fast as I could to Penners, told him of the fire, then ran back to my children. The fire was put out and nothing burned down.

We always thought it could not hail at our little farm, all around us people got hail now and then, never us. One Sunday we went to church. As we were coming home we saw the white cloud. One mile from home we noticed it had hailed. The hail stones were the size of a quarter, sharp and rough. This was early August in 1974. My tomatoes were mostly spoiled that year. Some people got drenched that day as they went motorcycle riding and were caught in the storm. One of them ran in the bush under cover of the hailstones. But all three were wet; I gave them dry clothes to go home with.

We still have Christmas at the farm just about every year just like old times.

In 1978 we really retired. We gave our little farm to our son, Walter, the "flyer", who owns it now. If I had not been able to [illegible] spouses allowance, with just one old age pension, we could not have gone to live in low rentals in Radisson.

Joseph Henry Peden

Joseph Henry Peden was born in Listowel, Ontario on September 7, 1875. In 1879 he moved with his parents to Balmoral, Manitoba. Here he spent his childhood and teen-age years with a short time spent working in northern Manioba at various jobs including surveying and logging. After a short stint at farming near his father's farm at Balmoral, he decided to head west to greener pastures.

The area that caught his eye was a piece of land with gently rolling hills and sloughs surrounded by willows after filing for his homestead, N.W. 32-41-12 West in 1903, he returned to Balmoral to collect his settler's effects.

In 1904, he arrived in Saskatoon by rail from Winnipeg, then loaded his belongings on a wagon and finished the last sixty miles by wagon train.

The first sign of life on the homestead, other than the gophers, was the erection of a sod barn for his horses. The initial homestead year was busily spent

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Peden, July 20th, 1910.

getting things in order — this included many long trips to Saskatoon for additional supplies.

The scenery changed a little in 1905 with the arrival of the railway. As well as homesteading chores, Mr. Peden worked on the railway grade that ran across the northern part of his land. The town of Maymont was established at this time.

Now all was in readiness and he decided the farm needed a lady's touch. In Balmoral, Manitoba on July 20, 1910 he married Ellen Irvine Scott, whom he had known all his life. The same year they returned to the Maymont homestead.

On May 15, 1911, their first child Edwin was born — now of Wetaskiwin, Alberta. A second son, Elwood died in infancy.

Wilbur was born August 2, 1915 and is presently farming on the original homestead.

Irvine, now in Calgary, was born June 15, 1917.

So there were many changes on the homestead over the years. Mrs. Peden was a member of the Ladies Aid and enjoyed sewing in her spare time. She passed away June 2, 1950.

Mr. Peden was a member of the Wheat Pool and director of the local Telephone Co. After retiring from farming, he kept busy as he was an avid gardener. Following a lengthy illness, he passed away on May 3, 1964 this ending 59 years of history in the Maymont area.

Wilbur Peden

Wilbur Peden continues to farm on the land that his father, Joseph Henry Peden settled in 1903, 2½ miles south east from the town of Maymont.

On August 2, 1951, he married Wanda Nahlicki of Spears. They have a family of three children, a daughter, Patricia Ann born August 2, 1952. Pat is a Registered Nurse and has been employed in various parts of British Columbia. Thomas Elwood was born on January 25, 1954. Tom is presently employed with Mr. Wayne Acaster of Ruddell, and Randy William was born on June 27, 1961. Randy will be graduating from High school this year, 1979.

The family are members of Sharon United Church, having attended church and taken part in its many activities. They also took an active part in 4-H for many years and also sports.

The family have enjoyed living on this farm, at this location, as there were never quiet or dull moments. The reason is the close proximity to the Canadian National Railway and what used to be the old gravel No. 5 highway that ran on the "square". In the mid 1950's it was reconstructed to run along the railway tracks and was paved. At present it is called the "Yellow Head Route", Highway No. 16, again it is being reconstructed and widened to accomodate today's heavy traffic. Also gone are the days when the family would run out to watch the huge steam locomotives with their great billows of smoke puffing skywards on

Wilbur and Wanda Peden — wedding day, Aug. 2nd, 1951.

Randy, Pat and Tom Peden — 1975.

a cold winter's day or watch the passenger train in the evening with its shrill whistle.

Be it the old steam engine or today's modern diesel, it's still nice to hear the engineer whistle or toot to say a friendly "Hello" as they go by.

Edwin Peden Family

I, Edwin John Peden, was born May 15, 1911, eldest child of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph H. Peden. Dr. J. A. Scratch attended at the birth, which took place on the couple's homestead. I was baptized in the Presbyterian Church by Rev. J. M. Fisher. My first school teacher was Miss Mary Carter, now Mrs. Wilfred Langley. My first years at school classes were held in different locations — the old school consisted of two rooms — classes were held in the basement of the church — and the new three roomed school was opened in 1925. My grandparents Mr. and Mrs. John Scott lived in Maymont at this time and I stayed with them while attending school.

I had completed Grade X in 1928 and at this time my father purchased a new 15-30 McCormick Deering tractor, Three furrow plough, a packer and five barrels of gasoline for $1,585 and I was given the job to farm with this outfit.

I spent the winters of the 1930's in logging camps at Prairie River, Sask. and at National Mills in Manitoba. Our neighbor, Joe Peno, went with me for several winters. When there was little crop to harvest at home I would go to Alberta to work. I started farming for myself in 1933 on S.E. of 28-43-12.

Ed Peden family — l. to r. — Grant, Ronald, Mary, Kathleen, Edwin.

On November 13, 1940 I married Mary Steele. We were married on the John Rolfe farm, where her parents lived, by Rev. Frank Myers.

We had a family of three. Grant born January 20, 1942 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Andrew, Ronald on August [redacted], 1944 at the home of Mrs. Nan Melrose and Kathleen on July 13, 1948 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alex Garnett, Fielding. Dr. J. A. Scratch attended at all three births, Kathleen being one of his last maternity cases.

All three received their education at Maymont school, they all had Miss Audrey Page and Mr. J. [redacted]. Armstrong for teachers. They were among the last children to drive a horse and buggy to school.

Times were hard in our early years of marriage, but it was a busy and rewarding life. One incident which caused considerable interest was in 1951 when an oil well was drilled on our farm, people came for miles to see it. I served on the municipal council, rural telephone Co., Chairman of the school board, during which time the present school was built, member of Home and School, assistant leader of 4-H Grain Club. Mary helped with Mission Band, was a member of the W.M.S. and U.C.W.

Our children were [redacted] baptized and confirmed by Rev. Frank Myers. All were members of United Church choir under the leadership of Mr. J. Armstrong. Grant and Ronald were members [redacted] the Mayfield 4-H Grain Club and attended Farm Boys Camp at North Battleford, Saskatoon and Regina Exhibitions. Kathleen was a member of C.G.I.T., 4-H club and the Figure Skating Club.

I became agent of the Searle Grain Co. in 1959. We moved into the Searle house in town and still farmed until Ronald finished grade XII. We then rented the farm to Dennis Van Der Hagen later selling it to John Becton.

When Grant completed Grade XII he went to Alberta to the Innisfail area where he and his wife Marilyn now live. At present he is a heavy duty mechanic with Peter Kiewit & Sons Construction.

Ronald and his wife Leona live in Burns Lake, B.C. where he is employed by Pacific Western Gas Co. as a welder. They have three children Rhonda, Lesley and Richard James.

Tragedy struck our home August 29, 1965 when we lost Kathleen in a highway accident.

We moved to Wetaskiwin July 1, 1966 where I was employed by a machinery and auto Co., Mary worked in a Variety Store until we retired, June 1, 1976. We are enjoying our retirement — keeping active. I am a member of Session of First United and A.O.T.S. Club, a member of Masonic Lodge. Mary is a member of Wetaskiwin Horticultural Society and U.C.W. [redacted] First United.

We are most thankful to have had the privilege of living and raising our family in the Maymont area, the memories of those years are the most precious of our lives.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Penner

told by Dave

I, Dave Penner, came from Russia to Canada in May of 1930. I came to the Mayfield Municipality and stayed with Katies' uncle, Corny Hiebert, for three weeks; after that I got a job with George Holler working on his farm. I worked for twenty-five dollars a month in the summer and in the winter I got five dollars a month.

In the spring of 1932 I met Katie Redikopp. Her parents migrated from Russia in the year of 1925 and farmed in the Keystone School district where Katie went to school. She had to walk two and one half miles to school every day. Miss Louis was her teacher at that time. In the harvest time Katie and her brother got five cents an acre for stooking. In November of 1932 Katie and I got married. The first year we stayed with her mom and dad and helped on the farm.

After that I worked for Jack McNaughton at Fielding on the farm for one year. I rented old Tommy Moena's farm for a few years. In 1943 we bought Johnny Meena's farm where we stayed until 1974.

We have two daughters and one son. Erica, Hilda, and Henry who all attended Keystone School. Our family doctor was the familiar Doctor Scratch.

In 1954 Erica married Joe St. Denis. They had a son, David, and one daughter, Cathy. Erica's husband was a painter. One day in late July of 1959 while painting he fell off a roof and shortly after he died in the hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Penner and family.

In 1963 she married Les Bakos who is a purchasing agent for a Chemical Plant in Saskatoon. They have one daughter, Cindy.

Hilda, our other daughter, married Erwin Hamp from Radisson where they are farming. They have three sons Lyndon, Darren, Jason and are presently attending school in Radisson.

Our son Henry married Patricia Antonuk from Saskatoon. They now live in Medicine Hat, Alberta where Henry is a superintendent at a Fertilizer Plant. They have two sons and two daughters: Cory, Julie, Christopher and Karen. They all attend school at Medicine Hat.

Katie and I sold the farm in 1974 and are retired. We bought a house here in Saskatoon where we live now.

The photograph included was taken at our forty-fifth wedding anniversary.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Petty (Nee Vera Cooper)

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Petty live at Paynton, Saskatchewan. What is so special about that, is that Mrs. Petty is the former Vera Cooper, who was Calais School's first teacher in 1916. 'A lot of water had gone under the bridge' for Mrs. Petty since then.

Mr. Petty came to Paynton in 1905 with his parents, Mr. and Mrs.Edward Petty and he had resided in this and the Bresaylor Area ever since.

Vera Cooper came to Paynton to teach in 1918. She stayed two years then returned to Saskatoon to further her education, returning to Paynton as a bride after she married Hugh Petty at Delisle on June 22, 1929.

The couple have two daughters Barbara, Mrs. Jim Hansen, of Unity and Margaret, Mrs. Dick Wilkins of Edmonton. They lived on the Petty farm for twelve years then moved to Bresaylor where they owned and operated Petty's General Store for about eighteen years, this also included the telephone switch board lunch counter and garage. Vera also taught school whenever her services were needed.

Both Mr and Mrs. Petty have been active members of Christ Church Anglican at Paynton for many years. Vera has been organist, choir leader and continues to be deeply involved in all levels of Women's Institute work. She especially loves singing and organizes others to sing at W.I. Conferences. She has travelled to Australia, Scotland, Norway and throughout Canada in her various offices within W.I. work. Vera also has become a member of Saskatchewan's Embroidery Guild in a branch of the guild near North Battleford.

Mr. Petty, not to be outdone by his energetic wife had the honor of being the oldest practicing electrician in the province, this before he retired.

Mr. and Mrs. Petty celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary in June this year, 1979. They are well and enjoying their eight grandchildren and their retirement.

My First School

Submitted by Vera (Cooper) Petty — First Calais School Teacher)

The first week in July, 1916, sixty-three years ago I started out on my teaching career at Calais School about three miles west of Fielding. I boarded at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Collins about one-quarter of a mile south of the school. They had two pre-school children, Freddy and Edith, if I remember correctly.

My enrolment was small and because of it the children had individual attention and so were able to progress quickly. We had a happy time together.

I used to love to play ball with them. The day the Inspector (Superintendent in modern language) came, he walked over to where we were playing and said, "Where will I find the teacher?" Imagine his surprise when a little girl (I was smaller then than I am now) with her hair falling down (I had a terrible time keeping hair pins in it) said, "I'm the teacher". I do remember he gave me a very good report.

I wonder if any of the children that were at the school remember the Red Cross Hospital we built, complete with tiny dolls for wounded soldiers, little beds we made, etc. Then how a dog was left in the school one Friday night and completely ruined the whole project. When we arrived on Monday morning and saw the devastation everyone cried — even the teacher.

When I think of the months of training given now to a person before she even has control of a classroom I wonder how we and the pupils survived. I guess it is quite true that "Experience is a good teacher". My love for children and teaching is still with me and gives me many happy memories.

Mr. and Mrs. George Plews

told by Evelyn Bates

Mr. and Mrs. George Plews came from England, with their baby daughter, Laura, in 1906 to Ontario for three years, before homesteading in Baljennie in 1909. A son, George, was born in Hamilton, Ontario, in 1907; also a daughter, Evelyn, in Baljennie in 1909; also Jack in 1911, and Winnie in 1913. Their first little girl, Laura, died in 1914. Mr. Plews went overseas for three years during World War I and Mrs. Plews ran the farm herself. She was such a good manager, that she was able to devote her time to church, Homemakers, school caretaker, and mid-wife. She helped Doc. Scratch bring many babies into the world. Mr. Plews joined the service during World War II and was stationed at Sardis, B.C. Mrs. Plews ran the store and Post Office at Spinney Hill, until after the war and they bought property and settled in Sardis, Mr. Plews died in 1957, so Mrs. Plews batched until the fall of 1968. She took sick while visiting her daughter and family in Maymont. Her first pacemaker was inserted on January 7, 1969 and she has had five more since. She is ninety-two years old and has spent the last two years in River Heights Lodge in North Battleford. She is still cheerful, interested in her church, family, world affairs and fellow guests.

The Porter Story

submitted by Dolly (Porter) Marfleet

My mother and father came to Maymont in October, 1918, where my father served as C.N.R. agent

Mr. Fred Porter on Main Street, Maymont.

Mrs. Fred Porter.

for thirty years. Their family at that time consisted of Finley, Sheridan (Bud), Josephine (Jo), and Freddy. Teddy and I were born out west.

Life in the station was never dull. With the coming and going of friends and railway passengers, we seemed to be enjoying a cup of coffee or lunch at any time of the day and, of course, many nights at [illegible] hours.

We also had celebrities in for meals. The T. Eaton family from the east would come to visit their brother and his wife who lived at Richard. Mrs. Eaton always reminded me of a beautiful Dresden doll. After the visitors got off the train, Mother would give them breakfast of homemade bread toast, coffee and lovely thick cream, bacon and eggs. Dad then drove them to Richard and returned to pick them up again in the evening. Mother would have another big lunch ready for them and they would board the train and return to the east again. We thought Toronto must be a million miles away until Mother and Dad started taking us on train trips. The passes on the train certainly gave us trips that we never could afford then.

Mother also felt she had to feed all the poor men who travelled the open box cars and flat cars during the lean years. She always tried to give them some homemade bread and a tin [illegible] milk. The men put a big white cross marked with heavy chalk on the end of the station to show others they could always get something to eat there. My Dad never took it off all the time the workers passed by Maymont in the lean "thirties".

We also had gypsies, but we weren't allowed to leave the yard or talk to them when they came to the door for milk.

My Dad had a hobby, as well as his station work. He loved to fix and build radios. After work finished at five, he would travel around the country fixing radios, as far away as Radisson, Richard and as far south as Scoringdale. He was also Overseer of Maymont for twenty-five years, so he was active at all times.

Our neighbors in the early years were Mr. and Mrs. Jim Taylor, Mr. McLaren was in the Post Office followed by the Philpott family, but the Coleman's were the ones we knew best. Our family doctor over the years was Dr. Scratch, who was also friend and advisor.

Our teachers were the best, all through school, as far back as Miss Merrell, Miss Mary Martin and on to Miss Mohler, Mr. McDonald and many more fine people.

My Mother read teacups and I always felt it put a nice finishing touch to an afternoon or evening social. I don't know if any of her predictions ever came true but she did it for pleasure until one day a gentleman gave her a very bad scare. It wasn't funny at the time but she tells it now and can laugh about it all. We had C.N.R. building crews on the sidings a lot when we were small. One boss of the crew used to come over to the station a lot and one day Mother read his teacup. She told him some stocks he had invested in were going to drop. He laughed and said he had nothing but solid stock, and all was forgotten until a week later when the passenger train stopped one Monday, the station door banged open and the gentleman came running into the house yelling Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Poter, come quick". Poor Mother nearly fainted as all she could think of was poor Dad lying on the track somewhere, so she ran to the office to be grabbed by the crew boss telling her he had sold his stocks and they fell a short time later. He could never thank her enough. He kept coming back to have his tea leaves read but Mother had gone out of business so to speak and never did do any reading again for outsiders, but would if the family really coaxed her.

We also had a good friend who lived across the highway from us — Ed Buhr. He knew more about engines than anyone we ever knew. He could tell the type of engine just by hearing it go by. He also used to chase us and try to put cotter pins in our ears — he never disappointed us as he always had a cotter pin in his pocket whenever we came near him.

We had good times and sad times in Maymont, but like everyone else we are remembering the good times.

My family are all living in British Columbia. My Mother and Teddy live in Chilliwack, my brother Bud at Sardis and Jo in Hope. I am living in Maidstone, Sask. but at Porter get-to-gethers we remember the Downings, Kerrs, Reids, Melroses, Johnstons, Turners, Beaudoins, Andrews and the MacLennans, all dear friends, and, of course Ed Buhr and cotter pins and 'things'. There are so many, and I am grateful for the Maymont book as it will somehow bring us closer together.

Joseph Prechtl (91)

tribute from a newspaper clipping.

Joseph Prechtl was one of Fielding's earliest and most enthusiastic pioneers, who had worked for a living since the age of 12, emigrating from Germany to the United States and from there to Saskatchewan to work on the construction of the Saskatoon-Edmonton C.N.R. line. He pioneered in bringing his parkland homestead into a fine farm, in testing hardy fruit trees, flowering shrubs, hybrid poplars, evergreens, new varieties of field crop seeds, new methods of cultivation recommended by Seager Wheeler and other agricultural experts and in using up-to-date farm machinery which included silage equipment for filling his cement-lined silo. The slogan "Good machinery makes a good farmer better" he often quoted and consistently put into practice. For years he headed his herd with good Hereford bulls. He followed good farming practices until he had a farm, buildings and home grounds to be proud of.

He acquired a fine grasp of the English language and thereby became able to satisfy his desire to read deeply mind-stimulating books. He also thoroughly enjoyed classical orchestral music.

Three times during his long life he visited his relatives in Germany.

He served on the Beckwith school board, the rural telephone company, the local farmer's union and Wheat Pool Committee.

After retirement to Radisson he wrote his life story in German, and kept fit up to the time he was 87 by walking the nine miles to the home farm operated by his son Richard.

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Prescesky

submitted by Laura Prescesky

Stephen Prescesky's father, Stefan, and a son, Peter, immigrated from the Ukraine to Montreal in 1908. His wife and sons Leon, Stephen, John, Paul, Mike, and Ephraim followed in 1910. A daughter, Mary, joined them in 1912. The family moved west to Ruddell-Lilac area where they purchased two quarters of land (50 acres broken on each quarter). They settled on the NE Sec. 15-42-13 in a one-roomed shack. The only transportation was horseback and the coyotes howling broke the vast prairie silence. In 1916 a large lumber house was built. It was finished in natural color stucco with the lumber being purchased from the Ruddell lumberyard. Mr. and Mrs. Stefan Prescesky lived here until 1924 when they moved to Saskatoon and are now deceased.

The farm then became the home of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Prescesky. In 1931 a misfortune struck; the house that was built in 1916 burnt down in February due to overheating and chimney fire. There was only time to grab the quilts off the bed, wrap the children in them and toss them out. Nothing was saved except the potatoes which had been stored in a pit below the cellar. A cook car which held seed for spring planting was then emptied and became their home until a new house was built. This house with an addition and some renovations is now the modern farm home of their son, Henry.

They raised a family of five sons: Peter, Paul, Edward, Henry, William and two daughters, Mary, (Mrs. Harold Pain) and Nellie (Mrs. Bill Welford).

They took an active part in community affairs and still enjoy coming out to meet old friends and neighbours. They retired from the farm in 1953 and now reside in North Battleford.

Mr. and Mrs.Peter Prescesky

Peter and Laura ■. (Ponkin) Prescesky were married on June ■, 1949 and settled on the Dave Alexander farmstead of S½ 28-42-13-W3. The Alexanders who came from Ireland returned to their native homeland in 1945 taking with them all their assets. For this reason they were unable to return to Canada despite the longing to. Ireland had undergone a vast change during the War years and the Alexanders were not prepared for such a change.

Peter and Laura raised a family of five children and it is in their children they take their greatest pride. Sonja works as a Comptroller for a Saskatoon firm; James an office manager for a North Battleford implement dealer; Kenneth a parts manager and work supervisor for a North Battleford Sports Centre. Linda and Elaine are attending Maymont Central School.

The Paul Prescesky Family

Paul was born on April 4, 1929 to Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Prescesky of Ruddell, Saskatchewan. Dr. Scratch (Sr.) was there to give him his first spanking.

Paul has five brothers and two sisters. He attended Wavie Bank School and helped his dad on the farm, later started farming for himself. In 1954 he met and married Dorothy Hampton on December third. It was lucky for Paul that he could cook, because the only thing Dorothy could cook was potato soup and potato soup served twice a day for a week or so gets tiresome. So Paul with the help ■ his brothers, Henry and William, undertook the task of teaching his new bride how to cook. Soon Dorothy had even mastered the art of baking bread. (I won't bother telling about the first batch.)

Dorothy was born on October 1, 1937, the daughter of Dan and Nora Hampton. On October 1st, 1955, (Dorothy's birthday) Paulette Judy Lee was born. She

Dorothy and Paul Prescesky — 25th anniversary — July, 1979, Polly and Stephen Prescesky.

is now married to Michael (Tim) Wayne Dwinnell who is in part ownership of Wy-Lee Trailers. Tim and Judy have one little daughter, Amy Dawn. They live in Battleford.

Danny Paul, Dorothy and Paul's first son, was born on September 30, 1958. Danny lives in Maymont and farms with his dad.

On September 6, 1961, Donny Rodney Perry was born, Perry now resides in Lloydminster and works for Husky Oil.

On August 26, 1966, Brenda Joyce came to make her home with Paul and Dorothy. She then became their chosen daughter in 1971 — a sister for Judy. Brenda attended Maymont School where she met Michael Clifford Yakiwchuck. Brenda and Michael were married July 27, 1974. They farm at Speers and have one little son, Leon Ronald.

Paul and Dorothy have many interests. Paul has been on the Wheat Pool Committee for many years. He was on the Wavie Bank School board until it closed in 1968. And he has been a councillor in Mayfield Division Six for five years.

Paul and Dorothy are Fire Arm Safety Instructors, and Paul is a 4-H Junior Sportsman Leader. Dorothy is an ardent gardener and has won many first prizes for her garden. She is a coin collector and loves sewing ■ which she is quite active.

Through fostering children Dorothy was chosen out of eighty foster parents to work for the Department of

Social Services on the planning committee for children under sixteen years. Dorothy and Paul over the years have helped raise twenty-six foster children and are always glad to see them again.

Paul and Dorothy like to fish. They also like to curl for which Paul has won many trophies. Paul enjoys a good game of golf and even tries a little pool. While Paul is doing this Dorothy is usually swimming or just relaxing in the sun at their cottage at Aguadeo Beach on weekends.

December 3, 1979 will be their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Prescesky

Henry, second youngest son of Stephen and Polly Prescesky was born Sept. 23, 1934 on the farm homestead N.E. 15-42-13-W3rd. He took all his schooling at Wavie Bank School. He married Irene Phillips of Richard on Nov. 3, 1956. They lived in Nanaimo, B.C. until the end of December, 1956. They returned to the farm homestead and have lived there for the past twenty-two years.

They raised a family of three; Douglas Wayne, born Sept. 16, 1959; Jo Ann Marlene born Nov. 1, 1961; Kevin Henry born Oct. 25, 1964.

Douglas married Colleen Kristine Bulmer on Feb. 3, 1979. They are making their home on N.W. 10-42-13-W3rd.

Jo Ann married Trent Lee Jordan on Aug. 18, 1979 and they are residing in North Battleford.

Kevin is presently at home and is attending Maymont Central School.

The William John Prescesky Family

William John Prescesky was born July 3, 1936, the youngest son of Stephen and Polly Prescesky and lived in the Wavie Bank School District. William received his schooling in the Wavie Bank School. In 1955 he married Elizabeth Mary May Phillips who was born June 6, 1937, daughter of Percy and Janet Phillips of the Bromley School District and Richard District. Elizabeth came to live in the Village of Ruddell in Aug., 1953, attended the Ruddell School taking Grades 10 and 11; she lived with Jack and Marjorie Thrower who operated the Ruddell Telephone Exchange.

William and Elizabeth were married in the Anglican Church in Richard on Oct. 28, 1955 with Dr. Frank Myers of Maymont United Church officiating. They rented the farm land and home from Stephen, William's father, along with brother Henry, and they later bought the family farm.

In 1959, born to William and Elizabeth was a daughter, named Brenda May, who attended Wavie Bank School from 1965 to 1968; then was bused to Maymont Central, graduated from Grade 12 in 1978. From there she went to Kelsey Institute, Saskatoon and graduated as a Registered Nurse in June, 1979, and started to work at Borden Hospital in July of 1979.

A second daughter, Barbara Ann, was born Oct. 17, 1962, who started in Maymont Central School in 1968 and as of June 15, 1979, received a recommend in Grade 11. In 1979 Barbara received a bronze medal and an award having competed in a Math Contest which covered Canada.

In the spring of 1964, William and family moved into their newly built home which was built just a few yards south of the family yard; prior to this they had lived in the basement suite of the family home.

Born on May 28, 1966 was their son, named Myron William, who now attends Maymont Central School and is finishing Grade 7.

William took over coaching of Ruddell Ball Team in 1968 and is still coaching the team. Prior to 1968, the team was coached by Edward Prescesky. Three original players, who started with the team and are still playing, are Hal Robinson, Ron McIntyre and Tom Pain.

Leonard E. Prynallt

told by Leonard

I was born September 9, 1931 in Hafford Hospital to Dorothy and Edmund Prynallt.

I began grade one at Maymont School in 1937 with Miss Butterfield as teacher, and carried on through school with Miss Page and Mr. Armstrong.

I left school and Maymont in September 1949 to begin a three year stint with the Royal Canadian Signals as a cryptographer.

On October 4, 1952 I took my discharge in Vancouver and started a job as purser with Union Steamships which serviced the British Columbia and Alaska coast with mail and supplies. One month before leaving the ships I met Beverley Lock, who later became my wife.

On March 22, 1957 I started a new job with a building supply firm which later became part of Canada Cement Lafarge. For the past ten years I have been Steel Division Superintendent.

Bev and I have a twenty-one year old daughter and two sons twenty and eighteen years old.

As I look back on my youthful days in Maymont, I recall a community active in sports and community events and populated by some very fine people.

The Colin Ramsay Story

In 1907 an adventurous young lad of 17 left the home of his clergyman father in Wyfordby, in Leicestershire, England to seek his fortune in the promising land of Canada. This lad was Colin Ramsay. [redacted] doubt his decision to come to Canada was influenced somewhat by the fact that his older brother Ernest had emigrated to Canada four years earlier. The first year or so in Canada was spent at St. Mary's,

Ontario. Then in 1909 Colin came west. He took a homestead on the south edge of what was called the Belgian Flats in the Wanganui District.

Then came World War I in 1914 and once again Colin found himself on European soil. He was wounded in the right arm and while convalescing ■ contracted mumps. Like many other soldiers, the effect of that war remained with him a long time.

After returning to Canada Colin sold his homestead and bought a half-section four miles north of 40 Highway between Speers and Richard. In 1923 he married Margaret Day. They raised a family of five girls and two boys. One daughter Phyllis passed away in 1957 at the age of ■ years.

In 1949, the Colin Ramsay Family moved to the Ernie Ramsay farm at Maymont. Colin having purchased the half-section NW-16-42 formerly belonging to his brother. The three older girls Ellen, Isobel and Phyllis were away from home by this time. Stuart, the oldest boy farmed there until 1955 when he moved to Vancouver. He worked in the Yukon for sometime before moving to the United States where he became manager and owner of Reno Bus Lines in Reno, Nevada. He now resides on a small ranch at Snoboraish near Seattle, Washington. Pat who took most of her schooling in Maymont now lives in the Langley area of British Columbia. Sybil the youngest in the family is the wife of Norman Walker, a minister from Valemount, British Columbia. Dennis, the youngest son in the family took his high schooling in Maymont by riding to and from school on his pony, Lily. He has lots of tales to tell about these days but I believe his favourite is the one involving Mrs. Neil and her power. It seems Dennis had given Valerie a ride home and as he was leaving the house noticed the main power switch. Being of a mischevious nature, he pulled the lever and headed for home. The Neils spent most of the evening in the dark believing the power to ■ off until Valerie went to the church and found the power was on. A few days later Mrs. Neil saw the culprit in the cafe and greeted him with "There's that young Ramsay who shut me power off. Let me sit in the dark half the night." They still laugh over that one when they get together. Dennis now lives in North Battleford.

■ later life, Colin Ramsay, by his own admission was a drunkard though a clergyman's son. He had never found any reality in religion. When he got to the place where he had to quit drinking or die, he one day stumbled into the Foursquare Church and was drunkenly playing hymns on the old organ. With the instruction and prayers of Pastor Floyd Sloan he became a staunch supporter of the Foursquare Gospel Church and a total abstainer.

The family moved to North Battleford in 1956 where Colin remained until his death in 1971. Mrs. Ramsay died in New Westminster in 1977.

The Dennis and Trudy Ramsay Story

A Sunday evening in the spring of '35 saw Dr. Ronnie Scratch delivering a baby in an old farmhouse north of Maymont. The home was that of the midwife Katie Holmes and I was that baby — the first child in the family of Ted and Evelyn Sloan. (They named me Trudy.)

As a small child, some of my earliest recollections of Maymont include Bean's Store, the drug store where I got my first book and the livery barn and the tie post. Since we were farm folk, a trip to town was always a highlight. I remember Bean's Store as a fascinating place with many things ■ see and many people coming in and stopping to chat. I vividly remember the day Ed Buhr came into the store. Taking special notice of me, he declared he would make dill pickles out of my ears. I ran for cover behind my dad much to Ed's amusement. Later on we purchased my school supplies in Bean's Store and I started to school in the town of Maymont where I learned to read about Jerry and Jane under the teaching of Miss Jantzen.

Alot of new experiences were waiting for me the fall I entered the third grade in a one room country school called Keystone the same school my mother had attended years before. Starting to practise for the Christmas concert in October was hard to understand but it was more fun than arithmetic. It was also fun to listen to the higher grades reading lessons. ■ was different to have everyone regardless of age play the game which usually was softball. The reason we usually played ball was that every school year ended with a picnic and some very keen competition amongst the students of Keystone, Grey and Eatonia schools so we practised like crazy every recess and noon hour. In fact it was at one of these picnics that I first saw the

Dennis and Trudy Ramsey and family.

man I would someday marry. I wasn't too impressed with him that day. I was ■ and he 15. The Colin Ramsay family had just moved into the Grey School District. Dennis was catcher for the Grey School team and Les Parker was pitcher. They really didn't need any other players as they mostly took care of us little Keystone kids right at the plate but we tried hard even if it was in vain. Five years later I found this curly red-head made a better friend than an opponent. Our friendship blossomed and grew during my last two years of high school. (Nel Curry could verify this — as I boarded at her place!) After graduation it seemed logical ■ join Dennis in Bible College in British Columbia so that we could prepare for a future life together. The rash of weddings amongst our friends seemed to have an unsettling effect on us so it was that year we decided to go our separate ways. I returned to Saskatchewan to take up teacher training and Dennis continued his studies in British Columbia.

After graduating from Teacher's College, I found myself back ■ a one-room school called Hopewell in the Radisson area with 17 pupils in nine different grades. ■ spite of keeping busy, I did find it a bit lonely in my teacherage so the next year found me teaching Grade Two's in Lawrence School in North Battleford. After two years of teaching in the city, my feet again began to get itchy so I resigned to further my education. I got one class at summer school completed and suddenly that curly red-head appeared in my life once more. With his appearance on the scene, education didn't seem so important after all so we decided to make up for lost time and planned a wedding for the fall. I was very glad to be a Maymont girl at this point ■ my life as I believe the Maymont bridal showers are second to none. There is more than household gifts given at these. The worth of community spirit and a sense of belonging cannot be measured.

Most of our married years have found us close enough to be regular visitors in the Maymont area. Dennis and I spent nine years in Wilkie where Dennis was minister of the local Foursquare Gospel Church. Another three years of pastoring in Delta, British Columbia followed. During this time we became involved in Successful Living of Canada an interdenominational organization that promotes good wholesome reading as an alternate to today's pornography. We feel we are making a positive contribution to our community in this way. Dennis is a journey-man painter by trade and helps to brighten up the world that way too.

It is said that you take the boy out of the prairie but you can't take the prairie out of the boy and it seems like it must be true. Here we are back on the prairie only thirty miles from where we began and we're happy to be here. It is a good place to raise our family of four, Denise, Marlow, Colleen, and Vance. We are close to the place where many of our fondest memories lie — a place that will always be home.

The Ernest Ramsay Story

Ernest Wolfila Ramsay was born in Castle Douglas, Scotland in 1882. His family moved ■ the villa■ of Wyfordby in Leicestershire, England from whence he emigrated to Canada ■ 1903. He homesteaded 4½ miles north east of Maymont. When the railroad came ■ Maymont ■ found employment building the road bed. He married Mary Green, an English woman. They had only one child, a boy who died at or near birth. Ernie went to the First World War and was wounded twice — once in the leg and once in the head. Ernie and Mary Ramsay were well-known for their good short horn cattle which at the time were some of the best in the area.

They were plagued by all the usual problems that beset Saskatchewan farmers in the early days. There was an intense shortage of water which was overcome by hauling a tankload of water from the village of Maymont very early every morning. Ernie's usual time for rising in the summertime was 3 or 3:30 a.m.

Mary Ramsay was secretary of Grey School for many years. She was noted for being extremely careful with the finances especially during the thirties. Because they were only a half mile from the school, it was an ideal boarding place for the teachers. So even if they did not have children of their own, they were still able to keep abreast of the happening of the school.

Mary Ramsay.

Mr. Ramsay was a person able to laugh ■ himself

Ernest Wulfila Ramsay and Mary Ramsay.

Spring — 1905. E. W. Ramsey on his homestead — NW 16, 42, 12, west of the 3rd.

which was fortunate considering there were times when there was little enough to laugh at.

His accent was a source of amusement in the community. He was raised in the home of an Anglican clergyman however his mother being part French hired French nannies. Thus the children learned to speak French before they learned English. While they lost the ability in later life to carry on a good French conversation, Ernest especially retained a French accent.

When it came time for them to retire, they found it a rather wrenching procedure. Ernie said to his brother Colin who later purchased the farm, "It seems that I know every fence post on the place and its hard to leave but I can't do the work." Mary said "It seems that we have only just now gotten the place fit to live in and we have to leave it." They moved to North Battleford and the farm was rented for sometime by Jack Holden. Later his brother Colin Ramsay bought the half section with the buildings.

Their happily married state came to an end when Auntie Mary passed away July 27, 1957 at the age of 81 years. Several years later Ernie remarried. He found the Biblical admonition "It is better to dwell in the wilderness, than with a contentious and an angry woman" (Proverbs 21:19) to be true. When he could no longer take the abuse he departed. He said to his nephew "All I want is some peace".

One day the doctor told him that he should have surgery to correct a certain condition. When Ernie was reluctant the doctor said "You will have to eventually". Uncle Ernie showed his sense of humour when he said to me "I don't know that he is right, I can die wizout getting it fixed can't I?". With his accent it was very funny.

He took more than one European tour which included a stop at the Vatican and a visit with his sisters in England. He said "I had a feeling that I could not die in Europe but had to return to Saskatchewan". He passed away in North Battleford at the age of 84 at which time it was discovered he had made his funeral arrangements and so it was according to his wishes that he was buried next to his first wife Mary.

Mr. and Mrs. William Ralph

Mr. and Mrs. William Ralph were married in 1915 the same year that Ethel had come west. They lived on Section 12-43-14-W 3rd, in the Battleford municipality. At that time many of the roads were just prairie trails. They raised a family of four; Howard, Manly, Bill and Elaine. The children attended Barleston School. In World War II, Howard served in the Canadian Army and Bill in the R.C.A.F. Mrs. Ethel Ralph was one of the early members of St. Mary's Anglican Ladies Guild. When Mr. Ralph's health failed, Mrs. Ralph moved to North Battleford where she had a house and took in boarders. When Davidson Manor opened, Mrs. Ralph moved in there. She enjoys visitors and one can always be assured of a friendly cup of tea.

Margaret Reed (Nee McLaren)

I was born in Maymont, Saskatchewan in July, 1916 to Robert and Margaret McLaren. I moved with my parents from Maymont in 1916 and after living in several provinces we settled near Ponoka, Alberta in 1926.

I was united in marriage to Philip Reed in 1934. We have four children. They are Mrs. Sylvia Hardy of Abbotsford, B.C.; Mrs. Carol James of Ponoka, Alberta; Ronald of Leduc, Alberta; and Graham of Ponoka, Alberta. We have seventeen grandchildren.

We farmed east of Ponoka until 1975 when we moved into the town of Ponoka, where we now reside.

Archie Reid and Family

I was born of Andrew and Elizabeth C. Reid at Maymont on April 2, 1912, and delivered by Dr. J. A. Scratch.

I left Maymont in June, 1938, but have been back very often.

In November, 1946, I married Nellie Imrie of Adanac, sister of Mrs. Ruby Myers. We have two daughters, Linda, born November, 1947 and Sally born November, 1950. Sally was married in June, 1977, to Rick White, and they have a son Seth Daniel White — our grandson.

I have a few fond recollections of the old days and will touch on the sports angle.

My earliest recollections of Sports Days are when they were held inside the race track, now part of the school grounds and part of the old Blacklock farm.

I can remember the horse races and Sam Miller and George McIvor were two of the horse owners.

The baseball diamond was just inside the north part of the track. Players in that period were Bob McPherson, Cy Davis, Dr. Scratch, Walter Mawhinney, Jim

Brady, Jackie Campbell, Edgar Reid, Cats and Frank Lehner. The main opposition in those days was the Denholm team, who had several paid players.

I will never forget the three-day celebration of fifty years of Confederation. I was fifteen years old and J. M. Blacklock, team manager, told me to go in and play second base for Frank Lehner who had to play in the band.

Other players in that era were Alan Bean, Norman Melrose, Noel Crawley, Bill Kerr, Roy Gray, Jimmy Gray, Stacey Smith.

During the depression years, some players besides myself were Ron and Norval Scratch, Jim and Roy Gray, Norman Melrose, Alan Bean, Jack Bates, Harvey Johnston, Albert Hickman and sometimes Lefty Arnold of Ruddell. J. D. Blacklock was still manager.

I also have fond memories of two swimming holes. One was Andrew Melrose's dam and the other by the C.N.R. tracks about opposite the Foster home. Many were the 'skinny dips' at school lunch break.

Mr. and Mrs. James J. Reid

told by Wendell (Derby) Reid

Mr. and Mrs. James J. Reid came to Maymont in 1906 from Leeds, Quebec.

His homestead was on a quarter section 1 mile south and ½ mile east of Maymont, which they lived on in summer and moved into town in winter. Their first house in Maymont was just south of the Pool Elevator.

Derby Reid family — Derby and Binky, Derby Jr., Maxine, Susan and Leah.

Later he bought ¼ section of land on S½ of Section 30-41-12-W3rd and S.E. of 25-41-13-W3rd.

They had 4 daughters, Stella (deceased), Elsie of Salmon Arm, Bernice of Penticton B.C., Irene of Lytton, B.C. Three sons, Edgar (deceased), Lyman (deceased), and W. Derby of Maymont.

Dad ran the Butcher shop in Maymont for some time. He had a contract with a firm in Winnipeg for beef and sent many carloads of meat in winter.

Wendell (Derby) took over the farm from his Dad and farmed until his retirement in Maymont in the lots formerly owned by the late Dr. J. A. Scratch.

Derby married Edith (Binky) Saunders in July of 1942. They had 1 son Derby Allan now in Colonsay. He is a teacher and was married to Elaine Harris (deceased in 1979) and have 2 children, Norrie and Brennan. Derby and Binky also have three daughters — Maxine now of Saskatoon; Susan — married to Alvin Rothenburger of Radisson — 2 children Cari and Chad; Leah of Saskatoon — married to Allan Nichol of Broderick in 1979.

Binky and I had a beautiful life down on the farm on outskirts of Maymont. We love the people and our church and community which fill our lives so much, and are proud of our part in it.

I would like to relate a story of my Dad and his first Model T car. He got the car started from home and went up town and when he got there he didn't know how to stop it, so he drove around and around, hollering for someone to show him how to stop it!! Finally some kind soul jumped on the running board and obliged. Needless to say he still preferred the old horse and buggy.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Reid

by Bernice (Reid) Strudwick

Jim Reid, my father, and Dianna Reid, my mother, were born in Quebec. They decided to move West and start a new life so they moved to Saskatchewan with four children — Stella, Elsie, Edgar and Lyman Reid. My dad had a store business for awhile and a farm one-half mile west and south of Maymont where he farmed and raised cattle. I was born in 1908 on the old homestead in a log cabin. Irene, my sister, was born later and then Wendell or Derby was born on the farm.

Butchering day on Jim Reid farm.

So there were seven of us — four girls and three boys. We attended school in Maymont and were active there in sports and church and other organizations.

Stella who was the oldest girl and worked in the store and post office later married Gordon Auckland. He ran Galvin Lumber Yards in Speers, Saskatchewan.

Edgar attended high school in Regina, was a great hockey player and later took a Pharmacy Course.

Elsie taught school and then went in training for a nurse at Toronto General Hospital. Later she married Ralph Sparkes of Saskatoon.

Lyman Reid farmed and worked on Steam Engines and later married Evelyn Foreman.

Irene Reid taught school and later married a fellow by the name of Al Hickman.

Wendell (Derby) Reid worked on the farm with his parents and married Binky Saunders, an Anglican minister's daughter.

I attended Business College in Saskatoon and later worked for the T. Eaton Co., Ltd. I met Henry Strudwick, teller of the Imperial Bank at Maymont and we were married in 1930. We lived in Maymont and Henry worked in Friedman's Store. Our daughter, Janice, was born and Doc Scratch brought her into the world. Mrs. Downey and Mrs. Kerr were the midwives. We moved to Rabbit Lake and Henry clerked in a big store, post office and general store and undertaking business. He worked for Art Donais. Jerry was born there. Dr. Story was the doctor.

We moved back to Maymont and then to Manville, Alberta — managing a Co-op Store — Ruth was born in the Manville Hospital. Then we moved to Edmonton and Henry worked as bookkeeper for the Social Credit Government. We bought an acreage and raised chickens and a big garden. My dad helped us finance it. Ron or "Butch" as he is often called, was born there. The four children attended school. I worked in Eatons part-time. We bought a second-hand car.

Janice is married now to Rene Chamberland. They live in Naramata on an acreage, nine miles from Penticton. They have a son, Marc, and a daughter, Lee. Marc has a son, little Rene.

Ruth lives in Penticton on an acreage and is married to Marcel Gagne but they have parted recently. Ruth has three sons — two working and one going to school — and a daughter, Cindy, going to school. They have a beautiful home and apple orchard.

Jerry Strudwick is married and living in Edmonton. He is with the Parks Department of the Provincial Government and has a good job. He is married to Doreen and they have three girls — Debbie, Bonnie and Cindy — and a son, Wayne. Bonnie married recently.

Ron (Butch) is married to Gail, a Japanese Girl and he is a traveller and First Aid Man. Gail is a lovely girl — no family yet.

Henry retired and is living in Edmonton. We are separated but not divorced. He has a girl friend. I moved to Penticton and stay at Haven Hill Rest Home where I'm very happy. I'm diabetic and in good health otherwise but a bit overweight. I have nine grandchildren and one great-grandson and am very happy. Penticton is a nice place to live. I go on holidays every year to Edmonton and Salmon Arm.

The W. H. Reid Family

In 1907 William (Bill) Reid came to Maymont from his birthplace of Leeds, Quebec with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Reid and their five children. His brother and sisters were Marjorie, Mary, Ellen, and Ann. Four children were later born to the family in Maymont. (See Mary Rogers' story.)

Bill went to school in Maymont and worked with his father on the farm until he married Maria Harkness in 1927. Maria had come to Canada from County Antrim (Northern Ireland) in 1919. Her mother having passed away in 1918, her father, Hugh Harkness, brought with him to Maymont a family of four sons and two daughters. They were Jim and John (both deceased), Hugh Crawford, Maria, and Grace (Mrs. Norman Melrose of Maymont).

Agnes and William Reid.

Bill and Maria were married in 1927 at the St. Thomas Wesley Manse in Saskatoon and came back to live in their little log house across the yard from the Andrew Reid house. Here they lived for nine years and were very happy with their growing family of five children.

In 1937 Bill bought the Jack Speiss farm, two and one half miles south west of Maymont. They lived on the farm until 1958 when they turned it over to their second son Jim and moved to Maymont where they purchased the former United Church Manse. The manse had only recently been vacated by the Rev. Frank Myer's family. Bill and Maria are still at home to everyone at this residence.

For more than 10 years Bill was caretaker of the Maymont Village School where Maria often assisted

him with his work. He enjoyed this position very much and they both enjoyed the contact with the students and teachers.

In the meantime their family had grown up and left Maymont to continue their education and vocations elsewhere.

John (the eldest) and his wife Jewel (Kerton) and family, Douglas, Rodney, and Kenneth live in Saskatoon where John is assistant city treasurer and Jewel who is a registered nurse works part time at City Hospital.

Jim and his wife Marilyn now live in Mannville, Alberta having sold the home farm in 1966 to George Gray. Marilyn is the only daughter of Alan Nothbrown, formerly of Maymont and is a graduate nurse from the Saskatchewan Hospital in North Battleford. Their family consists of Cindy, now Mrs. Warren McLaughlin and the mother of two, Zane, now Mrs. James Harnes of Viking, and Tess and Steven, still at home. The farm in Mannville has now been sold and Jim is working for an Oil Company.

Norman and his wife Maxine (Bottema) and children Jeff, Calla, and Patrick live in Kelowna where Norman is in business as a Chartered Accountant and Maxine is in Real Estate.

Hugh and his wife Delores (DeLong) presently live in Spruce Grove with their family of Mark, Heather, and Alison. Delores is the daughter of Ken DeLong who operated Maymont Locker Plant for several years, and she also served as church organist during her school years in Maymont. Hugh formerly a teacher is presently with the Dept. of Indian Affairs in Edmonton and Delores is selling Real Estate.

Margaret the youngest of the Reid children and the only daughter is now Mrs. J. W. Kylie of Saskatoon. She has been employed by the Bank of Commerce for many years in several different positions, including being the first woman Bank Manager in Saskatoon. Wally is a graduate of the College of Law, U. of S. and is now retired. He served in the second World War as a paratrouper.

Bill and Maria have kept in close touch with their family which has expanded to include thirteen grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. They are still active in community activities and are members of the United Church at Maymont.

The Lyman Reid Family

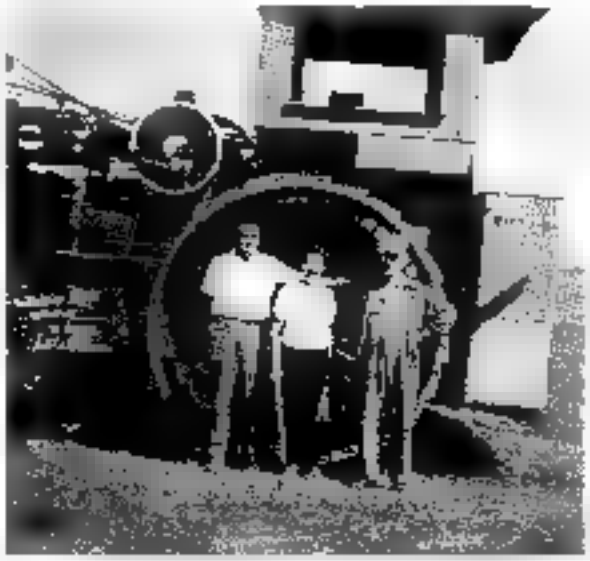
submitted by Evelyn Reid

In 1903 two special people were born, Lyman Reid in Leeds Village, Quebec, and Evelyn Foreman in South Shields, England.

In 1906, I (Evelyn) came to Scottsdale, Sask. with my parents and one sister. In 1908, Lyman came to Maymont, Sask. with his parents, one brother, and two sisters. Both families took homesteads and began farming with oxen, later changing to horses.

In November, 1920 when after walking across the river ice, following a wagon load of wheat, the ice bending under the weight of the load, I was to spend the winter with my sister, Hilda. I met Lyman at a skating party at the river.

Reid 50th anniversary — 1974. Eric, Cathie, Evelyn and Lyman, Art, Cal.



Eric, Evelyn and Lyman Reid — early 70's.

The next few years I worked at the phone office, farms, and post office. Lyman worked with his father, herding cattle in his school days.

Always interested in tractors, cars and steam engines, he became one of the first mechanics in the district.

We were married in March, 1924, this time crossing the river in a buggy through a stream of water two feet deep and sixty feet wide, on top of the ice. (Now we have the bridge.)

We tried farming about nine years, steadily heading into the depression of the Dirty Thirties. Then we went to Mollingar, Sask. where Lyman served as a grain buyer for the Searle Grain Company for eight years. He began at $90.00 per month but very soon wages dropped to $50.00 per month. Rent and insurance took

$11.00, so we didn't have too much for food and clothing for three boys and ourselves, but we even managed to run a car occasionally.

The best buys I can remember were a twenty pound turkey hen, oven-ready for eighty cents, and a hind quarter of beef for three cents a pound.

Then came World War II and Lyman joined the Air Force at $1.10 per day.

As a child I began dressmaking and haircutting, later adding ladies' hairdressing which I continued until recently. More women remained at home housekeeping and raising their families in those days.

Near the end of the war two girls came along to complete the family we have always been proud of.

After the war we returned to Maymont to farm, which still was not too profitable, so Lyman worked away from home every winter, with oil drilling companies in Alberta, Saskatchewan, and North West Territories. As he got older he was janitor at the Federal Building, North Battleford, and finally night attendant at Sallows and McDonald Funeral Home, North Battleford.

We celebrated our fiftieth wedding anniversary in 1974.

As Lyman's health began to fail he was at home in Maymont the last two years. He still kept up his great interest in steamers at Pioneer, Saskatoon, and the Museum, North Battleford until he was confined to bed at Eric's in Saskatoon and called home in Glory, September, 1978.

Our children live at Saskatoon, Sask.; Slave Lake, Alberta; Penticton, B.C.; Delta, B.C. and Victoria, B.C.

The Temple Reid Family

Temple Reid, a rancher from Lincoln, Nebraska, moved north to the Lilac district in 1904. He chose a location north of Goose Lake or about six miles north of Lilac. A Metis named Nolin lived on the east side of the lake at that time and was the closest neighbor.

The family of nine spent the first winter in a sod house. Deer shot in the Whitewood Lake area and a few vegetables were the families diet. The younger members had no chance for an education, of course.

The first crops sown were broadcast by hand and the seed covered by dragging a green tree over the planted area.

Ephriam Reid was detailed one summer to keep the heavy gopher population down by shooting them and drowning them. His brothers, by necessity, all became great hunters.

They spent a few years in the Hafford area, but returned to the Lilac district where the father passed away with cancer.

Russell, the older brother, took over. They bought mules from the south for farm work purposes.

Mrs. Temple Reid.

Meeting Lake: Grover, Wilmetta, Mrs. Eph. (Jessie) and Wilbur Reid.

They operated steam threshing outfits in the early years.

The five brothers Russell, Grover, Wilbur, Ephriam and Wert all settled and farmed in the Lilac area and were lifetime farmers there.

Russell farmed the original Reid homestead. His son, Clarence, carried on after his death. Cliff Gillatt presently operates and lives on the farm. Wert Reid is the only family member left and is retired in North Battleford. His wife Marie Parent, was the daughter of a long time Lilac resident.

Two of the girls, Laura and Bess, married and live in the U.S.A. Frances married and lived in Saskatoon. Gertrude married the former Bill Reisinger of the Lilac district.

The early years for the Reid brothers, as for other

settlers, would be rather uneventful by our standards. They however, enjoyed hunting deer and ducks and trapping muskrats.

Family gatherings and house parties were common. Ephriam and Wert were old time fiddlers at these affairs.

Grover Reid married the former Wilmetta Jones and missed very few early school house dances.

The Reid Family

told by Kenneth Reid

Temple and Fanny Reid with their nine children farmed in Shelby, Nebraska. They lived on a small farm bordering the Blue River. The parents had been concerned for many years about the future of their children. Certainly their small farm could not be divided nine different ways! When the stories were heard about homesteads and a golden future in the north west, Grandpa and Grandma Reid decided to take a chance on this land of fortune. In 1904, part of the family arrived in Saskatoon, later going to their homestead in what is now known as the Lilac area.

Grandpa and Grandma Reid and the younger children arrived in 1905. There were nine siblings — Russell, Laura, Bess, Grover, Gertrude, Eph, Wilbur, Frances and Wert. Laura stayed in Fremont, Nebraska where she married Frank Custer. Bess also stayed in Nebraska where she attended Teacher's College.

It was many years of hard work. However, the Reid boys were never sorry for having made the decision to come to Canada. They looked back on those early days as exciting and adventuresome. The Reid Brothers were very proud of their steam engine which they operated; doing their own work as well as custom work for their neighbours and friends. Perhaps the girls were disappointed at times and certainly Grandma Reid had her blue days when she would have liked to have returned to the little home in Nebraska. Grandpa and Grandma Reid later bought a ranch in the Hafford area. It was on the ranch in Hafford that Temple Reid died of cancer in 1918.

The family married one by one. Russell married Lyda Showeldice and they had 2 children Hazel (deceased) and Clarence, presently living in North Battleford.

Bess married Jim Ryan and they had three children — Fanny (deceased), Thelma and Donald both living in Wyoming.

Grover married Wilmetta Jones and they had 2 children, Kenneth and Audrey, both married and living in Saskatoon.

Gertrude married Bill Reisinger of the Lilac district. Gertrude died at a very young age leaving a little daughter. Gertrude who lived with Grandpa and Grandma Reid.

Eph married Jessie Duff and they had three children, Grant who farms in the Lilac district, Helen who lives in Vancouver, B.C. and Marjorie who lives in Quesnel, B.C.

Wilbur married Nellie Loveless and they had one son, Clifford. Nellie died at an early age and Wilbur then lived the majority of his life as a trapper in the Glaslyn area.

Frances became a school teacher and later married Hugh Spring. The couple had no children. They lived most of their life in the city of Saskatoon.

Wert married Marie Parent and they are still living in North Battleford. They had four children, Iris living in Edmonton, Myrna living in Rocky Mountain House, Lois living in Edmonton and Edwin living in Calgary.

The only surviving members of this original pioneer family are Wert and his wife.

Wilmetta married Grover Reid and they remained in the area the rest of their lives. Both of them loved Canada and after their marriage, had no desire to ever return to the United States. They would take a quick look at the American flag on July 4th (which Grover always kept in his trunk) but their hearts were always loyal to this land. They had two children, Kenneth and Audrey, both married and living in Saskatoon. Grover died in 1955 and Wilmetta died in 1966.

During their lifetime, W. B. Jones was very active in community life and particularly in politics. He was an ardent Liberal and spent all his life working for this party. He was often out campaigning with his pals, Harry Sharp and Wilf Langley when he could have been on the land. W. B. Jones was idolized by the members of his family and he will always remain in the hearts of the descendants who had the privilledge of knowing this wonderful gentleman.

The Reikie Story

by Mary Grasby

James Reikie homesteaded the S.W.¼ 24,42,14,W3rd, in the year of 1903. John Kitchen homesteaded the N.W.¼ 24,42,14,W3rd, a year or so later. He died in 1906, willing his homestead to his sister Lucy (Mrs. Jim Reikie).

My father James Reikie was born in Bruce County, Ont. His Grandfather, who came from Scotland, had received a grant of 100 acres of Ont. forest land, after serving in the Boer War in Africa.

As a young man James moved to Michigan, where he worked in the lumbering trade as a "scaler". This was the trade of measuring the board feet a log would yield.

In 1903 he married Lucy Kitchen and came to Saskatoon, N.W.T. There he got work at his trade in a lumber yard. Saskatoon was then the end of the railway. My parents saw the arrival of the Barr Colonists, and like them travelled to the homestead by horse and wagon in 1904. By that time they had their 6 month old daughter, Mary. Three years later the family was increased by the birth of a son, James Peter.

I can remember when the area around Ruddell was

mostly prairie. There were few trees or bluffs. This was due to the prairie fires. As the land became broken fires were not so common. I can remember two big fires going by our home.

A problem for homesteaders was water. Often a well could not be found where a house had been built so water had to be hauled. The "stone boat" with barrels of water on it could be seen in many yards. A pail of fresh cool water was a real luxury.

My father died in 1918. We remained on the farm, which was rented to Charlie Morison, until my brother James was old enough to farm it. James lived there until his health failed. He rented the farm out and moved to Saskatoon, where he lived until his death in 1978. He had sold the farm in 1961. James had no children of his own. He had one step-daughter, Sylvia (Mrs. Charles Kawliek) of Saskatoon.

I have three sons, Jim, Harland, and Arthur. Two of the boys live in Saskatoon, and one in Asquith. I have a daughter Marian, who lives in Winnipeg.

My father, James Reikie was the first person to be buried in the present Ruddell Cemetery. My mother and her aunt are also buried there.

John Kitchen was buried in the first Ruddell cemetery, two miles south of Ruddell overlooking the river. John had one step-son Norman Buckley. Norman went under the name of Kitchen until he married. He lived around Baljennie.

Pearl S. Reiley Family

by Arthur H. Reiley

Pearl S. Reiley (my father) second son of Arthur and Eunice Reiley was born on January 8, 1895 at Grant, Michigan, U.S.A.

Dad's early years were spent working in the logging camps in Michigan, both in the upper and lower peninsulas. Most of the time he was working in the cook's shanty and as a cook. He also attended school when possible attaining the grade of three or four.

Dad entered the Michigan College of Chiropractic at Grand Rapids early in 1912 and graduated as a Doctor of Chiropractic on June 4; later that year he set up his practice in Cleveland, Ohio.

During the summer of 1913 the family decided to come to Canada so Dad closed up shop, and he and his brother, Fern, headed, for Saskatchewan on a harvest excursion. They arrived in North Battleford by train on August 2, 1913 and they both agreed that the best looking country they had seen around was just north of Fielding. The following morning Fern and Dad returned to Fielding and were able to get work harvesting — stooking for Frank Summers.

After freeze-up they went into the bush between Big River and The Pas, Manitoba and worked for the Pas Lumber Company the winter of 1913-14.

In the spring they returned to Fielding to await the arrival of their dad and brother, Emmett, with their three carloads of settlers' effects.

Pearl and Sadie Reiley on their 45th anniversary — 1968.

Eleanor, Arthur and Stuart Reiley — 1944.

With the arrival of Grandad the search for land began and they subsequently purchased the south half of 32, 42, 11, W 3rd, nine miles straight north of Fielding in the newly formed Speers District. During that summer they were joined by Grandmother and the two children, Elton and Thelma.

It was at Fielding while Grandad and all the "boys" were unloading their household effects that one of the natives was heard to remark, "They must be a lazy family, they have five rocking chairs."

Aunt Thelma attended school in North Battleford boarding with Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong in 1919. At the age of nineteen she contracted the flu and passed away that summer. (I beleive she had the dubious honor of being the first person to ride in a motorized hearse in Battleford). Dad took her body back to Michigan for burial.

Uncle Elton returned to the U.S.A. after a few years and joined the Marines, eventually retiring in California.

During the summer of 1915 Aunt Lou and her husband, Alfred Bouschard, and daughters, Pauline and Eunice, arrived ■ the district.

In the early 1920's Aunt Lizzy, a widow with three small children, joined the rest of the family.

In 1922 Grandad and Grandma returned to Michigan to stay. Aunt Lizzie kept house for Dad.

On December 12, 1923 Dad married Sarah Agnes (Sadie) Cunningham of Saskatoon. Later that evening they boarded the train for the U.S.A. on their honeymoon and to join Dad's family for Christmas. They returned to the farm at Speers for the spring of 1924. During the next four or five years Uncle Emmett, Uncle Fern and Aunt Lizzie all returned to make their homes in Michigan. Aunt Lou and Uncle Alf had purchased a farm near Mullingar, so Dad and his family were the only ones of the Reileys left in the Speers District.

Mom and Dad had three children, Eleanor, born on December 3, 1924. Arthur, born December 24, 1929; and Stuart, born September 21, 1931.

■ 1943 Eleanor attended Normal School (teachers' college) in Saskatoon and after six weeks of training accepted a teaching position near Mullingar at Ringelton Firs. In 1950 she married Kelly Vawter of Allan, Saskatchewan and they made their home at Flin Flon, Manitoba where Kelly was employed; two years years later he was killed in a mine accident. In 1952 Eleanor returned to the teaching profession and in 1959 married Bill Thomas. They are presently making their home at Hodgson, Manitoba with their four children: Margaret, Robert, Jason and Susan.

■ 1945 Dad sold the farm at Speers and we moved to the Lilac District, purchasing the farm from William Agar. Stuart and I continued our education at Lilac and Richard Schools. Stuart went ■ Regina ■ make his living. In 1956 he married Jeanne Rook of Lintlaw; they have a son, Michael, and a daughter, Jackie. Later ■ attended University, getting his degree in Education; ■ has been teaching in the Regina School System.

I have continued to live on the family farm at Lilac. In 1960 Ruth Golden of the Keadby District and I were married in the United Church at Speers, Saskatchewan. We have three children: Neil, who at the time of this writing is finishing his Grade Twelve, Marlene is in Grade Eleven and Brian is in Grade Nine.

Dad passed away May 2, 1971 and was laid to rest in the New Ottawa Cemetery, in the school yard where his children and some of his nephews had attended school . . .

Mom still lives in her own home on the farm and will be celebrating her eighty-seventh birthday on June 5, 1979.

Arthur H. Reid

Principal, Ruddell School, 1945-46

Prior ■ enlisting in the RCAF I was Principal of Denbolm School.

While going though the process of getting my discharge I was offered the Principalship at Ruddell. The cottage that went with the position had a direct bearing on my acceptance.

Lois, baby Judy and I moved in during the month of August, 1945.

During the school year I was informed by the Department of Veterans Affairs that I would have to take my gratuities in cash or use them for furthering my education. The fact that I had fourteen years of teaching service was the deciding factor in my return to the University of Saskatchewan the following year. My room-mate at St. Andrew's College was Allan Wrenshall.

Our son, Scott, was born in North Battleford in February, 1945, the worst winter on record; and me without a car. Mr. and Mrs. Grover Reid lived next door. One day I mentioned my concern to Grover. He said, "Don't worry about a thing. When the time comes my car will be ready." His preparations commenced shortly after the New Year. Everyone in Ruddell knew that Grover's car was plugged in each night, his mitts, overshoes, and warm clothes within a moment's reach. Needless to say Lois and I didn't have a care in the world.

I might add here, that a few years later the Reids' son, Ken, married one of my Grade twelve students, Joyce Jones. I was given the honor of proposing the toast to the bride. I must have done an excellent job because twenty-five years later I was given the honor of proposing the toast at their 25th Wedding anniversary party.

During the University break, 1946, I entered a rink in the Ruddell bonspiel. Ken Reid 3rd, Alan Wrenshall 2nd, Joyce Jones, lead, and I skip — (all university students). After several days of curling we found

ourselves in the play off. We had last rock and the game in the bag. However, spectator pressure caused me to throw my last rock poorly. When the smoke cleared we were one down. Second prize was 24 quarts of Esso No. 30 oil. Not one of us owned a car.

Mr. and Mrs. John White lived across the lane. Mrs. White and I were very competitive each Monday morning — "Whose washing would be on the line first". Before going to school I would help Lois with laundry. All we could afford at that time was a tub and plunger. I did the plunging and the hanging out. Darn cold job during the winter months.

In 1947 I moved Lois, Judy and Scott to Laird, Sask. to operate the hotel which my father owned and operated. Since Mother was quite ill at that time, she and father moved to Saskatoon.

I also took on the principalship of the four room school. We sold the hotel in 1948 and moved to Saskatoon. Daughter Shirley arrived that year.

I returned to University and completed my B. of A. and B. of Ed. degrees. While working on my Master's degree in Education I did some subbing at the Technical Collegiate and joined that staff in 1951. After 24 years in the High School System both as teacher and administrator, I retired Jan. 31, 1975 During my 1972-73 sabbatical leave, Lois and I enjoyed a trip to New Zealand and Australia where I made a study of their High School system based on the British curriculum.

Judy and her husband Les Hofer live in Edmonton with their son and daughter.

Scott and wife Arlene live in Thompson, Manitoba. They have one daughter.

Shirley married Ron Stewart. They live in Saskatoon and have two sons.

After the family left, we sold our home and moved into an apartment. For the past few years we have spent the winter in Mesa, Arizona. During the summer we enjoy our cottage at Manitou Beach, Watrous.

Lois and I still visit our Ruddell friends. Charlie and Margaret White.

Mrs. Helen (nee Harbor) Remmen

written by Helen Remmen

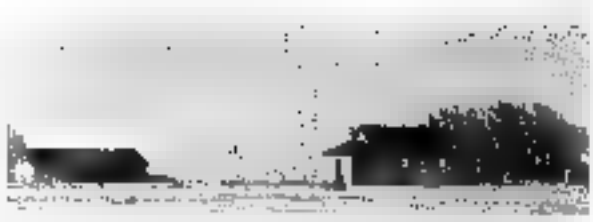
I arrived to teach at Keystone School No. 1144 in January 1944 and remained until June 1955. I sincerely enjoyed my teaching time there.

I especially remember "Arbor Days" with the grass fires; the ball games with Grey School that we never won because the Parker boys were so good, and my appreciation of the fire, janitor, Mr. Dave Penner, had going when we arrived in the winter time.

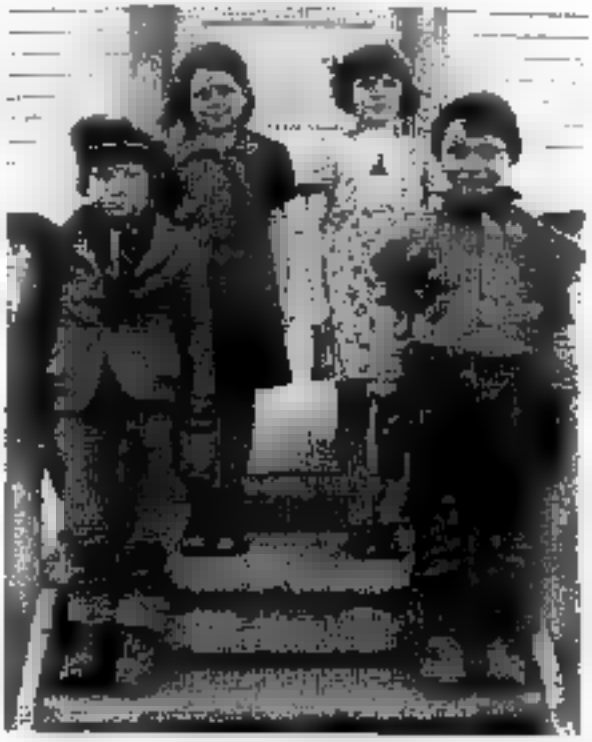
I also remember fondly the Christmas Concert which was such a memorable part of a country school.

I spent June 1944 living by myself in a granary because of scarlet fever in my boarding place, the Cornelius Epp home.

It was while I was at Keystone that we celebrated



The ad in the Saskatoon Star which Helen Harbor answered: Keystone School District No. 1114 requires a teacher. Duties to commence January 17. Salary $850 per annum. 12 enrolled. C. A. Brehon, Sec.-Treas., Maymont, Sask.



Grades one and two, Keystone School, 1944. Hilde Penner, Berniece Schmidt, Norman Voegeli, Danny Andrew.

with such relief V.E. Day. A special program with all schools participating was held in Maymont.

In 1954 after teaching in various places in Saskatchewan, Rolf Remmen and I were married. We have six children, two still at home. We live on a farm fourteen miles from town in summer and in Hanley in the winter.

We have especially enjoyed having Lilah Brehon and mother, prior to her death, as our near neighbours in Hanley.

The Tom Richardson Family

by Jessie Ferris

My father and mother, along with brother Tommy, sister Nancy and myself, came out from Scotland to

Saskatoon. After a few years sister Ella was born. Dad served in the First World War but due to a heart condition was sent back to Saskatoon. Having been in the grocery business for years Dad bought the H. H. Harris General Store in Fielding.

We all enjoyed the life of a small town where adults and children alike had to make their own fun.

A few highlights, for me at least in all I can remember. Like the first time at school when BERT and NOAH Summers were the welcoming committee amid a bunch of giggling boys at the gate. Bert tried to kiss me and Noah, Nancy. But a hard slap across the face to Bert stopped him and Nancy was left bawling her head off. Bert never came too near me after that.

Another highlight for me was on Hallowe'en night. After having exhausted all the homes and business places we came to the forbidden place — the pool hall. A few brave ones with me in the lead and "I'm going to tell Dad" ringing in my ears, we entered. In those days you had to perform to get a treat. Everyone shrunk back but me and for my singing effort got fifty cents. It was like a million dollars but on reaching home not only did I get a reprimand but my new earned wealth was taken away from me.

We lived in Fielding the last two years of the war 1917-1918 when things were tough all over. I can remember at the back of the store there would be cars, cows or pigs at any given time in payment for groceries.

We lived upstairs and it was there when I was seven that the Santa Claus myth was shattered. I saw my father bring in Ella's little rocking chair and put it beside the bed and later said it was from Santa.

It was in the same bedroom that Dad woke us girls up to say we had a new Baby brother. Dr. Scratch had delivered brother Jimmie on the kitchen table.

When we lived in Saskatoon my father belonged to a Pipe Band where he played the big drum. It was only natural that he led any parade that Fielding had those days. When the men came back from the war he always organized the reception.

He also played the roll of a gallant husband when he reached over and squeezed the life out of a mouse that had crawled up inside my mother's long skirt. This happened in church and everyone kept right on singing and never knew it happened but my poor mother nearly fainted.

When the men started coming home from the war and the train didn't get in till after dark a number of us school children were handed long poles with sacks on the end dipped in gasoline. We then formed two lines so the soldier and his wife or relatives could proceed down the middle. One incident that happened was an over enthusiastic female grabbing one soldier with such zeal, they overturned and rolled down the embankment.

We only lived in Fielding about three years before moving back to Saskatoon. But brother Tommy and I spent the best part of our summer holidays going back to Fielding, either to the R. W. Ferris or R. S. Harris farms. The family then all moved to B.C. to find our niche in life. Tommy joined the navy and Jimmie the army in later years.

Now as I write this in 1979 my father passed away when he was age sixty-seven and Mother was ninety-one. Both my brothers are now deceased. Sisters Nancy lives in Kelowna and Ella in Powell River. I came back to Saskatchewan and married one of my Fielding schoolmates, T. L. Ferris. We live on a farm at Borden.

My parents had six grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

We visit Fielding quite often and although it is now but a mini-village, the spirit of the descendants of those hardy pioneers is still alive and the people are down to earth and wonderful. Fielding brings back to me three years of childhood memories which I will always cherish.

Tom Roberts

In 1913, Dave and Charlie Roberts left Dundee, Scotland to immigrate to Canada, the land of promise and hope. They worked in the Radisson District before returning to Europe for the war of 1914-18. Dave was killed during the war and Charlie returned to the Fielding District to farm. In 1920, their father, Alexander (Sandy) and sister Mary came to Charlie's. Mary was married to William Pennycook of Perdue the same year. The rest of the family joined them in 1921 coming by boat-train. The family lived on the McClintock farm (later Roy Klepers) Meg and Bill attended school at Fielding and Beckwith. Later Tom purchased his farm two and one-half miles west of Fielding. During this time Tom ran a steamer on a threshing outfit and one fall when crops were poor he went to Lloydminster to harvest where crops were better.

Dorothy Flath and parents Ethel and Tom Roberts.

On November 8, 1935 Tom married Ethel Maud Kieper, second daughter of Charlie Kieper. In February, 1936, mother Jane Milne Roberts passed away. For several years Tom's father lived on the farm until his passing in 1940. On March 14, 1937, daughter Dorothy Noreen was born. She attended school from 1943-45 at Calais. The teacher was Jean Downie of Fielding who lived with Roberts and drove Dorothy to school. Dorothy's classmate was Bob Long. In 1945 Dorothy began attending Fielding School with teacher Betty Darling (Mrs. Cecil Ferris). Farming activities ranged from a laying flock of one hundred leghorns, later to purebred Shorthorn cattle and always grain. Custom combining in the 1940's with Cockshutt's first combine was a real challenge. Later Tom left the combining on the farm for Joe Hunchak to do with his larger outfits. In 1949, Tom purchased thirty acres of land north of the townsite of Fielding and moved his buildings to this location bringing the cattle in winter here. A later purchase was the poolroom from Alex Garnett which was converted to a cafe and run by Edna and Morley Wager for a time, later by Sid Johnson and Ches and Gertie Marshall.

With construction of the new highway through his thirty acres, the cafe building was moved north of the highway and run as a cafe and gas service. With the closing of Fielding's only grocery store, Tom converted the cafe portion into a grocery-confectionary, travelling each week to Saskatoon to purchase supplies.

Ethel was a constant helper in these adventures. Their location gradually became a lovely garden of trees and flowers, a tribute to the many hours spent in gardening. The service station was known far and wide as a stopping spot where service was available at any time and many a stranded motorist was aided.

Ethel was active in church activities, being a member of the Women's Missionary Society and president for a number of years. She served as leader of the Canadian Girls-in-Training for the last twelve years of that organization in Fielding, holding the meetings in her home.

Dorothy was a member of the C.G.I.T. when leaders were Ruby Martens and Florence Phillips, local teachers, also Audrey Debong. Who recalls the Fielding Fun Frolicers (3 F's) led by Florence Phillips when local teenagers met for fun? — ballroom dancing, three-act plays and such. And then the day you were twelve and could join Mr. Bill Brown's church choir which met every Thursday with organist Mrs. Annie Roberts, later Edith Brown and Dorothy Roberts.

Dorothy and cousin, John Roberts, Iona Baker and Edith Brown were the first students transported to Maymont School with Mr. Ryan, school janitor, as driver.

Following graduation, Dorothy attended Teachers' College, teaching in Loon Lake and North Battleford before her marriage in 1959 to Rudolph Flath of Radisson. They moved to their farm in the Stoughton Area and have a family of five.

For many years Ethel suffered from rheumatoid arthritis and required medical aid as she coped with the disease. She managed to keep up most of her activities until her passing in 1977. Tom has continued to operate his service station.

A Tribute to a Great Lady (Ethel Roberts)

from a newspaper clipping

With the passing of Ethel Roberts, Fielding lost a faithful recorder of all U.C.W. and C.G.I.T. meetings, a work that was dear to her heart. Her hand crippled with arthritis, she faithfully wrote detailed accounts of the meetings and work of these organizations so that their achievements could be an inspiration to other branches in other districts. Her leadership in C.G.I.T. inspired the girls to lead useful and Christian lives.

She loved and shared her garden and flowering shrubs with everyone — was very artistic making lovely creations from dried moss, weeds and other dried flowers.

History of the Charles M. Roberts' Family

Charles M. Roberts came from Dundee, Scotland, where he worked on the "Shield Hill" farm. He came to Canada on the advice of a man from Saskatoon, who was back home to Scotland on business. He gave Charlie and his brother, Dave, a letter of introduction to his father-in-law in Saskatoon. The two young Scots left Dundee for Saskatoon early in March, 1912, arriving in 40 degrees below Fahrenheit weather. The letter of introduction was the means of them going to Fielding to Mr. Bill Keyes' home which later became Charlie's own farm. But that's another story.

In a short time Dave was hired by a farmer, Martin McGrath, north of town and Charlie was hired by Al Nutting, a farmer near Radisson. Mrs. Nutting told how she fed Charlie apples when he was in the house to keep him from talking and asking questions — (it was so difficult for her to understand his broad Scottish accent).

That winter, Charlie, a bit lonely for his 'ain folk' went back to Dundee but with the understanding he would return to the Nuttings in the spring, which he did. The next summer war broke out and in 1916 Chester Nutting and Charlie enlisted. Charlie did his training in Radisson and Prince Albert. Eventually he got to England and Europe. He spent eleven months in the front line and was wounded at Passchendael in 1918.

Charlie returned to Radisson after the war was ended and through the D.V.A. bought the farm N.E. quarter 32-40-11-W 3rd. previously farmed by Mr. Keyes. In August, 1920 his father Alex (Sandy) Roberts and his sister, Mary came from Dundee, the latter to

marry Bill Pennycook of Perdue who was also from Dundee. In 1921 Charlie's mother, three brothers Alex, Tom and Bill and a sister, Margaret (Meg) arrived in Fielding and for a time lived with him. Later his dad, mother and family moved to what was then known as the McClintock farm.

In the fall of 1921, I (Annie Blakeley of Sintaluta, Sask.) came on the scene as the teacher in the second room of the Fielding two-room school. Ruth Feeley of Grandora, Sask. was engaged the same term as junior teacher. R. B. Harris, C. E. Kieper and G. E. Iveson were the trustees with Mr. Iveson as secretary. In those days the Christmas concert was the highlight of the school year and the program, which was presented in the Fielding Community Hall, involved each pupil in some item. The next year another teacher, Mary Carmody of Sonningdale, Sask. was added to the staff. For lack of space the senior students Grades VIII-IX and I were moved to what was then the Presbyterian Church, now the United. It was fitted with blackboards and desks. No laboratory, no library, etc. – a far cry from the beautifully furnished and well equipped classrooms of today. The pupils were adjusted in study and the co-operation I got was wonderful. There was a feeling of respect and understanding. I can recall no serious discipline problem. These students have made a mark in the world (I take no credit for this) as teachers, nurses, optometrists and farmers. One boy paid the supreme sacrifice in World War II.

In the winter of 1927 Charlie and his brothers under the supervision of carpenter W. H. Evans built a two-storey house on this farm. Plans were in the making. I was teaching in Westmount School in Saskatoon. Many trips were made from Fielding over the old CanPac Ferry. Finally on Christmas Day 1928 we were married at Sintaluta. A week later we moved into our new home where we spent the next thirty-four happy years, retiring from the farm in 1962 to Saskatoon. Though we were happy on the farm and had wonderful neighbors and friends, life was not all 'pie in the sky'. All will remember the "Hungry Thirties". We never went hungry but certainly made very little money. We always had a good garden, for which we thanked God. No electricity on the farms meant much canning of vegetables, meat and chicken, and jars or crocks of fried pork packed in fat.

For wedding gifts we received a cow, five wee pigs, six hens and a rooster from friends and neighbors. These stood us in good stead and were the start of our livestock population. We named our cow Alexina in honor of the donor, Alex Gunn.

In summer we did much walking — yes, even in winter we often walked to town. Gasoline was rationed as also was sugar. At that time Highway No. Five went by our door. It was a common occurrence to have 'hitch hikers' stop in for a lunch or a meal. I always hoped they would 'go easy' on the sugar. It took a bit of planning and saving to have enough of that rationed staple to do a bit of canning and to make a rhubarb or saskatoon pie for a treat.

There were some bright spots in those hard years too. Most important to us was the birth of our first child, John Charles, born January 25, 1937 and our second son, David Alexander, July 21, 1939. Dr. John Scratch and Nurse Patricia McGrath were attendants at both births.

John trained as a teacher but after a year at Grey School, Maymont he decided to switch to X-ray work and entered St. Paul's Hospital as a student. At present he is Chief X-ray Technician in that hospital. He married Marlene Dosch of Coronach, a Lab Technician at City Hospital. They have two sons and a daughter — Cameron, Darin and Janna. David chose farming as his occupation and took over his father's farm. He married a teacher, Myrna Harris, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Harris of Fielding. They have three sons and a daughter — Kent, Bradley, Craig and Carla.

About five years ago David and Myrna decided to go ranching. They built a beautiful home in a picturesque setting on NE 32-41-11- W3. They sold the farm at 32-40-11 to Brian McNaughton. At present they have a large herd of cattle on "Shield Hill" stock farm. Their interests are also in Quarter horses and all the family are riders.

During their years at Fielding, Charlie and Annie were active members of the Fielding United Church and were community-minded folk. Charlie was active in the local telephone company, Wheat Pool (being an original member) Radisson Co-op, the Fielding Hall Co., the curling rink, the Radisson Masonic Lodge and the Fielding Legion. When he retired to Saskatoon he became an avid horse shoe player and carpet bowler. They became active members in the Mayfair United Church and its various organizations.

Charlie died in July, 1975. He was predeceased by his parents Mr. and Mrs. Alex (Sandy) Roberts, his brother, Dave, who was killed in the First World War, his brother Alex of Vancouver, and his sister Mary Pennycook, Medicine Hat. His sister Margaret (Meg) McMillan of Saskatoon died March, 1978. Tom, who operates the Northside Service Station at Fielding, lost his wife (the former Ethel Kieper) in 1977. Bill, a veteran of World War II lives with his wife (the former Luella Thompson) at Cloverdale, B.C.

Mr. and Mrs. James William Robertson

James William Robertson was born in 1876 and grew up in Barrie, Ontario. As a young man he travelled west to Winnipeg where he spent a time working for the J. H. Ashdown Hardware Co. It was the lure of the West that brought him and his brothers Archie, in Rosthern, Sask. where they operated a store. During that period they received contracts to supply goods to the N.W.M.P. post at Battleford. They freighted those goods by horse-drawn vehicles cross-

country to Battleford. Later in the fall of 1903, they moved on to Fielding and took up homesteads and engaged in farming.

In 1909 J. W. Robertson married Mabel Bishop who came west in 1907 from Greenwich, N.S. to teach school, first at Saltcoats, Sask. and then at Fielding where she was one of the first teachers at Fielding school.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Robertson were active in community affairs. Mr. Robertson was a member of the Board of Session of the United Church when the Methodist and Presbyterian congregations united in 1918. Mrs. Robertson was an energetic member of the Ladies Aid of the Methodist Church before union and of the United Church after union. In 1919 they left Fielding to reside at Chilliwack, B.C. and a few years later to Nova Scotia. Always a westerner at heart Mr. Robertson brought his family back to Saskatoon in 1936 and resided in Saskatchewan till his death in 1947, after spending some years buying grain in St. Walburg and a short while at Tisdale.

Mrs. Robertson passed away in Saskatoon in 1972.

Mr. and Mrs. Robertson had 3 children: Ann, Mrs. George Burgess of Victoria, B.C., Kathleen, Mrs. Malcolm McNaughton of Saskatoon, and James Lovett a lawyer practising in Saskatoon. Mrs. Robertson's two daughters both succeeded her as teachers in the Fielding school.

The Bern Robinson Family

George O. (Bern) Robinson was born in Ontario, raised in Michigan, then returned to Ontario when about 18 years of age. He kept moving westward, to Manitoba, then to Saskatchewan. In 1903, he and his uncle, Charles Robinson, drove by horse and buggy from Waskada, Manitoba to Ruddell, Sask., where he bought N.E. 1-42-14-W.3rd from the C.P.R. on July 6th, 1903. He hauled lumber from Saskatoon in 1905 and built a house. Here he brought his bride, Hannah McMahon, in the spring of 1906. He filed on S.E. 2-42-14-3rd for a homestead and by 1908 had broken 140 acres. Not content with farming only, he went into the business of selling Cockshutt and Deering machinery and Grey buggies in the village of Ruddell. Later, when Ford cars were available, he became a Ford dealer, and sold many of the first Fords in the area. In 1910 they moved into their newly built house in Ruddell and there raised their family.

After the implement business was sold to the Grain Growers, he dealt in insurance and Delco products, and later operated the general store with Oswald Harper as partner. He retired from business in 1928 but remained active and managed his land till his death in 1950. His wife had a smaller house built across the street from their former home and lived there till the age of 97, when she moved into North Battleford. She died in January 1979, just two months before her 103rd birthday.

There were four children in the family. Fern and Ruth attended school in Ruddell, North Battleford and Saskatoon, and became teachers, making Ruddell their home until they married. Fern now lives in Vancouver, B.C. with husband Bob Orchard and family, and Ruth in Portland, Oregon, with husband Bill Wilson and family. Merle died at two years of age. Lance received his education in Ruddell and also graduated from U. of S. with his Bachelor of Agriculture degree. He then served in the Armed Forces from 1943 to 1946. He and his wife, Betty Rogers of Maymont, and their family, made Ruddell their home and farmed from town from 1948 to 1973, when they moved into North Battleford. Lance died in 1974 and Betty in 1976, but three of their family,

Oct., 1950. The G. O. (Bern) Robinson family. Left to right — Ruth Wilson, Hannah, Bern holding Colleen (his Granddaughter), Fern Orchard, and Lance.

Oswald Harper on left, George (Bern) Robinson (by tree).

Archie, Hal and Colleen and their families are still in North Battleford. Brenda and her family live in Calgary, Alberta.

The Robinson house is still in Ruddell. Two generations of Robinsons grew up in it, but there is no one now in the district with the Robinson name.

George C. and Emily J. Robinson

by Edna K. Gibson

My father, George Croft Robinson, and my mother, Emily Jane Warne, were born in Ontario — my father in 1849 and my mother in 1865. They were married in 1887 in Oakland, Ontario and went over to Michigan where they lived until 1906. My brother, Warne, was born there in 1893 and I in 1896. My father was a blacksmith in Michigan. In 1905 he came to the Ruddell District. His homestead was the farm now owned by Herman Soule who is the third generation to farm there. During that first year my father started to build our house which was completed the following spring. The mail came to Baljennie from Saskatoon in 1905 and my father often rowed across the river to get it and told of the good dinners he would have at the Megaffin home. My father spent the winter of 1905 and 1906 in Michigan and made arrangements for my mother, Warne and I to move West which we did in May, 1906. I can remember the prairie was yellow with wild pea blossoms. A remarkable coincidence occurred, when by chance I happened to be in the washroom on the train and met Mrs. James Lowrey who was also going to Ruddell. Her husband had gone out to join his brother, Edward, who had the Post Office and General store. Mrs. Lowrey could not adjust to the hardships of pioneer life so they did not stay long. My father had a blacksmith shop on Main Street for several years. He sold it to the McKenzie Brothers and bought Mr. Lowrey's Store.

My brother, Warne, had the Post Office until he left for Officer's Training during the First World War. He married Cora Robey first and then Iona Mitchell. They had three children. Their two daughters are still living but their son died in 1963 at the age of thirty-four. Warne died in Vernon, B.C. in 1964. Iona now lives in Oliver, B.C.

My father died in Ruddell in 1918 and was taken back to Oakland, Ontario for burial.

In 1928 I married Hugh W. Gibson and came to Victoria, Hugh had farmed in the Lilac District from 1908 to 1915. In December, 1928 my mother came to Victoria to make her home with us and died here in 1943. My husband, Hugh, died in 1964.

At one time there were six Mrs. Robinsons living in Ruddell.

W. H. Robinson and Jack Robinson

In 1913, our father, Arthur William Robinson, arrived in Ruddell, having come via Tisdale, where he had homesteaded, and Radisson, where he had farmed for a time. He rented a farm two miles west and a mile south of Ruddell, which was later known as the "Wallace place" and still later as the "Scott place".

In 1915, he returned from a trip to Berlin, Ontario with a bride, Clara May Asmussen. Their first son, John, was born in 1916 and William in 1917. Dr. Scratch attended William's birth in the log farm house. Dr. Scratch, having stepped on a nail the previous day,

Mrs. Art Robinson and sons in a Hup down near the river about 1918.

The Art Robinson farm overlooking the dam about 1938.

Robinson family gathering about 1927 or 1928.

Bill Robinson (1938) driving the first rubber-tired tractor in the Ruddell district. This photo was for advertising the Cockshutt Plough.

arrived shod in one bedroom slipper and one rubber boot. Mrs. Asmussen (our maternal grandmother), recently arrived from the east, and, accustomed to doctors clad in morning coat and top hat, was most reluctantly persuaded to allow the doctor's admittance.

A year after William's birth, they moved a mile west to the north half of section three where the following year their first daughter, May, (Mrs. W. T. Buttrey) was born and where their last child, Frances (Mrs. J. A. Bates) was born in 1926.

In 1920, the south east quarter of section 10, having become available, he sent for his wife's parents, Agnes and John Asmussen, who came out and bought it. He also acquired the south half of section 11, and a quarter section of pasture land west of the Maple Grove picnic site.

Grandfather Asmussen, a skilled bricklayer and stone mason, built himself a brick house next door to our's. In the following years he used his craft to good advantage. He built a large stone-walled barn, a stone-walled implement shed and gravel driveways edged with split rock, connecting the houses, the road and the barnyard, as well as many improvements and additions to our house. Dad contributed a 32-volt light plant which serviced the houses and the barn. In contrast to this, we still had two old "soddies", one of which was used for a chicken house.

Dad was a good farmer, who enlisted his family on evening walks for the purpose of rock picking, which served to protect his equipment while providing a family outing. Those rocks too large to handle manually, were hand-drilled by Grandfather, charged with black powder and blown into manageable chunks. These were then piled in long rows which are now blown-over with the dust of the 30's.

I sometimes wonder, if, in the distant future, some archeologist may dig into those long mounds thinking he has found an ancient burial ground. If hopes and dreams need a final resting place, he may be right. For the drought and wind and grasshoppers took the soil and the crops from the land Dad called "Long Acres" and for which he had, on three successive years in the early 30's, won the title of "Best Farm" in the North Battleford Agricultural District; and eventually, when he could no longer buy feed, his prized herd of Aberdeen Angus which he had increased to eighty head — at the worst possible time! I remember him coming home from the Saskatoon Exhibition with the first prize ribbons for a pen of baby beef calves for which he got four and a half cents a pound.

By 1942, the family had scattered. Dad, Mother, Grandfather, and Grandmother went to Victoria where Jack had been since 1940. May and her airforce husband, Bill Buttrey, were in Nanticoke, Ontario. Bill remained in Ruddell on the farm until 1946, when he too went to Vancouver Island. On returning from the war Bill and May Buttrey purchased the home place N½, 3, 42, 14 and lived there until 1969 when they took over the post office at Ruddell.

The years 1944, 1945 and 1946 saw the deaths of Grandfather, Grandmother and Dad, in that order. In 1947, Jack and Bill bought adjoining pieces of land on the Oyster River in Black Creek near Courtenay. Mother, now alone, sold her Victoria home and built her new home on a piece of Bill's property. Frances and her husband came to the area in 1951.

Mother died in 1969, and Frances in 1977. May is in Ruddell while Bill and Jack are in Black Creek where Bill has built a man-made lake that bears the family name.

My earliest memories are of a bustling country town, the main street lined with hitching rails, and another long line of hitching rails beyond the high lumber fence where the horses got protection in the winter. In the winter, when farmers south of the river hauled their grain to the elevators, a youngster could "hook a ride" on a toboggan attached behind their sleighs going out of town, or behind the dray with which Donald Campbell delivered freight using a team of Turnbulls beautiful Clydesdales; or he could stand in the door of the blacksmith's shop and watch the sparks fly as the MacKenzie brothers shod a horse or forged a tool.

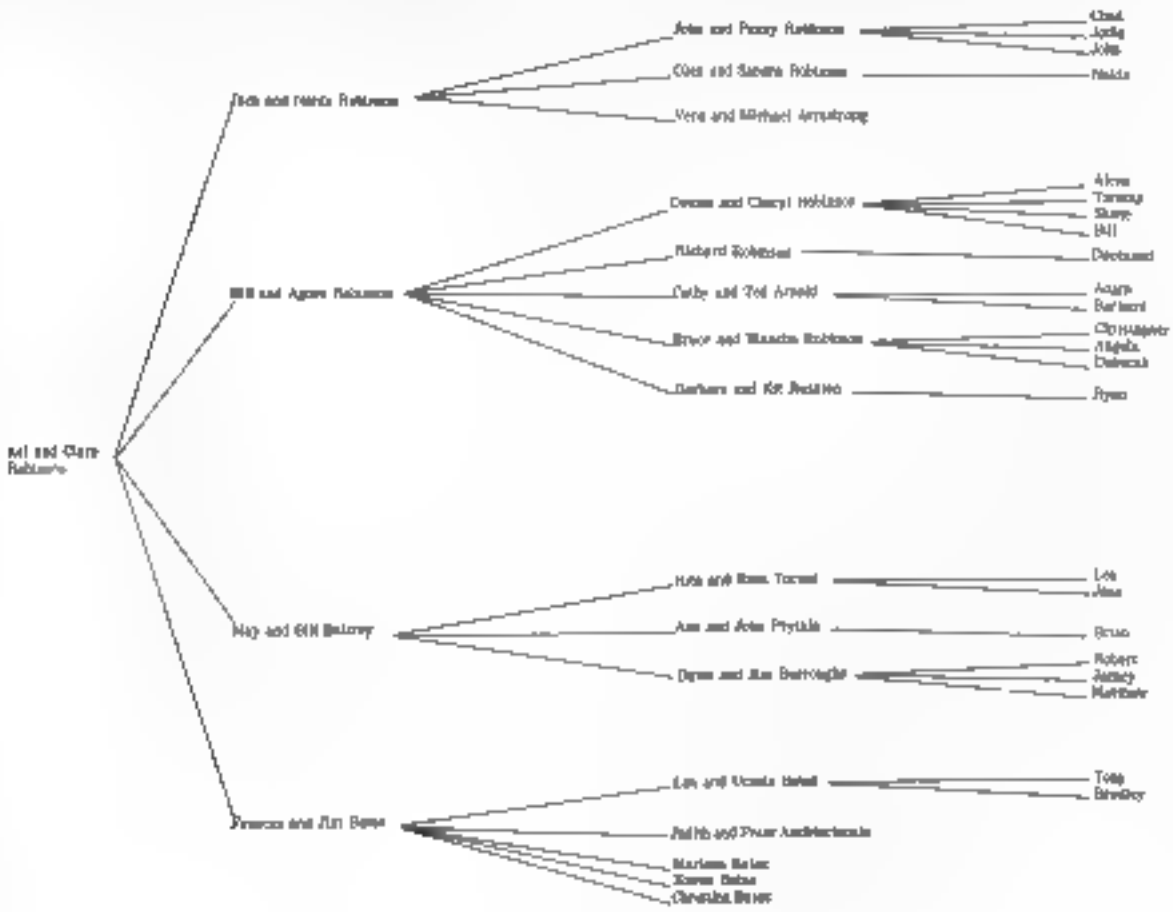
In our early days the local "Hot Stove League" was located in Lawrence Robinson's harness shop on the corner of the street but as horses became passe the harness shop closed and the League moved to Mah Lee's grocery store. One of the regulars was a short, rotund man, named Bill Kennedy. He lived in Charlie Johnson's Hotel and morning and night helped Shorty Mallows with the mail. He also helped the ladies carry groceries to their buggies, or later, cars. And that was his daily work. The rest of the time he spent listening to the local chitchat, but saying very little.

Our home when we were young was open house for young people who came for skiing parties on the river hills, Young People's Meetings, and just plain get-togethers. Our farm truck was always available, but as no one had much money, the group would "chip in" for gas and take in a show at Battleford or, with tents and supplies spend a week at Ashmack's Resort on

Meeting Lake. In the winter, there were concerts, card parties, and dances, at the town hall. Entertainment, food and dancing were provided for a 10 cent admission. Music was supplied free, or very nearly so, by local young people. In these days of high costs, it is hard to credit that we got so much for so little.

My personal memories are many. I remember the crisp moonlit winter night when I was walking home from play practice and a snowy owl swooping silently snatched the toque off my head, nearly scaring me out of my wits. I remember the night of the school Christmas concert to which Bill and I decided to take Mother and the girls, wrapped in blankets in the bottom of the sleigh box, through a raging blizzard. Dad wasn't fool enough to go, but it must have been an agonizing four hours for him before we made it — due, mainly, to the courage of our horses, rather than our good sense. And I remember the hands that were there to rub our frost bitten faces with snow and take our tired horses to the barn and care for them. I remember the picnics at the Maple Grove all through the years, and which are still continuing. I was there last year to see many of the old timers, which now includes me, and was saddened to see only a few of those old timers of my boyhood. I remember the spirit of young and old, the ability to enjoy life in adversity; and the thoughtfulness. I remember Bill White, later Professor Bill White of U of S, taking a group of us youngsters, eleven to thirteen years old, on a trek, with a horse and democrat loaded with tents and food, to explore the old Hudson Bay Northwest Company Trading Posts (still visible at that time), up the north side of the river to the RNWMP barracks, then abandoned, now restored, and back down the south side of the river. I remember a station master, whose name I have forgotten, who developed a group of farm boys into a very fine choir. I remember the great threshing crews of the late 20's and early 30's, their teams hauling in the loads of sheaves, the four-horse grain wagons, and the big steamers, or JI cases or Rumleys racing along the road between farms at 4 miles per hour. And I remember in the late 30's the freight trains moving east and west, their tops loaded with men for whom there was no work, nor money for food or shelter. And I remember with some sadness that when the war came, there was money to feed and clothe them and send them to do a job that no man wants — destroying other men.

It was not, perhaps, the best time, but the place was wonderful to grow up in.



Roche Family of Ruddell

Michael J. Roche with his wife Gertrude and family, Mamie, Ivy, Lee, Waldren (Pat) emmigrated to Canada from North Dakota in 1916. They settled in Ruddell, Saskatchewan, where he was section foreman on the Canadian National Railway from 1916 [redacted] his death in 1932. Woodrow (Mike) was born in July 1918 in Ruddell.

Left, Norman Martinson; right, Waldron Roche.

Following Michael Roche's death, his wife stayed in and around Ruddell until 1941, when she moved to Saskatoon. She passed away in 1953 at the home of her daughter Ivy. Mamie, married Gordon Patterson of Maymont in 1922 and passed away in Chicago in 1935.

Ivy, married W. S. (Bill) Turnball in 1924 and died in 1976 in Saskatoon.

Lee, attended Ruddell Public School and on finishing started working with his father in 1924. He was married to Marj Parkinson of Baljennie in 1930, retired in 1974, after fifty years continous service with CNR. He passed away in 1976 in Chilliwack, B.C. He is survived by son Kenneth, born in Russell in 1931, and two daughters Sharon, in Swift Current and Judy in B.C. and his widow lives in Chilliwack, B.C.

Waldron (Pat), attended Ruddell Public School and he too went to work on the CNR in 1928, retiring in 1971 and passed away in 1973.

Woodrow (Mike), born in Ruddell in 1918 attended Ruddell Public School, left Ruddell in 1940 and lived in Saskatoon until 1954, now residing in Vancouver, B.C.

Michael J. Roche's oldest daughter Agnes, while never immigrating to Canada, lived in and around Ruddell with her husband for several years, finally moving to California in 1923 where she died in 1971.

Muriel (Nuthrown) and Roy D. Rodgers

Muriel was born and grew up on the farm at Maymont. She attended Calais School and High School at Maymont.

She worked at the Provincial Hospital and the Royal Bank of Canada in North Battleford. It was at the bank that she met Roy Rodgers whom she married in 1956. Roy grew up at Quill Lake, Sask. Roy and Muriel have lived at several locations — North Battleford and Regina, Sask; Toronto and Sudbury, Ontario; Montreal, Quebec and are currently living at Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. Roy is in charge of Systems for the Atlantic Provinces (Royal Bank of Canada).

They have four children; Carol and Wesley — both attending University; Brian and Jeff who are in High School.

Muriel and Roy enjoy bridge, travelling and entertaining their many friends and relatives from across Canada.

Mrs. Jimmy Rogers

written by Mrs. Jimmy Rogers

My parents were born in Quebec. They were married in 1900 and went to live on a farm near Leeds Village.

The new province of Saskatchewan was formed in 1905 and like many of their neighbors the Reids thought it would be a good idea to "go west" and try pioneering in the new province. In 1907 they made the move. The family included the parents, five children, Marjorie, Mary, Bill, Ellen, Anne and the Grandma and Grandpa Reid arrived in Maymont in June of that year.

Our first home was on the homestead southwest of Maymont. Clarence was born while we lived there. Our next move was to Maymont where the Melrose Brothers and Andrew Reid went into business. They ran a livery, dray and feed business for a number of years. Archie, Dorothy and Wilfred were born in Maymont.

The family moved to the farm south of Maymont in March, 1917. They lived there until 1945 when my father passed away and my brother Clarence took over the farm.

Ellen passed away in 1965. My mother in July, 1956. Anne and Clarence passed away in 1973.

In 1921 a pumping station was put in at Morgan's Crossing, Saskatchewan River. It was used to supply the CNR trains with water. Jimmy Rogers was the stationary engineer on the job.

In 1924 Jimmy and I were married. He was employed with B & B so we spent the next four years travelling from place to place wherever his work took him. During that time three children, Betty, Mary and

Mary and Jimmy Rogers.

Dick were born. We decided it was time to settle down permanently. We returned to Maymont, bought a house from Syd Fricker and four children, Alice, Inez, Ellen and Murray joined the family. We raised and educated seven children while living in that house.

Jim took over the Imperial Oil Filling Station in Maymont and operated it for over thirty years, until his death in 1970.

The children have all married and have their own children. Betty married Lance Robinson of Ruddell. She had four children, Archie, Hal, Colleen and Brenda. Betty passed away in January, 1976. Lance died in November, 1974.

Mary married Bill Pistell of Victoria. She had two daughters, Lynne and Lee.

Dick married Olwyn Stocks and they have three children Garth, Brenda and Lanis.

Alice married Jack Robinson. They live in Calgary, Alberta and have four children, Courtney, Bradley, Patti and James.

Inez married John Carrier, Saskatoon. They have four children, Richard, Sharon, Marlene and Roger.

Ellen married Charlie Thibadeau. They have three children, Faye, Allan, and Ryan.

Murray married Rose Wass. They live in Calgary, Alberta and have three children, Norine, Karen, and Lance.

There are twenty-three grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren to date.

Oliver and Marion (May) Rogers

by Marion (May) Rogers

Oliver Rogers came to Saskatchewan with his parents, Ransom and Rachel Rogers from Stonewall, Manitoba in 1904.

I (Marion) came to Saskatchewan with my parents, William and Rosetta Gray, from Bracebridge, Ontario in 1908.

Oliver and I were married in North Battleford, Saskatchewan April 11, 1929 by Reverend P. Fisher.

We lived in Ruddell District the first four years of our marriage. Then in 1933 we bought land near Maymont, and made our home on N.E. ¼ of Section 9-42-12-W3rd. This land is in what was then known as the Grey School District.

We had two children, Thelma and Dean, who attended Grey School until Thelma had to start high school and they were sent to Maymont. Grey School

Oliver and May Rogers — April 11, 1929.

has been closed for a number of years now and was moved to the North Battleford Museum.

The depression years came in the early 1930's. With it came dry weather, dust storms and grasshoppers. But we always managed to have faith in next year.

Our two children are now married. Our daughter, Thelma, married Robert Patterson, and they now live on our old farm. Dean, our son, married June Clayton and they also farm near Maymont.

Oliver and I retired in 1962 and bought a home in Maymont. Oliver passed away April, 1977, and I still live here in the village. I have eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

I enjoy needlework and gardening, belong to quilting club, Senior Citizen's Club and the United Church.

In Memory of the Pioneers

by Mrs. Marian Rogers

In memory of the old pioneers who spent their last days in Maymont District. In the early years of the district there were many good old couples who had immigrated here. They were unlike the younger settlers who came; they did not come to make money, neither did they come to build up a great home. They came to get settled with their families around them. Many of them left better homes in the east and south than they ever hoped to have here. They were the pioneers who accomplished their purpose. They won the race and finished their work. That is why so many of our old pioneers had that satisfied smile. They are the people who had built their own monuments, grander monuments than can be built with granite or marble. They were built with kindness, sympathy and loyalty to their neighbors and any strangers who came their way, and by a never tiring help and devotion to their families. Those were the people who laid the foundation for our own families and for our own districts; let us all try and live up to the standard they set.

J. Ransom and F. Rachel Rogers History

On March 3, 1904 Ransom and Rachel Rogers arrived by Immigration Car in Saskatoon, the end of the railway, having left their home at Balmoral, Manitoba to go west and make a new life for themselves and family. They had four small children; Oliver, Elmer, Esther and Emerson (a baby six months old). They came on to Maymont by horses and sleigh, spending the first night at Cee Pee, then at Walkers, Great Bend. Also coming at this time were the Andrew Family, Grandma Andrew being Ransom's mother. Grandpa Andrew had filed on the East half of Section 4 in 1903 and Ransom settled on the North-East quarter of Section 4, Range [illegible], Township 42. Their house was built of logs, hauled by horses, from an island in the North Saskatchewan River five miles south of Maymont. The house roof was made of poles covered by sod with the grass side down. Rachel

Roadmaking.

Washing clothes at Ransom Rogers — summer, 1924.

Ransom Rogers in front of his shop on Main Street, Maymont.

covered the ceiling with cheese cloth and then whitewashed it. The first windows, were large picture frames they brought with them.

Ransom's first job was at Emil Richard's ranch where the town of Richard now stands. His job was breaking horses, breaking land with oxen teams. While working there and coming home to see the family on a weekend he walked nine miles, he carried enough small potatoes to plant for the coming year. Uncle Bob Williams had broken a garden patch on the Homestead, which Rachel worked up by hoe and planted potatoes and a garden, which proved to be a good crop.

Ray Rogers hauling water in a wooden tank for the steam engine, 1928. Rogers home in the background.

The first winter the family spent at the Richard Ranch, returning to the Homestead in the spring of 1905, where Rachel put in the Homestead Duties with the children. In October a new baby, Howard, was born. Mrs. Kirk from Great Bend was the midwife, there was no doctor available.

The first Church services were held at Grandpa Andrews home.

At this time the trail ran past our homestead, many new settlers stopped in to enquire the way, asking for water for themselves and livestock. The sandflies and mosquitoes were so plentiful the men had to wear kerchiefs, etc. on their necks to ward them off.

In 1905 Grey School was built by a Mr. Chambers. The first teacher being Miss Annie Arkley, who lived at home and walked five miles to teach every day. Oliver and Elmer being two of the first pupils, walking two and one-half miles to school across the prairie. One foggy morning they got lost, and arrived at Madill's farm, then walked from there to school arriving late for classes. Mr. Parker ploughed a furrow across from the school to the prairie trail, so the boys would not get lost again. Ransom Rogers was one of the first trustees.

In 1906 Ransom worked for Rev. J. C. Madill on the farm N.W. quarter of 4-42-12, and also ran a well drilling machine, digging wells in the surrounding area. Some of these wells could not be finished, as there was too much gas underground, these were tested by lowering a lantern in the hole, if the flame went out, no further digging was done.

In 1907 he worked in the harness shop owned by Rev. Madill. Leather was bought by the side and then cut to desired length for harness traces, etc., hand stitched, with hand made wax thread. Also recovering horse collars, mending and re-soling shoes, this being his trade. August 14th, Greta was born, being the first baby born in Maymont under Dr. Scratch's care.

After Grey School was closed, to save costs, the family moved to Maymont so Oliver, Elmer and Esther could attend Maymont school. In winter Ransom worked in the harness shop and took on the job of hauling water for the town by horse and sleigh. When spring came, he went out breaking land while Oliver and Elmer took over water delivery by horse and democrat, as well as attending school. One lady who was very particular made them scrub the barrel out with a broom before they delivered her water.

In May, 1909 Ray was born, Mrs. F. Long being the mid-wife assisting Dr. Scratch.

Ransom buying and trading horses carried on farm work with very small wages.

In these times help was hard to find and Rachel being in poor health, the family laundry was sent out to a farm neighbor lady, Mrs. Bohn, who had a family of hard working girls and boys. Stanley still lives in Maymont.

In 1910 Gladys was born with Mrs. H. Jess and Dr. Scratch attending.

The family moved back to the homestead that spring. Ransom, Oliver and Elmer worked building roads in the district. The road work at that time was done with horses, scrapers and fresnos. Furrows were ploughed with a walking plow, the sod was loaded on the scrapers and hauled up onto the grade. This work continued for the next few years, to raise money to carry on. In 1913 Ransom and Oliver continued road work under the Government plan and supervised by William Parker. Ransom running the grader machine, and Elmer did the farm work at home. Roy was born in August of that year.

In 1914 the First World War broke out closing down a lot of work. Oliver returned home and worked with Dobkins threshing outfit that fall. Ransom returned to work in the harness shop taken over by Harry Martin.

In January, 1916 Ada was born and in March the family rented the former Rev. Madill farm and moved to live there. The crops looked good but frost and rust lowered the grades so there was a shortage of feed and money. Much of the children's clothing was hand me downs, and made over from adult dresses, coats, etc.

1917 was not much better with dry weather, short crops and high prices for seed, it was hard to compare the operating expenses with higher price and in 1918 hard times prevailing, and an outbreak of a Flu epidemic, many lives were lost.

A very near crop failure prevailed in 1919. October came with a blast freezing potatoes in the ground and a hard winter followed.

In 1920 with poor crops, oats had to be bought at $1.20 a bushel to be used for seeding. Farmers formed a beef ring of 20 families each had 1 share of 20 lbs. Each family supplied a steer and Tom Sawyer did the butchering. It was planned each share got one roast a week, and other cuts divided equally. Some families arranged a half-share. This project carried on for twenty weeks in the summer. As there were no deep freezes in that time, the meat would hang in a pail in the well or some had an ice house, which was packed full of ice blocks taken from the river in winter and packed in saw dust, under ground.

A ploughing match was held on the farm of Tom Sawyer, that summer, by the Agriculture Society. Elmer won a Silver Cup for the Championship of ploughing. This cup was donated by the Canadian Bank of Commerce. The ploughing was done with a tandem team of horses and a gang plow.

Ransom worked at custom threshing for Sam Miller at [illegible] a day running the separator and the boys doing team work.

[illegible] 1921 they bought their first threshing outfit, a Waterloo Boy engine, and did some custom work.

By 1924 had bought Section 4 and Section 9 and Section 3 which needed cleared and broken and produced good crops so in 1925 they bought a steam threshing outfit, with cook car and sleeping car. By now the family were ready to help so the girls helped Rachel with the cooking which meant long hours of hot work preparing meals and washing dishes for as many as 12 to 16 men. The cook car was moved from farm to farm and the farmers supplied the potatoes and milk. The sleeping car had bunk beds with straw filled ticks for the men to sleep in and also followed the machine.

Depression Years

1926, 1927, 1928 took 9 lbs. twine per acre, and only received 45 cents per bushel for wheat. 1928 was a dried out year, poor crops. 1930 wheat sold for 30 cents a bushel. Cost 4 cents a bushel to thresh oats, and sold some for 8 cents a bushel. 7 cents a pound for butterfat (or cream) $6.50 for a dressed hog. 5 to [illegible] cents for a dozen eggs. Some of these years there was a Relief Board, who shipped in vegetables and apples from Ontario by train.

Oliver — married Marion (May) Gray in Battleford in 1929. First farmed in Ruddell-Maymont area. Later moving to Maymont where he lived till 1962 then retired in Maymont. Oliver died April 22, 1977 in Union Hospital, North Battleford.

Thelma — their daughter married Robert Patterson at the farm home in June, 1953. They first farmed at Lilac then on her Dad's farm at Maymont. They had four daughters and one son.

Marion — a Food Service Manageress working in Regina. Married Bill Smith on June 30, 1979.

Heather — married to Dennis Prescesky in November, 1975 and have one son Leon Dennis born in February, 1979. Farming in Richard district.

Brenda — married Charles Horrell in October, 1977, a daughter Beverley Dawn was born in November, 1978. Farming in North Battleford district.

Thomas and **Patricia** are still living at home.

Dean — their son married June Clayton January 30, 1954 at Maymont, and farms the former Ernest Ramsay land with other land in the district. They have two daughters and one son.

Margaret — married Raymond Thompson in Maymont April 7, 1973. Now living in Maymont where Raymond has a trenching service. They have two small daughters Raeanne born 1976 and [illegible]heri born 1978.

Yvonne — married Scott Gray in Maymont October 25, 1975. Now lives in Battleford, works at secretarial work and Scott with Sask. Power.

David — lives at home farming with his Dad and has purebred Hereford cattle.

Elmer — married Jean Meena in Saskatoon April 3, 1928, started farming in Grey School District, with hard times coming moved to Goodsoil, homesteaded then after proving up on it, sold it to move to Meadow Lake and went trucking, later moving to Calgary, Alberta where they still live. Their family consisted of four girls.

Maxine — a stenographer works in Calgary. Was married to Ken Nelsen in February, 1957.

Marlene — married Harold Scott in Meadow Lake October, 1955. Their family is three daughters and one son. Live at Rashaw, Alberta and own a Hog Enterprise.

Deborah — married Morley James at Calgary, May, 1977 where they still live.

Shirley — married to William Wereuka at Calgary, July, 1977 where they still live.

Darcy — is living at home and has an interest in the Hog Enterprise.

Lynne — still at home going [illegible] school.

Myrna — married Gilbert Barton [illegible] Calgary August, 1959. Lives [illegible] Coquitlam, B.C. where Gil is a chartered accountant. They have two girls Laurel and Deanna both still in School.

Merle Fay — died in infancy at Meadow Lake.

Esther — "Betty" married to Edward Minette at the farm home, Maymont in July, 1924. Ed had a farm at Maymont which he rented out and worked at the Saskatchewan Hospital from 1929 till he retired in 1956 to live in North Battleford. Passed away in Union Hospital July, 1969. Betty still resides in North Battleford.

Allan — after leaving school in Battleford joined the army in Spring of 1944, and went overseas from Regina. He served in England, Korea, Germany and Cypros, and won the Queen's commendation in Korea, for bravery in 1953. He was married to Evelyn Stahl in North Battleford November, 1952 and lived in Calgary, Alberta. From Calgary to Germany in fall of 1955. Evalyn and their two children Debbie and Marc went too, and stayed for three years, and returned to make their home in Calgary, and is now retired after 33 years service.

Deborah — a graduate from University of Calgary (B.Sc.) married Tony Lumsden at Calgary, January, 1977. They moved to Richmond, B.C. where they both work.

Marc — worked in Calgary after finishing school then moved [illegible] Richmond. Works for Hudson Bay Store.

Leola — their daughter trained in City Hospital in Saskatoon and received her R.N. degree. Married

Douglas MacDonald in November, 1950 in North Battleford, who was an R.P.N. working at the Saskatchewan Hospital later transferring to the Battlefords Regional Care Centre. Douglas retired in April, 1979. Leola is still nursing at the Union Hospital, North Battleford. Their family is 3 boys and two girls.

Diane — married Wayne Allen at North Battleford in June, 1973, who is office manager for S.E.P.T.E.R. and living in Surrey, B.C. They have two girls **Kimberley** and **Nicole** both under school age.

James — and Cheryl Yeo were married in July, 1972, and have three little girls **Carey** starting school and twins **Kristin** and **Karen.** Jim works in the Co-op Lumber Yard and lives in Battleford.

Hugh — after finishing school studied for a Recreational Director and works in Melfort, Saskatchewan.

Douglas — is going to University in Regina.

Joanne — is studying for a Veterinarian Assistant at Vermilion, Alberta.

Emerson — married **Maybelle Chatten**, June, 1927 in Saskatoon. First had a harness repair shop in Richard, then Singer Sewing Machine agent, Watkins agent, farmed at Mildred, Sask. Sold out and went to Flin Flon, Manitoba, to work in the mine. This was hard and dangerous work but he liked it and remained there until he was stricken with a heart attack and died in July, 1957. They had a family of two girls and one boy. Maybelle married George Zimmer in October, 1959 who was a trapper and a guide. He died in September, 1973, and she is now retired and living at Cranberry Portage, Manitoba.

George — and Patricia Brettle were married at Mildred, August, 1952. Works in the mine at Flin Flon, have a family of three sons and one daughter.

Donald — married to Heather Souter November, 1974 at Flin Flon. Have a small daughter Tamara Lynne (Tammy) born January, 1977.

Brian — married in July, 1976 to Kathleen McCormick at Flin Flon.

Kevin — and Shauna are at home.

Frances — married to Gordon Brown at The Pas, Manitoba, January, 1960. Gordon works for Manitoba Telephones and they are living at Carmen. They have a girl **Joni** born 1960 and a boy **Kenneth** born 1962 and a girl **Kimberley** born 1967.

Jean and Jack Howard married in Flin Flon July, 1956. Jack works in the mine. They have a family of two boys **Greg** and **Brent** and a daughter **Candyce.**

Howard — first rented the Ed Minette farm at Maymont, when the Second World War broke out he joined the Canadian Army and went overseas in 1941. He served with the army in Italy, Holland, etc. While there he married a Dutch girl Alice Konin in December, 1945. He returned home after the armistice was signed and she followed later with other war brides. The ladies of Maymont gave her a welcome party in the form of a shower and she was the first bride to receive a quilt from the "Quilters". Alice was killed in a car accident in October, 1963, leaving two small boys and a girl.

Allan — lives and farms with his Dad who has bought more land in the district.

Harvey — finished school then attended University in Saskatoon taking a course in Physiology, later working in archaeology. Married Shelly Burgess in Edmonton August, 1977 and now lives in Calgary.

Fay — attended University in Saskatoon where she met and married Terry Anderson at Maymont August, 1975. They are now living at Kindersley and farming. They have one small son **Christopher.**

Greta — married Jim Loughrey in May, 1952. He was employed at the Saskatchewan Hospital and later as a ward director at the Irrigation Farm. After a short illness he passed away in December, 1968. Greta then moved into North Battleford and was employed for a number of years by Craig's Dry Goods then made her home with her nephew Ronald Meena, his wife and family, where she took care of the children and **Laurienne,** R.P.N. returned to nursing at Saskatchewan Hospital and then at Battlefords Regional Care Centre.

Ray — worked at farm work with neighbors till he passed away from a heart attack in March, 1979. Leaving a family of four girls.

Darlene — became Mrs. William Cummins in May, 1962 living in Edmonton, having a son Darin and a daughter Karen.

Donna — married Walter Lewchuk at St. Walburg, June, 1962 now living in Calgary with a daughter Shelley and a son **Kenneth.**

Diane — now Mrs. Gordon Sterling lives in Calgary, has a son **Gordon** and a daughter **Andra** both under school age.

Winnifred "Joy" — married to James Watt June, 1973 at Saskatoon is living in Vernon, B.C., having a girl **Tammy** and a boy **Steven.**

Gladys — married Everett Meena in Saskatoon April, 1952, first farmed at Lilac, then St. Walburg, Baljennie and Roddell. This was in depression years with lots of hardships. Everett retired with ill health and the sons took over the farming and he passed away in the Union Hospital in March, 1974. A family of four boys and a girl.

Ronald — married Laurienne Dore at North Battleford in April, 1958, is an engineer with Saskatchewan Hospital and Laurienne is R.P.N. at Battlefords Regional Care Centre. They have 2 boys and 2 girls.

Everett — married to Heather Wensley at Borden January, 1977. Have one son, **Justin,** live on an acreage in rural North Battleford.

Lois — finished school and taking further studies at Kelsey Institute, Saskatoon.

Grant — studied Auto Body work at Kelsey Institute, Saskatoon.

Marilyn — taking Grade twelve at Comprehensive High School, North Battleford, 1979.

Kenneth — and Shirley Acaster married at Ruddell August, 1958. First farmed ■ Ruddell then moved to Maymont district to farm. Have 2 boys and 2 girls.

Colleen — married to Ronald Caldwell at Maymont in November, 1974. Are farming in the Maymont district. They have two sons **Gregory** and **Gary** both under school age.

Sharon — taking a two year course in nursing at the Kelsey Institute in Saskatoon.

Murray — married to Donna Prescesky ■ North Battleford September, 1978, where they are living Murray working for Crown Mart Lumber. They have a small daughter **Michele**.

Lyle — ■ still in high school ■ Maymont school.

Harold — and **Treva Miller** were married at Fielding July, 1961. They are farming at Ruddell with other land at Maymont. They have a family of two girls **Gwen** and **Carla** and a son **Kurt** all ■ home.

Eileen — was married to Vernon Curry at Ruddell August, 1960. Eileen is employed at the Court House in Battleford as a Deputy Local Clerk-Deputy Sheriff and Vernon as a carpenter ■ the Saskatchewan Hospital, and live in Battleford. They have a boy **Terry** and a daughter **Sheila** both in school.

Ray — married Irene Barrett at North Battleford in October, 1939. They live on the home farm which was the original Rev. Madill farm, and Irene has many hobbies to work with. They have a family of 4 girls and 1 son.

Elaine — married Ronald Bohn ■ Maymont August, 1956. Ron works in a paper mill at Campbell, River, B.C. Doing the repairing of the mill machinery. Their family is a daughter **Connie** who was married to Henry Nicel in August, 1975, who is a mechanic. Living at Black Creek, B.C.

Dale — a son works with a Marina near Courtney.

Lawrance — still attending high school.

Christine — married to David Gamble November, 1973. Lives in Saskatoon and works as a secretary with S.E.D.

Carol — married **Wayne Bright** September, 1962 who is teaching at Plenty, Sask. Has a daughter **Tammy** and son **Jeffrey** both in school.

Louise — married John Doering July, 1971. John does carpenter work in and around Plenty where they live with two boys **Darryl** and **Micheal** in school. Louise does secretarial work for the town.

Brian — was employed by a ready mix cement company driving a truck in Saskatoon and is now working in the office.

Ada — and **Tom Bates** were married in April, 1937 at the farm home of her parents. They farmed north of Grey School, later moving the house ■ Maymont where the children would be closer to school. There was a daughter **Beverley** and a son **Barry**. Thomas passed away suddenly in October, 1966.

Beverley — married Clifford Roberts in October, 1960. They farmed in the Battleford district. Their family was four girls and two boys.

Patricia — just finished school **Valerie** and **Nancy** still in school. **Joan** died July, 1964 (3 months) **Clarence** in school and **Christopher** still at home.

Barry — married Peggy Daoust November, 1962. ■ a mechanic and works in a garage in North Battleford but lives in Battleford where Peggy works. They have two girls still in school **Judy** and **Maureen**.

Ada married **Ralph Owen** in March, 1972. He had farmed in the Eagle Hills district but was retired. He passed away in Union Hospital, North Battleford from cancer in April, 1977.

The Dean Rogers Family

written by June Rogers

Dean Oliver Rogers, son of Oliver and Marion Rogers and June Clayton, daughter of Frank and Marjorie Clayton were married on the cold winter day of Jan. 30, 1954. We lived with Dean's parents for a while. In August 1954, a daughter, Margaret June was born. During November 1954 we moved into a small house in Dean's parents yard. This we called home until the late fall of 1956 when we moved to the former Ernie Ramsey farm having bought this ¼ section in the spring of that year. Also in May 1956, another daughter Yvonne Marie was born. In June 1958, the last of our family a son, David Dean arrived on the scene.

Eventful years followed, raising a family and struggling to get ahead. The children all attended Maymont Central School, being transported there by

Dean and June Rogers — Jan. 30th, 1954.

school bus. When Margaret started in fall 1960 the old school was still there, but when she started grade two, it was to a new school which is presently there.

Margaret graduated from high school in June 1972, Yvonne in June 1974 and David in June of 1976.

Margaret married Raymond Joseph Thompson on April 7, 1973. They now reside in Maymont and are the parents of two little girls. Raeanne Margaret age 3 and Cheri Lynn — 8 months.

Yvonne married Kenneth Scott Gray on October 25, 1975. They lived in Prince Albert for a while where Scott was employed by Sask.-Power as a "trouble shooter". Yvonne who had taken a secretarial course after graduation worked at Sask.-Tel. doing secretarial duties. They moved from Prince Albert to North Battleford when Scott obtained a transfer with Sask.-Power to become a "meter man". He is presently doing this. Yvonne is employed at Mistikwa Community College doing secretarial duties. They are now residing in a house in Battleford.

David decided he was going to stay on the farm. He has now been through school for three years. He is school bus driver for this district with his mother and father acting as spare drivers. David purchased a ¼ section in spring 1978 from Gordon and Nell Johnston, so along with raising registered polled-hereford cattle he manages to keep busy. At present David resides with his mother and dad.

Last January (1979) Dean and I celebrated our twenty-fifth anniversary. Twenty-five eventful years that have gone by so fast. So many changes. Makes one wonder what the next twenty-five will bring.

Wes Rolfe Story

Mr. and Mrs. Wes Rolfe came from Codell, Kansas by train, together with his brother John Rolfe, John's wife Fanny, and his tiny daughter Chloe. They arrived in Maymont on March 28th, 1913. The two families lived together while John's house was being built. In 1915, Mr. and Mrs. Wes Rolfe had a daughter Viola Dess, who died as an infant. They farmed their land west of Maymont until 1930, when they moved to Saskatoon.

In 1942 they returned to Maymont but not to the farm. They ran a cafe for a few years and after their retirement, they resided in Maymont until their deaths. Wesley died in 1965 and Celia in 1967. They were reported to be great neighbors especially in time of trouble. They were very community minded and Mrs. Rolfe was one of the first Quilters.

The Rolfes had an adopted daughter Terry, Mrs. Leo Doroshenko. They live in Roxboro, Quebec, a suburb of Montreal. Terry's family are grown and two are married. Lennice and her husband live in Edmonton, Michael and his wife live in Kitchener, Ont. Laurie is still at home.

The Rolfe Family
John and Fanny Rolfe

by Chloe (Rolfe) Purdy

Two brothers and their wives, Wess and Celia Rolfe and John and Fannie Rolfe left Kansas, U.S.A., to come to Maymont to work on the railroad, but it was finished when they arrived in March, 1913. They brought their horses, mules and household goods in a freight car. They bought land from Mr. Melrose, west of town. John had a girl, Chloe, seven years old, and Zaidee was born the year they came to the Maymont area. They lived in town until spring to be close to school, then bought a farm south of town.

As time went on times became better as they bought more land. Getting to school was the problem. Chloe walked the first year and rode a horse after that. During the winter months she lived with Andrew Kerrs for one year, Andrew Reids and the Brumbaughs other years. She drove a horse when Zaidee started school.

John was very good with horses. He did doctoring and dental work and shoeing them as well as traded horses.

Fanny worked outside some in haying time but mostly did odd jobs and chores. She was a very hard worker and she was a good mixer. Their home was usually a meeting place on Sundays. In the winter friends came to skate on the pond or play 'Five Hundred'.

Zaidee married Lloyd Taylor. They lived with her parents for a year, then they both left and left their baby, Leona, there.

Fannie worked as a cook (a very good one she was, too,) on their threshing crew. The girls did the chores. There were a dozen milk cows at that time.

The Rolfes took a trip to California down the west coast and back by Kansas in 1935. In the fall of 1936 they had a large sale and moved to Oregon. They stayed there for three years. Fannie passed away while visiting in Maymont. Chloe had married two months earlier and gone to live in Vancouver.

John sold out in Oregon and went back to Maymont to live until his death in 1959. Zaidee had moved to Vancouver and married again. Chloe took Leona after she was married and raised her.

Leona is now married for the second time as her first husband was killed. She has a girl twenty-six years old and a boy of twenty-two. She lives in Cloverdale, B.C. They have a large broiler farm.

Chloe lost her husband in 1969. She lives on their small acreage in Surrey, B.C.

Wess and Celia Rolfe

Wess and Celia Rolfe traded their farm for some property in Saskatoon. While in Saskatoon they adopted a daughter, Terry. They moved from Saskatoon to Biggar. They later moved back to Maymont and took over a restaurant, the former White Cafe.

They bought a house and retired in Maymont after the cafe work became too heavy for them. They lived there until their deaths.

Terry married Len Doroshenko. They have two girls and a boy. They moved from Saskatoon to Winnipeg and on to Montreal, where they now live.

Their oldest daughter is married and lives in Edmonton. The other girl lives at home and their son is married and lives in Ontario.

There was a brother Ralph Rolfe who came up and lived with Wess in Biggar. He spent one year at Maymont and then moved back to Kansas.

A brother Bill came with them but only stayed one year.

A brother Al came in 1927 and lived with John awhile and then went to Biggar where he lived until his death around 1957.

Marguerite (Mohler) Ross

written by Marguerite

I, Marguerite was born in Maymont, too. The first three years I attended school in the basement of the (then) Presbyterian Church. I remember on dull days how hard it was to see the writing on the blackboard (No electrification then). My teachers were Miss Price and Miss Bean.

Most of the children from the country either rode horseback or drove a horse and buggy. "Major" was our school horse, taking all four of us to school. By the time I was driving by myself, he had slowed down considerably. As we had to drive through town to get home, I didn't always drive down the main street. If some boy would holler, "Whoa, he dutifully stopped and was hard to get started again. Needless to say I was embarrassed by this and often drove around north from the Post Office which was located at Coleman's. Major was very gentle and was never known to kick anyone — even when we children climbed on his back and slid down over his tail.

Grade Five was taken in the "new" school. The intermediate room seemed so light and airy after our basement room. Miss Paterson was our teacher. For grades Six and Seven it was Miss Ballstud (later to become Mrs. Allan Bean.)

By the time I reached high school, Grade Twelve was taught in Maymont. Mr. E. W. McDonald was our teacher. Some considered him strict but we got along fine.

Four of us from Maymont attended "Normal School" as it was called in those days. We roomed a few blocks away. Lillian Martin was my roommate and Muriel Butterfield and Genevieve Bates were next door. All too soon the term sped by.

My first school was north of Mullingar, called "Hilsterton". I boarded with Hansfords and walked to school with Aimée. There were all the grades so I was kept busy. Mr. Hansford played the cello and we had many pleasant times playing together on Sundays. Other schools followed but none were quite as interesting as my first year teaching.

Thomas Read Ross and I were married on June 28, 1947 by Reverend Frank Myers in the United Church. So I went to Stony Beach where we farmed. My husband is also an electrician. It was a busy time when the power came to our district in 1954. He certainly got to know people's houses in the surrounding districts — from basement to attic. One time as he was climbing into an attic, he moved the lid and down crashed a sad iron, hitting his shoulder and big toe. That poor toenail turned white and remained so for twenty years or more.

We sold the farm in 1972 and retired to Creston that October. The roses were still blooming when we arrived — which really appealed to me. There are many retired prairie people here so we felt quite at home from the beginning. Through church and O.E.S., and Masons, we have met many new friends. We belong to New Horizons where we enjoy dancing, oil painting, carpet bowling and cards. We both play the piano on Tuesdays for dance days. Read plays the trumpet also. We are also organist at O.E.S. and Masons. We attend Round Dance classes from October to May.

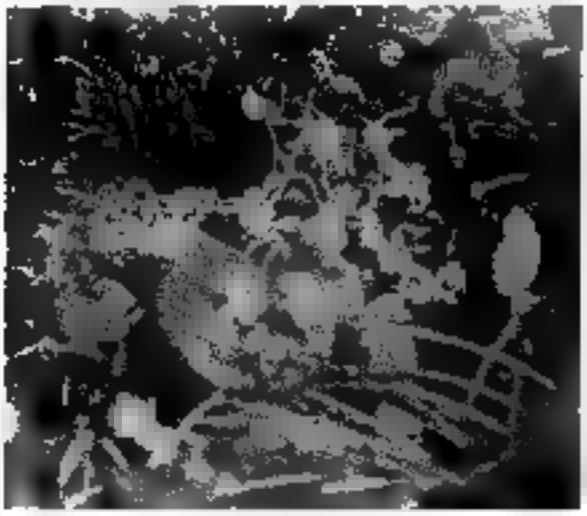
We think Kootenay Lake is as beautiful as any lake we have seen and are happy to live near it. However, we still have a soft spot for the "Prairies" and enjoy our visits there from time to time.

Mrs. Gwen Ross

It will be fifteen years on the 7th of November since I came to Maymont. There have been lots of changes in that time. There were sixteen of us, all close relatives when I came here, now there is only me. I rented, then bought my house from Mr. R. Smith. I have been fixing it up ever since. There are lots of improvements I could make yet, but us old folks cannot pay the big wages so things will just have to sit. I used to grow a lot of bedding plants, raspberries, strawberries and flowers — I still do but on a smaller scale.

I came with my folks from England in April, 1905. I was six months old. I don't know how we got to Saskatoon, but we stayed there long enough to buy a tent and provisions to continue on our way. We hired a man with a team of oxen and a wagon, and with what we had brought with us, there was only room for one person to ride and hold me — the rest had to walk. We got as far as Ruddell and the oxen played out, so we came back to Maymont. I guess the Maymont people didn't like the looks of us green English folks, so put us over the river in a boat, bag and baggage! We set up a tent and there we stayed. Dad homesteaded that same quarter — N.E. 2-41-13. Mother always said we took root and stuck it through thick and thin. We kids grew up in a very secluded place, and not having any school to go to we had to amuse ourselves. We didn't really

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Ross, Lorna and Doreen, 1930.



Strawberry grown by Gwen Ross — 7½ inches in diameter.

belong to Maymont but did all our business there. We hauled our grain there until Baljennie got elevators.

Dad was a Police Inspector and carpenter. Mother was the daughter of an Anglican minister and was organist in the big cathedrals. She also taught Sunday School and music and being Welsh she was a good singer.

Well, we borrowed oxen and a walking plough and broke up sod for a sod house. By November 2nd, we had moved in. Did it ever leak! We had pans all over to catch the drips!

The men cut wood with axe and bucksaw for our tin camp stove. One of our neighbors had a box stove with a door in the front. He was so lazy, instead of cutting his wood, he would just poke in the end of a long pole and when it burned so far he would poke it in a little further.

Every year we would build another room on our house, we got more land, a team of oxen, a pony called "Kid", a milk cow and hens. Dad, being a good carpenter, built our table, cupboards and beds. We used to sew flour bags together, fill them with oat chaff from the threshing machine. They sure made swell beds. Guess there was no Russian Thistle in those days! We ground wheat in the coffee grinder for porridge. The good Lord provided us with lots of wild game, wild fruit and fish from the river, and dishpans full of mushrooms.

We had lovely lace curtains on sod walls. Good silver cutlery with tin mugs and plates. I asked my folks one day what a chair was. The next sale they went to they bought four. In 1905 butter was .25¢ per pound, beef was ■ pounds for 1.40¢, flour was $3.20¢ per 100 pounds — some difference now!

We got a boat and from then on our place was known as Morgan's Crossing. My brothers put folks over the river morning noon and night — groceries and mail, too. Mother and us girls spent all our time cooking and washing dishes. The men would sometimes get 5¢ or 25¢, if they were lucky. We would feed the horses or oxen whichever it would be for days. Were we ever glad when the west ferry went in!

We got more land and built a six room house of logs from the river. We got a dandy bunch of planks in one flood — a lot of us got some. Later men came and collected for every foot of it. We put a rubberoid roof on our house. When winter came it frosted up so bad we had to put a second one on, then it was o.k. In 1916 we used horses in place of oxen. The men fixed up a telegraph to the neighbors about three miles away. ■ was ■■ on the wire fence. We all learned to tap out the Morse Code, then the Continental (another code). We then changed it to a phone by using ■■ jars of bluestone, copper and zinc and water for batteries. When the other phones came in ours had to go. Our home was saddened when our boys joined up in the first World War. John joined up with the 179th Cameron Highlanders. They fought to save our country. ■■ we give them enough credit in this day and age? Dad left us three months later with a heart attack. The doctors in England gave him six months to live — he lived eleven years. The change of climate had done him some good.

Mother had many sleepless nights when we heard John was wounded. We used to pack so many boxes for the lads overseas — fruitcake, puddings, gum, candy, cigarettes. Mother put on social entertainments in the school to raise money for the Red Cross.

John came home and took over the farm. Walter married Mabel Edenborough Daisy married Joe

Davidson, I married David Ross, second youngest son of Bill and Ann Ross, in 1932. We had tough going with hail rust and drought. Our milk cows and hens kept us going.

We had three of a family — Lorna, Doreen and Murray. When David was not to work owing to heart trouble, the girls took over the field work. When they got married Murray was old enough to take over. Three years after David left us, Murray was killed in a car accident. My girls were such a help then, they would come week about until I put on a sale. I stayed on my farm until the harvest was finished, then I came ■ Maymont.

Lorna married a farmer, Phil Bater, from Baljennie. They have two sons, Dwayne and Gregory. Doreen married Leslie Parker of the Maymont district, now in the Esso business in Radisson. They have two sons Blake and Todd and two daughters Darla and Laureen. A son Blaine and a daughter Deborah, who we think of so often are not with us anymore.

Our Spinney Hill neighbors were really a great help when we needed them. When David was not with us anymore, everyone brought loads of wood. We had a bigger pile then than we had ever had, we could hardly get out the door. When our bin burned down with over 100 chickens and ■ turkey's in it, all the women brought two chickens each — big ones small ones, all colors. Were they ever cute! When Murray was in the car accident the men did all my summerfallow. Those are things we will never forget. I have good neighbors here, too. I guess I am just plain lucky.

I will ring off with a wee poem:

Here's to miss Gwen
As she was but then,
A child in her dear mother's arms.
■ those frontier days
With their funny ways
As the emigrants looked for farms.

Her eyes were as blue as the ocean,
Her voice like the little wood wren,
When you listen to the song
Of that sacred bird
You listen to the voice of Gwen.

Composed by a neighbor, J. C. Stephens

The Ross Family

Mr. and Mrs. W. Ross with sons John, Henry, Octavius, David, Charles, Lyman, and Tom came from Quebec to the Spinney Hill area in 1912. They were relatives ■ the Nutbrown family of Maymont, Allan, Harry, Charlie and Sam.

The Ross's all farmed near each other in the Spinney Hill area. There were some Ross homesteads in the Maymont area in the early days also. George Brebon now farms a "Ross" quarter.

Tom and his wife Sarah, raised three children — Alvin, Beatrice and Louise. After Tom died, Sarah

The Ross boys and their wives. L. to r. — Dave and Gwen; Charles and Alice; Henry and Margaret; Tom and Sarah; Tivvy and Beulah; Lyman and Ethel.

came to live in Maymont. She loved a game of cards and was always delighted to have company. She lived in Maymont until her death.

Henry married a widow, Margaret Fraser. They had a family of three also — Edwin, Enid, and Irene. Henry and Margaret farmed and upon retiring took up residence ■ Maymont for several years.

Tivvy Ross and Beulah Rose were married in 1922. They farmed and also lived at and ran the Spinney Hill store for thirteen years. They had eight children — Lloyd, Audrey, Grant, Dean, Beverly, Steele, Gordon and Glenais. Beulah still lives on the home farm during the summer and in Saskatoon visiting sons and daughters in the winter. Tivvy lived in Maymont for several years until his death.

Charles Ross married Alice Johnston. He farmed near his brothers and also ran the Spinney Hill ferry. After Charlie died Alice moved to Maymont and lived there for several years before moving to North Battleford.

David married Gwen Morgan. They farmed two miles west of the store. David was very handy with animals and would go day or night to doctor an animal that was sick or in distress.

David and Gwen also raised a family of three — Lorna (Mrs. Phil Bater) of Baljennie; Doreen (Mrs. Leslie Parker) of Radisson and a son Murray, who died accidentally in his early twenties. After Dave died, Gwen sold her farm and now resides ■ Maymont.

Walter and Jean Sadowsky

Jean and I became residents of Maymont in 1969. I was born and raised in the Turberville School District, north of Richard, my parents having settled there in 1919.

Jean, the former Jean Prescesky, was born and

Sadowsky family — 1973. Standing — Eugene, Nadine, Wally. Seated — Walter and Jean.

raised in the Ruddell district her parents having settled there in 1915.

We were married in 1948, and in 1949, bought the farm known as the Giffard place, previously farmed by James and Ethel Steele.

In April, 1949, we moved to our new location, into the large, old house built by the late Mr. Giffard, and since then have farmed in the Maymont district.

We have two sons, Wally, born in 1951 and Eugene, born in 1959. Both boys attended Maymont Central School, with Wally later attending the University of Saskatchewan, convocating with a Bachelor of Education Degree.

We continued to farm and live in the old house until 1967, when we moved into a new house that we had built in Maymont, and tried farming for a time from town. This didn't prove too satisfactory, so in 1969, we tore down the old house on the farm, and started to build a new one on the same spot.

The house in town we sold to Jack and Helen Armstrong and in July, 1969, moved back to the farm into a partially completed house.

Through the years we continued to improve the farm by clearing up the willow and poplar brush growing there and replacing the old buildings with new ones.

We also purchased some pasture land north of Richard, and built up a herd of Hereford cattle.

Some of the years in the 1950's and the early 1960's, were dry years with the crops being very short and fodder for cattle hard to obtain. Since 1965 the district has experienced good years and the crops have been excellent.

For many years we enjoyed Jim and Henry Bohn as neighbors across the road from us. Since Jim passed away and Henry moved away, we have missed their coming and going, and their house light in the evenings.

We also recall Jim and Henry driving, for a time, their old 1918 Model T Ford car, with no rooftop and its lantern type lights.

We have enjoyed our life in the district, as well as having made many friends.

At present, Wally, Nadine and family reside in Pierceland, Sask., where Wally teaches school. Eugene is employed by Sedco Developments in Lloydminster, Sask.

Mr. and Mrs. Basil Saunders
Mr. and Mrs. Ted Saunders
Mr. and Mrs. Derby Reid

written by Binky Reid

My Dad and Mother, Rev. and Mrs. Basil Saunders, came to Maymont from Lashburn, Sask. in 1938.

They served in the Anglican Church here for three years.

Probably, since Isabel and I were the youngest, and

Rev. Basil Saunders.

spent most of the three years here, we have more to remember, about those years.

Dad and Mom enjoyed the people of Maymont. They were kind and good to them.

Mrs. A. E. Sean lived where the Bill Fast's are at present, and Mom and Mrs. Bean were good friends.

Dad took services at Fielding, over the river and of course at Maymont.

We lived in the parsonage, now owned by Merle Conkey.

As a young girl, I have memories of Jack Foster delivering milk, of Mr. Alf Andrew on many very cold winter mornings, picking Izzie and I up in a "covered in" sleigh, to take us to school, as he and Kay passed by, of Mr. Bob Neil being the town policeman, of the good school and town dances in the Orange hall, of my courtship with Derby Reid.

Dr. Myers and my father were friends and always respected each other.

I have a sister in Bonnyville, Alta. who has two children, Betty Matinell, and Ken Vesper. Ken stayed with us in Maymont. The late Earl Currie was a friend of Ken's.

My brother Ted operated Saunder's Store for at least twenty years. He married Jean Martin of Maymont and they had two children, Judith, Mrs. Merv. Cross of Saskatoon and Sandra, Mrs. Eric Salt, of Saskatoon.

Ted loved the people and his work in Maymont, but ill health at an early age forced him into retirement. He died at age 63 in 1978.

My sister Gwen taught school at Calais and Moostro country schools.

She walked to Calais school some very cold winter mornings, meeting Andrew Melrose often. Mrs. Tom Turner and Mrs. Allen Nutbrown were very kind to Gwen.

Don McCorkle and his family were also good friends. Gwen married Bill Priest of Windsor, Ontario in Newfoundland and they have three girls, Pat, Glenna and Cathy. Pat married Dave Anderson of Swift Current, Glenna and Cathie are in Saskatoon, Sask.

My brother Jerry was never in Maymont for any length of time. He taught school at Speers, Sask. for a short while, had a stint in the armed forces, then graduated from the Saskatoon University with an Accountants Degree.

He married Rose Gidluck of Biggar, and they had two girls Marsha, Mrs. Allen Early of Nelson B.C., and Gay in Calgary, Alta.

Jerry and Rose live at present in Calgary, Alberta.

My sister, Isabel took 3 years of High School here. Her and Joyce Coleman were good friends. Though handicapped with infantile paralysis from the age of two years, she always enjoyed Maymont.

Usually she and I walked the distance from the parsonage to the school, winter and summer. Her spirit of determination was as great then, as it is now, and she is an inspiration for all the family.

Iz married Larry De la Ronde of Mount Nebo in the early 1940's and had one son Greg now of Saskatoon. Larry died in 1953.

It was at Maymont that I, Edith Saunders, now Reid, better known as Binky, met my husband Derby Reid, and were married in Wilkie, Sask. by my Father in 1942. Derb and I had four children, Derby Allen, Maxine Edith, Susan Mynn Rothenburger and Leah Nichol.

Derb had a Model A car (coupe), when we were courting, and sometimes when it started up it made a real cackle.

Dr. Myers used to kid us, saying he couldn't sleep a wink, until he heard that Model A start up and go through town.

Some thirty years later, we moved across from him in the village, and he had just as much concern over our youngest daughter, Leah.

I would like to thank all the people of Maymont for the kindness shown to the Saunders family — and our own family, the W. D. Reid's. They helped us to bring up and nurture a family we are proud of. I hope our family will always remember Maymont.

T. C. Saunders

Ted Saunders joined the army in February, 1943. Quite soon after his marriage to Jean Martin in January, 1944, he embarked for England. He received his discharge from the army November 16, 1945. Ted and Jean decided that they would like to make their permanent home in the village of Maymont. Ted was able to buy the general store from Mr. L. Karpan and he became our storekeeper for more than twenty years. He was always very busy in the store but never too busy to serve in any way in the community. For recreation he enjoyed sports, fishing, gardening, and many other things. He sold his store when it became necessary for him to lead a less strenuous life.

Ted had several hobbies. A favorite one was ceramics. He finished many objects of beauty that will always be prized by his family and friends. Ted Saunders died suddenly May 30, 1978.

Judith and Sandra, daughters of Ted and Jean were both educated in Maymont. They had a childhood similar to that of other children in the district. They attended the local school; studied music with a competent music teacher; belonged to the youth organizations; took part in all activities suitable for children and usually spent part of their holidays traveling with their parents.

The girls have always been interested in music. Sandra was organist and Judith a member of the United Church Choir for a number of years before they completed their education in Maymont.

Judith and Sandra completed their education in Saskatoon. They both got secretarial work at the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon where Judith is still employed.

Ted and Jean Saunders — 1944.

On the left — Judith, Mrs. Merv Cross. On the right — Sandra, Mrs. Eric Salt.

Sandra worked at the University for three years. She decided it was time for a change so she went to Ottawa and found employment with the Olympic Sports Organization. Two years later she returned to Maymont and was married to Eric Salt on August 14, 1976. They lived in Ottawa for one year. In 1977 they decided to make their permanent home in Saskatoon.

Merv. Cross and Judith Saunders were married in Saskatoon on August 10, 1976. They reside in Saskatoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Schaefer

written by Mrs. William Schaefer

Frank Schaefer was born 1896 in North Dakota, U.S.A. and came to Canada in 1904. He farmed in the Cavalier District before joining the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool as Agent in 1923. He bought grain at Ruddell from 1933-1953.

Beatrice Adamson Schaefer was born 1900 in England and homesteaded with her family in the Denholm District in 1906. She lived in North Battleford and Cavalier before coming to live in Ruddell.

The Schaefers were married in 1929 and had one son, William, who is now residing in Saskatoon. He attended public and high school in Ruddell from 1940-1951. He married Jeanine Parkinson of Baljennie. She attended high school in Ruddell and resided with Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Thrower at the Telephone Office 1950-1951.

Mrs. Schaefer was secretary of the Village of Ruddell for many years. She taught Sunday School and was involved with Red Cross Work during the war.

Mrs. Schaefer passed away in 1965 and Mr. Schaefer in 1975.

The Schmidt Story

William Schmidt was born in Ontario in 1871. Kate Orth was born in Ontario in 1879. They were married Dec. 8, 1900 in Hebron Nebraska.

They came to Canada by immigrant train in the spring of 1904. Travel was very slow as on the way the train got stuck in snowdrifts. They finally arrived in Southern and spent the night. The next day they drove 20 miles by team and sleigh in forty below weather to Bill's brother John's homestead. Bill rented land at Laird and seeded his crop.

Bill, Oscar Brumbaugh, Bill Holmes, George Mohler, Frank Hutchison and Henry Christfield set out from Laird in June of 1904. They got as far as W. Smith's farm where they spent the night. One of the horses they were driving was blind so they staked him out and let the other one loose. The next morning the horses were both gone as during the night a bunch of wild horses came up and had taken their horses with them. They were a long way from home and the only way to travel was on foot. So off they went. They met Ransom Rogers who at that time was working for Mr. Richard. He told them where they could get some

Bill Schmidt's Homestead.

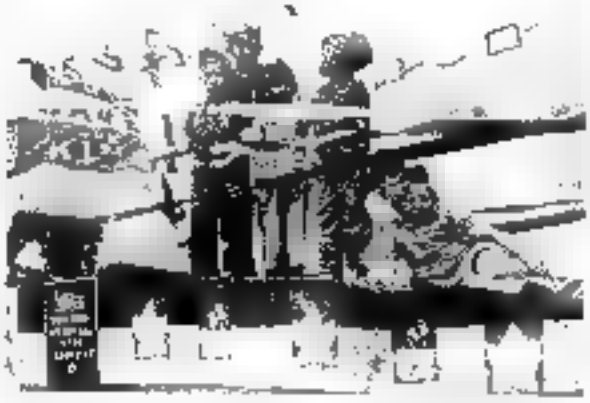
Bill and Kate Schmidt, December 6, 1900.

maps to tell them which was homestead land and which land belonged to the railroad. They spent the night at Mr. Andrews place. The next day he drove them around and each man picked a homestead. The following day they walked back to their wagon. The next day they set out on foot for North Battleford to file on their homestead. Bill filed on N.W. 6-42-12 W. 3rd. Oscar B. on S.W. 6. After they returned to their wagon they set off again on foot for Laird.

Bill, Oscar and Mary Brumhaugh and their family

Grandpa and Grandma Schmidt and Grandchildren. Back row, left to right — Ron Schmidt, Norman Curry, Mark Curry, Cliff Schmidt, Bill Schmidt. 2nd row — Vernon Curry, Don Schmidt, Doreen Schmidt, Ken Zaleschuk, Wes Schmidt. 3rd row — Grandpa holding Garry Schmidt, Mary Zaleschuk, Grandpa holding Lynn Zaleschuk.

Kate and Bill Schmidt on their 40th wedding anniversary.



Wes Schmidt, Bill Bean (behind) Don Schmidt, Vernon Curry, (Unknown), Doreen McLeish. Parade in Maymont about 1940.

Harvesting on Schmidt farm, 1978.

came back to Maymont at the end of June. They all lived in a tent until Bill built his barn and did some breaking. Brumbaughs then moved into his barn until they had their log house built. Bill then returned to Laird to take off his crop there.

Edwin was born in April, 1905. Later in the spring Bill returned to Maymont bringing his family with

Lawrence and Clara Curry, Vernon and Earl.

him. They lived with Brumbaughs until they had built a one room frame house of lumber which Bill hauled from Radisson. They built a hen house of sod and a log granary. Their machinery consisted of a fourteen inch walking plow and three horses. They didn't have any crop in 1905 just some potatoes and garden. Bill broke all the land on his homestead with the walking plow.

Three more children were born Vera, Ethel (who died as an infant) and Hazel.

Clara, Nellie and Ed started school at Grey School. Vern and Hazel started school in Maymont. On the first day of school Vern along with five others were sent home because they were not yet seven years of age.

Kate drove the children to and from school with horse and buggy. She often carried a 22 rifle with her. She was a crack shot and many a supper of rabbit or prairie chicken came from her precise aim.

Kate was a great helpmate. She sold butter and eggs to the railroad crew when they were building the grade in 1905. She also helped on the farm where ever she was needed. It didn't matter whether it was feeding cattle or pigs or doing field work. Kate loved to garden but her greatest love was to drive her car. Most people will remember how she used to blow her horn when she went around corners. It was her way of saying "Look out here I come!" Kate drove her car until she was 80 years of age.

Ed and Vern helped on the farm and more land was accumulated. In 1928 they had a record crop of 50 bus. to the acre on new breaking. At that time wheat was priced at 85¢ per bus.

The children grew and married and had children of their own. Ed moved to Toronto but the rest stayed close to home. Clara passed away in 1943.

Bill and Kate celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 1950 and then their 60th anniversary in 1960. At this time they were still living on their homestead. They had 13 grandchildren and 18 great grandchildren.

Bill passed away in 1961 at the age of 89. Kate joined him in 1970 at the age of 91. They are buried in the family plot at Maymont cemetery.

CLARA married Lawrence Curry in 1925. They farmed in the Maymont area. They had two children Earl and Vernon. After Clara's death in 1943, Laurie turned his hand at carpenter work. Earl married Marjorie Reid and had four children Rea, Laurie, Brian and Helen. Earl passed away in June, 1979. Vernon married Eileen Meena and they have two children Terry and Sheila.

NELLIE married Harold Curry in 1925. Harold was an excellent machinist, electrican and welder. He also built the first motor driven winding cable for the Maymont ferry. Many people of the Ruddell, Maymont, Fielding area will remember him for his fine work. Harold passed away in 1955. Harold and Nellie had one son Norman. Norman took his schooling in Maymont and Ruddell. He retired after 25 years of service in the Air Force. He passed away in 1978.

ED married Leona E. Anger in 1928. He farmed for a few years. He joined the army during the war years. He then went to Toronto and went into the garage business. Ed and Leona had two children. Cliff and Doreen. Cliff and Dorothy have two girls, Mary Ann and Janet they reside in Toronto. Doreen married Don Brown. They have two children Gary and Debbie. Doreen passed away in 1975. [redacted] passed away in 1976.

Back row, left to right — Bill, Ida and Vern, Ron. Front row, left to right — Wes, Garry, Don, Taken day of Ida and Vern's 50th wedding anniversary.

Lee, Bill, David, Karen, Della, Mandy 3½ yrs. and Wade 6½ months.

VERN farmed with his father for a number of years. He married Ida Beaudoin in 1929. They built a small house on S.E. ¼ 1-42-43 W3rd. They have a family of five sons, Bill, Ron, Wes, Don, and Garry. In 1942 they bought the Turnbull farm and moved to the Ruddell district. As the boys grew old enough they each in turn started farming with their Dad. In 1954 Vern, Bill and Ron branched out into earth moving equipment. Vern can still spend a full days work on the cat at the age of 72. His love for machinery takes him quite often to the museum in North Battleford to work on the antique machinery there.

Vern and Ida celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in Feb., 1979. They still have time to give love, attention, and advice to their [redacted] grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

BILL — I am the first son of Vern and Ida Schmidt. They named me William Ernest after my two Grandfathers. My first memories were when I was about 4 years old, we lived south of Grandma and Grandpa's. I was sick and Grandma fed me sulphur and molasses. This smartened me up quickly. I can remember going to our neighbors and staying until dark and then I was afraid to go home, so Art or Alex Wohlberg would carry me on their shoulders. I was afraid of the old turkey gobbler and that was the reason that I always waited so long to venture home.

It was about 1934 that we moved our house into Grandpa's yard, it was loaded on a couple of old wagons. Ron and I walked behind, not being a very long distance, about a quarter of a mile.

I started school in the fall of 1938 and stayed with Aunt Nell, Uncle Harold and Norman Curry in Maymont for about three years. When my brother Ron

started going, to school, we stayed at both Aunt Clara's and Aunt Nell's. I made a lot of friends in town and learned to skate. In the fall when Mr. Sykes, who ran the livery stable had oat sheaves stacked for the winter all of the kids would play hide and seek in them, we were to be home by 8 o'clock, which to us seemed too early.

When more of my brothers were of school age, we no longer stayed in town, we acquired "Old Fred" a horse, and drove to school in the buggy. Being the oldest, I was the driver, which made me feel very grown up. I still have many fond memories of those old days.

Debra, Dwight, Darlene, Ron and Thelma Schmidt.

Wes, Doreen, Rick and Shelley.

[redacted] the fall of 1942, we moved to Ruddell, where I finished school. Then I took a short course in Mechanics at Saskatoon Technical Collegiate.

In 1945 I met Della Beausoleil who had come to school in Ruddell, we had a good and long friendship and courtship (5 yrs.) with our old model A. Ford car, we were married in 1950. I worked on the farm here with my dad, later I rented some land from him for a couple of years. In 1953 we started the construction business with a nice new T D 18 A tractor and scraper and dug water reservoirs for the P.F.R.A. One thing led to another and we are still in this business, but today we have three generations of Schmidts as operators on our machines.

Della and I have two sons, Lee, born in 1952 and David born in 1956. In 1973 Lee married the former Karen Clark and they have two lovely children, Mandy and Wade. David lives at home with us, both sons work with Dad and I in the earth moving and land clearing business.

Already it is 1979, a lot of water has rolled under the bridge since my old Grandfather walked here from

Leona and [redacted] Schmidt married Dec., 1928.

Laird, his homestead is still in the family, their big house is still standing. Aunt Hazel, Uncle Met and part of their family lived there. Farming has been good to our family, a lot of tough years, a few good ones, these are the ones we remember.

I have a few hobbies, but don't have much time to spend with any of them. I like to work with old machinery, as well as the new, fix old cars and play around with airplanes once in a while. I'm proud to say that there are four generations of us here at home, three working at farming and construction and little Wade looking on.

In concluding, I express my deepest gratitude for my heritage. I'm proud to have known my Grandparents, who braved the frontier and had a part in settling this community. I'm grateful for the help, love, and guidance received from my parents and Grandparents to whom I'll be forever grateful.

Ron — These were depression years for the family at Maymont where I was born in 1931. I started school in Maymont. In 1942 we moved West to Ruddell. These were the war years. You would think that at the age of 10, this would not affect your life but lying on your back in a hayfield watching the English pilots train out of North Battleford must have had its effect as 4 out of 5 of we boys have our pilots license.

At Ruddell I finished my school years. Being interested in Agriculture I attended University for 2 years studying Agriculture. I then returned home to live and farm with the rest of the family and working to own my own land.

In 1952 I met a farm girl from Fielding. Her name was Thelma Maria Ann Spence. She was the youngest of a family of 4 from the marriage of William Spence and Helen McGrath. She was born at Fielding in 1934. At the time we met she was a telephone operator in North Battleford. We married in Notre Dame De Lourdes Catholic Church in North Battleford.

Met and Hazel Zaleschuk's 40th wedding anniversary.

On March 5, 1957 our first child was born, a girl named Darlene Ann. Two years later Debra Lynn was born. Finally on Oct. 31, 1960 a boy named Dwight Ronald.

The kids got their education at Ruddell and Maymont. At this time of writing August, 1979 we are fortunate to have all our children living close to us. Darlene married Bill Melrose a Maymont boy in 1975. They have two children Lori born in 1976 and Mark born in 1978. Darlene is Post Mistress in Maymont and Bill is farming with us. Debra married a Maymont boy as well, Greg de Strake and is living in North Battleford. They have 1 son, Eldon Allen. Debra is a dental assistant and Greg is a heavy duty Mechanic. Dwight is at home farming with me.

Up to this time my life has been devoted to farming with close family ties. All my brothers are still farming together; other than Bill who has sold his land and has gone into the construction business.

Our field of achievements may not be that great, since we have not moved very far from the place of our birth, but we feel that we have had a very rewarding family life.

WES — I am the number three son of Vern and Ida Schmidt. I started school in Maymont in 1940. The first year of school I spent most of my time in the hall. The older boys would match me up against other boys and I was always game to fight. Of course this got me in trouble with the teacher and earned me the name of the "Fighting German".

We moved to Ruddell in 1942. I finished my schooling there. There are many food memories of school days. One school day Buck Meena and I decided to hitch hike to North Battleford. Who should stop and pick us up but Pete Martynes a member of the school board. There was really trouble for me when Dad found out about that. I continued my education with one year at the school of agriculture in Saskatoon.

I started farming the year of the rust 1954. I farmed with my brothers Ron, Don, and Garry. We each own our own land but jointly own the machinery.

In 1955 I married Doreen Evonne Webb who had been teaching at Grey school. We built our house at Schmidtville in 1956. We have two children Rick was born in 1956. He took his schooling in Ruddell and Maymont. After graduating he spent five years with the Dept of Highways and is now farming with me. Shelley was born in 1961 and spent her school days at Ruddell and Maymont. Shelleys future is undecided. Both kids live at home with us.

I have a few hobbies, but don't have much time to spend with any of them. I like to go out and find arrowheads and sometimes even go out and look for old coins, rings, etc. with my metal detector. Of course this can not be done in the winter on the cold winter days so I spend my time with rock cutting and polishing.

Ken, Marion, Stewart, Sandra, and Lorne Zaleschuk.

Don came with his parents and brothers to Ruddell in 1942 from their home at Maymont.

He started school in Ruddell but was not allowed to continue because he was too small. He went back the next year and continued his schooling until a few days into Gr. XI when he decided that wasn't for him and went farming instead.

Don and Carole (Ranger) were married Aug. 10, 1957 and lived in a small house they moved into his father's yard where his brothers Bill, Ron and Wes had their homes.

Their oldest son Reid was born Aug. 7, 1958. In the spring of 1960 they moved to the farm that Carole's grandfather, Russell Reid, had homesteaded on. They were renting from her uncle, Clarence Reid.

The spring of 1960 when they moved was very nice, as the yard was all dry by the 1st. of April, but that's the way it stayed the rest of the year — nice and dry! Don had established a small herd of cattle and had lots of feed to see him through the winter and as always when farming, spending the winter planning for "next year" and hoping things would improve.

1961 was hot and dry just like the previous year and hot dry winds in May took their toll of the caraganas and they were bare of leaves the rest of the summer. A good part of the crop was cut for feed.

Mark was born June 15, 1961.

That winter Don decided he'd had enough of that kind of farming, sold his cattle and feed and by the end of March they were on their way to Calgary. It had been 30 degrees for several days before they left so heading to the City of Chinooks was a pleasant change.

He got a job with a lumber yard and used his own truck to deliver lumber throughout the city. He remembers one occasion when a delivery took him to a hilly area of the city and the load slid out of the truck and traffic having to stop while he reloaded.

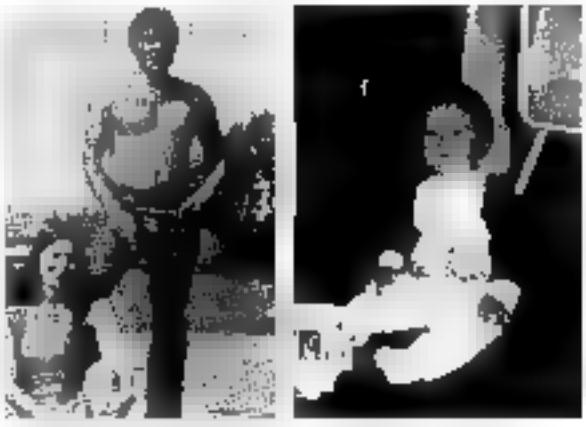
Every week-end they travelled the countryside with an eye on farm land.

Sept., 1962 they were back in Ruddell as the urge to farm was still there and it was harvest time!

The next spring, they built a house south of Ruddell and are still farming.

Their 3rd son, Lyndon, was born Nov. 30, 1963 and 4th son, Aaron, was born Feb. 2, 1968.

Marvin and Carole Zaleschuk, Darren 12 and Carmen (5).



Lynn and Judy Zaleschuk, Krishin Zaleschuk (1 yr. old July 18).

Reid attended school ■ Ruddell for Gr's I-V, VI-XII in Maymont, took Radio, T.V. and Communications course at S.T.I. ■ Moose Jaw, and is presently employed as a Gen. Tech. with C.N. Telecommunications in Thompson, Man.

Mark took Gr's I-IV ■ Ruddell, and ■ the school closed, took Gr's V-XII in Maymont and Gr. XII at *N.E.C.H.S. in North Battleford. He is employed ■ North Battleford.

Lyndon attended Ruddell School for Gr's I and II and then to Maymont where he is now taking his Gr. X.

Aaron started in Maymont and ■ now in Gr. VI.

*North Battleford Comprehensive High School

GARRY — I was born February, 1944 at Ruddell in my house, I was brought into this world by Doctor Scratch and Mrs. Martynes and my two grandmothers. I went to school ■ Ruddell and got my grade 9.

When I was 17 I decided to go to the navy and travel around the world on a ship. I stayed in the navy for three years, then I began working for my brother Bill.

I married Carolyn Elliot from the Springdale district. My first child was born September ■, 1964 we called her Sherry. Two years later my second daughter arrived on February ■, 1966 who we named Catharine Ida Ann. She was named after her great-grandmother Schmidt and her two grandmothers.

I then began farming with my 3 brothers. But I didn't think that was for me so I took my family and moved to YellowKnife ■ 1969. I worked at numerous jobs in YellowKnife for three years My son Robbie was born in YellowKnife in April, 1971. I decided I would rather go back to farming. We moved back home. In 1972 my last child was born a girl on July 28, 1972 we called her Kelly.

Today I am still farming with my brothers and I do off and on construction work for my other brother Bill. I am the president of the Legion in Maymont. And my hobbies are Hockey, baseball, and I also like to play pool and go ski-dooing in the winter time.

HAZEL — Hazel married Dmytro Zaleschuk in 1935. They live on Kate and Bills homestead. They have three sons Ken, Mervin and Lynn. The boys took their schooling in Maymont.

Ken married Marion Poor and have three children, Stewart, Sandra and Loren. They live in their home on their grandparents homestead.

Mervin married Carol Oster. They have two children Darren and Carmen. They live in Saskatoon where Mervin works for Sask. Power.

Lynn married Judith Zimmer and have one son Kristen. They live in Saskatoon where Lynn has his own trenching business.

Roy Schmidt Family

Ruth Barrett and Roy George Schmidt were married in 1930 and lived on the Martin homestead for approximately 5 years. The first two children were born there, Grace Lillian in 1931 and Bernice May in 1935.

Roy Schmidt family — Eddy Wutke, Bernlece [Schmidt] Wutke, Ruth and Roy, Harold. In front — Carl, Dennis, Wayne.

After Stanley moved to Vancouver, they moved on to the Chambers homestead where they farmed until 1952. Four more children were born, Harold George 1939, Carl Percy 1942, Wayne LeRoy in 1943 and Dennis in 1951. The children took their schooling at Keystone School while they lived here, usually walking in the summer and driving with tobaggan or cutter in winter.

Farming was done with horses and the only transportation to Maymont, a distance of seven miles was with horses and wagon the first years of their marriage. The main income was cream cheques, they milked cows and raised a few pigs.

Grace was married ■ Lloyd Parker ■ 1950.

The crops were poor and so in 1952 they decided to sell out and ■ to Vancouver. Stanley had a house picked out for them in Burnaby when they arrived by train.

Roy started working on tug boats with Stanley and had various other jobs, the last one before retiring was with the City Works Department.

The boys had paper routes while finishing their education.

Bernice married Ed Wutke and they have three children and four grandchildren. Bernice has taken a cake decorating course and decorates cakes in a bakery. Eddy works in a plywood mill, their home is in Surrey.

Harold took training in Electronic Engineering and

is presently selling mobile homes. He was married in 1964 to Thelma Gillatly and they have 3 children, 2 boys and 1 girl all very sports minded.

Carl works in a plywood mill and lives in Surrey.

Wayne was married in 1963 to Theresa Chalfe and they have 2 boys. He is a foreman in a lumber camp at Williams Lake.

Dennis lives at home with his mother and is a sales man for Steed.

Roy passed away in November, 1975.

Gordon Scott Family

Gordon Scott and his wife, Nellie, came from Paris, Ontario. He left in March, 1919 with a carload of settler's effects, including four horses. He arrived in Ruddell intact, having made up a bed in a horse manger in one of the box cars. Mrs. Scott was a second cousin to G. O. (Bern) Robinson. Gordon rented a quarter section down near Maple Grove picnic grounds where he farmed for three or four years. He then moved up to a farm near town which was on the winter sleigh road for the wheat haul from Baljennie. There was no rail to Baljennie and Ruddell was the focal point for sale of wheat from Baljennie and also Lilac. The nearest neighbors were Ross and Lottie Stally, the Soules family and also E. Whitlaw.

They had two children, Ruth, born in 1919 and George, in 1921, both having gone to Ruddell School for twelve years. Ruth was a great athlete and runner and Bern Robinson took five dollars off Mr. Blacklock at a Maymont Field Day as Bern had bet on Ruth in the race.

George went from Ruddell School into the Airforce and overseas where he was married. He returned in 1946 with his war bride and attended the University of Saskatchewan for two years and completed his university at U.B.C. in Vancouver. George and Bon have two children, Christine and Ray. They reside in Vancouver. George now lives in Toronto and visits Saskatchewan regularly.

Ruth married Phil Daoust from Gravelbourg and they have three children — Peggy, Annette and Eugene, all living in Ruddell and Battleford. Peggy has two girls, Judy and Maureen.

Gordon Scott was Secretary and Trustee of the School Board for many years and he and Ross Stally engaged in filling the candy bags for the school concert on many occasions and always needed some spirit-like assistance for such a tedious task.

Gordon and Nellie moved to Alberta "Westward Ho" in 1946.

Mr. and Mrs. John Henry Scott

parents of Mrs. J. H. Peden

John Henry Scott born Dec. 11, 1844 and Elisa Ann Mitchell, born Jan. 22, 1852 spent their early years near Listowel, Ontario.

They were married June 30, 1875. They moved to Balmoral, Manitoba where they farmed. Here their three children; Peter Graham, Ellen Irvine and Andrew Wall were born.

Later they sold their farm to their youngest son and moved to Maymont, living on the property where Glen Boyd now resides.

Mr. and Mrs. Scott were great gardeners. Their grandchildren were able to stay with them in their early years while attending Maymont school.

When Mr. Scott passed away Mrs. Scott went to Radisson to live with her son Graham (bachelor).

She spent her last few years with her daughter, Ellen and family. Both Mr. and Mrs. Scott were laid to rest in the Maymont cemetery.

Dr. Scratch

No pioneer settler rendered greater service to the community than did the country doctor. And no doctor was ever more worthy of the love and admiration of his people than Maymont's own Doctor Scratch, familiarly known as 'Doc'.

Dr. Scratch was born January 25, 1882, in Amherstburg, Ontario. He attended public school there and high school in Toronto. He graduated in medicine from Toronto University in the year 1905.

After graduation Dr. Scratch was offered a position as doctor on an ocean liner or a pass to Vienna to continue his studies but in Sept., 1906, he decided to come west and on Sept. 23rd he left Windsor, Ont., by harvest excursion train. He intended to spend only three weeks in the west but either through lack of funds or love of the west, or both, he stayed eleven years before returning east, and then not to stay.

He looked around the west and was advised by Mr. Kirly of Winnipeg, who was in charge of C.N.R. townsites, that Fielding should be a good point for a practice. He looked it over but did not stay then, instead took up a position as doctor for the C.N.R. construction; and was stationed at the bridge west of North

Dr. Scratch.

Battleford. While working there he also had a private practice at North Battleford. He had plenty of typhoid fever cases that were taken to a very primitive hospital in North Battleford. After completing work with the C.N.R. construction, Dr. Scratch settled in Fielding in 1906. He stayed there for that year and in the winter of 1907 he moved to Maymont which seemed to be more central for his practice. Dr. Scratch had operated a drug store while in Fielding. When he moved to Maymont he had his office and drug store in a poolroom. He resided in the hotel and private homes until he purchased a site for his home, located on Lot 11 Block 5 on the north side of Second Avenue where he erected a small house which also served as an office. He sold his drug business to Mr. Mawhinney, who lived with Dr. Scratch until such time as he had his own dwelling. In 1908 Dr. Scratch erected a house which stood until 1973 when the lots were purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Derby Reed who moved a modern mobile home onto the site.

Dr. Scratch's practice was large, extending to Richard, Speers, Lilac, Altigane, Mayfair, as far north as there was settlement and south to Sonningdale, Spinney Hill and bordering the Perdue country. To cover such territory with horses in the early days meant untold hardship, discomfort and self-sacrifice as long drives were taken in foul weather and fair and at any hour of the day or night. In order to care for patients south of the North Saskatchewan River it was often necessary to cross the river in the 'Basket' when the ferry was not operating, during the spring break-up and the fall low water level. This meant climbing a sixty foot tower, pulling himself across a fifteen hundred foot expanse of river, being met by someone on the other side, and driven to his patient. One time when the ice was breaking up in the spring it was only by sheer good luck that Dr. Scratch arrived back safely. The ice was rising about a foot an hour and struck the 'Basket' about twenty feet from shore. Sometimes Dr. Scratch had to walk across the ice. For safety he and one of the ferrymen carried a plank to hold them should they go through the ice. They were followed by a man with a rope in case of accident. In one instance Dr. Scratch did get a ducking but this did not deter him. He borrowed a pair of trousers and continued to the home of the patient where he dried his underwear in the oven.

Distant calls meant absence from home for two or three days at a time with little opportunity for sleep or rest. He snatched a wink of sleep where he could on a floor, on a table, in a chair or as he travelled along the road. The fact that he had access to any home and cookie jar in the district helped to ease the strain of his arduous task. On one occasion while attending a patient about forty miles north of Maymont he left his horses tethered. The mosquitoes, which very plentiful, bothered the horses until they broke loose and disappeared. It was about two weeks before he recovered them when they wandered up to the gate of a farm yard. The farmer's wife saw the team, found them very friendly, put them in the stable and advertised the find in the Ranchman's Gazette. During the 'flu epidemic of 1918 Dr. Scratch gave himself untiringly and was rewarded for his efforts by the recovery of almost every patient. In the early days and also during the depression money was hard to come by and the services of the doctor were paid with horses, hay, wood, meat and even weasel skins. In the odd case the doctor had to lend money to pay for the medicine he prescribed. Though there were many hardships, life had it's humorous side also. Dr. Scratch enjoyed his professional work and never regretted his decision to come west. Now and again an amusing incident is recalled by those who knew the doctor best.

When not yet very well known in the district Dr. Scratch was called on an urgent case. Upon arrival he handed the reins to his companion and went to the door. He was met by the gentleman of the house who said "Boy, you go and hold the team and tell the doctor to come in right away".

In another instance he was called to see a young lady at the home of her employer. He examined her but could find nothing wrong. When left alone with him she said "There isn't anything wrong with me, Doctor. They won't pay me and I'm going to stay here until they do, to which he replied, "Cripes, move over and let me in too".

In August, 1952, the people of Maymont, to show appreciation of the faithful service rendered by Dr. Scratch for twenty-five years, planned a picnic in his honor. People from every corner of his large practice, contributed and gathered to see him presented with a new eight cylinder coupe, a cheque and a buffalo coat. Doctors from Saskatoon, North Battleford and other towns were in attendance. Dr. Alexander of Saskatoon spoke on behalf of the medical profession in tribute to Dr. Scratch. The doctors' mother and sister came from Amherstburg, Ont. to be present at the celebration. The Honorable George Langley was the main speaker of the day and Mr. Emil Richard made the presentation.

On November 1st, 1958, the people of Spinney Hill showed their appreciation to Dr. Scratch when at a gathering in his honor they presented him with a bag and a Siwash sweater, accompanied by a scroll bearing the names of ninety-nine babies he attended at birth. It was inscribed "To our beloved Physician, Dr. John A. Scratch, from his children whom he has lovingly attended during their short lives". The feelings of those present were summed up in the words of a poem selected and framed for the occasion, entitled:

THE COUNTRY DOCTOR

Day in, day out, for thirty years or more
Up the river hills and down he went,
His black square case upon the buggy floor.
I've seen him give the weary team the reins
And wornout, sleep and while they ambled home

His eyes were set in crinkled lines of mirth.
Cheer was prescribed with bitter calomel
He was the arbiter of death and birth
The go-between of heaven and hell
Tender as woman, steadfast as a rock
Small wonder that we country folk all love —
"Our Doc".

On August 14, 1957, these communities again gathered to honor Dr. Scratch for his 50 years of service in the area. Again they came to pay their respects to the little fellow with the ready smile. They presented a suitably inscribed watch to Dr. Scratch, and in his honor established a $1,000 scholarship to a graduating high school student in the area to be applied on further studies. Two popular platform guests present for the occasion were the doctors sons, Dr. Ron Scratch from Cutknife, and Dr. Norvel Scratch of Stratford, Ontario. The presentation was made by Mrs. Tom Young who assisted Dr. Scratch in his work in earlier days.

On January 25th, 1962 our pioneer doctor celebrated his 80th birthday. To help him mark the occasion, his friends met on 'Coffee Row' in the local cafe in the morning, and 'Doc' had a real surprise party! Mrs. Lekstrom, of the cafe management at that time, had baked a birthday cake, which the guest of honor cut and shared with all present. In the afternoon he was a guest of the Friendship Unit of the U.C.W. at the home of Mrs. G. McIvor and was served tea and refreshments.

Dr. Scratch died November, 1969, at the age of 87 years. His burial service was conducted by Rev. Dr. F. Myers from the United Church and he was laid to rest in the Maymont Cemetery.

So wait for him Lord, as he nears the gates
Be gentle, give him rest
Bless him, oh Lord! he has earned his reward
He was truly one of the best.

(from a poem written in memory of Dr. Scratch by W. G. Brown of Fielding, Sask.)

Alice Mohler Scrivens

After Grade Twelve at Bedford Road Collegiate in Saskatoon Alice attended university for a year, then spent a year visiting relatives in California and Montana before attending Teachers' College.

After five years teaching she was married to Ted Scrivens, and they lived in their new bungalow on the farm in Rosetown. Five years later Kathleen arrived. She attended Camberley School until Ted and his brother built the duplex in Rosetown. After graduation Kathleen took Nurses Training at City Hospital. When attending a university class she met Ken Stangland, a young Engineering student. In 1962 they both graduated. After their marriage they made their home in Ontario and later in Regina where Ken worked for Saskatchewan Power and Kathleen nursed at Regina General Hospital. Joel was born in 1965, and Cameron in 1969, after they had moved to the farm. They were in partnership with Ted from 1966 till 1979 when Ted and Alice retired.

Ted was a R.M. councillor for twenty years, and served on the Rosetown Hospital Board and Board of Stewards in Rosetown United Church. Both were Library Board members. Alice is a Session Member with hobbies of oil painting and golfing.

They have enjoyed trips to California, Florida, Europe, Hawaii, Australia, the Caribbean Islands, Spain and the Bahamas.

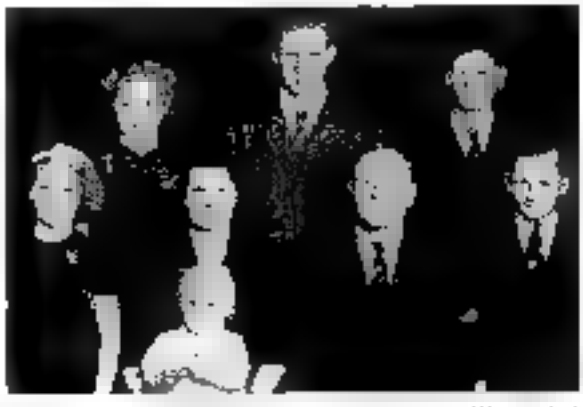
John Seib History

John and Erma (Schultz) Seib, along with their children, Art (10), Elmer (8), Lillian (6), and twins Eleanor and Raymond (3), moved into the Wavle Bank district on May 9, 1937. It took two days to move from the North Battleford area, bringing all their belongings in a car, wagon and hayrack. The hens were penned up on the hayrack and Mom managed to salvage a few eggs for breakfast.

They camped for the night by Webbs. There was a slough on both sides of the road; the cattle drank their fill and bedded down for the night. The family slept under the stars and a tarp. In the morning the mist was so thick the blankets were all wet. Mom boiled a syrup can of water with the lid on tightly for tea. The can boiled dry and went boom, scaring everyone half to death.

The twins (age 3) rode on the rack from time to time, and played tricks on Mom as usual. They set the alarm clock then placed it in a tin dish, the alarm went off, and Duke, one of the team horses Mom was driving, pranced smartly.

Arrival on the place, the house was four walls and no roof. Dad used two walls for gable ends, the other walls were made of logs. He mixed straw and mud to plaster it, using old Shang to walk back and forth to mix the paste. The house had a lumber roof and with log walls and mud plaster it was very warm. The



John Seib Family — 1944. (l-r) Back — Lillian, Art, Elmer. Front — Eleanor, Erma (mom), John (dad), Raymond, baby Vivian.

cellar was dug with fresno and pick, the ground was very hard.

A disastrous loss, hams that were stored in a barrel were stolen, the meat was very hard to come by in the summer as there was no refrigeration known and everything had to ■ cured. This was their summer stock of meat.

The dugout was built by Dad and Mom working the fresno (4 horse slip). Mom got thrown a number of times.

The land had many stones, many long hours for Mom and Dad, and family, 70 acres were broken up when the folks moved on. Dad had 7 acres brushed by Thompson's, also breaking another 30 acres himself.

Children, Art and Elmer started school at Wavie Bank. Lil started in the fall. It was a real treat having only one mile to walk instead of four miles. Their first teacher was A. ■. Smith. The school yell: Chickalanko, Chickalanka, chow, chow, chow, Boomeranka, Boomeranka, bow, wow, wow, Who-a-who-a, who are we? Wavie Bank, Wavie Bank Yes Sireef

The winter of 1927-28, Dad had to return to North Battleford ■ get the horses, which had decided to ■ back home.

The first tractor they bought was a John Deere Model D. Dad traded one team of horses for it.

The relief years were bad, the snowshoe fish which Mom had to soak for three days before cooking. Potatoes and apples never reached us and turnips and beets were like straw and were very bitter.

About 1941 the horses went down with sleeping sickness. Two were so sick that they had to be hand fed and the pail lifted to water them, as the horses could not lower their heads down to drink.

Dad had a threshing crew in 1943. There were six teams. Elmer hauled the grain. Art, Tommy and Bill Caldwell, Jack Taylor, Jack Thompson and Les Taylor hauled the sheaves. Mom did most of the cooking, when threshing for the bachelors. This was a gigantic undertaking feeding eight to ten hungry men three meals a day plus lunches. She also milked nine cows and slopped the pigs, besides doing all the driving to get the food ■ the hungry threshers while it was still hot.

Dad and Art played the accordion and violin but Ray was the one whose talents led him further afield. He started playing the button accordion at dances with Vic Prescesky in 1946. He got his first piano accordion in 1947. Although he no longer plays for dances he still plays for pleasure.

In 1943 the family was blessed with another holy terror. Vivian was born in barley cutting time.

Our farm yard seemed ■ be the neighborhood gathering place of young people. In the summertime our field was the scene of the baseball team, later some of these players became known as the Wavie Bank Klippers. In the winter time our big dug out was the scene of as hard fought a hockey tournament as any N.H.L. game is nowadays.

Mom did a lot of baking when the neighbors were over. She would bake a cake and ice it, place it on the roof of the porch to cool. Along would come some of the boys and eat it. Then they would try to tell her she forgot to ice it in the first place.

Dances were held at Wavie Bank School, everyone came young, old, big and small (even babies). These dances were for everyone. What a get together, many a youngster learned to dance there — there was no age barrier. Coffee was cooked in a wash boiler in the basement, everyone brought some sandwiches, cake or cookies. Lunch was pooled and everyone had a wonderful time. Door charge 25 cents.

The Christmas concerts were a high-light of many long hours spent on perfecting lines, acting as we never had before, doing things guaranteed ■ bring tears to your eyes one minute and "split your sides with laughter the next."

Oh the glorious memories of growing up on the farm in the Wavie Bank district. Even the time when mumps and measles hit the school so hard that actors were hard ■ come by and boys played girls' parts.

Sandy, our dog, was as much a member of the ball team ■ any person, he could jump up and catch a ball with the best.

Come milking time we would head for the barn rattling the pails. Sandy would ■ and get the cows, bringing them ■ at a nice slow walk. He was almost human.

In 1948 Lillian married Tom Caldwell; they raised six children.

Art bought the Abbot place, farmed it until he sold it to Elmer. He moved into North Battleford where he is now working for highways, operating a road maintainer, and driving taxi.

Elmer bought a half section at Denholm in 1951. In 1953 Elmer married Thelma Wood and they raised one son, Richard. Elmer bought the home place from Dad ■ 1957 and another ¼ section in 1963.

John and Emma moved into North Battleford in 1952, what with Wavie Bank school closing Vivian would have had to be driven to Ruddell for school. No roads ■ wintertime.

Ray started work at the Saskatchewan hospital at North Battleford in 1952, where he graduated as a Psychiatric Nurse in 1957. He married Vicki Karloff in 1956 they raised one son Dale. Ray is now working out of Saskatchewan hospital as a District Psychiatric Nurse.

Eleanor married Alfred Wappel a Prince district farmer. They raised three boys, Leonard, Garry and Lyle.

In 1961 Vivian married Dan Selb of Edmonton where they lived for a couple of years, moving back to North Battleford in 1964. They have two children Brenda and Darryl. Vivian works as a nurse's aide at the

Battlefords Regional Care Center. Dan works as a mechanic for Boyd's.

John and Erma Seib quit farming in 1966. John found more time was needed to devote to his houses in town. They finally retired in 1977. They are both in reasonably good health and are still living in their own home. Hobbies are looking after their fairly large garden and dad does wood working.

In 1976 they celebrated their golden anniversary; all the family came home.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Sherlock

by Wendy Sherlock

The Canadian-Imperial Bank of Commerce transferred Bill Sherlock from Saskatoon July 5, 1973 to manage its Maymont branch. Bill commuted from Saskatoon while repair work was being done on the bank's residence. The Sherlock family of Bill, wife Wendy, and daughter, Vicky, became Maymont residents on September [illegible], 1973.

Bill and Wendy had been raised in communities similiar to Maymont. With their move here, Bill was able to pursue his interests in hunting and fishing he'd largely given up while living in the city. He joined the Ruddell Hunting Club and through its membership developed an interest in trap shooting. Bill reloaded his own hunting shells and now did hundreds of trap loads for himself and others

Wendy, who had been employed as a registered nurse in Saskatoon became a full time housewife with the move to Maymont. She was able to increase her interest in horticulture and especially that of growing gladioli. The Sherlocks also raise exhibition fancy pigeons and rabbits. From July '76-June [illegible] Wendy served on the local community college committee and was the local co-ordinator. Other community work was in 4-H.

In August of 1974 the Sherlocks purchased the thirty foot lot south of the Legion Hall. Once the lot was levelled and filled, Bill and Wendy constructed a two-car garage there and used the remaining space for additional garden.

Kenny Sherlock was born July 20, 1974 completing the family. Vicky had started school in September, 1974 with only a few introductory hours of kindergarten available at that time. Kenny will attend Kindergarten over a ten-month period starting in the fall of 1979.

The bank's business continued to show a steady increase since Bill's transfer. Phyllis Johnston was the only other staff member besides the manager until March, 1975. At this time Bill hired Jan Sanders as full time ledgerkeeper/clerk.

On December, 2, 1975 the bank moved into new rented premises in the R.M. Building. The old bank was purchased by the village and renovated into a town office and a rental suite.

The bank authorized part time help in March '79 [illegible] which time Bill hired Lorraine Stenerson from the Sonningdale area.

Wendy went back to work as a full time R.N. at the Borden Union Hospital in April, 1977. With her employment the hospital now had employees from all areas of its service region from Langham to Maymont.

Charles Sherman Family

Charles Sherman was born on January 4, 1877 at Ulrichstein Hessan in Germany, he came to Eastern Canada as a young man, there were members of his family living in Ontario.

He wrote to these relatives from Winnipeg in 1903 where he was working [illegible] a Paint and Glass Company — it was already 27 degrees below and he said "In the spring I am going out west to look up a homestead" — On talking to people in Winnipeg they told him the best land would be about forty miles west of Regina. He worked in Winnipeg awhile longer, the wages were $2.50 a day and it cost him $4.00 a week room and board.

[illegible] the spring of 1904 he left Winnipeg for work on the railroad going west and to look for some homestead land. He wanted to go to Melfort to look for land but as the railroad wasn't running trains due to frost, he and his companions had to walk 105 miles and shoulder heavy bags besides. The land there didn't appeal to him as it was swampy and had too much brush and scrap on it. He kept looking for good land there, and found some he liked — at $5.00 [illegible] $8.00 an acre — obviously he didn't prove upon it as he came farther west, going to Edmonton, working on the telegraph line as it went west.

On December 31st, 1905 he wrote to his relatives from Fielding, Sask. to say "the telegraph line was up to Edmonton, — [illegible] had gone back to Winnipeg but soon came back to his homestead at Fielding — this being NE 34-40-12-W3rd. He and his neighbor Archie Ashby put up a shanty on Ashby's homestead and then they made a shanty for Charles. He says "I like this country

(Mrs. Charles), Anna Sherman.

Charles Sherman.

Charles Sherman family in 1948 — Doris, Irene, Albert, Lillian, Rudolph, Emma, Ann, Helen and mother Annie Sherman.

very much, our winter was mild with six inches ■ snow — but homesteading is very lonesome."

Mr. Sherman kept on this homestead building a log barn — working on the railroad during the summer months, raising what crops he could, using oxen, but still finding it very lonesome.

On January 1, 1910 ■ was married to Anna Scharmann, who had come from Germany ■ work and live in Baltimore, Maryland, U.S.A. They went by ship to Germany for their honeymoon returning to the homestead at Fielding. He still had oxen but bought a team in 1913 — he had good crops in 1912, 2300 bushels of wheat — 500 of oats and 500 of barley.

Rudolph their first son was born in the fall of 1910 — then Emma in late 1911 — Albert in 1913. There were five more daughters born — Lillian — Annie — Irene — Doris — and Helen.

The children went ■ Calais School — then at Beckwith also as the family had moved to the quarter known as the "Shirer place". They kept many horses and cattle — the boys learnt to work hard when they were very young, using horses and pitching sheaves along with hired men.

The family moved ■ their permanent farm one half mile, north of the original homestead. A large house and granaries were erected, with outbuildings and barns. The children were musical so had house parties with friends around.

Charles Sherman passed away in June, 1935. He had been a hard worker and a good neighbor, he had served on the school board for several years. Anna Sherman continued to farm with the help of son Albert until he married in 1938, then she moved with her family ■ Vancouver, B.C. She continued coming to Fielding for many years to visit the farm and friends and relatives. She told of coming as a bride and being so very careful ■ water the beautiful wee blue flowers growing around the yard — only ■ learn that they were blue borrs — in later years she hated them as they would get in the stockings of the children and her own. Anna passed away in Vancouver in 1955.

The Sherman family have increased in number from two in 1910 to slightly over a hundred in this year 1979. They now live in many places all in Sask., Alta. and B.C. with one member Doris married in California, U.S.A.

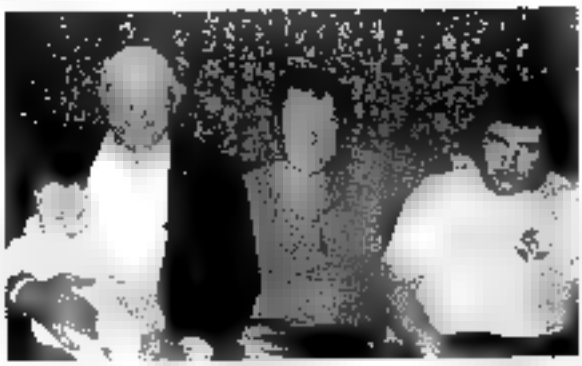
Rodolph and Muriel Sherman

written by Muriel Sherman

Rudolph Charles Sherman, first born son of Charles and Anna Sherman was born September 27th, 1910 on the Sherman homestead at Fielding — he stayed and worked at home until he was 23 years old, and then decided to branch out for himself, so he moved a house onto the farm known as the "Shirer place", he batched there for one year before being married in 1933 to Muriel Castle of "Ringleton Firs", Mullingar, Sask.

In 1934 his first son Everett was born and in 1939 his second son Gordon was born. He farmed at Fielding for eight years all through the dirty thirties and decided he would like to try blacksmithing, ■ answered an add in the paper, which was a shop in Mullingar, he had an auction sale and netted enough to buy the shop — so in the fall of 1941 moved up to Mullingar. He also had the dray business there — it was also very handy for the boys to go to school, "one big reason" for moving from the Fielding farm. He blacksmithed in Mullingar for thirteen years and then sold the shop and bought one section of land three and one half miles from Mullingar, where he still resides, still real active at 69 years of age, and farms for the love of it, and for something to do, we have seen grasshopper plagues, russian thistle, and now tent caterpillars by the billions. Through all the trials of life we are both well and active — we have three grandsons — four granddaughters — and two great-grandchildren 2½ yr. old Jeffrey and 2 week old Laurie.

Rudolph and Muriel Sherman.



Four Generations. Rudolph Sherman holding Grandson Jeffery, Everett, and Kim.

Mr. and Mrs. Everett Sherman
Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Neill

■ Jean (Crawley) Sherman

My sister Elnora (Norrie) and I are the only grandchildren of JOHN and Dora Foster and they were the only grandparents we ever knew. We were born in the so called "dirty thirties". As I look back now I have no memories of ever being hungry or poorly clad. I'm sure dad would have taken food from his plate rather than see Norrie or I hungry. The fact that my dad had two well-to-do sisters in the east accounted for many a parcel of clothes and extras ■ birthdays, Christmas, and Easter.

School presented no problem or hardships ■ far as attending. We lived close enough to walk there each day, home at noon except on the coldest winter days we took lunch. Both Norrie and I have fond recollections of the excitement and preparation for the annual Christmas Concert. Dressing rooms weren't always adequate ■ we often had to run from the Orange Hall to the nearest home to change into crepe-paper fairy costumes! One teacher in particular, Miss Audrey Page, felt it wasn't a Christmas Concert without a Christmas Pageant. I think at times we must have had some odd-looking Josephs and shepherds, etc. especially when there weren't enough boys to take those parts.

We made our own fun after school. It was a time of rafting on the sloughs, building tree-houses, large snow forts and tunnels, make-shift play houses, picnics in Blacklock's pasture. I remember one play house in particular. One spring, Dad had intended to buy a pig so he made a pen from old railway ties in the far south-west corner of our yard. We found out the town didn't allow that so he turned the pen into a play house for us girls. We spent many hours with friends there making mudpies by the dozens decorating them with wild rose petals and wood violets.

When we were old enough to go to dances, the highlight of the spring season was the Print Dress Dance — it was one time when we knew for sure we'd have a new dress. It was a colorful and happy time

Noel Crawley, Norrie and Jean — 1944.

attended by everybody young and old. Also, in those days there was still a Sports Day Dance. It was a time to go "as you were" so many went right from the ball diamonds to the dance hall.

All in all we had a happy childhood and growing up years.

We are both married now. I married Everett Sherman of Matlingar. Norrie married Cyril Neill. Everett and I have lived ■ Maymont 15 years. We have five children, two sons Kim and Chris, who live in Mackenzie, B.C.; three daughters Diane, Donna, and Denise. Our oldest son is married to the former Judy Thompson of Richard and they have a son and a daughter so we are grandparents. We have one girl, Denise left at home going to school. The other two girls live in North Battleford. Norrie and Cyril have two children, Randy who is also in Mackenzie, B.C. and one daughter Wendy at home at Rocky Mountain House, Alta.

Norrie and I both will always think of Maymont as home and so will all my family. The girls are home every week-end and our sons still look forward to three weeks holiday each year when they can see old friends and family.

Gordon Charles Sherman

told by Norma (Oliver) Sherman

Gordon C. Sherman was born in April, 1939, on the ¼ section of N.W. 36-40-12 W3rd, and he is the second son of Rudolph and Muriel Sherman. When Gordon was two years old, his Dad and Mom moved to Mullingar, where Rudolph operated a blacksmith shop. At Mullingar Gordon received his education. After leaving school, Gordon turned his hand to many different types of work. He worked in the MacMillan Bloedel plywood mill, in B.C. Back in Sask. he was a farm hand, and he also worked on a road survey crew. For awhile, he worked with Sask. Wheat Pool, and finally became a Helper for Pioneer Grain Co. After several months of being a Relief Agent at different points throughout Sask., Gordon was promoted to Elevator Agent at Hillmond, Sask. in Dec. 1961.

Gordon and Norma Sherman, son Barry, daughter Rhonda.

An interesting note here is that when Gordon worked on the survey crew the crew surveyed a grid road in the Hillmond area. At that time Gordon had been considering accepting a position with Pioneer Grain Co. One of the crew members asked Gordon "what would you do if you were dumped into a HOLE of a place like this?" Gordon's answer had a negative attitude.

BUT . . . Gordon did some positive things in Hillmond. In 1963, he married a Hillmond girl Norma Oliver. In 1964 they had a son — Barry Dwayne. Gordon was manager of the Hillmond All Stars Hockey Club for the years of 1962-63, 1963-64, 1964-65.

In July, 1965, Gordon, Norma and Barry moved to the farm at Mullingar. Also that year a daughter — Rhonda Yvonne — was born. That completed the family.

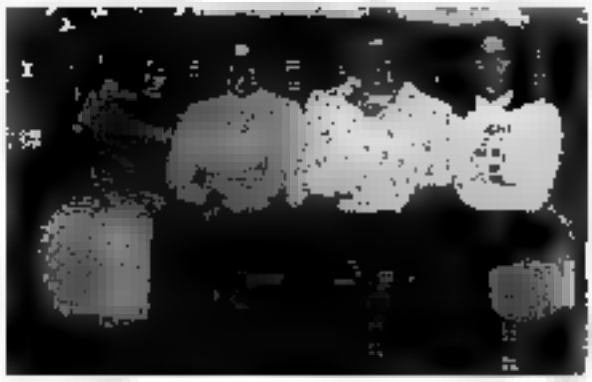
While still farming, Gordon and Norma are active in community activities. Gordon has been Relief Agent for Pioneer Grain Co. at Whitko, Maidstone, Turtleford, Sandwith, Hillmond, Spiritwood and Rabbit Lake. He has also been a Helper at Rabbit Lake. He served for two terms as councillor for the R.M. of Meeting Lake No. 466. He has served on the Rabbit Lake Central School Board since 1975. In the fall of 1976, Gordon became a school bus operator. He has taught Mechanics in 4-H for two years. Norma is involved in 4-H too. She has been a leader for six years, — one year as an assistant leader, — one year as a craft leader, — two years as a Let's Entertain leader and two years as a Sewing leader. Also for the past eight years she has been either President or Vice-Pres. for the Rabbit Lake Home and School Asso., and has also been the Local Co-ordinator for the Rabbit Lake Community College Committee of Mistikwa Community College of North Battleford for four years. Norma cooks part time at the Rabbit Lake Union Hospital.

Both Barry and Rhonda are active in the 4-H program. They both carry two projects a year and they usually hold an executive position. At school they take part in the extracurricular activities.

The Albert Sherman Family

written by Gertrude Sherman

Albert was born in May of 1913, the second son of Charles and Anna Sherman. They were living on a farm on the Shirer Hill in Fielding community. Albert took his early schooling in the Beckwith school, going there with his sisters and brother. They used buggies in the summer and cutter in the winter time. One of his teachers was Miss Violet Laidlaw, who lives in Maymont yet; she is Mrs. William Fast.



Albert and Gertrude Sherman with daughters Lucille Wynn, Edna Carnahan, Patricia Carnahan, Helen Fields.

Their near neighbors were the Archie Spences, Joe Prechtls, Charles Kiepers and Dick Williams' who all had families ■ raise.

Albert's family eventually moved from the Shirer Hill further west where they owned more land closer together. They built a large two storey family home in the Calais school district. This house was built of lumber, lathe and plaster; the carpenter was Mr. Warcup of Fielding. It was finished in 1927. Two more children were born here, completing their family of eight; six girls and two boys.

Some of the near neighbors here were Collins', Cameron's, Hodges, Edge's, Patterson's and Longs, as well ■ others — every quarter seemed ■ have someone homesteading and living on it. During the 1930's, many families sold land to other farmers and moved further north.

Albert's father Charles passed away in 1935 after a lengthy illness; with hired men to help, the boys kept the farm going — pigs, chickens, and cattle were always kept for butchering, eggs and milk, as well as trading butter for groceries. Albert's father taught them to be good with horses, taking good care of the animals, harnesses and machinery, taking care of what tools they had, putting them away again where they belonged.

Albert and I, Gertrude Krischke were married in September of 1938. I was born in the Spinney Hill Community, Gunness School District, across the river from Maymont. We met at school dances, some broomball games on sloughs throughout the winter when the Turner, Denomy, Skinner and other local Maymont boys played Gunness School boys. We travelled ■ dances in the winter in covered cutters with a heater in it. It was fun but dangerous ■ it had tipped over.

I remember one time in the early part of April, my brother and I had come with a friend to visit Shermans and Longs. We skated on the sloughs during the day and lingered longer than we should have. On going onto the river, the horses stopped to take a drink. Needless to say, we were glad to reach the farther shore safely, as it was very dark and the ice was creaky

Also, in the summer when Albert came to see me, it cost 10¢ after ten o'clock to cross the ferry, so he went home before ten o'clock. Soon after that the ferry rate went up to twenty-five cents at midnight, then to a dollar per car — so inflation has been around a long time. How many people have watched a ferry being built, then people had a gala evening dancing on the new floor, before it was put into service. These were our fun times.

Albert's mother and six sisters, one married, moved out to British Columbia during the first two years after we were married. We had our first of four daughters the year war was declared. Prices started improving, crops also, though there were cycles when army worms or grasshoppers came along. ■ was strange ■ see army worms go up and over the high grain elevators in town; they went up and over, not around objects.

We had many good times with our friends; there were 500 card parties, box socials and school concerts — Anglican church services were often held in the Calais school. We always took our children to things — no baby sitters — the children went to sleep ■ available space — teacher's desk, spare benches or most often on quilts and robes in the cloakroom.

We had our troubles too; concussion, broken legs, horse's kicks, as well as one time, one of the children was watching me pumping gas into the tractor from a barrel on the truck, it was a hot day and fumes rising up soon gave us an unconscious child — out in the field — miles from help.

Books were always a part of my life. We had a travelling library box of books in my home, so we applied for one and had it for many years in our home for use ■ the district. It was always looked forward to.

The children were taken to Sunday School, Messengers, Explorers, C.G.I.T., 4-H, skating, swimming, softball, choir and all kinds of events, so with Ladies Aid and Women's Missionary Society and later UCW, we led a busy life along with farming.

Schools were Calais, Fielding and eventually being bussed to Maymont. Chester Ferris of Fielding and Harvey Denomy of Maymont were the capable, friendly bus drivers.

Our eldest daughter, Lucille, is Mrs. Marshall Wynn of Hanna, Alberta. She has 1 daughter and 3 sons. Edna, a teacher, is Mrs. Allan Carnahan, on the home farm. Patricia, a teacher, is Mrs. James Carnahan of Battleford, Saskatchewan. She has 1 daughter, Helen, a secretary, is Mrs. Ben Fields, of Banff, Alberta.

Albert and I had a wonderful trip for a month to Figi, Zealand and Australia. We have now moved from the farm to Maymont where we built a new home. We are interested in many organizations, have hobbies and are enjoying our retirement.

Rev. and Mrs. Floyd Sloan

told by Floyd

My earliest recollections of early days ■ Maymont and Fielding Districts are mostly in the Fielding Area, as that is where my parents and both of my grandparents on both sides homesteaded. My parents homesteaded in SW ¼, 41, 11, located two miles northwest of Fielding.

The first four years of my life we lived in a sod house where my two older sisters and I were born. Our buildings were just across from Mr. and Mrs. Philip Brock, now known as the Ryan farm.

My father came to the area in 1903 and mother's folks came in March of 1904. My parents were married in March of 1905; my mother was the only daughter of

Mr. and Mrs. Gerhart Fust who settled in the Neepawa School District on N.E. Section 24, 31, 12.

Building a large sod house on their homestead, and being a friend to all who came along, their house soon became a place of many activities, among which was the first church services of the area which were held there. Ministers from various churches called and ministered as Riding Ministers as they were riding by. Many a lonely homesteader and weary traveller found a warm welcome and a hand of love shared to them. This included the Royal Mounted Police who often found a night of rest there. Among the earliest settlers I recall were: Tom Miller, Sam Miller, George Northcott, Dave McKay, Jack Miller, Herman Reimer, Schloemers, Tyhursts, Dick Wilcox, and the Bergman family. Albert one of the boys is retired and living now in Aldergrove, B.C.

Many interesting factors come to mind but we must only highlight a few. Although there were many hard times, neighbors and friends meant much to each other.

Fielding remained our chief shopping place. The town of Fielding was a booming place at one time when wheat haulers came from Speers District and even north of that, and from across the river to the south as strings of teams came for miles bringing their grain and produce to market.

Among the earliest storekeepers and businesses were Smith and Shay whom my father hauled groceries for from Saskatoon before the railroad came through. We are told Saskatoon although a supply centre then had only a box-car for a station. Other businessmen in Fielding were McGregors, L. W. Stott, who had a harness shop, R. B. Harris, a store; Nelson Ebby and Inabestor, and later George Downey were blacksmiths.

Fielding had many fires throughout the years and many places were never rebuilt. The one that really destroyed its future was in late July, 1922 when nine buildings were totally destroyed; Shanks Garage, Post Office, Livery Barn, Hotel, Meat Market, John Deere Office, Telephone Office and two general stores owned by A. Gunn and C. W. Dickinson.

A bucket brigade from the town well was the only fire equipment at that time, and with a strong northwest wind there was little that the huge crowd could do. Much gallant effort saved the hall which if it had gone much more of the town would have been wiped out. Many of these places were never replaced.

As it is Saskatchewan's Seventy-fifth Anniversary, I should like to mention the Jubilee Celebration of 1927, the twenty-fifth Anniversary of Confederation. Parades and Sports Days were held in each town. I have a picture each of a float in both Maymont and Fielding. The Maymont float was directed by Mrs. R. F. Johnston and Mrs. Butterfield sponsored by the ladies of the area. The six grey horses on the float of which four belonged to J. L. Sloan and two to James Taylor were driven by Mac Taylor and myself. In 1955 Maymont celebrated the Fiftieth Anniversary of Saskatchewan. A sports day was held and many lovely floats made up a very interesting parade. The Maymont Foursquare Church sponsored a float depicting fifty years progress in places of worship. I was pastoring the church at that time. My wife and I have many precious memories of the years we served there.

Leaving Maymont in November 1956 we spent four years pastoring in Campbell River, B.C. where we also did Indian work on Quadra Island. Then in October, 1960 we moved to Haney, B.C. where we pastored seven years, also held services in three Rest Homes in Coquitlam and Haney Area. In the fall of 1967 we moved to Langley, B.C. where we were assistant pastors in the Pentecostal Church, also worked in Skidroad Missions in Vancouver during week nights.

I believe that my brother, Ted, was giving an account of our family, but I should say that Kate (Mrs. Wiley) passed away in January of 1970 and Bert also passed away in February of 1977. Audrey and her family live at Aldergrove, B.C., Walter and Norma Wiley in Burnaby, B.C.; Bill and Velma Bjerkness live in Coquitlam; Betty and Joe Pennell in Squamish and Ralph Wiley in Campbell River. Mr. Wiley who has remarried lives in Whalley, B.C. The rest of our family still live in the Maymont area.

Our three children are married and live nearby; we have nine grandchildren. Bob, his wife and four children live in Surrey, B.C.; He has a transport truck and hauls for Overwaite Stores. Marlene and her husband and three children live in Coquitlam; they both work in Woodland Schools in New Westminister. Margaret and her husband and two children live in Clearbrook; they also have a transport truck and it hauls for Co-op Stores in B.C.

We moved to Clearbrook, B.C. in May of 1973 on retired basis but seemed to find quite a bit to do but are thankful for health and strength to do it.

V. W. (Pete) Sloan

I now take the liberty of writing for your 1980 book on behalf of my wife, my five sons, myself and my ninety-one year old uncle, George Sloan, who was in the area for many years. He did a lot of custom land breaking as well as his own and some of Ben Sloan's using his four oxen, making three hitches daily, sleeping and eating under his wagon. This was when he was a teen-ager and in his twenties.

I can't go into great detail as much has happened in these many years in the district. Of course, I can't write very much on the past thirty-three years because I left the area in 1948. I kind of regard this as like writing the Home-Loving Hearts page. It's true it's home-loving or I would make no effort to help with the record of the past and I realize many folks will be represented so if you think I refer to myself too much, excuse me. It's true I certainly don't want anyone to think I'm taking advantage of the dear ones who are long gone. My writing, spelling and grammar are ab-

George Sloan's 91st birthday. Floyd Sloan, George Sloan and Pete Sloan.

Ruby Sloan and Mrs. Holmes.

sard due to not writing much. Just don't blame it on my teachers because I'm going to tell you who they were and where they came from and I don't want them to be embarrassed.

Miss E. G. Nutting was one of our first teachers. She was raised in Fielding. Miss Lucille Giffard of Maymont was followed by Miss Lydia Ballsrud who stayed two and a half years. Then another Fielding girl came — Miss Muriel Elliott. We also had Miss Muriel Harris, Miss Irene Reid, Miss Ellen Reid, and for a short time Miss Ellen Reid was a relieving teacher. When I quit school we had Dorothy Dean ■ North Battleford.

Now I would like to draw to your attention that these girls all drew my greatest respect and I can only say they were the best. Not one ever gave me a licking and those were the days of law and order, at home, at school and in court. Truly I believe we all missed Mrs. Allan Bean more than any as she was there two and a half years and she had a wonderful sense of humor with us all and kept the ruling hand with love. We had perfect discipline in the school those years. I am proud to tell you that among very few keepsakes I have are five different Christmas cards from Miss Ballsrud. Even though she left to teach elsewhere she sent Christmas cards. So I really appreciated that and must remark about our wonderful relationship. I only speak for myself, but I am sure the rest that remain will verify my statement. I am glad to be able to say she became the wife of one of the best personalities to be raised in the district, Allan Bean, a friend ■ ■.

Our school district, Neepawa No. 1570, consisted of eleven sections, so I believe it was relatively a small district. My dad (Les Sloan) was quite constantly on the school board and ■■ was S. ■. Miller, and J. H. Fast was the secretary for over twenty years. There was always a third trustee who was someone from the district and as their children grew to school age took more interest. In the case of my father, having ten children probably retained his interest longer. But that's not the point I want to make. It was this: I know for sure about Sloan and Miller, they were both firm believers in giving the local students first chance if they applied for a job. They both had firm convictions that the daughters of the men they knew should have first chance since it was only up to Grade Nine and it gave young girls a chance to be home the week-ends. Usually the teacher boarded at S. R. Miller's. The list of local girls didn't stop because I left school. It still continued and I'm sure when you read the list you will say, "Well done, Neepawa and God bless you all for this beautiful trust you had in your neighbor's daughters." I'm sure not one of them let you down. I'm sure each one left of their own free will.

I'm like a voice crying in the wilderness as since 1938 I've spent very little time in the area. Due to circumstances I left for various other parts of the world or I should say country as I've only made one trip ■

Europe in my life. My father seemed to cleave to the Fielding district for some time after the rest of the family claimed Maymont as their town. We were almost mid-way till 1930 when the old highway was put along-side the track cutting down our grain haul several miles. We could make three trips to town instead of two so this was the reason we changed post offices. But my father's old friends from early years were Fielding people so he found it difficult to change. It's true Fielding had served him well as a town. He had had a butcher shop there at one time in the early years as he did homestead on SW 20-11-41. Fielding was badly burned out in 1922 and most of the business buildings burned and lots never were replaced. The fire started in the livery stable owned by Mike Burns at that time but due to a strong wind blowing embers across the town, in spite of all the surrounding district and town folks, little could be done to save the town.

I recall as a small boy seeing a circus and parade that I believe I've not seen the like even in the large towns now. The first airplane I recall seeing and parachute jumper was just south of Fielding in the fall of 1922. One of the best race tracks was in Fielding. My dad took his steam engine in and with Tommy Thompson and George Downey helping him they graded it to the standard of the track. You are probably not aware of what Fielding had; they had some of the fastest and best competitions in that part of Saskatchewan. S. R. Miller sold Alex Gunn, the storekeeper, a black stallion that almost made as much history as Dan Patch. This horse was trained and jockeyed by George Smith. This horse cleaned up in Chicago in the Middle Twenties. Bill Sowden had a good stallion in Maymont called Frank. Gunn's horse was the well-known horse Idle Prince. Besides this there was no doubt a lot of horses that hit the race tracks from Fielding that I'll not recall. I remember Wes Summers having a horse they called Long Green and S. R. Miller had several, one they called Abbot and another Gracepointer. Bob Hodge had a track horse, and also R. H. Harris. Old Grandpa Andrews had one he called Baby Wilks which his son, Lou, I believe drove. There were no doubt more, but being a young kid I can't recall them. To tell you the publicity of Fielding's sports, three horses were driven up from Aberdeen, Saskatchewan to participate. Skinny McIvor was one of those drivers. He liked Fielding so well he moved up and spent many years in the district. So when I say my dad liked it at Fielding he had reasons to like it. He did a lot of custom threshing in the early years in the Fielding District. Maymont and Fielding alike lost much of their business when the rail line was laid north on the Speers line and then again in 1929 and 1930 when the C.P.R. put the line in south of the river from which a lot of grain and business came. So it was progress that slowed these towns down considerably. At the Annual Fielding picnic, we have at Queen's Park, New Westminster, a lot of remembering goes on during the day to be sure. Burtis Summers, who left Fielding in 1908, came to Vancouver, a prosperous business man and hired dozens of men from Fielding, Maymont, Richard and Speers, Altimont, even a few from Mayfair that I knew. I worked one year for him myself along with a brother to the Dean in Saskatoon University. So you see some of what Burtis did for his home area. Yes, I've even seen a man, Howard Johnston from Spinney Hill working there and Burtis had hired men for many years before I was in Vancouver. Anyway, I was commenting on the Fielding fire. He said he had recently been visiting in a home in Vancouver and he noticed the piano that was badly scorched on one side so made further inquiries and found it was the piano that came from the living quarters over the Dickson Store that burned in the bad fire at Fielding. So he went on to tell the significance of the event was that he and Walter Thompson, both boys in their early twenties, went up in that apartment and pushed the piano to the east and with the long rope Joe Prechtl came running with, they eased it down past the flaming wall. That's how it came to be burned as it is to this day in the city of Vancouver. Men at the bottom grabbed it and carried it to safety as the rest of the contents stayed. I believe that last sports I saw at Fielding was after the horse racing days were over. It was a contest of town against country. And with what appeared to be a mighty effort — the country guys won!

There was the occasional time when a real animal circus having elephants, camels, lions and almost all kinds of animals paraded around down the various streets in Maymont, Fielding and Hafford. I recall attending a circus in each one of these towns. It's hard to feature that such events took place on those streets. Even though we did have board walks, we had good entertainment. On the Twelfth of July the Orangemen would put on a celebration in one of the local towns, I believe the best part of it was the parade. George Lowery playing the flute, Ern Fitzel played the drum (he was Mrs. S. R. Miller's dad and a fine drummer he was) Bill White of Fielding on the bagpipes. It usually drew a big crowd from the various towns.

Not nearly the crowd, however, that there was around some years later in August of 1932, at Dr. Scratch's picnic. I'd like to make an unusual comment about this durable little man. No doubt most everyone has heard about the faithfulness of Dr. Scratch in the many miles of terrain he served in. But few, other than men like myself who drove him by livery team can actually make the fullest of his ability to serve his people and his true responsibility. In the winter of 1942 I was driving livery at Maymont. I lived on the south side of town and had no phone, so I want you to appreciate the fact that the Cassidys made it as easy for Doc as they could. Under ordinary circumstances they would send word to me on behalf of Doc. It was a Sunday morning, 1 A.M., about 25 degrees below Fahrenheit and a northwest wind blowing. I was wakened by a man's

voice beside my bed saying, "Pete, come on we got to get to Mayfair. It's a maternity case so let's get started." I never used to lock my door as I never knew when he'd have to come for me. We were on the road in jig time and by daylight we were quite a way past Spears. However, we were back in Maymont before 9 P.M. that night. He took his cases from my cutter into his car and off for Radisson and got stuck in the snow, had to walk to Keats and had to get him to drive by team to Radisson and back; then to dig or pull the car out and get it started. He returned to Maymont and a man was waiting to take him six miles out in the country to see his sick child and at 4:30 P.M. I saw him going towards home. He stopped and said, "Cripes, Pete, I've not been home since we left Mayfair yesterday." It must be remembered that he was no doubt past sixty at that time. People have so often said to me, "But Doc sleeps on the road." You try it. Very little rest he acquired hanging about going fifteen miles an hour on roads that were quite bumpy. To me no man was ever more faithful than he was. Dr. Scratch made a comment to me I'd like to pass along and I'll verify it as the truth. He said, "This Maymont has the only hotel I know of that threw the key away to the sitting room and always had a nice warm fire and anyone is welcome to come in day or night and enjoy the heat from that old pot-bellied stove." So I think Mr. Bill Sowden has much to be commended on his hospitality and what it meant to many through the years that he owned that hotel.

You know the hotel wasn't the warmest place in the world but it was a real asset to the town. The one story that brings a laugh to even the most solemn is the story of a traveller who spent the night there. Ernie Andrew was a very good man. I worked for him often and they don't come better that Ernie was. He always had whiskers and moustache. This one cold bitter morning in December he had brought the children in to school. He drove back, tied up his team, then covered them, then came over to the hotel where he knew the old stove would be casting off a good heat. He came in from by the cafe and the traveller who had stayed all night was standing by the stove when all of a sudden he noticed this man coming by the stairway with ice in his beard and moustache. He paused a bit then with amazement he said, "Good gosh, which room were you in?"

Well you may or may not believe it but there is a house north of Fielding that R. M. Pitts had built that would hit that category. Yes, I know I worked there and don't get me wrong. These people were two of the best folks in the world but circumstances beyond their control made it difficult. It was on the McNaughton farm. It was a house that was built only for a summer home by a real estate company only to be lived in in the summer time but Bill and Patty McNaughton had moved up there as there was a good well and grew coarse grain and fed many carloads of cattle off there. The house was a nice house with hardwood floors and the first fireplace I'd ever seen around but I don't remember why they didn't use it, likely it smoked but don't think I ever saw a fire in it. See all this big front room and no fire in it and our bedrooms above it, no chimney to put up a stove. So I think if I'd had a beard it would have white frost on it. Sometimes cattle prices were so poor it was almost impossible to start making renovations. Bill gave a man from Ontario a choice of a car of fat, young cattle at four cents a pound and there were three hundred to choose from and he refused to pay more than three and a half cents a pound. The only comment I have, besides saying I was sorry for Bill and his wife, is that there was no inflation.

Well you know 3000 years ago Moses said, "Pick up your picks and shovels, get on your ass and hit for the Promised Land," and you know I think McKenzie King told them to get off your ass, grab your picks and shovels, you're in the Promised Land but it really wasn't. It was just Canada in desperate conditions but really no inflation. You know I don't want you to feel I am complaining on my job, not a bit. We were getting twice as much as the government was paying. They paid five dollars a month and three of us were getting ten dollars a month. What a payroll! It was hard to make ends meet — worthless pigs, and cattle everywhere you looked. We ate good anyway.

The summer of 1937 was hot and very dry much like 1933 when it forgot to rain all summer. It made ideal breeding conditions for grasshoppers. They didn't pick out certain people or sections; they took on all comers and to be sure they took their toll. A lot of poison was put out to at least try to cut them down but it just seemed to be in vain. I was up at Bill's that fall again helping to thresh. McIvor ran the rig and a half dozen fellows pulled in the scarce harvest. A decision was made for the first time to thresh the straw in the big hay mow. The day was hot, of course, the wind was in the northwest making the weather ideal for the occasion. After about seven hours threshing we had trouble. I was several hundred yards out from the rig and I heard it stop with what sounded like a full cylinder and then as I looked I could see Bill on top of the separator yelling for God's sake someone get some water. McIvor was running with the drive belt to get hooked on the separator so I dashed in fast as I could go with part of a load on. All the while I was going Bill was still screaming for water. Ken Buckingham had been trying his best to draw attention to the two pails he had and was reaching one to him. When the water was poured on the boxing, the smoke ceased. We reset and threshed as before. That evening as we were having it all over along with our supper, it was most amusing to hear Bill say, "I've always maintained that in case of fire, you got to keep cool and don't get excited." Even his wife laughed about that one because she heard him at the house. But we all liked Bill and his wife very much.

I had left at the end of October to go to Oliver Rogers for the winter where I'd be able to look after stock I had close by. One evening in November or early December I went to call on these dear folks, (Mr. and Mrs. McNaughton) She told me then that his blood pressure was very high and he was to soon go to Saskatoon to the Army doctor or to do with War I doctoring. Little did I know it was my last visit when I'd see them both alive. About ten days later Mrs. McNaughton phoned to have them tell me her husband had had a bad stroke the night before. So I immediately rode over to the farm. As I sat by that bedside my friend and boss was lying unconscious. As I realized there was little hope that we would ever speak to each other again, the thought occurred to me "When I get up to go home, then who is waiting to come? No one, as there was no family. I felt so sorry for her to face this by herself. I wished I could just have been their son to help her face what the next few weeks held before her. A few days later he was gone at about fifty-six years of age.

These people had been very good citizens. I recall a few winter's previous when I was there. We came in for breakfast and Bill said, "How cold is it this morning?" Someone said it must be forty anyway. Bill said, "I'll bet old Jack's frozen to death there." He got up from his chair. 7:30. 'Phone started ringing the phone. Soon we noticed the serious expression come over him. He grew pale as no one answered the phone. It was more than obvious that Jack Ridley could be frozen to death. He hung up and turned to me where I was eating breakfast." Pete, go hitch up Barney and the Maxwell horse and we'll get over there." To be sure we lost no time and it was still dark, breaking day as we were approaching the big, dark house. No sign of smoke!" Bill remarked, "No smoke, Guess he's dead alright." Before the sleigh was stopped Bill was out and almost ran to the door while I went to put the team in the shelter as they'd come the three miles in jig time. I saw several cows lying dead, as well as one horse in the barn and a few cows were very poor and hungry and looked very bad and no feed did I see. I then noticed Bill cutting kindling so by now I was well convinced in my mind the man must be alive so I went over to where he cut the wood, picked it up and on approaching the house I saw this man well into his sixties sitting with his head facing down, propped by both hands as his elbows rested on his legs, not a sign of a move. The box stove he sat by had failed to burn when he'd last tried to make a fire. A baking powder can of unmelted snow sat on top of the stove. We moved him back. While I made a fire, Bill commenced rubbing his limbs and after getting the fire going I helped him and finally he commenced to look as if life was coming back to his body. He wouldn't have been much longer till he'd have just never woke up. We made him a cup of hot tea, found some food and put wood close to the stove for him as both feet had been previously frozen badly. We went back home. Bill phoned the Reeve of the R.M., S. R. Miller and he came up, took Jack to the Maymont Hotel till spring. Dr. Scratch attended him in the hotel.

It was in 1942 when I was working for J. D. Blacklock near the Maymont School when a car came out into the field. As it drew closer I could see it was J. M. McNaughton and Aunt Paddy in the car. J. M. said, "Pete, Paddy, is leaving for Penticton, B.C. and she would like to say good-bye to you before she leaves." I was glad for her as I knew she would no longer be living in the summer house, R. M. Pitts had built. I was glad for her as she'd now be with her two sisters where the weather would be much easier. But as I shook hands to say good-bye my eyes filled with tears. I was afraid it would be the last time I'd see this lady who'd been like a mother to me. But I'd like them to go on record, too, as being very worthy citizens of the district.

I trade horses a lot one or two winters and it seemed every one I traded with was a Liberal. They weren't my enemies but I just was further to the left I guess. So one day I said to a local Liberal, "How come seems most of the trades I have are with Liberals?" The gentleman laughed and replied, "Pete, if we can take a chance on MacKenzie King for four years, we can take a chance on a horse trade with you." I fooled some of them because now and then they'd rename the horse 'Pete'. But the joke was on them. That's not my name anyway.

One of my boys, Eugene, who went to Maymont School for one and a half years, owns his own trucking business. Three years ago he went to Nanaimo on competition — driving for heavy trucks on Vancouver Island. He came in second and the Brock boy from Port Alberni came first. Of course neither of them knew their grandfathers had lived across the road from one another for several years when Joe Brock was a young man breaking up the Ryan farm. Dad's buildings were across the road so they were neighbors. Joe Brock was reeve of the Mayfield municipality for some time in the 30's. He lived one mile north of the Fielding Cemetery then.

Ron, another of my boys, who was born at Maymont went to school, too there for awhile. He was importing antiques and had his own store besides working for C.P.A., so was often in various parts of the world. He got acquainted with an old steam mechanic in Vancouver through an antique steamboat. He found the owner of the Royal Hudson. The man told him he had an offer for $7400 to sell it for salvage so Ron returned to Prince George, got three more old steam men interested. The four of them planned to purchase it for a honeymoon train in the North. But the Bartlett government was in power and he said, "There's no way we're going to miss that train. They had applied for permission to move it by B.C. Rail and it came to government attention. So he over-ruled his cabinet and bought it as he felt it was B.C. heritage. It's been the greatest tourist attraction we have. It's been in the Western

States last year promoting tourism. This year down to Eastern Canada and another two coaches added for daily runs to Squamish all because another boy born and partly schooled at Maymont could see a future in one of the very few steamers left

This year my oldest son, Bill, who was born at Maymont won the B.C salmon derby. His cousin, Ralph Wiley, who received all his education in Fielding was running his own boat that Bill was in as he got the 40 lb., 4 oz fish His prize was $4000, an out-board motor, and a fishing rod and reel as a prize.

Now my wife and I are pensioners and so we enjoy some of the benefits given to us.

George Sloan celebrated his ninety-first birthday March 11. He has very good health and lives to get to Fielding picnic every year where everyone is astonished that he doesn't get any gray hair or use a cane or glasses

Mrs. Britton from Maymont, too, is on pension here but still serves in the bus depot cafe Her daughter, Margaret, is the head nurse in Ucuita Lodge (almost the same as extensive care) Allen Britton teaches at Comox, B C

My grandson, Butch Sloan, has been in many countries including Japan and the Soviet Union in Judo competitions He has won much fame and recognition on this continent as well as abroad He didn't go to school in Maymont but spent considerable time with Ted and Evelyn Sloan when he was a boy.

I spent the last six years of my working years at April Point Lodge, well known to all salmon fishermen I got well acquainted with John Wayne, Bob Hope and many more of the holidayers from the Western States, also oil men from Calgary, etc It was a very interesting place to work as maintenance man. A lot of my work was at the docks, floats, boats and off-season building summer homes for the various folks who wished to reside all summer Many of these homes ten years ago were worth forty thousand dollars. I worked on schools for several years One of the most interesting jobs I was on was the instant town of Kitimat when I worked for Johnston and Crooks of Portland as a carpenter I was a working partner to Oscar Haggin, a North Battleford man, who had worked for Miner Construction. The black bears would come under the dining hall as it was built on a hill side for drainage. (not exactly a hill but sloped to a ravine) and the thing was ground level at the front but four feet at the back above ground Kitchen, storehouse, loading platform and sandwich room at the back and so this was not rat-infested but bear-infested The cookhouse sat four hundred and fifty men There were six hundred at supper It was first come, first served so as the fall grew on and days shorter the last shift would run into darkness and it would have been much better if the bear had been white ones They didn't only thump around under our feet, as we ate supper as the bears could smell the food and there seemed to be several of them They were apparently of the same mind as the men were when it was suppertime. I saw three different men, and when I say different I mean it, who got hit and were sent sprawling by those black bears If you came on them suddenly, like on a rattle snake you had it When we were on a house one day, inside work, Jim Mayson, a painter was on a long ladder painting the large board, with white paint. He had most of a gallon when a big bear came around the corner so, he soon got on the roof and dumped all the paint on the black bear. We heard him laughing and he was yelling for us to see the new bear in town but the bear was losing no time to get back into the heavy Hemlock forest from where he'd just come. The company finally brought in the Security Guards to shoot the bears off as at that time already a couple of hundred families were dwelling there We put up three hundred houses for Alcan Aluminum Company that summer. Streets, sewers, and schools, businesses all went up in a few short months. I was on the housing contract. I worked on three dams as a carpenter. On the last dam, in almost three years I was there, four men lost their lives, one an arm, as a shovel upset. I was a safety director Our jobs were to take the various complaints to management Also to take a tour once a day to check for safety One day when one of our safetymen was railing on about losing a man, and about several accidents, the management showed us a report on a similar job and sixty had been killed in the Orient somewhere. I suppose there are advantages in being Canadian

My son, Ron, has acquired an old Saskatchewan map from 1913. It gives all the existing towns to date and their present populations. Maymont and Fielding were over 200 and less than 300. I can't recall the exact figures, I rather believe six or seven difference. Ron has a wonderful selection of antiques and collector's items such as a Vancouver Sun of the day the World War II broke out, and another with a report of V.J. Day Another item is a pistol one and a half inches long that shoots bullets smaller than a lighter flint It was designed for gambling men many years ago He has some old chairs four hundred years old. He was importing from many parts of British Isles and Europe. I flipped my lid when he told me over the phone one week he bought a hundred pianos in Glasgow.

George Sloan had told me several times that the first Orangeman's Lodge meeting was in a house of his great-grandfather He was not sure but it was an ancestor and not really turning me on as I had little concern as it may and may not be old hat but to keep the records straight. A Mrs William Sloan who is a nurse in Castlegar, B.C. and her husband, a history teacher, who is a grandson of my father's cousin who has been doing some historical research came to see me this year and she said, "Just last night as I was looking through some old news clippings my dad has brought from Ireland I noticed an account of the first Orangemen's meeting held in a Sloan house." She also

told me that she had traced the Sloan name back to Oliver Cromwell's invasion when the Irish escaped, many to Scotland, some to the bogs and forest. But when the skirmish was over the name Sloan was one out of twenty names left that had been in Ireland before the invasion. So according to her findings it was originally Irish. Even quite a few Scots have the name and England the same. Now don't get me wrong. I'm not trying to get out of being Scottish or English. Kind of nice to know where you came from, even if Oliver Cromwell won the battle. Can't win them all. I guess the Irish are still trying to get even. Glad I'm in Canada.

I remember back, when I'm not sure of the date but is of no significance anyway, but I'd asked a chum of mine to come to church with me and I tried explaining to him the need for all men to worship the Creator. He put up a good defence, one excuse after another. Finally he said, "I'll [redacted] you say the preacher won't [redacted] preaching on Naiman being a leper he said that most of the times he went that was it. So I assured him there would be no danger. He came the next Sunday and the preacher was doing it on liquor and bootleggers, etc. Finally he said, "I think it should [redacted] be dumped into the river." Then [redacted] said in closing, "Anyone got a favorite song?" My brother innocently spoke up and said, "Shall we gather at the River?"

The Sloan Family

by Ted Sloan

The Sloans originally came from Ireland. William Sloan and his son, John, settled at Lindsay, Ontario. In the 1890's, John's son, Benjamin, moved to Neepawa, Manitoba.

In 1902, Benjamin Sloan drove with a team and buggy from Neepawa to the Fielding, Saskatchewan area and filed on his homestead, SE¼ 30-41-11. The following year they transported their goods by rail, and built a log house on the homestead near Fielding. Ben's wife, Elizabeth, soon became known as a midwife in the area and was also involved in the beginning of the Presbyterian Church in Fielding. In 1905 she took a trip to Ontario to visit relatives. She was

Ben and Elizabeth Sloan — picture taken about 1900.

Mr. and Mrs. Les Sloan — married March 13th, 1905.

killed in a train wreck on a bridge that crossed a river near Chapeaw, Ontario, at the age of fifty-six.

One of Ben's sons was my father Les Sloan. In 1905 he and my mother, Mary Fast, were married.

(It is interesting to note here that both my mother's family, the Fasts, and my father's family each brought five sons to the community. Today not one descendant from either the Sloan or Fast family is in this district to carry those names to the next generation.)

Of Benjamin's children, only my father settled here permanently. Some of the others stayed here for a number of years but later scattered to a variety of places. George left 4-41-12 in 1936 for Birch Lake, Saskatchewan and then moved to B.C. Wes lived on 28-41-11 until 1925 when he moved to Lloydminster. Vince lived at Mayfair and died at an early age. His children moved to B.C. in 1937 Hart went overseas in world war 1 from 1914 to 1918 married in England. Hart eventually settled north of Edmonton. Minnie married Harry Dawson and lived on 30-41-12 and later moved to the United States. Another sister, Ida Plackett lived on 23-41-12 until they moved to Australia.

When my parents were married, my mother's

Ted Sloan, his pup 'Toby' and 'Spot' the cow in the camp on the homestead N.E.¼ 36-60-27.

father helped them build a 16' x 26' sod house on SW¼ 20-41-11. It seems that my father usually found additional ways to make money besides working his own farm. At this time he worked for the C.N. Railroad, became the section foreman, and travelled back and forth on the hand car.

For one year they lived at Warman where he served as section foreman.

In 1911, he quit the railroad and sold the homestead. He then bought S¼ 28-41-12, three miles east of Maymont. The buildings are still at that location, beside the old highway.

From 1911-1927, my father owned and operated a steam threshing outfit.

My parents studied books and pamphlets to learn the art of taxidermy. Together they did a considerable amount of this work from about 1910-1918. The largest head they did was a 17-point moose which was sold to someone in Ottawa. Coyotes, moose, deer, prairie chicken and antelope were some of their projects.

As another sideline job, my father later shipped cattle for the Pool.

To start their own cattle herd, my parents bought a six week old heifer and raised her on soft porridge. This nourishment must have given her a good start in life as she lived to the age of twenty-one and had her last calf when she was twenty years old!

Windmill power was used to pump water, along with gasoline power. (Years later, in 1946, while work was being done on this pump, my father's thumb and parts of several fingers from both hands were cut off.)

His first team of horses cost $600 and they travelled by horse and buggy until 1917 when he purchased his first car. It cost $800 — a second-hand McLaughlin Buick, which burned in the Fielding Fire, 1923, while in the garage for repairs. My Grandfather, Benjamin, was known for his preference for walking. It is said that he often walked from Fielding to Saskatoon to buy a plug of chewing tobacco.

My parents raised a family of five girls and five boys: Kate (Wiley), Floyd, Adeline (Williams), Ted, Pete, Hazel (Beaudoin), Mabel (Wood), Roy, Bert, and Audrey (Wood). We attended the Neepawa School near our home. The first school was located on NW 20-

Sloan family, 1949. l. to r. — Bert, Roy, Ted, Floyd, Dad, Kate, Audrey, Mabel, Hazel, Adeline.

41-11. This school burned in 1921 and the new location was just ¾ mile south of the previous school. We often walked to school carrying our lard pails or took the horse and buggy. In winter we used the team and sleigh.

I once impressed my brother, Floyd, by shooting a Hungarian Partridge without the use of a gun. We were just finished our chores when a flock of partridges flew up in front of us. For no reason, I pointed a finger at them and said, "Bang!" One of the birds fell to the ground. "I got one!" I yelled, and my brother had a hard time believing me. I don't know who was more stunned — Floyd or the bird! Apparently, it had hit the telephone wire but was not seriously hurt so we released it the next morning.

Lightning struck our yard several times. In July, 1925, I was outside putting the little ducks in the pen before a rain. The family was sitting down to dinner when lightning took the chimney off the house and scattered stove pipes all over the house. It did not start a fire but there was a great deal of excitement as everyone left the table of soot-covered food to run outside. Frightened by the commotion my young brother in the high chair called out, "Get me, Mama!" Lightning rods were installed on the house the next week. After that on four occasions lightning struck the yard and killed a horse, a pig and a duck, and many years later demolished a power pole.

Our family enjoyed playing music and singing together. It was a usual practice to have music after supper in the evenings. Even now when family members get together, music is a highlight.

Our home became a gathering place for ballgames.

The buggy we made from our first car — Trudy Sloan, Danny and Lew Andrew, Spring, 1942.

40th wedding anniversary, 1976. R. to r. — Shelley, Charlotte, Sharon, Ted and Evelyn, Elmer, Trudy Leroy.

we started with a few relatives and a hired man, and soon a very large group gathered regularly on Sunday afternoons. This continued for several years.

In the early days churches usually began in a house. The Evangelical denomination came from Rosthern to hold their first meetings in the Fasts' home. Later, they met twice a month at the Neepawa School.

In 1936 the Foursquare Gospel began to hold services in my parents' home and often forty or fifty people crowded into the house. A pool hall was later converted to a church.

We had our share of supper guests off the highway. Most of them dropped in during 1929 and in the early thirties, and Bernest Heard was one of them. He hailed from Barrie, Ontario and was pushing a barrel from coast to coast across Canada.

During the summer of 1934, my brother Pete and I ventured north to Pierceland, Saskatchewan, where we each filed on a homestead. Hay land there was already leased and the future in that area held little promise for us. When we returned in the fall we had some interesting experiences and memories behind us: hauling logs out of muskeg, mosquitoes that Pete said were part sparrow, my dog bowling to the music of my mouthorgan around a campfire and a faithful cow who returned from grazing with range cattle to give us fresh milk each evening. One homesteader said he was doing alright he came there 3 years ago with nothing and he still had it.

I began a much more eventful and successful venture on October 17, 1936. Evelyn Andrew and I were married in her parents' home. We started our marriage living three miles east of Maymont, and in subsequent years we completed a circle around the town. Through renting and buying land we lived east, south, west and northeast of Maymont.

During the 1930's money was hard to come by. I was fortunate to have a resourceful wife. She sewed good-looking shirts for me from dyed red flour sacks, and she even captured an egg-eating magpie in the ben house with the use of a saucepan!

At this time politics were often discussed and my nephews, Walter and Ralph Wiley, listened to some of this discussion. They had also been told that if they licked the cow's salt block they may get T.B. One day Walter ran to the house yelling, "Quick, Mom, Ralph is licking the salt block and he's going to get C.C.F.!"

Another day their father had a frustrating experience. He had a three month old pig in his shed and when he looked out the window, he saw the pig running around the yard. He began to chase it and several hours later returned to the shed to find his own pig safely inside where it belonged! He had exhausted himself chasing someone else's pig.

In the fall of 1948 we disposed of our cattle and horses and made plans to move to Campbell River, B.C. for the winter. This long train ride was an interesting one for us as we managed to keep track of our three girls. I found work for part of the winter doing general construction work at a dam; however, it was a happy day for us all when we headed home to the prairies at the end of April. On this trip we were accompanied by Elmer Sloan, our first son, who was born during our stay in B.C.

Although we knew we had to start over again from two head of cattle when we returned, we were excited to know that a new John Deere tractor, (ordered the fall before) awaited us.

Our children attended the Keystone School located 2½ miles north of our home. This was the same school their mother attended. When it was moved from that spot, the old Neepawa School that I went to was moved in in its place. On summer mornings we sent them off with the horse hitched to the buggy shafts and a sheaf sticking out the back of the buggy for the horse's dinner.

Transportation in winter was a different story. I drove the children to and from school and this was a

very time-consuming job. A small stove inside the cutter usually kept us too warm and there was always an extra stick of firewood to throw at our slow moving Daisy when she refused to pull her share.

Our oldest daughters took some correspondence courses and then boarded in Maymont in order to get to High School. We anxiously awaited their weekend visits. The roads were completely blocked one Monday morning when I took Trudy back to Maymont. We picked our way through the fields and upset the cutter three times. I left home at seven a.m. and finally returned at 2 p.m.

All this changed in 1950 with the coming of the school bus. This was a great boon to us. Roads were kept open and the responsibility of transporting the children to school was no longer mine. Our small country school was closed and the Maymont School expanded. Our first bus driver, Les Parker, was extremely punctual and was an excellent driver.

During the 1950's, other areas of our life style also changed. We got "the power" in 1954 and our coal oil lamps were placed on the shelf. A common past time among the school children was to count up all the electrical appliances each home had acquired.

In 1956 we gained another avenue of convenience — the telephone. About this time, too T.V. presented a new dimension. However, in spite of these changes and some of our children growing up, we still enjoyed family evenings playing music and singing together. The smaller ones who did not know how to play a musical instrument blew through a comb and tissue paper and so contributed their "kazoo music".

We welcomed progress but "neighbouring", as we called it, was no longer the necessity it had been. The big wood sawing bees were replaced by electric stoves and oil burners. Threshing crews were replaced by combines, and in some cases T.V. substituted for visiting. In the past a common government hall was provided. Regular hall club meetings were necessary and we scheduled these during the evenings when our families could enjoy a gathering with the neighbours. We could count on a Russian dance from Henry Pauls and some good singing from his wife. "Froggie Went A-Courting" was always a favourite.

Our six children have grown up and married. We are fortunate that they all live within a one hundred mile radius of Maymont. (with the exception Leroy, who is presently in Alberta.) The lifestyle of our grandchildren is very different from what ours was. In my lifetime I have seen oxen plowing fields and I have also seen men walking on the moon. In just a few years we have seen almost everything around us change and develop. Faith, family and friends are things that never change

Elmer Sloan

Elmer Leslie William Sloan

With three girls making up their family, my parents, Ted and Evelyn Sloan moved to Campbell River, B.C. in the year of 1949. The change in climate must have been what was needed, for it was there they had their first son. I came into the world and in order to keep peace in the family I suppose, I was given a good choice of any of several names from both sides of the family. Perhaps my folks feared they would not perform the trick of producing another son but at any rate I was dubbed Elmer Leslie William Sloan. Although I am now known as most as Jon, a name compliments of my sister Charlotte. I am sure I have been referred to by many other names as well. I would be naive indeed to think the hundreds of students I have taught, called me Mr Sloan all the time even when I wasn't present. Regardless of my Christian names I bear the surname Sloan with pride.

I have many memories of growing up in the Maymont community. The most treasured memories are those of growing up with my four sisters, Trudy, Sharon, Charlotte, Shelley, and my brother, Leroy. Many of our good times were enhanced by and shared with the Beaudoin and Pauls families, each only one mile away.

My first four years of school were at a one room school called Keystone, 2½ miles from home. Our main form of transportation was horse and buggy, and I recall the first day I went to school. I sat on the sheaf in the back while my oldest sister, Trudy, drove old Babe and with that my career in education began. Some days when I have had to put up with certain people involved in education I can't help but remember those thistles in old Babe's sheaf which also gave me a pain, exactly in the same location.

When my sisters went to board in Maymont to school, Jim and Wayne Beaudoin used to pick Leroy and I up with their old buggy. Leroy and Jim usually rode in the seat while Wayne and I sat in the back. Wayne had the habit of trying to speed up old Bid when Jim wanted to stop or stop her when Jim wanted her to [redacted]. It was on the way home one afternoon. I had the misfortune to fall out of the aging vehicle. I landed between the wheels and Wayne yelled stop. As we had just nicely got going and were on our way home to boot, Jim could not be blamed for ignoring the shouts coming from the back. It was when he felt the bump as the buggy wheel went over my head that he realized what had happened. Mrs. McCready kindly gave me a faster ride home in her car that night. Other than a bad headache I suffered no other ill effects, although some folks feel some things I did later in life may have been from something still loose inside from that incident.

A favourite time of year for all of us kids was the fall, for that is when the threshing and wood sawing bees were held. I remember watching Henry Pauls standing beside the saw, pitching blocks onto the pile and wondering what he would do when the pile got a little higher, as he was already dwarfed by the growing stack of winter fuel. Shortly everyone rotated to a new position and my worries were over.

Threshing was a time when work and food were both abundant. Some of the racks were drawn by tractors and some by horses. George Williams had the newest tractor and all of us kids fought to see who would get to drive it for him. My uncle, Bert Sloan, kept life on a threshing crew from ever getting dull. We always kept our eyes open for a sheaf on the head, a mouse on the tractor seat or any other practical joke he could invent in the middle of a stubble field.

Life on a farm meant many chores and milking cows was one of the least desirable of such jobs. We learned the dubious skill at an early age and as it was a daily routine, the monotony of it required that one invent various diversions to make it slightly more tolerable. We taught the cats to sit up and lap a well directed stream of milk straight from the cow and when the folks weren't around more than one milk war raged across the manure strewn isle of the old barn. The most enjoyable activity always came when our cousins, of which we have an ample supply, from the city would come. Sending them over to milk the bull was usually our number one suggestion. The best, of course, was to entice them into a vulnerable position with stories of minute sized lice or whatever, and then delivering a forceful stream of sticky white milk squarely between their expectant eyes. Strangely enough they always seemed to return but they avoided the barn with a passion.

After eight long years of school in Maymont I went to the University in Saskatoon before taking my first teaching job in Abbey, Saskatchewan in 1970. It was while at University that I met my wife.

Marilyn Hollowell and I were married in 1969. Our first home was a small two room apartment in Saskatoon while I finished University. In 1970 we moved from Abbey to North Battleford where I have taught ever since. Marilyn's father, Jack, and brother, Ron, were very involved in hockey in the B-40 League when they lived at Speers. They since have moved to Shellbrook.

In 1975 our oldest son, Curtis was born. Our youngest, Devon was born in 1977. They are the only two Sloan boys from our family tree left to carry on the Sloan name in this area. However, if they continue to have the same amount of energy they now have, I am sure there will be many more Sloan boys in the future to replace me.

It would seem one of my main problems in life was usually having my mouth in gear long before my brain was engaged. At times this led to physical alterations and the Maymont Sports was usually as likely a time as not for that to occur. One time I recall getting about one punch in before my opponent returned what seemed like two down. When the dust had cleared, my face was rather the worse for wear, but standing there to my relief was my brother. He looked down at me, shook his head and said, "That's the last time I lend you one of my shirts." I was a little more concerned about my jaw than his shirt at the minute, but he didn't see it quite that way. He couldn't have been too mad though, for in four or five years he broke down and did lend me one of his shirts again. I took care that time though to return it and my body in good shape.

Our family has always been a very close one. My parents, above all else, gave us a family pride and love. Their home on the farm near Maymont is still the favourite gathering place of all the grandchildren. Both Ted and [illegible] have always had time for kids and kids know it. Gramp Ted is always good for a tractor ride or a trip into Maymont for treats. Granma is probably one of the best story tellers a child could hope for. My grandfather, Billy Andrew, was the only one I ever knew who could hold a candle to her.

Music always was and still is a favourite pastime in our home. Ted started almost all of us off on our musical endeavours. The girls began playing the piano and Ted taught me to play the mandolin when I was eleven. Jim Beaudion started me on the guitar a few years later. Although we all played "by ear" and didn't know a B flat from a hole in the ground, we enjoyed our own music and the good times it centered around. Today Leroy and his wife, Shirley do a great deal of entertaining with their music abilities, as does my sister, Shelley. Each of us will always treasure that gift our father gave us, the desire and opportunity to enjoy a talent like music. I have heard my parents say many times that they wished they could have given us more when we were growing up. Many of the things which our parents gave us were not wrapped in ribbons or were not bought in stores, but are gifts which have lasted through the years, long after the paint would have rusted from many toys. With the time, love and encouragement they gave us, who would have asked for more?

It seems when I return to Maymont it is with mixed emotions. The people of the town are new and I do not recognize many of the faces. Lyman Reid, the best boss I ever worked for, is gone. Ted Saunders and his cheerful greetings are lost forever. The kids in the cafe have new faces. Someone other than Harvey Johnson and Clem Coleman are coaching the little league team. In many ways I am a stranger in my own home town.

Yet there still prevails the intense community loyalty, which in spite of all odds, binds people of the past, present, and future together. It is my hope that I can give to my community what Maymont people give to theirs. It is the strong communities of Canada which make it a strong country. May the thousands of places like Maymont hold on to their traditions so our children can enjoy the kinds of lives that we have been lucky enough to have.

Tribute to Archibald "Archie" Spence (84)

from a newspaper clipping

Archie came to Fielding in 1904 from Ballymena, County Antrim, Ireland, where he received his educa-

tion. In 1917 he married Cassie Meek in the Presbyterian Church Belfast, Ireland and returned with her to the farm where he spent 38 years.

He retired to the village of Fielding in 1950 and revisited Ireland in 1952-53. In the midst of a host of relatives and friends, Mr. and Mrs. Spence celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary in 1967. Archie was a keen curler and gardener. From miles around people came to see his beautiful flower garden. For some years the Village's neatly trimmed caragana hedges were a tribute to his care and attention. He served as village councillor, Beckwith School Trustee, on the Telephone Board, and Hall Director; he was a faithful United Church member.

Mr. Spence's grandsons are the fourth generation on the family farm. He was of a quiet and unassuming nature, respected and loved by all who knew him.

Tribute to Mrs. (Archie) Cassie Spence

taken from a newspaper clipping

Mrs. Spence was a friend to all who knew her and in times of trouble, was always there with words of comfort and willingness to help.

During the second World War Mrs. Spence organized the Comfort Club. The Fielding boys will long remember the food parcels and good cheer she was responsible for sending.

Mr. and Mrs. Archie Spence — Golden Wedding anniversary.

She was without exception the district's most noted correspondent. Besides a long list of friends in Canada and Ireland with whom she corresponded regularly, she seldom missed sending a card or an encouraging letter to folks in hospital.

For many years it was left to Mrs. Spence to decorate the Fielding Hall for special events. This she did with care and enthusiasm.

She promoted every community project that she felt was good. She was interested in drama and directed many skits and plays in the early days. Her Irish wit and her genuine hospitality will not be forgotten.

She was a member of the U.C.W. and a faithful member of the United Church in Fielding.

Don and Laura Spence

In 1973 Don Spence married Laura Small, formerly of Craven, Saskatchewan and rented the E. K. Turner farm. They have three small children, Jeffrey born in 1974, Angela in 1976 and Seann in 1978. Don and Laura have been active in the 4-H Beef Club.

The Bernard Spence Family

told by Mrs. Eleanor Spence

I was born and raised at Maymont, the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Johnston. I started to school at Elonia with Mrs. Wilf Langley as my first teacher and later Blanche Racine from Radisson.

I attended Wavie Bank from Grade 3 to Grade 8. Our transportation was a Shetland pony and cart, horse and buggy and horse and cutter, which our children laugh about now.

I'm glad I had the opportunity to attend a country school, because I have been left with many fond

Bernard and Eleanor Spence wedding June 22, 1954; (bridesmaid) Ilene Johnson — (bestman) Chester Free.*

memories, some of which town children miss out on in a big school.

Getting ready for the Christmas concerts were almost as exciting as the big night itself. Hallowe'en and Valentine parties, nature hikes, school picnics and for many of us, we learned to dance at these country schools with local talent as the orchestra.

Wavie Bank school has been moved to Everett Shermans here in Maymont and made into a workshop.

I attended Maymont School for one year with Jack Armstrong as Principal. It was a big change coming from a country school and taking correspondence courses.

Bernard is the eldest son of Bill Spence and the late Nellie Spence (McGrath) of Fielding. He has one brother, Walter, in Battleford, two sisters, Kay, Mrs. Maurice Huard of North Battleford and Thelma, Mrs. Ron Schmidt of Ruddell.

He attended Hopewell and Beckwith schools and took his High School at Fielding. He worked for Jim Nutting and various farmers, later farming with his dad, until he was employed by the T. Eaton Company in North Battleford. He was there from November, 1953-55.

We were married June 26th, 1954, in the Maymont United Church by Reverend F. Myers. The first month we were married, I came down with the mumps, red measles and virus pneumonia. When the Tuberculosis survey came to North Battleford in May of 1955, it was found I had Tuberculosis. I entered the Saskatoon Sanatorium on July 5, 1956, and stayed for fourteen months. I had lung surgery in March of 1956 and came home in September. With two ten day passes (one at Christmas), visitors, cards and letters, the time seemed to pass quickly. Bernard only missed coming to see me one Sunday and that was on account of a blizzard. I have many fond memories of the people there, also, often thinking of those who weren't as fortunate as I was.

Bernard and Eleanor Spence — 25th Wedding Anniversary — June 22, 1979; children; Darrel, Karen and Lana.

Darrell was born June 24, 1957, in North Battleford, while we were living on the [redacted] Frances farm at Radisson. We moved to Wilkie to work for Don Phelps in the spring of 1958.

While we were there, Lana was born, Jan. 31st, 1960. That fall we moved to Battleford where Bernard was employed at Western Grocers as shipper and receiver. In May, 1961, [redacted] started as a helper at National Grain at Holbein. He went to Biggar as a helper with his uncle, Hugh Spence. [redacted] November we moved to Aberdeen where he was agent for two years. We liked it there very much and Darrell started school there. But it was time to move again and this time we were transferred to Lilac, in April, 1964. That was home for five years and happy years for us all. Lana started school there, coming to Maymont in Grade Four. Darrell and Lana, too, feel it was a privilege to have attended a country school, where they could all play together at noon and recess, make huts, or listen in while the teacher taught another class. They really missed this when they came to town, as I imagine others did also. The big highlight of the year for them, also were the Christmas concerts and Hallowe'en. One year Bernard and Henry O'Neil dressed up to go out tricking or treating. I wonder which kids had the most fun?

Our household experienced many changes when Karen arrived January 31st, 1969, one of the coldest days of the winter, and with more snow than I care to remember. I had stayed in North Battleford for two weeks ahead of time because of the weather, so by the time three weeks were up, I was content to come home and stay there for the rest of the winter.

[redacted] April, 1969, Bernard decided to resign from grain buying and go into farming full time. We had bought a half section of land half a mile north of the cemetery from L. Karpan a year earlier, and the necessary machinery. We moved to Russell Krake's farm until October, when we moved into Maymont, into the Mac Taylor house, then owned by Margaret Strantman.

Bernard rented Karpan's barn, north of town to raise pigs, as we had no cattle then. He also worked as one of the caretakers of the rink for a few winters.

Meanwhile we bought the half section of Norman Johnstons (Uncle Rob's) and Stanley Bohns half section. In 1973, we bought the farm we are living on from Dick Clayton, just east of the town limits, once known as Sowden's Park. On October 30th, 1973, we moved out of town and hopefully it will be our last move for a few years.

We have acquired a large herd of cattle over the last six years, specializing in Semmitals.

As for community affairs, Bernard is more involved than I am, as he enjoys being out in public. He

served on the Church Board of Stewards for twelve years, is a school trustee, on the Park committee, rink committee, and is a hockey representative for the Maymont team. He is an avid hockey fan and follower, enjoys curling and ball.

I help in the rink on Sports Day and regular weeks through the winter and I am the Sunday School treasurer. We are all members of the United Church where the children have gone to Sunday School, and where all three were christened by Rev. F. Myers.

We celebrated our twenty-fifth wedding anniversary this year with all family members able to be here.

Our family is gradually growing smaller. Darrell, who is 22, graduated in 1975 from Maymont Central School. He worked in North Battleford for a time, and is now apprenticing as a plumber in Lloydminster. While at home he was a 4-H beef Club member, Gun Club member and played hockey for eight years.

Lana graduated this year and is now working in Saskatoon. While at home, she was a 4-H Beef Club member, also took crafts and home nursing. She was a member of the C.G.I.T. for one year, took figure skating and was on the S.R.C. She enjoys sports and is an avid hockey fan also.

Karen is eleven years old and in Grade Five. She loves school, enjoys sports but is unable to be as active as she would like to be on account of an asthma condition she has had since she was two years old. Much of the time in her pre-school years she spent in the hospital. She attends Sunday School, was in Messengers and enjoys figure skating, having won the trophy for the most improved skater in 1978. She attends Explorers now, and on September 6th, she felt quite honored and happy to be one of the bridesmaids for Kirk and Lorraine.

Grandpa Johnston was always special to her and, of course, he helped to spoil her, too.

My Family History

by Elsie Sparkes

In the year 1906 or thereabouts, a young man living on a poor rocky farm in Leeds, Quebec, trying to support himself, his wife and four children, decided there must be somewhere in this land where he could make an easier and better living. He packed his bag and set off for the West. The railroad had gone through the previous year and many were seeking new homes. He arrived at Blackie in Alberta first, but finally landed up at a little "siding" named Maymont in Saskatchewan. It was named after a popular young lady whose name was May Montgomery.

That young man was my father, James (Jim Johnston Reid). His wife Maud Diana and his four children, Stella Ellen, age 9, Edgar James age 7, (me) Elsie Bessie age 5 and a little curly red-headed chap named Lyman Dean age 3 made up our family at that time.

The following spring the farm was sold and Dad and Mother picked up the few belongings they had which included Mother's piano, and went first to Montreal where Grandmother and Grandfather Stephenson and son George were all packed ready for the journey as they were going West too. A lot of food had been prepared besides blankets and pillows. I faintly remember that train ride. The car was equipped for making meals and the seats could be pulled out for sleeping accommodation. There was a fairly long stop in Winnipeg where stocks of food could be replenished.

Upon arrival in Maymont we went to a boarding house run by Mrs. Eby where we were served a very nice dinner after which we were driven out to the home of Mrs. Arkley by one of her sons either Bill or Jim. It was not too long before the men had a house built. It was pretty much in the rough but provided a home for us. Seventeen people lived in that house that summer until they could build homes for themselves.

Friends and relatives started arriving from Quebec and from other places. Many of them brought their household effects as well as machinery and farm animals. The railroad made this possible by providing suitable cars and other conditions for that purpose. Dad's brother Andrew Reid, his wife and family, the Melrose family, Grandfather and Grandmother Reid all arrived the following year. They soon had homes built as most of them were good at carpentry work.

There were not too many businesses in Maymont at that time. There was Bean's Store and McCorkle's Lumber Yard. The hotel was built and we thought it was a huge building. One of the early proprietors was a Mr. Gillespie. Lyman and I were always pleased to deliver milk to the hotel as sometimes we received an extra nickel for ourselves. Dad had bought a real good Jersey cow so we supplied many with milk at 5 cents a jam pail. We were so sad when the Gillespie's lost their tiny baby. Mawhinney's Drug Store came into existence and Dr. Scratch started in practise medicine. Ransom Rogers ran a Shoe and Harness Repair Shop. My father, his brother John and Jim Patterson entered into a partnership to establish the Maymont Trading Company which was a general store. Mr. Patterson was a silent partner as he had a large Pool Hall and Barber Shop of his own to handle with living quarters above. He had a family of eight but little Archie died at an early age which almost broke his mother's heart.

Soon an addition was built to the store to serve as a meat market. Dad handled this part of the business while Uncle John looked after the general store. I believe Dick Morrow clerked in the store at that time. My sister Stella assisted Dad in the meat market as he was away quite often buying cattle.

Dad had filed on a homestead in the meantime located about one and one quarter miles south east of town. In order to gain possession of the land "homestead duties" had to be done. That meant we had to live on it so many months each year for three years besides certain other improvements. Each spring

we moved to the little log house on the homestead then back to town in the fall. We children looked forward to this move each spring even though things were a bit on the rough side. When the patches of snow disappeared from the bluffs which we melted for water, we hauled water from a nearby slough. It was strained and boiled but had rather an earthy taste. We pulled the dead wood out of the bluffs for firewood. The mosquitoes were a big pest. Even though mother tacked mosquitoe netting over the windows they found their way in through the cracks between the logs. The only relief was to make a smudge in an old pail and drive the insects to the windows where they could be "squished." One summer we all came down with measles and confined to the house when a prairie fire came raging along toward the house. Luckily the men could see it from town and were able to head it off in another direction. One night we were awakened in the middle of the night and hustled off to Aunt Bessie's home which made us wonder. Next morning we were told we had a new baby sister. This was Bernice Emily, better known as Bunnie. A neighbour lady, Mrs. Taft, came to look after mother and the new baby. When she was not too busy she read stories to us that really charmed us. Uncle Tom's Cabin and The Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come were our favorites. When Stella and I earned enough money doing the janitor work at the school to buy a pony, we named her Dixie after the pony in one of the books. Archie Melrose brought Dixie from Alberta for us as, quite often, he brought in carloads of horses to sell. By this time a Livery Barn had been built and soon a second one was needed as people coming from a distance needed a barn for their horses. Grandfather Reid kept his cow in the livery barn. About 6 o'clock one cold winter's day, he was hurrying across the railroad track on his way to milk his cow when he was struck by the evening passenger train. He was taken to North Battleford on the train but died on the way.

My first teacher was Ina Melrose who later married Art Martin. Then came Miss Irene Gray for two or three years. Some of the others were Miss Kelso, Miss Cadow, Mrs. Weber and Mr. Weber. When the time came for us to write our Grade VIII exams, Norman Melrose drove Olga Isaac and me to Fielding each day to write our exams. The three of us all passed the exams. Until the Presbyterian and Anglican Churches were built, services were held in the school. Of course the Presbyterian church later became the United Church. Other meetings were also held at the school so it was made good use of.

My grandparents Stephenson took up a homestead about eight miles from Maymont. It would probably be in the Lilac area now. I believe grandmother was very lonely. They lived in a fair degree of comfort in Montreal among friends and relatives, then to a sod shack on the prairie, so far away from everyone, would cause anyone to be lonely. Their only means of travel was by horse and buggy, but the horse was a worn out old cow pony. Old Lucy had been an excellent saddle horse but objected to being driven with a buggy behind her and quite often balked and would not go at all. Of course if there was someone around who could jump on her back she would be off, but that was out of the question for grandmother to do. Granddad got the job of running the Maymont ferry so that helped them financially so that they were able to build a better dwelling. Oxen were used for cultivating the land. They did grow a marvellous garden. Even cucumbers and tomatoes were grown with success. This was something no one else thought possible.

The Richard family had built their home on the land at the place named after them — Richard. They were a very nice, refined, family. Mrs. Richard used to come to see Mother quite often. Mother could carry on a conversation in French as Mrs. Richard could speak very little English. Dad had dealings with Mr. Richard with cattle and horses. Just a little south and east of there lived two Eaton brothers. They were related to Timothy Eaton, the founder of the well known T. Eaton Co. They received many fine gifts of beautiful Hackney horses, harness and other accessories which were the envy of those of us who loved horses. If my memory serves me correctly Uncle Andrew Melrose homesteaded in that vicinity also. They were all thoughtful of grandmother in taking her groceries and her mail which she looked forward to so much.

Dad finally gained possession of the homestead then sold it and bought a Russell Thompson quarter close to town then the quarter west of it where he built a new, more permanent home. Another baby girl however had been born in that house in town. This was Irene Grace, about three years younger than Bernice. A few years later, one night about midnight little Wendell Derby, now known as Derby, poked his little nose out into the world. He was a cute little duffer and we all loved him dearly. Dr. Scratch delivered all three babies born in the west. Grandma Long came to nurse mother and look after little Derby. She was a very fine person and did a real service to the community. Derby could have been spoiled as we all made a fuss over him. My cousin, Olive Smith, had come to live with us from Vermont to see if the change of climate would improve her health. She was about my age and we got along famously together. When Mother was away one time, Derby was left in charge of Olive and me. When she returned she asked him if we had been good to him to which he complained that "Addie and Yaw Yaw gave Wen no cup of tea." Those were the names he called us and his cup of tea was warm milk with a little sugar added. Of course, mother was very sympathetic and reprimanded us which pleased little Derby. Olive's health improved and she worked in the Post Office and then in the Bank. She later married my cousin Cecil Reid. They and Cecil's dad and mother moved to Vancouver where Olive still lives though Cecil and his parents died some years ago.

In 1916 sister Stella married Gordon Auckland and

went to live in Speers. Unfortunately, Gordon was in poor health and went to Rochester to have surgery for kidney removal. He was really never very well, but they bought a little farm on the edge of Speers and both worked very hard to pay for it through the lean years of the depression. Gordon died in 1941. Stella sold the livestock and machinery etc., and rented the farm. She went to Ontario and Detroit and after the sudden death of John, her second husband, she moved to the West coast, first to Vancouver, then to White Rock where she lived until her death on February 2, 1975. She married the third time, Claude Radley an old neighbour she had known in Speers. He had fought in World War I. He was laid to rest about a year after Stella but had been in poor health for some time.

Brother Edgar attended the University of Saskatchewan where he obtained his Degree in Pharmacy. He later joined the Forces in World War II in the capacity of pharmacist. He later operated his own store in Nellburg. He died suddenly from a perforated gastric ulcer at the age of 48 years.

Our brother Lyman pursued farming after his marriage to Evelyn Foreman. They brought up a family of five who were all a credit to them. After farming for some years, Lyman bought grain for one of the elevator companies before joining the forces in World War II. After five years in the services he again took up farming for several years but suffered from Emphysema so sold the farm and worked for a funeral home in North Battleford. Soon after his retirement, he developed cancer and passed away last September in Saskatoon (1970).

Bernice took a business course in Saskatoon, then married Henry Strudwick. They lived in Maymont for some time, then to Manyville and eventually to Edmonton. They have four children all married. Bernie now lives in Penticton where her two daughters Jan. and Ruth live.

Irene went to Teachers' College and taught school in and around Fielding for some years. She was a great help and comfort to Dad after our dear Mother was taken in December, 1934. She married Al Hickman and went to Ontario with him when he joined the Forces. When they returned to Saskatchewan, Al worked for a time in a garage then they went to B.C. and are now retired and live at Lytton.

Derby ran the home farm until recently, when he was forced to sell out on account of a heart condition. He married Edith (Binky) Saunders and they have one son and three daughters. Their son Derby suffered a very severe loss recently when his wife died suddenly.

As for me I attended Normal School in Saskatoon, the last of the four month terms — taught in Blaine Lake, Ruddell, Leney and a short time in Major. But my heart was set on nursing so I took my training in the Toronto General, graduating in 1935. I worked at Wadena and Rafford then entered the Public Health field to do school nursing. However, I found it to be rather a rugged life so when Ralph Sparkes said "will you" I said "I Will" and we were married December 24, 1937. We lived in Kamsack first then Wadena and Saskatoon. We moved to Salmon Arm in 1950. I lost my husband in 1954 from a severe heart attack. I went back to nursing until 1960 then retired in the town of Salmon Arm.

My son Robert Kenneth works for Ontario Hydro as Physicist in their Nuclear Plant at Deep River. He served in the Navy for twenty-two years. He married Lillian Melgason and has four children, Gary, who is now married, Susan, Sharlene and Glen.

My daughter Yvonne Elaine is teaching Biology in a high school in Calgary. At first she worked as a Lab Technicam but after her marriage to Lee Helmer and their two children, Barbara Lynne and Gregory Lawrence were well on their way in school, Yvonne decided to go back to University to get her degree in Education.

Stella Jean my youngest daughter took a business course. She was employed as legal secretary for quite a number of years then became office manager of a heating and tinsmithing firm. She married Glenn Horsley in 1956, has one little boy Gordon Ralph who, I am sad to say is crippled with Cerebral Palsy.

In looking back over the years, many people come to my mind as making contributions to the good life we enjoyed even though we had little money to spend. Just to name a few whom many of you may have forgotten. —

Mr. and Mrs. Bean, Ethelwyn, Catherine and Alan. The first store was established by Mr. Bean and was carried on after his accidental death by Mrs. Bean assisted by Harry Martin for several years.

The Fry Family whose farm was a little west of town. Dr. Fry, dentist, cared for the dental needs of the community. His son, Bliss, with his wife Ruth (Eby), managed the farm. Two daughters, Margaret and Beulah who married two brothers. Robert and Ernest McLaren. (I named my Eaton Beauty doll Beulah) as we were so fond of Beulah Fry.

Percy Knowles, Notary Public, his wife and children. The Fred Longs, and not forgetting Grandmother Long . . . Charlie Bride, the Shouldices, Henry Christfield who owned the first car in the district, Mr. Guy Trotter, first Bank Manager . Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Cook, and nephew Dean Crossley, Mr. and Mrs. McCorkle, Margaret and Helen and Aunt Margaret, The Duncan McLennans, Also the Butterfields, the Pedens, the Masters, the Giffards, the Bohns, the Johnston families, the Gray family, the Bouskills. Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Kerr, Sam, Dot, Cora and Edna, — how could we have ever managed without Mrs. Kerr to do our sewing.

These are only a very few of all those who contributed so much to the history and the good and welfare of Maymont.

I submit this "history" in loving memory of my dear Mother and Dad for their courage and unselfishness, to give us, their children, a good life.

Mrs. George Smith — "Little Mother"

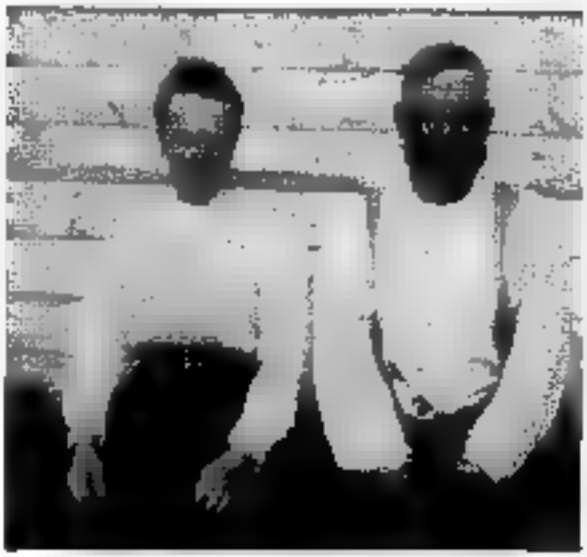
by Mabel (McKeen) Heber

My grandmother, Mrs. George Smith, was known as "Little Mother" by many of the early pioneer men. Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Smythe were the only two married women in the school district for a time. Grandma did baking and washing for a number of the men — Alex and Tom Brehon and the McKeen Brothers — to name a few. Each Sunday that they had service at the school house her alto voice could be heard leading the singing. Grandma's wonderful sense of humour and a song kept her going in very lonely times in those first years in the Keystone District.

Mabel (McKeen) Heber and her mother Mrs. Jack McKeen taken on Mother's Day, 1963.

The George Smith and Jack McKeen Families

Hello! I'm Mabel, eldest of Jack McKeen's family. I have two brothers Ron and Bruce. The three of us are married and live at Speers.



Mr. and Mrs. George Smith, Mrs. Jack's McKeen's parents.

Our dad was a member of Keystone's first School Board. In those days lumber for the school was hauled from Saskatoon. This was a wintertime job. The erection of the building and its maintenance were jobs where the whole Board and Ratepayers got involved. Our mother (Bertha Smith) first saw our dad when he was down plowing the fire-guard. The teacher asked him in and he met the students.

Bertha, Smith, as a member of the class of Herbert Elliot, helped to plant maple trees as a shelter belt for the school. Bertha was janitor of the school for a while. She would walk a mile to school, light the fire and tidy up while the fire 'got going'. Students placed their lunch pails close to the fire so as to not have frozen lunches.

I attended the same school that my mother had. I went in 1921, '22 and part of 1923. We had the original school but with a porch added. In later years when the North Battleford School Unit No. 58 was operating this building was moved to the Badger Bluff school yard and remodelled for a teacherage.

Keystone School District No. 1144 and Grey School used to have a school picnic complete with parade. I remember the parade of 1922 when we all went dressed like characters of the comic strips. "Tom Sawyer" had a "Becky" — that was me.

Harold M. Smith

told by Harold Smith

I, Harold M. Smith, taught at Maymont from September, 1939, until the end of Sept., 1941 when I left to attend the U. of S.

I taught the intermediate room comprising Grades V-VIII inclusive. Miss Edith Butterfield and Mr. Morgenroth were the other members on the staff.

H. M. Smith, teacher at Maymont School, 1939-1941. Picture was taken by Dolly Porter.

Pyramid building.

I boarded with Mr. and Mrs. Gray whose home was just across the road from the school.

■ was a fine experience. I enjoyed it very much. Curling, hockey, and baseball were well-established sports in which I took part. At school I organized and trained a group of boys in pyramid building. They performed locally, in neighbouring towns as well as at the Provincial Normal School in Saskatoon.

Ramona McLaren Smith

I was born in Maymont, February 13, 1928 the oldest child of Robert and Margaret McLaren. I left with my parents when I was ■ years old. I have many happy memories of friends and good times there.

I remember, picnics by the river and, at Meota, when coming back by train from there, lost a very pretty hat out the train window. I loved to go to the Gifford farm to visit and to parties. I went to Sunday

Home of Robert McLaren, Post Office on right. Aunt Ruth (Fry) on porch with Kathleen, Ramona in rocking chair, Lynn Fry and John McLaren.

L. to r. — Ramona and John McLaren, Grandpa Fry, Lynn Fry, Gertrude McLaren.

school once and came home with frozen fingers and mittens in my pocket. I remember vividly watching the trainloads of soldiers going to war and people waiting at the Post Office to get the latest news of the war when the mail was sorted. The night the livery barn burnt caused me to fear fire for years. I remember driving very fast with my parents in the buggy to reach our homestead shack the day of the great tornado at Regina. The sky was a dirty yellow and the wind very strong.

I took my high school at Waterford Ontario and Normal training at Camrose, Alberta. I taught for one year and married Robert Paul Smith in 1928. We have four children, three of whom live near Pocoka and our oldest son at Jarvis. We have fifteen grandchildren. We farmed for 36 years west of Pocoka, moved to town in the fall of 1964 and built our home at 5201-51

ave., where we now live in very good health and celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary in 1979.

The Soule Family

by Nora (Agar) Soule

Tired of trying to make a living clearing the stumps in Michigan, Ed Soule moved to Oregon and on to Ruddell where he settled on the old George Robinson farm.

He had three sons and one daughter; Era who married Bob Thrower in 1913; Guy who was second, worked around and moved to Port Angeles; Luther and Cecil went to school and there I met Slim, as Luther was known. I attended Ruddell School for two years driving seven miles.

We worked at our respective jobs. I taught first at Clarksdale School at Rabbit Lake. Then for several years at Bathgate School at Lilac.

I was married on July 16, 1925 to Luther (Slim) Soule and lived near Richard for five years and came to the river farm in the fall of 1929. Cecil and Doris (Little) Soule had come to stay on the old Stally farm cornering ours. We had one good crop then drought set in. Pigs, cattle, wheat became worthless as the depression deepened. Food became very scarce so we stopped riding and turned to the river for diversion. Many a picnic we had, fishing, hunting and walking. Often friends joined us.

The air would be sweet with wildflowers, lilies, honeysuckle and fruit blossoms. Later in the year there were berries to can and jell. Fishing was a pleasure and sometimes we had extra to share. There were Goldeyes and Jacks not to mention the chubs the kids got.

In order to get a decent price for our cattle Slim began to take community carloads to Winnipeg. So we all realized at least half again as much. Somewhere here we bought Trixie our Shetland pony, a lovely grey. Thereafter she shared all our work and play.

Our first child, Larry, was born in 1926, followed by a second son Len, in 1927. Twin sons, Alan and Norman, were born in 1931. Our first daughter, Lorna, came on the scene in 1932. Herman was born in 1935 and in 1940 Aggie came "to be the prop of my old age" as a neighbor said.

Larry and Len left home about 1948. Larry finally graduated from U.B.C. by his own efforts. He met Vivian Palmer from Surrey, England at U.B.C. and married her there later. They both studied and attained their Ph.D. and a family of three girls. They are in Africa now in the Sudan. Larry also had published several books and also a book of poetry in which he is ably assisted by Vivian.

Len did many things around B.C. working for the C.P.R., later foreman on a ranch. He married Alma Barnes, returned to Edmonton and worked as a heavy duty mechanic. In 1970 he lost his family of four and in 1974 Len passed away. We miss him.

Alan married Edna Friedenstab, who is organist and secretary at the Lutheran Church. He, too, is a welder and mechanic in North Battleford. Alan and Edna have a daughter, Kathy, who enjoys figure skating and swimming.

His twin brother, Norman, was married to Ellen Gilchrist who works at Eatons in North Battleford. They have three children, Kelly, Darin and Carry — all busy all summer.

Lorna, born in 1932, a year after the twins, took teacher training, was married to Ron Bender. Later she turned to making pottery and teaching it. Ron is a chemical engineer at Fort McMurray, Alberta. They have two sons. Ron, Jr. in college and teaches skiing, and Geri who makes photography his hobby.

Herman stayed at the home farm and married Colleen Lee who brought us her lovely music while Herman ably farms. They are helped by daughter, Erin, who practises music and both she and her brother, Everitt, have their chores. He will start school in September 1979.

Aggie married Steve Worosh from Ilfley. They have two daughters, Marion and Stephanie, who are stalwarts at softball and chores and very proficient at Ukrainian dancing.

Slim was fond of his family and tried to instill in them a love of work and to strive for perfection. He was plagued with diabetes, then was thrown as his horse stumbled which necessitated two operations. During this time we had scores of cards and letters as well as many other kindnesses. He recovered, but could not really work hard anymore. The family really took over about 1955. Slim died in 1962. It is lonely without him.

On the farm I have a cottage with the view of the river and Baljennie's elevators across it. At first they weren't there and in winter long lines of sleighs crossed the ice, sometimes thirty at a time, and through the yard hauling grain to Ruddell elevators.

But through the years what changes! Ox teams to horses to cars. Old Sykes of Lilac came with his effects in a wheelbarrow from Prince Albert, sleeping under it at night.

An ex-neighbor remarked recently that to him Ruddell was Sodom and Gomorrah. I assured him it was in only in his mind. To me they were the best friends and neighbors.

Mr. and Mrs. Ross Stally

written by Byrnece (Stally) Palmer

My father, Ross Stally, was born in Falkland, Ontario in 1885. As a young man he worked in the Penman mills and in a grocery store in Paris, Ontario. In 1905, he and some friends decided to see the prairies and went out on a harvest excursion. They spent the harvest season in Deloraine, Manitoba, then returned to Paris. They travelled west by train, no sleepers nor pullman cars, just slate seats and a stove in the back

where they made their meals. The call of the west was strong and the next year Dad and his brother Martin returned to Deloraine where Martin took a homestead and Dad worked with him until he left with friends who were going farther west to Ruddell. Here he worked for Charlie Robinson (father of Lawrence and Grace who later became Mrs. Oswald Harper) for the next two years. In 1908 he took a homestead a mile and one-half west of Ruddell.

In 1915 Dad went to Ontario for the winter and while there met and married my mother, Lottie Barker. Mom, her mother and two of her sisters had come from Bullwell, Notts. England in 1913, ■ Paris where they heard that work was plentiful. The girls all got work in the Penman mills. My grandmother and one aunt returned to England in 1914, but Mom and Aunt Annie (later to become Mrs. Ernie Anderson) stayed. After their wedding, when Mom and Dad were leaving for Ruddell, Mom persuaded Aunt Annie to go with them. Since neither of the women could cook, they told many stories of their cooking failures, particularly with bread making. Luckily they had good neighbors who gave them help and advice, one often mentioned as being a friend in need was Mrs. Ed Soules (mother of Cecil and Luther).

Later in 1916, Mom and my aunt took a trip to England to visit their parents. While there my sister, Vera was born. because of the war, travel was precarious and they were not able ■ return until later in 1917. Vera died during the "flu" epidemic" of 1919. I was born in 1921.

In 1931, in order to be closer to school, Dad rented out his farm and rented the "Geddie farm" just north of town. Being close to town and school, and having a large house, Mom over the years had many boarders, girls from outlying districts who were taking their high schooling in Ruddell. eg. Muriel (Swan) Johnson from Lilac, Maxine (Jones) Turtle from Lilac and Grace Templeton from Baljennie. Several teachers stayed also. ■. Mary (Wellford) Moffatt, Edythe Hamilton, Agnes Walters, Doc Palsson. Jim Babcock and Earle Simmonds. Often there were station agents and elevator agents as well. After they moved to town, George Pringle, an old friend and early Ruddell settler stayed with them until he moved to Churchill to live with a sister. Mom is remembered by all for her kindness and happy disposition.

In 1944, Mom and Dad moved into the station house, later buying the "Bill Geddie" house and Dad worked his own farm until selling to George Acaster in the 1950's.

After completing school, I attended Normal School in Saskatoon and taught in Sonningdale and Lilac. Married Doc Palsson in 1943 and we spent a year on the R.C.A.F. station at Coal Harbor, B.C. Our twins Ross and Thora were born in 1944 and I returned to stay with Mom and Dad until the end of the war. We then moved to Calgary and in 1948 to the Goldstream area just north of Victoria, where Doc taught at the Belmont High School until he retired in 1976.

Mom and Dad spent several winters with us. Mom was afflicted with asthma the last three years of her life and died in Victoria in 1965 at the age of ■. Dad moved ■ Victoria in 1968. He enjoyed the grandchildren and great-grandchildren and liked ■ help with the garden, but was always lonely for Ruddell and his old friends. He died in Victoria in 1975.

Of our children: Ross works as a commercial artist in an advertising agency in Edmonton. He and wife Penny and daughters Becky and Kate live in Ft. Saskatchewan. Thora and husband John Hoban and daughters Karen and Leigh live near us in Goldstream, as does Janet, her husband Mark Ward and daughters Tiffany and Johanna.

Teachers I had while attending school: Mary (Huston) Thrower, Miss McDonald, Grace (Vail) Jess, Vivian (Ferris) Nelson. Ruth (Robinson) Wilson, Garnet May, Ralph Wensley, Jim Vanpatten, Doc Palsson.

Dr. Scratch was practising in Maymont while I was growing up and for many years after. Believe Mrs. Johnson, Grandma Johnson to most, acted as midwife ■ many. She and her husband Charlie ran the Ruddell Hotel. Many of us have fond memories of Grandma Johnson's annual "Hot Cross Bun" tea.

Although I love my B.C. home, I feel that I was fortunate to grow up in Ruddell and have so many happy memories of friends and events which took place there and in the surrounding towns.

The Steeles of Ruddell

by Viola M. Beland

To begin the history of the Steeles (the name was originally spelled Steil.) I must ■ back over 200 years ■ the earliest known date. June 12, 1776, when John Steele was born in the New England State of Connecticut. Years later he married Catherine Long of Pennsylvania. Six children were born ■ this Pennsylvania Dutch family before they left to begin a new life in Canada. They entered the country somewhere near Niagara Falls. By March 1808 John and Catherine were settled on a farm in the St. George area of Ontario.

■ was here, Joseph, their twelfth child was born February 8, 1817 and where he would later farm. On December 8, 1838 ■ married Mary Howell. At first they lived in a log house, but around 1850 built a frame house that is still on the farm. ■ 1852 the Great Western Railway was built through the Steele farm, spoiling the southern view. A beautiful arched bridge was built ■ allow the farmer to get to his fields across the railway. Years later the line was abandoned but the stone arch was spared. Joseph did not like the railway cutting off his best fields so ■ sold them to his younger brother Jacob, and a brother-in-law. The hilly, stoney fields were then sold and the family moved to

Florence Steele in 1942, who provided most of the information for the Steele history.

Brantford Township. That year the Grand River had a big flood which washed away all the bridges in Paris. [redacted] the hay and moveables had to be forded across the river. Before they moved into the new place near Brantford, the house burned down. A relative three generations later related, "Grandmother said her mother sat down and cried after leaving the other new house."

Joseph and Mary had four children: Edwin, Lydia Ann, Sarah Jane and Margaret Amelia. Edwin was born July [redacted], 1849. He married Sarah White of Kentville, Nova Scotia on June 15, 1864. Two children were born to them: Mary Lowe, born July 16, 1865 near Paris, Ont.

Albert Edwin, May 24, 1870 Paris.

Albert was not quite ten when his father died February 22, 1880. The following excerpts were taken from a newspaper clipping now 99 years old. "The only son of Joseph and Mary Howell Steele . . . Brother Edwin Steele was a large, strong, active man, giving promise of many years with his happy family . . . a most affectionate husband and father . . . amiable disposition . . . high filial regard for parents . . . godly life . . . always shared . . . woo for him friends on every side. ."

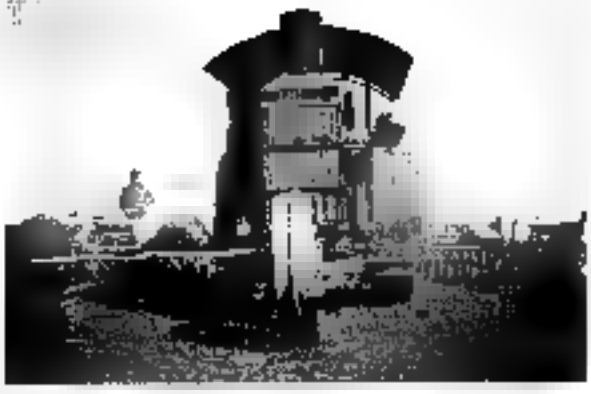
Albert Steele was about two years old when, on a nearby farm, a baby girl was born to George and Sarah Jane Barker Midgley on February 12, 1872. The Steeles and Midgleys were great friends from early years; so it was to be with their children. Albert and Minnie attended the same school, which with an addition, is still being used.

Following the death of her husband, Mrs. Steele took her children to town where they finished their education which included part of high school.

Back in the country they lived with a neighbor so that Albert could be trained in farming. By the will he received 100 acres and Mary was given 50 which included the orchard and a wheat field. Another training, masonry, was to stand him in good stead [redacted] the Ruddell farm. He also found out that masonry in the east was stronger than in the west. Saskatchewan alkali water for mixing was at fault.

Albert Edwin Steele married Minnie Jane Midgley at Paris, Ont. on November 12, 1891. Their children: Grace Ethel — March, 1893, Lawrence Albert — June,

Golden wedding [redacted] Grandpa and Grandma Steele, Nov. 12, 1941.



Albert Steele Ruddell (1912). 3 wheeler Hart Parr 15-30. Kerosene engine, seeding with 3 drills.

1894, Florence Alice — December, 1896, Elsie Wilhelmine — August, 1900, Eva Muriel — June, 1902. About this time, Albert and Minnie decided to move West. West at that time was Manitoba. Relatives and friends begged them to stay and it was not until 1907 that Albert left the family, the first step on the Great Adventure!

The following is taken from a letter written by Florence Steele, which she calls "Recollections of our Pioneer Past — The Steele Family".

"In March 1908 we came west from Ontario to Saskatchewan, Father coming with a car of stock and settlers' effects and Mother with us five children on the train. Moving and travelling so far away seemed an exciting adventure — The vastness of the rolling prairie dotted here and there with dwellings of log or frame and some sod, smoke curling from the chimneys skyward on a cold bright morning with lots of snow yet, greeted our eyes on our first day after arriving. We had come too soon so a kind neighbor took us on a load of hay down to his home until Dad arrived some days after. Then we hurried to our home."

Sad to say as we had played with others on the train, in due time we became sick with scarlet fever, one after another. Mother was a brave woman and could rise to the occasion in an emergency, and only for her good nursing, some of us might not have survived. Neighbors were kind, one bringing a dressed chicken, another offering to come and help even though she had a big family, but this, Mother refused kindly.

In the early years Mother was often called on to lend a helping hand when accidents, sickness, childbirth and even death happened in the community.

Exploring the ravine on our farm or watching the North Saskatchewan river at the foot of our place, in flood was interesting to us young ones. Father seemed to enjoy the wide open spaces and the change of farming methods. Cramped rooms with furniture unpacked, bunk beds for a start didn't dampen our spirits as yet. Mother was heard to say many times how she missed her old friends in Ontario and the fruit, which we had an abundance of there.

In August, around 1911, I believe, we had a terrifying hail storm with terrible winds which flattened the grain ahead of the hail frozen together in golf ball size, that pounded ripened straw into the ground and carried the grain over into the ravine which later sprouted and grew. Greener crops were a tangled mess. Before this they were a picture. Luckily for us as the storm swerved and cut across one corner of a lower field, though badly balled it still could be threshed yielding 25 bushels to the acre, to give us our seed and flour. Good sized chickens still in coops were battered to death. Mother, Dad and my brother worked out that fall on threshing outfits in other areas to earn money for needed supplies of food and clothing.

It was the old sod shack behind and against the frame of our house that saved us all from being swept into the deep ravine near by. The frame part creaked and shook and we had to hold pillows against the window panes to save them from crashing in completely. The awful roaring noise made it necessary to shout to be heard. After experiences like this, one began to realize just how much we had left behind in Ontario to come out here."

The sod house was turned into sleeping quarters with bunks in one corner for the children, these partitioned off from the master bedroom with a beautiful carpet tacked to the rafters, the same which had covered the parlor floor back in Ontario. Later the sod house was joined to the frame house by an annex. (That frame house was later to serve as a dining room for Lawrence and Violet Steele. After their new house was built in the fifties, the old dining became a garage, still bearing the signs of the terrible storm of 1911.)

The first garden was planted on the closer of two firebrakes surrounding the buildings. The pole barn was practically demolished. In 1915, Albert, with the help of Lawrence, built a beautiful house on S.W. 3, 42, 14, W3. They also helped the mason in stone cutting for the foundation, and wired the house for electricity. Grandpa got his papers for steam heating which enabled him to install it in the new house. Grandpa had long yearned to be a railway engineer in the days of steam engines and probably would have become one if Grandma hadn't persuaded him to keep to farming as a safer way to raise the family.

To make ends meet, Grandpa Steele took on the Grain Grower's Store in Ruddell and also sold Wawanesa and Farmer's Mutual Insurance. During the flu epidemic following World War I Mr. and Mrs. Steele went together by buggy to Ruddell, where he tended his business. On the way there they stopped at each farm, he to do the chores and she to cook, clean and tend the sick. On the way home did the same, and continued until the epidemic was over. Neither took the dreadful disease. The family at home took over farm chores and housework. Many a time Grandma acted as midwife and sometimes assisted the famous

pioneer, Doctor John Scratch of Maymont. (I remember one time when ■ was giving my children their shots, how easy it was now to make the rounds to his patients, he told me. "How did you manage with so little sleep?" He smilingly replied, "Drop the reins, roll under the fence and take ten minutes.") On another occasion Grandma saved the life of Harvey Peoples, son of Frank Peoples. The lad had mistaken strychnine for cocoanut. By the time she arrived at their farm home the lad was already stiffening. Having pried his jaws open she carefully dipped in a solution she had made from wood ashes. Harvey never did recover completely from the stiffness.

HARRINGAY SCHOOL No. 1884

Harringay School was built by Tom Cleator and Edward Mylrea, opening in 1906. Perhaps rather unusual for early western country schools, it boasted a hardwood floor. The school grounds covered two acres. When the Steele family began attending there in 1908 there was no barn for the pony and no fence around the grounds. To prevent it from getting away a tethering chain and stake was used.

Their first teacher was a Miss Stacy, then Helen Ford from Ontario. Helen's sister taught at Ruddell. Their third was Miss Gilliland who left after a short time. Teachers in those days came about spring and left for college in the fall back East. In that way Miss Helen Ford got her B.A. and M.A. One winter Albert Steele rented a room in the Ruddell station house and the family stayed there to attend the village school. Their mother sent food as it was needed. All Harringay teachers boarded at the homestead of Frank and Elizabeth (Wrath) Peoples as all nearby farms were run by bachelors. They and the Peoples' sons, Harvey and Buster walked the half-mile south to the school. (The Peoples came from North Dakota.)

While still on the farm Frank Peoples sold Hail Insurance, Fire Insurance and Life Insurance. In the winter he sold Watkins Products. While still working on the homestead he ran a Butcher Shop in Denholm. His last move was ■ Meadow Lake where he died a few years ago.

In 1915 following the erection of the Steele house, their daughter Grace married Lorne Henry Slack. The wedding took place in Ruddell December 23. Their minister was Reverend Robert Morgan. Lorne was the son of Henry and Carrie Slack, their home being west of Ruddell which later became the Art Robinson farm. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Slack and children, Alfred, Iva, Lorne and Bertha left there to live at Denholm sometime before 1908. Henry and Carrie died there.

Lorne and Grace homesteaded northeast of Denholm on which is now the Peters place. Their children were born there. Their next move was to the Baljennie District, living in a log house on the farm. Six children were born, Hazel Grace, born October 26, 1916; Floyd Edwin, February 11, 1920; Lorene Erminnie, August 27, 1922; Howard Alton, May 11, 1926; Orville Leonard, August 19, 1928; Baby Slack died shortly after birth, his mother, Grace, following him not long after, January 11, 1931. Hazel and Howard lived with their Steele grandparents, getting their education at Ruddell School. Lorene and Floyd went to Harringay School with their cousins, children of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Steele. After the marriage of Lorne to Emily Weaver the children were returned to their home. Harriett and Gordon were born of the second marriage. Three more were to be born following their move to a farm near Melita, Man. Born in Manitoba, helping his father on the Ruddell homestead from 1906 to about 1909 when his folks, Henry and Carrie Slack moved to Denholm. (They lived in the house now known as the United Church Manse.) . . . Lorne's own homestead near Denholm . . . to Baljennie . . . to Melita, Man. Lorne, the homesteader/horse trader had come full circle! He and Emily live there yet.

Hazel — married Jack Plews — children: Dora Leone, Brian Nelson, Evelyn Grace, Beverly, Gordon John.

Leone married Arlo Nast — children: Fay, Randolf, Cindy, Rodney, Valerie, Linda.

Brian m. Peggy Old — ch: Audrey, Laura.

Evelyn m. Jack Gabourie — ch: Lori, Jodi, Jaqueline, Christopher.

Beverly m. Douglas Amos — ch: Ginnette, Crystal.

Gordon m. Louise Smith — ch: Tracy, Trina.

On April 8, 1976 Hazel married Louis Alm at Bittern Lake, Alta. They live on his farm near there.

Floyd — m. Melba Steele of Ruddell on October 18, 1947 at Melita, Man. They worked on his father's farm for a short time before moving to Rainy River, Ont. ch: Laurence Wayne, Kenneth Marshall, Evelyn Gwen. Laurence m. Linda Scott, of Rainy R., June 15, 1974 at Rainy. The couple live in Winnipeg. Ch: — Shannon Lee born May 12, 1979.

Lorene — m. Leslie Woodland of Melita, Man. — ch: — Kenneth Alvin, William Albert, John Lorne, Joan Carol.

Kenneth m. Rose Marie Rock — ch. Cheryl Dawn, Jeffrey Scott, Rayline Rose, Wanda Marie.

William m. Janice Ethel Clubb — ch: Marlon Gordon, Tracy Ann, Michael James, Tanis Doreen.

Lorne m. Sigrun Alice Ferguson — ch: James Lorne, Kimberley, Jodi Florence.

Joan m. Donald Edward Duncan — ch: Terry Lee, William Leslie, Tammy Ann.

Howard — m. Anne Zechmeister — ch: Murray Howard, Grace Elizabeth, Melanie Hope, Bradley John.

Murray — m. Doreen.

Orville — m. Dorothy Elizabeth Ramsey — ch: Robert Leonard.

Robert m. Thelma Injold — ch: Justin Leonard, Anthony Paul and Nathan Robert — identical twins, born May 1979.

Reverting back to the second decade of this cen-

tury, when Lawrence Steele came of age he took up a homestead on the south side of the N Sask. River where Saljennie is now situated. To visit his folks or Violet Thrower he rowed over. Violet was living with her step-brother, William Thrower, wife and family, on the farm east of the Steeles. William and Violet's father, also William, was born at Norwich, Norfolk, England. Mother told us the story her father had told her of how, just after he got off the boat, he bought a bag of beautiful red fruit, the likes of which he had never seen. One bite and he threw ripe tomatoes in the gutter"

Following the death of his wife, Will Sr. married Robena Coward. Violet was born August 23, 1886 at Sandusky, Michigan Before her marriage to Lawrence Steele, Violet returned to Detroit, Mich. where she had worked in a private home, also where she gathered up her personal belongings The couple were married February 27, 1917 by Joseph A. Vance, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan

Arriving by train at Denholm to escape their friends, Lawrence hired a horse and cutter for the trip to their new home. Lawrence had previously sold his homestead to Jim Megaffin and had bought W½, 15,-42,14,W3 from Berne Robinson H was here their children were born and raised.

Vernon Lloyd was born May 26, 1919 Viola Muriel — born September 30, 1921 Marion Elsie — Feb. 8, 1923, Melba Yvonne — Feb. 18, 1926.

As the family grew Dad was forced to add a granary from Grandpa Steele's. One morning I stood up in my crib to look out upon the trees and the robins which hunted for their meals so close to my window. The room was dark and the view was gone! I HATED that annex! Watching the saw cutting through the east wall to make a window was fascinating until, with horror, I watched the saw start slicing through the bedroom chair! It is still in among the highlights of our early years was Christmas with Grandpa and Grandma Steele at Grandview Farm. Excitment ran high as the sound H bells announced the arrival of other relatives . . the parlor doors closed to the children . . . hearts beating fast as Aunt Elsie slowly opened the sliding doors from the parlor side, the glittering tree ornaments, mysterious packages, a wind-up train and a doll carriage under the tree. Santa arrival from the corridor Adults visiting together, children following the leader through the swinging door from the kitchen into the dining room, from there through a door into the pantry, out of the other pantry door into the kitchen, around again and again . . being banished to the corridor leading to the upper stairway . . . tip-toeing up to the first landing, then to the second. One step more up toward the third landing would bring a parent on the scene with a command to come down and stay down . . . the smell of roasting turkey browning and at last — the call H supper! Over the laden table the beautiful chandelier shed sparkling lights to enhance the occasion. While the women cleared away and washed up, Uncle Lorne lay on the couch in the sewing room and sang over and over the song about a blue-tailed fly Time to go home, footwarmers with charcoal bricks glowing were placed in the bottom of the sleigh, horse blankets, horse robes and blankets over, under and around for warmth. Too sleepy for talking, watch the moon playing hide and seek with clouds, the sound of runners on packed snow, bells jingling. "Wake up children, we're home!"

Some where in the 20's Dad made his own radio It had a gleaming ebony front panel with a total of seven dials and a plug in for two ear phones The loud-speaker was horn shaped and the aerial wire was H-tached to two 30 foot poles Dad had spent a good many hours winding and rewinding the thin copper wires in the making of a coil. Run by a car battery, 2 H batteries and one C. In winter we enjoyed the programs on KSL Salt Lake City and KOA Denver also the Mexican music from further south. One bad thing about radios then were speals when the neighbors tuned in for their programs and when the soprano ladies reached the higher notes, cutting out the voice. Later dad built a wind electric to recharge the car battery and also for electric lights

As the children of Albert and Minnie Steele were sent to Harringay School first, then to Ruddell to finish their education, just so did the children of Lawrence and Violet Steele. A Miss Brooks and Mr. Chapman were the last two teachers before Vernon started school with Mr. Scott The names of the next five may not be in correct order: Miss Mary Huston, Mrs. Bertha Hudson, Miss Annie Martinson, Miss Greenhaugh, and Miss Pierce. The following in proper order: Miss Margaret Bolan retired from teaching the spring of 1936 H get married. 1936-37 Miss Madeline Martel. 1937-39 Miss Muriel Brehon; 1939-40 Josephine Shields. 1940-41 Miss Edna McTavish: 1941-43 Winifred Moore; 1943-46 Miss Nellie Harrower; 1946-47 Mr. Ivy de Margerie, 1947-48 Vilma Peters; 1948-51 Mr Earle Dixon Mills; 1951-1952 Miss Norma Jean Bell: 1952-55 Mr. E. J Olauson: 1955-56 school closed; 1956-58 Mrs J. Gladys Gaudette, 1958-59 Mrs. Ruby Houston. Harringay School's highest record of pupils was 35 when Margaret Bolan was teaching The school was closed for the second time and for the last time the end of June 1959, Mrs Houston the last teacher. It was also the end of picnics and games, Prisoner's Base as soon as possible in the spring, Hop Scotch, Anti-I-Over, Duck on the Rock, Hardball which gave away in time to Softball. In 1960 Mr. N Krilow purchased the building He used the lumber to build summer cottages at one of the northern lakes. A few maples mark the south boundary of the two-acre grounds.

At the end of high school Vernon helped with farm work and when the call came for recruits volunteered in the Reserve army He served two terms at Dundurn

Army Camp, returned home to farm work and helping Dad build a new house there

On November ■, 1941 friends and relatives gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Albert E. Steele to celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary. On June ■, 1944 Grandpa died shortly after entering hospital.

Many changes occurred through the years. Grandview home was closed, the family lived above the hardware store which Albert sold to Mr. Bragg of Battleford. Then for a short time the Steeles lived over the Imperial Bank before settling permanently on their property just outside the village limits. Albert erected a shop for his John Deere Agency. Minnie soon learned the names of the various parts when her husband was busy on the land. Eva took over the housework and in spare time kept busy making quilts and doing embroidery work that brought many prizes at the fairs in North Battleford.

Elsie and Florence had gone back East. Elsie got her certificate for Home Nursing which she did until she married Eric Bond whom she had known from childhood. After Uncle Eric retired they moved to Whitby, Ont. They adopted little Rose Marie. Rose Marie married Grant Armstrong. They have three children.

Florence's work was caring for the elderly in their homes. Her work brought her back eventually to Ruddell to assist at home.

Lawrence took over the John Deere Agency following the death of his father. He moved the business to Ruddell across the street from the hotel. When the Company sent notices that they were withdrawing their agencies from the small towns Dad decided it was time to build a new house on the farm. He had drawn blueprints to build back in 1929 but the Crash came first.

During World War II the call came for teachers. Viola and Marion took the short course in the summer at Normal School in Saskatchewan. At the end of ■ Marion was given Elliston School where she taught for two years, then one year at Badger Bluff School. I taught two years at Blenheim School near Denholm.

On July 24, 1945 Viola Steele married Joseph Beland, son of Mr and Mrs. Treffle Beland ■ Denholm, at St. Catherines R.C. Church in Denholm.

On July ■, 1946 Marion Steele married Clifford Underwood at Ruddell United Church.

On October 18, 1947 Melba married her cousin Floyd Slack at Melita, Manitoba. Their children are listed ■ the Slack history.

Viola and Joseph Beland children: Eva Muriel, Jean Marie, Pearl Rose, Orval Eugene, Gerard Hubert, Cora Anne, Edwin Earl, Stacy Carl.

Muriel married Mario Fior August 31, 1968. Children: Rose, Irene, Vernon, Brenda and Michael.

Jean married Gordon McNeil May 30, 1973.

Orval m. Beverly Rooke April 21, 1979.

Gerard married Linda Oberowsky July 27, 1974. Ch: Karla Leah, Trevor Gerrard, Joey Troy.

Marion and Cliff children: Janice Lynn, born March 28, 1955; Susan May ■. Aug. 23, 1959. Lynn married Donald Gregg Stillwell July 1, 1972. Ch: Brent Clifford, Stacy Phillip, Robin Charles

Mother (Violet Steele) died April 16, 1965. A lover of the outdoors. Mother enjoyed milking cows, raising chickens and gardening. During the dry years we helped her haul water from the dam for the vegetables and flowers. In those years Jasper Highway no. 5 went straight west of Ruddell, passed our house then turned north along the west side of our property. Many strangers would stop to look and some dropped in ■ express their delight to see such beauty in a dried-out land. They were the people from southern Saskatchewan heading north to Meadow Lake. Mother enjoyed those brief visits.

Dad (Lawrence Steele) died April 6, 1970. He too enjoyed gardening; I remember how he used to follow behind Mother while she pushed the cultivator he talked and ate carrots. Dad was very good with flowers. When the Ruddell Band dissolved, ■ stored the instruments in the new granary he had just built. Vernon was the only one with enough wind to get a bit of sound out of them. Grandma cut up Dad's uniform to make a coat for Marion. I think she used Grandpa's uniform to make a coat for one of the Slack cousins. I shall never forget the day Dad sat grinning on Tony, our Shetland pony. A split second later landed on a peaked stone. He never tried it again; neither did I!

Grandma (Minnie Steele) died April 18, 1970 at the age of 98. She fulfilled a wish from many years, dancing the jig on her ninetieth birthday. In the hard times, though many men stopped for food and drink she never turned anyone away. As she often said, "Some day we may have to walk the roads too." Grandma and Aunt Flossie both told me the following story which took place some time after her marriage. She was driving to town to do her shopping when a young gentleman driving a horse and buggy caught up to her in her buggy. The young man invited her to race to see who would win. Grandma couldn't say no to that. She leaned forward and spoke to her horse. Right there the race was on. What the gentleman did not know was that hers was a retired race horse, that it was a cross between a Welsh and Standard Bred horse. He was quite put out about it. Grandma sailed down the hill and had ■ pull back on the reins as she was entering Paris and could ■ caught for speeding.

J. S. Steele Family

James Stewart Steele was born February 6, 1884 at Dundee, Scotland. He left school at an early age and worked as a farm laborer. He immigrated to Canada in 1905 with his parents, two brothers and one sister. They settled in the Battleford area where a sister of her husband had arrived with the Barr Colonists in

Mary, Jean, Jimmy, Mr. Steele. Taken at the John Rolfe farm, 1937.

1908. One of his first jobs was working on the building of the Battle River Bridge. His parents took up a homestead on part of the land where the Saskatchewan Hospital now stands.

He took a trip back to Scotland but decided Canada was to be his home so returned and took up a homestead not far from his parents along the Sask. River.

On Sept. 27, 1912 he married Thirza Mary Swaley who was born Feb. 7, 1885 at Norwich, England. They started life together in a one-roomed shack. A few years later they started another farmstead on the opposite corner of the quarter section.

Dad was a great lover of horses and raised Pure Bred Percherons — winning several ribbons and medals at the North Battleford Exhibitions. Mother had a Shetland pony and buggy which she drove to North Battleford to sell eggs and butter with which to buy the groceries. During World War I it was difficult to get hired help so Mother worked along with Dad, doing most of the stooking.

They had a family of three Mary, Jim and Jean.

In March of 1929 the family moved to Maymont and rented the John Davis farm. During their years in the Maymont district they lived on several rented farms — the Scott — Dudley, John Rolfe, Gifford and Norman Andrew. It was not easy during the Dirty Thirties — a lot of hard work and heart aches. Water for both humans and livestock was a great problem — there were the years when the "Relief Cars" arrived from Eastern Canada with fruit, vegetables and fish.

Money was scarce but we had good times to remember — card parties and dances at the school house and the neighbors in the winter and picnics at the River and along the creek at the Mike Byrnes farm in the summer.

Dad was a member of the Sask. Wheat Pool and served as a committee member for many years. Mother was a member of the United Church Ladies Aid and the Homemakers Club. She did a lot of knitting for the Red Cross during World War II. Dad played the accordion for many social gatherings.

Mary married Edwin Peden in November, 1940 and lived on the John Davis farm where our family lived when we moved to Maymont.

Jim married Ethel Barret in November, 1945. They have one daughter Lucille, now living in Edmonton.

Jean married Alder Greenslade in August, 1948. They lived in Edmonton for a few years before moving to Wetaskiwin. They have three children. Diane married Brian Mullen, they have two children and live in Fort Saskatchewan. Alan is in Edmonton working for Alberta Government Telephones. Darlene is at home and attends school in Millet.

Dad and Mother moved to Wetaskiwin, Alta. in 1952. They grew a large garden, specializing in gladiolus and strawberries. They were able to live in their own home until 1973 when they came to live with us. Dad was in and out of hospital and passed away in October, 1974. Mother is in a Nursing Home close to us and celebrated her 94th birthday February 7, 1979.

Ethel (Barrett) Steele

I attended school at Keystone School. In the early years I got a ride with neighbors and later walked in the summer time as the horses were being used in the fields. In winter I walked a quarter mile to my brother-in-law's place, there got a horse and toboggan or team and cutter and took their oldest daughter on to school.

In 1945 I married James Steele, Jr. We lived first on the Gifford farm north of Maymont, now owned by

Jim, Ethel and Lucille — Nov., 1970.

Walter Sadowsky. Then we farmed the Alfred Andrew farm and in 1960 moved to the Chamber homestead which we had purchased from Ted Sloan.

One daughter, Lucille Ann, was born in 1950.

Jim farmed and raised a herd of purebred Red Poll cattle until his sudden death in January 1976.

At the present time I am in North Battleford.

Lucille Steele

Maymont was the scene of my entire 'growing-up' years and where I received all of my formal schooling. In 1968 I graduated from high school and left home to attend the Olds College for a year in fashion merchandising classes. Following, began my 'working-days' at Red Deer, Saskatoon and now for the past seven years at Edmonton. I am presently employed by Wardair Canada.

September 1 of this year (1979) I will be married to John Riddell, a former Hamilton, Ontario resident. We will be making our home in St. Albert just northwest of Edmonton.

Lawrence William Stott Family

by Betty (Stott) Fair

Lawrence William Stott, known to many as L.W., was born in Peterborough, England, February 10, 1886. He passed away December 29, 1952. His wife, Florence Annie, was born in London, England, April 28, 1885. She passed away November 14, 1939.

They came to Hamilton, Ontario with two of Lawrence's sisters and a brother and their families. It was their wish to live near each other. Dad's first job was in a horse-buggy factory and he found the climate in summer too hot and humid. They couldn't sleep at night so he came West to Fielding in [illegible] after answering an ad for a harness maker and shoe repairer his trade. In the early spring of 1911, he moved his family, wife and two daughters, Betty born in London, England and Molly in Hamilton, to Fielding. Our first home was the upstairs of the C.N.R. Station.

Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Stott taken on the Fielding ferry in 1927.

Donald Stott and Jack Allen.

After a few years making sets of harness by hand, he found he could not keep up with the demand, so purchased a large harness machine, also a smaller machine for repairing shoes. I, being the eldest, sewed many traces, martingales, etc., on the machine for him to assemble. With farm machinery gradually taking over, the harness business slackened so he put in hardware.

After the big fire which took nearly half of our town, he enlarged the store about 1925 and added groceries and dry goods. The store was known as the United Store.

He was always interested in new inventions and was the first at Fielding around 1918-19, to own a radio, an "Atwater Kent". (two dials with earphones.) Saturday nights many hockey fans would gather at the store to take turns at listening to a game. Later got the

In the early 20's family picnics were arranged. It was a long ride by team and wagon to the picnic grounds at the river, but always had a good time and looked forward to a treat of homemade ice cream made by Dick Williams. The freezer was always carefully packed in ice. The group consists of the Williams, Clarenshaw, and Stott families, also Mr. Milman Sr.

Archie Evans, back row with boy scouts. L. W. Stott — front row with the cubs. At Meeting Lake camping in the late 1920's.

three-dial with a horn. I was always sorry he didn't live to see the T.V. As well as sports his interests were also community affairs and his church — the Anglican Church. For many years he served as warden. In the early days he belonged to the Fielding football team. They travelled to various towns for a game by horse and buggy.

Mother and Dad always kept the English tradition — a cup of tea at 3 P.M. It was said by the neighbors, especially Mrs. George Downie, you could set your clock by L.W. going for tea

Mother, though she was busy bringing up a family, played the church organ for many years and was a member of the Church Guild (now A.C.W.) She was a great lover ■ plants. Her windows always displayed many blooms.

In the earlier days she taught piano to the three eldest McClintick children. She also played the piano for an orchestra which consisted of Dick Williams and Tom Clorenshaw, on their violins, for local dances.

Every Sunday evening after dishes were done we children with Mother at the piano and Dad with his picolo or flute gathered round the piano to sing our favorite hymns.

Mother and Dad made one trip back to England the same way they came to Canada — by boat.

They with some of we children witnessed the three bad fires in our town. The first was on Main Street across the street from Dad's business and our home. It took the bank and its living quarters at the back as well as a double store with groceries and hardware and the drugstore. Mr. Richardson had the groceries; McKay (I believe) hardware; Mr. Wright the drugstore. Both these buildings had living quarters upstairs. Doctor Muller had an office at the back of the drugstore. The only building replaced was the Imperial Bank with living quarters upstairs.

The next fire was around 1921 and took most business places. ■ started in a small building behind Shank's Garage. The garage went, the post office, livery barn, large ice shed, the hotel, a three-storey building, telephone office and butcher shop; and across the road, Gump's and Dickinson's Stores. The latter four had spacious living quarters.

Dad played a big part in saving the town hall and probably the balance of the town east and south, as a strong west wind was behind the fire. He opened his store ■ the many who were helping ■ control the fire to let them get anything that would carry water. He first took a large pile of horse blankets and mattress sacks which were placed on the north side of the hall roof. A water brigade was then formed, carrying water from the two large cisterns in the bank basement and from the town well. The blankets were kept soaked with water. He suffered a tremendous loss, as so much was lifted besides water carrying utensils, such as pails, copper and galvanized boilers and tubs. They were never returned. A few days later kegs of nails, not opened, were found in a bush south of town. But he was thankful his store was still standing

Later, the then Brickwell Garage and living quarters burned. This building was of special significance to us, as it had also been our home. The garage portion was first a Massey Harris machine shop, operated by a Mr. Wilson. On the east side was our living quarters. The west side was Dad's first harness shop.

After a short time upstairs above the C.N.R. station, we moved to a home, where the Pool house now stands. It was bought by Mr. Keefer and moved to his farm. This farm was later owned by Chas. Kieper. Later it was sold to Leo Gelinas and was moved to his farm. It was the house that burned. From this home we moved to the above.

Our last home, a large two-storey house built in 1913, still stands on the corner across from the town well.

Dad's last place of business, after being vacated by son, Don, was sold to Charlie Neumeyer and later to H. C. Baker, who moved it to his farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Stott brought up a family of nine children.

Betty was born in London, England in 1906.

Mary Annie (Molly) was born in Hamilton, Ontario. ■ June, 1930 she was married to Archie Evans of Fielding, who was employed at the North Battleford Post Office. He later passed away with pneumonia. They had one daughter, Alice, who married Allen McGregor of North Battleford, now of Nanaimo, B.C. They had a son, Robin, and a chosen daughter, Leslie.

In 1939, Molly married John Hagerman of North Battleford who was manager of the Metropolitan Store for twenty-three years. He was transferred to the store in Kelowna, B.C. where they are now enjoying retirement. They had a son, Jack, who is employed in Kelowna and a daughter, Heather. She took up dentistry, teaches the subject in the College of Dentistry in West Virginia, U.S.A. and is married to the Dean of the College.

Charlie was born in 1911 at Fielding.

Kathleen was born at Fielding. She was most interested in music. Both she and her sister, Molly, took most of their lessons from Jim Evans and his mother, who came to Fielding from North Battleford. They both received their A.T.C.M. Later Kathleen trained as a Registered Nurse at City Hospital, Saskatoon. In 1952 she married Robert Hart, Port Alberni, B.C. He passed away in 1968. They had one daughter, Karen, who also is an R.N. She married Larry McKinnon of Victoria, B.C. Kathleen had three children by a previous marriage. Charlie and Terry, and Joyce who is married to Walter Bauer. They have three children. Kathleen passed away in 1972.

Merle — born at Fielding, married Don Flynn of Vancouver, B.C. in 1940. His dad had been a station agent at Fielding. They had three children. Sharon — of Charlotte in North Carolina, U.S.A. She has two daughters. Her husband passed away a few years ago.

Michael who is married and lives in Port Coquitlam, B.C. Pat who is still a bachelor is employed at Fort John, B.C., with a Ham operating business.

Merle after her divorce is now Mrs. R. Grama of Delta, B.C.

Steve — born at Fielding, assisted his Dad in the store until joining the Canadian Army. After serving time overseas returned home and in July, 1945, married Mabel Rivett of Radisson. They took over a general store at Sonningdale, Saskatchewan. Mabel being an R.N. was called on often for advice and assistance. Later they moved to Vancouver, B.C. where they took over a dry goods store. Steve passed away in 1970. Their daughter, Shirley, born at Sonningdale, now lives in Kamloops, B.C. They have two children, Stevie and Barbie.

Mabel, 1976, married Lloyd Norris and now lives in Langley, B.C.

Gertie — the youngest daughter, assisted at home also took secretarial training at the North Battleford Collegiate. In 1939 she was married to Jack Glenn of Radisson. They have three children, daughters Barbara and Jacki and a chosen son Randy. All lived at Radisson. In 1952, due to ill health Jack was advised by his doctor to move to a milder climate. They took over a business in Rutland, B.C. Later they moved in Salmon Arm, where they purchased a variety store. Gertie and Jack are now enjoying their sports, curling, golfing and old time dancing in their retirement. Gertie wins many prizes and trophies at their fair and at Armstrong's for her hobbies — sewing and knitting.

Barbara trained as a registered nurse in Vancouver, B.C., was married, now divorced. At present is R.N. in the operating room in the hospital in Dawson Creek, B.C. Jacki, has two years University in Vancouver with a secretarial training. She worked in Vancouver until her marriage to Paul Easy, a school teacher. While in White Horse, Yukon they adopted two little Indian babies, Juan and Ruben. They are now at Cremona, Alberta, where they had two children, Andrea and Andrew.

Randy is a sign painter, had his own business, gave it up to be a salesman for the signs, which he creates. They have a family of three, Jonathon, Jeremy and Miliffa. After his marriage he lived in Kamloops but is now at Vernon, B.C.

William — Bill joined the airforce and was sent to Fort William, Ontario, for special training. While there he found he was color blind. The only way he could serve was with the Airforce Band, so was stationed at Edmonton, Alberta. While there he married Kathleen Street of Olds, Alberta in 1944. After he served overseas, they settled in Olds, where he had a jewelry store and watch repair.

They had three children, Trudy Lee, Trevor and Kathy. Bill passed away suddenly in 1969 in their twenty-fifth anniversary celebration.

Kay has since married Dr. Jenkins and resides in Calgary, Alberta.

Trudy Lee, married a school teacher in 1967, Brian Walker. They have two children, Christy Lee and Kevin, and reside in Lethbridge, Alberta.

Trevor, a chartered accountant, was married in 1972. They reside in Calgary.

Kathy, was married in 1976 to Abe Reimer. They have a little daughter, Stefanie, and reside in Calgary.

Bill was known for his love of music and played several instruments — guitar, violin and saxophone. George Downie, the town blacksmith and Scottish, remarked, "If I could get bagpipes I'm sure he could play them." While stationed in Edmonton we listened to him by radio play flute and piccolo solos in the Air Force Band. In Olds he played saxophone in an Orchestra.

Ella — Our little sister was born in a nursing home in Radisson. She was stillborn.

All nine Stott children attended the Fielding School. My first teacher was Mr. Edwards in a large one-room school.

Donald — the youngest was born in Saskatoon in 1926, spent most of his life in Fielding, and in later years assisted his Dad in the store. In October, 1950 he married Joyce Kimpton of Saskatoon.

Their four children, Gerald, Kenneth, Sheila and Raymond were born while their parents resided in Fielding.

After the passing of his Dad in 1952, Don took over the store until 1958. Then they moved in Radisson where he operated his own Red and White and sports store there, until his sudden passing in 1976. Joyce is carrying on the business.

Don was an avid sportsman and hunter and was best known for his love of Conservation of Wildlife. He always took an active part in the Fielding Branch of Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation. He was member of the Radisson B.P.O. Elks Lodge No. 448. Joyce is a member of the O.O.R.P. No. 347 Lodge.

Their four children live ■ Radisson. Gerry, purchased the Milo Brookman acreage. He has a business "Radisson Sand and Gravel."

Ken is employed with Froome Sales and Service as mechanic. He is apprenticing for his journeyman's papers.

Sheila was employed as secretary with Smiths Rollies Service in Saskatoon. On November 8, 1975 she married Wayne Boklaschuk of Hafford. They now live in Radisson. Their daughter, Shannon, is seven months. Wayne is a trucker.

Raymond is employed with the Saskatoon Government Transportation Company in Saskatoon. ■ commutes.

The boys love sports, especially hockey and softball, and have taken part since young. They also curl. Ken has taken up golf.

Sheila and her mother enjoy curling and are avid sports fans and seldom miss a hockey or ball game.

Charles Harold Stott

Submitted by Dianne (Stott) Rawlyk

Charles Harold Stott was born in Fielding on December 18, 1912. As a young man he enjoyed hunting and trapping, and also worked around the district on farms.

He married Mabel Jeanette Wragg on October 25, 1939. They farmed north of Fielding until 1940 when he joined the air force. He worked as a mechanic in the air force in St. Thomas, Ontario and was later stationed in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

In the spring of 1945 ■ bought land six miles south of Fielding from Joe Hardy and lived there until 1952. Due to Beckwith School closing in 1952 he wanted to get his children nearer to Fielding School. There were no school buses then so he bought more land from Ken Laycock a mile east ■ Fielding. He moved his house and barn onto this new land and planted trees to make a new yard. Due ■ heart trouble the doctor advised him to stop farming so ■ October 1959 he sold his farm. He moved his family to Sicamous, B.C. where he had purchased a motel and service station which ■ operated until 1965. He had suffered a heart attack in 1964 and was advised to retire so bought a home in Salmon Arm, B.C. where they lived until 1968. He then bought five acres of property in Canoe, B.C. which consisted of cherry and apple trees. He enjoyed living there until his health became poor in the fall of 1971. It was discovered that he had cancer and he passed away in Kamloops Inland Hospital on January ■, 1972. His wife, Mabel, still resides ■ Canoe, B.C.

The couple had three children. Dianne Jeannette was born on December 22, 1940. She graduated from Fielding High School in June 1959, and from Canadian Vocational Training School as a Certified Nursing Assistant in 1960. She married Edward James Rawlyk on February 16, 1963 and lives ■ Borden, Saskatchewan. They have two children, Douglas born December ■, 1963 and Michelle born June 7, 1966.

Lawrence Walter (Larry) was born August 19, 1949. He attended Fielding School until Grade Ten and graduated in Sicamous, B.C. He apprenticed as an electrician and holds his A electrician's papers. He is employed by B.C. Hydro. He married Cheryl Moore in September, 1965. They have three children: Angela, 1966; Rodney, 1968; and Trena, 1972.

Judith Marilyn was born January 2, 1950 and attended school in Fielding until Grade Two, then attended school in Sicamous, then Salmon Arm. She later worked at Skagland Hot Springs, B.C. until she married Ivan Bourelle on January 13, 1968. They live at Enderby, B.C. and have two children Jade, born in 1969 and Carla born in 1970.

History of the Garry Swain Family

Garry Edward Swain, son of Mrs. Irene Swain and the late John Swain of Radisson, Saskatchewan was born September 11, 1947 at Turtleford, Saskatchewan. His first five years were lived ■ Livelong, Saskatchewan before moving to Radisson where for eighteen years his parents owned and operated what is now the "Truck Stop Restaurant" on Highway No. 16.

Patricia Marlene Swain, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Chester Miller of Maymont was born November 9, 1949 at Saskatoon. She lived in Maymont until graduating from Grade Twelve in 1967.

Garry and Marlene were married on August 23, 1969 at Sharon United Church in Maymont. Following this they lived in Saskatoon for five years where Garry worked as a plumber and pipe-fitter and Marlene as an elementary school teacher. In May ■ 1974, they returned to Maymont to live on the Chester Miller farm where they now reside as full-time farmers.

Garry and Marlene have three children. Craig John

Marlene and Gary, Kelli, Craig, Michelle.

Swain who was born April 10, 1973 has just completed kindergarten. Kelli Shirlene Swain was born March 6, 1977 and Michelle Patricia Swain was born June 23, 1978.

Mr. John (1859-1940) and Mrs. Ella (Shouldice) Swan (1874-1940)

by Muriel (Swan) Johnsson

John Swan was born on a farm on the outskirts of Ottawa, Ontario. His parents had come from Ireland to Philadelphia in 1855, a voyage which took six weeks on a sailing vessel. His oldest sister was born in the U.S.A. but the family came to Canada in 1858.

As a young man he worked in the forests of Northern Ontario, did some prospecting and worked on the farm.

In 1903 he came west to British Columbia arriving back in Saskatchewan just as the surveyors were leaving the area. He took a homestead the SW quarter of Section 10, Tp. [illegible], Rge. 13, W3rd, two and one-half miles northeast of Lilac; then [illegible] returned to Ottawa for the winter.

The following year, 1904 he, along with my mother's two brothers, Harry and Walter Shouldice, returned to the homestead location and proceeded to cut logs in the Whitewood Lake Area to build a house. My two uncles also took homesteads. Walter Shouldice later sold to S. A. Johnston and it is now farmed by his son, Ray Johnston. Harry Shouldice's homestead was located due north across the road from Wavie Bank School. He taught school in the Maymont Area.

Mr. and Mrs. John Swan and Muriel — 1936.

My father was one of the few homesteaders who had horses, having bought four horses at Maple Creek. Consequently he freighted supplies for Mr. Fred McCorkle's Store from Saskatoon. This store was located about four miles north of Maymont on the east side of the road. Mr. McCorkle was the father of Mrs. Alex (Helen) Spence of Fielding.

In the spring of 1906 he returned to Ottawa and on March 14, 1906 he and my mother were married in the parlor of "Fairview", my mother's home on Carling Avenue on the western outskirts of Ottawa. They came west to the homestead at the end of March. Although my mother had come from a large brick house to a one-room log shack she said she was never lonely. The second day she was here they drove to Fielding in the wagon to buy furniture, some of which is still in use today. To get some water to wash her hair she walked to a slough south of the buildings and in order to dip her pail she stepped out on three buffalo skulls.

Church services were held in various homes until St. Mary's Anglican Church was built in 1908. This church is now at the Western Development Museum in North Battleford.

From the team of horses on the wagon they graduated to a fast-driving horse on a buggy. They used to drive to North Battleford and cross the river on the steam ferry to do their shopping in the Old Town.

Some time later they bought the SE quarter of Section Ten from Mr. Bob Johnston, a brother of Mrs. Albert Foulston.

By 1914 they had saved enough money to build the house and barn and furnish the house with new furniture. The next year they dug the well, 203 feet deep. This well created quite a bit of excitement in the area as just as the drill apparently hit an underground river and the water rose, so did natural gas. It could be heard hissing and if a match were lit at the top of the well the air would burn a blue flame. The following morning the hissing had stopped and after pumping all night the level of the water stayed constant at fifty feet from the top. This well continued to supply all our needs as well as some of the neighbors and steam-threshing outfits in the fall until February of 1972 when the casing probably collapsed and closed off the supply of water from below.

I was born in 1915 and I remained the only child my parents had. I was never lonely and I still enjoy my privacy.

The northwest quarter of Section Ten had been homesteaded by an Englishman named George Sykes. He walked to Prince Albert and bought a wheelbarrow and a one-hundred pound sack of flour. He proceeded

to push the wheelbarrow home with the sack of flour in it. At night he unloaded the flour and slept with his head under the wheelbarrow. My mother used to bake bread for him and ■ rode a big ox named "John" which he rode over to get his bread carrying it home in a flour sack.

My father bought George Sykes' quarter of land about 1920. He bought it with the standing crop on it and that crop paid for the quarter of land.

My father bought a car, his first, in 1915 — a McLaughlin-Buick touring car. It cost $1800.00 cash. Our first radio was bought in 1935.

About 1925 my father travelled throughout the area selling shares at ten dollars each to build another elevator at Lilac. It was felt that competition was definitely needed for the elevator company which already had an elevator in Lilac, so it was decided to build an elevator under the name of the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company. This company sold out to the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool. The Lilac elevator closed in 1976.

My mother died on April 12, 1949. She died in her sleep and my father died on November 23, 1940, of Arterior Sclerosis, hardening of the arteries of the brain.

My father's farming career has to be a very rare success story. He had arthritis so badly that I don't remember him ever being able to do any work. He employed one man for twelve months of the year and two men for six months during the summer. We came through the thirties intact. He refused ■ take relief and would not apply for the old age pension. As I look back on the thirties they weren't so bad. Gasoline was three gallons for a dollar and we bought three gallons a week. The early thirties were good crops but very low prices. Some wheat sold for seventeen cents a bushel. The poorest crops were in 1936, '37 and '38, no rain and grasshoppers ate what did grow. The rains came again in 1939.

My father and mother are buried in Maymont Cemetery. My mother always liked Maymont and its people.

Mrs. Betty (McKerchar) Thompson

I first came to the Maymont district on May 14, 1943, as a teacher for Grey School. I came straight from Normal School to finish the school year, as the former teacher, Anne Funk, had been called to the Armed Services. I finished that year and completed the next (1943-44) school year.

I was the youngest child and only daughter of John and Marion McKerchar of Waseca, Sask. I was christened Marion Elizabeth but had been called Betty all my life.

I boarded at Ernie Ramsay's. She was the former Mary Green, a secretary in London, England, before she came to Canada to marry Ernie. He was the son of an Anglican minister and a veteran of World War I, where he was wounded (stomach or abdomen). He was also very fond of cattle and raised purebred Herefords.

In 1948, I married Lawrence, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Thompson of Denbolm. We had two children, a girl, Lois, and a boy Douglas.

After a few years I resumed my teaching career and in 1969 came to teach Ruddell School No. 1588. When it closed in 1971 the children were bussed to Maymont School. I was moved right along with them.

I taught the grade two and three room in Maymont School for two years until June, 1973. Then I came ■ Prince Albert to join my husband and son, who had a paint store in the then, new mall.

In 1975, I went back to teaching, this time, teaching kindergarten every other day and I am still busy at it.

Larry and Doug now have a trucking company that Doug manages. Larry does the books and sells real estate for United Agencies.

Mr. and Mrs. (Scotch) Bill Thomson

sent in by Rev. Leonard Schnell

Bill and Freda Thomson farmed three miles south ■ Fielding. Freda was my first cousin She was a daughter of my mother's brother. Freda came to Saskatchewan in the fall of 1912. She spent some time with her sister, Laura (Mrs. Louis Durand — the Durands lived south of Fielding on the road to Radisson). While at the Durands Freda met Bachelor Bill Thomson. They were married and had two children, Robert and Iris. The children went to Fielding School. Later Robert joined the Canadian Air Force in World War II.

Bill and Freda Thomson.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Thomas

by Neilane (Jensen) Thomas

Bob Thomas began teaching in the old Maymont School with Grades 7, 8 and 9 in 1956. When the new school opened he continued in the high school until 1963. He boarded with Mrs. Nellie Curry for the school term of 1958-59 but moved to the teacherage in 1959 after marrying Neilane Jensen who had taught in Ruddell the previous year.

Neilane taught Grades 3 and 4 until 1961 in the old Neepawa School which had been pulled into the school yard as an extra classroom.

Heather was born and lived in Maymont in 1961 and the family moved to Vernon, B.C. in 1963. Bonnie was born in 1964 in Vernon where they still live in 1979.

One interesting item which occurred in these years was the organization of a square dance club called by Al Osborne and continued by Bob and Neilane the next year.

Mr. and Mrs. Ira Thompson

Ira Thompson, was the youngest member born to Walter and Ida Thompson. He was born in Stormount, Ontario, on February 3, 1913. He had three brothers and two sisters. When he was two years old he came west by way of horse and buggy with his family, where they settled and farmed north of Fielding. He received his schooling at Neepawa School. He worked on a threshing crew from the age of 13 on and helped on the home farm.

In 1937 he married the former Katherine Kuziw. He met her at the Taylor farm north of Maymont where they were both employed, Katherine having come from Glaslyn where she was born on May 6, 1915.

They set up farming seven miles north of Maymont. Until 1951 they farmed using fifteen horses as their means of power. They had a small mixed farm. Horses were also their main mode of transportation for a good number of years.

They raised three children, the eldest a daughter. Winnie who was born at Maymont received her education at Grey School. She is married to Allan Monk and resides in Rosetown. She has a married son, Ian, of Saskatoon and daughter, Kelly, of Rosetown.

A son, Ken, who was also born in Maymont and received his education at Grey School. He is married to the former Peggy Thomas from Speers. They reside at Holbein where they farm and Ken is a crane operator at the Pulp Mill. They have two daughters, Patty and Kathy, and two sons, Kenny and Wesley, all at home.

The youngest daughter Lillian, who was born in North Battleford; she received her education at Grey and Maymont schools. She married Archie Robinson from Ruddell. They resided in Ruddell for five years where they farmed. Presently they reside in North Battleford where they are both employed. They have a daughter, Debbie, and a son, Shawn, at home.

After having raised their family they left the district and moved to Saskatoon to find employment.

They currently reside in Prince Albert where they are both employed.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Thompson

On April 7th, 1973 Raymond Joseph Thompson, son of Reginald and Margaret Thompson from Richard, married Margaret June Rogers, daughter of Dean and June Rogers of Maymont at Maymont.

The first three years of their married life was spent in Lloydminster, Sask. where Raymond was employed with Meridian Trenching. Margaret worked as a store clerk for awhile and then went to Reeves Business College there where she obtained her secretarial course and then was employed by the Dr. Cooke Nursing Home. In the meantime, Raymond had gone to work for the Lloydminster Gas Co.

Raymond had often talked of having his own trenching business and in the spring of 1975 we moved back to Maymont where Raymond started his business. Things have all worked out for the best and business has been reasonably successful in the last four years.

On June 11, 1975, a daughter, Roxanne Margaret was born to Raymond and Margaret. On February 1, 1978, a second daughter, Cheri Lynn was born.

At present, Raymond, Margaret and family are residing in Maymont where they take an active part in the community. Raymond has been one of the caretakers of the Maymont Sports Centre for the last two years and plays with the Old Timers Hockey Club. He is also a volunteer fireman. Margaret takes part in various community activities and has been a C.G.I.T. leader for two years.

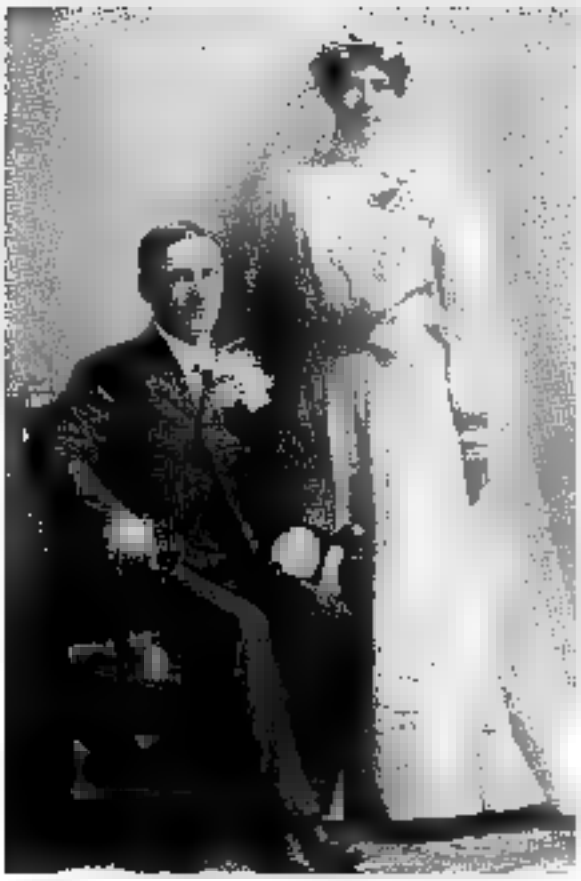
The History of the Tommy Thompson Family of Fielding

by Olive Miller

Thomas Thompson (Tommy as he was better known), Emil Danielson (a half brother) and Morris Tokle came to Canada from North Dakota, U.S.A. in 1903. Tommy took up a homestead north east of Fielding, which is now the Clayton Clark farm. He returned to North Dakota in 1903 and married Gertrude Sandbek at Edmore, North Dakota.

Their first home was made of logs and clay. At the time there were no stores in Fielding so they had to go with horses and wagon to Saskatoon or Prince Albert for supplies. Sometimes they would walk carrying a pack sack, a trek which took several days.

In 1914 they moved into the town of Fielding to be nearer the school. Their home was what later became known as the McNaughton House. They then bought a



Tommy Thompson Wedding Picture, November, 1903.

farm from Alex Garnett one and one-half miles south of Fielding and farmed there until 1929.

Tommy and Gertrude had a family of five girls and two boys. Gladys born in 1905, Irene in 1906, Olive in 1913, Luella in 1915, Elvina in 1918 (she died at two weeks of age), Alfred in 1910 and Otto in 1918. In the family there are now ■ grandchildren, ■ great-grandchildren and 5 great-great-grandchildren.

Tommy was one of the first in the district to have a threshing machine and did custom work for the neighbors. In the winter he would saw wood and he lost two fingers doing so. Tommy passed away in 1929 at the age of ■ as a result of injuries suffered while operating a municipal grader. Gertrude stayed on the farm until 1936 when she sold the farm to Willis Scott. She then moved north of Fielding to keep house for Tommy's half brother Emil Danielson with her two young sons Alfred and Otto. Later she moved to Saskatoon where she lived until her passing in 1972 at the age of 88.

On November the 24th, 1926, Gladys married Martin L. McGrath of Speers. Their farm was located Southeast of Speers and about ten miles north of Fielding where they attended church. They had good and bad years on the farm, some dried out, some

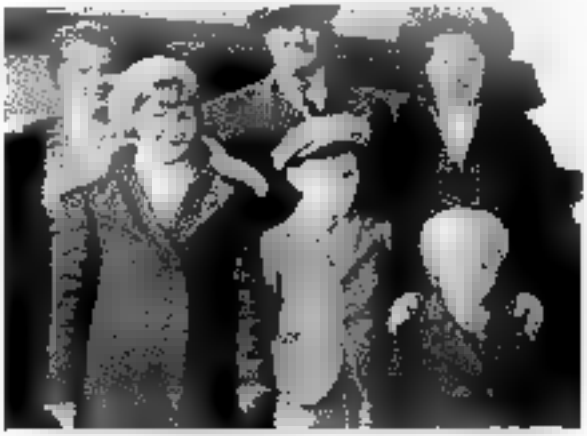
Tommy Thompson family about 1924. Front row (L. to R.) — Luella, Otto, Olive. Back row, L. to R. — Gladys, Irene, Alfred.

hailed out, some terrible winters and the depression years of 1936 and 1937. Having survived them all, they were happier and wiser with the experience it gave them.

They had four children, three girls and a boy. Agnes was born October 31, 1927. Noreen December 7th, 1929, Thomas June 20th, 1932 and Patricia March 17th, 1937. All of the children went to public school at Hillsborough School. After finishing public school all of the girls entered the Convent in North Battleford. Tom had no desire to go on with his schooling.

Agnes entered the religious life and is a Sister of the CHILD JESUS and is a teacher. She has taught in Vancouver, Williams Lake, Ledue, Saskatoon and is now in Prince Albert.

Noreen, after graduating, went to work in the bank in Richard, Sask. She then had several transfers with the bank to Blaine Lake, Treherne, Man. and then to Saskatoon. On August 2nd, 1958 she married a young man from St. Walburg, Sask., a carpenter and cabinet



Martin L. McGrath Family, 1941.

maker by trade. They have four children, two girls and two boys and live in Lloydminster, Sask.

Patricia after graduating from highschool entered the religious life, but it seemed to much for her so after a year at home she thought she would try Nursing. Working at it to hard caused her to have a nervous breakdown. It seemed everything she tried to do was against her. After her recovery she worked for a Doctor in Cutknife for awhile. She then moved to Saskatoon where she now resides and has been employed by a jeweller for the past twelve years.

Thomas had no desire to go to school so he worked out. He worked with Larry's Electric, North Battleford on road construction, he worked in an elevator in Biggar and was then placed in charge of the elevator at Lilac, Sask. On June 4th, 1960 he married Angeline Dryhorub of Richard, Sask. They had three children, one boy and two girls. When Tom's Dad had to quit farming due to ill health, Tom decided he would like to take over the farm. Unfortunately Tom's farming career was brief and ended in a tragedy. Tom was killed in a tractor accident on June 5th, 1965.

Gladys and Martin moved to Fielding when Tom took over the farm. After Tom's accident they sold their farm and the machinery and moved into North Battleford in Sept. of 1966.

While they were on the farm, Martin served as a trustee of the Hillsborough School District for many years. He also served as both a Councillor and a Reeve for the Municipality of Mayfield No. 406. After retiring, Gladys and Martin enjoyed their home in North Battleford where Martin spent his spare time carving things out of wood. One special one, of which he made a good many, was a team of horses pulling a sleigh.

Martin passed away on Feb. 25th, 1975. In 1976, Gladys sold the house and is now living in an apartment. She keeps very busy and is active in many senior citizens activities such as The Golden Years Club, carpet bowling, lawn bowling, Old Timers Card parties, the Catholic Womens League and the I.O.D.E. She says she hopes she will keep going for a few more years yet.

Irene married Fred Hodge in 1928 and for six months they worked for George Allman on his farm a few miles east of Saskatoon. They then bought a half section of land seven miles north of Fielding and began on their own. It was tough going at times, but with their own meat, milk and eggs they were able to manage. Because of the drought during the dirty thirties, almost everyone was on relief. Their family of four children at that time each received nine dollars a month (later twelve dollars). They farmed there until 1940 when they moved to the Emil Danielson farm which was about three miles farther east. In 1945 they sold their C.P.R. land to the McIvor family. Fred joined the Credit Union and was a Director for 17 years. He was also 5 years on the telephone board, 4 or

Fred Hodge.

5 years on the Wheat Pool and 5 years as a Director on the CO-OP.

In 1965 they sold their farm to the government for a community pasture and bought a home in Saskatoon. Fred worked as a janitor at the C.N.R. yards until 1970 when they sold their house and moved to Kamloops, B.C. They stayed there for 5 months, came back to Saskatoon and bought another home in 1971. He then found work as a janitor with the Post Office.

Fred and Irene had a family of seven, six girls and one boy. Florence, the oldest received her schooling at Keystone and Hillsborough, finishing at Fielding. In 1945 she went to Mission City, B.C. and worked for a year with a dry cleaning firm. She married Howard Beharrell in 1947 and farmed on Howard's Dad's farm for a couple of years. They then bought a farm in the Dartfield District of B.C. about fifty miles north of Kamloops, where they still farm. They have a family of four, two boys and two girls all living in and around the Kamloops district.

Lorne also received his schooling at Keystone and Hillsborough. He quit school after grade eight and worked on the farm. He married a neighbor's daughter, Olga Lesko. They lived on their own farm until Lornes' eyesight began to fail him as a result of the diabetes which had stricken him at the age of fourteen. Lorne and his wife moved to Saskatoon in 1960, where he worked for the C.N.I.B., basket weaving and working in the Canteen at Saskatoon City Hospital taking the magazine, cigarette and sweets cart around to the patients. To help out, his wife Olga worked at the Travelodge Motel for seven years. She was a great help to Lorne until his passing in 1968. They had one daughter Brenda who is married and working with a Telecommunications firm in Saskatoon. Olga sold the farm in 1968. She remarried and

she and her husband Ron Bubber live in Saskatoon where he is a piano tuner. Olga has been working at Simpson Sears for the past eleven years.

Bernice also started school at Keystone, then went to Hillsborough when the family moved to that district. She finished her highschool in Speers. While she was there she picked up a virus which left her handicapped. She took a course at Robertsons Secretarial School in Saskatoon but was unable to get up her proper typing speed due to her handicap. She went to the Handicap meetings where she met Alex Holowenko. Alex was also slightly handicapped as a result of osteomyelitis. They were married in 1966. Alex was in partnership in Western Business Machine for [illegible] years which he sold in 1975. He is now employed at the Army and Navy Department Store as a security guard with Belfour Services. They adopted three children, two girls and a boy. The oldest girl passed away at the tender age of seven as a result of an allergic condition. They are still living in Saskatoon.

Lucille went to public school at Hillsborough and highschool in Speers. She enrolled in Teacher's College in Saskatoon and following graduation taught at Grey school near Maymont in 1955 and then at Acton School near Whitkow in 1956 and 1957. Lucille was married to Louis Shutra in 1958 and lived on his Dad's farm 28 miles northeast of North Battleford until 1974 when they moved into their new home a mile west of the homestead where they are still farming. Louis also drives a school bus into North Battleford. They have three children, two boys and a girl who still reside at home. The son helps his father with the farming and both daughters at the North Battleford Union Hospital.

Leona went to public school at Hillsborough, then worked as a waitress for two years in Saskatoon. She married Peter Kobzey, a barber by trade and lived at Colonsay for awhile. They then moved to a farm at Wakaw for a couple of years after which they moved back into Colonsay where Peter established his own barber shop in their home while working in the Potash mines at Colonsay and Allan. He also worked in the mines at Stewart, B.C. for a time. They have a family of six children, three girls and three boys. Leona and her family moved to Saskatoon in 1973 where they still reside.

Carol took her schooling at Hillsborough and her last three years of highschool at Halford where she graduated in 1964. After graduating from highschool she took a position with Canada Permanent Trust in Saskatoon as a posting machine operator. She married David Johnston of Radisson in 1965. They lived in Saskatoon where David went to plumbing school and worked as an apprentice with Acme Plumbing and Heating for six weeks each year for four years. In 1970 they moved to Kamloops where David worked as a plumber for a construction firm. In 1971 they came back to Saskatoon where he worked for Quaker Oats for one year. David had to give up this job as a result of an allergy to the dust. He then undertook a trucking job for MacCosham Van Lines until 1975 when he returned to a plumbing job with Action Plumbing and Heating in Saskatoon. Carol worked at the Permanent for three years. They have three children, two girls and a boy.

Joyce received her schooling at Hillsborough until grade eight when the school was closed. She took grade eight and three years of highschool at Halford and finishing her grade twelve in Saskatoon in 1965. She worked for two years with the Associated Radiologists in the Canada Building in Saskatoon. In 1968 she moved to Kamloops and took a position as a bookkeeper with McCall's Garage which she kept until her marriage in 1970 to Jim Milikin of Kamloops and formerly of Big River, Sask. He worked at the Kal Tire Co. and was promoted to manager 3 years ago. Joyce also held a position as a supplies bookkeeper at a Motel in Kamloops. They have two lovable little girls who are three and four.

ALFRED stayed on the farm until he enlisted in the army (World War II). He went overseas and after the war returned with a war bride. He lived in North Battleford for a while and then moved to Edmonton where he was employed by the V.L.A. until his retirement. They had one son, Terry who now resides in Edmonton.

Alf was remarried in 1973 following a divorce from his first wife Betty. Alf and Ruby (nee Prouty and also formerly from Edmonton) are enjoying their retirement in Cloverdale, B.C.

OLIVE was born at Fielding and took both her public and highschool there. In 1938 she married Walter James Miller and lived on a farm one mile north of the Sam Miller farm which was known as the Anderson farm. They had one son Robert born in 1941. In 1950 they bought the Jack Thompson farm one mile west of Fielding. Robert took both his public and highschool at Fielding graduating in 1959. In the fall of 1959 he entered the College of Pharmacy graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy in 1963. He worked as an apprentice for Finders Drug Stores in Saskatoon for one year receiving his licence to practice PHARMACY in May of 1964. He then joined the staff of the Pharmacy Department of Saskatoon City Hospital and worked as a staff Pharmacist until Sept. 1974 when he was appointed Assistant Director of Pharmacy. In Jan. of 1974 [illegible] was appointed Director of Pharmacy a position he held until Oct. of 1979. In 1978 he enrolled in the Canadian Hospital Association Health Care Organization and Management Program from which [illegible] received a Diploma in May of 1978. On Oct. 1st, 1979 he was appointed Medical Support Services Administrator at Saskatoon City Hospital. In 1965 he married Victoria Gaberyuh and they have two children. A girl, Carrie born in 1967 and a boy Trevor, born in 1969. They live in the River Heights District of Saskatoon where the children attend school.

Walter passed away suddenly at the age of 48 in 1962 at which time Olive moved to Saskatoon where she still resides

LUELLA was born in Fielding in 1918 and took her schooling there. She married Bill Roberts who was born in 1913 in Scotland and came to Canada at the age of nine years. They were married by Reverend Hamilton at Fielding where they were both raised on a farm. They have a family of six. Two daughters, Marlene and Sylvia and a son Leonard were born in Fielding. Bill joined the army in 1940 and retired from the army in 1963. They then moved to Saskatoon where they had two more daughters and a son, Sheila, Audrey and Donald. Bill retired from the army in 1963 and they lived in Saskatoon until 1969 when they moved to Calgary. They remained in Calgary until 1978 when they moved to Cloverdale, B.C. Four of the family are married and they have nine grandchildren, including Audrey's twin boys. Leonard and family live in Saskatoon, Marlene and Sylvia and their families live in Calgary. Sheila lives in Vancouver, Don lives in Calgary and Audrey lives in Surrey, B.C.

Otto —

Otto was born in the year 1918, went to school in Fielding and at that time the teacher was Miss Annie Blakely who later became Mrs. Charley Roberts, and in the primary grades, one, two and three, they had the old-fashioned school desks where two children sat together, and at that time most of the children walked to school. Otto would be quite excited when his uncle Emil Danielson would come to pick him up at school in his Model T Truck. On many occasions Otto and Luella would walk home with three other neighbor children, namely, Scott, Addley, and another Thompson family.

The years passed and they all grew up. Then Otto went to live with his uncle near Speers where he lived until his marriage in December, 1939 to Evelyn Scott who was also born in 1918 and went to Fielding school. At this time Otto had seasonal work until his enlistment in the armed services, the 16/22 Saskatchewan Horse in September of 1940, where he started his training at Camp Dundurn, from there to Weyburn where they were housed in the Exhibition Buildings for the winter. Then, in the spring of 1941, were transferred to Vancouver, B.C. where they were stationed at the Vancouver Hotel. Also spent some time at Camp Nanaimo on Vancouver Island; and after some months they were all shipped to Eastern Canada and, of course, many of the young wives went along too. At this time, they had their first baby girl. Then from the camps in Ontario, to Quebec and the Maritimes and, after close to three years of service, Otto received his discharge from Active Service. After having seen a great deal of this country, he and his wife decided to go to B.C. to live where two sons, Tom and Dale were born and a daughter, Judy Ann. Along came another son, Robert, while they were living in Mission City. The years spent there were spent at his being a salesman, then, later, he went into partnership with Ivan Hamilton from Radisson. The store was meat and grocery which was doing real well. Then Otto took a trip to Northern B.C. through Williams Lake, Quesnel and Prince George and that did it. The Cariboo as it is called, is very much like good old Saskatchewan, so they made the move in January of 1952 and, what a change — no highway — it was the old trail when the early settlers used to drive their 8 and 10 horse teams and even mule teams hauling freight.

Like all things, time changes many things. At this time, they were finishing off the railway to Prince George. Otto had much to do as he was then working on the P.G.E. Railway and, when Princess Margaret's Royal Train came through from Prince George on its way to North Vancouver, he was the patrolman for his stretch of track, something like 20 miles. Shortly after all this excitement he became a section foreman. Also at this time a daughter, Nancy Jean, was born and, as always the children grew up. At this time, Beverley as a telephone operator and is long married with 2 children. Tom had graduated from High School, now married with 3 lovely girls. Dale is at Revelstoke and has his own Hardware business. Judy Ann, who worked many years for the B.C. Forest Service planting trees, is married and has 1 little girl. Robert is married and has one little girl and is working for the Dept. of Highways. Last but not least is Nancy who is doing very well working in the Plywood Plant at Quesnel.

They experienced a sad event in July of 1982 when Otto came to an untimely death while directing traffic in a car accident. Evelyn now resides in Radisson.

Mr. and Mrs. John Walter Thompson

told by Lila (Thompson) McDonald

Mr. and Mrs. Thompson moved west from Ontario in 1919, buying from Jim Robertson the farm that is now owned by Bill and Pattie Brown, their granddaughter and her husband. They brought their four boys, Trueman, Dawson, Herbert and Roderick with them and their daughter Lila was born at Fielding.

Hard times and the depression were common to everyone but the community spirit never died. Social events in the town and visiting neighbors was their form of entertainment. People shared, borrowed, and repaid. Work was exchanged rather than hired, produce traded for other produce. There was no refrigeration so meat was always traded as people would kill a pig or beef at different times so when your turn came you always owed some of the neighbors some of the fresh meat. Winters were very hard and a couple of winters Dawson and Herbert went to Ontario to work in logging camps. Trueman left in about 1931 to work in a bank in various places in Saskatchewan.

The other boys stayed on the farm and when war broke out the three older boys all enlisted and were sent overseas with one of the first contingents. Rod

enlisted in the Air Force a couple of years later and he was the only one of the four that did not return.

Mr. and Mrs. Thompson stayed on the farm until ill health caused Mr. Thompson to sell. They moved into the town of Fielding and Mr. Thompson died in 1956. Mrs. Thompson stayed in Fielding a number of years and then moved to Saskatoon where she passed away in 1974.

Trueman and Dawson and their families were in Regina, both with Prairie Gas Co. Trueman died in 1977, his wife and family still in Regina, as are Dawson and Pat. Herbert and his family are in Pleasanton, California where he is a machinist and has his own business. Lila and her husband live in Swift Current where her husband, Keith McDonald is parts manager at a local garage.

To date the Thompsons have 13 grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren.

W. J. Thrower

written by W. J. Thrower

Dad and Mother were born in Ontario, Dad in Goderich and Mother at Listowell. Dad worked on the Railroad going into Calgary in 1883 before the Riel Rebellion, when Calgary was in tents. Dad had a Barber Shop in Hamilton, North Dakota, where I was born on February 4th, 1896.

Dad came west in 1904 and my father filed on a homestead 4½ miles southwest of Ruddell. He built a sod shack and barn, then went back to Hamilton in 1905. He brought back a car load which consisted of four horses, one Jersey cow, chickens and machinery.

Jack Thrower Ruddell and Maymont's Gladiola King.

Mother, Louise, Fred, Delbert and I came one year later.

We lived in the sod shack for two years. Then decided to build a new home. In 1908, Louise and I started to school (walked) 4½ miles, Mrs. McKellar being our first teacher. I can remember running along the buffalo trails which all led to the river. We didn't go to school in the winter as the snow was too deep and temperatures often went down to —60 degrees below F.

I can remember in the spring of 1907 we nearly lost our sod shack and barn by a prairie fire, which started south of Dentolm and went right to the river.

The early years were the best years. Every neighbour helped one another. If one was late putting in the crop and your neighbour was finished, he would come over and help you finish. Every spring they had "bees" (which they called it) to help cut up wood for the summer.

The first year Dad had a crop Mr. Megaffin had a portable steam engine and separator who threshed our grain. It was brought from Saljenie by ferry with horses.

Duncan McKellar had the first automobile, chain driven most of the time. Dad had the first Barber Shop in Ruddell.

In the first years there were thousands of ducks and prairie chickens, bush partridges and deer.

In the early years the neighbours put on dances in their homes and would dance till the early morning. Music was supplied by whoever could play a violin.

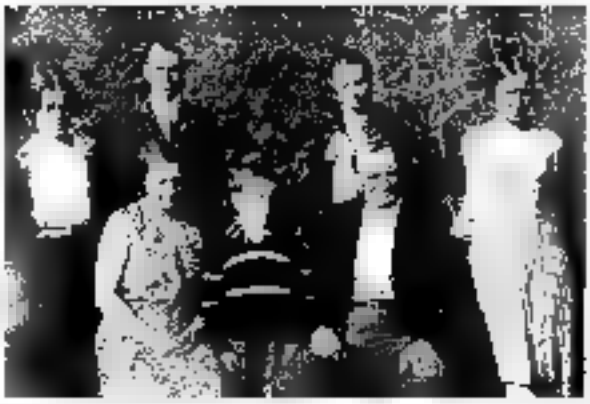
I can remember one Hallowe'en, the older boys took a buggy apart and put it on top of the livery barn. That was in 1911.

Turner History

THOMAS EDWARD TURNER left his native England at the age of twenty-one and travelled to Canada with the Barr colonists, arriving in Saskatoon in April of 1903. The group carried on to Lloydminster but TOM TURNER left the group in Saskatoon and proceeded to Prince Albert where he worked as a lumberjack until 1905 when he filed on a homestead south and west of the present Village of Maymont. He walked from Prince Albert to that location in the spring of 1905. By the time he arrived at the farmstead of George Heller, northeast of Maymont, his eyes were badly swollen and he was practically snow-blind. In the following years Tom was joined on the land location by his brother, Bert, and sister, Molly.

BERT, with his wife, NELLIE, farmed in the district until when they moved to British Columbia and operated a market garden near Vancouver.

MOLLY married MICHAEL BYRNES and they operated a farm which is the present location of Glenburn Park. They had no children but were commonly known throughout the Maymont and Spinney Hill districts as "Uncle Mike" and "Aunt Molly" and their



The original Turner family. Back row, l. to r. — Joyce, Tom, Win and Ev. Front row, l. to r. — Jessie, Ted and Tom Sr.

farm was a favorite stopping place for travellers going to, and coming from Maymont via the South Maymont Ferry which was only a half-mile distance from their farmstead. In 1939 they moved to the Village of Maymont where they resided and ran a boarding house until failing health forced them to move to North Battleford where they passed away in 1951 and 1953.

TOM TURNER married JESSIE MUIRHEAD QUAILE OSLER of the Spinney Hill District. Jessie had come to that area with her parents, two brothers: Robert and Alex, and one sister, Cecelia. Jessie's father sought a drier climate than Edinburgh, Scotland for health reasons. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alex Osler, farmed in the Spinney Hill District for a great number of years before coming to live in the Village of Maymont where they passed away in 1941 and 1948. TOM AND JESSIE were married in 1911 and established residence where the present "TURNER" land is located — SE¼ 17-41-12 W3rd. The farm continues under "TURNER" ownership and is the home of Don and Laura Spence at this time.

Tom and Jessie were always active in the community. Tom was reeve of the municipality for many years, always a sport enthusiast, he enjoyed hunting and fishing and was an ardent promotor of all agricultural activities having been instrumental in organizing the first Wheat Pool committee. Jessie knew everybody and was dearly loved by all. She was a life member of the Homemakers, for many years she was a member of the W.A. of the United Church, a tireless worker at the public health clinics and her friendly hospitality was well known throughout the area. Tom and Jessie raised five children all of whom received their primary and high school education in Maymont.

THOMAS ALEXANDER worked with his father on the farm until 1941 when he enlisted in the Canadian Armed Forces and was discharged some four years later, in 1945, having served in England, North Africa, Italy and the Benelux countries. Tom returned to Maymont following the Second World War and operated the farm with his brother, Ted, until 1949 when he left to work with his sister and brother-in-law on a ranch near Lloydminster. He remains in that district today.

WINNIFRED ELLEN completed her high school in Maymont. She then took a hairdressing course in Saskatoon following which she worked in Saskatoon for a few years before marrying WILLIAM WILSON in March, 1939 and moving to Rosetown. She opened a beauty salon — "WYN'S BEAUTY PARLOR", which she operated for a number of years before joining her husband in "WILSON AGENCIES", an accounting, in-

This J. I. Case threshing outfit was purchased by the Turner Brothers and used extensively throughout their community. In later years, about 1924-25, it was operated by the "Big 4", Andrew Melrose, Billy Melrose, Andrew Reid and Tom Turner. During most of these years the steam boiler Case was operated by Ed Buhr, until combining made threshing obsolete in the area.

surance and real estate business in Rosetown. The Wilsons have two children: DAWN ELAINE DELAINEY, who completed her B.S.N at the University of Saskatchewan and is living in Saskatoon, and THOMAS WILLIAM who is a partner in the business at Rosetown and also operates a recording studio.

EVELYN MARY completed her high school in Maymont and a few years later graduated as a registered nurse from the City Hospital in Saskatoon. She worked for a short time at City Hospital before going ■ nurse at the hospital in Lloydminster. ■ Lloydminster she met and married WILLIAM MITCHELL in April, 1948. They lived on a ranch in the Unwin District, south of Lloydminster. The "MITCHELLS" have three boys: ALEXANDER ARMSTRONG (ALISTAIR) who ranches with his parents; JAMES ROBERT who owns and operates a truck at Swan Hills, Alberta, and THOMAS IAN who is also ranching with his parents and brother, Alistair.

JOYCE CECELIA also completed her high school at Maymont following which she took a hairdressing course in Saskatoon and then joined her sister Win, in the beauty parlor operations in Rosetown. It was in Rosetown that she met and married WILLIAM EVANS in October, 1945. They operate a farm in the Rosetown District. The "EVANS" have two children: VICKY MERLE, a registered nurse, who is married to DAVE KONDRA and lives in Toronto; and TIMOTHY WILLIAM who lives in Moose Jaw.

EDWARD KERR (TED) completed his high school in Maymont and graduated from the School of Agriculture in Saskatoon in 1948. At that time he was farming with his brother, Tom, and took over the farm operations by way ■ a rental agreement with his father in 1950. Ted married MELVILLE BRIGHT of Maymont in July, 1950 and operated the Turner farm from then until 1966 at which time the family moved ■ Regina as Ted assumed responsibilities as First Vice-President of Saskatchewan Wheat Pool. In July, 1969 Ted was elected President of Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, the position he still holds. The "TURNERS" have three daughters: JANICE has a Bachelor of Arts Degree ■ Social Studies and lives in Regina; JOY has a Bachelor of Arts Degree with a major in French; JILL has completed three years of studies towards her Degree in Agriculture at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon and plans to marry MURRAY WALKER, a classmate and farmer in the Langham District. Mel and Ted assumed roles of responsibility ■ the Maymont community where they were active in social, church and sports activities. They have been most fortunate to have had the opportunity to travel ■ many countries of the world as a part of Ted's job. While in Maymont, Mel played an active role in the Young Women's Service Club, as a C.G.I.T. leader, Sunday School teacher, and as a Homecraft leader. Mel played softball and was an active curler. Ted played hockey, a great deal of baseball, was an ardent curler and participated in clubs as an officer of the Young Farmers' Club, Secretary of the Board of Trade, President of the Curling Club, served on the Board of Stewards of the United Church, was active on the Wheat Pool Committee and as a delegate. He was also Secretary of the Dr. Scratch "Appreciation Day" in 1957 and Secretary of the Dr. Scratch Scholarship Fund as well as an original member of the Home and School Association.

Graham Turnbull Story

told by Bess McNeil

The Turnbull family emigrated from Scotland and settled in Brantford, Ontario. After the death of his wife in 1903 my father Graham Turnbull came west. In 1905 ■ and his brother George filed on homesteads — north quarters of Section 4-42-13 W3rd Meridian and purchased section 5 directly west where the original family home still stands.

In April, 1906 his mother, his sister Bess and his children (my brother Bill and I) came to join them. The Turnbull Brothers were well known for their registered Clyde horses and Shorthorn cattle — winning major awards at Regina, Saskatoon and Battleford fairs. They also donated a corner of their land for the Ruddell cemetery where Graham, George and Bess are buried.

I married Ross McNeil and live in Calgary.

During the summer of 1906 the Presbyterian Church service was held in our house — Mr. Madill of Maymont being the first minister. People came in many conveyances — some with oxen pulling the stone boat accompanied by the family dog who helped liven things up with the occasional dog fight in our front yard.

Graham and William Turnbull History

by Dorothy Cook

Michael Graham Turnbull born in Brantford, Ontario (known as Mike in the east but only as Graham when he moved west).

Graham came west alone in the summer of 1905 after the death of his wife who had passed away in the spring of 1903.

In 1905 Graham shipped his possessions and enough lumber and material for a small house. This probably took two railroad cars). He also brought a wagon, plough and horses and a cow.

Since Borden Bridge was not completed, that is as far as his effects could ■ by rail. They were unloaded, taken by ferry across the Saskatchewan River, and then by wagon to Ruddell, some forty miles further west.

Graham set up a homestead in Ruddell in the summer of 1905 and built a small two-storey house on the south west edge of the townsite.

This same summer, land agents were coming out

Turnbull house, Ruddell, formerly known as Geddies.

by team and democrat selling a section of land for ten dollars.

Spring 1906

Graham moved his family from the east along with the remainder of his belongings. His family came west on one of the first passenger trains from Brantford to Winnipeg and then to North Battleford. This was a steam engine train with about a half dozen passenger cars. The cars had slats for seats, a cook stove at the end of the car for the passengers use — and were known as Colonists cars.

One one of these first passenger trains (which took four days and four nights from Winnipeg to North Battleford) Graham's mother, sister, son and daughter came to the Ruddell District.

William Stephenson (son of Graham) — age 7½ years

The rest of this information is recollection of William Turnbull.

He arrived with his sister, Bessie, his Aunt Bess, and his Grandma Turnbull.

They arrived (1906) in Ruddell around 1500 hours on a beautiful spring day in April. There was no snow. Everywhere crocuses bloomed and the gophers were running around by the hundreds.

When the family arrived, thirty or forty acres had been ploughed, oats planted for the stock, and a small garden was put in. The small house was built, also a shed for the stock.

William remembers vividly walking over to this little house. His father had just baked bread.

In the summer of 1906 there was a building boom in Ruddell. Other stores came into existence. The hotel was under construction as well as the church.

The basement for the house was dug and by September or October the house on the knoll was completed (one-half mile south and one-half mile east of Ruddell on Section 5). So in the fall the family moved from the little house to the home house. It was all finished on the outside. The downstairs, which was all one room, was lathed and plastered. There were no stairs, so William and Bessie used a ladder to go to bed.

William remembers how his Grandma got up several times in the night putting wood in the cook stove and heater to keep the house warm. It was a terribly cold winter and recalls how nails were sticking through from the shingles and they were covered with frost. And when it was really cold they would 'zing' or make eerie sounds.

Turnbull Bros. Farm about 1911. Photographed by R. G. Barrett, Maymont.

Going back to the summer, church was held on the lawn outside the little house. Reverend J. C. Madill was the minister and served Maymont and Fielding as well.

There was no school, as the few children around did not attend school until the following year, making it one long holiday. William recalls how he and his sister snared gophers. The bounty was one cent a tail.

In October, 1906 the church was opened. Grandma Turnbull donated the pews.

1907

The hotel was open, complete with bar. There was also a livery barn, hardware store and several more stores.

School was started in the fall of 1907. Mrs. McKellar being the first teacher. William and Bessie walked to school when the weather was fine but used a horse and cutter in the winter.

By the end of 1907 and the spring of 1908 there were a lot more people. Charlie Robinson had opened a furniture store and Mr. McCann had come from the States and was the harness maker.

1911

On the same land a big house was built expressly for Grandma Turnbull.

George Turnbull and Bess Turnbull

1912 — Graham re-married, Eliza Vanalckle from Brantford.

1917 — The big house on the edge of town was bought and in 1918, Graham, Eliza, William and Bessie moved from the farm home into this big house.

Graham bought a Clydesdale stallion from Scotland at a cost of two thousand dollars. He then had Clydes, which he showed at fairs, etc. in Battleford. He did this for many years and won prizes every time he showed his horses. The harness was made by a harness maker in Brantford and was beautiful — with brass buckles.

William recalls how it was his job to take a load of feed up to Battleford for the horses. It took him all day, sitting up on a big hayrack.

William remembers how many people stopped at their home for dinner. It was nothing for a N.W.M.P. to stop regularly.

Grandma Turnbull passed away in the spring of 1915.

William bought his first car in 1916 — naturally a Ford — price $500. (after he returned from Saskatoon).

William attended business college in Saskatoon 1915-1916 for ten to eleven months. The banker offered him eighty dollars a month and Imperial Oil offered him one hundred dollars a month.

In the spring of 1916 he went back to Ruddell and since farming was booming he decided to go back to the farm. His father suggested he take over a livery barn, and that he should have a car (this was mentioned before). He had a team for livery and he hauled everything from ashes to garbage. He was paid one dollar and fifty cents to plough a garden. William also drove the weigh-scale inspector for one month steady, receiving twenty-five dollars a day plus room and board. The scales weighed eight hundred pounds. He also drove N.W.M.P., loan inspectors and all sorts of travellers.

Local people who needed to go to Battleford, were driven in the Ford at a cost of ten dollars.

This car he drove from 1916-1924. He also drove Dr. Scratch hundreds of miles in the winter, driving a very fast team.

William married Ivey Jane Roche on August 2, 1922. The marriage took place in Saskatoon.

Ivey Jane Roche moved with her father, mother, two brothers and two sisters from Bowesmont, North Dakota in 1916.

Her parents were Michael and Gertrude Roche, sisters Agnes and Mamie, brothers Lee and Pat. After moving to Ruddell they had another son, nick-named Mike. Ivey's father was a section foreman.

William and Ivey were blessed with five children — Marjorie Adelaide, Arlene Wilma, Dorothy Jean, Michael Keith and Betty Jane.

Their first home was the little house that William's father had built when he first came to the West.

William, Ivey and family lived in Ruddell from their marriage until 1942. William joined the R.C.A.F. in May of 1941 and the family moved to Saskatoon in 1942.

As for the years in Ruddell, William had continued with the livery stable, later farming.

William served Canada in the R.C.A.F. from May, 1941 to September, 1945. On discharge, he worked for a Construction Company and later a farm implement company until his retirement. They bought their home in 1946.

Ivey served as a house mother at Saskatoon City Hospital from 1953-1969.

In 1972 William and Ivey celebrated their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary.

Ivey Turnbull passed away May 24, 1978 and their daughter, Betty Jane, passed away on April 16, 1979.

Of the Roche family only Mike is left (living in Vancouver, B.C.).

William now lives alone in Saskatoon. He will be eighty-one years old on September 4, 1979. He has good health, maintains a clean and well-kept home, looks after his lawn, trees, shrubs, plants a garden and drives his own car.

He has thirteen grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

William's sister is living in Calgary and will celebrate with her husband Ross, their Sixtieth Wedding Anniversary in the fall of 1979.

George Turnbull Story 1878-1963

by Jean Kingwell

In 1905 George came west from Brantford, Ontario with his brother, Graham, sister, Bess, and their mother, Mrs. Peter Turnbull. They lived 3 houses south and east of the townsite of Ruddell.

George never married, his favorite saying was, "I'll just put on my hat and take my family with me." He farmed with his brother and lots of hired men working several sections of land which necessitated forty horses to be fed and harnessed every morning in the busy seasons. Overall there was ninety horses on the farm. Twenty-five or more would be broken in the spring. Each fall for a number of years George would take a car of horses to Ontario for sale.

Turnbulls, 1910.

The livery stable was kept busy in the early years. Land buyers and salesmen were either driven by cutter or buggy or rented a team themselves. Hot stones, footwarmers and blankets were kept ready in the office. Farmers hauling grain in the winter to the elevators would rent a stall, to be sure of getting their team undercover and fed before making the return trip home. With the coming of trucks horses were phased out, so the livery barn was sold and now sits on the Meena farm west of Ruddell.

George was of a quiet nature but had plenty of dry wit and sayings for all occasions. Turnbull Bros. had the first Rumely combine and tractor — a huge thing that required lots of muscle and cussin' to get it started. The company sent a fellow out to get information regarding it. George told him "the inventor should have been hung before he built it."

A wonderful well and good water was in Turnbull's pasture about three quarters of a mile from town. Ruddell had no source of water so George would haul many a tank of water and put it into the town well for the use of the residents.

The trains both night and morning had to be met with the dray and the express taken to the various stores, coal hauled in the winter, cows were milked and milk supplied to the town, cattle and Clyde horses were driven and [illegible] to [illegible] shown at the North Battleford Fair.

George spent his latter years with his sister, Bess Murison, and is buried beside his brother in the Ruddell Cemetery.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest (Ernie) Traves

Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Traves lived north and east of Lilac. Mrs. Traves was the former Gladys Russell. Ernie and Gladys had a family of five, two girls and three boys — Clara, Homer, Sidney and Edith (twins), and George. The children all went to Lilac School. Both Ernie and George are now deceased. Mrs. Traves lives in Alberta.

Norman C. Tyler

written by Edna (Tyler) Muirhead

Norman C. Tyler was born in Bowmanville, Ontario. Like so many young men in that time he looked to the west to fulfill his dreams and hope.

His first stop was Port Arthur, Ontario where he obtained work as a carpenter erecting the grain elevators. While there he heard that the railway was being laid in Sask. so he decided to push west to Winnipeg. When he arrived there his next step was to buy a democrat and a team of horses and then he loaded the buggy with suits, boots and shoes, watches, etc.; anything a railway man would need and proceeded to follow the railway line (C.N.R.) west.

By the time he reached Calgary, he was, as they say, "Well Heeled" and made up his mind to return east to Kelliher, Sask. where he started, "The Pioneer Store". At that time there was no post office and they used to throw the bag of mail in the store and everybody helped themselves.

In Kelliher, Norman Tyler met his wife, Florence, from Brantford, Ontario. They were married in Nokomis, Sask. as Kelliher had no minister and they had the honor of being the first wedding.

Again, fortune followed him and after 8 years he got restless, especially after hearing a fortune could be made in wheat. He sold his business and bought a section of virgin land near Lindlaw, Sask. He also bought half an interest in a saw mill. His wife and daughter spent 2 years in Yorkton, Sask. and then joined him on the farm. After 5 years it was one disaster after another. If it wasn't hail or drought, it was something else and so to make a long story short he realized he had better get out of wheat while he could.

Norman had dear friends in North Battleford, Sask. and they talked him in to buying a business in Ruddell, Sask. This was the year 1928.

Ruddell was a small, sleepy village about 25 miles east of North Battleford. Every year the village declined in population and businesses moved out or just folded. This was about the time of the "Dirty Thirties" when dust storms would come up and it would be so bad at times that visibility would be almost nil. It was nothing to see wagon loads of household effects; cow or whatever tied behind going slowly

through the village coming from the south of Sask. on their way to the Peace River District.

Gypsies stopped once in awhile but never stayed long. They didn't spend any money, but just begged.

Norman and Florence Tyler had three children, Edna, Ronald and Gordon. After 10 years in Huddell they all moved back east and settled in Brantford, Ontario. The parents were buried in Brantford. Edna lives in Nanticoke, Ontario and has two children named Deva and Don. Ron lives in Brantford and has two children, Ken and Bruce. Gordon is in Mt. Pleasant and also has two children named Brook and Scott.

"It is sad to think of these towns just fading away".

A Biography of my Parents Ernest and Emma Tyhurst

by Marjorie (Tyhurst) Nutbrown

My father Ernest Tyhurst first saw the light of day in Lamberhurst, Kent, England in the British Isles in the year of 1878. He was one of six little sons born to John and Jane Tyhurst. His brothers' names were Harry, John, Frank, Herbert and George. They were all less than eight years old when their mother died at the age of thirty-six.

Not many years went by before their father married again. Two little girls were the result of this marriage, Dorothy and Ciss. However their father (my grandfather) died at the age of forty-two years from sugar diabetes. Little was known of the disease at that time. It has since been under control with diet and insulin giving longer life to many since the year 1926.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Tyhurst's second Sod Home. A prairie fire in 1906 left the prairie around bare.

Mr. Ernest Tyhurst's Sod Stable and hen house. Marjorie and Dorothy standing by the oat stack.

After my grandfather's death an elderly maiden aunt took over the care of the six little brothers, there being considerable money in the family at that time. The aunt whose name was Emily saw fit to give them all a good education. They were sent to schools in Germany and France following their schooling in England. It must be remembered that at that time little children began their school work at age three to four years. My mother learned her first lessons in knitting then and cried many times from her sore little fingers. Knitting needles were made from steel and they were heavy.

When my father, or Dad, as I prefer to call him became eighteen years of age he ran away from his aunt as he wasn't happy in her home. The other brothers eventually did the same. They all came to Canada except George, the youngest brother, and he went to war in South Africa where he died at the age of twenty-four.

In the year 1896 when he left his aunt he decided to come to Canada. Not having very much money, he came over as what he called a "stow away" on the ship, which eventually arrived on the coast of the United States of America. By that time Dad only had the value of fifty cents in his pocket. He went to Detroit where he found work on a tobacco farm. From there he came to Canada and worked on a farm in Ontario. After he left there he came to Regina where he joined the Royal Canadian Mounted Police with two of his brothers. By this time another brother had started life as a farmer in the Regina District but he only lived a few years.

The Prairie Provinces were then called the North West Territories. Later they became individual provinces — Saskatchewan in 1905 as we now know it to be. In 1903 Dad decided to go further west and came to what is now the City of Saskatoon which at that time was a village of shacks and lots of tents in which people lived. It was from there that the young people obtained their food and supplies as it came in from Winnipeg as the railroad had been built as far as Saskatoon and was under construction to Lloydminster. So Dad managed to get a job with the construction crew. He was hired as what was called "a bull cook" in other words he was there to assist the chief cook.

Dad used to get quite a kick out of telling us about the time he was working there and the little jokes played on one another. The cook used to make individual little pies and put them on the window sill to cool. For several days one pie would disappear from the same place, so Dad decided to do something about this. He caught a mouse, cooked it in a pie, put it out to cool. It disappeared as the others had done but the man never came back for another little pie.

As time went on a little village started up sixty or eighty miles north west of Saskatoon. It was then

called Shacktown or Village. Later it became known as Fielding after some prominent person.

While Dad was working on the railroad he had a good view of the lands and decided he wanted to farm for himself. At that time anyone wanting to have 160 acres of land could do so providing they lived on the land for six months and broke up so many acres each year. The price to be paid for the 160 acres would be ten dollars but a mighty lot of hard work had to follow. So Dad's choice was 160 acres on the south side of the railroad three miles west of Fielding. This was his Homestead on the northeast section of 14 in Township 41, Range 12, West of the Third Meridian. The year, 1904.

Dad worked with the railroad crew as far as Lloydminster. Then began his farming days on the Homestead as follows. He built himself a small one-room sod shanty first, also a sod stable, after purchasing two horses, a walking plough and a wagon. With this plough he plowed the furrows to obtain the slabs of sod for the walls and roofs of the shanty and the stable. These dwellings were very cool in the summer time and warm in the winter as the walls would be twelve to fourteen inches thick. Poles were put on the top to hold the slabs of earth for a roof. They had to be in a slanting position so the water from rains and snow would run off. Often the roof would leak in a rain storm. The floor in the shanty had to remain as a dirt floor until lumber could be bought to cover it, which came with time.

The shanty was lined inside with heavy building paper. Mice were frequent visitors and kitty cats were in great demand, being good mousers. Trees and brush had to be cleared by man and axe, stumps pulled out with the horses, stones had to be dug and piled. Dad made a stone fence on one side of the pig pen, with page wire on the remaining sides. All that work was very tiring and hard. They had to walk behind their machinery in those days. With time Dad bought another twenty acres. He never bought any more land but did rent a quarter across the way known as Section 13 for as long as he lived and farmed.

In the early days there was an abundance of wild fruit especially large wild strawberries, but in the thirties there came a drought which lasted so long that strawberry picking ended. Many of the trees and bushes died. The country looked very sad and forlorn – a very difficult time for everybody.

Dad planted wheat and oats, grew his own vegetables and always plenty of potatoes. There was always the danger of losing part or all that was grown from early frosts, drought, hail, grasshoppers or army worms and there still is, but some years we were lucky enough to get through without any of these problems. There was always a weed problem in the fields, mostly Tansy Mustard, Blue Burr, Stinkweed, and pigweed, the latter being very good to eat as greens when cooked, the correct name was Lamb's Quarters then, but I believe has been changed since. Weeds were picked by hand, then put in gunny sack and later burnt. As the years went by my sister, Dorothy, and I spent many of our summer school holidays with our dad in the field pulling weeds that were growing among the grain crops. At time a man was hired by the municipality to drive around in his buggy which sometimes was pulled with two horses, sometimes just one horse. This man was called the Weed Inspector and it was his duty to check the fields to see that the farmer was pulling his weeds and for this duty he was paid, of course. For all this many farmers paid little attention which made it extra hard for the man who did, for when the weeds ripened, and the winds blew, which they do on the prairies and very strong, with the result the clean farmer had to have the weed seeds from the farm where the man hadn't bothered. Unclean fields lowered the quality of the grain and a farmer lost a lot in dockage at the elevators.

In the early days of the 1900's Dad's friends and neighbors were the Fasts, the Sloans, Newmyers, Caveth and Stepler, Logies and the Rheinhardts, the Shermans, Prechtl, Millers and Scholmers, Linsdales, Lewises and the Englebees, also the Edge Brothers and the Collins, Ferrises and the Hynes and Wilcoxes. It seemed as if there was some one on most every quarter and the Northcotts and the Buells and Steplers, the Logies left before my time of remembering. There were the Pedens and the Williams and the Andrews and the Beaudoins. Everybody was busy but had time for one another.

By 1906 Dad had everything as comfortable as he could have, so went to Regina to be married. My mother came from Peasmarsh, Sussex, England to marry him. Her name was Emma Mary Avery and she was twenty-three years old. She was the eldest of three living sisters and two brothers. Four others had died in infancy. Her parents had a grocery store there and her father was a Baptist layman and Sunday school teacher. They were a very musical family and had a happy family life. Nevertheless my mother was willing to leave it all behind to marry Dad and come to the great unknown. They were married on April 23, 1908. From Fielding they drove in the wagon back to the farm. A year before their marriage a prairie fire swept through taking with it the dead grass, trees and bush. Mother came to a very bleak and bare countryside which was very sad. When I asked her her first impressions she just shook her head and as long as she lived she never spoke of those years. It was from Dad and his stories that I have been privileged to write their biography, and what I remember for myself. And I do remember running along the furrow behind the walking plow and I do remember the burnt bush from the prairie fire that Dad had yet to take out. I also remember living in the sod house which was demolished in 1912.

In October 1908 after they had been married about six months their little sod shanty burned down. Dad was working three-quarters of a mile away in the field

near the railroad track. A freight train happened along on its way to points west, when the Engineer seeing the fire stopped his engine and went over to ask Dad "if that might be his home burning down". Dad had not seen it until then. He unhitched his horses and hurried to the scene. By this time all was gone except for one trunk which Mother had pulled out as it was near the door. Mother had been washing clothes and was hanging them on the line when the fire started. The day was very windy and a spark from the tin stove pipe had caught on the paper around the chimney and set it alight. That was a very sad and tragic day for both of them.

From then on my mother stayed in the hotel in Fielding while the kindly neighbors came to help Dad put up another sod dwelling. This one was larger and had a bedroom attached. The one that was burned down had an addition of some sort in which he had his oats. It was there to help keep the north winter winds from the shanty had it been given a chance. They lived in the new dwelling until 1912 when the sod bedroom caved in, so Dad bought a one-room frame house that either Mr. Caveth or Mr. Stepler had left behind. This he moved and joined on the livable part of the sod house. That part then became a bedroom. You see my sister, Dorothy, and I were part of the family then. I was five and she was four years.

Finally that part caved in and was hauled away. Dad then built another part on, dividing it in half to make two nice sized bedrooms. The front room was also divided to make an extra bedroom and storeroom. A kitchen was next to be built on. The frame houses were all very cold at that time as the men did not know how to build them for warmth. Insulation then was unheard of, just boards outside covered with tar paper and then shingled, with wallboard inside which could be painted. All the floors were covered with linoleum, a poor quality by today's standards but the best they could afford but better than the board floor in the sod house which was painted red. My mother was a good housekeeper and cook and made everything as comfortable as she could. Curtains for the windows were made out of scrim, a very thin material, but with geraniums on the window sills they were cheerful.

In 1913-14 Dad bought an organ, a new fumed-oak sideboard with chairs and a table, this being the first time my mother ever had any real furniture. She badly wanted a new cook stove as the one she was using had gone through the fire and was badly cracked. A new one came years later.

In the early thirties Dad had a nice new house built in which they lived until 1944 when the farm was sold for eight thousand dollars to Mr. Miller. Dad was very upset at having to sell the farm as he loved the life and all nature. He was a good manager and took great pride in his farm work, but for him as for all, time takes its course and he felt he could no longer do the field work as he was still farming with the power of horses. On May 3, 1945 Dad passed away following a number of severe strokes. He was only sixty-seven years. Mother passed away twenty-one years later at the age of eighty-one years. She had not been well for many years. They left to mourn their loss three daughters, myself Marjorie, Dorothy and Elsie and one son, Ernest Alan. Two little daughters predeceased them, Kathleen and Marguerite, in 1918 and 1920.

Now we shall go back to 1912 and 1913 when Dad finally finished breaking the prairie sod into farmland. I was not of school age then, in fact the school still had to be built in our district. However, when my sister and I did go we went to Neepawa School which was three and a half miles from home, a long walk for beginners, but Dad drove us there in the winter time until we were able to drive ourselves.

Dad eventually bought more horses, starting out with two and finishing up the last twenty-five years with from twelve to fifteen including one kept for driving purposes when supplies of food were needed or repairs for the machinery. Plow shares had to be taken to the village blacksmith, a Mr. Downey, to be sharpened. Then there were the pleasure drives around the fields to see the growing and ripening crops. Many trips were made to the Fielding Cemetary to see the little graves of their daughters and those of friends and neighbors. Dad and Mother kept the Sabbath Day as religiously as was possible. Even after working in the fields all week with the horses they would drive the three miles to church and back most every Sunday afternoon except in the winter time. Dad was Church Warden for a long time and Mother played the organ. We children went to Sunday School when we could. We walked part way and had a ride with the Sunday School teacher, Mr. Harold Baker, the rest of the way.

After Dad bought more horses he also bought a larger plow. This had an iron seat on it which made it easier for his legs to be able to sit down, as he had very bad varicose veins. He also bought a set of harrows. They had sharp teeth and looked like spikes. These helped to smoothe the ground. He also bought a small seed drill. This was used to plant the seed. A discer was a must then, too, as it really helped to break up the sod. Four horses were used to pull that. It was a machine about seven or eight feet long. Underneath the framework were many large circular discs kept very sharp. A steel seat was built in the middle for the driver. On each end of the machine were two wooden boxes to be filled with stones to weight it down.

A binder was bought for cutting the grain at harvest time. When the crop year was good Dad hired a man to stook the sheaves of grain. One year the harvest was very poor so Dorothy and I were the stookers.

Dad never owned a threshing machine but hired farmers who owned one to come and thresh his sheaves. Threshing was a very exciting time of the year, very interesting, starting very early in the morning and often into the late evening if the weather was

threatening. There would be a crew of fourteen to sixteen men. In those early years many of the farmers used oxen to haul the bundle wagons of sheaves, also to pull the machinery in the fields. I remember the days of the oxen.

Dad would hire a thresherman who would have a cook car and a sleeping caboose. Mother, then, only had to cook for the grain haulers, which would mean five or six men. In the twenties I hauled grain myself from the threshing machine to the granaries. It was fun then. The hardest part was shovelling it [illegible] shovelfuls through an open window into separate bins. Dad was hauling too and often had to help me as I would be in the way. It was a time of all hurry.

Something that always fascinated Dorothy and I at threshing time was the cook car and the sleeping caboose, but those were places we were never allowed to go near in case we bothered the cook. As for the caboose it was just childhood curiosity to see what both were like inside. Sometimes there would be a man cook. Other times perhaps a farm wife. The cook car was a long narrow building built of wheels. It contained two long narrow tables along each wall. Benches were used for seats. The cook stove, cupboards, and bake table were all at the front end. I had the pleasure of seeing the inside of one once; it was no longer in use.

Our drinking water came from a square hole which Dad dug with a spade. The hole was ten to twelve feet deep and was cribbed inside and about three to four feet above the ground. A pulley was used so we could pull the water up in a pail. The water was very nice for drinking and always cool.

In the winter there would be a large wooden barrel in the kitchen in which snow was carried in to melt. This was lovely for washing being very soft. This water was also used to water the cow and chickens. The hens were kept busy laying eggs. There was only one little window in the hen house which frosted over very badly. Needless to say the mice were many in there. A hen would catch one very quickly. The highest price for eggs as I remember them in the winter would be one dollar a dozen so it paid to have the hens laying. In the thirties they were five cents a dozen.

Dad never milked more than two cows and usually only one. She would be a good milk cow which usually gave a large pail of milk twice a day. This would be strained into a large milk can with a lid on it and from spring until the hard frosts came these cans were hung in the well where they stayed for twenty-four hours. By that time the cream had risen to the top and would be nice and thick. It made the nicest butter, whipped cream and table cream.

We also made our own ice cream in the winter time when we could make our own ice. The ingredients — eggs, cream, milk, sugar, a little salt, and vanilla — would be put in a five or ten-pound pail surrounded by ice and salt. The pail inside with a handle on it was then turned round and round as fast as could be until the mixture was ice cream. That was real ice cream!

Butter was made by hand. It was churned in a barrel churn or with a dasher, which my mother used before the barrel churn arrived. Neither way were easy ways, compared to today's standards but it was the way it was and they knew no other. They were thankful for small mercies.

Butter and eggs were traded for groceries at the store of Mr. Dickenson or Mr. MacGregor, Mr. Harris or Mr. Gunn. Only the essentials were bought in the grocery line such as tea, salt, cocoa, sugar, flour, baking powder, soda and icing sugar later on. Cornstarch was a must for puddings, there being plenty of milk. What milk was left over was given to the chickens in the winter, to the pigs and baby chicks in the spring. Raisins, prunes, dried beans, rice, macaroni and tapioca all added to the variety. A special treat would be a pail of bought jam and marmalade. I forgot to mention rolled oats for porridge.

Coal oil for the lamps would be bought by the gallon. Twilights were enjoyed during the age of the coal oil lamps. People just had to be very saving with everything. Later came the Aladdin lamps and the gas lamps which gave a much brighter and enjoyable light.

There was plenty of good fruit that could be bought in season, if the money was available which there was in later years. If the year was good without early frosts after the blossoms appeared on the fruit trees the wild fruit would be very good — strawberries, saskatoons, gooseberries, black currants, raspberries, pin cherries and cranberries. These were hand-picked of course and made into lovely jellies, jams and preserved in sealers with a sugar-water syrup.

We always looked forward to a nice Christmas Day. As far back as I can remember there were always oranges, bought biscuits, some good chocolates and candy. Mother made her usual nice Christmas cake, and pudding, with mince meat and lemon cheese tarts. We children hung up our stockings Christmas Eve in which we would find an orange, some bon bons, a chocolate or two and a doll or some other nice little gift, ever so much appreciated. Other than at Christmas time a five cent bag of suckers had to last a whole week. We were never allowed a whole chocolate bar at one time as long as I was home. In those days people had to save up as well for their old age or for hospital care if needed as there were not any pensions or health benefits then.

Another night to look forward to would be the night of Christmas concert, in the school house, in which every child took part, some with recitations, others in dialogues, drills, songs by little children, group singing, a real Christmas program. The parents would take lunch and a small gift. A dance would follow after lunch. Of course Santa Claus came with his sack of "we wondered what" on his back. The tree was beautifully decorated, mostly with home-made decorations. Santa always had real bells around his

waist. Coal oil lamps lit the room inside. Lanterns were used in the barns. Everyone wore the best clothes they had. The school girls usually had a new dress, while the boys had a new shirt and overalls or pants.

Everyone in those days dressed for winter with long fleece-lined or woollen underwear. They wore mostly woollen socks, felt boots or moccasins. In the early spring they wore rubber boots and leather boots. When warm enough the children went bare foot even to school until the cold fall days.

In the first fifteen years of the 1900's automobiles were not to be seen much less thought about. The first one that I knew about was the one our young Dr. Scratch owned. Some one will know whether it was a Maxwell, Allan seems to think it was. That was in the year around 1918. Before that Dr. Scratch drove a team of horses and a buggy. He lived in Maymont the years I knew him and had a little barn for his horses, Allan tells me. In the winter time people either went for him or the liveryman took him. The liveryman was a man who kept a team or two of horses in the barn in Maymont and people would pay him so much to take him to their destinations if not beyond driving distances. Summer and winter whatever the weather the doctor always went to his patient. The closest hospital would be in Saskatoon.

Dr. Scratch was a good doctor, a kind man. He would be twenty-three or twenty-four years old when I was born in the sod house. I understand my mother was his third maternity case. She was very uncomfortable and nearly died before the doctor came as no one knew where he was. Neighbors were close and word went from one to another. Fortunately it was late May and the roads were good. Some went on horseback to find him, others in their wagon or buggy. If ever telephones were needed it was in those early years when they hadn't any. However he was located and arrived in time to save her life and mine. Mrs. Long, Sr., who was Mr. Fred Long's mother, looked after my mother when I was born. We six children were all born in the farm home as most children were in those days. Some of the mothers did not live and many babies died but with some it was before there was a doctor. What a relief when a doctor did come.

Our toilet or out-house was a little log construction not far from the house which was used all the year around. An Eaton's catalogue or apple wrappings served as toilet tissue out there then. It's a wonder more people didn't have rectum problems at that time, but they seemed to live through it and there was no other way.

Our first school teacher was an elderly man by the name of Mr. Alfred Amos. He lived in a house within short walking distance of the school. He had a wife and two children, Bruce and Eileen. The school and house were on the land belonging to a Mr. Northcott who was a farmer and blacksmith. He had a mouth full of lovely gold teeth as I remember him.

We always had good teachers. We were taught to mind both at home and at school as were our schoolmates so there were few problems. The odd ones would have a good strapping if thought necessary. Usually once was enough. Although I do remember one occasion when every pupil was strapped on the hand. This is how it was: Our first teacher Mr. Amos always kept a bag of real nice candy in his desk. He always went home for his dinner, and one noontime somebody got the idea to taste his candy. It was passed around until when it came to we beginners we had to have the crumbs. When Mr. Amos came back from dinner and opened the drawer to have a candy they were all gone. He was very cross and wanted to know who had taken it but no one would admit to having done so. So Mr. Amos thought to punish every child with a few good hard straps on the hand. Some cried, of course. When they all got over that and thought things out some days later, some one had the bright idea one morning to surprise him by giving him the nicest food they had in their dinner pail. This was lined up on his desk when he came back at noon. Our best that day was two wieners. Others had given him cake or fruit or a sandwich. When he came back and saw all that on his desk his eyes filled with tears and he passed another bag of the same kind of candy around the room, but his was always safe after that.

Our school like all buildings then had not been built warmly and it would be very cold in the mornings in the winter time, so much so that often our lunches were not thawed out by dinner time. They would have to be warmed closer to the stove. We took our lunches in small three-pound lard pails, larger families took theirs in those big syrup pails. Someone brought water for everyone. When the days of the open pail and dipper were no more we had water fountains, much more sanitary. Mice were frequent visitors in our schools, even the new Neepawa School that was built after the first one was burned down. No one ever seemed to know who was responsible for that happening but we did not mind as the new one was built nearly one mile closer on the corner of the land belonging to a Mr. Fast.

Our school mornings began with the singing of "O Canada" and the Lord's Prayer and the day ended usually with "God Save the King" which was good. We learned respect for our Lord, King and Country, and our teachers.

Our teaching was strict and to the point. Our main subjects then were a good grounding in writing, spelling, reading, arithmetic, grammar, composition, geography, some art, algebra, English and Canadian history. We had to draw our own maps of the continents from the Geography books. No such thing as tracing them. Games played were football, softball and steal sticks. A good Inspector would call at the schools so many times a year to see how well everything was going.

The days we children looked forward to the most

were our summer school. Christmas and Easter holidays and any one's birthday. As I grew older I enjoyed school with the different lady teachers who were a Miss Lawson, Miss Lucille Gifford, Miss Hawthorn and Miss Emma Nutting. Miss Blakely was our High School Teacher in Fielding. She is now Mrs. Roberts and lives in Saskatoon.

I must mention the heating of homes in those and later years, which was done with wood. As the fire of 1905 had burned so much of the bush and trees Dad would have to drive three or four miles south to the North Saskatchewan River banks where the trees had not been burned. This was done in the winter time when he could haul the poles on the sleigh banks as they were low to the ground for loading. He cut the trees down with an axe. They had to be limbed of course. Men should never have gone alone in case of an accident but most had too. He would have to leave early in the morning as it was a day's work. When he did get it home it had to be cut with a bucksaw in stove lengths for many years until a real sawing machine was invented. One was later bought by Mr. Brockwell who went around sawing up people's wood.

When the railroad bed had to have new ties under the rails Dad would buy some of the old ones as, being dry, they made a quick fire and very hot. The nice part too was that he did not have far to go for them. As time went on coal was able to be bought which made a more lasting fire with even heat. There were two kinds of coal, soft and hard. The hard lasted the longest and I believe it came from Drumheller in Alberta. Some was called Black Diamond.

Saturday nights were the "all over" bath nights, when the kitchen was made extra warm in the winter time (no worry about heat at other times of the year). The clothes washing tub would be brought in. Each bathed in turn with nice warm snow water in the winter and rain water in the summer. Monday was wash day. Mother never had a washing machine preferring to wash by hand, as I did, too, for fourteen years after I was married but not by choice.

For meat on the farm Dad would buy two little pigs every spring. When the weather would become cold enough in the late fall he would butcher them by himself. The hams and bacon were put in a large barrel in a brine made with salt, saltpetre, brown sugar and water. This would be boiled and cooled before it was poured over the meat. In six weeks the hams were taken out and put in the smoke house for a given time. A special kind of wood chips were burned for that special smoke. After that was all over they were wrapped up and buried in the oat bin where they kept well until all used up.

The same was done with the bacon only the time was shorter in the brine. The same was done with beef which Dad bought from the farmers that sold their meat. There was a good butcher shop in our town of Fielding. One of the butchers was a Mr. Cassidy so we actually had all the fresh and cured meat needed, as well as our own chicken all the year round. Fish came from the fisheries at Big River. One could buy all the fish that was needed. Dad bought whitefish and trout. They were kept frozen outside until ready for use. Sometimes we had smoked and fresh herrings.

I remember going with Dad with the horse and buggy (before I ever went to school) in the fall of the year to the fields where the grain stooks were still on the ground and it was nothing to drive up to the stooks and see many prairie chickens around. Dad would shoot four or five at a time. They were lovely to eat fried in butter. The birds did not know enough to be afraid of man and his gun in those years but they soon learned. We had lots of rabbits to eat too, in fact, when Dad started farming and for some years after that was all the meat they had. The deer were leaving the country at that time, also the antelope. The buffalo had left those parts by then, but many dried heads and bones from those killed were still to be seen. In fact earlier there were so many buffalo bones that they were gathered up and sold by the carloads.

Mother used to make some of our clothes. A man had come around driving a horse and buggy with Singer Sewing Machines to sell. Mother was pleased to have one. A dentist also used to drive around to the farms pulling teeth where necessary. There wasn't any freezing then, so you suffered either way. There was a dentist too who came around checking horses' teeth.

Another thing that could have been a little worrisome especially to the women folks on the farm, when at that time telephones weren't even thought of, was the men that were called tramps, receiving that name from tramping from place to place looking for food. I say food because any that came to Dad's did not ask for work, just food. They were seldom invited into the house but they would sit on the wash benches at the side of the house while a sandwich or something was prepared, after which they would wend their way back to the railroad track from whence they had come. You see the C.N.R. track was only half a mile north of the farm buildings.

One day when I was about twelve years of age and our mother was in the hospital in Saskatoon, Dad was churning the cream for butter. Every once in awhile you had to pull out a plug that was in the bottom of the churn to let out the gas, or else the plug would blow out and a circle of cream would cover where it hit. Some mess to have to clean up! This rarely happened but while Dad was churning one of these tramps came right into the kitchen. Dad had him sit down until he finished the churning. Of course the plug had to be pulled. Dad did this just in time, too, as it blew with a terrible bang. This really scared the fellow and he jumped off the chair. He thought someone had a gun. I shall never forget the state he was in as Dad tried to explain about the gas forming off the cream as it was being churned. They always churned sour cream. When washed well it made good butter. The tramps

who came as I remember were not young men. They usually had a very heavy beard growth. They did not look very clean and some were very much in rags. Sad when you come to think of it. They never mentioned money and all carried a little bag fastened to a long stick which they carried over their shoulder. Their head dress was a dirty cap or a raggedy straw hat.

I remember another time when Dad did not lock the door at night. I do wonder why as he knew anyone could walk in. And one night someone did although Dad never did see him or hear him, but the next morning when he went into the kitchen to light the kitchen cook stove, on the floor a bed had been made out of some of the extra clothes that always hung behind the kitchen door.

Another time a stranger found his way around inside the house in the dark of night (and it was dark too as Mother had heavy green-colored blinds on all the windows which were pulled down before going to bed). He went right into Dad's and mother's bedroom first right round to Dad's side of the bed, perhaps hoping to find Dad's purse in his pocket, but it wasn't there. Dad and Mother were both terrified but they never spoke. They could not see the person. Finally he went into the bedroom where my sister Dorothy was asleep. This caused double fear, but as luck had it he left as quietly as he had come. They never missed anything, so really men were not all that bad in those days, as bad they been, they had every chance to steal, murder, rape, burn buildings, etc. I must say from that night on the door was always locked.

I also remember as a little girl seeing the Royal Canadian Mounted Police mounted on their lovely horses passing on the road not more than two hundred feet from the farm buildings. That was their way of travel in the early days. They wore large Stetson hats, navy pants with bright red tunics and looked really smart next to anyone else then.

Mother was never very strong. She would feed the pigs sometimes and she often had to carry pails of water up the hill to the house. I know it was hard for her by the times she had to put them down while she rested, which times she always enjoyed just looking around and listening to the many different songbirds. There was still a lot of prairie grass and new trees and bush growing up after the fire that had swept through some years back. She loved the prairie sunsets and the lovely scenes in cloud formation, the same, many times at night with a bright moon and floating clouds.

My mother had been a very lonely little person for the first five years of her life in Canada. The closest neighbors at first were two miles away. They were German, hard workers and good neighbors but not much company as Mother could not speak their language. That's where my dad fit in with his knowledge of German and French. There were a few French families and later on more English settlers arrived. It was a lifesaver to my mother when her parents, sisters and brother came out from England in 1913 and made their home in Saskatoon.

Life went on much the same from day to day once Dad really became more settled with more and better equipment.

This must be the end of what has been a long story, more or less a life time of "as it was" in my parents time up to 1945.

Marmie (Andrew) Tyson

My father, the late Oliver Andrew, came to Maymont, Saskatchewan with his parents, brothers and sister.

Dad married Lillian Lafreniere. I have two sisters, Olive who lives in the U.S.A. and Gene at Deseronto, Ont. Our brother Sonnie (Walter) was killed September 21, 1944 in Belgium. He was with the Tank Corps from Southern Alberta.

Mom was always on call helping the sick and ushering in the new babies along with our dear Dr. Scratch. (I may add Dr. Scratch, brought my husband, Tom Tyson, myself and our three eldest sons into the world.)

Nothing too exciting to relate. We were all just plain old "Gophers" as they call a Westerner here. We lived on a farm for years, rode horseback, played ball and the odd game of nimble sticks. I used to compete with my Shetland pony "Midget" at the Richard Fair for best girl or boy under ten on a Shetland pony. My grandfather gave the prize. I always won first place. When I got to age ten he raised the age limit to twelve. One year I entered in the Ladies Class and won first place. Needless to say the rules were changed the next year. In the year of 1941, my husband and brother left Denholm and came in what was the City of Fort William. They started work in the Canadian Car Plant building airplanes, etc., for the airforce and army.

Mom and Dad came the following winter, worked at the plant, and went back in the spring and had an auction sale. They came back and both worked at the plant until war ended and the huge layoff took place. Dad worked steady till age seventy-six, at the Royal Edward Hotel. He passed away in 1967 at the age of eighty-three and a half. Mom died in 1968.

Henry Prior Voke

told by Mary (Welford) Moffat

Henry Prior Voke came to the Lilac district from Wales in 1903. His homestead was the S.E. ¼-18-43-13-W 3rd — commonly known as the "Shaw Place". It is now owned by the Gillatt Brothers. Here he built the usual pioneer's sod house but later replaced it with a two-storey frame house which he furnished but never liked. He bought the adjoining Alan homestead and later sold the half section to Mr. Shaw. Mr. Voke then moved for a short time to N.W. ¼-27-42-13. At this time he was asked by a Trust Company to look after the

H. P. Volkes outfit.

H. P. Volkes threshing crew (1940): Pop Golderman, Billy Welford, Johnnie Bulmer, Harland Johnson, Frank Ebach, George Patterson, Albert McIntyre, Harold Pain, Jack Patcou, Alwyn Ebach.

livestock on the Gregson place near Richard as Mr. Gregson had died quite suddenly. As payment for his services he was given ownership of the land. However, ■ sold it and moved back to Section 27 where he built a modest house and barn. He named his farm NEEDMORE and this sign was prominently printed on the west side of the roof of his hip-roofed barn. After several land deals ■ acquired the south half of Section 34 as well as the N.E. of 27 and eventually sold all four quarters to Mr. Harry Welford in 1944. It is on Mr. Voke's farm that Bill and Nellie Welford now reside.

Mr. Voke was a trustee for the first school board of Badger Bluff School District, as well ■ a trustee of Wavie Bank's first school board.

Henry Voke retired first to B.C. in 1944 but was unhappy there and came to North Battleford for his remaining years. He died in the 60's and was buried in North Battleford City Cemetery.

The Otto Voegeli Family

■ March, 1927 two weeks before his seventeenth birthday, Otto Voegeli followed in the wake of his brothers to Canada from Switzerland. Not knowing a word of English, he made his home wherever he might hang his hat; working for farmers in the Fielding, Speers and Maymont area.

Ten years later he met Beatrice James, one of the children of Ernest and Ada James from the Maymont district. They were married in 1945. That year Otto purchased the Harper estate north of Ruddell for he and his bride to make their home.

The years brought seven children:

Dorothy Margaret, Leonard James, Ernest Otto, David Charles, Linda May Joan, Anna Marie, and Donna Alice.

With the help of their uncles after their father passed away in 1961, the three boys took over the management of the farm.

As a registered nurse, Dorothy moved to British Columbia and married a young mechanic, Sid Fournier. Sid and Dorothy have one son Duane Roger, born 1970, and twin daughters — Diana Marie and Denise Michelle, born 1972. They make their home in Nanaimo, B.C.

Dorothy was followed by her brother Leonard who married Sharon Lee. They have settled on Saltspring Island where they were bringing up their two daughters; Nadine, born 1970 and Erica Shane; born 1972. Leonard furthered his education in Victoria, B.C. to become a Ferry Boat Captain.

David married Gail Swanson a Registered Nurse from Crane Valley, Sask. and they built their home west of Maymont. There they are bringing up their two daughters; Krista Fern, born 1975; Leah Faye born 1976, and their son Tyler David, born 1979. David along with his older brother Ernie, continues ■ farm.

Linda's husband, Barry Stoicescu, started his own bakeshop in Nipawin, Sask. while she worked ■ a Registered Nurse in the hospital there. They are expecting their first child in December, 1979.

Anna became a Laboratory Technician before she married Blair Dearborn and they make their home in Saskatoon.

Donna works in North battleford.

Levi Walden

Levi Walden was born in Northampton, England on June 13, 1900. After public school ■ started an apprenticeship as a shoemaker, but quit this in 1917, to join the British Army in World War I. In 1922 he was working on a farm in England when a nephew of his employer came from Canada to visit. Levi became interested in Mr. Alf Tyson's stories about this area of Saskatchewan and made arrangements through Mr. Tyson to come to work for Mr. Welford. The agreement was that Mr. Welford would send over the money for his boat, and train fare and ■ would work ■ the farm until the debt was paid off. Levi arrived by train in Lilac in the spring of 1923 — a year when the station yard and half the roads were covered with water. A team and wagon with four curious Welford youngsters met him and drove him to his destination. His first assignment was to harness a team of horses and this left him rather bewildered until ■ got helpful advice from Jack and Ted.

Levi and Jennie Walden.

Levi worked on the Welford farm for eight years and then married Jennie Welford on March 25, 1931. They started farming on land rented from Mr. Yoke — commonly known as the Carpenter place. In 1935 they rented the Albert Steele farm S.W. of Ruddell but hit the very driest years. Crops and prices were poor but they milked cows and sold cream, often putting up green Russian Thistle for a winter's supply of hay.

In 1939 when the World War II broke out, Levi enlisted in the army and spent a short time at Dundurn, Sask. but later became an instructor with the Engineers and was stationed at Sardis, B.C. On his return to civilian life in 1945, he and his wife bought the W. J. Davis farm (E½ 32-42-13 W3rd). They lived here until 1967 when failing health led to their retirement to North Battleford. Levi passed away ■ November 1977 and was buried in North Battleford City Cemetery ■ the Legion section.

I, Jennie Walden, was born in the Lilac District on July 10, 1909. I lived at home with my parents Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Welford and helped with lots of jobs in the house and outdoors.

I went to school at Bathgate school and got my Grade VIII. Then I went to Ruddell for a year and a half. I rode horseback or had a horse and buggy to travel back and forth everyday, a distance of seven miles each way. When the weather got too cold I stayed with Moisley's for 6 weeks.

I married Levi ■ March 25, 1931, and we lived on the Carpenter farm which was close to the Welford farm for four years. We moved to Albert Steele's farm near the river and farmed there until 1939. Levi joined the army because we weren't getting any crops. Lots of times we only had a silver dollar ■ the house and we wouldn't spend that. When we were on relief I felt we had lots of money, although it was only $8 a month for the two of us.

Levi was happy in the Engineers but we weren't together. I stayed with my father and mother and helped them until Levi came home. We bought the Davis farm and moved back to Lilac. We stayed there for 29 years. When our health wouldn't let us carry on, we retired to North Battleford and bought a house. We lived there for ten years since we were both failing in health.

I had Multiple Sclerosis and had been in and out of a wheel chair for years, but between Levi and I we carried on.

Levi's health got worse and he had to go to the University Hospital in Saskatoon where he died on November 25, 1977. By this time I had got into the River Heights Lodge in North Battleford. It's nice here and I have lots of friends and I enjoy playing cards and carpet bowling. They have lots of entertainment because different groups of people come in. The Old Timers enjoy watching the Old Time Dancers. There is a lot of Bingo and the winner of each game gets ribbon. We save the ribbons and each month the person with the most ribbons wins five dollars. I've been lucky and have won more than once. I find I handle more money than I ever dreamed of but if it wasn't for the Government's help I wouldn't ■ able to manage for long. I get a lot of nice visitors and I get out to visit at my brother's and sister's twice a year so I'm happy. I try to smile at everyone I meet and I hope this cheers them all up.

Wallace Family of Ruddell

written by John J. Wallace

Both Ethel Margaret Wallace (nee Madill), and Charles Ernest Wallace came to Ruddell from Ontario, not far from Toronto. I believe they met and were married in Manitoba. They came to homestead in

Saskatchewan near Richard in the early 1900's. It was on a farm near Speers where I was born. We then moved back to Richard, then to Ruddell sometime in the early 20's. By this time there were nine children, Roy, Mary, Violet, Earl, Jack (so called then), Clifford, Ruth, Margaret, and Bill. (There was three more Lily, Minnie and Lorraine). I do not recall too much of the early years but when we were older and should have known better, I recall a straw stack just south of the Ruddell school where Andy Abbott and I climbed up to the top and stood facing one another. As the small kids came up we would toss them over the side and down. Later when we were in the big room, I believe again it was Andy and I, for some unknown reason took the Moore girls' (Vi and Ivy) buggy and laid it on its side. For our trouble, I think it was H. B. Robinson, strapped us in front of the class.

Rev. J. C. Madill — was my grandfather. I do not recall ever hearing him preach a sermon but I do remember him when he came to visit us on the farm. We all had to kneel down while he prayed for me for a long, long time. I understand that during one of these prayers, someone stole the gas from his car.

Nothing very spectacular ever happened to us except the kids kept coming and the older ones moved out. Strange to say, I do not recall all of us being at home at the same time. I left home around 1933, I think.

I will be retiring from the Ontario Paper Co., at the end of August this year. We hope to make a trip out west then if all goes well. My wife Moira and I were both born in Saskatchewan; both lived in B.C. and finally met in Ottawa in 1944. Our three off-springs (2 girls and a boy), are all married and the girls have 2 boys each. Our boy Wayne was just married last July — maybe there will be a granddaughter one day.

We have fond memories of picnics in the Maple Grove by the North Saskatchewan River.

The George Walton Family

by Leta Bohn

George Walton (Leta Bohn's father) came with his parents from England at the age of four years to Rapid City, Manitoba. My mother was born in Guelph, Ontario. She also came with the family to Rapid City where she was married to George Walton. In the spring of 1904 they came to their homestead. This was before the days of the railroad and they drove from Saskatoon to their homestead by team and wagon. They brought their three children with them (Gerald, Roberta, and Hazel) Leta was the first baby girl born on the homestead and the first in Township [redacted]. Beatrice, Raymond and Jean complete the family. We all attended Grey School built in 1905 and which is now

Pledge.

"I WILL"

Pledge

"I WILL"

Marriage Certificate

Hereby Certify that on the 6th day of November 1912

the Parties of [redacted] were solemnized by me, by

authority of Canada between George Walton

of the [redacted] in the County of Marquette Province

of Manitoba Dominion of Canada, and Ida E. Rogers

of the Village of Rapid City in the County of Marquette Province

of Manitoba and Dominion aforesaid.

Witness my hand at Rapid City this 6th Day of November 1912

In Presence of Raymond Hawes

Ernest Hawes

Jno. F. Cockett
Officiating Minister.

No. 1 Registered at Rapid City

Mr. and Mrs. George Walton's marriage certificate.

George Walton and Lydia (Flaws) Walton wedding picture, 1895.

George Walton family — 1910. l. to r. — Leta, Gerald, Raymond, Hazel, Beatrice and Roberta holding baby Jean. The little girls' dresses were made by Grandmother Flaws. Lace collars were the style of the day.

in the Western Development Museum in North Battleford.

Our parents saw to it that we did not lack in our early Christian education. One thing I remember was my mother singing hymns and my eldest brother playing the violin. Later on when we were going to Grey School I recall that once a week an Anglican minister, Reverend Bunting, came out to the school (from Maymont) to talk to the classes. When we were old enough to drive ourselves by horse and buggy we four Walton girls would drive to Keystone School for Sunday School. The Grey School teacher, Mr. O. M. Patterson, got the two schools involved and I can remember good turnouts at the school.

My father kept sheep and one incident I well remember was walking along the barbed wire fences to pick off sheep wool. This was washed and teased preparing a large box of snowy white wool to donate to the Red Cross (World War I). Herding the sheep was also a job for us children and with the aid of the sheep bell it was much easier. I have the sheep bell to this day. I also remember the cradle, washing machine and the six-gallon dasher churn.

Saskatchewan became a province in 1905 and in 1925 the Saskatoon Fair Board invited all girls born in 1905 to attend the fair, getting passes to the grounds, grandstands and side shows, etc. I was one of those girls the fair board invited.

My brother, Gerald, served in the Air Force in World War II. Raymond served in World War II with the Royal Canadian Engineers.

In 1923 the Waltons rented the land and the family moved to Maymont where my father became a drayman. Gerald worked in a butcher shop, and sister, Beatrice, in the post office and I (Leta) worked in the phone office.

Today the only surviving members are Jean Campbell and myself, Leta Bohn.

Jacob and Anna Warkentin and Family

Submitted by Anne (Warkentin) Ellis

I was fourteen years old when we moved away from Fielding and having been born on the Prairie I often go back to the area and try to recall the little things of which our life was made up.

My father's parents, Peter and Elizabeth Warkentin, and my mother's parents, David and Anna Redekopp, came from Russia in the nineteenth century although they were of Dutch descent. They settled around Plum Coulee, Manitoba. Both Mom and Dad were born in that area in the late 1800's and came with their folks to homesteads in Saskatchewan. Mom and Dad met in a church in Aberdeen and were married there on November 25, 1915.

Three boys Jacob, David and Henry were born at Aberdeen. After a move to Mexico for two years where Dad had a shoe repair shop they moved back to Hepburn where Sarah was born. In 1928 we moved to the Morrison's farm near Speers where I was born in the spring of that year. The boys had gone to school and Sarah had been sent to Aunt Mary's place. Grandma

was called to be the midwife once again as she had for most of the other births in our family. Having given birth herself to fourteen children, my mother being the eldest, she knew just what to do.

The folks seemed to be constantly on the move. From Speers we moved to Hunchuck's place near Hillsboro School where the boys did the janitorial duties — then on to Garth's farm in the Radisson district where another boy, John, was born in 1932. The older boys went to Scotsville School there.

In the fall of 1931 Dad finally bought a quarter section of CPR land five miles north of Fielding for twenty-five dollars in cash and the balance to be paid with one-third share of the crop. But these were the depression years and most of the time Dad only paid the taxes. George and Mary Friesen (Mary was my mother's sister) bought the quarter section just west of us. But in 1936 or 1937 they moved to Saskatoon. The names of their children were Ann, Sarah, George, Mary, Margaret and Eva — some of which attended Neepawa School. They later moved to Mission, B.C. where they lived till 1976. Mrs. Friesen passed away in their new home around Williams Lake, B.C. in the spring of 1978. George is living there with his daughter, Eva, and family.

After purchasing the land Dad and David built a small log house on it for us to move into which we did the following spring. A barn was built of logs with a sod roof and a well had to be dug by hand which produced only hard water in limited amounts.

By now there were six of us so they built another log building next to the first where the boys and Sarah slept. Mom made a bed for me under the table every night. She had such a large family and such a small oven that she had to bake bread every day — brown one day and white the next.

A year or two later they built the larger permanent house of logs, cut off our own property by hand, hauled home with horses, dried, peeled, etc. After the house was built the cracks were filled with a mixture of clay and water for mortar. I remember the day we moved in, it was so exciting. We had two big rooms, a large kitchen and the other served as a bedroom till Dad and the boys added two bedrooms. The older boys shared one room.

By now Jake was out working and away from home most of the time. Dad, Mom, Sarah, John and I shared the other room. The floors were rough boards which after awhile dried out and shrank leaving spaces between the boards and one had to be careful not to drop anything or you might lose it. My dresser consisted of an apple box which held all my possessions and my closet was two nails above my bed which held both my dresses. Dad used to insist on us wearing sensible shoes to school so each fall we got a pair of ankle high boots. To go along with our black boots we would wear black woollen stockings held up with elastic garters. We had black buckle overshoes and of course bloomers (fleece-lined).

We had to be dressed warmly for our three mile walk to Neepawa School. In the winter there were no short cuts, we had to walk the full three miles there and back. One winter while Henry was still going to school we had a horse and cutter to drive. Sometimes the drifts were so high the poor horse had quite a time getting through. One of those winters I missed two months of school because I did not have adequate clothing for the cold weather. That year Dad drove us to school for the Valentine party and picked us up again after — the only day I attended between Christmas and the end of February.

Valentines and cards were all homemade and given freely to everyone. Christmas concerts in Neepawa were the highlight of the year. We practiced for about a month, memorized, made costumes and really got excited. The last two weeks we all but dispensed with classes and just practised. The teachers always bought gifts for all the students. The students exchanged names. Santa would arrive with bells and a tale of his trip and we wondered who Santa was this year. The only one I think no one recognized was brother David — even his family didn't know who the chubby fellow was. Christmas holidays could begin as early as December tenth.

Christmas in our house, though we were poor, was always a very exciting time. We made our own decorations and our Mom would make buns, cookies, cakes and Christmas breads. Dad and one of the boys would drive out into the country, sometimes an all day trip, and bring back a Christmas tree. Mom usually accompanied Dad on the one-day Christmas shopping trip to either Maymont or Radisson.

Our gifts usually cost from fifteen to twenty-five cents each. One year Sarah and I were given a little grooming kit consisting of comb, mirror, nail-file and nail-white pencil in a case. I once remember getting a tea set and the very special time I got a store-bought doll about twelve inches high with a china head. Mom used to make rag dolls for us. Instead of hanging stockings on the hearth on Christmas Eve we would all set a shoe box on our place at the table and in the morning we would find in it a mandarin orange, an apple, some peanuts, a few chocolates, cream candies and hard rock candies, beside a variety of nuts and our gift. We were allowed to eat the goodies to our own will. We would have cake or cookies at every meal which was an extra special treat for us. Since money was scarce we seldom had sweets and could not always afford fruit. Most of the family was home that day as well as a bachelor uncle or two. In the evenings Dad and Mom would light the candles on the tree and we'd all sit around while they burned away. The rest of the winter was always so long and hard.

All of our farming was done with horses. Dad never owned a tractor or a car. Our threshing was done by Epp's threshing crew.

Dad made our living mainly by grain farming. Some winters we had potatoes to sell and all the eggs

and butter we could spare were sold or exchanged for groceries at Stotts or Gunns store in Fielding. The price of butter at one time dropped to twenty cents a pound and eggs were sold for five cents a dozen. There were times they couldn't be sold at all

All summer long Dad would be out cutting trees on our place and hauling them home. Then in the winter it would be cut with a buck saw, loaded on the sleigh and hauled five miles into Fielding or seven miles into Maymont to be sold for two dollars per load. At times it was hauled as far as Radisson. On occasion [redacted] would bring the load back home not having been able to sell it

Mom would spend her spare time in the winter months making crepe paper flowers and on one of these trips to town with a load of wood one of us would go along with a box of flowers and sell them door to door.

These were the depression years and they were very hard. One year while building an ice house brother Jake, while trying to split a log, cut off a toe and badly cut his foot with the slip of the axe so of course had to be hospitalized and we had to pay Dr. Scratch for his services.

When Dad took in a load of grain, practically all of our harvest, the money was seized [redacted] pay the hospital and doctor's fee. I remember when we came home from school that day Mom was near tears when she said. "I don't know how we'll live this year, there won't be any gifts for Christmas". But Dad again went hauling wood into town after cutting it out of the bush and Christmas was about the same as usual After a number of years of crop failure because of drought we finally went on relief and had our share of chicken haddie and flat salted codfish which some folks were tempted to use for snowshoes. They may have been the object [redacted] many jokes but they helped to keep starvation away.

Dad and Mom worked very hard and we were poor but I have never regretted living through those years because though I didn't share in the responsibility and worry of it, I learned how to cope when times were hard for myself. Our parents taught us to be honest, to work hard and to have respect for God and for all authority. I will ever be grateful to them for it.

After Friesens left the area and Dave grew up, he built a house one mile east of our place where Ted Sloan's house now stands and lived there by himself until one night while standing and talking outside at Andrew's place after a young people's meeting they noticed a glow in the sky in the direction of his home. Thinking only [redacted] his horse tied up in the barn he ran all the way home [redacted] find his house and all his belongings were burned to the ground.

There was a time during the depression when jobs were very scarce. Brother Jake decided to wend his way to Alberta to look for work. All Dad had to give him was twenty-five cents, and with a few belongings in a bag he started on his way. I remember him walking past the school and watched till he disappeared out of sight He later told us of how he did chores and odd jobs for people along the way in exchange for a meal or a place to sleep and he hitch-hiked or rode the rails until he found work.

Jacob was later drafted into the army after his marriage [redacted] Agneta Riemer from Sand Beach, Saskatchewan and transferred to different points in B.C and now lives in Surrey. They have one boy and two girls Jacob will retire in about three years after working [redacted] a factory for nearly thirty-five years.

David worked one winter for board and room for himself and his horse and five dollars a month pay. After the folks left the farm at Fielding David farmed it for a year or so before going to the coast for a few years. He had tried to join the airforce but was rejected because of an injured knee. He has married Dorothy Hutchings of Vancouver and they have two adopted children. David and Dorothy have ministered in the Turtle Lake mission for nearly twenty-five years.

Henry seemed to be the most talented. He learned to play the Hawaiian and Spanish guitars and played in the church services at times accompanying his own singing. One of his hobbies was wood carving He was about fifteen when he handcrafted [redacted] miniature homestead [redacted] full detail. I remember the set of farm equipment consisting of a wagon with a hayrack, house, barn complete with harness, fences, tiny sheaves and horses no more than two inches high, etc. These were his toys and that's how spare time was spent those days as well as hunting for bird nests, catching gophers, playing checkers and so on. Henry's drawing abilities have become a profitable hobby for him today. Having taken a few lessons in oil painting he has enlarged his talents and has sold many of his paintings throughout B.C. and Alberta. You will find his scenic paintings in many art galleries and business places in B.C. Henry and his wife Ann (nee Anna Riemer of Sand Beach) have raised a very talented family of one girl a[redacted] two boys. Both boys play guitar professionally The one has toured with Ronni Prophet, Buck Owens and others. Henry was drafted into the army at age seventeen or eighteen and was discharged four years later because of psoriasis He has since worked [redacted] different departments of the municipality of Surrey and is presently with Parks and Recreation.

Sarah's first job was helping with the house work during the harvest season for a Mrs. Elliot south [redacted] Fielding. From there she went to Mrs. McNaughton's one mile north of our homestead. She started out at seven dollars per months which gradually increased to ten dollars. With that she bought her clothing and personal articles and often bought things for the other members of the family She later went to work for Gotve Wohlberg's near Speers where she stayed for several years before going to B.C.

She married Alex McKinnon who was a dairy farmer but later went into a logging business near 100 Mile House, B.C. They raised two girls and five boys. The boys followed in their dad's footsteps and took over his business. Sarah was widowed in November, 1975 and lost a married son in 1977. She has since then opened a health food store in [redacted] Mile House, which is now a thriving business.

Though life around Fielding was hard for all of us and we were poor it had a lighter side as well. Many laughs were had over some of the foolish things that were done. There was generally no need to lock your doors when you went out, and one day as David and Henry, then teenage boys, came upon Art Robb's little house, a mile or so east of our place, and since the door wasn't locked and no one was home, they went in. They found some biscuits that had dried out since Art was away, so they put them on a plate and set the table. They found an old rubber boot outside, put it in the roaster and put it in the oven. When Mr. Robb came home, being winter time he lit the fire and when the odor of roasted boot filled the house he realized something was cooking in the oven. He never knew who the guilty party was and it was pretty hard for Dave to act innocent when Mr. Robb told him about what had happened.

There were also the times when Mom would pack a picnic lunch. The family would climb into the wagon and [redacted] to the Saskatchewan River south of Maymont. We'd take our pails, take off our shoes (if we owned any). The men would roll up their pant legs and we'd wade through [redacted] the other side to pick highbush cranberries. One time about half of the way through, I slipped and fell in and had to go back to the wagon and wait the rest of the afternoon till everyone returned and we then drove all the way home in the wagon.

Everyone went berry picking those days so the patches were known to all. The first one out to the patch got the fruit. There was a good raspberry patch on Art Robb's property so every year it was a race between us and Mrs. Ida Thompson, who lived across the road from us. This one year we'd made up our minds to get those berries but by the time we got to the patch around 10 a.m., they had been picked. Mrs. Thompson had got to the patch first. So for the next picking we decided to go right after breakfast, like the wolf in the story of the three little pigs but about 8 a.m. when we were ready to leave, we saw Mrs. Thompson already going home with her pail of berries and sure enough when we got to the patch it had been stripped.

One event I'll never forget and treasure to this day [redacted] the picnic the McKay family put on for the children in the community. The whole family worked together and made craft items. I particularly remember the beautiful bead necklaces of which I still have one among my souvenirs. They worked for months on them, then they drove around the country with horses and wagon selling these items [redacted] finance the picnic.

Well the day we had looked forward to with great anticipation finally arrived and we were in no way disappointed for it was a smashing success in my opinion. We drank lemonade, adding a bit of soda to make it fizz, ate sandwiches and cookies and played games. Best of all they had purchased gifts for the children with the money made on the craft items. They did them with our names on them and we had to look for them at different times during the picnic. The one gift that stands out in my mind is a real genuine skipping rope. I used that skipping rope from morning till night. I'm sure if there had been a skipping marathon I would have come in first. That picnic was truly one of the most exciting events of my childhood.

I started at Neepawa School when I was eight years old. My first teacher was Miss Harriet Ballstad whom I liked a lot. The students I went to school with were Jim Smith, Maitland, Ellen, Myrtle and Grace Northcott, Roy, [redacted]ert and Audrey Sloan, Elsie Tyburst, Violet and Pearl McKay, Walter Wylie and Marion Fast.

Brother David was taught by Mr. Max Braithwaite. Henry and Sara were taught by Mr. Archibald and Miss Ballstad. Two other teachers that taught me were Irene Reid and Lillian Martin, both very well liked. One of them made Arbour Day a very special day for us. We would dispense with classes, bring our rakes to school and clean the school grounds. Then we'd have our lunch and the students as well as the teacher would go a hare and hound chase. One group, the hare, would be given a twenty minute head start to go within a mile or so of the school leaving a trail of scraps of paper (litter bugs) so the hounds could follow the trail which led to where we were hiding. The hare would spread out and hide in culverts, behind stumps and buildings and when the hounds had tracked down all the hare we would go back to the school where we would climax the day with homemade cookies and lemonade.

During my first year of school the students were all saddened by the loss of Wilma Carmen, also a first year student, who died of a kidney disorder. Her brother, Ken, was also in Neepawa at the time but the family moved away shortly after. They lived in a two-storey white house three miles north of Fielding. Walter Miller later bought that place I believe.

In 1939 brother John started school and being the only student in grade one, the teacher could give him more than average attention and his progress was enviable. He took two grades each year so by 1942 he was in grade six at which time the family moved to B.C. where he continued his education at a much slower speed. He and his wife, Jean, have two lovely children who are married and have given them three grandchildren.

John has been very successful in a logging operation and now resides near the 100 Mile House, B.C. in a country home. He contributes much to the Pentecostal Assembly there in assisting the minister as well as by his musical talents.

In May of 1936 the youngest boy, Peter, was born. The stork arrived without much notice and when we awoke in the morning we had a brand new baby brother. Dad had assisted with the birth. Peter never attended Neepawa for in the year 1942 our parents Anna and Jacob Warkentin sold their possessions and moved by train to Mission City, B.C. where they bought an acreage, built a house and lived quite happily for nearly twenty-six years. When Dad became too ill with diabetes to care for himself, they bought a house trailer in Surrey, B.C. near where Jake, Henry and Peter lived. Dad passed away on March 12, 1970 and Mom followed on May 1, 1976.

I spent most of my early working years in Mission City at various types of employment. I worked at the Co-op jam factory, the Aylmer Cannery. I picked fruit and did waitress work. Then I spent three years in Sharon Bible College in North Battleford, Saskatchewan. I worked as a nurse's aid in the Notre Dame Hospital there and later moved to Cranbrook, B.C. where I took a hairdressing course. I opened the Silhouette Beauty Salon there in 1960 and sold it in 1967 when my husband, Roy Ellis, and I made our home in Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta on an acreage. My husband is a radio technician for the Alberta Government and an ordained teacher of the Gospel in his time away from the job. We have five children. One is a chiropractor in Dawson Creek, B.C. One boy lives in Fort Saskatchewan and is part owner of a music store as well as being employed at a new Alberta Food Processing plant here. One daughter in Edmonton is married to an automobile mechanic. One daughter in Meadow Lake, is married to Bill Young, a plumber, and they have a foster boy still in school.

I will be eternally grateful for having lived in the Fielding, Maymont area at the right time, and for the two young ladies that came from a Foursquare Bible College to hold church services in Neepawa School and at Sloan's place for it was there that I found the way to become a Christian and it changed my life as well as that of several others of our family for always. It gave us a better outlook on life and a purpose for living. The two ladies were Ruby Rice, now Mrs. Pete Sloan and Gladys Nelson who married John Fast. I hope they will be rewarded for the good work done through their ministry.

Two years ago most of the family gathered on our old farmstead, now owned by Ted and Evelyn Sloan, for a reunion and had a wonderful time meeting old friends who came to see us and exploring the places that had been such an important part of our childhood.

We love the area and know that though towns deteriorate, homes are empty, and people are gone, in our memories it is ever beautiful and ever HOME.

The Herbert (Bud) Warren Family

The Herb Warren family moved to Lilac in February of 1942 where Herbert L. (Bud) Warren took the position of grain buyer for the National Grain Co. He took over from Jack Wright when Jack joined the Services.

The family consisted of Bud, Beth, and their two sons, Dalton and Dick.

Beth was active in the Ladies' Aid and when Mrs. (Ida) Klassen moved to North Battleford she took over the post office. She was postmistress until leaving Lilac in 1960.

Dalton joined the Air Force in December, 1942. Upon discharge he became a locomotive engineer with the C.N.R. and resides in Prince Rupert, B.C. with his wife Muriel and family.

Dick attended Lilac School from Grade 3 to Grade 9. He went to Melfort, Sask. in 1949 to work at Northern Auto Parts. In 1951 he left that job to work in the express department of the C.N.R. He now resides in Kamloops, B.C. with his wife Margerite and family.

Bud Warren was an active member of the Masonic Lodge in Ruddell and maintained his membership until the Lodge closed.

Bud, Beth and Dick were active in the Lilac Curling Club. To the best of our knowledge Bud was the first president of the Lilac Curling Club and was ice-maker-caretaker for several years. Many happy hours were spent at the Curling Rink both on and off the ice. The lunch counter was a gathering place for all to visit and wile away the cold winter days.

Summer spare time was spent with neighbours and friends at a lake.

Bud and Beth left Lilac in 1950. After a short leave of absence Bud again went to work as a grain buyer at Keompa, Alta. He eventually became a Government Grain Inspector for the Federal Government. He retired in 1966 and bought an acreage at Kamloops, B.C. In 1967 Bud moved to Prince Rupert, B.C. as a Fisheries officer and Beth worked in the hospital. They returned to Kamloops in 1971 and retired on their acreage. Bud passed away in Oct., 1974 and Beth still lives in their home in Kamloops.

Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Welford

by Mrs. J. Moffat

"... Boarded the 'Canada' March 31, 1904 at Liverpool."

"... The train came to a dead stop about one half mile from Lumsden. It was impossible to go farther as the ground was washed away under the track about 16 feet long and over 8 feet deep. We left the train, and walking along the ties carrying our hand baggage, arrived on the outskirts of Lumsden and found boats waiting to take us across the town. On the other side of the flooded valley, teams and wagons were waiting to convey us to the nearest point from where the trains could run. Here we found freight cars fitted up with temporary rough forms to carry us on."

"... After a slow journey we arrived at Macdowell at

Mr. and Mrs. Welford.

1:30 a.m., April 30. It had taken me just a month having left home the 30th of March."

". . . We had to unload the wagon and carry all our luggage to the other side of the marsh, wading through knee-deep water part of the way with a muddy bed under foot. Just as we carried the last luggage over it commenced to rain."

". . . We got a good meal for 25 cents."

". . . It is amazing how easy it is to get lost on the prairies."

". . . Battleford is the nearest town and we have to go there for everything. The trip takes two days and means ferrying across the river."

". . . Mrs. Wm. John Davis baked bread for us, and for lots more. She was baking bread every day and each of us had to get it on our allotted days."

". . . We were living in a tent and tied our horses up to a wagon until we got up a sod stable."

The above are excerpts from a diary kept by Henry E. Welford (commonly known as Harry) when he came to homestead in the Lilac district in 1904.

While working in the office of his uncle's WELFORD DAIRIES in London, England, he was lured by the get-rich-quick advertisements of taking up homesteads in Western Canada and decided to try his luck. A chum, Bob Brown, had come out the previous year, and it was arranged they would meet at Macdowell, near Prince Albert, North West Territories.

1904 was a year of much flooding and the trip to Macdowell had many unforseen delays as the above diary quotes reveal, but miraculously the two made connections on May 2. They agreed to pool their resources, work, and make their way to this district where Bob Brown already had filed a claim to the N.E. ¼ 2-43-13 West of the 3rd. Our dad later filed a claim for the N.E. ¼ 34-42-13 West of the 3rd. In 1905 their combined assets were as follows:

1 Black Mare (very old)	$ 40
1 Bay Pony	40
1 Team of Light Horses	160
2 Sets of Old Harnesses	10
1 Wagon	80
1 Set of Sleighs	15
1 Riding Saddle	5
1 Small Forge and Anvil	18
1 Sulky Plow	30
1 Wilkinson Walking Plow	20
1 Deering Mower	50
1 Rake	30
TOTAL	$448

In the winter of 1904-05 Bob Brown went to Regina seeking work to get a little cash, but unfortunately he was killed in an accident there in early March. This was a cruel blow, but our dad was never one to give up easily. He made arrangements to not only prove up on his own homestead but also to do the necessary improvements and breaking for the Brown estate. This meant living the summer months on the Brown quarter and the other six months on his own land. Later he purchased the quarter from the Brown family. This land seemed well-suited to the growing of oats, and thousands of bushels of seed oats have been sold over the years.

Our dad was anxious to keep the land free from weeds. I recall in the 30's when he had the whole family out picking stink weed from a 40 acre field and removing it in gunny sacks! It was a futile effort but he did try. How pleased he would have been to see the clean fields made possible by today's chemicals! And he would have been one of the first to try them.

In 1907 our mother, formerly Lydia Rickets of Haddenham, Buckinghamshire, came by train to Ruddell to join him, and they were married in North Battleford on June 3. They had six children. The first child, a boy, died at childbirth but Jennie (Mrs. L. Walden), Jack, Ted, Mary (Mrs. J. Moffat), and Bill have lived all or most of their lives in this same area. Jack and Ted still live on the home farm.

In 1907 our parents were living in a 12' by 24' lumber shack. Then in 1918 a great dream was realized when a two storey brick house, complete with plumbing pipes and electrical wiring, was built on the hill and appropriately named "Hillcrest." This same hill caused untold backaches as it was a veritable rock pile. Neighbors will testify to the huge pile of stones once in

Tennis game at garden party at Welford home (1933).

the home yard — approximately 50 yards long, 30 yards wide, and 8 feet high — all laboriously picked by hand.

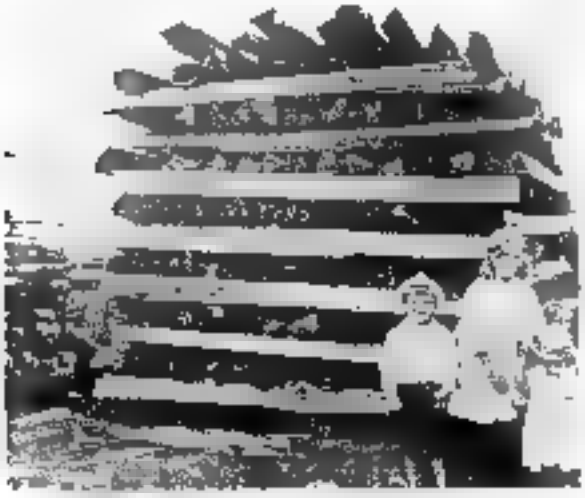
Food was plain. It consisted of salt pork, wild game birds and their eggs, and rabbits — until they had stock of their own. In winter an animal was butchered, cut up, and frozen by Mother Nature. There was no thought of wrapping the meat. If the weather became very mild, or if there was a surplus by spring, the meat was processed in sealers for summer use. When the Beef Ring started up at Tom Sawyer's near Maymont, the Welfords joined other local residents in getting a supply of fresh meat weekly.

With no refrigeration in the home, the meat was hung in a sack down a shallow well and later they made an ice well to keep perishable products cool. The "ice well" was made in very cold weather in winter. A barrel of water was poured each day into a cribbed well about 6 feet x 6 feet x 6 feet until a solid block of ice was formed. This was covered with shavings for insulation and usually lasted through the summer months. A small house covered the well. A trap door in the floor plus a small ladder let one down on to the ice surface. Homemade ice cream was a Sunday treat as one chipped out bits of ice for the ice cream maker.

Eaton's mail order service was used to purchase the necessary clothing requirements and in the earlier days they also handled staple groceries like tea, sugar, etc. When a big Eaton's order arrived it was almost as exciting as the opening of Christmas parcels!

Wheat was hauled to the Mill in Battleford and exchanged for 100 pound bags of flour, shorts (the second section of the wheat kernel), and bran. In 1918 — the year the house was built — our mother baked a ton of flour into bread. At this time there were two hired men, the house builders, and a family of four.

Our parents attended church services in the Davis home until the little Anglican church was built at Lilac in 1908. Our mother told of walking 3 miles across the prairie to attend the organizational meeting of the Ladies' Guild. Also in 1908, Bathgate School was opened and it was located just three quarters of a mile from the home. Many social activities were held there. There were also house parties in different homes with dancing until daybreak.



A pile of cedar posts purchased 1916 to fence the Welford Farm. These were all dug in by hand and lasted 50 years before being replaced.

Always keen on sports (particularly cricket and football) our dad developed the one and only grass tennis court in the district. In the late 30's our lawn was the site of several summer garden parties. Here many of the young people of the area learned to play tennis. On Sundays it was not uncommon to have 16 or 20 for supper — and there was always room for one more!

In 1928 a "Lister" lighting plant with storage batteries was installed in the house and then we had electric lights. The water system was not completed until the 50's when the power line came to the district.

In 1925 the Welfords became proud owners of their first car — a Chevrolet touring model with removable curtains. On one occasion a long-distance call came for our dad and he was working on the other farm two miles distant. In those days long distance calls were a rarity and were considered of great importance. Our mother had not yet learned to drive the car but she was always resourceful. We all helped push the car out of the make-shift garage since she did not know how to get it in reverse gear. With advice from Jack and Ted she got the motor running. Telling everyone to hang on, she bravely put her foot on the clutch, pulled the gear shift into low gear position, pulled down the gas feed lever, released the clutch, and with a jerk we were off. We travelled the two miles in low gear — surely the slowest trip that car ever made. But we negotiated at least four corners without mishap! You can be sure that with my dad at the wheel for the homeward journey the return trip was much faster!

Our dad took an active part in all progressive movements. He was an original member of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool and worked to get a farmer-owned elevator at Lilac. As a Justice of the Peace from 1908 till his death, he was able to assist many local residents with minor legal matters. On one occasion the dining room became a court of law!

The following is a list of our dad's activities — a list which he himself compiled in 1944 — just four years before his death.

Appointed Justice of the Peace for Saskatchewan in 1908 — 36 years

Helped organize and was first President of Ruddell Rural Telephone Co. for 15 years and then director for another 15 years — 30 years

Member of Canadian Seed Growers' Association — 26 years

President of Ruddell Co-op Association — 8 years

Chairman or Secretary of Bathgate School — 15 years

Secretary of the Lilac Wheat Pool Committee — ■ years

Director ■ the Mayfield & Douglas Agricultural Society — ■ years

Member of the Saskatchewan Field Husbandry Association and made a life member in 1937 — ■ years

Director of the North Battleford Agricultural Society — 9 years

Ministers' Warden at St. Mary's Church, Lilac — 20 years

Statistical reporter — 25 years

Secretary of the Denholm Percheron Horse Breeders' Club — 10 years

Helped organize the Maple Grove Old Timers' Picnics starting 1965.

Needless to say there were hard times and disappointing years when hail, drought, or frost destroyed promising crops. There were long, cold trips hauling wood from the Whitewood Lake area or grain to Ruddell. The depression of the 30's was another challenge to be faced, and while we had no money, we never went hungry. The biggest worry was meeting the mortgage payments on the farm, but our dad had the pleasure of receiving clear title to his land shortly before his death. He came to Canada as a "green" Englishman, but he watched the "experts," he asked questions, he was open-minded, and not afraid of work. ■ gave him great satisfaction to feel that he had played a part in developing one little corner of Saskatchewan.

Our dad died in 1948 and our mother in 1957. Both are buried in the Ruddell Cemetery.

Jack and Ted Welford

Not many of today's farmers can say that they live on the land which their father homesteaded, but this is a statement which Jack and Ted Welford can make. Both were born on the home farm at Lilac and are still actively engaged in farming. They attended Bathgate School which was about three-quarters of a mile from their home. Ted went to Ruddell for some high school and also attended a couple of six week winter courses at the University in Saskatoon. Both were members of the Lynx Patrol of the Richard troop of Boy Scouts.

Ted and Jack Welford.

Jack still keeps a small herd of fine purebred Hereford cattle which he has built up over the years. He has also continued the production of good seed oats — oats which he carefully cleans on the farm. He took his father's place on the Ruddell Rural Telephone Board until it disbanded, and as a member of the Lilac Wheat Pool Committee until it folded up. He is interested in all sports and continued curling until a few years ago but now is content to be an enthusiastic spectator.

Ted won honors at Farm Boys' Camps and in later years has accumulated a number of curling trophies. He curls in the Battlefords and this past winter (1978-79) played 96 games. He has done some overseas travelling and enjoys yearly fly-in fishing trips to our northern lakes. He was a member of the Lilac Wheat Pool Committee for many years. His experience with deep wells enables him to help many neighbors with well problems and he is also a handy "Mr. Fixit" in the neighborhood. Indeed, both brothers are always ready to give a helping hand to their neighbors in a wide variety of tasks.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. H. Welford

Bill Welford and Nellie Prescesky were married on October 1, 1949, in Ruddell United Church. We started farming in the Lilac district with two milk cows, one sow, a team of horses and a few chickens, on a half-section farm. In the summertime we travelled in a 1927 Chrysler car, and reverted to a team and sleigh or cutter in the winter. Our cream and eggs were delivered to Lilac station, and taken by train to North Battleford. Our mail was received at the Post Office, and our groceries were bought at H. Mabey's General Store in Lilac.

Curling in winter, and following the Lilac Softball Team in the summer was our chief entertainment. A

May 5, 1978. (l-r) Leon Kachmarski, Ruth Welford, Anne Marie, Emil and Regan Woylowich, Henry, Linda and Cristopher Welford, Brian and Pat Welford, Ross Welford, Bill and Nellie Welford.

trip to North Battleford was something special, and didn't happen very often.

Our life style changed somewhat in 1952, when the power came through -- lights at a flick of a switch, a refrigerator, electric iron, and a toaster. We were living in "luxury". Later on brought the deep freezer, mix masters, electric tools and a television.

Our horizons widened further when in 1966, our store and post office closed down. ■ 1971, the school closed and our children were bussed to Maymont.

Our oldest son Henry is married and farms in the Lilac area: Brian is married and is manager of the Co-op Pharmacy in North Battleford. Anne Marie is married and is a teacher in North Battleford, Ruth is going to Reeves Business College; and Ross is in Grade VIII at school. We have two grandsons — Christopher Welford and Regan Woytowich.

Now we farm three quarters, keep 18-20 cattle, some 70-80 hogs and up to 300 laying hens. We still curl in the winter, watch our sons play softball in the summer; and have travelled up to 100 miles to attend an Oldtime Dance.

We've come a long way in 30 years!

The Wm. J. Whitehouse's Story

submitted by Mrs. James Gray

Beyond the N.E. border of the present village of Maymont, Saskatchewan was located the Wm. J. Whitehouse's homestead — S.W. quarter 32-41-12-W 3rd.. It had become their prized domain, when duly filed upon in Saskatoon, N.W.T., in mid June, 1903. Therein lay their hopes of freedom and happiness in a new land. The Immigration Agent had assured Mr. Whitehouse of the area being well-wooded by aspen willow and wild fruits. Other than a few cultivated acres, little was altered or removed on the acreage, beyond that required to provide their home, fuel, and foods during their life-time. An intense pride in all pertaining to their home was dominant — nothing must be allowed to mar beauty or nature's pattern!

Mrs. Whitehouse with Bingo and Hippo, 1938. Mrs. Whitehouse was a great character. She loved all beauty, could see beauty in things that the ordinary man-in-the-street could not see. She had, all her life, a desire to paint, I have never forgotten her teaching, so much so that perhaps she would be pleased with my work today. Both she and her husband were well read and could quote chapter and verse from the Bible without any trouble. They were pioneers who helped in no small way the togetherness of the village and district. The above is a tribute to Mr. and Mrs. Whitehouse from a friend, Edith Shepherd.

From the late Harold Coombs, close friend and neighbor, these few items of the early years ■ the William Whitehouse's were made available to us.

Born in Pennsylvania, U.S.A. in 1871, ■ was taken to Birmingham, England as an infant, where his father rejoined the family firm — pottery manufacturers. The latter remarried, later immigrating to South Australia with his growing family.

His own well-kept journal traced Will's progress through schooling, apprenticeship, choir and church associations, implied a close family contact — described walking tours through lovely countryside.

A strong urge to return to England, culminated in setting out upon a voyage, by sailing ship departing from the Australian port November 26, 1896 and docking at the port in England nearly five months later, April 17, 1897. The many gruelling, also equally fabulous experiences of those months, were recorded in some detail, within a lengthy poem ■ wrote as the ship proceeded. (Mrs. Whitehouse could repeat it almost verse by verse.)

Whilst in Australia Will had corresponded with English relatives and friends, one of whom he married in 1900 — Miss Kate Sara Nicklin, of Wallsend, England. She was proprietress of her late mother's "Draper" firm, which produced for sale all styles of ladies' white wear garments.

In 1902, Mr. and Mrs. Whitehouse became fascinated by the glamorous government offer of 160 acres of virgin land in Canada; this ■ be had for a ten dollar filing fee, plus specified improvements. Along with scores of Old Country families they too were enticed and made ready to immigrate to Western Canada. It is notable that at thirty-two years, Will made his fourth ocean voyage — this time by steamship in mid June 1903.

After arriving by train at Saskatoon, N.W.T., with usual firm determination of pioneer folk, the two set about to assemble an ox team, wagon, tent, provisions and essentials. Some furniture was loaded, their cow tied behind the wagon — so the trek to their homestead began Saturday morning taking a north westerly route. By late afternoon they reached the ferry hill on the Saskatchewan River. A kindly missionary, (driving a horse and two-wheeled cart) assisted them to manipulate the steep descent, also gave instructions for milking the cow! On Sunday, there was a service at the store, picnic dinner and visiting enjoyed, before they moved on to their goal.

Eventually, the land was located; like true settlers, a start was made to make it "home". It was good news

that the survey for the proposed C.N.R. line was very close; indeed, Will with his ox team assisted with the three mile grade west of the settlement. After that task was completed he later helped out as a clerk in Bean's Store.

The Community was growing rapidly — they were soon taking an active part in activities. Kate had a piano, both were musical and made new friends. Good reading was one of their hobbies, her great love was art for she was an accomplished artist. The walls of their modest home were literally covered by lovely paintings. Many friends and brides treasure tributes from her brush.

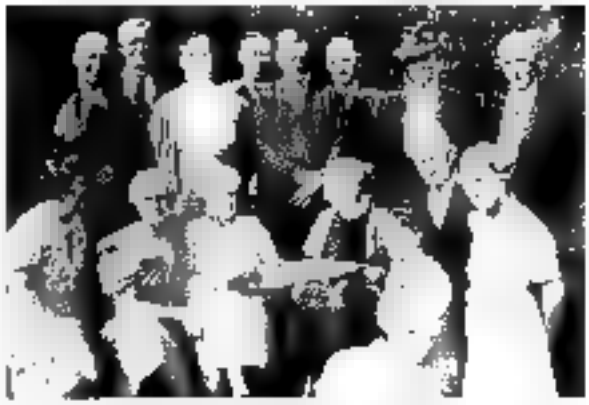
Each was firmly grounded in religion, faithful to their church (All Saints) in every way; participating as long as health permitted.

It was unfortunate during the latter years, Mr. Whitehouse, through ill-health, became fanatical, not seeking medical care, living poorly, refusing assistance, becoming very withdrawn. Finally he was taken to hospital, very ill, where he passed away April 8, 1952 aged eighty-one years. His wife's death was in March 1953 in North Battleford Hospital, aged ninety-one years.

For those who knew them over the years — their appreciation of all phases of nature, keen interest in fellowmen, (especially in war years) it will never be difficult to envision the God-fearing couple each of eccentric nature, pioneers who faced adversities with never a glance backward. For close to half a century Kate and Will had barely been more than a few miles from the precincts of their "homestead realm".

White History

John Grey White was born in Scotland in February of 1878, the youngest of a large family. His father passed away in early life. John came to Canada with his mother and other young members of the family to join the older brothers in Ontario. They settled in the Alvinston area. John worked in Manitoba in the Deloraine area before coming to Saskatchewan to file a homestead in the district which later became Ruddell. He came with his friend, Sam Cameron, in the fall of 1902. John filed on the NW of 12-42-14 W3rd and Sam on the SW of 12-42-14 W3rd. This quarter later belonged to Ross Stally. They returned to Deloraine for the winter to return in the spring of 1903. They lived together in a sod shack, the mound of which remains to this day. Many stories were told how many gophers used to be very close neighbors. They obtained their supplies and mail by walking or driving oxen to Battleford. Varied are the experiences they spoke of encountering. Springtime was bad when the river ice was going out. John often spoke of jumping the ice blocks one time when the river jammed. Ernie Whitlaw had to find another way to walk home as he wouldn't jump. On one occasion Sam Cameron came home with damp mail and it was much later that it was found out he had backed off the ferry at Battleford. These are but a few of the many experiences encountered.



Friends of the Whites who came from Deloraine, Man. to live in Ruddell. Back row — Ross Stally, Charlie Murison, Mrs. Maud (nee Renton), Arthur W. Robinson, Mort Naylor, Bern Robinson, Lawrence Robinson, A. Ernie Whitlaw. Front row — Mrs. Lawrence Robinson, Mrs. Mort Naylor, Mrs. Renton (Mrs. Naylor's Mother), Mrs. Charlie Robinson, Mrs. Oswald Harper, John White, Mrs. John White.

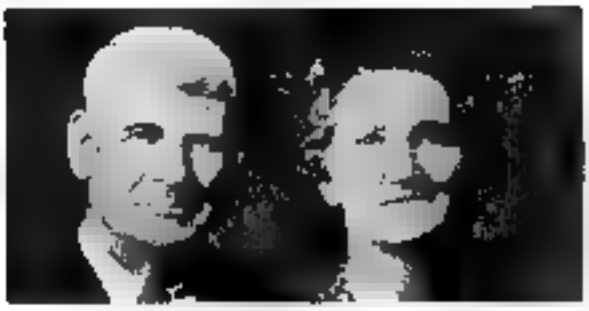
John took great pride in his team of white horses. In those days there would be gatherings in various homes throughout the area. Many dances were held to which John would take his fiddle. He could still fiddle a good tune up to the time of his death.

On January 1, 1906, John married May Eloise, eldest daughter of the family of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Morrison of Deloraine. He brought his bride to the house he had begun building on SW 13-42-14 W3rd in 1907. It is in this home that their youngest son, Charles, now lives. A kitchen on the north was added in 1909.

John and May White had two sons. The oldest, William John, born in December, 1906 and Charles Ivan, born in February, 1910. John and May White were very strong supporters of the Church and active in church offices. The church was built in 1906. John passed away in Saskatoon in January, 1949 and May in August of 1955, a great couple of pioneers who were always active in community affairs, always ready to lend a helping hand to those in need and always thoughtful of the needs of others.

History cannot be written without mentioning Dr. Scratch, the faithful family doctor, who proved his worth many times in many ways.

How well we all remember the "Dirty Thirtys". In those days everyone produced their own milk, eggs, chickens, pork and beef. Perhaps there are those who remember the beef rings operated in different localities. Maybe you didn't have any money, but you weren't alone — neither did anyone else. Those were the days that our generation will never forget. In the "30's" The Young Peoples Club put on many plays, pantomimes and parties with little or no expense. The



Mr. and Mrs. John G. White.

charge at the hall was usually 10¢ or 25¢. For summer fun the Young People would load into a big truck and go to Meeting Lake to spend a week or two. They stayed in tents and a hilarious time was had by all.

Bill (Willie) and Charlie walked 1¾ miles to school in Ruddell. The school was one room but was soon expended to a two room school. Their first teacher was Frances Reid, followed by Miss Jessie Duff, who became Mrs. Ephriam Reid

School days were not without a few laughs. One episode that should be told is of the swimming hole south of the school. With 1½ hours at noon break the boys took their lunch pails to the swimming hole and had a swim each noon hour. One day the girls decided to go swimming too. The boys were ready to return to the school when about 7 or 8 girls came along. Being good boys, they went back to the school after watching the girls on the other side of pond undress and go in. The boys got to school just in time but the girls came sauntering in about half an hour late. The teacher lined them up and asked where they had been When they told the truth they all remained after school for the strap. When they got home their mothers gave them punishment and when the fathers heard, more punishment was administered. Needless to say, the boys had no more visitors at the swimming hole. Anyway it made a bit of talk about town for a while.

School affairs were held with the neighbouring communities of Maymont and Baljennie. Charlie and Bill entered in several classes at these fairs. Silver coins were paid to the prize winners and success in a number of classes resulted in pockets heavily weighted.

During World War I there was a great need for money for the Red Cross. Bill and Charlie had a small strip of ground which they cared for. They sowed rows and rows of wheat by hand, using a tobacco pouch with a draw string to hold their grain while sowing. They cared for their plot all summer, cut the wheat by hand in the fall, hauled it to the threshing machine with their black dog pulling a small wooden wagon. The wheat was then hauled to the elevator and the money earned donated to the Red Cross.

Bill (Willie) continued his education in Battleford, staying at the Presbyterian school home. Some of the others at the school home at the same time were Ellen and Annie Reid of Maymont and Velma Anderson, Annie Martinson and Roe Foster of Denholm.

Bill won the highest aggregate prize at Farm Boys Camp in 1923 and again in 1924 which provided a scholarship to University Illness occurring in January, 1925, terminated his attendance at high school and delayed entrance to the University of Saskatchewan until 1928. When Bill became ill in 1925 a sun porch was added on to the house by Mr. Asmussen where Bill convalesced for a year after returning from the sanatorium.

Graduating from the College of Agriculture in 1932, he proceeded to post graduate work at the University of Saskatchewan and later at the University of Minnesota. He received an appointment to the staff of the Dominion Forage Crops at the University of Saskatchewan laboratory in 1935 and became officer-in-charge of that laboratory in 1939 which position he held until 1956. In that year he was appointed head of the Crop Science Department at the University of Saskatchewan. This was followed by appointment in 1964 as Dean of Agriculture at the University of Saskatchewan, a post he held for ten years until his retirement in 1974. Bill also conducted important forage crop research both with the University and formerly with federal agricultural services.

Dr. White has published numerous scientific papers mainly on the breeding of forage crops. He has held executive positions in various organizations which include the following: President — Biological Science Association; President — Saskatoon Branch Agricultural Institute of Canada; Vice-President — Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists; President — Saskatoon Y.M.C.A.; and President of the Boy Scouts of Canada, Saskatchewan Provincial Council

Bill married Edythe M. Amy of Saskatoon, who was born and raised at Grenfell, Saskatchewan, on December 18, 1934. They raised a family of four, Patricia Mae, William Harry, David Charles and Faye Eloise. They now have thirteen grandchildren. Bill and Edythe live in Saskatoon. They are and always have been very active in church work, community projects and devote much time visiting the sick in hospitals and the elderly and lonely. A good part of the winter months are spent travelling and enjoying warmer climates.

Charles remained on the farm throughout the years helping with the work that mixed farming entails. He was always interested in art work and through the years has taken lessons in oil painting, sketching, water color and art in all phases. In the last few years he has been keen on fabric painting or tube painting which has opened up a whole new list of possibilities.

Charles married Margaret Edinborough of Baljennie on October [illegible], 1939 in St. Bridget's Anglican Church at Baljennie. The officiating minister was Rev. G. H. Greenhalgh. (In the early 1940's this church was burned to the ground when struck by lightning.)

Throughout his days of farming, Charlie has been active in community affairs. He was a Sunday School teacher and superintendent for many years. He also held active positions on the church board and church session. He served as secretary of the school board for a period of time and later was a trustee for many years.

Charlie also spent many years as supervisor for organizer of Farm Boys Camp sponsored by Mayfield and Douglas Agricultural Society. He supervised boys from Mayfield going to North Battleford, Saskatoon and Regina exhibitions. He was ably assisted by Ken Meena and later by Gordon Gray. Charlie was also leader of Mayfield Multiple 4-H for six years.

He retired from active farming in 1975 but still lives on the original home farm taking a turn at field work when needed. His wife, Margaret, has assisted with farm duties, being busy looking after cream, eggs, chickens and turkeys throughout their active years. She also plays an active part in the Ladies Aid later ■ become the U.C.W. and the Homemakers Club which name has now been changed to the Women's Institute.

Charles and Margaret still enjoy being busy and spend much time ■ the garden among their vegetables, fruit and flowers. They travel in the winter months and are at home during the summer enjoying visits from friends and family.

Charles and Margaret raised two sons, Ivan Alfred and Bruce John. After the usual work and fun of school days, Ivan Alfred started his career working for a time in a garage and embarking on a mechanical course at tech in Saskatoon. After completing his course, he returned to North Battleford to work for a short time as a mechanic.

In 1968 he took up farming, first on a part-time basis. He now owns and operates the home farm where his parents reside in the original John White home.

Ivan married Elaine Sjoberg of Speers on May ■, 1967, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sjoberg. Ivan and Elaine now reside on the Albert Sjoberg farm at Speers.

Ivan is interested in aviation while Elaine is a music teacher and a legal stenographer.

Following school, Bruce John took several courses at tech and vocational institutes. He now is a fully qualified electrician and operates his own business in Prince Albert.

Bruce John married Yvonne Marie Gobiel ■ Albertville, Saskatchewan, on September 6, 1969. They have lived in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Yellowknife, N.W.T., Weyburn, Meadow Lake and now reside in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. Bruce started farming with his dad but a serious accident in January, 1980, made it impossible for him to carry on farming. He is now an electrician, passing his class with high standing. Yvonne is a Certified nurse which has proved most helpful in raising their three children, two girls and one boy.

The History of the Wiley Family at Maymont and Fielding

by Velma (Wiley) Bjerkness and Betty (Wiley) Pennell

■ the fall of 1934 my dad and my mother and two brothers, four-year old Walter, and three-year old Ralph, moved ■ Fielding from the dried-out southern part of Saskatchewan near Kincaid. The government would move a farmer out of the dust bowl of the southern part of the province, if they had a place to go to. We were given a box-car on the train in which to transport our belongings. With the rest of the family gone ahead, my dad loaded it with household effects, machinery, four horses, and two cows (one ■ them was milking) with enough feed for a week. He was to travel in the car with the animals. The train went through Saskatoon where ■ laid over a couple of days; so the duty of milking, feeding the animals and sleeping in the car with the animals became a tedious one. Finally the trip to Spinney Hill was made and he unloaded the wagon, loaded it with the household things, hitched up the horses and with the cows tied on behind was ready to make the last miles of the journey. Grandpa Sloan and Uncle Floyd were on hand to help him. The first trial of the trek was to cross the Saskatchewan River. The river had just frozen over but no one else had been across ■ yet so they were thankful when they had made it across safely and were on their way to the Lewis place, a mile west of Fielding.

It was on this farm in May, 1939 I came on the scene, having been preceded by brother, Wilfred, in 1937 and followed by sister, Betty, in 1941. We were on this farm till 1944 when we moved to the Arkley place eight miles north of Maymont which Dad bought through Colles Brebon, executor of the estate.

Sorrow came to our family in 1952 when Wilf died four days before his fifteenth birthday. ■ the next few years Ralph and Walter both moved their families to B.C. and in 1956 I also left Saskatchewan to attend college in B.C. and after two more years of winters in B.C. and summers in Saskatchewan, my folks also migrated to the warmer climes to stay.

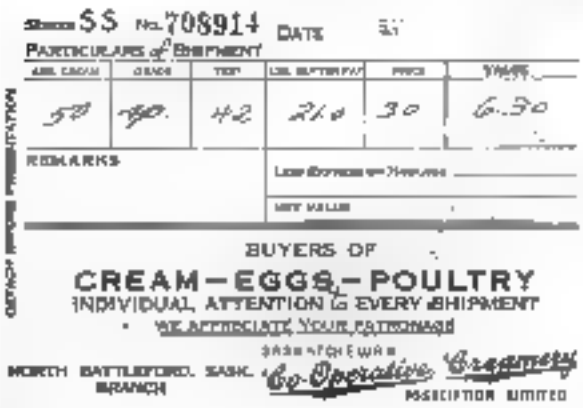
My mother went on to her reward in 1970 but we're very thankful to have our dad still living in Surrey. Walter resides in New Westminster where they have seen two ■ their children married. Marge (Mrs. Jim Sim) living in Surrey and Stuart, married to Gail and living in Fort McMurray, Alberta. Gloria is still at home when she's not away at college. Ralph lives in Campbell River and they have two married daughters close by; Bethene (Mrs. Herb Hall) and Beverly (Mrs. Rob Grant). Their oldest daughter, Brenda, resides in England. Blanche is in Kamloops and Brian in Edmonton. Betty's three children — Rick, Ted and Betty-Jo are still in school, as are our three youngest — Tony, Ben, and Tammy. Tim and Becky are both working but still at home until this fall when we see our eldest married.

Memories

by Adeline Williams

I was born on my parents' homestead, just across the road from where Hugh Ryan now lives. My Grandmother Fast and Dr Scratch took care of us. In those days all babies were born at home with a mid-wife as nurse and usually a doctor at time of birth. The mother had to stay in bed ten days.

We hild sod buildings, and a spring to get our water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ABS. CASH	GRADE	TEST	LBS. BUTTER FAT	PRICE	VALUE
54	[illegible]	42	21.6	30	6.30

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Cream cheque stub, March, 1941.

from. Many steam threshing outfits got their water from it over the years.

My parents moved to Warman for a short time as my father worked for the C.N.R. He had been on the Grand Trunk Railroad in Ontario and was qualified to be an Engineer. He had a leather-cased certificate of which I was very proud. My brother still has it.

My mother did not want him to continue on the railroad so they moved back to the homestead, which they later sold to Tom Miller, and bought the south half of 25, 41, 12. (Dave Fast's and Everton Dunham's homesteads.) I grew up there and worked there [redacted] I was twenty-three. Mother got sick in 1929 and was never really well again. I was christened in my Grandfather Fast's house by L. Amacher, minister from Rosthern. My folks also were married there as they had church in their home from the time it was built in

Geordie and Mary touching up the saw.

Cook car, Adeline on pony.

1903. My mother was the organist, and I still have her organ which was brought from Nebraska.

My dad and Herman Hansen bought a steam threshing outfit, also an engine and gang plow, which my brother, Floyd, and I used to like to ride on when they were breaking up the southwest quarter of twenty-six. Also they broke the west half of Section 25 which belonged to Angus Smith. Later Herman went back to the U.S.A. and Dad bought his share.

My dad farmed with horses, the first years he did it with one outfit. After my sister Kate got out of school she drove an outfit too until my brother was out of school. When I finished school my dad was shipping stock for the Livestock Pool, so I drove his outfit when he was away, and I loved every minute of it. I really like horses and riding horseback. Elsie Broweridge gave me her saddle and bridle when she left the station in Fielding. Horseback, Bennett buggy or walk was the way of travel then. Also the closed in cutters with a stove in was a real luxury.

I went to Neepawa School, even in the barn which we used after the first school was burned till the new one was complete. My teachers were Mr. T. A. Amoss, Miss Dolly Larsen, Miss Emma Nutting, Miss H. Hawthorne and Miss Lucille Giffard. We walked to school in summer and were driven in winter. For awhile we drove with a horse and buggy. I liked the school fairs we used to have. The teachers and some parents made the banners for each school. Two of the big boys carried the banner and the rest of us followed in pairs, one school right behind the other. It was quite a long parade route. Each school had an identification yell. When one finished the next school started.

Our yell was:

Ijitiky kye yye yip!
Neepawa Public School
Zip, zip, zip!
Canna, Keena, waa, waa,
Waa canna, keena taw!
Neepawa! Neepawa!
Rah! Rah! Rah!

And another was:

Booma lasca, booma, lasca,
Bow, wow, wow!
Chicka lasca, chicka lasca
Chow! Chow! Chow!
Booma lasca, booma lasca,
Raw! Raw! Raw!
We are the pupils ■ Neepawa!

We got prizes on many things — scrapbooks, school work, fancy work, cooking, and a lot more.

The Municipality used to pay a cent a tail for gopher tails and two cents each for crow eggs and magpie legs, so kids made money that way. My sisters and I decided to make some money so with the express wagon, a cream can, a pail, and the dog we set off. All went well till we drowned out the first gopher. The dog wouldn't touch a wet one, and none of us would kill it, so it got a bath and we went home. Project ended!

We used to go to town on Saturday nights and watch the train come in and then walk the street by groups or pairs. "Lover's Lane" was very pretty then. Houses and trees all the way (it was the street farthest west for those who might not know). At the end of the street was Mike Burns' house. Mrs. Burns kept boarders, three teachers and Miss Mildred Rutherford who clerked in Gunn's Store for many years. I think Mike Burns had the livery barn. They lived in Maymont later, also where the park now is.

This is a picture of the Orange Day Parade. I'm not sure if it is Mr. Walton or Mr. Parker on the horse. Following are Mr. George Lowery who played the flute or piccolo and Mr. Ern Fitzell who played the drums, and of course the Lodge members following. It was always a special day for us as my Grandfather Ben Sloan was a very enthusiastic member, also my dad was a member. Grampa was quite proud of the colors and ■ wore them with pride.

In the early thirties we fed twenty-eight hobos at my parents' place in one day. They had no money so had to eat wherever anyone would feed them. We always felt sorry for them and never turned anyone away. In 1933 two of my brothers rode the rods from Lloydminster ■ North Battleford, and then walked the rest of the way home four miles east of Maymont. They had been threshing in the Lloyd Area. Of course ■ due time the war came on and they were not bums anymore as they were needed after all.

After Ted Glenn came back from World War I, he started showing picture shows in the towns around, a lot of which were real good.

1923 Orange Day Parade.

Another thing I really enjoyed was the Chautauquas. They were all live talent and had programs all day each day for a week. The Swiss Bell Ringers were something to be remembered and one show Daddy Long Legs somehow stays in my memory. They had to be guaranteed a certain amount of money before they would come, so a committee had ■ sign to pay if the door receipts did not cover it. George Williams and Ernie Andrew were two of the signers. I cannot remember the rest. The last year they were quite a lot short and had been some short before so they decided not to continue.

As we grew up Mother used to play the organ and we all sang hymns a lot which I did enjoy. Later my sister played the piano. Also she used to play piano and I the mandolin with her at the Fielding Community Club programs, occasionally. Mrs. Bud Summers had a class of girls who danced the Sword Dance ■ Bill White's bagpipes and they were often on the program. We also had really good Club Swinging taught by Mrs. Archie Spence which was on the program often. Of course there were many other really good items.

Fielding used to have a Travelling Library from which I have read many good books. We also enjoyed the continued stories in the magazines. Some of my favorites were People's Popular Monthly, Hearth and Home (which was thirty-five cents for a year's subscription), Western Home Monthly and McLarys. There were many others too.

In 1920 the cook my dad hired for the cook car quit and there was no one else available so my mother went to do the cooking. My sister Frieda was three months old then so mother took me along to help her. We kids all got the whooping cough and ■ course Frieda did too. It was a long fall's threshing that year so it was getting quite late and cold. After we moved back into the house again Frieda got pneumonia and bronchitis, the doctor thought from the change in air conditions. She could not overcome it. I was by mother's chair as she held her in her arms as her little soul departed to be with Jesus. I looked after her for Mother so much it was really hard to see her go. Now I realize it was better for her and I'll see her again one day. I can still see that little white casket and "Gates Ajar" wreath my parents had bought for her. Her funeral was from the house as was Mother's in 1940. She had been an invalid for eleven years. I also remember the sad family gathering at my Grandfather Sloan's when Uncle Hart went to the First World War. He was in the fourth battalion. It was a much happier gathering when he and his bride came back in 1919.

We milked cows, raised chickens and pigs. The groceries were got the first years with butter and eggs taken to C. W. Dickinson's Store, which was the only way to sell them then. Later we shipped cream in eight-gallon cans which we took ■ town with a horse and buggy, also eggs in thirty-dozen crates. The prices

were not good, so in 1926 a Poultry Pool was started at Fielding. The chairman was H. C. Baker. The committee consisted of Mrs. W. Hill, Mrs. Joe Prechtl, Mrs. James Garnett. The secretary was Mrs. J. L. Sloan and the shipping agency was given to Mrs. Bert Brickwell. The date was March 22, 1926. They worked with the Wheat Pool for picnics, etc. The prices of No. 1 Northern cash wheat at Winnipeg for the month of October during sixteen years will be of interest perhaps.

1910	$ .96
1911	1.00
1912	.[illegible]
1913	.80
1914	$1.12
1915	.[illegible]
1916	1.74
1917	2.21
1918	$2.24
1919	2.30
1920	3.31
1921	1.15
1922	1.61
1923	.97
1924	1.56
1925	1.27

In those years the grain was all stored in the elevators and some who held it and paid storage on it (hoping the prices would go up) lost most of it. It was very hard to pay mortgages and some people lost their land. Others lived very sparingly so as to make the payments.

In the early thirties the crops were very bad so after my sister got out of school, in August, 1933 I went to Alberta to work first on a farm for eleven dollars a month, later in a hotel for fifteen dollars a month, which I sent home to help out there. I liked the people and country up there but mother was failing and wanted me to stay closer by, so in 1934 I worked in the Fielding District for four dollars a month. In midsummer two of my brothers went homesteading so I went home to drive an outfit in the fields. I had planned on filing on a homestead in Alberta a short distance from their homesteads so I had to spend six months there to qualify, but they did not go back so I did not either. In the fall I worked for Mrs. Williams doing housework and chores, milking cows, etc., during harvest and threshing, and also in the spring and fall of 1935. I was at a number of different places the rest of the time. Usually girls were hired to do housecleaning (painting, etc.), chores including milking cows, for sickness, or when babies were born. People in most cases could not afford any help they did not have to have. In the spring, February 17, 1936, Geordie Williams and I got married. We did not have any special clothes or a honeymoon as there was no money. We went to Saskatoon on the morning train, got married at St. Andrews Manse by Reverend Brown, and came back on the evening train. We've had a very happy life together but much too short. He was quiet and very kind. We both liked fixing things up, animals and books, and always went places together and worked together. Yes, there actually were trains for passengers each way everyday at that time. Not only was it convenient for passengers but handy for shipping cream and eggs too.

In June, 1931 we bought our first car, a Ford Model A Roadster, using the money from three hundred and thirty dozen eggs. In 1952 we got the first tractor, a 102 Junior Twin-Power Massey Harris. I was very sorry to see the horses go. We did keep four for putting up feed, doing the garden, and we hauled wheat with them until we got a truck in 1957.

In 1939 the boys sold two cows and a bull for a cent a pound. Some change now! The best grade of cream, Test 42, brought thirty cents a pound.

Geordie had Tom Harris' place rented for three years — 40, 41, and 42. The Soldier Settlement Board offered him a chance to buy it for sixteen hundred dollars but he did not want to go in debt for it so refused it. During the mid-fifties and early sixties he had Oliver Wiley's east quarter rented. He helped on building the first curling rink, also did volunteer work on the Memorial Hall. He was very fond of curling and curled for a couple years but with a lot of chores to do it was hard to get away so he quit. He also loved fishing, but did not get going very often as the work came first. We used to go picking berries and have a picnic out of it too. For many years most of our fruit was saskatoon, cranberries and rhubarb. We used a lot of dried apricots and solenberries for pies. We have grown a lot of strawberries and raspberries since.

Geordie came to this place N.E. 28-41-13, which he loved very much, with his parents who homesteaded here in 1903. I don't believe he was ever more than two hundred miles from here. He was born in Balmoral, Manitoba in 1899, December eleventh. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Robert Williams. Geordie often told me of his Grandfather Daniel Williams who used to come out to visit them. He was fond of books and Geordie used to read to him. He also read to me all through the years, and I made quilts, mats and knitted. We both enjoyed books, and I sure miss those times now he has gone. Now the Maymont Library, thanks to Mrs. Brehon, gets me tapes from the C.N.I.B. which I do enjoy. My eyes are so I cannot read. We even used to read books in the closed cutter when taking and getting Mary from school. Of course, I did not need to go but we always were together when possible. We had one daughter, Mary Louise, born April 30, 1937. She was born on this farm, Doctor Scratch, Nurse Pat McGrath, and Mrs. Ernie Andrew were in attendance. Mary attended Maymont School.

Geordie had four sisters — Elsie (Mrs. Bert Robbins), Janet (Mrs. Tom Harris), Vera (Mrs. Jim Shelton), Esther (Mrs. Earl Lewis) and one brother, Elmer, who had the same birthday only ten years later. He passed away June 14, 1969.

Geordie's father, Robert Williams, bough the S.E. of 34-41-12 from Walt Lowe who homesteaded it. Geordie and his mother used to tell me of the prairie fires they had fought. One time they saved the neighbor's house but could not save the barn and feed. There were a lot of fires when the prairie wool was still plentiful as it burned easily. Also it was the best of feed for it was still good even in the fall. There is no prairie now to speak of so not many wild flowers either. Geordie got a prize for best wild flower collection when he went to school. He had his leg broken by a horse and was gored by a hog and had many scars for the rest of his life. His father passed away suddenly October 29, 1923. Geordie helped his mother with the farm and all that had to be done. His youngest sister was just starting to school then, so he had two turns at taking children to school.

Those days taking out brush was done with horses and two people, one to drive the team, the other to cut roots. We burned wood for cooking and heating for many years. Each winter Geordie got up twenty-five to thirty loads and most of the time sawed it with the bucksaw. Sometimes we had a crew saw, and the last years we had our own saw (circular) and cut each load at night after he got home. He sawed and I pitched the blocks, and we cut our year's fence posts out of the straight ones. After we got the yard light in 1957 it was better. He always piled the wood when he split it. When Mary was little he made a room in the side of the pile and put a board roof over it for a playhouse. Needless to say that wood which formed the walls stayed for quite a few years. He also made a snowslide with an ice path the width of the sled and small sides to hold it on. It took many pails of water which had to be carried a long way but it was really used a lot.

In 1935 a golf course was made on the Williams farm and many people came to play. They had a tournament each year which was quite interesting. In May, 1936 Geordie was presented with a golf bag and five clubs.

In 1939 while mowing on the golf course Elmer Williams was thrown from the mower and cut his right hand off. It was one never to be forgotten day. His mother did all she could to help him. I ran to Ernie Andrew's to phone Doc, then to Tom and Janet's place to get Geordie who was working on the land there. He left immediately. Janet and I walked back a bit later but they had already taken Em to the hospital. Mary crawled up to the top step of the stairs and quietly stayed till I could get to her. It was a very hard time for Em, but he did get to use his hook very well and wrote with his left hand.

Geordie helped many people with sick cows, also was a bricklayer and made many chimneys, and a few basement walls. He did carpenter work for many people as well as all our own. He and Tom built our house (16' by 20') in 1940.

Pete, my brother, helped him dig the cellar. I helped on the rest of the building. He measured, and cut, and I nailed. We did not have a cow stable with a roof that did not leak until 1950 and we always milked cows. When it was to be shingled it was getting cold, and I being scared of high places told Geordie if he put a load of straw by it I would get up there, so he did but said if I did fall I would go between it and the barn. I did not fall and we got it done. The sod stable did for many years. The plywood one was a treat.

He made all our cupboards even chrome top table. We always worked together and since I liked outside work I often helped on the land, also fencing, etc. Since we milked cows there was feed to put up too. He made rope out of sheaf bands by braiding them together and twisted them on a rope machine he made. Many people got rope made on it but used binder twine which made it much easier. He worked in his workshop a lot and had things arranged conveniently. He made butcher knives out of used files and paring knives out of hack saw blades, also many other things.

In 1971 he was in an accident and not expected to live. He was in the chiller room in the University Hospital in Saskatoon for two weeks. They kindly let me stay with him each day, which I greatly appreciated. The doctors all said there was no hope, but with many people praying and very good care he came through. Doctor Paine, a very good doctor, was quite pleased with his recovery, though a blood vessel had been injured and pressed on a nerve so his vision was very limited. Doctor Cline told me he could have a cerebral hemorrhage any time. He farmed right to the end, and shovelled grain the day before the hemorrhage came on. On December 7, 1976 he went to his Eternal Home.

I farmed for two years with the help of my grandsons, who were both going to school, but due to ill health and eyesight failing, I have had to rent the farm this year. However, I would like to be out on the tractor. I am now waiting to follow Geordie. Over all the years he brought me wild roses in their season, so I miss them now. My little granddaughter comes to play with me as often as she can, and often brings me mud pies she has made. We (pretend) eat them together and they taste as good as they did when I was a kid. I have two grandsons and two granddaughters, all whom I love dearly, and pray God will guide them through life.

Hobb and Dorothy (Reid) Wilson

I took my schooling in Maymont, then on to City Hospital School of Nursing in 1952 graduating in 1956. I spent my holidays always at Maymont.

Dr. Scratch called on me to go on "a case" with him — At times I was called to do a bit of midwifery when he was out of town.

I do recall going on "a case" with Dr. Scratch to an Indian reservation, the Indian woman had a kidney condition. Doc instructed me to get a sample of urine — the woman couldn't speak English — after many

practical demonstrations and much to do, I was able to present the urine sample to Doc. He thought it was a great joke.

He had me catheterize a male patient — something unheard of as a nurse in the hospital in those days.

I married Hobb Wilson — CNR ticket agent in 1941 — we had two children Lorraine and Andy. Lorraine married Ron Wallace; both teaching in Collegiates in Saskatoon. They have two children. Andy married Valerie Hiesen. Andy works for the Bay — they have two children. We are all living in Saskatoon.

Hobb died in October, 1977.

Mr. Charles Wood

The following letter was written by the late Charles Wood in answer to a letter from Geraldine Buziak, a student at Lilac School, as part of a Homemakers' project to celebrate the Fiftieth Anniversary of Saskatchewan.

I arrived in Saskatoon on the seventeenth of February, 1906. It was lovely weather, thawing, and no frosts at night until March 8. I looked around and I met Bob Dochterman and M. Hibbert. They were looking for homesteads, so we looked around the livery barns. There were quite a lot of broncos and steers some broke but pretty wild by the way they looked on the trail. Then we found out where the land office was. It was on the side where Nutana is now, no buildings except land office and a small blacksmith shop. We started to cross the river on the railway bridge which was on piles. As we got half way across, the train came round a bluff, so we sat astride the timbers. It just felt like we were going into the river. We got off as quick as possible, and found another bridge, and we got to land office and found out there was land at Rosthern. I bought a team of black Percheron mares, and an old wagon. It had a brake on it, so I did not have to hobble the horses when going down hills like some did the oxen. When I bought the team it was my idea to raise some colts, but it did not pan out that way as a team was too light to break the prairie. We left Saskatoon the last week in February. When we got to Borden one of my horses took sick so we stayed for a few days and looked around at the land, but it was too sandy for my liking. At Borden they were unloading ties and steel. We met Mr. Loveless there and he said he was going west so we all came together and stayed at his place while we located our land. Then on March 8 we started for Battleford. There were Dochterman, Hibbert, two Loveless, and myself.

When we got to the river there was two feet of water on the ice, as we saw a load of wood coming and asked the driver for the best place to cross. He said to follow him, so his wife got in my wagon so she would not get wet. He went across with the wood, and we followed and in we went into fifteen feet of water. The Loveless went over the side into two feet of water and ran for the shore and shouted, "Save the old man." I threw the woman out and Dochterman the old man. We were in three quarters of an hour before we got the team out. The man with the wood asked his wife if she was cold. She must have been as she shook like a leaf. The wagon floated out. By that time there were quite a few there that wanted to cross so they pulled the wagon out. They did not dare to cross. The blankets, seats, bolster, etc. were lost. Then I had to help the man with the wood up the hills. I got some dry clothes and dinner, then I got the team out of the barn, and a sixteen foot rod and went down to the river to fish out the back wheels. I stood on the front wheels and there was a bunch of men holding the wheels with logging chains. The water was spinning and the men all eased at once, and let the wheels move, and in I went head first. I never could swim but it did not take me long to get out. By that time it was freezing and the wind was blowing. It felt a bit cold but I walked across the river and up to the Queen's Hotel. They knew I was coming, and as I entered the hotel I was met with quite a few glasses of strong stuff and then to bed, but next morning I was fine. We went down to the river and it was frozen solid enough to walk on, so we weren't long in getting the wheels out.

After dinner I went and filed on this land March 9, 1906, NW ¼ 21-42-13 W 3rd. You know everybody seemed to be after your dollars. This was evident as I bought things necessary for the wagon. There was a log shack about 12 x 12 on Dochterman's land so I stayed there until I got up a shack. We had the team in with us. We used to put the bed out in the daytime and back at night. There was not much room. The team could not lay down but they were quite a nuisance nosing around your face. I did not sleep much, you can imagine how the bed and cookstove was in the morning. I got my shack built 14 x 20. I did not put a floor in the bedroom as I used it for the horses. Then I bought a load of hay and put it quite close to the shack. I did not think about fire until later when I saw a prairie fire coming. I was eating breakfast and I thought I would hitch onto the plow later on but it was there before I could do anything. I managed to find a sack and I beat it out before it burned my happy home. That was my first prairie fire; the smoke and heat was sickening.

I had seven acres that had been broken before. I plowed it and seeded broadcast with wheat. I had seeded with in the old country. I had no harrows, but I made them out of willows and poles, they worked well. Then I started to break but the team was a little light to break steady so I traded Richard for three green oxen. I put two to work first to get them broken in, but after a few rounds they were tired. They had long horns. They fought around until they got their horns stuck in the ground, and tied themselves in a knot. I knew I had to put the other steer on. I had to get a new hitch. You know in those days there wasn't anything around to make things with but I got them working and I broke for my neighbors and some for myself.

During the summer I built a sod barn, put up hay and bought a disc for forty-five dollars from Fielding. It is still in use. It was used by most of my neighbors for a few years. When the crop was ready I got Mr. Little to cut it for me. I stacked it and thrashed it by Richard's outfit. I had one hundred fifteen bushels. My bill was five dollars. I think I have the bill yet. Then I hauled firewood and cut it up, banked the house with manure, as I intended Mr. Hibbert to live in it and look after my oxen while I went to Prince Albert to work. I thought I had better get a little more wood so Hibbert and I started to get wood When we were loaded there was a fire coming, so we got in the open and started a fire and just a piece burnt. We got the oxen tied and lay down with our face to the ground. When the fire swept by we started for the home and when nearing home I saw smoke around the house. I hurried and found it had burnt the dry straw, all my wood gone, two hay stacks, — one was saved by my neighbor's oxen as they were around it when I got home, hayrack, pig trough, and handles off my plow. I thought a lot of those things in those days. That was two fires in one year. The grass grew over them fast.

I started to Prince Albert in November. It was an open fall, lots of rain. I got a job fishing; then a cook job I did not like; then driving a team with one hundred twenty miles hauling fish to Prince Albert, and shipped them to the States. I quit in the end of January, 1906 as I wanted to get some logs to build a barn and granary. I went to Mr. Little's to get my axe sharpened. I went on ox back as I had broken one to ride The shack was cold so I put on a good fire and then went to feed the oxen. When I got to the house the roof was on fire. I picked up the broom to beat it out but the broom made it burn better. Then I picked up the bed and when I got outside it was on fire. I saved one blanket and a coat. I took my axe and broke the wall where my trunks were but of no use. I had done a thing I never did before — took my watch and money out of my pocket and put them in a cupboard. I lost everything except what I had on. So I was broke again. I sat on a snowbank and watched the fire. It was forty below zero. So I picked up my bedding, coat, and six grain sacks that were in the barn. That was my bedding for the year. Then I went over to Hibberts with my bed and lay on the floor. I pretty near froze.

Next day I fixed up the barn, put tin on the roof from my trunks. Next morning I lit the fire and then went to feed the oxen which were tied in a straw shed next to the barn. Then I saw the roof was on fire. I at once took off my gloves to untie the oxen and onto the roof and threw off the roof and then the front of the barn caught fire so I threw it away. With it being sod it did not burn so fast. But I froze all my finger ends. Then I hunted for my gloves, found them, but they did not feel very good but I had nothing else to wear. Then I went over to Nelsons and stayed until I got lumber, on time, to build a shack — One ply of lumber and the old stoves after being through the fire were not very good. After a while I got a roll of tar paper and papered the outside which stopped the wind. Then I went across the river to get logs to build a barn and granary. Oxen seem slow making those trips but I got the building up that spring. Then I put in crop and then took a job breaking fifty acres and backsetting for Dunford to have some pay as soon as I started to work but no pay came. That was 1906. He thrashed me in 1911 and cleared me up. But I broke a few acres for other neighbors which helped out in grub. There was quite a few duck nests next to the shack so I used them and a lot of prairie chickens and rabbits.

I bought a gang plow and had Dechterman's oxen and I put a disc on the plow which was a nice load.

In the spring of 1906 I bought a pony, on time, to use in rounding up the oxen. The oxen would stray away as I used to unhitch at the plow and they fed around where I had worked. In the fall I used to let them go to a slough north of me. At night I used to fetch them in to a piece that was fenced. This night I went for them about 9.00 P.M. This pony had a cream colored colt and as I got to the slough I could see a colt on both sides of me and it stayed until I got home and let the pony go. It turned out to be a coyote. It followed me to the shack and stood partway inside. I took the gun and fired and missed. I followed it to a bluff and shot again. I went next morning but no coyote.

The first car I saw was a Ford driven by O. Harper.

The first radio was Miles Stalker's and W. Agar's with earphones.

The gas tractor I saw was Turnbull's. I don't know the dates.

Mr. Charles Wood

by Elizabeth (Patterson) Wood

Mr. Charles Wood arrived in Saskatchewan in 1885 and in 1910 Jessie Rowlandson came from England and they were married that year. They had eleven of a family. George (now deceased), Mary (now deceased), Peter, Edith, (now Mrs. Carl Johnston), Jim, Jesse, Allan, Fred, Rollie, Henry, and Thelma (now Mrs. Elmer Seib).

Charles Wood was a pioneer farmer and was an ardent gardener, keeping many families in vegetables during the depression years. He died in 1959. Mrs. Jessie Wood continued living on their original farm till her death in 1968. They had twenty-four grandchildren before their deaths and adored each and everyone of them.

They were true pioneers and in the early days held an open house for anyone who came along and were in need of help.

Tom Woods History

written by Tom Woods

Tom Woods arrived at Maymont, April, 1931 as agent for the North Star Oil Company, Ltd. to manage the Bulk Storage Tanks and Oil Warehouse.

Tom bought a lot at the corner of Main Street and Railway Avenue, North, across the road from Bill Sowden's Hotel. On the lot, Tom built a gas service station, workshop, and living quarters. He put in an air compressor for the tire repair trade and tools for the motor car and truck trade, putting in a good stock of items to keep the travelling public moving pleasantly. Now he was ready to open the business to be known as Tom Woods' Service Station.

For a month or two, things were quite slow, however, they started to pick up and kept moving along quite satisfactorily and Tom needed a partner.

Tom's girl friend, Isabel Baker, of Richard, was on the staff of the Provincial Hospital in North Battleford and not too happy to leave. Nevertheless Tom and Isabel were married in the Anglican Church, North Battleford, November 18, 1931 and after a brief honeymoon they returned to Maymont.

The 1930 years were hot, dry, and dusty. Wind, dust, and tumbleweed were blowing down the roads filling fence corners and ditches; The year 1937 was very bad. Lots of humans were looking for work and a spot to settle.

By staying and being on call day and night, every day in the year, Isabel and Tom kept things on the move and ahead.

September 8, 1933, being a happy event — a daughter Fay, was born with the best of care from Doc. Scratch and Mrs. Oliver Andrew. This made one more human to keep us busy.

Business was getting better each year and they started delivering to the farms at all times as needed: Gas, oil, grease, Massey Harris Machine and Implement parts and repairs, also weed spray and binder twine. Slim Walton, motor mechanic, worked in the repair shop.

We had a musical group and played for dances, meetings and social events quite often loading our instruments on to a truck and driving down to the river bank for a church service or picnic.

Getting the 1930's out of the way with the wind, dust, tumbleweed, and grasshoppers helped our feelings a lot.

The 1940's and 50's were very much better with business improving each year.

Tom served as the Maymont Village Council, was Fire Chief, and also Overseer for a number of years.

The big event of the Woods was the marriage of their daughter, Fay, to George Huziak of Speers. The wedding being held in the United Church at Maymont, August 7, 1953 at 2:00 P.M.

In December, 1958 Tom and Isabel thought after twenty-eight years of being in the service station business it was time for a change. The business was sold to Lloyd Parker of Maymont. Tom and Isabel retired to North Battleford.

Jesse and Mabel Wood and Family

N.W. 1-42-13-W 3rd
submitted by Mabel Wood

Jesse is the son of Charles Wood and Jessie Rolandson. His parents both came from England during the early years of the century. His dad homesteaded north of Ruddell, Saskatchewan. Here they raised a family, who went to Montro School, which was quite a distance for children to travel to school on Prairie roads, especially in the winter months. In time a school was built in their own district called Wavie Bank.

Some of their teachers whom Jesse recalls were — Mr. McFarlane, Miss Musk, Ken Doolittle, Miss Winters (Mrs. Wilma Gray), Harry Broley, Miss Bailey and Mr. Aldridge. This was during Jesse's school years of course. These schools are both closed and moved away. Montro was moved to Reiley's farm and Wavie Bank was moved to Maymont and is now Sherman's machine shop.

Mabel is a daughter of Les Sloan and Mary Fast. The details of my parent's and grandparent's will be found in brother Ted's write-up.

I got my schooling at Neepawa School. We walked one and a half miles to school during the spring and fall months and were driven during the winter by horse-drawn buggy, sleigh or whatever.

My teachers were Lydia Bailstud (Mrs. Allan Bean), Annie Dorsette, Dorothy Dean, Miss Ollan, Mrs. Harryet, Muriel Elliot, Muriel Harris, Kathleen McKinnon (Mrs. Roy Kelper) and Max Braithwaite.

We were a family of five boys and five girls who grew up with many precious memories of our childhood and home. My mother could sing nicely and she played the organ, so she sang a lot with us kids. My oldest sister, Kate, played the organ or piano too and I remember quite often on Sunday evening we'd have a hymn singing time which I enjoyed. Group singing and music was always a life style in our home.

My mother's faith in God was strong. That's how she managed to keep cheerful through twelve years of illness. Medical care was much more limited in the thirties than it is today. Today dropsy can be relieved greatly by use of medication.

Another tragedy in our family, which I feel should be mentioned, was that of my youngest brother, Herbert, who became ill at the age of twenty-two. This was diagnosed by Doctor Gattioch of North Battleford as brain tumor and arrangements were made immediately for Bert to be transferred to the University Hospital in Saskatoon. Doctor McConnel did surgery and removed quite a large tumor from the brain. This was very possibly caused from a severe fall Bert had had when he was about two years old, which hurt his neck and spine causing him to start creeping again instead of walking.

From this surgery he was hospitalized for several months. His recovery progressed very well and Bert lived quite a normal life for eighteen years as cook and

housekeeper for Dad and brother, Roy. But the tumor grew in again and Bert faced with dread further surgery. This time he was left more limited in what he could do. He used to play his guitar a lot before to pass time but now his co-ordination had no rhythm. During the next thirteen years the tumor re-occurred, this time brain cancer. This tragedy certainly saddened our hearts. Bert was a very fine brother. He enjoyed life, was thoughtful of others, and he was kind to all children. And children liked Bert. He was quick-witted and jolly and kind-hearted.

My dad was a very good gardener. There was always enough and to spare of vegetables in his garden. During the years of the depression he grew watermelons, muskmelons like you wouldn't believe, also popping corn. Last summer (1978) a girl who had lived in our district as a child was visiting back here, and after all those years, she remembered the popcorn and watermelon feeds we had at our house. A treat was appreciated in those days!

One of the scenes of the thirties that lives in my memory still, is that of the many movers who had given up in the drought-stricken areas and had gathered their family, a few cattle, often a dog and a few other belongings and set out with horse-drawn wagons to find a place to start over again.

We lived along the main road and it was almost an everyday occurence during the summer, for one or more mover-trains to go past. These moving trains consisted of horse-drawn wagons, cattle being herded along behind, mostly by meagrely clad children.

Dad had a windmill to pump water from his deep well and I guess it signified water was plentiful. Often the movers would stop to camp in Dad's pasture while they'd water their animals and have their meal along the way.

I remember a mover-wagon coming by in January. I'm not sure of the year but around 1930, I guess. It was snowing hard and the road was filling in. This covered wagon-deal came in sight. The people were travelling from the northwest going to Manitoba. They were English people — there were six kids from two to fourteen years old and the mother and father. They stopped in our lane, the man walked in to ask if he could water his horses. It was snowing heavily and their wagon wheels were bogged in snow, so Dad told him to bring his gear into the yard and bring his family in the house until the storm would be over. They did this and it was a couple of days before they could go on. Anyway they wrote a letter when they arrived at their destination to let us know they got there okay. Those were bad times but there was "goodwill" among people in those days.

People were also on the move by foot because they were unemployed, penniless and homeless. Very often one or more of these unfortunate people would call in to beg for a bit to eat, even a crust of bread.

In 1951 we came to live on our present home site — which we bought from Dave Penner. It was pasture land and needed a house to make it a home. Jesse bought a two-room house from Alex Bederia in the Lilac District. Relatives helped move this house on to this land and we were settled to make the best of what we had.

Darlene is nursing in St. Mary's Hospital at Camrose, Alberta. She is active in her church and community activities. She travels during her holidays in the summer, so she has seen a lot of Canada from coast to coast and north to south and quite a bit of U.S.A.

Elaine is married to Allan Currie of North Battleford rural. They live on his farm and they have two sons — Scott and Curtis. Elaine was employed full time with the Bank of Nova Scotia for nine years. Since they have a family she works part-time. She is active in church work and active in their community. Allan has his own business in North Battleford — "Precision Business Machines, Ltd." Along with a bit of holiday travelling they keep very busy.

Orville is married to Bonnie King of North Battleford. They have a baby daughter called Oralee. They live in North Battleford, where Orville is employed at mechanics work. He likes to ride horseback and one of his prize possessions is his fifty-seven Chev. on which he has done a lot of work.

Leighton is still at home. He goes to Maymont Central School. He loves animals especially horses. He rides horseback a lot — has done ever since he was three or four years old. He likes to do mechanic work. His first project is building up a stripped fifty-seven Chev. Slowly but sincerely he plugs away at this project.

Our girls went to Keystone School until it was closed in 1959. Since that time our children went by bus to Maymont Central School.

This brings my reminiscenses to an end. I'm thankful for all the good things in life, for good friends, relatives and neighbors. May God Bless them Everyone.

Lucille and Marshall Wynn

by Lucille (Sherman) Wynn

I am Lucille Wynn, eldest daughter of the Albert Sherman family. I am married to Marshall Wynn. We live in Hanna, Alberta. We have one daughter, Rosemarie, and three sons, Albert, Robert and Leslie.

I grew up on a farm in the Calais School District and took eight years of school there. I remember one day sitting on the swing waiting for my friends to come and I got careless, fell off and broke my leg. Dr. Scratch of Maymont put a cast on it, without a walking heel. I was home from school quite awhile.

I never liked riding horses, also disliked the cattle so kept away from them.

Dad took us to school when we were young behind a fast team of horses. We had teachers boarding with us

for years and years, so had a ride through the winter months.

Some of my early teachers were Jean Downie, Amy McPherson, Irma Matthies, Walter Belyk, Mrs. Brady and Alvin Hamp. When we played ball, it took all of us to go on the team. We played against the other school teams around. We made huts out of tree limbs, straw and played without good equipment, but made up our own fun.

I remember once Dad was away and Joe Ducharme's hound dogs came prowling around the house, we were sure frightened of them. He used them to run down coyotes and then Joe sold the coyote hides.

I remember using coal oil lamps. We had to be careful carrying them upstairs at night — also all the indoor plumbing was outdoors — you had to put on your outdoor clothes in the winter to just go 'to the bathroom'. My kids now say, "Tell me more of the old days, Mom".

Finally after a scarcity of teachers and pupils, Calais School closed its doors and we went to school in Fielding. Dad bought me a small 'Austin' truck. It was funny how I only needed gas in it every week or so but oil near every day. In time a bus route was established from Beckwith District area and we had to catch it two miles away from home. I went to Fielding School for four years. Teachers were W. Stan Scott, and J. Weimer. I took a Comptometer course in Regina where I met my husband, Marshall. We were married in 1965 and lived in Saskatoon, Calgary and now in Hanna, Alberta.

Clifford Yule

told by Clifford Yule

Thanks to a Saskatchewan visitor to Ontario I became one of the harvest crew at "Alec Brehon's" driving a binder and helping with the threshing. We did not have a large set up — five wagons and seven men. I recall Emil Voegeli from Switzerland, I believe, who also drove a binder. Alec was a good boss, who smoked a crooked stemmed pipe and was determined never to let our "McCormicks" pass his "Massey Harris".

Mrs. Brehon was a fine cook. I was 21 so I really appreciated the good food. She went to Homemakers meetings. I think she was the local authority on cooking.

The school teacher boarded at Brehon's. Her name was Sophia Langham. Her presence made things more interesting. She and Mrs. Brehon's hired girl put bread crumbs etc. in our beds in the bunkhouse. That called for action. Colles' saddle horse was white. The hair from its tail, cut real short, was somehow put in the girls' beds by young Dick who was about eight years old. I don't think they slept very well that night.

Going to dances, in Maymont, about eight miles away, in an open buggy was quite an ordeal. It was worth the effort though. There were many good dancers.

We were done harvest by October [redacted] and I returned to Ontario, Happy [redacted] meet, Sorry to part, Happy to meet again.

In 1968 when my wife and I were planning a trip to the West Coast I decided I wanted to visit Maymont again. I contacted Colles Brehon and we were invited to dinner where we met Colles, Anna and their family. Anna too is an excellent cook like her mother-in-law.

Later, we visited the original Brehon home where Mrs. Alec Brehon and Lilah were spending the summer. Here we were served a delicious lunch and met George and his family who were on the home farm. Things had changed somewhat in forty-two years but the old bunk house was still there.

Last year, in 1978, we were overnight guests of Colles and Anna when we were passing through Saskatoon.

I feel I was very fortunate when I became a part of the Brehon harvesting crew in 1936.

Roll of Honour
CANADIAN ACTIVE SERVICE

Men's Legion and Auxiliary

Legion

Maymont Branch of the Canadian Legion No. 176 received its charter on April 25th, 1932. The first president was C. A. Coleman and the first secretary was Tom Woods. Charter members were Wm. Dawson, Stanley Thorsteinson, Thomas Knight, John Morgan, S. Dolden, Robt. Dowling, Rev. M. W. Cozens, Robt. Neill, and W. J. Cash.

After the formation of the branch the next problem was where to hold the monthly meetings. First, the municipal office was used, as well as the bank, and a booth on the sports grounds. As the membership grew larger, these places became too small, so it was decided that the branch should have a place of it's own. After considerable discussion the members decided to build a place large enough to accomodate a gathering which was too small to warrant the use of the Orange Hall.

Stan Thorsteinson and D. Campbell were head carpenters and with the help of other members the present hall was erected and opened on Armistice Day in 1933.

Though not large in numbers, this branch of the Canadian Legion has remained active through the years and played a useful part in community life. It has assisted it's comrades and their dependents through difficult periods and sponsored many activities for the benefit of others. In it's work it has enjoyed the co-operation and assistance of the Women's Auxiliary.

On November 27, 1933 a charter was given to form a Ladies Auxiliary to Branch No. 176 of the British Empire Service League in Maymont. The following were the first charter members:

Mrs. Minnie Coleman
Mrs. Ethel Neill
Mrs. Mildred Knight
Mrs. Lillian Andrew
Mrs. Alice Bean
Mrs. Grace McLeish
Mrs. Florence Cozens
Mrs. Margaret Cameron
Mrs. Ellen Cornish
Mrs. Dorothy Thorsteinson
Mrs. Bertha Dolden

Minnie Coleman is now the only active member. She is also, of course, a life member who insists on always paying her dues. Mrs. Coleman has been and still is an untiring and inspirational example for all of us. From her, we have learned what it is to be a conscientious and dedicated member, working for the good and welfare of our disabled veterans and their families.

Our Auxiliary is very active, consisting of 14 members, two who have recently joined and two more who have made application for membership. We hold our meetings in our own Legion Hall which was built in 1933.

During World War 2 money was raised to buy wool for socks, bandages and cigarettes for our fighting men.

November 11 is of course still celebrated and our auxiliary get together with the Branch to enjoy a banquet meal to reminisce and sing the old songs familiar to all service men.

We feel that we contribute a service to our disabled and paraplegic veterans by donating to the veterans' hospitals. We also contribute to several other worthy organizations such as crippled children, rheumatism and arthritis, mental health and others.

Current membership is as follows:

Mrs. Sarah Benedoin
Mrs. Janice Sander
Mrs. Merle Johnston
Mrs. Evelyn Bates
Mrs. Minnie Coleman
Mrs. Emily Hawkins
Mrs. Nellie Curry
Mrs. Jean Saunders
Mrs. Hazel Zaleschuk
Mrs. Jean Taylor
Mrs. Lela Bohn
Mrs. Cathie McLeod
Mrs. Alice Coakey
Mrs. Dora Plews.

Veterans of World War I

Fred Bohn
Harry Best
William Dawson
Robert Downing
W. Hunt
Tommy Harris
J. M. Martin
Colin Ramsey
Alfred Bohn
(killed in action)
Richard C. Brehon
(killed in action)
Sid Dolden
Jack Cash
J. Lowery
Robert Neill
John Morgan
J. Spless
Stanley Bohn
Clem Coleman
J. Doherty
Nathan Friedman
Russell Knight
W. H. Nuthrown
E. Ramsey

Veterans of World War II

Hector Andrew
E. R. Andrews
(died overseas)
W. H. Andrew
(killed in action)
Maud Andrew
Myrtle Andrew
Harry Best
Fred Best
(killed in action)
Philip Best
E. J. Beaudoin
Mac Beckton
Stanley Bright
Glen Bright
Pat Brophy
Clem Coleman
Doug Coleman
Alan Coleman
Jack Cash
James Crozier
(killed in action)
Harold Curry
Bursil Conkey
(prisoner of war)
Robert Dawson
Everett Downing
Reg Gillatt
Robert Hawkins
Philip Hawkins
Albert Hickman
Carl Johnston
Harvey Johnston
(prisoner of war)
Tommy Johnston
Horace Knight
(killed in action)
Robert Miller
Stanley Milman
Winnifred Melrose
D. McCorkle
Brenton Nuthrown
Mary Parker
Wilfred Reid
Archie Reid
Lyman Reid
Eric Reid
Art Reid
Arthur Skinner
Ted Saunders
Tommy Turner
Edward Skinner
Alex Skinner
Doug Skinner
Sheridan Porter
Ted Porter
James N. Smith

Roddell and Lilac 1914-1919

A. B. Ewing
T. Skidmore
L. Benchsliff
R. Davis
T. Dow
T. Balmer
T. Moore
B. Megaffin
C. Clark
T. Little
H. Spence
M. Montague
R. Davidson
F. C. Murphy
R. McCann
S. Tyson
C. Rogk
B. Ellison
T. Henchsliff
B. Mabey
F. Smith
C. McFarlane
F. Daniels
A. Mallows
C. Caldwell
Reb R. Morgan
S. Dale
W. Ried
E. Ewing
R. S. Robinson
A. Dakin
M. Anderson
J. Birse
S. Mathison
B. C. Stewart
H. Turner
O C. Harper
G. Geddie
J. Campbell
S. Little
C. Negus
J. B. Arnold
B. Mabey

Those who were lost:

J. McMillan
S. Mabey
C. Pringle
H. Mather
H. Campell
R. Bremner
C. Beechy
J. M. Beckett
S. Jackson
H. Roberts

Roddell and Lilac 1939-1945

R. Abbott
D. Beierle
J. Caldwell
F. Gillatt
T. Johnston
H. M. Palsson
K. Reid
L. Thrower
L. E. Twitle
F. Wood
E. Schmidt
F. Agar
L. Beierle
C. Custer
O. Harper
W. Klassen
H. Parent
L. Robinson
W. Thrower
L. Walden
J. Wood
I. Anderson
W. Boltrey
D. Elders
H. Johnston
N. Lowes
W. Ralph
W. Roche
G. Topping
D. Warren
A. Wrenshall
R. Belerle
B. Carnahan
R. B. Firth
L. Johnston
S. A. Moore
G. Reid
G. Scott
W. S. Turnbull
W. Welford
G. G. Wrenshall

Those who were lost — W. H. Gillatt, J. E. Wright.

Honor Roll From Fielding — World War II

Austin Brant
Lewis Cousins
Adolph Ducharme
Delmar Evans
Chester Ferris
Walter Fast
(killed in action)
John Garnett
Gurney Garnett
Thomas Gollan
Harold Holmes
Desmond Johnston
Dennis McGrath
Samuel Nutbrown
Orville Northcott
Paul Reinhardt
William Roberts
Allan Smith
William Stott
Dawson Thompson
Alfred Thompson
Ross McNaughton
Kenneth Nutbrown
Richard Prechtl
Laurence Ryan
James Smith
Charles Stott
Robert Thomson
Herbert Thompson
Otto Thompson
Roy Babcock
(killed in action)
Janet Downie
Desmond Ducharme
Keith Ferris
Clifford Free
Elgin Garnett
Malcolm Garnett
Alvin Garnett
Doug Hockley
Laurence Iveson
Miriam Long
John Bodle
Clayton Cure
Delmar Ducharme
Russell Ferris
Wilfred Fisher
George Garnett
Clarence Garnett
Thomas Glynn
Robert Hepple
Harvey Larson
Kenneth McLeod
Clarence Northcott
Fred Reinhardt
Wilfred Ryan
Norman Smith
Stephen Stott
Trueman Thompson
Roderick Thompson
(killed in action)
Allan Tyhurst

Veterans from Fielding area in World War I:

David Addley
Harold C. Baker
Max Denomy
George Downey
Arthur Elliott
Frank Glynn
Ed (Teddy) Glynn
Alfred Green
Elmer Hodson
William Hill
John Kinkaid
J. M. McNaughton
Bill McNaughton
John Nolin
Herbert Ryan
Charles Roberts
William Shanks, Jr.
George Stuart
Jack Thompson.

WORLD WAR I
1914 to 1918

John Birse

Alfred Bohn

Fred Bohn

E. Stanley Bohn

Richard Brehon

Hector Campbell

Billy Dawson

Ed Ewing

Walter Hewer

Walter Marshall

E. McMahon

John Morgan

George Lowrey

Colin Ramsey

VETERANS
WORLD WAR II
1939-1945

Elmer Andrew

Hector Andrew

John Andrew

Maud Andrew

Myrtle Andrew

Mac Beckton

Ernest Beaudoin

Fred Best

Harry Best

Phillip Best

William Buttrey

Doug Coleman

Bursil Conkey

Harold Curry

Jack Campbell

Jim Crozier

Robert Dawson

Adolph Ducharme

Desmond Ducharme

Ron Firth

Elgin Garnett

George Garnett

Mac Garnett

Frank Gillatt

Reg Gillat

William Gillatt

Thomas Gollan

Philip Hawkins

Robert Hawkins

Albert Hickman

Carl Johnston

Harvey Johnston

Miriam Long

Donald McCorkle

Robert McCorkle

Bob Miller

Brenton Nutbrow

Mary Parker

Sheridan Porter

Ted Porter

Bill Ralph

Arthur Reid

Edgar J. Reid

Eric Reid

Lyman Reid

Fred Reinhardt

Bill Roberts

G. O. Saunders

Gwen Saunders

T. C. Saunders

Edwin Schmidt

George Scott

James Smith

Ivan Thompson

Tom Turner

Alan Tyhurst

Raymond Wallon

Styles

SAFEWAY STORES

Prices Effective Wednesday Morning and Thursday, April 15th and 16th, 1936

Tomatoes, No 2½ tins	tin 10¢	Mother's Chocolate, ½-lb cakes	pkg. 14¢
Cleanser, Royal Crown	tin 5¢	Tea, Finest bulk	lb. 39¢
Yellow Sugar, 2-lb pkgs	pkg. 12¢	Coffee, Airway, fresh ground	lb. 35¢
Dill Pickles, Rosedale, No 2½ tin	19¢	Prunes, Meaty	3 lbs. 25¢
Flour, Airway, 24-lb bag 75c 7-lb bag	25¢	Ginger Snaps, Fresh-crisp	2 lbs. 25¢
Sugar, Granulated	5 lbs. 29¢	Graham Wafers, Honey Grahams	pkg. 21¢
Soap, A.T.O. Naptha	6 bars 17¢	Tomato Juice, Aylmer	tin 5¢
Prime's Toffee, Rum and Butter, Licorice	lb. 25¢	Soap Flakes, Finest bulk	lb. 10¢
Jam, Loganberry	4-lb. tin 39¢	Beans, Green or Wax	2 tins 25¢
Shredded Wheat	pkg. 9¢	Cherries, Lincoln Brand	tin 15¢
Macaroni, Bulk	5 lbs. 23¢	Peanut Butter, Fresh Ground	lb. 15¢
Mixed Candy	lb. 15¢	Cinnamon, Bulk	¼ lb. 10¢

FRUIT

Oranges, Sunkist, medium size 3 doz. 63¢	doz. 27¢	Grapefruit, Seedless	4 for 25c
Lemons, Juicy	6 for 14¢	Carrots, B.C. Cooking	5 lbs. 15¢
Apples, Rome Beauties Box $1.99	5-lbs. 25¢	Spanish Onions	lb. 5¢

MEAT

Sirloin or T-Bone Steaks	lb. 14¢	Pork and Veal Patties	2 lbs. 25¢
Beef Roasts, Shoulder Cuts	lb. 8¢	Beef Dripping, Fresh rendered	lb. 8¢
Stewing Beef, Boneless	2 lbs. 19¢	Cooked Corned Beef, sliced	lb. 12¢
Pork Steak, Shoulder	2 lbs. 35¢	Jellied Head Cheese, sliced	lb. 15¢
Hamburger, Fresh Ground	lb. 5¢		

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SAFEWAY STORES

Prices in effect in October 1979 in Comparative weights in metric

Tomatoes, 398 ml	.64	Chocolate ½ lb. pkg.	2.83
Cleanser, 397 gr.	.48	Tea - Bulk lb.	2.38
Yellow Sugar, 2 kg.	.79	Airway Coffee, 454 gr.	4.18
Dill Pickles, 909 ml.	1.29	Prunes lb.	1.14
Flour 2.5 kg.	1.35	Ginger Snaps, 800 gr.	1.85
White Sugar, 2 kg.	1.42	Graham Wafers, 369 gr.	1.14
Sunlight Soap (Hand)	.32	Aylmer Tomato Juice 1.36	.77
Brazil Toffee	1.14	Soap Powder, 1.2 kg.	1.87
Shredded Wheat 4.50 gr.	.92	Green Beans 285 ml.	.39
Macaroni, 2 kg	1.40	Cherries, 398 ml.	.75
Mixed Candy lb.	1.44	Peanut Butter, 500 gr.	1.35
FRUIT:		Cinnamon, 113 gr.	1.64
Oranges lb.	.50		
Lemons lb	1.70		
Apples lb.	.60		

MEAT

T-Bone Steak	3.88 lb.	Ground Pork	1.98 lb.
Blade Roast	1.98 lb.	Cooked Corn Beef	2.70 lb.
Stewing Beef	2.68 lb.	Head Cheese	2.38 lb.
Pert Butt Steak	1.47 lb.	Ground Beef	1.85 lb.

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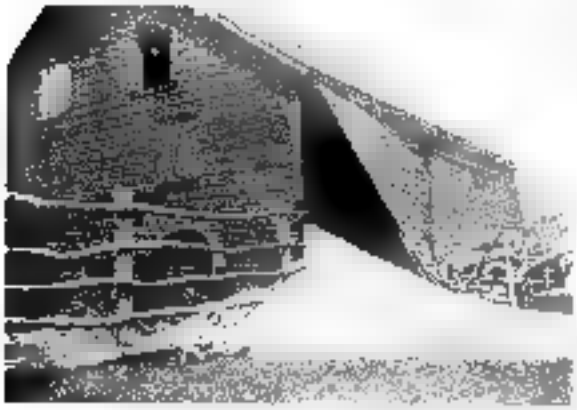
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Farming through the years



That extra bushel did this on A. Sherman's farm.

Russian Thistle — the Dirty Thirties.

Steam engine around 1904 or 1905. The engine had to be pulled by horses. Note the threshing crew of thirteen men.

Forking hay the hard way.

This is the threshing crew on the Joe Hardy farm December 20th, 1909. They couldn't move the separator so they had to move the bundles from the stack by sleigh. Tommy operated the steam engine. They had to burn straw in the engine.

A homemade grasshopper bait spreader.

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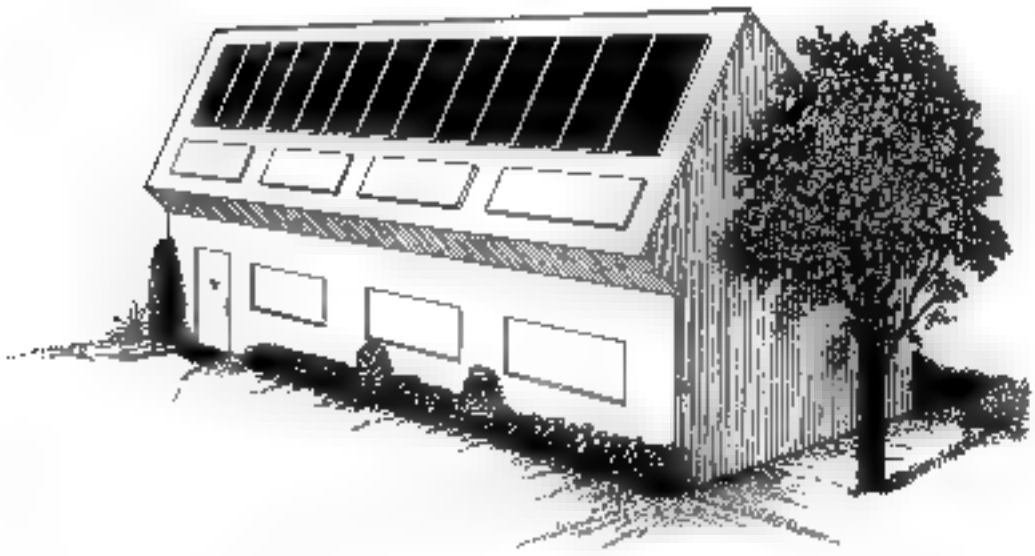

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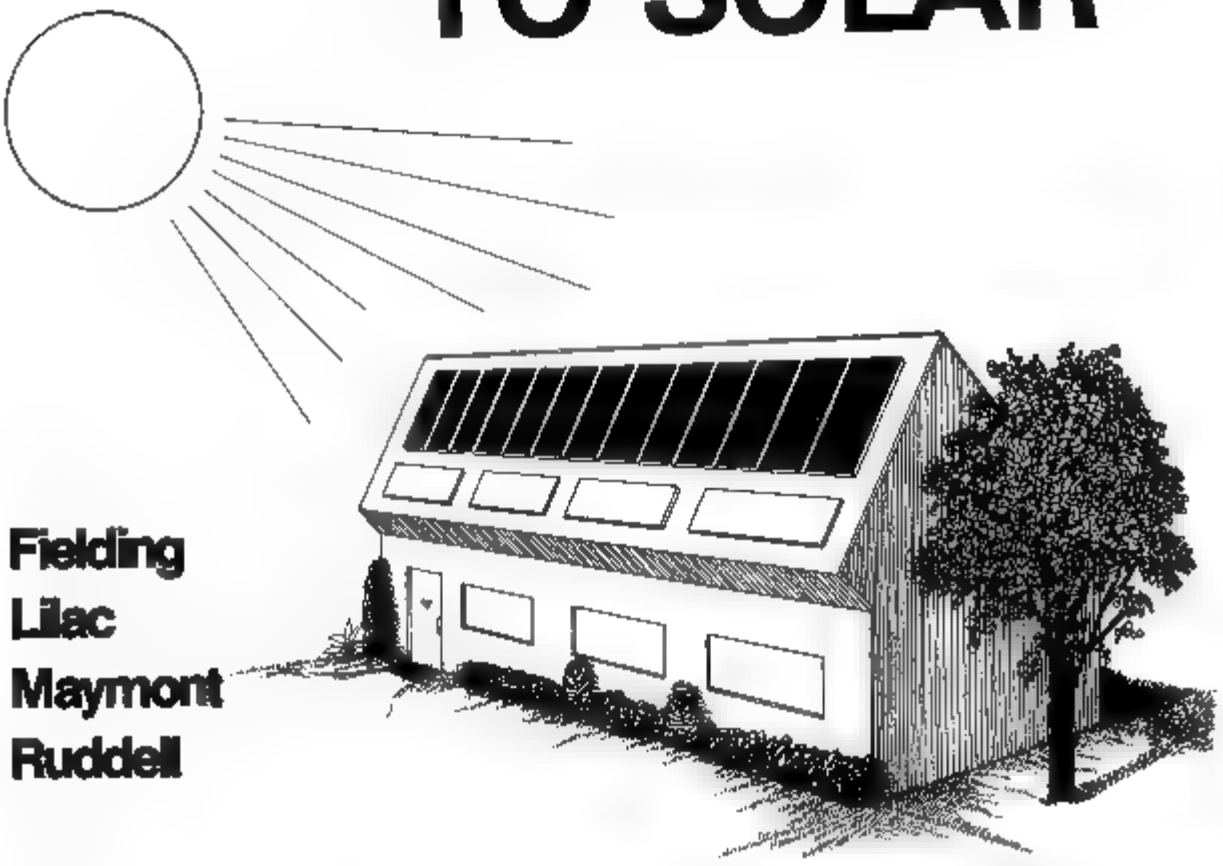
FROM SOD TO SOLAR

FROM SOD TO SOLAR



Fielding
Lilac
Maymont
Ruddell

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THE MAYMONT LIBRARY BOARD.

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Gladys Brehon

"That which was" history of Lilac

Sincere thanks to Mrs. Elaine (Beierle) Dearborn and Mr. Brian E. Welford, B.S.P., for excerpts from their 1967 Centennial histories of Lilac. Also for their help in the research of the Lilac history thanks to Mrs. Muriel Johnsson, Mrs. Mary Moffat, Mrs. Norah Soule and Jack, Ted, and Bill Welford.

Some of the information was received from the Public Relation department of Canada Post Office, Canadian National Railways, and the office of the North Battleford School Unit No. 11.

It is regretable that some of the history is lost forever.

To all past and present Lilac families who submitted family histories, I thank you for your interest and participation.

Charlotte Gillatt

I wish to thank Mrs. Betty Ferris of Fielding for her help in contacting the many folk in the Fielding and surrounding area for their family histories. I also thank all the people who sent in histories and pictures from the Neepawa, Fielding, Beckwith, and Calais districts. Thanks also for the use of minute books and scrapbooks. We sincerely hope you enjoy your book, and treasure its memories. We enjoyed working on it. I for one consider it a privilege to have helped in a small way with this book.

Gertrude Sherman

I would like to say "Thank You" to those people who helped with this account. Russ McNeil, Charlie and Margaret White, Bill and May Buttery, John Birse and many others. Without their help this could never have been written.

Doreen E. Schmidt

MEMORIES

So often my memory still carries me back
And visions I see ■ the past
When round us the country unsettled and wild
With hills and wide prairies so vast.

'Twas covered with trees in places now bare
And deep ruts of buffalo track
All dotted with lakes bright gleaming in sun
And covered with game that we lack.

The prairies rolled on till earth met the sky
And land far the richest and best
A beautiful vision of forest and plain
Extending from east to the west.

For many long years we worked with our might
Through heat and through winter's cold chill
We started with nothing, almost we can say
And we have got most of it still.

Hard times for some years, the crops looking fine
Alas then some night came a frost
And then when to town you brought in your grain
You found that your profit was lost.

And sometimes in summer, when nature was fair
High hopes in our hearts once again
With marvellous crop, o'er hill and through dale
A wonderful promise of grain.

A sudden cold darkness spreads over the land
And bravest of hearts will quail
With lightnings fierce blaze and thunder's deep roll
And down come the torrents of hail.

It's surely a wonderful thing this hope
Without it, we're sorely bereft
For Faith is the anchor, and Hope is the chain
Without these there's nothing then left.

The swift flying years have silvered our hair
And still we are climbing the slope
We never can reach the summit without
This wonderful thing called Hope.

written by Thomas Parker,
brother of William Gibson Parker of Maymont.

Rural Municipality of Mayfield

Rural Municipality of Mayfield No. 406

submitted by Louis Karpan

Incorporation:

With the coming of the settlers some form of local government was necessary and on May 6, 1905 a committee met and formed the first council of the Local Improvement District No. 21-J-3. The members were Oliver Andrew, David Mitchell, A. ■. Potter, James Little and Goldsborough Stockwell. Mr. Stockwell was named chairman and David Mitchell was secretary-treasurer. The Local Improvement District Administered the affairs until January 1, 1910. On January 3, 1910, the Rural Municipality of Mayfield No. 406 was formed with M. G. Turnbull as reeve, J. J. Reid, C. Dunfurd, W. G. Shanks, A. Brehon and G. A. Gates as council, with Percy Knowles as secretary-treasurer.

Administration:

It may be interesting to mention the secretary-treasurers and reeves who were responsible for the administration of the affairs of the municipality. Percy Knowles was secretary-treasurer from 1910 to 1916 with ■. G. Turnbull as reeve. Harry Cornish assumed the duties as secretary-treasurer in 1917 to 1924 under the chairmanship of reeves M. G. Turnbull, Richie Johnston, Thomas Turner and J. ■. Bracht. Sidney Dolden took over the duties under the direction of reeves J. B. Bracht, S. ■. Miller and Edwin Nelson from 1925 to 1953. Ivor J. Westerberg assumed the duties of secretary-treasurer in 1953 to 1967 under the direction of reeves Edwin Nelson, Louis Karpan, Martin McGrath, V. J. Schmidt and Richard Voegeli. Louis Karpan assumed the duties of secretary-treasurer in 1967 under the stewardship of Richard Voegeli and later under Victor Prescesky retiring in June, 1978. Don R. McLeod assumed the duties of secretary-treasurer in 1978 under the direction ■ Victor Prescesky and his council.

In the early years the municipal council were faced with organization. Herd laws had to be passed, pounds provided for their enforcement. Dog control laws to protect the sheep herds. Stone and rubbish control laws ■ prohibit of depositing stone and rubbish on road allowances.

Later the farmers were faced with noxious weeds and rats. The municipal council passed laws for their control, inspectors were appointed to enforce them. Grasshoppers created quite a problem, municipal council had to provide poison bait, bait stations, and distribution of poison bait to farmers and hiring outfits to spread it on road allowances and submarginal land.

The dirty thirties brought on drought, depression and unemployment. The farmers had no crops, no feed and no money. There were no social welfare or health care programs. Your municipal council was faced with making arrangements with provincial government and providing assistance ■ relief form to all in need.

War years brought many changes in social welfare, health care and education. Today your municipal council ■ faced with better system of roads, zoning and urban sprawl, equitable assessment, parks and recreation, libraries, lodges for senior citizens, hospital care, warble control ambulance, and fire protection.

The first office of the R.M. of Mayfield No. 406 was located on Lot ■, Block 6 in the Village of Maymont, the present Harvey Johnston residence location. In 1953 the municipality purchased the John Deere building from Mr. Jenson located on lot 14, Block 5, the present Pensioners and Pioneers building. This was the home of municipal administration until 1973. In 1973 under the Winter Works Program the municipal council under the leadership of Richard Voegeli built the present spacious municipal office and bank premises on Lots 15 and 16 in Block 8.

Farm Boys Camp

Farm Boys camp was a vital part of the summers activities of the district. The teams were sponsored by Mayfield and Douglas Agricultural Societies. Boys from both Municipalities go back to the 1920's attending camp at North Battleford, Saskatoon and Regina.

Farm Boys' Camp — Top Team Regina, 1962. Supervisor Charles I. White. L. to r. — Roy Krake, Jim Beaudoin, Charles White, Tom Gray, Dale Beaudoin.

Two of the outstanding leaders were J. Blacklock, Maymont and Mr. Japp, Speers,

There is a period that the writer has no records ■ but boys from this district I am sure would have attended camp at all three places.

In 1950 Charles White supervised five boys at Saskatoon: Ken Meena, Gerald Acaster, Dean Rogers, Murray Gray and Ron Schmidt. They won top team trophy and individual gifts for judging. In 1951 the same team and superviser went to Regina. There they came home with top team and individual prizes.

Teams were reduced to four boys at Saskatoon and three boys in North Battleford. Then to four the following year in Regina.

1957 — Gordon Gray, Dick Clayton, Alvin and Earl Nutbrown went to Saskatoon bringing trophies and the top team honor. The same team plus Grant Peden went to Regina. They were successful ■ bringing trophies and top team honors home.

1958 — Norman Gray, Grant Peden, Glen Meena and Eugene Krake. Supervised by Frank Miller won many prizes and top team in Regina.

1962 — We sent Roy Krake, Tom Gray, Jim and Dale Beaudoin with Charlie White as superviser. They brought home prizes from every competition also top team score.

1964 — Bruce White, Ken Prechtl, Warren Ballsrud and Dale Kelper — supervised by Charlie White. These boys went to Regina and won every competition. Top boy — Warren Ballsrud and top team.

1967 — was the last year for farm boys camp both in Saskatoon and Regina. Robert Caldwell, Don Spence, Russell Beaudoin, Wayne Acaster went ■ Regina. These boys did the honors with top boys in many competitions and they were the top team supervised by Charlie White.

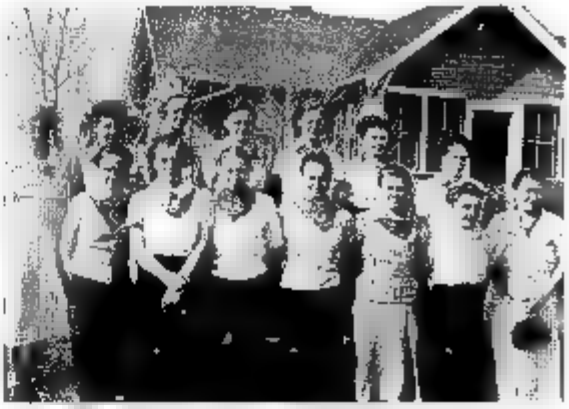
Along with Charlie White, Ken Meena and Gordon Gray helped train the boys before going ■ these camps.

All these boys attended North Battleford at least twice and did very well there also.

Maymont Homecraft Club

submitted by Mary (Steele) Peden

I was a member of the Maymont Primrose Homecraft Club from 1937 to 1939. The club was organized before I joined.



Homecraft Club. L. to r., Back row — Mrs. R. F. Johnston, Cora Johnston, Joyce Coleman, Leola Johnston, Winnie Dolden, Joyce Turner, Margeurite Mohler. Front row — Evelyn Turner, Mary Dawson, Mary Steele, Edna Denomy, Beatrice Knight, Eileen Ehlin, Ellen Reid.

Mrs. R. F. Johnston was the Supervisor and Miss Ellen Reid was leader for the recreational part ■ our meetings. Our project for the summer months was the growing of a vitamin garden in which we grew yellow beans, carrots and cabbage. We studied the culture, insect pest control, cooking, uses and storage of the vegetables.

Required for the Achievement day were
one pint canned beans;
one pint bean salad;
one pint cabbage pickle;
cabbage casserole;
cabbage salad.

The 1938 winter project was Home Decoration No. 3, in which we made
a dressing table;
bedroom picture;
lamp shade;
hat box.

Meetings were held in the members homes and followed the pattern of the Homemakers Club which was the sponsor of the Homecraft Club.

Gene Andrew, Mildred Crozier, Clara Foulston, Dolly Porter, Isobel Saunders were also members not in the picture.

The picture was taken by Ed Buhr.

Mayfield 4-H Beef Club

■ the following paragraphs we will attempt to bring back a few memories of the Mayfield 4-H Beef Club.

The Club originated in 1932 under the name of Mayfield—Douglas. The Saskatoon Board of Trade and Kiwanis Club sent calves out through the country for feeding and they went back to Saskatoon ■ the spring to be slaughtered. The first leader of the club was Douglas Japp. He was interested in young people as he also led the Farm Boys Camp at that time. The first Champion Calf was a Shortborn calf shown by Joe Moffatt of Lilac. Mr. Japp led the club from 1932 until 1935.

■ 1936 Bruce Butterfield took over the leadership of the club. The Achievement Day was held at the livery barn in Maymont. At that time it was known as the Sowden farm. First prize calf was shown by Jock Blacklock. From 1937 to 1942 the club disbanded because of shortage of feed.

In 1942 Jim Ryan took the leadership of the club consisting of Schmidts, McIvors, Reids and Spences. Ron Schmidt had the prize calf in 1942, and Bernard Spence won in 1943.

From 1944 to 1950 the club was led by J. D. Blacklock, a local hardware business man of Maymont. The Achievement Day was held at the Maymont Park, near the sports grounds and the calves were housed in the livery barn.

In 1951 the Mayfield Douglas Club broke up into two separate clubs. The new Mayfield 4-H Baby Beef Club was now led by Earl Curry. Members consisted of Reids, Spences, Grays, Schmidts and Martynes. The top calf this year went ■ Don Schmidt with an Aberdeen Angus steer. ■ 1952 and 1953 the club was led by Earl Curry with 10 members. Calves were taken to North Battleford Fat Stock Show and sold after the show. In these two years a calf club rally was held at Mr. Iverson's and Mr. Miller Craig's farms respectively. Both years the judging competitions were won by Gordon Gray of Maymont. In 1954 Earl Curry once again led the club. During this year three members out of the North Battleford area won the right to go to Saskatoon Interprovincial Competitions as a result of the club rally in North Battleford. Gordon Gray won first prize ■ judging the class of four beef steers. In 1955, Earl Curry still leading the club, Ken Zaleschuk won the Champion calf when he showed a Red Angus steer. Gordon Gray won first, judging a class of steers at North Battleford Calf Club Rally and also first judging three classes of steers at Saskatoon Interprovincial Competitions.

From 1955 ■ 1966 there was no club because the leader moved away and no leader was available.

In 1966 the Club reorganized under the leadership of Gordon Gray. It began with 14 members. Achievement Day was held jointly with Speers in the town of Speers. Bruce White won the aggregate prize and Harvey Pain had champion calf. The calves were shipped to Saskatoon by McIvor Bros. to be sold. In 1967 the Achievement Day was held at the skating rink in Maymont.

In 1968 four members from Maymont attended Selections in North Battleford. Don Spence and Wally Sadowsky won there and went on to Selections in Saskatoon. At the local Achievement Day Wally Sadowsky had champion calf and Carol Ebach won first in showmanship. Once again in 1969 Don Spence and Wally Sadowsky won at North Battleford Selections and went on to Saskatoon. This time they won the privilege of going to the Western Seminar held at Camp Rayner. Wally Sadowsky also was chosen to be on the Saskatchewan 4-H Council. After our local Achievement Day our Club attended the Fat Stock

One of the Mayfield 4-H Beef Club Achievement days.

Show in North Battleford where we won first prize for Barn Display, third in best group of five steers and third in the group of eight steers.

In 1970, the Club still led by Gordon Gray, was very busy selling road signs and toured the Vet. College in Saskatoon. That year Don Spence, Brian Spence and Wally Sadowsky went to Selections in North Battleford. Brian Spence was able to go on to Saskatoon Selections and while there won a trip to Ottawa for a week. The Club once again took part in North Battleford Fat Stock Show taking first in class of eight steers and third in barn display. In 1971 Greg Ferris won Champion Steer and David Gillatt had the Reserve Champion. The year of 1972 began with an enrollment of members. Diane Pain was selected to go to Saskatoon Selections. In 1973 Brian Rogers was chosen to go to Saskatoon Selections. Mr Carl Ramsay was judge for our local Achievement Day which was held in the Dr. Scratch Memorial Curling Rink. Darrell Spence had Champion Steer. In 1974 we toured the Roy Biersch Charolais Ranch at Marsden, the Hutterite Colony at Baldwinton and the Carl Ramsay Ranch at Cutknife. The leader Gordon Gray was assisted by Don and Laura Spence. Mr. Bill Small of Regina was our Achievement Day Judge. The Club went on to the Regional Livestock Show in Saskatoon. Audrey Voegeli received the gold watch in Saskatoon for Grand Aggregate in Livestock Judging. In 1975, Gordon Gray assisted by Don Spence and Norman Voegeli arranged a tour of Inter-Continental Packers. The Achievement Day was held at the Voegeli farm with Lynn Biggart as judge. Debbie Voegeli won Champion steer. In 1976 the club catered to the opening of the Maymont Bridge with a pit barbeque at which approximately 1500 people attended. David Rogers had Grand Champion Steer at the Achievement Day. Laurie Morgan had Champion Heifer. Audrey Voegeli once again won first in the Grand Aggregate in Saskatoon. The enrollment for 1977 was 31 members. Roger Harris had the Grand Champion Steer, this animal went on to be the 4-H Grand Champion Steer at the Saskatoon show. The Club also won first in Barn Display and several other group prizes at Saskatoon that year. The 1978 Achievement Day was held at the Voegeli farm with Dale Norheim as judge. Grand Champion steer was shown by Kent Roberts with Lissa Voegeli winning reserve. Debbie Voegeli showed the Champion Heifer and Kern Clayton had Reserve Champion. Audrey Voegeli took part in the judging at Agribition and placed second on the competition. Jake and Judd Willms of Dundurn were the judges for the 1979 Achievement Day. Champion Steer was shown by Kent Roberts with a Limousin — Angus cross animal. Ellis Clayton showed the Champion Heifer which was a Simmental. These were only two of the various classes which were members judging, showmanship, grooming, record books, breed classes and individual weight classes. In Saskatoon the club did well again this year with a first and third in the class of six steers, also first and fifth prize in the group of five heifers. The club also took first prize in the barn display. Gordon Gray led the club again this year with the help of Delores Hawkins, Don Spence, Norm Voegeli and David Rogers.

Our Mayfield members also did very well in the member judging sweepstakes. They judged beef cattle, horses, swine, sheep and dairy cattle. Many of the members received individual prizes. Maxine Chastney brought home the top aggregate honors and a gold watch. Tracy Clayton took third prize. Both Maxine and Tracy now go to Agribition in Regina this fall to compete in judging classes with members from other provinces. These members judge five classes of different livestock giving their placings and reasons written and orally. Good luck to both of you!

With the help and support of the many parents our Mayfield Beef Club has enjoyed many successful years.

Glenburn Regional Park

Back in May 1962, a group of interested people gathered in Maymont to discuss the proposed park south of Maymont, along the river. At that time Mr. George Rathwell Supervisor of Regional Parks of Regina outlined the way the park could be started, the possibilities in this location, and the financial assistance to be received from the Government. An organizational meeting was held on May 26, 1962. Officers elected at this meeting were as follows:

M. P. Vanderhagen..... President
Ken Delong..... Vice-President
Derby Reid..... Secretary-Treasurer
DIRECTORS: Myles McDonald
Chester Nutting
Fred Irwin
Gordon Leach
Wes Gillatt
Ray Parkinson
AUDITOR: Lawrence Schmidt

As the months progressed the committee nominated looked into starting such a park, and would meet later to let everyone know its findings.

Glenburn Park.

At a meeting in February 1963, Mr. Rathwell presented a rough plan of what the park should include. Also at that time a name was chosen for the park. After a lengthy discussion the majority voted in favour of Glenburn Regional Park. The "Glen" meaning a narrow secluded valley — also it is half of Glenside, the R.M. of Glenside who joined at that meeting, and "Burn" was after Mike Burns the original owner of the land where the park is situated. By June 1963 the R.M.'s of Eagle Creek, Great Bend, Mayfield, Douglas and Glenside along with towns of Maymont, Richard, Borden, Radisson, and village of Fielding had joined the Glenburn Regional Park Authority.

In June 1963, a meeting was called to draw up the Park Constitution. Soon convenors were appointed for each facility, playground, ball diamonds, and golf course.

In the spring of 1964 committees discussed the need for a swimming pool and it was decided that a saucer-shaped pool be built with the work being done by Schmidt Construction. Fresh spring water was and is still supplied by damming the creek to the pool. Evergreens were brought from Meeting Lake and each year an additional number of trees are added to the park from the nursery at Indian Head.

In 1965 a change house was built and a building to serve as a concession booth was moved to the park from north of Maymont. Four ball diamonds and a 9-hole golf course were set up at this time.

Ed Broom was the first caretaker-manager of the park and held this position for several years. The Harold Greenslades operated the concession booth for several years.

In 1968 swimming lessons began and have continued each year since then for a period of two weeks in July or August. Children attending range in age from 3-16 years and come from the surrounding areas.

It was a happy day in 1967 when the grand opening was held. Official ribbon cuttings and flag raisings took place.

Over the years from then many new additions were made — picnic tables, B.B.Q.'s benches at the pool, shuffle board, registration booth at the park entrance, horse shoe pitch, 2 kitchens, power, and playground equipment.

In 1971 the teacherage from Ruddell was purchased and moved to the park for a caretaker's residence. Later they electrified the campsites.

Glenburn Regional Park continues to be a busy place each summer with a variety of activities, ball tournaments, golf tournaments, family re-unions, church services, school picnics, visits from campers in groups, dozens of campers who spend long weekends. Numerous organizations have held "pit barbecues" at the park.

In 1976 we had the official ceremonies for the bridge opening held at Glenburn Regional Park. All committees worked together to make this a successful and rewarding event.

The golf course has been enjoyed by many old and young. A golf club was also formed and has sponsored many tournaments.

During the excitement of the Summer Games of 1978 the park was the central point for many events and the presentation of awards. During the Regional Winter Games the skiing event was held at the park. Each winter skiers and snow tobogganers make good use of the hills.

In this year of 1979 the present officers are:
Chairman . . . George Radchenko, Sonningdale, Sask.
Vice-Chairman .....Ron Schmidt — Maymont, Sask.
Secretary-Treasurer Bryant Fletcher — Ruddell, Sask.
DIRECTORS:
Jack Bates.....Maymont, Sask.
Harvey Johnston .....Maymont, Sask.
Dale Beaudoin.....Maymont, Sask.
Ken McDonald .....Richard, Sask.
Ernie Corris.....Sonningdale, Sask.
Ed Ross.....Sonningdale, Sask.
Murray Gray.....Maymont, Sask.

Many favourable comments come from visitors who enjoy the scenery and facilities available at the park and hopefully there are many more to come.

Fielding Community Pasture

The Provincial Government community pasture program in the Fielding area came into being as a result of cattle herds in the area becoming larger and a demand from the farmers for more pasture land. Thus the Fielding Community Pasture was started.

The Provincial Government owned some of the land and were able to purchase more in the same vicinity. The first cattle went into the pasture in 1964. The pasture manager was Mr. Charles Large, who still holds that position.

An Advisory Board was set up to assist the manager if necessary.

Cecil Ferris of Fielding was the first chairman.

The 1979 board members are: John Moore, Chairman; Henry Prescesky, Secretary; James Tebay; Cliff Gillatt; Crawford Baker; Bernard Spence.

Since the pasture opened it has almost doubled in size. There are now 68 quarter sections — 10,880 acres included in it's boundaries, with 1800 to 2000 cows and 1100 to 1200 calves now grazing. The pasture has all been fenced and cross-fenced, much of it has been broken and seeded to grass. There are extensive corrals, a manager's office and living quarters. Cattle are moved from one grassed area to another when conditions necessitate. The season is from early May to the first week in October.

There are 72 patrons from Prince, North Battleford, Denholm, Ruddell, Fielding, Radisson, Speers, Richard, Lilac and Maymont, using the pasture facilities at present.

There are 8 deep wells from which the water is pumped using electric power. When the pasture first opened windmills were used. This method proved unsatisfactory as there was not enough wind at times to maintain an adequate supply of water.

There is an A. I. breeding and a natural breeding program in the pasture. The first A. I. Technician was Walter (Chinny) Beaudoin. His son Dale, followed and is still doing the A. I. work.

Charlie has had a number of assistant riders. The first year the pasture opened he was assisted by three young ladies — his daughter Charlotte, Florence Long, and Susan Reid.

Other riders have been: Sid Foulston, Russell Beaudoin, Jim Funk, and the present rider is Bert Rudyck.

Charlie's family all help at the pasture if needed — his daughter Charlotte (Mrs. Dale Beaudoin), his young son Rodney, and last but not least his wife Myrtle. As Charlie puts it "it's a family affair, even Ma gets into the act".

The Community College

The Saskatchewan Provincial Government passed the Community Colleges Act (1973). Twelve community colleges were founded. Mistikwa Community College is the one in this area with head office in North Battleford.

A branch of Mistikwa Community College was formed in late 1974 with Maymont as its centre. One representative from each of the thirty-five or more organizations in the Maymont, Ruddell, Richard, Lilac, and Fielding areas are the committee.

From this over-all committee a board of ten members (Maymont — 3; Ruddell — 2; Lilac — 1; and Fielding — 2) are chosen. The first members were: Denis Dube, Judy Kjargaard, Sandie Long, Betty Mohler, Art Reiley, Doreen Schmidt, Ron Schmidt, and Gertie Sherman. Mrs. Cheryl Palko was the first local co-ordinator followed by Mrs. Wendy Sherlock. Denis Dube was the first chairperson.

Community College is a new approach to adult education. If you are looking for a new building to house this college, you won't find it. It may be held in your home, garage, garden, your community centre, hall, church, school, or park. The students are people wishing to take a course in academic up-grading, arts and crafts, farm skills, recreation, general interest, community development, homemaking, and handy man skills.

The first programs held were bobbin lace, reupholstery, art classes, and many more. The ceramics, art and sewing have brought out talents people didn't know they had and it is something others enjoy viewing at shows.

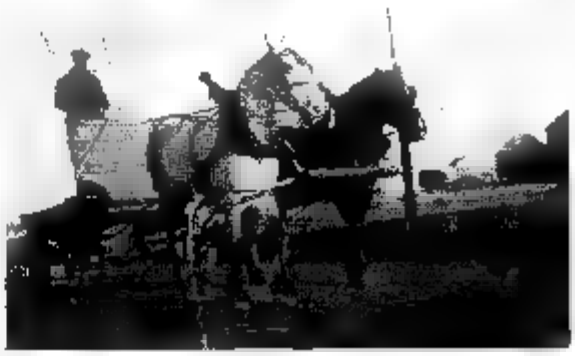
As often as possible the instructors are local people or brought from nearby towns or cities. In all thirty-eight different courses have been held. The present chairperson is Mrs. Doreen Schmidt from Ruddell.

The Village of Fielding

Fielding came into being when a homesteader called Peter Shack lived on SE¼ of Section 8, 41, 11, W 3rd. The Canadian National Railway eventually reached this area in 1905 and a siding was built on Mr. Shack's land. The first name given to this young town was "Shack Town", but it wasn't for long as it was soon changed to Fielding, probably in honor of a politician of note at the time, namely William Fielding who was Minister of Finance in the Laurier Government.

The young town grew like a mushroom and in a matter of three or four years boasted all the necessary business places for a thriving farm community. The Main Street boasted of a blacksmith shop, two general stores, Chinese laundry, a large hotel, a poolroom and barber shop, as well as a shoe repair and harness shop. The other business street, Railway Avenue, had a lumber yard, livery barn, and several machine agencies. There was also a stockyards and the railway station. A school was built, plus a bank and three

L. W. Stott's General store taken in 1927.



'Mac' on the dray at Fielding.

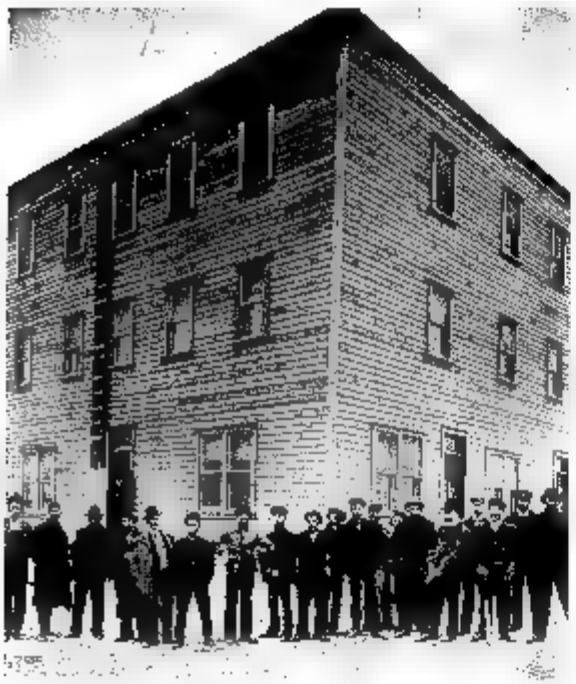
churches to look after the learning and spiritual needs of the community.

The two business streets were always a hive of activity while many teams stood at the hitching posts as Fielding took in a large farming area in the early years.

Picture taken July 13, 1927 of J. M. McNaughton garage in Fielding.

A ferry south of Fielding and a road up over the hills to the elevators for farmers south of the river to dispose of their grain gave many opportunities for the town's business people to maintain a growing trade.

Of course there was the "Town Hall" where much entertainment was available. People made their own entertainment with plays and concerts, chautauqua, bell ringers and small circuses.



Fielding Hotel burnt in fire of 1922.

Two disastrous fires, the first in 1922 levelled almost the entire business section of the town destroying eleven of the town's business places, including the hotel which was never re-built. The second fire also took a few more buildings thus starting a decline in population.

Fielding continued in spite of it all and after the First World War a garage and implement business was established. There were many things happening in town — a three-room school was built, the three churches were well attended, the Ladies Aids of the churches and the Women's Missionary Society provided local ladies with opportunities to get

Alex and Frances Garnett long time residents of Fielding who were married in Maymont in 1907.

Inside Fielding Hotel.

Keefer's Livery Stable at Fielding. Phil Keefer holding dray team, Dan Woods, Rev. J. C. Madill.

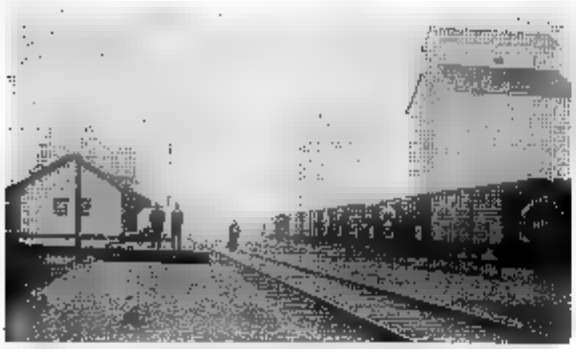
together, often called by scoffing men as "do-gooders". These same ladies put on fabulous chicken suppers, bean suppers, bazaars, and thus kept their churches in repair and provided many hours of friendship that ■ this day still remain.

Fielding Picnic Sign, 1979, in Queen's Park, New Westminster, B.C.

Fielding's Scottish band.

The Fielding Roman Catholic Church now has been taken to the Western Development Museum ■ North Battleford where it continues to be visited by former members and the general public. The Anglican Church was taken to Borden, Saskatchewan as an addition to their church. The United Church stands lonely in its grassy plot ■ town, still cleaned and painted by loving

The Livery Barn at Fielding, 1926.



Fielding Station and Railroad, 1912 (No. 2 on Brochure).

hands, although no services have been held there for several years. Two of the young ladies of the community were recently happy to take their marriage vows in this church — namely Karen Clark (Mrs. Lee Schmidt) and Melanie Kieper (Mrs. Allan Kerpan).

The school which had a short span of large attendance now rests out of town — a shed, on the William Brown farm.

Fielding today still has one elevator, the post office, a small gas station and grocery outlet on the edge of town, a town hall where the people strive to maintain the spirit of Christmas with a happy gathering and "Santa Claus". The girls' showers that were held and will continue are almost the best in entertainment around.

The post office continues to give service by the Chester Ferris's. Chester received his twenty-five year pin for service with the post office.

There was a telephone exchange for years in Fielding. The building was bought and used as a home and antique collection by Mrs. Edna Wager who still lives in town in the former Walt Evans home. Mrs. Wager has an antique collection worth anyone's visit.

The years rolled by, slowly filling up the cemetery located north of Fielding with — early pioneers. The gravestones give such names as Ducharme, Englisbee, Sloan, Cassidy, Green, Carman, Castle, McGrath, Prechtl, Kieper, Harris, and oh, ■ many more.

Many people have celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary. Some remembered are: Mr. and Mrs. Jim Scott and the Harold Bakers. The Alex Garnetts of Surrey, B.C., formerly of Fielding, have celebrated their seventy odd anniversary. The Torrence Frees now ■ Radisson, and the William Fasts, now of Maymont have all been married more than fifty years. Also last but not least Mr. and Mrs. Archie Spence.

The former Stott Store was purchased by the H. C. Baker's, Canada's and Fielding's "honey king" and it has been converted into a honey house where Mr. Baker continues to add trophies and ribbons from Toronto's Royal Winter Fair to its walls.

Though Fielding has felt the crunch of modern schools in other towns, the paved highway running through and easier access to cities, it continues ■ have a spirit of friendship and goodwill.

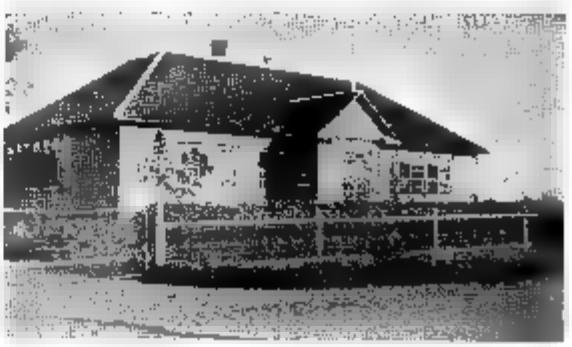
It would be remiss not to mention the Fielding picnic held as a yearly reunion in New Westminster's Queen's Park in B.C. This picnic has been held for ten years, started by Mrs. Eric Erikson (Freda Garnett) and the Earl Lewis's of Maymont-Fielding Area. Many people come to re-unite for a brief time and reminisce about "the good old days" when they were on the prairies in and around a good old town, Fielding.

The Fielding School No. 1462

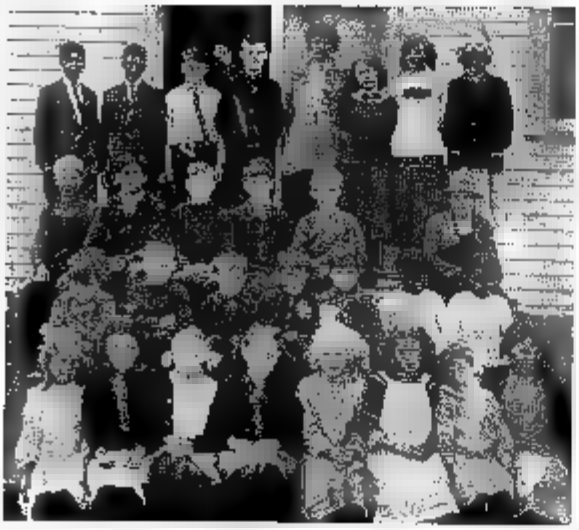
During the very early years Fielding residents and district homesteaders became concerned for the education of their children. A public meeting was called at which first trustees of the proposed school were chosen, these being — James Garnett, R. W. Ferris, and W. J. Smith. The year was 1906. A site was chosen on the east side of the village. The contractor who contracted to do the building was George Sabraw at a low sum of $250.00 for himself and ■ was told not to exceed more than $1150.00 for material. Also the building was to be completed in one month.

The first teacher recorded was a Mr. W. R. Marsh at a salary of $660.00 per year, his duties to commence December 1, 1906.

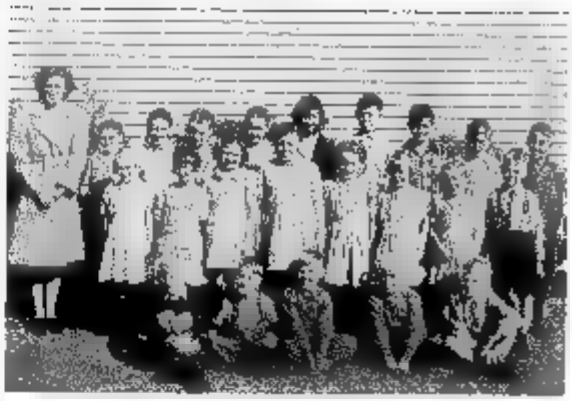
In 1917 the school was divided into two rooms and a room also was built on the north side. In 1918 no more



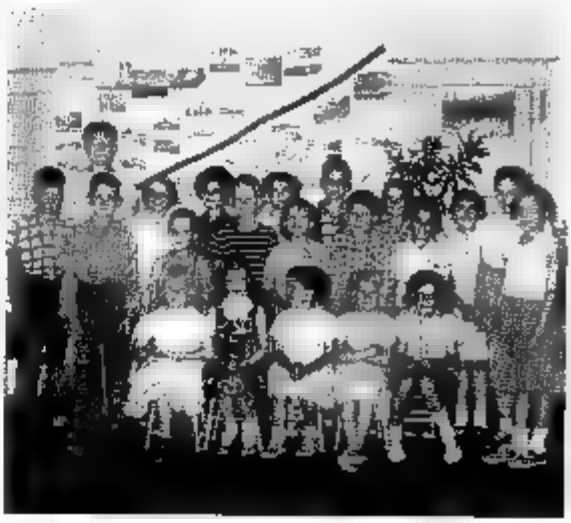
Fielding School, 1938, year picture taken.



This picture was taken in 1915, Fielding one-room school. Top row, l. to r. — ?, ?, ?, Burt Summers, Miss Fraser — teacher, ?, ?, ?. 2nd row — ?, B. Hodge, Bert Summers, Cliff Carman, ?, ?. 3rd row — ?, Noah Summers, Joshua Green, Arthur Green, Alex Green, ?, ?. Bottom row — Verna Ferris, Vivian Ferris, Pauline Summers, Alberta Trouse, Muriel Harris, Gladys Ferris, Gladys Thompson, Leota Ferris.



Fielding School No. 1462 Class of 1945, teacher Betty Darling (Mrs. Cecil Ferris). Back row — Joan Cuthbert, Beverly Wager, Maxine Fast, Lila Scott, Shirley Free, Jim Garnett, Angus Addley, Larry Nutbrown, Donnie Marshall. Middle row — Marlene Roberts, Eileen Miller, Evelyn Woods, Edith Brown, Joan Fair, Sylvia Roberts, Inez Miller, David Roberts. First row — Melvin Harris, Clifford 'Lorne' Marshall, Mervin Hunchak, Bob Fair, John Roberts.



Fielding School class of 1960. Miss Helen Unrah, teacher. Back row — Don Spence, Ann Neymeyer, Susan Ferris, Barbara Ryan, Lee Ferris, Wendy Kleper. Middle row — Greg Ferris, Allen Scott, Brian Spence, Margaret Moldenhauer, Edwin Neymeyer, Johnny Gabrysh, Lucille Moldenhauer, Linda Scott. Bottom row — Melanie Kleper, Jackie Ryan, Karen Clark, Helen Sherman, Mary Moldenhauer.

pupils could be accomodated, so the demand for more pupil-room was so great that remodelling was again considered. Additions were again carried out so that in 1928 the school was remodelled to provide room for the district's children.

For many years Urban Ryan was the caretaker. The grounds showed his constant care for trees, lilacs and flowers flourished and were a show place and model for school grounds. A picture of Fielding School was used in a text book as an ideal situation.

Some of the early teachers were W. R. Marsh, Mabel E. Bishop, Benson Summers, George Williams, Miss E. Haines and more recent and fondly remembered by pupils were Kathleen Robertson (Mrs. Malcolm McNaughton) Annie Blakely (Mrs. Charles Roberts) Betty Darling (Mrs. Cecil Ferris) and Fielding's own Florence Phillips. One of the last teachers was Mrs. Hawryliw of Fielding who is still teaching in Maymont. The school gave good instruction as many are the children who graduated to take their place in their own community and gone farther afield. There are nurses, doctor, lawyer, teachers, R.C.M.P., Ag grad's, and other professions. One thing of note was the 'Reach for the Top', popular television show on which Fielding's Audrey Ferris and Brian Spence along with Leslie Brehon and Linda Voegeli from Maymont did so well. The pupils from Fielding were athletic, also, so ball teams, skaters, and swimmers have done well providing much entertainment to parents and other spectators.

As ■ all small communities the school closed when it was no longer feasible ■ pay teachers. The enrollment was small and all Grade Seven and up were being bussed to Maymont anyway, so its doors were closed. The school was then sold to William Brown, Jr. who moved it one mile west to use for his hog business and later made it into a machine shed. Fielding has happy memories ■ the field days, concerts and picnics that generated from the school all through the years.

Fielding's Flaming History

From newspaper clippings by Harold Baker

With the coming of the railroad, Peter Shack's homestead became the scene of a mushroom town growth. ■ quick succession up went Mr. and Mrs. Bert Hooey's three storey hotel, Smith and Shea's general store (later McGregor's then Gunn's), Murray's blacksmith shop (later Eby's then George Downie's), Topper's West Elevator (later Sask. elevator), R. ■. Harris' general store, Dickinson's general store, Joe Wright's drug store, Dr. Mueller's office, Kelly and Shank' I.H.C. warehouse and agency, Brickwell's Massey Harris agency, Tom Graveson's livery barn, Joe Cassidy's butcher shop, L. W. Stott's harness shop, Florence's general store, Alex Garnett's pool room and barber shop, the workshops of carpenters Walt Evans and Harold Warcup, Quan Nam's restaurant, a Chinese laundry, the Imperial Bank, the Co-op elevator (later the Pool), the B.A. elevator (later the Searle), the National elevator, three churches — Anglican, Roman Catholic and United Church, Post Office, Community Hall, Imperial Oil Depot, C.N.R. station and section house, telephone exchange, a school and many residences.

In many ways up until 1927 Fielding businessmen served the Sonningdale district southwest of the river. The Fielding ferry provided passage ■ summer and the frozen river in winter. During the winter as many as thirty teamsters with their sleighloads of grain would glide over the Giroux hills to the Fielding elevators some of them having travelled seventeen miles from the Eagle Hills. During the winter hauling season some of those teamsters seldom saw home in daylight except on Sundays. They loaded up after reaching home at night and left home before daylight next morning. This area of business for Fielding ended in 1928 when the C.P.R. branchline passed through Sonningdale, and the ferry of three scows was dismantled and removed.

The new town of Fielding soon received its baptism of fire. The Saskatchewan elevator, erected in 1906, burned to the ground in 1913.

The town received a respite from destructive fires until 1920 when the Harris-Richardson store went up in flames. Mr. Gordon closed down his wagon and sleigh business, moved away and soon his warehouse was dismantled.

From then on one fire seemed to be the beacon signal for the next. Careless tipsy smokers were blamed for the bonfire which started in Graveson's livery barn and took not only the barn but Shank's warehouse and the post office. In 1922 came Fielding's spectacular conflagration. Its beginning was blamed on children playing with matches in a small building near the hotel. Fanned by a strong west wind, it quickly enveloped the hotel, Gunn's store in which was housed the Central telephone board, Dickenson's store, the post office, and Joe Cassidy's butcher shop. The hotel landlord, and Mr. Gunn managed to escape with their business records in their arms. Archie Spence and helpers on the roof of the hall, soaked the shingles with water supplied by a bucket brigade. Later the buildings scorched walls showed how close it had come to going skyward with the rest. ■ 1926 Brickwell's garage and Dr. Mueller's office were the next building to meet a fiery fate. Of three automobiles in the garage at that time for repairs, only Charles Kieper's, which had the key in was saved; Les Sloan's and Ernest Garnett's burned with the garage and shop equipment. Later Grandpa Spence dairy barn burned.

Having cleaned up most of the business buildings the fires now turned their attention to private dwellings. Bill Shank's house was burned by arsonists on Aug. 28, 1929.

George McIvor's new livery barn, no longer needed to service the Sonningdale teams in winter and there being fewer horses the year round because of the inroads of the Model T Ford and Model A Fords, was moved to the J. M. McNaughton farm.

The Imperial Bank building was sold and dismantled; other houses were moved to the country.

The lull in burnings was short. One night in the spring of 1933 George Woodin's house caught fire. Neighbors were unaware of the fire until the roof was about to fall in.

Demolition then took its turn. The Monarch Lumber Co. buildings were sold and moved away; the Searle (B.A.) elevator was dismantled and taken away; in the 60's the Anglican Church was taken ■ Borden; the C.N.R. station and section house was sold and moved away. The Catholic Church was taken to the Western Development Museum in North Battleford.

During the pauses between town fires, the farmhouse of O. T. Woodin, Yule Clark, Ray Cameron, and Wes Summers, Percy Harris and Jack Thompson's barn went up in flames; H. C. Baker's hay stacks by the river were burned by a neighbor's travelling Russian Thistle fire; Sam Miller's hay stacks west of his house burned and Mrs. Ernest Garnett's stacks west of her home also; the farm buildings of Ernest Garnett's were saved from a prairie fire by neighbor's help.

Once again fire lighted up the town. In 1958 Charlie Neumeyer and family were forced from their home by flames — this was the former J. M. McNaughton home. Burning shingles from the roof were flying as far as Main Street and worrying residents there. Charlie's luck hit an all time low ■ 1965 when the well equipped garage he had purchased from J. M. McNaughton (the garage J.M. had built on the site of the old hotel) followed the flaming course taken by his house, ruined several cars and most of his valuable tools.

Leo Gelinas farm home was the last to vanish skyward. Fortunately although a few people were

singed, no lives were ever lost in these destructive fires. The houses of Frank Glynn, George McIvor, Leo Gelinas and Joe Giroux have been moved to the country. Gunn's store was sold and dismantled. Stott's store moved to Mr. Harold Baker's farm, the school was also moved away.

Truly if fire is a purifying agent, Fielding must be the purest village of the plains.

By way of diversion, three twisters made their contribution. The first wrecked Ireland and Williams' cattle shed, the second ruined one of Bill McNaughton's barns, the third really played havoc. It began by twisting Charlie Sherman's barn askew on its foundation. As it continued north eastward ■ ripped the wooden pump from Dick Williams' pasture well, twisted the willows into ropes and enjoyed a frolic in Tommy Thompson's barnyard.

Truly nature and fire can control our destiny!

Fielding Rural Telephone Company

Browsing through the old minute books of the Fielding rural telephone company shows that a meeting on April 29th, 1916 was called for the purpose of organizing a telephone system. The first president was R. W. Ferris, secretary was Robert Ireland and directors were Charles Kieper, Ed Bodie and Joe Prechtl. Through the years of telephone operations many people were involved. The operators on the switchboard were:

A. Gunn (in Gunn's store); 1918 — F. G. Meeker; 1919 — George Trowse; 1919 — Miss ■. L. Eby; 1923 — Mrs. F. Hancock; 1923 — Mr. Gregory; 1923 — George Smith; 1925 — E. J. Carefoot; 1926— K. M. Johnson; 1928 — Mrs. ■. McCawley; 1929 — Mr. H. Candler; 1932 — Miss Meg Roberts; 1937 — Mrs. Jack McMillan (nee Meg Roberts); 1943 — Mrs. Green; 1944 — Edna Wager; 1945 — Esther Fast; 1953 — Morley and Edna Wager were hired. Mary Mennett was the last operator.

The lineman played a vital part in the telephone history. They came and went regularly — Bert Iveson, Nelson Eby, W. B. Shanks, K. M. Johnson, H. Candler, Mr. T. Roberts, Jack McMillan, A. Brant, Bill Buell, Fred Reinhardt, Les Allan, Charles Neumeyer and Bronik Piskor.

The meetings for the most part were concerned with unpaid fees for service. Two generations of some families were directors — the Ferris, Prechtl, and Spence families and many more served, both father and son.

Chairmen were: Charlie Roberts, Archie Spence, J. M. McNaughton, Earl Kieper, Charlie Kieper, Earl Kieper being the final one.

The telephone company was dissolved and the change was made to dial phones in 1976. Sask-Tel collected long distance fees and monthly rent.

Mrs. Edna Wager bought the telephone building in 1969.

Girls' Ball Club From Fielding

Play ball!! If this command were issued around some of the "old" gals around Fielding, there would be some who would pick up their gloves, right and left-handed, leave their pickles, jams, husbands and head for the field, not ■ hay but to play ball.

Fielding Girls' Ball team: 1954, coach Kevin McGrath. Back row — Jean Williams, Ruby Martins, Irene Fertuck, Louise Clark. Front row — Dorothy Roberts, Mary Warkentine, Elaine Kieper, Maxine Fast, Marlorie Kieper.

Fielding Girls' Ball team: 1967. Back row, L. to R. — Linda Scott (Welford), Wendy Kieper (Asie), Leslie Ferris (Morgan), Elaine Harris (Reid), Diane Ferris (Quick), Cheryl Kieper (Pain). Front row — Audrey Ferris (Miller), Helen Sherman (Fields), Melanie Kieper (Kerpen), Karen Clark (Schmidt), Pat Brown.

There was an active girls' ball team for over twenty years at Fielding. Always they had wine uniforms with white piping. These uniforms and jackets were earned through team effort, not donated or sponsored.

Some of the early coaches were Kevin McGrath and also Cecil Ferris, when he "wasn't courting" the young teacher, Betty Darling.

Some of the early players had daughters who took mom's place so Fielding always had a good team, one the community was proud of.

Later coaches were David Roberts and Chester Ferris. The girls could be counted on to be at the ball tournaments at Maymont, Maple Grove, Perdue, Asquith, Sonningdale, Prince and any tournament in between.

Many parents were happy to spend the summer going from town to town to see the girls play. In the end, the girls grew up and left Fielding. One more link with their community was gone, but the memories and friendships made will always linger.

Fielding Canadian Girls In Training

Through many years Canadian Girls In Training was a very active organization in Fielding. The first meetings were organized in 1924 and continued through the ensuing years. Not all leaders were remembered — some of them were Florence Phillips, Ruby Martens, Audrey DeLong, Ethel Roberts was the leader until 1967 or 1968. Betty Ferris and Berniece Buell were also leaders. Mrs. Roberts was presented with an engraved plate for being the leader for so many years. There were Bible studies conducted by Rev. Myers and mission studies conducted by Kathleen Kleper which gave the girls a better understanding of the contribution of the Church to the development of Canada and overseas missions. The girls held bake sales, coffee houses, and other things to raise funds for their Dedication to Mission money and for their fun times.

Fielding Canadian Girls In Training. Leader, Ethel Roberts: L. to R., back row — Leslie Ferris, Cheryl Kleper, Janice Kuntz, Eilleen Bodi. Front row — Pat Sharman, Wendy Kleper, Audrey Ferris, Linda Scott, Ruth Clark.

Canadian Girls In Training — dressed in costumes of many lands, L. to R. — Lucille Sherman, Marj Kleper, Shirley Free, Shirley Brown, Inez Miller, Diane Stott, Phyliss Kleper, Dorothy Roberts, and Maxine Fast.

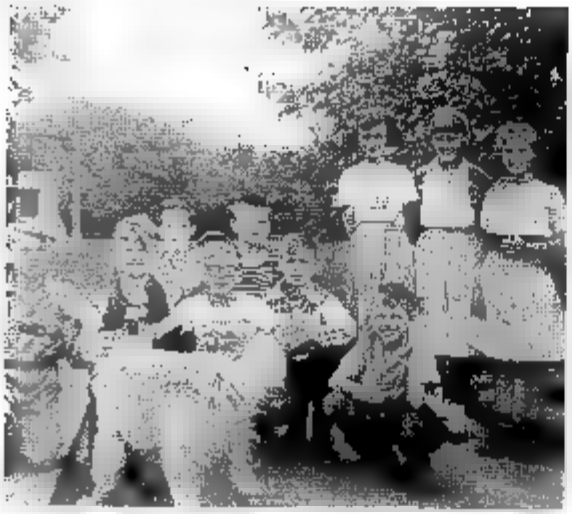
The fun times were camping out with lots of food, outdoor games and worship services. They had pyjama parties and Valentine parties to which the Maymont girls were invited. They had Hallowe'en parties and carrolled around town at Christmas time. The crafts they learned gave them and their parents pleasure.

The vesper service was always well prepared and looked forward to by parents and friends. The purpose of C.G.I.T. is: "As a Canadian Girl In Training under the leadership of Jesus, it is my purpose to seek Truth, know God, and serve others and thus with his help become the girl God would have me be". These girls who grew up in C.G.I.T. have shown in their lives that they are growing in wisdom and service to others.

Fielding C.G.I.T. ended in 1974 when there were only 3 girls of that age group left in the district. They now belong to the Maymont C.G.I.T. group and continue the same purpose.

History of Fielding United Church

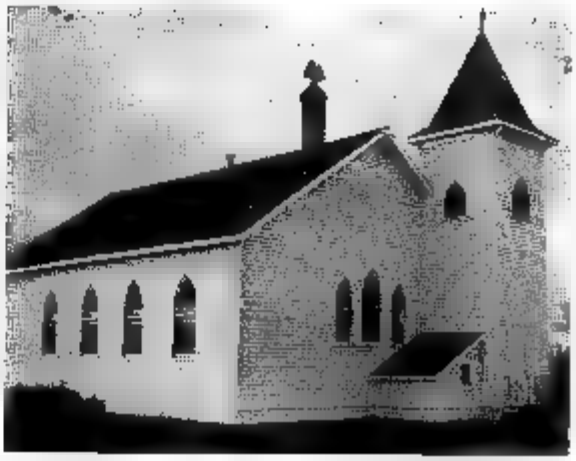
The Robertson Presbyterian Church was built in Fielding in 1908 and dedicated with Reverend J. C. Madill as the first minister. Among the pioneers who planned and organized for the building of the church were two stewards of the Presbyterian congregation, S. R. Miller and R. W. Ferris. Mr. Ferris was later inducted as the first Elder in the new church. That same year the Battleford Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church established the pastoral charge which included Fielding, Maymont, and Ruddell. However two years later Fielding was separated from this charge, and



Fielding Messengers group: kneeling, Ron Ferris, Allen Williams, Ron Garnett, Leland Miller, Barry Williams, behind Dale Kieper, Ross McNaughton; standing, Cheryl Kieper, Janice Kuntz, Leslie Ferris.

Christening Day at Fielding Church, L. to R. — Betty Ferris (holding Leslie), Irene Garnett (holding Gail), Kay Garnett (holding Ron), Ron is dressed in Grandpa Garnett's christening dress. Betty Scott (holding Leonard).

with surrounding settlements formed into a mission field. It was served as such for several years. Prior to the building of the church, both Methodist and Presbyterian congregations were holding services in a wide variety of places. Reverend [redacted]. N. Matheson a Presbyterian student minister held services in the C.N.R. camps between Radisson and Fielding while this portion of the C.N.R. was under construction. He also visited the new settlements as far north as New Ottawa. The very first church services were held in the home of Mr. George Fast Sr. by a student of the Methodist faith. Later the services were held in the homes of pioneer settlers. [redacted] C. W. Dickinson's store



Fielding United Church.

in the tent restaurant owned by W. Clyne and [redacted] a shack owned by [redacted]. E. Iveson, blacksmith.

The early settlers came for miles on foot, or by wagon or buggy, to meet in the Christian fellowship of these services.

After the building of the Presbyterian church the Methodist congregation met in the school. In 1913 by agreement of the local church boards, the Methodists held afternoon services in the church on a rental basis. [redacted] 1918, joint meetings of the boards of the Methodist and Presbyterian congregations at Fielding, met to consider the possibilities of a union under an arrangement laid down by the governing bodies of the two churches permitting such a union. The result was a union and the church became known as the Fielding

Fielding United Church Women. Members, Back row — Elaine Kieper, Joan Ferris, Olive Miller, Olga Free. 2nd row — Ethel Roberts, Gertie Sherman, Mabel Stott, Mrs. W. Evans, Mary Bennett, Annie Roberts, Kay McNaughton, seated — Helen Spence, Grandma Free, Al Free.

Union Church. Rev. Chilton was called as minister of the united congregation. Members of the Board of Session of the Union Church were R. W. Ferris, J. Robertson, E. E. Garnett and F. Summers. Reverend J. McKinnon succeeded Reverend Chilton, and ■ was followed by Mr. Cuddeford, a student minister. E. E. Garnett was the organist and choir leader for many years. Vacancies on the session caused by Mr. Robertson leaving the district, and the resignation of Mr. Summers were filled by G. E. Iveson and C. E. Kieper. At that time there were ■ names on the membership roll.

When organic union of the churches was inaugurated in 1925, the church became known as Fielding United Church. Reverend Sibbald was the minister and he was followed shortly by Rev. R. Hardy.

The organizing of the Women's Missionary Society in June, 1927, was no doubt the culmination of Rev. Hardy's devotion, sincerity and untiring efforts to promote the missionary spirit and the gospel of Goodwill. Mrs. ■. B. Harris was the first president. Dr. E. H. Oliver was the guest speaker on the memorable 21st anniversary service October 27, 1929, when the mortgage was burned, clearing the church building of debt. Those mentioned in the records as participating in the event were ■. W. Ferris, Elder; Mrs. E. E. Garnett, Ladies Aid President; and Chester Buell representing the Young People.

During the difficult years of the 1930's a time of financial stress in the church and community, the congregation was indebted to the splendid leadership of Reverend Hill Hamilton, Reverend L. Schnell, and Reverend F. Myers, who, by their perseverance and self-sacrifice encouraged and maintained the life of the church. Often the minister was given farm and garden produce as part of his meagre salary.

Reverend F. L. Myers came ■ the Maymont — Fielding — Eastbourne charge in July 1937. During the anxieties and sorrows of the war years, he brought comfort and strength to many Fielding families, and saw returning prosperity ease some of the difficulties through which the church had been going. Through the years Mr. Myers assumed increased responsibilities in the wider outreach of the United Church, and in 1954, was honored by being elected President of the Saskatchewan Conference of the United Church.

Tribute should be paid to the part women have played in the history of the church. Always they have stood by the church leaders with encouragement and help. During the depression years, the Ladies Aid under the cheerful and efficient leadership of Mrs. S. Miller, president for twenty years, helped and sustained the finances of the church. Women have also played an important part in the Christian education of the children and young people, giving leadership and guidance in the Sunday School and youth groups.

By 1966 the church was again facing a difficult situation in this area. Rural population was declining rapidly, and ordained ministers were hard to get. Three rural charges Maymont (which included Fielding) Radisson and Speers were united into one larger parish, and named the Maymont Larger Parish. Of the eight preaching points, only four were maintained, which meant the closing of four small churches. One of these was Fielding United Church. This was a very difficult time for the members of the congregation. Although the church is officially closed, the Fielding people retained their C.G.I.T. and U.C.W. organizations, and the church is still kept clean and polished by the U.C.W. members each year.

This church stands as a reminder of the courage, wisdom and faith which pioneers of our district had in establishing a centre for the worship and Glory of God.

Fielding Ladies' Curling

The ladies of the Fielding district soon followed the men to the curling rink located on the south of main street, next to an outdoor skating rink. It must ■ assumed the rink was built in 1950-51 as the minutes from the ladies book state their first meeting was on Feb. 21, 1951.

Mrs. Walter Miller was the first president, Olie Free — vice-president, and Betty Fair — secretary-treasurer. The fee for the first bonspiel was set at 50¢ each. First skips were: Olie Free, Nettie Hunchak, Elaine Kieper, Jean Williams, Olie Miller, Esther Fast, Florence Phillips, and Ruby Martens.

What good times the ladies had curling together — mothers baby sat other's tots and watched the play. The curling behind the glass was always fun to listen to. The booth was also a going thing. While there was only one sheet of ice, it seemed to ■ always busy. There were many high school games, ladies' games and regular draws.

One money-making project was a fowl supper — prices were set at adults — 75¢; under ■ — 50¢; and pre-school — 25¢.

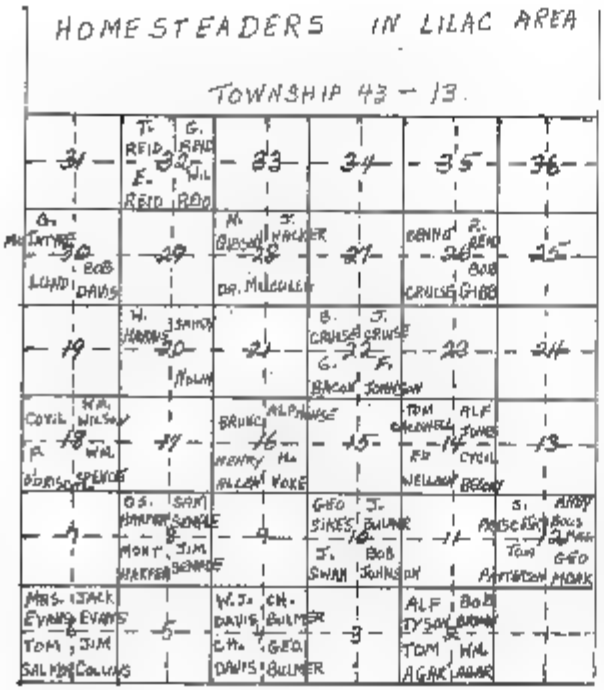
There was an inter-town curling amongst the ladies from Borden to Denholm — two rinks from each town. Fielding brought the trophy home a few times — excitement ran high! It was a nice way to get to know your neighbours.

There isn't a rink in Fielding anymore. Leslie Buell purchased the building for a machine shed. Curlers go now to Maymont and Radisson to play in bonspiels. Nettie Hunchak ■ still an ardent curler, still a skip and thanks to her for the minute book.

History of Lilac, Saskatchewan

"That Which Was,"
written by Charlotte Gillatt

Lilac was a hamlet about 22 miles east of North Battleford; was about 4 miles from both No. 5 and No. 40 highways on the Correction Line between the Rural



Homesteaders in Lilac Area — Township 43-13.

Municipalities of Mayfield No. 406 and Douglas No. 436; on the rail line between Denholm and Prince Albert via Shellbrook, midway between Denholm and Richard; was 4¼ miles north and ¼ mile east of Ruddell. "GREEN BLUFF" was the name originally planned for this centre, but was changed to "LILAC" when one of the railway men noticed a lilac bush in full bloom on the farm of the late Mr. W. J. Dow near the railroad right-of-way.

First Settlers

Much contradictory material was received in regards as to who were our first settlers. The earliest resident in the area seems ■ have been a Metis horse rancher, Mr. Charles Nolin, who squatted on land in the Goose Lake area and lived somewhere in the vicinity of the Reisinger farm (Sec. 20-43-13-W3). He was the Member of Parliament for the area when it was called The Northwest Territories.

In 1903, some members of the Barr Colonists' group came here to take up homesteads. These people were the Semple brothers (Jim and Sam), the Harper brothers (O.C. and Mont), and Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Bulmer and family. The Bulmer family were the first family to settle here and their daughter, Hilda, was the first white baby born in the district. She was born in the fall of 1903. Being unprepared for cold prairie winters, the family were taken to the N.W.M.P. barracks at Battleford and spent two winters there until adequate provisions could be made on the farm.

Later ■ 1903, many other settlers arrived, some of which were the Davis brothers, (W. J. and Charles), Mr. W. J. Dow and family, Mr. John Evans, Mr. J. Swan, and Mr. G. Sykes. Most of the homesteaders drove from Saskatoon with the exception of Mr. Evans and Sykes. Mr. Evans walked all the way from Rosthern to Lilac and Mr. Sykes who had neither oxen nor horses, pushed a wheelbarrow containing a 100 lb. bag of flour, etc., from Prince Albert.

In the following two years, 1904-05, many well-remembered settlers came. There were Mr. and Mrs. Agar and their two children, Mr. Tom Agar, Mr. and Mrs. George Mabey and their four children, Mr. Harry ■. Welford, Mr. Charles Wood, Mr. Alfred Tyson and Mr. Henry P. Voke. They lived in tents until sod shacks could be built. Gradually the sod shacks were replaced by log or lumber houses. Drinking water was a big problem in this area and it often had to be hauled or carried long distances.

There were very few women in those early days and those that were here were kept busy six days a week baking bread for the bachelor neighbors. Prairie fires were a constant threat in the hot, dry summers, and a blizzard could strike without warning in the winter. Many a homesteader relied on his horse to bring him home safely from the Whitewood Lake area or with mail and supplies from Battleford. In 1905, this area became part of the Province of Saskatchewan. Mrs. John Evans was the first women in the district to vote (Dec. 1906) in a municipal election for councillor and she drove several miles in 40 degrees below fahrenheit weather with a team of oxen and ■ stoneboat to do so. Mr. Hugh Gibson thought oxen were too slow — so he bought a motorcycle, then in 1912 he bought ■ Maxwell car, the first car in the area.

About 1907, Mr. W. J. Davis bought a threshing machine, and with about 21 other men, did much of the custom work around the community.

About 1910 the Semple brothers brought the first gas tractor, an International, to the district.

■ 1927, Mr. Grover Reid purchased ■ combine and other settlers were soon ■ follow his example.

They came by land, and by water; they tilled the soil by oxen; they lived in primitive shacks; they suffered hardships including the rigors of winter — but they survived and prospered.

The main food of the pioneers was salted meat or any game they could shoot or trap in the wild. If they happened across a prairie chicken or duck nest, they would take the eggs home and hope that they were fresh enough to eat. Oranges and other citrus fruits were scarce and high-priced. Some meats, like pork, were salted or cured, and much was canned. The BEEF RING was organized in 1916 or 1917 and in this group every farmer took his turn donating an animal for slaughter. The animal would ■ butchered at Tom Sawyer's farm (Mr. Jim Tebay's present farm) and then distributed among the farmers who wished to participate.

The extension of the Ruddell Rural Telephone system to Lilac in 1915 was greeted with pleasure. Mr. and Mrs. Agar's radio, purchased ■ 1922, provided a real thrill to friends and neighbors as it brought news and music from afar.

That which brought tremendous changes in the way of life of the settlers here was the arrival of electrical power ■ 1952. The country side was able to be lit up as never before and soon appliances of all kinds were in use ■ lessen the work load of both men and women.

The School

The one-room school in this area has perhaps the most unique history of any country school in the province or perhaps even the Dominion of Canada: —

Bathgate School where Nora Agar taught in 1924-25. (l-r) Front row — Weir Klassen, Muriel Swan, Mary Welford, Eunice Klassen, Agnes Agar, Vivian and Lucille Parent, Bob Hawkins. 2nd row — Mary Trupish, Jeff Schrum, John Hawkins, Ethel Lee, Helen Demchuk, Mabel Agar, Marie Parent, Ted and Jack Welford, Mike Yakuchuk. 3rd row — Lily Hawkins, Mabel P., Dora Trupish, Leslie Little, Nora Agar, Johnny Bulmer, John Yakuchuk, Guy Parent, Ernie Hawkins.

Burnley S.D. No. 4712 about 1938. (l-r) Back — Brian Firth, Wesley Gillatt, Tommy Caldwell, Albert McIntrye, George and Elizabeth Patterson, Laura Caldwell, Merle McIntyre, Annie L. Lewis (teacher). Front — Howard Bulmer, Robert Patterson, Bill Caldwell, Clifton Gillatt, Helen and Marjorie Reid, Elaine Mabey, June Firth, Audrey Reid.

it was situated on two different pieces of property; had three different names; and it had two School District numbers.

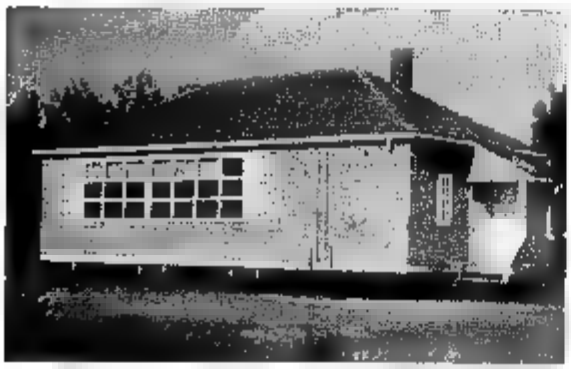
When there were 12 children in the area, ■ 1906, (W. J. Davis, 2; James Little, 4; Wm. Agar, 2; Bulmer 4) permission was granted for a school district. Mr. Agar donated ½ acre of S.W. 2-43-13-W3, just west of the present Arthur Reiley farm site for the school which was built in 1906, and opened in February, 1907 with ■ enrollment of 8. In order to have the required number ■ students two four year olds were included. The school years started in February and ended with a Christmas Concert and promotions in December. The school was named BATHGATE for an English town of that name by the carpenters building the school and given the School District number 1544. The first trustees were W. J. Davis (secretary) Mr. J. Allen, and Mr. J. Little. In 1925, the school term, with Miss Leask as teacher, extended from Feb. 1925 to June 1926, to convert to fall opening and end of June closing.

In 1927, with much controversy, the school was moved to N.E. 32-42-13-W3, close to the Hamlet of Lilac. Four tractors and high-wheeled wooden wagons were used. It was requested that the name be changed to LILAC, but since there already was a school district by that name, the Department of Education suggested the name ■ Burnley No. 4712. About 20 years later the Department notified the Lilac School Board the name of Lilac was now available and it was felt this name would be less confusing; so LILAC was adopted but the School District number remained No. 4712. About the same time, the North Battleford School Unit No. ■ came into being and Lilac School became part of the Unit. Mr. Herb Mabey was trustee for 19 years 1934-1953. The enrollment has been as high as 30 students and as low as 8. Grades I-VIII were taught as well as Gr. IX and X using Correspondence Courses with teacher supervision.

In 1953 power was installed ■ the school. ■ 1956 a new school was built ■ the same yard but on the east side with a gun-type thermostatically controlled oil furnace and indoor toilets. Mrs. Ida Gillatt, substitute teaching for Miss H. Acaster, was the first to teach in the new school. In 1958 a teacherage was moved from Lavigne and placed on a foundation; also included was a small basement and a cistern. After the school was closed in 1971, Dr. Mary McPhail bought the teacherage and moved it away. The school barn was bought by Pete Wood and moved to his farm part to be used as a garage and part as a cattle shed. The Lilac Community Club took over the school building for a district recreational centre.

■ September, 1968, Grades VII and VIII were bussed to Maymont Central and on June 30, 1971, Lilac School doors closed and since then all Grades I-XII students have been bused to Maymont. For several of the later years the Kindergarten children also are transported on the bus.

Lilac School No. 4712 — Sept. 1945. (l-r) Back — Bynese Stally (teacher), Joann Pipp, Iris Reid, Bert Caldwell, Elaine Mabey, Howard Bulmer, Dick Warren, Lloyd Bulmer. Front — Myrna Reid, David Wright, Sid Foulston, George Pipp.

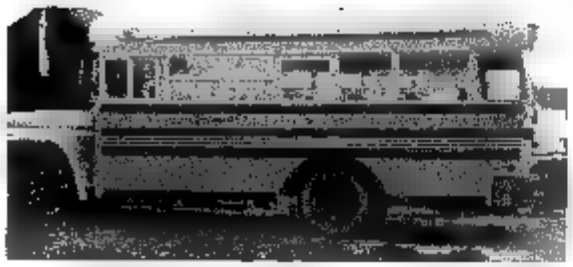


The new Lilac school (built 1956).

Bathgate S.D. No. 1544 Teaching Staff

1907 — Miss Menhennic
— Miss Horseman
1908 — Miss Josephine M. Dow
1909 — Miss B. M. Waters
1910 — Miss Lucy Merry
1911 — Miss Tweedie
1912 — Miss Redmand
1913 — Mrs. Durnsford
school closed 1914-15 due ■ small enrollment.
1916 — Miss Marion H. Dewdney
1917 — Miss Marion ■. Dewdney
1918 — Miss Marion H. Dewdney
1919 — Florence M. Thomas (Miss Taylor) (sub-teacher)
1920 — Florence M. Thomas
1921 — Miss Gormley
— Miss Florence Adler
1922 — Miss Doris Moore
1923 — Miss Nora Agar
1924 — Miss Nora Agar
1925-1926 Miss Leask (Mrs. Duncan) school term 1½ years ■ change to fall opening.
1926-1927 — Miss Stenna O. Samway
1927-1928 Miss Stenna O. Samway — Miss Charlotte Johnston (May and June) school changed to Burnley S.D. No. 4712, moved to NE 32-42-13-W3.
1928-1929 — Miss Christine Toms
1929-1930 — Miss Verna Greenslade
1930-1931 — Miss Jean M. Mawhinney
1931-1932 — Miss Jean ■. Mawhinney (Mrs. Broley)
1932-1933 — Miss Annie L. Lewis
1933-1934 — Miss Annie L. Lewis
1934-1935 — Miss Annie L. Lewis
1935-1936 — Miss Annie L. Lewis
1936-1937 — Miss Annie L. Lewis
1937-1938 — Miss Annie L. Lewis
1938-1939 — Miss Annie L. Lewis
1939-1940 — Miss Annie L. Lewis
1940-1941 — Miss Margaret H. Kerr
1941-1942 — Miss Margaret H. Kerr
1942-1943 — Miss Nellie Anderson
1943-1944 — Miss Anne R. Nickel
1944-1945 — Miss Anne R. Nickel
Mrs. A. Blanche Rafuse
Mrs. L. A. Warkington
1945-1946 — Miss Dorothy Reeves
Miss Eleanor Reiley
1946-1947 — Frank Gregory Weist (Sept. — Oct. 11)
Miss Jean Floyd
name changed to LILAC S.D. No. 4712, part of N. Battleford S.U. No. 56.
1947-1948 — Miss Joyce Mary Grice
Robert Morin (May 3 — June 30)
1948-1949 — Edward Sylvanio Boyko
1949-1950 — Miss Marjorie I. Reid
1950-1951 — Alvin M. Colwell
1951-1952 — Miss Cecile Longton (Sept. — Dec.)
Mrs. Mary D. Moffat (Jan. — June)
1952-1953 — Mrs. Mary D. Moffat
1953-1954 — Mrs. Mary D. Moffat
1954-1955 — Mrs. Charlotte Gillatt
1955-1956 — Miss Esther Suderman
1956-1957 — Miss Hazel Acaster
1957-1958 — Miss B. Jean Wright
1958-1959 — Miss B. Jean Wright
1959-1960 — Miss B. Jean Wright
1960-1961 — Mrs. Mary D. Moffat
1961-1962 — Mrs. Mary D. Moffat
1962-1963 — Mrs. Mary D. Moffat
1963-1964 — Mrs. Mary D. Moffat
1964-1965 — Mrs. Mary D. Moffat
1965-1966 — Mrs. Signe Marie Toews
1966-1967 — Mr. Martin P. Horne
1967-1968 — Mr. Martin P. Horne
1968-1969 — Mr. Martin P. Horne
1969-1970 — Mrs. Thoma Hoganson
1970-1971 — Mrs. Thoma Hoganson

Since the school closed June 30, 1971, each December the ladies of the district have arranged a Christmas program complete with Santa Claus and



Lilac School Bus Route started Aug., 1966.

lunch with Lilac, Wavle Bank, and Ruddell young and old participating.

Many of the Lilac students have gone on to do well outside of school. We have had armed service personnel, a dentist, a draftsman, a druggist, electricians, nurses (R.N. and R.P.N.), nurses aides, stenographers, teachers, etc.

In the early 1960's, after St. Mary's church was closed, Rev. and Mrs. Belababa, Bob and Sharon Foreman, and Charlotte Sloan, Jean and Cathie Reid held Foresquare Sunday School classes in Lilac School.

Not only did the school provide "Book Learning" but it was the social centre for recreation. The following is a description of a dance in Bathgate school, but it could have been in any country school in the 1920's.

Bathgate School Dance

written by Bill Welford

On Friday night a dance was to be held in the school and arrangements had been made for a committee to take care of the details. Bill Parent was to bring his fiddle and Johnny Walker to play the piano. Tom Patterson was to come after school to put the teacher's desk in the corner, place the pupils' desks around the wall for the people to sit on, fill the lamps with coal oil and make sure there was coal oil in the gallon can, etc. Dave Alexander and Jimmy Little would take care of the collection at lunch time and clean up the floor after everyone had eaten. They were also to put all the school supplies back in place after cleaning up at the end of the dance. Walter Bulmer would be floor manager, calling out the name of each dance and starting most of the dances off. The Bulmers were good dancers and knew all the steps having come to the country with the Barr Colonists. Walter's three sisters, Dora, Hilda and Ethel were the ones who taught anyone who needed help with any of the steps. Walter and Hilda were large people and if any of the crowd that were standing at the back of the school got out too close to the centre cutting down on the dancing surface, Walter and Hilda would dance across in front of that line ever so close and many a person would back off graciously.

There was always a rush to get to the dance early because the early bird got a premium, a chance to get their horses in the school barn. The first teams could tie up to the manger. The later ones squeezed in to the alley. When the barn was full they opened the door and pushed a sleigh box against the open door. This kept the horses in and yet allowed for some air. The horses had to be checked periodically because the other fellow's horse might kick or bite, leading to chaos under such crowded conditions. A man's own horse, of course, would never do anything wrong unless molested. The remaining horses would be tied to the sides of sleigh boxes and covered with a horse blanket if they had one and the rest used a robe or patch-work blanket carried along in the sleighbox.

The first people into the school opened the door on the pot-bellied heater and placed a few sticks on the embers which produced a light in the dark school and instant heat. Then they started the lamps. The people greeted each other with a friendly smile and a cheery hello as they gathered close around the pot-bellied heater to soak up the warmth. A nice few were there when Johnny Walker walked in; a cheer went up from all present. Johnny went straight from the door to the piano taking off his coat and cap as he went, happy to hear the people greeting him so warmly. He tossed his coat and cap in the corner beside the piano, slid on to the piano stool, rubbed his hands a couple of times to stimulate the circulation. He tried the keys and then cut loose with music to start the dancing.

A young woman, with a baby in her arms, walked in and placed her baby on the teacher's desk along with her coat. Some one asked her to dance and away she went. Soon the desk was piled high with coats. A couple of short dances later in came Bill Parent with his violin. A quick warm up by the heater — more like a couple of quick passes with everyone egging him on — and he tuned up his violin. Then the young woman let out a scream, "Oh my baby!". She hurried to the teacher's desk tossing coats on the floor until she found the baby who was none the worse for the episode, but the rest of the ladies didn't like their best coats being tossed on the floor. It looked like tempers might rise but the musicians saved the day by bursting forth with an old waltz. Husbands and boyfriends got their partners and filled the floor. By the end of that dance the ladies were apologizing for their behavior and all was forgiven. They even inquired as to the good health of the baby. "Warm but none the worse."

An array of dances followed, the likes of which you couldn't explain on paper. Then it was time to check the horses. Stepping out-of-doors was a sight all of its own. There were open cutters, some drawn by one horse, some by a team. Sleigh boxes, no two alike and they were parked all over the yard, every which way. There was Russell Reid's cutter with the fancy curved front and the high back. We all knew his cutter because he had a robe made of coyote skins (the pick of the skins of which he had plenty,) and three tails hung down over the back in a very distinctive manner. These vehicles were parked where ever there was

plenty of space to get around them. The best way to explain it is that after turning ■ the gate, the driver would holler "Whoa" and where ever the horses stopped they were unhooked. Having reached the barn, we would place our ear against the wall of the barn and all was quiet so that meant all was well inside.

Back in the school Walter Bulmer certainly didn't need any amplifier. Everyone heard his call of "Places all" as ■ started a square dance. His voice penetrated every corner as he called, "Ladies cross your lily white hands and Gents your black and tanned" so everyone knew what to do. It is doubtful if the built-in amplifier that man had, will ever be duplicated.

When it was nearly lunchtime a couple of the men went out and hitched up a team and drove to the home of one of the neighbors where the coffee was made ■ a boiler and transported to the school in cream cans as there was no stove ■ the school where the coffee could be made. Sometimes the cream and sugar would be added to the coffee before it was taken to the school. As quickly as possible the cans of coffee were taken to the school so it would cool off as little as possible.

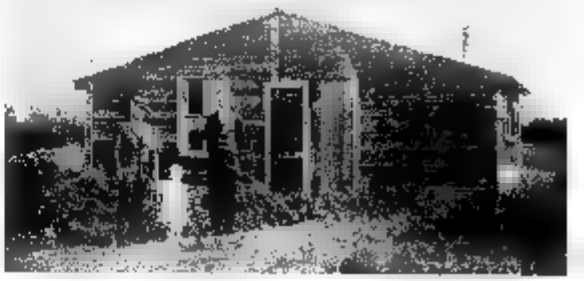
A standing rule was "Ladies, please bring Lunch." Some brought sandwiches and others brought cake. The proportion of each was left ■ chance and you'd never believe how well this arrangement worked out. The ladies passed the lunch around and any bachelor who hadn't had much cake at home during the week was a good candidate for several rounds. The sooner a lady's cake pan was empty gave her a feeling of being a good cook so there was quite the rivalry.

After lunch the floor was swept, the fiddle tuned up again and before the broom had any more than found its corner the music was playing. Starting off with a slow waltz to settle the lunch and then gaining momentum until nearing two o'clock it would about reach its peak. Bill Parent looked around for someone to loan his fiddle to so ■ could dance. Not finding a taker he put his fiddle under his chin and played and danced with his fiddle for a partner going around the room not missing a beat. The dancers kept calling for more and more so the musicians obliged with a fast one-step, closely followed by a fox trot and finishing off with "Home Sweet Home" and "Good Night Ladies." Fun was fun but here was a group of people who would be getting up at six or six thirty ready to do chores. The school emptied quickly leaving Dave Alexander and Jimmy Little to clean up. The teams rushed out the school gate turning left or right in the direction of home. The cheery good nights could be heard ■ the cold, crisp night air above the sound of sleighbells, sleigh-runners, and horses' hooves. Each and everyone vowed they would be at the next Bathgate School dance!

St. Mary's Anglican Church, Lilac

Church services were first held when Mr. Good would come from Ruddell and hold church services in Mr. Charles Davis's home (1906). ■ 1907 Mr. Davis donated one-half acre of land (SW 4-43-13-W3) and ■ church was built by volunteer labour under the direction of Ruddell contractor George Anderson with funds from mother church in England. ■ had measurements of 18' ■ 20' not including the vestry. When finished it was christened "St. Mary's Anglican Church". A sod barn was built but it was later replaced by a wooden one. Then a manse was built in the churchyard for the resident Anglican ministers. Tom Patterson bought and moved the barn from the churchyard and it still stands in the George Patterson yard. The manse was rented out in later years to the Leduc family and later moved to just south of the old garage when the Jim McIntyre family lived ■ it for awhile. Later it was dismantled.

St. Mary's Church, Lilac about 1927. Note barn at the left of picture.



St. Mary's church manse — Lilac. Dr. McLean of Toronto (father of Mrs. J. E. McLarty of Denholm), Eleanor McLarty, and Mr. Luke (student minister).

The minister's warden was Mr. H. E. Welford who served for ■ years; the People's warden was Mr. George Mabey who held that position for 39 years. Mrs. G. Mabey was organist and played the organ for 32 years.

Some of the ministers, student ministers, and lay people who served ■. Mary's were; Mr. Good, Mr. Walker, Mr. Black, Mr. Bunting, Mr. Jordan, Mr. West, Mr. Huntley, Mr. Olson, Mr. Finnerty, Mr. Coffee, Mr. Hurdy, Mr. Luke, Mr. Jones, Mr. Wood,

Cairn at Lilac church yard erected in 1968. Lilac Curling Rink can ■ seen at left of picture.

Plaque Lilac Church yard erected 1976 by Lilac Ladies' Guild.

Mr. Priest, Mr. Joe Martin, Mr. Richardson, Mr. Atkinson, Mr. Greenhalgh, Mr. Frank Deakin.

Miss Jennie Welford (now Mrs. Levi Walden) was the first baby baptized in the church.

■ May, 1955, Miss Nancy Johnsson and Miss Dianne Pain (now Mrs. Patrick Becotte) were the last babies to be baptized there.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Christie, October 30, 1911, were one of the first couples married in the church while Mr. and Mrs. Earl Curry (nee Marjorie Reid) were the last couple to be married in St. Mary's (May 1951).

St. Mary's closed in 1960 and in 1965 the church was moved to its present location in the Western Development Museum. A Cairn, arrangements for which were made by Lilac Ladies Guild, was erected in 1968 as ■ belated Centennial project paid for by voluntary contributions by former and local residents. It gives particular recognition to Rev. J. ■. Bunting and Canon P. Jordan as well as all the faithful workers throughout the years.

In the fall of 1976, some trees (2 Evergreens from the Sask. Wheat Pool boneyard, and donated by the Henry Oreel family, and some Lilac bushes from the Lilac store site) were moved into the churchyard completing the outline of the former church foundation. The moving was done by Sgt. Bob Young of North Battleford R.C.M.P. detachment and was funded by a $50 grant from the Dept. ■ Youth and Culture, and $25 from Lilac Community Club. The Lilac Ladies Guild had a sign erected in 1978 ■ designate where the trees came from. Hopefully the Lilacs are an off shoot of the Lilac bush for which the district was named and will be ■ permanent reminder of "that which was".

Lilac Ladies Guild

■ 1913, six pioneer women, Mrs. Evans, Mrs. G. Mabey, Mrs. Ralph, Mrs. J. Swan, Mrs. Tyson, and Mrs. H. E. Welford walked to a meeting to organize ST. MARY'S ANGLICAN GUILD, to assist the church financially. During the first Great War the ladies switched to Red Cross work, but otherwise the Guild has carried on. After the church closed (1960) and moved (1965) to North Battleford Western Development Museum, the Ladies of the district felt there was still a need for an organization in the district so the name was changed to LILAC LADIES GUILD.

In 1964 they undertook to foster ■ needy child through the Christian Children's Fund paying $120.00 per annum, then $150.00 in 1974 and since 1978 they send $180.00 per year to support their adoptee. To date over $2000 has been given to foster children. They make donations to various Charitable organizations, make visits to senior citizens homes and canvas the district annually for CNIB.

The Guild has been a cohesive force in keeping the district together. At the monthly meetings the wheels are set in motion for community activities such as cleaning the school, showers, farewells, picnics, funeral memorials, and even Christmas Concerts.

The Railroad, Lilac Loading Platform and Station

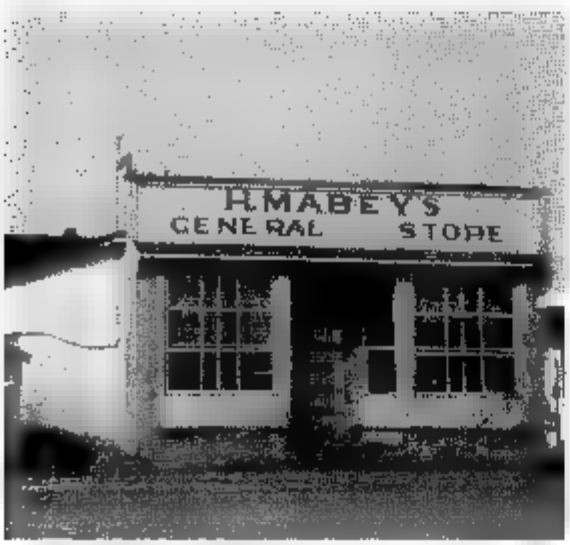
In 1911, the rail line from Denholm, through Lilac to Blaine Lake was started by the Canadian Northern

Railway. It was first opened to traffic on December 15, 1913. The original site of the loading platform (about 5-6 miles east from Denholm) was on NE 25-42-12-W3. It was an earthloading platform. In 1916 the site was moved 2 miles east of the Lilac site thus making it more midway between Denholm and Richard. Mr. Henry P. Voke hauled the earth for the platform.

A 10' x 32' freight and passenger shelter (station) was built by Canadian Northern in 1913 as well as a two-car 18' x 96' loading platform. A spur line to accommodate the elevators was built later. The loading platform was removed in 1964, and the freight and passenger shelter was sold to Alwyn Ebach and removed from the property in 1967. In 1978 the spur line was removed. In April, 1979, the two parts of the shelter were sold as grain bins at the auction sale of Mae Ebach.

Lilac Store

The Lilac store began when Mr. J. Warden of Ruddell took a gamble and set up a store in the struggling Lilac community. He operated the store for many years but finally sold to Mr. and Mrs. Smith and son, Archie. Mr. Smith had problems trying to run the business and finally left hurriedly in 1922. The store was closed until 1923 when Mr. Reddick took over and ran it for 8 years. In 1932 he sold to Herb and Mary Mabey who operated the store until May of 1965 when Mr. and Mrs. Ken Robertson bought the business. In November, 1966, they closed out with a Public Auction Sale. The building was purchased by Harold Pain and Bill Welford, dismantled and removed. When tractors had become more popular, Herb Mabey became an agent for White Rose (later bought by Shell) and had a Bulk Service depot at Lilac. For years Herb delivered gas, oil, and diesel to neighbouring farms.



Lilac Store.

The Mail and Lilac Post Office

During the first settlement years of the Lilac area, mail was obtained from Battleford or Radisson, later at Richard's Ranch, and then at Ruddell after the main rail line went through from Saskatoon to North Battleford. The Lilac Post Office was opened March 15, 1918, in the Battlefords Electoral District as a Group 4 Office with the supervisory Postmaster's Office in Radisson. Each office had an authorized reserve. Lilac's reserve was $50.00. The approximate salary range was from $360.00 to $950.00 per annum.

Interior of Lilac store (1956), Elaine, Herb and Mary Mabey.

Lilac Postmasters 1918-1966

Date Oath taken
John Warden, March 3, 1918
David A. Klassen, April 4, 1921
Mrs. Agatha Klassen, March 3, 1935 *office moved 120 yds. on 1-10-1940.
Mrs. Vera Beth Warren, Sept 9, 1945 *office moved 300 yds. east at transfer.
Arthur Lee, June 9, 1948 *office moved [illegible] yds. west at transfer.
Mrs. Vera Beth Warren, Aug. 1, 1949
Mrs. Mary Louise Mabey, July 7, 1950
Ken Robertson, date unknown closed Feb. 15, 1967.

Assistant Postmasters

Date Oath Taken
Vera Beth Warren, April 23, 1943
Rhoda M. Milne, July 10, 1945
Herbert L. Warren, Sept. 21, 1946
Elizabeth Jane Patterson, May 21, 1947
Flora Edith Lee, unknown
[illegible]. Warren, July 22, 1950
Herbert Mabey, Aug. 4, 1950
Frank Schaefer, unknown
W. Gayle Mabey, unknown
Mrs. (H. K.) Pain, unknown
Mrs. Margaret Robertson, May, 1965

Line up of trucks at Lilac's two elevators in the late 50's. Background: Mabey's store, St. Mary's Anglican Church, the National elevator house to the left and curling rink to the right.

Miss Gwendolyn Joyce Robertson, 1965
Arthur H. Relley, Dec. 2, 1952

With the closing of the store in Oct./Nov. 1966, Lilac area residents picked up their mail at Ruddell Post Office. A proposal to provide patrons concerned with Rural Mail Delivery Service via Maymont R.R. No. 1, made in October, 1966, was started in February, 1967 with Alex Beierle delivering the mail every Wednesday and Saturday mornings. This route is still being serviced by Alex' widow, Mrs. Elsie Beierle McIvor.

Lilac Elevators

The National Grain Company built an elevator at Lilac in 1917. Then in 1920 a house for the agent and family was constructed. In 1971 or 1972 the National was closed and about a year later the elevator was taken down with some of the lumber hauled to North Battleford and used in the construction of a larger National elevator there.

Agents 1917-1971/72

Mr. McMillan, Mr. David Klassen, Mr. Jack Wright, Mr. Herbert (Bud) Warren, Mr. Jack Stocker, Mr. Harvey Parent, Mr. Alex Beierle, Mr. Tom McGrath, Mr. Bernard Spence, Mr. Harold Weir.

A Co-operative Grain elevator was built at Lilac in 1924. A man who worked hard at selling shares in this elevator was a local homesteader, J. Swan, who travelled by horse and buggy selling $10.00 shares. In the late 1920's it was transferred to Saskatchewan Wheat Pool and the Lilac Elevator was No. 533. The Pool elevator was closed July 31, 1975 and in 1979 the

Sask. Wheat Pool elevator at Lilac being taken down (1979).

building was sold to Dennis Buziak and Michael Yakiwchuk who are now dismantling the building. The house which was built in 1928 by H. McMurphy — a one-storey building, 22' x 26' — was sold to Jim Prescesky of the Wavie Bank district in 1975 and moved to Denholm.

Agents 1924-1975

Walter Hewar, August 1, 1929 – July 31, 1933
Ronald Firth, August 1, 1933 to July 31, 1941
Frank Schaefer, August 1, 1941 to July 31, 1942
C. W. Thompson, August 1, 1942 to January 6, 1943
F. W. Goodfellow, January 6, 1943 to December 20, 1943
Elwood W. Huston, December 20, 1943 to August 1, 1947, Lilac Elevator Closed
G. McTavish, August 9, 1948 to October 16, 1948
F. Schaefer, October 16, 1948 to December 15, 1948, Lilac Elevator Closed
F. Schaefer, April 18, 1949 to July 20, 1949, Lilac Elevator Closed
G. R. (Curly) Hollingshead, August 1, 1949 to April 21, 1953
Walter E. Millard, April 21, 1953 to March 2, 1955
Lorne C. Roach, March 2, 1955 to June 16, 1959
Henry R. Oreel, June 16, 1959 to October 11, 1973
Harvey Wood, October 12, 1973 to August 1, 1974
Edward Anthony Heilman, August 1, 1974 – July 1, 1975
John Heilman, July 1, 1975 to July 31, 1975, Lilac Elevator Closed

Lilac Wheat Pool Committee

Like other Pool elevators, Lilac Wheat Pool had a Wheat Pool Committee. The committee helped to determine Pool policies as well as supporting some Co-

The last Lilac Wheat Pool Committee (1972). (l-r) Bill Jess, Wes Gillatt, Art Reiley, Howard Bulmer, Jack Welford, Joe Moffat, Harold Pain, Walter Buziak, Ted Welford, Alwyn Ebach (missing Cliff Underwood).

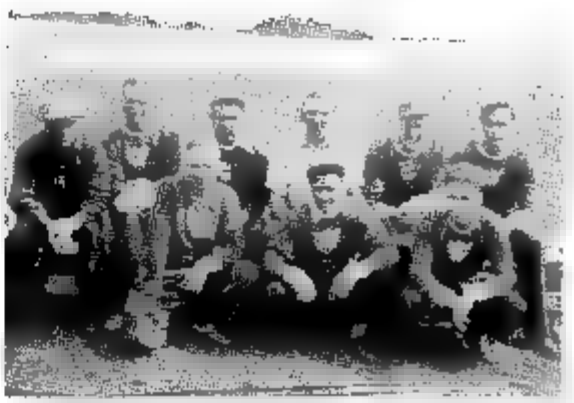
operating events such as sending young people to the CO-OP Schools. They also gave financial help to the Mayfield 4-H. Due to the closure of the Lilac Wheat Pool elevator No. 533, the committee was officially disbanded in 1979.

Lilac Curling Rink

In 1945, a one-sheet curling rink was built at Lilac with National elevator agent, Bud Warren, as engineer. The labour was provided by local residents. The rink was opened December 28, 1945 when the first game was curled. Nine individuals bought their own pair of curling rocks and let them be used by other curlers until some years later when the Curling Club bought matched rocks. In 1954, the men laid a foundation and papered the rink. Later a waiting room with kitchen facilities and a water storage cistern were built. Regular draws were held afternoon and evening and each year the Club had an Open Bonspiel. The last Bonspiel was held in 1968 with Rex Warren of Speers winner of the first event and the Tom Wade Memorial Trophy. There was lots of good curling both on the ice and behind the glass. The building was sold to Ted Welford who later sold sections to Henry Welford, Art Reiley, Tom Caldwell and David Johnston who used them to make garages on their farms. Mayfair Curling Club bought the rocks.

Lilac Softball Team

In 1945, Lilac organized a softball team which took part in local Sports Days at Ruddell, Denholm, Speers, Richard, Maymont, etc. Some of those who played on the team in the first years were: Harvey and Guy Parent (brothers), Kenneth and Grant Reid (cousins), Wes and Cliff Gillatt (brothers), Robert and George Patterson (brothers), Bill and Ted Welford (brothers), Art Foulston, Len Ebach, Stuart Reiley, Lloyd and Johnny Bulmer (father and son).



Lilac Softball Team. (l-r) Back — Ted Welford, Art Foulston, Guy Parent, Lawrence Beierle, Bill Welford, Wes Gillatt. Front — Ken Reid, Harvey Parent, Robert Patterson.

Other Lilac Organizations
Eastside and Westside Snowplow Clubs

As cars and trucks became more prevalent and people wished to travel all year round the need was greater for open roads in the winter. This was before the roads were built to the standards of today. Also at that time the R.M.'s were not involved in plowing snow. Therefore the Snowplow clubs were born. A few families grouped together, purchased a snowplow and the man who operated the plow received some wages. The Eastside Club attempted to keep the roads east of Lilac open while the Westside Club worked on the West roads. Occasionally the Schmidt Family Plow was hired. These clubs gradually fell into disuse especially when school bus routes were started and the Municipalities took on the responsibility of plowing the roads.

Lilac U.C.W.

To aid and financially support the Ruddell United Church, the Lilac U.C.W. was organized on August 9, 1962, and disbanded at the end of 1966 when the Ruddell church was closed. Some of the members of the group were: Mary Mabey, Nellie Welford, Enid Reid, Charlotte Gillatt, Ida Gillatt, Olive Gillatt, Mary Moffat, Elsie Beierle, Thelma Nedowin.

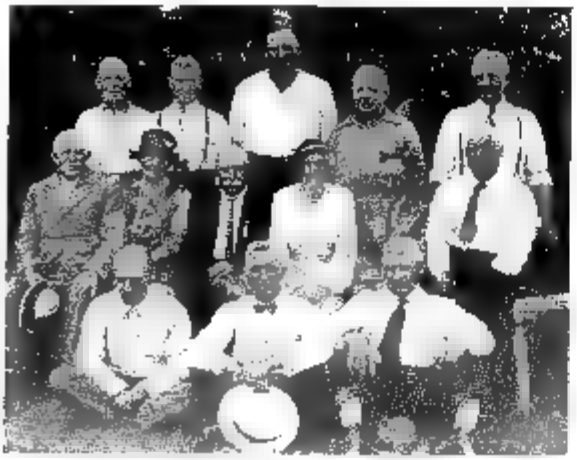
Lilac Social Club

No history of the Lilac area would be complete without some mention of the Social Club. We were unable to secure any factual information as the members were no longer able to be contacted. However we do know the Club members (wives and husbands) took turns meeting at the various homes for an evening of fun and relaxation. This was during the early and depression years. No doubt it helped to pass the long winters as well as helped to prevent loneliness.

Reminiscences, and a Tribute to the Thirties in Lilac, Saskatchewan

Eric Wright

I have always been intrigued by Oliver Goldsmith's **Deserted Village**, which has a touch of nostalgia and the coloring of hindsight. Two years ago I stood on the spot where St. Mary's church had been, and I felt again the welling of the respect I have always felt for these good people.



(l-r) Back row — O. S. Harper, Dave Arnold, J. Voigt, Geo. Negus, Chas. Murison. 2nd row — Mr. and Mrs. J. Bowden, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Mabey, H. Welford. Front row — E. Whitlaw, J. Arnold, J. White.

Since living in the Peace River country, three years service in the Canadian Army in World War II, and 32 years living, and serving parishes, in the U.S.A. the pleasant thoughts of, and the respect for these fine people has not diminished.

It was early May, 1932 when I first took charge of the Anglican churches of Denholm, Lilac and Baljennie. These were "the depression years", but the human spirit was far from depressed. I was to have the pleasure of meeting, and in many cases staying in the homes, of many of the finest of the human race. The Harry Turner's, Jack Dow's, George Mabey's, Harry Welford's, Bill Agar's, Wilf Baker's, Judges, Reisengers, Dan Scott's, J. Swans, and Miss Lewis the teacher, names of families which had some connection with the church.

I recall visiting in the Tom Caldwell home a few days after a new baby was born and it was very important to Mrs. Caldwell that I held her baby. I recall Weir Klassen riding horseback to Ruddell, to get to High School — discussion of merits of the "one way" disk as contrasted with the plow — and the importance of "the cream cheque". The church was tiny but since most families came regularly the little church was crowded. In the winter I returned once per month for Service taking the train from Saskatoon to Ruddell.

Although then was not the affluence of these latter days, then was the indomitable spirit of the human race, to keep their church and not be overwhelmed by the affairs of this life.

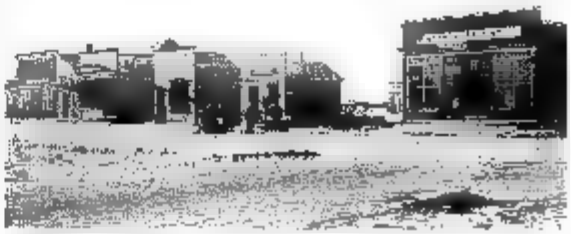
For these statements I pray often "Rest eternal grant them O Lord . . . May they rest in peace". For those who are still here, and for those still to come, I pray that the example of fortitude and certainty may inspire all in the issues which are eternal.

The Village of Maymont

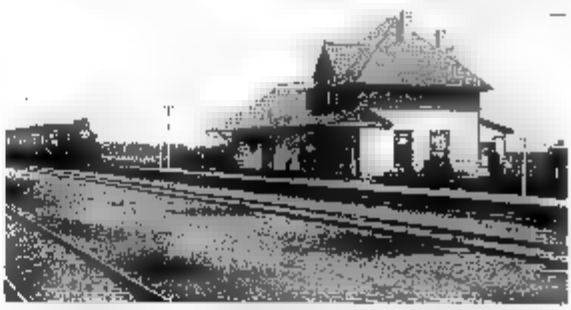
submitted by Dorothy Crawley

The village of Maymont is located five miles north of the North Saskatchewan River between the cities of North Battleford to west and Saskatoon to the east. It has the distinction of being situated at the highest point above sea level on the Canadian National Railway line between Winnipeg and North Battleford, elevation 1,941 feet.

Maymont was named after May Montgomery, niece of Mr. McKenzie of McKenzie and Mann, contractors who built the Canadian National Railway through this area in 1905. From the village the landscape slopes gently to the river and its valley. The river, which in the early days proved both a boon and an obstacle — depending on the season — is now spanned by a bridge and the valley cradles Glenburn Regional Park. The recently constructed No. 376 highway running north and south, passes through the village and crosses highway No. 16 as it continues north. The latter highway which by-passes the village was the old No. 1 and is now part of the Yellowhead Route.



Early View of Maymont.



Maymont Station with passenger train coming in.

Incorporated into a village of twenty-one householders in 1907, Maymont has never reached the stature of a town — population being two hundred at present — but on the whole it is a progressive and community-minded centre. There are three churches, a twelve-room school with gym and resource centre, two general stores, two halls, hotel, post-office, a new municipal building which houses the office of the Rural Municipality of Mayfield No. 406 and the branch of the Canadian-Imperial Bank of Commerce, a Sports Centre, a branch of the Lakeland Regional Library, a Pool elevator complex, a Senior Citizen's Recreation Centre, a Ceramic building, and the newest acquisition, a ten-unit Senior Citizen's Housing Project.

Wheat coming into Maymont somewhere between 1905 and 1908.

Within the last few years numerous modern houses have been built in the village and thirteen mobile homes brought in. The entire village is serviced by a sewer and water system, besides a soft water system for gardens, piped in from nearby dugouts.

Religious, social, educational and sports activities are all prominent in the village and surrounding area. If it can be said that Maymont leans a little more toward one activity than another, it would probably be in sports. Down through the years horse-racing, football, broomball, tennis, hockey, curling, baseball, golf, track and field events, have all played their part in the development of the community.

In 1980 Maymont will celebrate its seventy-fifth consecutive annual Sports Day. Though now it is mostly a ball tournament, it still draws a large crowd, being the first one of the season each year.

The years have produced many good ball and hockey teams and curling foursomes. In 1976 a team from Maymont won the Provincial Junior Fastball Championship. In 1978 Maymont hosted the Regional Winter Games — three days of exciting competition.

We are justly proud of any and all community effort — one for example is the cemetery clean-up. Four or five times a year during the summer months a crowd gathers to cut, rake, trim, dig and level — to make the cemetery a spot to be proud of. Then you know what the song writer meant when he wrote 'Everything is Beautiful in it's own Way'.

There's an old cliche that says "A man is known by the company he keeps". Perhaps we could say that a village or town can be judged by the number of folks who have chosen to live and work for years within its boundaries — a doctor who chose to carry on his practice and live out his life here, a minister who continued his ministry here for thirty-seven years, a station agent who had many years of seniority but who preferred to remain in Maymont, a teacher who taught and lived here for twenty-five years, another for twenty years, a telephone operator who worked at the switchboard for thirty-one years, a store manager who made the village his home for most of his life, nine couples who have celebrated golden wedding anniversaries here.

We hope many more folk will continue to think of Maymont as a good place to live and will work to keep it so.

Banks

The first bank in Maymont was the Northern Crown Bank, opened in 1910 in the hotel. Later another building was erected on Lots 8 and 9, Block 4, north of the hotel. In 1914 the Northern Crown amalgamated with Crown Bank. The latter sold to the Royal Bank of Canada.

The first bank manager was Mr. Trotter followed respectively by Messrs. Hales, Regan, Moffatt and Griffin.

In 1925 the business was purchased by the Imperial Bank and Maymont was operating as a sub-branch to Fielding, Saskatchewan. The manager was A. MacMillan. It was established as an independent branch in 1929.

Inside the bank when it was in the hotel. Richard Brehon and Tom Arnott.

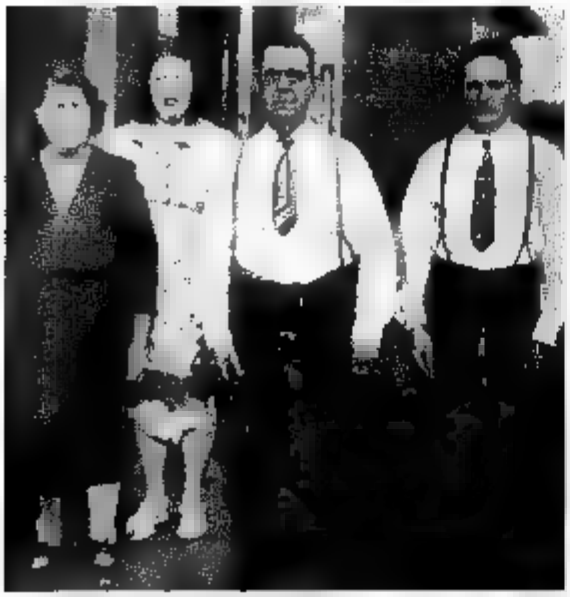
The following were the bank managers from that time to the present.

1929-1941 — H. B. McLeish
1941-1945 — A. J. Riches
1945-1961 — L. J. Bergman
1961-1965 — L. Schmidt
1966-1971 — R. J. Wedel
1971-1973 — D. J. A. Wourms
1973 to present — W. K. Sherlock

On December 2, 1976 the bank business was moved kitty-corner across the street into part of the new R.M. Complex. The facilities are bright and roomy with all the modern conveniences. People do their banking business now in an air-conditioned, carpeted building, a great change from the days when the Northern Crown Bank was situated in the hotel.

Black Smith Shops

In 1906 Mr. Rob Davidson built the first blacksmith shop with Mr. J. McKenzie as his partner. A year later Mr. Davidson bought Mr. McKenzie's interest. In 1912 he sold his business and the year following the business was sold to Mr. F. Anderson who shortly after sold it to Mr. Harkness. The following year he sold out to Mr. McBratney and his son. In 1919 the business was sold to Mr. Hugh Harkness, who continued until 1927 when Mr. Kaemstedt became the owner. The business was again sold to Mr. J. Hutchison who operated it until 1960.



L. to r. — Mrs. Hutchison, Mabel, Mr. Joe Hutchison, Howard. Mr. Hutchison was the blacksmith in Maymont for many years. Picture taken about 1960.

In 1908 Mr. A. Varachek operated another shop but was in business for only a year.

Beauty Parlors

Mrs. Anger operated a beauty parlor in connection with her husband's barber shop. Mrs. Ida Hickman and Mrs. Ed Prynallt both had beauty shops for short periods in Merrell's Drug Store and Maymont Hotel respectively. Mrs. Prynallt and Mrs. Evelyn Reid did hairdressing in their homes for many years.

In 1962 Mrs. Evelyn Bates opened a Hairdressing Shop in her home and still operates it.

Barber Shops and Poolrooms

Mr. Jim Patterson built the first barber shop and poolroom in 1907 (the building which is now the Foursquare Church). He was succeeded by his son Gordon and later followed by Mr. A. Anger, Mr. Knight, and Mrs. Anger. Mr. Broom operated a poolroom and barber shop in the premises once called the 'Tea Cup Inn', and also across the street in the old cafe. Mr. Badowsky ran a poolroom in this building also. Mr. Frank Feeley owned the building at one time and made it into two residences, one in the front of the building and one in the back.

The old cafe was demolished in 1973.

Stump Brothers operated a poolroom in Mr. Ward's restaurant for a time.

Mr. Bill Sowden also operated a poolroom in the hotel.

Mr. Harold Greenslade operated a poolroom for a time where his M&M store now is. A barber came once a week.

The only pool tables in Maymont are now in the Senior Citizen's Centre, and a barber still comes one night a week, also one in the hotel.

Business Places

The first store in Maymont District was operated by Mr. F. T. McCorkle at his farm home north of Maymont. Supplies were hauled from Saskatoon.

In 1905 the first general store in the village was operated by Mr. Digman and Mr. McLean in a shack south of the present Maymont C.N.R. station.

The same year Mr. E. W. Bean had lumber hauled from Radisson and built the first store on the north side of the track. The store was built before the railroad came through, and was opened for business early in 1905. The first Post Office conducted it's business in this store and Mr. Bean was the assistant postmaster.

Mr. Bean was killed in an accident in 1907 and the business was operated by his wife Mrs. Alice Bean, with the assistance of the following managers: Mr. G. M. Martin, Mr. H. McDougal, Mr. W. Philpot and her son Alan Bean. The latter had acted as manager since 1925. Mrs. Bean died in 1949 and Alan carried on the business in the original store until Jan., 1958, was purchased by Mr. Maurice VanDerHaegen and dismantled.

The store now operated by Mr. Rodney Munn was built in 1906 by Mr. John Reid and Mr. John McLaren, operating until approximately 1917 when Mr. Patterson bought the business.

Mr. Jim Reid had the original butcher shop in the basement of this store. There were other butcher shops in the village from time to time. Managers were Mr. Russell, Mr. A. Dementer, Mr. Friesen, Mr. R. Anger, Mr. Werb, Mr. Lane, Messrs. Merkley and Lane, Mr. Friedman, Mr. Johnston, and Mr. Ted Saunders.

Mr. Ken DeLong built and opened the first locker plant in Maymont during the fall of 1948. It was in operation until 1971.

A third general store was opened in the early years in the hotel by Mr. Werb. He sold the business to Mr. J. Margolin. The latter sold it to Mr. Newbeiger. Mr. Werb rebought the business and sold it again to Mr. Merkely. Mr. Merkely took Mr. Lane into partnership and moved the business across the street and bought Mr. J. Patterson's business. Later Mr. Werb bought out Merkley and Lane. Mr. H. Friedman then bought the business and later sold it to Mr. N. Friedman. He sold it to Mr. L. Karpan. Mr. Karpan sold to Mr. Ted Saunders in 1950. Ted retired because of ill health and in Jan./73 sold the store to Mr. Rodney Munn who now operates it as the Lucky Dollar Store.

Bridal Showers

There have been bridal showers in Maymont for more years than a lot of care to remember, and they've always been a great help for any girl starting in to keep house. In this community, showers have grown from a small gathering at a friend's home to a town shower held in the Legion Hall — and now to a community affair held in the Memorial Hall to accomodate the crowd that attends.

Friends of the bride-to-be family form a committee, usually numbering ten or twelve, have a meeting, arrange programs and lunch and give out lists of names to each committee member to be phoned re: date of shower, etc. Though some people perfer to give individual gifts, most leave a donation of money at one of the two stores and the buying committee chooses suitable gifts from those stores.

Though it is optional whether one gives or attends, there is more often that not, a fine response — everyone giving to every bride.

Looking through the records we note that since 1948 there hasn't been a year without a bride or brides. In 1949, '62 and '64 there was only one bride, but in 1955 there were nine and in 1975 and in 1979 there were eight.

Real showery years!

Bridge at Maymont

For many years people of the farming areas south of the Saskatchewan River had to wait on the river to freeze over to take their produce to the elevators in Maymont and Radisson. Many of the winter tales were told of the oxen slipping off the built-up roads and the result often a broken wagon tongue or other troubles. The farmers often had to stay at someone's place over night as the freezing temperatures and long hauls were hard on man and beast. How they must often have longed for a bridge or more permanent way of getting to their market as there were no elevators at Sonningdale or Baljennie.

Long before the ferry service was in use at Maymont there were ferries at Baljennie or Denholm, Spinney Hill and Fielding. These were in use for many years. It wasn't until 1926 that the Maymont Crossing was first put into operation.

The river was a gathering place for so many occasions. There were picnics, church services, just swimming, and good times. The cranberry picking parties along the river were always fun and profitable — so area people have always enjoyed the North Saskatchwan River.

The ferry service was very good, when conditions were right for crossing, but still the pioneers on both sides of the river must have had many a meeting to try and get a bridge built for an all-weather road to their bank, their markets, church and sporting events.

The Maymont Crossing has a lively and colourful history. The river often tested the resourcefulness and determination of the residents of the area. Even when the survey crews came to try and find the right place for the bridge, it was hard to find the best crossing.

Actual planning for the bridge began in Regina in 1973 and 1974. Construction crews moved onto the bridge site in August, 1974.

There was much excitement among residents on both sides who watched the bridge progress through the two years of construction. Cana Engineering of Calgary were the major construction outfit with various other contractors handling the approach work, sub-grade construction, and oil treating, paving the approach roads and bridge deck. The final cost of the project was approximately $3.1 million.

The bridge over the North Saskatchewan was completed on October 9, 1975 and the ferry was pulled from the river on October 28, 1975.

The official opening was on June 20, 1976 with government officials Honorable Allen Blakeney, premier of Saskatchewan, and Honorable Eiling Kramer, M.L.A. for the Battlefords, and Minster of Highways and Transportation in attendance along with other officials. A beef barbeque was enjoyed by a large crowd.

The bridge has already become a fast and easy means of crossing the river and one only wishes our fathers, mothers and all could have had it so easy.

The Bridge Builder
An old man, going a lone highway,
Came at the evening, cold and gray,

To a chasm, vast and deep and wide,
Through which was flowing a sullen tide.
The old man crossed ■ the twilight dim; The sullen stream had no fears for him;
But he turned when safe on the other side
And built a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim near,
"You are wasting strength with building here;
Your journey will end with the ending day;
You never again must pass this way;
You have crossed the chasm, deep and wide,
Why build you at the eventide?"

The builder lifted his old gray head,
"Good friend, in the path I have come," he said
"There followeth after me today
A youth whose feet must pass this way.
This chasm that had been naught to me
To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be.
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim;
Good friend, I am building the bridge for him."
Will Allen Drumgoole.

Dentist

(from previous history)

At one time Maymont even boasted a dentist. In 1906 Dr. J. M. Fry opened an office and practised dentistry for a year or two in the building which later became the first Municipal Office.

Drug Store

(from previous history)

Dr. J. R. Scratch had the first drug store. It was later purchased by Mr. Mawhinney, who sold it to Mr. Bob Merrel. Mr. Mawhinney rebought the business and sold ■ again to Mr. Hope, who finally closed the business. The building was purchased by Mr. Frank Langley and made into a residence.

Garages and Gasoline Bowsers

The first garage was owned and operated by Mr. Norman Buckly, which was complete with gasoline bowser, was located on the east side of Main Street. This site was occupied with a garage and bowsers until 1959. Mr. Buckly took Robert Downing into partnership with him in 1918. After operating for sometime Mr. Buckly sold his share of the business to Mr. John Thrower and moved to Vancouver, B.C. Mr. Downing and Mr. Thrower continued with their garage and oil business until Mr. Thrower sold out to Mr. R. Morrow. Mr. Morrow sold out to his partner Mr. R. Downing and moved to Cloverdale, B.C.

Mr. Downing now expanded his business to include a lighting plant and supplied light to the business section and several homes in the village. Mr. ■. Downing decided to move to Chilliwack, B.C. and he sold his business to Mr. ■. T. McCorkle, who operated the garage and lighting plant until he sold out to Johnson Bros. ■ 1941, who ■ turn sold to Mr. Jack Cash. Around this time the Saskatchewan Power Corporation bought the power plant and brought their power lines into the village.

Mr. J. Cash sold his garage to Mr. Louis Karpan who completely rebuilt it into a first class garage in 1948. Mr. Karpan ran the business there until 1959, and the building was then torn down.

Mr. Karpan built a first class Esso station on the north side of the highway with modern living quarters, restrooms and lunch counter, surrounded with nicely landscaped grounds. He ran the business until 1968 then sold to Imperial Oil. Gordon Leach purchased it from Imperial Oil and ran it until he sold to Mr. Ray Jordan. Ray Jordan sold to Ray and Randall Garner in 1979 and they are now operating the business.

On the west side of Main Street Mr. J. D. Blacklock operated a bowser for many years in connection with his hardware store and I.H.C. implement agency. Another bowser was operated on the west side of Main Street by Mr. N. Cornish for some time (the spot where the Locker Plant stood).

On 1st Avenue West of Main Street ■ 1931, Mr. Ed Buhr built a garage and did garage work and oil sales. Also on 1st Avenue West Mr. Fred Porter and sons Sheridan and Freddy operated ■ bowser and oil sales ■ connection with their John Deere Agency. They sold ■ Mr. Sam Keeler, who then sold to Mr. James Rogers, who was the agent for all Imperial Oil products. Jimmy Rogers operated the business until his death in 1970.

On the corner of Main St. and 1st Avenue East, Mr. Tom Woods built a service station and garage in 1936. Mr. Woods was agent for all North Star Oil products, and ran it until he sold it to Mr. Lloyd Parker who ran it for a time.

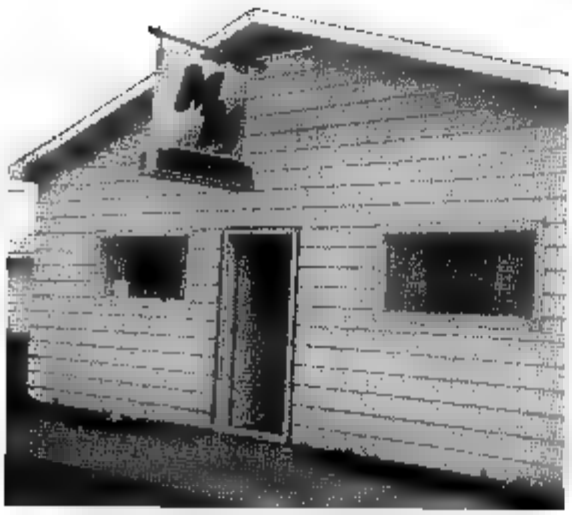
Mr. Louis Karpan built another service station on the south side of the highway in 1960. This was run as White Rose but was later changed to Shell. Mr. Karpan sold to Lloyd Parker in 1965. Lloyd operated it until he moved to Surrey, B.C. It is quite surprising the number of Maymont garage operators who moved to British Columbia! Mr. Everett Sherman rented the garage for a time.

A new highway was going through slightly further south and the service station had to be moved. It was sold by tender to Mr. George Brehon who moved the building to his farm in 1977, to be used as a workshop.

Hardware and Grocery Store

Mr. Coneth and Mr. Stepler opened a hardware business in the present site of Greenslade's M & M store. The business closed for a period and for a short time Mr. Warden operated a confectionary store in the same building.

In 1918 the hardware store was reopened by Mr. J. D. Blacklock. In 1945 Maurice Van Der Haegan bought



Greenslade M and M store, 1979.

out Mr. J. D. Blacklock and started International Harvester machinery business along with a hardware store. Mr. Blacklock continued to work in the store until his retirement. Other employees were Brian Coleman, Brenton Nutbrown, Hubert Brumbaugh and Harold Greenslade.

In 1958 Mr. Van Der Haegan bought out the Alan Bean General store and moved it all into one store. Eventually the Bean store was torn down.

The late Chester Buell was hired as manager of the store (grocery department), a position he held until 1966 when he moved to North Battleford.

In the fall of 1966 Mr. Van Der Haegan retired from business. Part of the store was moved to the Van Der Haegan farm — the other part torn down and the remaining building sold to Harold Greenslade who operated a POOL ROOM for 4½ years. The winter of 1974-75 Harold and Gordon Johnston both built furniture for family and friends. In July 17, 1975 Mr. and Mrs. Harold Greenslade opened a grocery, meat and Hardware store under the name of Greenslade's M & M family store and it still is in operation. June, 1979 the Saskatchewan Bus has made the store their depot.

Imperial Hotel

In the summer and fall of 1906, Mr. Mike Tynan built the hotel. In 1907 Duncan Gillespie operated the hotel for about one year. In May 1908, Tynan sold to Mr. Bill Sowden. In June 1909 Mr. Claud Sowden purchased an interest and the hotel was run as Sowden Bros. In 1911 Sowden Bros. sold to Brink and Pernala. Shortly after this Mr. W. B. Sowden took over the interest of Mr. Brink and the hotel was run as Sowden and Pernala.

In the spring of 1913 the hotel was sold to Mr. A. D. M. Home. In the spring of 1914 he sold to a Mr. Benstead. In the fall of 1914 Sowden and Pernala took over the hotel and started a poolroom. In the fall of 1915 Mr. W. [illegible] Sowden took over Mr. Stan Pernala's interest and ran the hotel for many years, except for eight months when it was rented to Robt. Hunt, and one month it was rented to Mr. Harry Cornish.

Bill Sowden in 'Beer Parlor' of Maymont hotel.

In 1946 Mr. Frank Feeley purchased the hotel.

Hotel managers since 1946 have been:
Bill Lekstrom and Myles McDonald
Bill Kanz and Dennis Remoshylo
John Zimmer
Lee Burnett

In January 1978 Glen Boyd purchased the hotel. Mr. Boyd rented the restaurant to Peter Kwan for one year. [illegible] is presently rented to Mr. Raymond Guy.

The bar in the hotel was redecorated in July 1979 giving it a more modern appearance.

Livery and Feed Barns

The first livery and feed stable was built in Maymont by Mr. Asa Noakes in the early spring of 1905.

August, 1905, Rev. J. C. Madill built a livery and feed barn where the home of Mr. Louis Karpan now stands.

In the spring of 1907 Melrose Bros. built another just east of Mr. Frances Ducharmes present residence. They bought the other barn from Rev. J. C. Madill and took Andrew Reid into partnership.

In 1911 Melrose Bros. and Reid sold the barns to A. D. Melrose and J. M. Vessey. The barn built by Rev. J. C. Madill was burned in Oct. 1913, with the loss of 14 head of horses (one team was valued at $1,200.00), also all harness and feed.

In the spring of 1914 J. M. Vessey bought the interest of A. D. Melrose and in the spring of 1915 sold the barn to Mr. Frank Gillatt. In 1920 Frank Gillatt sold the barn to Christfield and Martin. In the spring of 1922 the barn was burned. They built another one just east of where the burned one stood.

In 1925 Mr. J. [illegible]. Martin purchased the interest of

Mr. H. Christfield and in the spring of 1927 Mr. J. M. Martin sold to Mr. Mustoway. In 1928 Mr. Mustoway sold to Mr. E. Sykes. Mr. Sykes sold to Mr. ■. Broom in 1950. The time was almost over for the need of a livery barn by then. Mr. Broom used it some the first winter he had it. He then dismantled it and used the material for other purposes.

Lumber Yards

(from previous history)

Mr. E. W. Bean had the first stock of lumber in Maymont. He sold out to Mr. F. T. McCorkle who operated the lumber yard for many years. Rev. J. C. Madill and Mr. John Nugent owned lumber yards. By 1908 Mr. McCorkle had the only lumber business. He continued until 1942 when the stock was sold to Wentz Lumber Co. of Saskatoon, and the yard was closed.

Later, Mr. Antonenko built a lumber yard on the site ■ Mr. Wes Rolfes house now the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Dykstra. Later he moved the business to the corner lot south of the Foursquare Church. He also built a grocery store here which closed at the end of the year.

The Maymont Beef Ring

submitted by Margaret Strautman

In 1914 a group of farmer's formed a "Beef Ring" ■ provide themselves with fresh meat each week during the summer months — May through October. It included families ■ the areas south to Maymont, west to Lilac, north to Richard and east to Speers.

A slaughterhouse was built on the farm of Tom Sawyer — a butcher from the old country (England). Each week, for twenty-four weeks, a two year old steer weighing from 450-600 pounds was taken on a Thursday to the Sawyer farm ■ be slaughtered, cut and divided into twenty-four shares. Each shareholder delivered an animal on his specified week, and by the end of the season would have received all the cuts from one whole animal. Some took half shares with a neighbor and would ■ responsible for delivery of an animal every other year.

Meat shares were packed unwrapped in clearly marked flour sacks. Each Saturday morning, before the heat of the day, members took turns delivering meat ■ their respective areas. Housewives would then be busy putting larger cuts in the ice-house, poorer cuts were pickled and put in crocks ■ the basement, extra was canned in sealers for use at a later date.

The last four years the "Beef Ring" operated, Billy Andrew took over the butchering as Tom Sawyer had retired to the village of Maymont. Families were now growing up and moving away, fewer men were hired on the family farm, and electricity was now available for refrigeration. The "Beef Ring" was disbanded ■ 1948 — recorded as being the oldest organization of its kind in the province — having been in operation for 34 years.

Maymont Cemetery and Cemetery Clean-Up Day

submitted by Dorothy Crawley

Maymont Cemetery and Clean-up day have been mentioned elsewhere in this book, but perhaps we may be permitted to add to the story for the sake of history. There are very few folk left with any memory of the beginnings, but we were pleased when Mr. Stanley Bohn now ■ his 83rd year was able to contribute some information.

Maymont Cemetery.

The first cemetery was located on the late James J. Reid homestead N.E. 20, 41, 12, now owned by M. Becton. As the village grew, so did the need for a permanent location for the cemetery, so in 1907 two acres of land were acquired from the late Alfred Hawkins — one acre donated and one purchased. A number of years later another acre was bought from his son, John. The two acres were surveyed in 1908, a Cemetery Board named and eight graves moved from the first cemetery. Frank Bohn, Stanley's father was the first person to be buried in the new cemetery in 1908.

For a number of years little was done in the way of up-keep and improvement of the cemetery. Then in 1922 Maymont Homemakers' Club was organized and ■ the same year the club named a committee to work with the Cemetery Board in planning ■ program of beautifying the grounds. The next year much work was accomplished and it was then that it was decided to have a Cemetery Clean-up Day as an annual event.

A quick scan through the Homemakers' record books show that through the years the club assisted many times and many ways in the way of improvements (e.g.) planting and care of trees, erecting of a building to house tools, etc., sharing in the cost of

hauling cinders and later gravel for roadways and walks, and in the installing of permanent gates.

In the early days of scythe and just plain hand work clean-up day, usually held in July, was a long strenuous day. Sometimes it began in the morning and went on into the afternoon, at which times everyone brought a picnic lunch and tea and coffee were provided by the Homemakers and Committee. After the work was done the annual meeting was held on the grounds everyone attending and taking part in the discussions and decisions.

In 1940 the Cemetery Board ceased to be when the Village Council took over the management of the cemetery, appointing a committee to deal with any problems encountered.

Now thirty-nine years later — from scythes to gas and tractor mowers, there is still a cemetery clean-up day and the council is still responsible for appointing a committee; this year's being, Chester Miller, Stanley Bohn and Franklin Mohler.

This year 1979 as arranged by the Women's Institute there were four days, — the last Tuesday in each month — May, June, July and August.

Willing hands of dedicated and community minded people, both men and women, make short work of the task nowadays and in an hour or so they leave the cemetery a place to be proud of.

Maymont Ferry Crossing

The Maymont Ferry Crossing served the public for fifty years. It was established in 1926 with Jack Patterson and Ole White as operators. They ran the service for one year.

Rueben Johnson who had worked on the ferry crew, took over in 1927 and continued until the fall of 1930. He and his wife moved to Borden where he continued to operate the ferry at that point until the Borden Bridge was finished in 1936.

During the six years that Rueben was in Borden, William Mansell, Stanley Bright and also Bill Johnson of Langham operated the ferry. The ferry families lived in homes down by the river. While Rube was on the Borden Ferry he got caught in a winding gear and injured his arm. He was in the hospital off and on for a long time until he finally was sent to Winnipeg, Manitoba where a doctor grafted a bone from his leg to his arm. He was able to return to Maymont Ferry where he and Eldon Barr worked as a team for many years.

First ferry at Maymont.

Raymond (Bud) Ward started working in 1958. He, Gerald Padgett, and John Dahl worked with Rube at various times until Rube retired.

Bob Bell and Bud became ferrymen in 1962.

Rube was a popular, obliging fellow and when he retired in 1962 the community showed their appreciation by holding a celebration and presented Rube with a reclining chair and Mrs. Johnson with a pole lamp. They had a house in the river hills and here their family made their home. Their family was Gladys (Mrs. L. Milman of Richard), Bernice (Mrs. Adolph Ducharme of Maymont) Shirley (Mrs. Henry Wood of Ruddell) Phyliss (Mrs. Wakelin of N. Battleford) and one son, Albert, who with wife Zena, four sons, and one daughter still makes his home in Maymont.

In the early days a ferryman's life was not an easy one. His home was poorly made of planks, tar paper and laths. The ferry was handcranked with a winding cable. The hours were long, no set time for meals, no shifts because it took two men to operate the ferry.

Sometimes the ferry would get stuck on a sandbar and it would take hours to free it. The salary was just $2.50 a day and after midnight the ferryman charged twenty-five cents a car and driver, and ten cents per person for crossing. These fees went to the operator.

Ice jams and spring floods would wash out the approaches and loads of stone were needed for repairs to the damage.

Sometimes two ferries were necessary for a crossing. One conveyed passengers to the Sandbar in midriver, you crossed this to board a second ferry that took you to the other side. Eventually the water got so low that even this wasn't feasible. The ferry was disconnected from the cable entirely and propelled across the river by two outboard motors fastened to the edge of the ferry apron. This was fairly satisfactory except that only one end of the ferry could be used for loading and unloading; hence a vehicle had to either drive on and back off or back on and drive off.

Arnold Agaard joined "Bud" in 1966 and they operated an eight hour shift. Webb Hanlon and Chris Newbort also substituted when necessary. Many conveniences have been added throughout the years to improve working conditions. A gas engine replaced handcranking, then the diesel engine and next the hydraulic lift which made operating the ferry far easier. Ferrymen's homes became modern and the salary improved to the extent it provided a comfortable livelihood. Fees for crossing after midnight increased to $3.00.

"Bud" served as ferryman for fourteen years and Arnold for nine. Bud and Alice Ward and two daughters, Marlene and Janice, as well as Arnold took

an active part in their community. Alice made the grounds around the ferry home a beautiful place to see, with lovely flowers.

When the ferry closed the Wards were transferred to Cecil Ferry, twelve miles or so east of Prince Albert.

A great convenience to Maymont and Sonningdale area, the ferry operated during the spring, summer and fall; except when winds were high and crossing was hazardous. In winter people crossed the river on the ice, at their own risk — usually a path was staked out on either side of a road when the ice was thick enough.

When freezing ice or ice break up during fall and spring prevented the crossing, a box pulled across on the hand operated cable from one tower to the other across the river was used. This was often how Doc Scratch visited his patients on the south side. He would then drive Rube's car, or be met by someone and taken to the patient's home — Mrs. Bill Mansell often went with him as she was a local midwife.

The Maymont Ferry made its last crossing October 27th, 1975 and it was pulled from the icy waters on the North Saskatchewan on October 28. The ferry was eventually loaded on a truck and transported to Wingard.

Maymont Library

On October 28, 1970 the village of Maymont passed a by-law to establish a library in a small building on lot 21, block 5, west of the United Church.

Mrs. Sharon Boyd was elected as the first librarian with volunteer assistants.

Books came from the Provincial Library in Regina. In August, 1972 the Maymont Library joined the Regional Library System and became branch No. 6 of the Lakeland Library Region.

Mrs. Catherine Karpan became head librarian with Mrs. Nellie Curry and Mrs. Gladys Brehon as assistants. The first board members were Rev. F. Myers, Mr. Dan Wourms, Mr. Harvey Johnston, Mrs. Gladys Brehon, Mrs. Catherine Karpan, and Mrs. Betty Mohler.

In January, 1976 it was decided the small building was inadequate so plans were made for a larger space. The old locker plant building was renovated and room was left in the front for new library facilities.

This was an exciting time for the librarians and board members, visiting the new facilities, measuring for curtains, planning spaces for the furniture and places for book boxes and storage.

Books and other library materials were moved to the new location in March, 1976.

The library was officially opened in Nov. 1976 with Mr. Dennis Banda, M.L.A. cutting the ribbon.

The library is used for craft displays, community college classes, meetings and story hours. The story hour is held for children from 3 to 5 years. Story hour leaders have been Sharon Harris, Eva Greenslade and the present leader is Mrs. Cathie McLeod. There are usually from five to fifteen children in attendance.

Each summer holidays a summer reading program is held for children fourteen years and under. Each year there is a different theme. In 1978, 21 children took part in the program.

The library makes use of the "Talking Books" service provided by the Provincial Library and the C.N.I.B. These are stories in cassette form and are available to people who are unable to read printed books because of poor eyesight.

There are always Large Print Books in the branch for those who cannot read the finer print.

The Maymont Branch has two books in its collection written by local residents.

To Find the Daily Bread — by Gerhard A. and Jacob H. Fast and Homestead Hardships — by Norman Andrew.

The Maymont Branch actively participates each year in different activities during Saskatchewan Library Week. Last year there were over 70 entries in the photography contest.

On June 1, 1977 Mrs. Catherine Karpan resigned as librarian and the position was filled by Mrs. Gladys Brehon. In Jan. 1979 Eva Greenslade became the assistant.

In 1978 there were 271 registered borrowers and 6,500 books and other materials were circulated.

Present board members are Gertie Sherman, Chairman, Mrs. Gladys Brehon, Secretary, Mrs. Charlotte Gillatt, Mrs. Betty Ferris, Mrs. Doreen Schmidt, Mrs. Cathie McLeod, and Mr. Harvey Johnston.

The board members undertook the task of compiling this book as a project to celebrate Saskatchewan's Diamond Jubilee in 1980.

We wish you pleasant and enjoyable reading.

Maymont Memorial Hall

The rehabilitation committee composed of twenty-two citizens called a public meeting on April 23, 1945, in the Orange Hall, to decide on a suitable war memorial. Of the many projects suggested at this meeting, the majority of citizens favoured the building of a hall which would be known as the Maymont Memorial Hall Co-operative Association Limited. Shares were sold at five dollars each and three lots were bought west of main street on Second Avenue where the hall still stands to this day.

The first officers for the Maymont Memorial Hall were president — Charles Randall, vice-president — George Holler, secretary-treasurer — Ken DeLong, and the directors were Colles Brehon, Thomas Turner, Herbert Johnston, Andrew Melrose, Tom Sawyer, and Clarence Reid.

Western Construction Co. were hired to dig the basement which they did free of charge. A bee was

Maymont Memorial Hall, 1979.

held, and local truckers hauled a considerable amount of gravel from a pit south of Fielding in return for which some truckers received gas and oil for their trucks. Gilbert and Wilson, Architects, of Saskatoon, were employed; and when plans were received, the directors and ten ladies met to study and discuss the plans and made what changes they felt should be made. After many trips between the architects' and the local committee, a plan for a building 40 ft. by 76 ft., with a full-sized basement, was agreed upon.

A real crew of men turned out in June, 1946, with trucks and a tractor to haul more gravel from a pit on the correction line south of Richard. A ramp was built so the trucks could be loaded using a tractor and slip, making it possible to haul a lot of gravel in short order.

A car of lumber had been ordered through the local lumberyard, owned at the time by Walter Antonenko, and iron rods for reinforcing the cement foundation were procured from people who had bought elevator annexes. Nails were procured wherever possible as they were in short supply at that time. A small barn was bought on the west side of town to store supplies which included a car load of cement. The barn was later sold when there was no longer any need of it.

Buildings were being dismantled at the North Battleford Airport so a local committee bought doors, windows and a large quantity of tongue and groove 2" by 6". While there, they were told by an official that there was a possibility of an H hut being for sale. This H hut consisted of two wings 24 ft. by 120 ft. long and a connecting section between the two measuring 24 ft. by 60 ft. long. The committee immediately applied for the building. Meanwhile during the next few months, the committee concentrated on raising funds through teas, bake sales, concerts, a white elephant sale and raffles. Various organizations donated money as did several individuals.

Finally word came from the Saskatchewan Reconstruction Corporation in Regina that the committee could purchase the hut. Immediately the committee held a meeting and decided to buy the hut with money loaned by private individuals. This money was later paid back in full or in part and some left as a donation, as the lenders wished.

Ken DeLong was appointed to take charge of the dismantling of the H hut, look after the sale of surplus materials and manage the construction of the Memorial Hall. The dismantling of the H hut began in August, 1947, with from two to seventeen men traveling to the North Battleford Airport every day to help. Each one took their own dinner, and tea was made there on a camp stove. The shingles were saved and bunched in a shingle press, made locally, and there were very few wasted. Work at the airport stopped the end of September for the winter and, at that time, all of one of the 120 ft. wings and all but one ply of lumber of the 60 ft. section had been dismantled.

A carpenter, Corney Buhr, of Langham, Sask. was hired with his son as a helper and, with additional volunteer labour, the forms for the foundation were set up. Then a bee was organized and the cement was poured in two days. When work stopped for the winter on November 10, the floor had been poured, the ground floor layed and the walls of the building were up with one ply of lumber on.

The ladies of the community were right there doing their part as well and saw that the men had coffee and lunch every day, which was always greatly appreciated.

By the end of 1947, funds had dwindled considerably, but there was a lot of material for sale.

Dismantling of the H hut began again the end of April, 1948, with plenty of volunteer labour as always. The roads were really terrible that spring; and since large portions of Hwy. 5 were under water, the men travelled to the airport via Hwy. 40. Work continued there until June, then the carpenter returned to Maymont and work began again on the Hall with Clarence Reid as manager. Help came teeming in, as always, with hammers and saws; and many who could not leave their own jobs hired some one to take their place.

Ed Buhr allowed the men to use his garage and tools and lent a hand to make bolts which were needed in quantity in the trestle work. Harold Curry, the local electrician, did the wiring of the hall, labour free, and Tom Sawyer supplied lighting fixtures.

Several ladies from various organizations discussed the plan for the kitchen. By November, 1948, the hall was far enough completed so that meetings could be held in it. At this time, three of our local citizens Louis Karpan, Morris Van Der Haeghen and Tom Sawyer bought a motion picture machine, complete, and sold it to the hall directors at cost, interest free, to be paid for from profits of shows. This arrangement proved very satisfactory.

Two used stoker furnaces provided heat for several years. A local citizen supplied the paint and a painting

bee was organized with both men and women working to paint the interior of the hall. A stage was built and one of the ladies' organizations supplied curtains for it and for the windows. Benches were built for seats for the auditorium and banquet room, and stoves and dishes were donated for the kitchen.

By the end of 1948 after $8,760.00 had been spent, we had a hall not entirely completed but well enough finished so that it could be used, and there was the whole sum of $239.50 in the bank!

A piano was needed and, as usual, a few individuals put up the money, then were paid back as funds became available.

The eaves troughs and one coat of stucco were put on in the fall of 1949, and the next year the stuccoing was finished and a flag pole put up.

One of the ladies' organizations donated four tables and another person paid for having the auditorium floor sanded. Former residents of Maymont now living in Manitoba donated an electric clock.

By 1951, there were several committees working for the hall in different ways — the Ladies Work Committee, the Entertainment Committee and the Ladies Improvement Committee. With the motion pictures and each of these committees bringing in a little money, it amounted to a lot at the end of the year. The other organizations in the community donated to the hall, as well, for which the directors were always most grateful.

During 1952, the directors and committees devoted most of their time and efforts towards furnishing the kitchen and paying off accumulated debts.

Early in 1953, an automatic electric oil furnace with a forced-air fan was installed at a sizeable amount of money, but thanks to an individual loan, the cost was taken care of and the loan paid back as money became available.

From that time on, the directors and hall committee have continued to add improvements and conveniences to make the hall function even better.

In the basement, sanitary toilets were installed in the ladies' rest room and were used for many years until the sewer and water were put in and flush toilets were installed.

Since extra kitchen space was needed, seven feet of space was taken off the end of the banquet room to enlarge the kitchen during the winter of 1956-57. A counter was built along a good portion of this wall, shelves were put up to set pies, etc., on and in time extra cupboards were built for the dishes. A wooden floor covered with linoleum was laid; and, in 1970, when the sewer and water were installed, two double sinks were installed. That was indeed a great day with no more need of carrying in water which had to be heated in boilers on the stoves and then the dirty water carried out again after the event was over. The plumbing was done by Earl Nutbrown, the local plumber at that time. New doors and locks were installed, the main doors having been built and hung in 1971; and, in 1976, regulations specified that panic bars were needed on the doors, so they were put on.

In 1958, a local store keeper supplied a good record player, at wholesale price, for teen dances but it did not prove to be what they wanted and years later the record player disappeared from the hall.

By 1963, a new floor was needed in the auditorium so a quanitity of used hardwood flooring was purchased from a contractor in Saskatoon. The floor was layed by Halewich and Sons of North Battleford, along with volunteer help. It was then sanded and painted with iron oil. Ten years later it was again sanded and given another coating of iron oil.

The tar and gravel coating on the flat portion of the roof gave a great deal of trouble for many years. Everytime there was a thaw or it rained the roof would leak; and although many methods of "patching" were tried, none were really successful for very long. So, in 1971, the directors bought a portion of the old curling rink, dismantled it, then used the lumber to build a low pitch roof over the flat portion of the hall roof, then shingled it with asphalt shingles. Helmer Nesseth was the carpenter assisted by volunteers.

Now that the roof was repaired, it was decided to tile the ceiling of the auditorium. Then, in 1973, the stage was redecorated with panel board and, in time, the main walls of the auditorium were repainted.

A large coffee percolator was donated to the hall kitchen, a ladies' group bought a second; and since there was a need for even a third larger percolator, the hall committee purchased a hundred cup size percolator. Some folks say you can't beat the flavour of coffee made in a boiler, but the perks sure simplify the making of a large quantity of coffee.

A great deal of catering is done by the various organizations for banquets, suppers, wedding receptions, etc., which requires a lot of table space. In 1974, the men built fourteen new tables with folding metal legs to replace the rather cumbersome table tops that were set up on three trestles each, an energy and time-consuming task. As the new tables were so nice, it was decided to buy stacking chairs to replace the old benches. Many folks donated the price of one or two chairs or more to help make it possible to buy a hundred and ten chairs; and then, in 1978, two groups donated enough money to buy another hundred chairs to fill the need in the banquet room and replace benches in the auditorium.

A used ten burner propane cook stove was bought and installed in the kitchen in 1976 to replace the two old faithful wood stoves. The gas stove had at one time been used at the Farm Camps and Co-op Schools at North Battleford.

In 1978, the hall was given a real spruce-up when the entire exterior was painted for the first time since it was built. What a wonderful improvement!

With the price of fuel getting so high, the directors, in an attempt to conserve heat, insulated the basement ceiling and some of the walls that had not been in-

sulated previously and covered them with plaster board. Since wood is no longer used, the partition was taken out so the wood room could be used for more kitchen space. The fuel tank was moved outside as well. Immediate plans are to insulate and line the furnace room to meet fire regulations.

This is the basic story of our Memorial Hall. No other centre in the community, however important or necessary, can serve as adequately as the hall. The continued support through donations and volunteer labour when needed proves how proud the people are of their hall and that they want to see it continue to operate.

The present directors of the hall are president — Harvey Johnston, secretary-treasurer — Colles Brehon (has served 34 years as a director), and the directors are Dale Beaudoin, George Brehon, Don Spence, Bill Melrose, George Tebay, Wilbur Peden, Roy Rogers and Ron Milman.

Maymont Rural Telephone Company

The organizational meeting of the Maymont Rural Telephone Company was held in Etonia School April 23rd, 1913. H. Christfield, B. Smith, H. G. Langley and Percy Knowles were appointed provisional directors with P. Knowles being secretary-treasurer. At the directors meeting which followed the organizational meeting, a motion was passed to employ A. E. Potter to canvas the district for telephone subscribers. He used his own horse and rig and was paid five dollars a day for two weeks.

The area of the telephone company had to be cut down to meet the requirements of the Department of Telephone which meant township 38 was cut off and those who had paid their shares had their money refunded.

Money was raised through the sale of debentures, then Murphy and Richardson were hired to build a complete telephone system, with a ten line switchboard according to the approved government plan. The work was to be completed by Sept. 15, 1914 at a cost of $8,500.

Delura Davis was hired as the first operator and was paid thirty dollars a month. The hours were from 7 A.M. to 8 P.M. during the week and 8 A.M. to 11 P.M. on Sundays.

SOUTH MAYMONT SUBSCRIBERS

BAILEY, R.	16r2	KIRKLAND, Wm.	14r12
BECKER, A. O.	15r14	MAYMONT FERRY CROSSING	11r13
BECKER, W. E.	15r31	MORGAN, W.	12r12
BULLEN, P.	16r13	MORGAN, Ted	13r21
CLOSE, Mrs. Roy	16r22	NIVEN, Gil (Store)	12r4
CORBIN, A.	16r12	NIVEN, Allan	15r4
CUSTER, D.	11r4	OWEN, Wm.	11r3
DALLOW, T.	16r23	PARKINSON, E.	15r11
DIXON, A.	16r14	PRICE, Ivy	16r11
FORSMAN, A.	16r21	ROSS, O.	15r22
FOUHY, E.	15r12	ROSS, Mrs. D.	11r2
FOUHY, A.	15r21	ROSS, Steele	13r3
GARDNER, F.	11r21	RUNNEY HILL SCHOOL	12r22
GUZIK, J.	11r14	SYHUT, P.	16r4
JOHNSON, Evelyn	11r23		
JOHNSON, A.	11r31		

Maymont Rural Telephone Co. is Growing — List New Subscribers Below!

1964

Maymont

RURAL TELEPHONE COMPANY

Directory

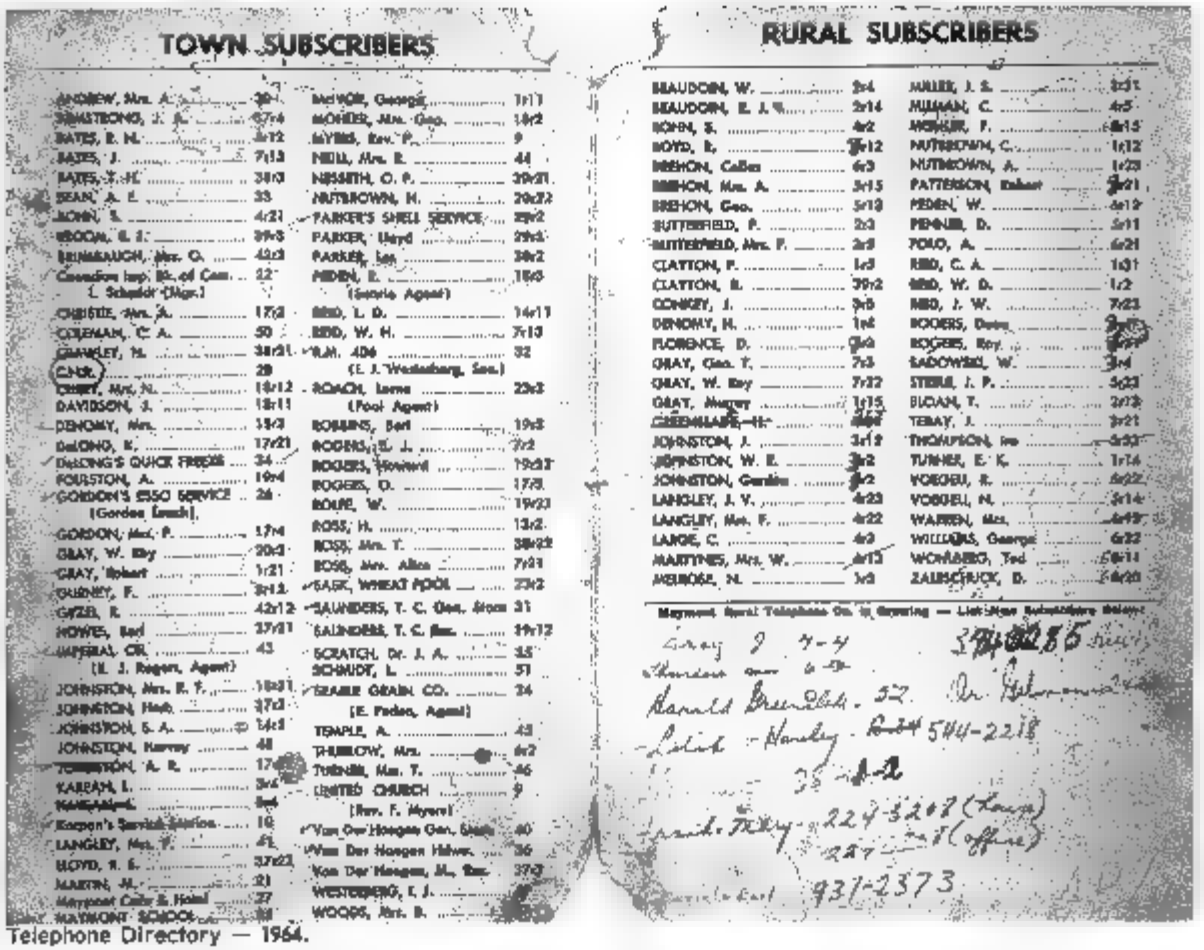
PRESIDENT ..... C. A. Brehon
SECRETARY ..... Mrs. G. M. Cassidy
DIRECTORS: N. Melrose, A. E. Johnston, J. Baker, George Brehon, E. Peden, J. Gray, P. Mahler, W. Peden and F. Butterfield.

OFFICE HOURS

April 1st to November 1st (October 31st	7:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; 12:30 to 6:00 p.m. 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.
November 1st to March 31st	8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; 12:30 to 6:00 p.m. 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.
Sundays —	9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. 8:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Holidays —	8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 8:00 to 9:00 p.m.

AFTER HOUR CALLS 25c

TELEPHONE RENTALS to be paid in advance; also deposit to be PAID for Long Distance.



TOWN SUBSCRIBERS

RURAL SUBSCRIBERS

Telephone Directory — 1964.

The upkeep in 1916 was twelve dollars a year for the rural subscribers. The Village of Maymont paid nothing toward the use of the operator for the first three years.

In Feb. 1918 the board of directors were increased to ten with the following being elected: Tom Sawyer, George Holler, Tom Bates, Wilf Langley, Alec Brehon, T. Nutbrown, Tom Turner, Will Barrett, J. Davis and W. J. Mawhinney. George Banting was appointed secretary and Frank Gillatt line repairman, J. Moffatt audited the books from the time the company was organized.

At the directors meeting which followed, A. C. Brehon was elected president replacing W. G. Parker who had served since the beginning of the Maymont Rural Telephone Company. The secretary's salary was set at one dollar per phone while Frank Gillatt was paid at the rate of fifty cents per hour and fifteen cents per mile.

The first central office was in a small building directly south of the former Bank of Commerce, on Main Street, then in 1919 a lot was procured just north, near the Orange Hall. A house was built on the lot by Art Martin, the local carpenter at that time, and a room in the front corner of the house was set up as the first Central Office.

Robert Downing took over as telephone operator in 1919.

That same year the telephone system was extended to include the Spinney Hill area and it was known as the South Maymont Telephone System. The Maymont Rural Telephone Company paid one quarter, the Maymont Town Council paid one quarter and the South Maymont Rural Telephone Company paid the remaining half of the cost of the new poles laid down in Maymont to build the extension of the system. The office hours were changed to run from 6:30 A.M. to 10 P.M. on weekdays 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. on Sundays, and the office was closed on public holidays. A caller was charged 25¢ for any call made out of regular hours, the money for same went to the operator. He also collected the long distance fees for the Telephone Company. The operator now received a salary of ninety dollars per month.

In 1920, Robert Downing took over as telephone repairman at the rate of $1.50 per phone. The upkeep

was raised to twenty dollars a year payable in advance. The secretary was paid two dollars a phone for keeping books.

The South Maymont Telephone Company used the telephone office in Maymont and paid for the operator's salary and the cost of maintaining the office on a pro rata basis. They also paid for half the tools used by the lineman.

Every year the directors were faced with the problem of collecting arrears and were forced to disconnect some phones when warnings of such action did not bring results.

By 1921, the switchboard was giving problems and the South Maymont Company complained of getting poor service. Buying a new switchboard was discussed but a representative from the Northern Electric Company advised the directors that the present switchboard could be repaired to give first class service, so it was repaired.

Early in 1922, the C.N.R. connected their pumphouse phone to line seven of the Maymont Telephone Company system and paid the same rental as other subscribers.

Occasionally when an important event was to take place in the community or if an emergency came up the telephone operator would put out a general ring on all lines and give the message to everyone in a very short time. This is a service that is lacking in our modern day telephone system.

In 1923 a telephone was installed at the Maymont Ferry by means of a temporary wire attached to extra posts along the fence. The directors advertised a reward of twenty-five dollars to be paid to anyone giving information leading to the conviction of anyone damaging the property of the Telephone Company.

A new switchboard was bought in the fall of 1927 for which the Maymont Telephone Company paid the cost of the installation less the cost of the Government man's work and the F.O.B.

Consideration was given to amalgamating with Fielding and Ruddell, but this did not come about.

To help the company as well as subscribers in arrears, the directors decided to allow seventy-five cents a pole for re-setting poles, with no person being allowed more than his arrears. This was done in the summer of 1930, and again in 1933, with Robert Downing in charge of the re-setting. He was paid 25¢ per hour.

J. Miller was elected President in 1931, replacing Alec Brehon and in 1934, Frank Butterfield Sr. was elected President. Several secretaries served the company over the years, namely P. Knowles, George Banting, S. J. Thorstenson, J. D. Blacklock, R. B. Evans, D. Philpott, Sid Dolden and C. A. Coleman.

Robert Downing decided to leave Maymont in 1936, and at the telephone directors meeting on Feb. 26, 1936, the tender of A. J. Cassidy for the position of operator and lineman was accepted.

Rental rates for 1936 were eighty cents a month for each phone in use. Mr. Cassidy did the collecting, keeping sixty-five cents and paying the remaining fifteen cents into the company account. Any person not paying by the seventh of each month received no service through Central. The operator also collected the long distance fees, retaining a portion and paid the remainder to Government Telephones.

In 1942, Mr. Cassidy was granted a leave of absence to serve in the war effort. Mrs. Cassidy carried on as operator with the help of her daughters Eileen and Lois. Mrs. Cassidy also became secretary-treasurer for the Maymont Rural Telephone Co., a position she held for many years.

Frank Butterfield Jr. was appointed in Nov. 1943, to go over all the telephone lines to cut brush, re-set poles and put on insulators where needed.

In July 1947 the directors asked Mr. Cassidy to see about having the Central Office and the residence rewired. This work was done by Harold Curry. A new volt meter was purchased that year.

Colles Brehon was elected vice-president in Dec. 1946, after having served as director of line five for five years, and was elected president in Dec. 1948. The operator's salary was increased to one dollar and ten cents a phone per month in 1948 and the rentals were $16.80 per year for a regular phone and $21.20 a year for a business phone.

A ringing machine was connected to the switchboard in 1951, which made the work of the operator easier and the rings more distinct.

The telephone office residence was insulated by a professional crew who blew the insulation into the walls and ceiling. A porch for the office was built at the same time by volunteer help, this was built in sections so it could be removed in the summer time. This work was all done in 1953.

Water seeping into the basement became such a problem in 1955, an automatic sump pump was installed in the basement thus eliminating the necessity of carrying out as many as seventy pails of water a day from the basement.

Lots 18 and [redacted] in Block 7 were purchased from Hubert Brumbaugh for the sum of $100.00. A small building on one of the lots was used as a storage shed for repair material and poles were stored on the lots also.

The roof over the kitchen of the Telephone Co. dwelling began leaking and Laurie Curry was hired to do a major repair job to the roof. New lumber was put on and asphalt shingles applied, and new plaster board was put on the ceiling of the kitchen in 1958.

That same year, the Rural Municipality paid for the setting back from the road of the telephone line in preparation for the building of the grid road north from Maymont.

The secretary's salary was $50.00 per year until 1959, when it was raised to $75.00 per year. The upkeep was raised to $18.00 for regular phones and $23.00 for business phones per year.

A new coat of white paint and green trim was applied by Neil Geisbrecht in 1961, giving the telephone house a real face lift. Two new combination outside entrance doors were hung as well.

John Luster of Marcelin was hired in 1966 to rebuild all the Maymont Rural telephone lines. Ten year term debentures were sold to raise the necessary funds. A stronger steel wire was strung, so that twenty-two poles were required per mile rather than the previous thirty-two poles. At this time seven subscribers from Fielding were connected into the Maymont telephone system.

Early in Feb. 1967, the telephone company suffered a tremendous loss with the sudden death of A. J. Cassidy. He had been a very dedicated operator and lineman for thirty-one years, giving of himself much beyond the call of duty for the community he served. Right behind him all the way was his wife, Grace, who spent many, many hours at the switchboard and served as secretary-treasurer of the Maymont Rural Telephone Co. for twenty-five years. The Cassidy's daughters, Eileen and Lois, also often helped out at the switchboard when at home.

Mrs. Cassidy's health was not good at the time of Art's death, so two operators, Mary Foster of Speers and Dale Schmidt of Ruddell were hired to carry on in the Central office.

The telephone directors turned to Government Telephones in Regina for help in hiring and paying a new operator. Myles McDonald, owner of the Imperial Hotel at that time, was hired as operator, secretary-treasurer and lineman. The switchboard was moved to the waiting room of the hotel which was set up as the Central office. The directors remained responsible for the upkeep of the rural lines. A community social evening was held in honor and pay tribute to Mrs. Cassidy and her late husband for their many years of faithful service and an engraved tray was presented to Mrs. Cassidy by the directors.

In 1969, Mrs. Robert Johnston became the operator and the Central office was moved in her home, the former Lloyd Parker residence, just south in the hotel. Jim Foster of Speers built a few miles of line and did some repair work until Charlie Baker of Richard was hired as lineman, a position he held until the company dissolved in 1977.

Dennis Remeshylo was secretary-treasurer from June 1969 to July 1970, then Merle Johnston took over the position which she held until the system was turned over to Sask.-Tel.

Dial phones were installed and on Nov. 25, 1970 at 2 P.M. the dial system went into operation with 24 hour service. A telephone 'school' was held the previous day in the Memorial Hall where instructors from Sask.-Tel. explained how to use the new dial phones. However, many a call to the neighbors became a very frustrating operation until one remembered to dial the number, then hang up when it started ringing, until the other party answered, then lift the receiver, push the monitor to make the necessary connection. If you forgot to push the monitor, only the caller could hear the other party. At such times fond memories of the local telephone operators were often recalled.

With the change over to dials, the districts of Baljennie, Lilac, Ruddell and Spinney Hill were connected into the system. A few years later Baljennie and Spinney Hill were dropped from this system and connected to other Centrals. Since it was no longer necessary to use the switchboard, it was donated to the Western Development Museum in North Battleford.

In 1974, the Ruddell, Richard, Speers and Maymont Telephone Companies bought a cable plow on equal shares. Mainly due to depleted funds little use of the plow was made by the Maymont Company.

At a social function in Nov. 1975, the directors paid tribute to Colles Brehon for his many years of service to the company as director and president. Colles remained as president until the company ceased to exist.

At a public meeting the majority were in favor of turning the entire operation and assets of the Maymont Rural Telephone Company over to Sask.-Tel. Not long after this, Sask.-Tel laid buried cable throughout the entire system, and the lines were divided so that there are no more than four subscribers on one line. Several private phones were installed as well. Sask.-Tel. officially took over on Oct. 1st, 1977 and the Maymont Company ceased to exist.

Our twenty-four hour dial telephone service is paid for on a monthly basis, and there are no longer any telephone land taxes.

Maymont School District No. 1555

submitted by Elizabeth Clayton

The Maymont School District was organized in the winter of 1906 and 1907 with Harry Dawson as secretary.

One acre of land was purchased from J. J. Reid and a school was built in April, 1907. H. D. Eby was the contractor.

Miss Isa Melrose was first teacher and John Reid was first caretaker. In the spring of 1908, Percy M. Knowles was appointed as secretary. In the spring of

Maymont School — 1929.

Maymont High School — Teacher, Mr. Morgenroth.

1912 a second room was built by F. Wilkin as contractor.

A third room was opened in the United Church basement in August, 1919. The juniors went to school there until the fall of 1925.

In the spring of 1925 between three and four acres of land was purchased from the Town Site for a school site. A contract was let ■ Warnick and Evans to make a full-sized basement, move the present two rooms to the new site, and build another room. All this was done at a cost of approximately ten thousand dollars. The junior room was then moved from the church basement to the new school.

In May, 1920 P. E. Knowles left for Vancouver and F. T. McCorkle was appointed as secretary.

At this time the school owed three hundred dollars as an overdraft and a debenture indebtedness of eighteen hundred dollars. The tax mill rate at this time stood at 13.5 for the village and 12.5 for the rural area. By 1930 the overdraft, debenture indebtedness, and cost of the new school had been paid.

In the summer of 1936 a new chemistry room was added to the school at a cost of one thousand dollars.

In January, 1942, this had been paid, and there is a credit balance to the district of three thousand dollars. The mill rate has been reduced to 7.75 mills for the village and 5.8 mills for the rural area.

In January, 1942 Mrs. J. D. Blacklock was appointed secretary. Mrs. Blacklock held that position until 1956. Mrs. Nellie Curry took over the duties of secretary and held that position until 1963.

Miss Audrey Page was hired in 1942 at a salary of one thousand dollars per annum. Miss Page taught school in Maymont until 1962. In September of 1943 Mr. J. Armstrong took over as principal and continued in this position until June of 1967. During Mr. Armstrong's tenure at the Annual Meeting in April, 1958 a resolution was put forth stating the need for a new Central School ■ be built preferably in Maymont as the enrollment necessitated this move. The following year a school was moved into the yard to take the overflow students. Finally in February, 1960 the local board went as a delegation to the Unit Board to press for a new school. It was a successful trip as a new school was to be started and built for the following year 1961. ■ was to be a six-room school.

An additional four acres of land had been purchased to the south of the school yard two years previously in 1959 for more playground area. The old school was bought by Howard Rogers before construction of the new school and was moved just behind the school yard to his present farm site.

■ April of 1963 Mrs. Vera Gray took over duties as secretary from Mrs. Nellie Curry and continued this position until 1977. At an Annual Meeting in March of 1966 it was decided to dissolve the present three member school board and make it into the larger Central School Board consisting of nine members, with five members from Maymont School District and the other four from the surrounding area divided in four divisions namely — Fielding, Calais and Beckwith; Ruddell, Lilac and Wavie Bank; Richard, Prolific, Bromley and Etonia; Grey, Neepawa and Keystone.

As Mr. J. Armstrong retired in 1967, Mrs. Woloshyn was hired as principal. She served from 1967-1968 when Mr. Byrd took over in 1968-1971. Mr. B. Mutikistna was

hired in 1971 till 1974. Our present principal, Mr. Denis Dube took over in 1974.

It has been noted through the years that some of our local students have made a name for themselves. Four of our students namely — Audrey Ferris, Brian Spence, Linda Voegeli and Leslie Brehon appeared on television on "Reach for the Top" to play off for the Provincial Finals. The school really benefitted from their endeavors as numerous valuable books were added to the library as their prizes.

Over-crowding was again a factor in the early seventies so in the fall ■ 1971 two portable rooms were attached to the present school. As our attendance hasn't fluctuated that much over the years, the need for them is still there and they are presently still part of our school.

As it was felt that small communities should have the same advantage as larger centres a delegation of the local board made a trip to Regina to meet the Minister of Education to see about the possibilities of obtaining an Auditorium-Gymnasium and Resource Centre for the school. The trip was quite successful for in the summer of 1972 the new gym was started and the Official Opening took place March 15, 1973. Over the years it has been proven that it was a real necessity.

In June of 1977, Mrs. Vera Gray resigned as secretary and Mrs. Elizabeth Clayton has taken over her duties. It has been noted that since records began only seven secretaries have held that position.

This history of the Maymont School just covers the highlights as many interesting activities such ■ "Drama Night", Sporting Events, Student Sponsored Parent-Student Suppers, Tours, etc. have taken over the years. To mention all things that have happened in this most important institution of learning would ■ a book in itself.

Maymont Wheat Pool

The original Pool elevator at this point was the old Maymont 'A' elevator. It was built ■ 1917 by the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company and acquired by the Pool in the late 20's (probably between 1926 and 1928 when most of these Co-op elevators were turned over to the fledgling Pool). It was an elevator with a 30,000 bushel storage capacity and later, in 1924, had a crib annex built onto it for an additional 20,000 bushels of storage capacity.

The 'A' elevator was rebuilt by a Pool crew in 1959 and the old elevator turned into a crib annex to the new elevator. The new elevator had a capacity of 50,000 bushels (1 401 tonnes) and the old elevator, by then, only 25,000 bushels.

Saskatchewan Pool then acquired two more elevators' the 'B' and 'C' elevators ■ a package deal (along with an old coal shed) in 1969 from Federal Grain. The Maymont 'B' was built in 1915 and had a storage capacity of 24,000 bushels. The Maymont 'C' was also built in 1915 and had a storage capacity of 20,000 bushels. It also had a 12,000 bushel crib annex at the time of the Pool purchase, but when that was built as well as who built these two elevators, was unable to be determined.

All three old elevators, the old 'A' the 'B' and 'C', at Maymont were dismantled and their salvaged materials used in the construction of a 100,000 bushel crib annex to the new 'A' elevator (2 801 tonnes). It also received major renovations and was upgraded to high throughput standards in 1975. Total capacity at the point is now 150,000 bushels (4 202 tonnes).

The Maymont Pool dwelling, a one-storey 26 by 43-foot house, was built in 1967 by a Pool crew. The old dwelling, a 22 by 32 foot, two bedroom home, was sold the year the new one was built.

The following ■ a list of some of the original shareholders ■ 1925. Mr. A. J. McPhail was President of the Wheat Pool at that time.

Andrew, A. J. 406-202
Arkley, Jas. 406-013
Bates T. ■. 406-016
Beckton, Mac 406-019
Brehon A. C. 406-033
Bohn, James 406-028
Bouskill, Chas. 406-027
Collins, F. 406-045
Conkey J. A. 406-043
Cook W. E. 406-046
Coombs H. 406-298
Coulter J. W. 406-044
Denomy H. 406-051
Ducharme J. 406-058
Edge W. A. F. 406-059
Fast J. A. 406-220
Fry P. B. 406-070
Giffard F. 406-077
Gray W. G. 406-080
Holler G. W. 406-091
Holmes Wm. H. 406-093
Johnston R. 406-102
Johnston A. E. 406-097
Johnston H. 406-101
James ■. 406-096
Johnston L. E. 406-238
Johnston S. F. 406-208
Long Fred C. 406-215
MacKay D. 406-120
Melrose A. A. 406-129
Melrose W. N. 406-128
Miller J. 406-131
Milman Chas. 406-132
Mohler G. 406-133
Norrie Robert 406-142
Nutbrown H. 406-143
Nutbrown T. G. 406-145
Nutbrown S. 406-144
Osbourne J. ■. 406-146
Patterson J. A. 406-148
Peden J. H. 406-150

Parker P. 406-221
Ramsey E. W. 406-154
Reid Andrew 406-157
Reid Lyman 406-205
Rolfe W. H. 406-161
Rolfe John 406-163
Ross Henry 406-162
Schmidt Wm. 406-170
Sloan J. A. L. 406-175
Sloan G. H. 406-174
Sowden Wm. B. 406-176
Taylor Jas. A. 406-186
Turner T. E. 406-194
Wohlburg P. 406-199

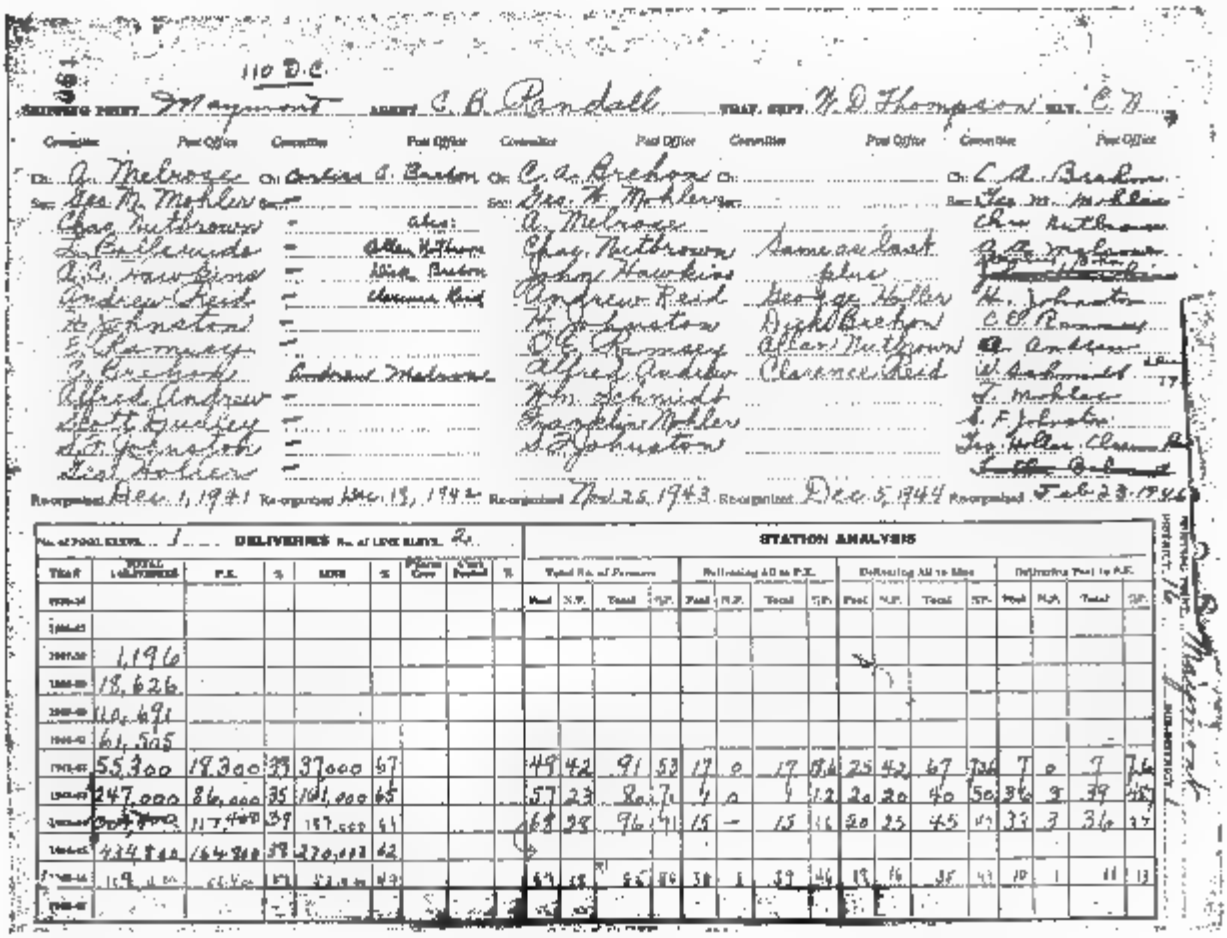
Names of the agents in the Pool elevators are:
J. B. Kerr — August 1, 1929 to June 11, 1935
H. M. Nye — June 11, 1935 to December 19, 1935
J. B. Kerr — December 19, 1935 to January 6, 1936
H. M. Nye — January 6, 1936 to November 1, 1936
W. H. Love — November 1, 1936 to May 22, 1941
C. B. Randall — May 22, 1941 to August 18, 1947
A. J. Despins — August 18, 1947 to July 26, 1948
[redacted]. [redacted] Biehn — July 26, 1948 to March 31, 1949
Frank Rogers — March 31, 1949 to October 17, 1951
W. D. Johnston — October 17, 1951 to June 30, 1959
L. C. Roach — June 30, 1959 to present date.

Present members of the Maymont Wheat Pool Committee are: Chairman Ron Milman, vice-chairman Norman Voegeli, secretary Donald A. Spence, and members Dean Rogers, Allan Rogers, Dale Beaudoin, David Voegeli, Ken Zaleschuk, Andy Polo, Russell Beaudoin, Ches Miller, and George Tebay, all [redacted] Maymont; and Victor, Henry and Paul Prescesky, all of Ruddell.

Photographers

Mr. Percy Barrett was the local photographer in the early years. He has left a splendid history [redacted] pictures of the early days.

He was followed by Miss Patterson and Mr. Nick Harvey.


110 D.C.
SHIPPING POINT Maymont AGENT C. B. Randall TRAF. SUPT. W. D. Thompson SUP. C. R.
Committee | Post Office | Committee | Post Office | Committee | Post Office | Committee | Post Office | Committee | Post Office
Ch. A. Melrose | Ch. Andrew A. Reid | Ch. C. A. Brebner | Ch. | Ch. C. A. Brebner
Sec. Geo. R. Mohler | Sec. | Sec. Geo. R. Mohler | Sec. | Sec. Geo. R. Mohler
Chas. Nethercott | alternate: | A. Melrose | | Chas. Nethercott
D. Richards | Allan Nethercott | Chas. Nethercott | Same as last | D. A. Richards
A. D. Hawkins | Wm. Barker | Jno. Hawkins | place | W. D. Johnston
Andrew Reid | Clarence Reid | Andrew Reid | George Mohler | C. C. Ramsay
W. Johnston | | W. Johnston | Dick Brebner | A. Andrew
C. Ramsay | | C. C. Ramsay | Allan Nethercott | W. Schmidt
C. Brebner | Emanuel Medwaner | Alfred Andrew | Clarence Reid | L. Mohler
Alfred Andrew | | Wm. Schmidt | | A. F. Johnston
Scott Dudley | | Evan Allan Mohler | | Jno. Mohler Clarence R.
A. D. Johnston | | W. Johnston | | Emanuel Medwaner
Earl Barker | | | | Alfred Andrew
Reorganized Dec. 1, 1941 Reorganized Dec. 15, 1942 Reorganized April 26, 1943 Reorganized Dec. 5, 1944 Reorganized Feb. 23, 1946
No. of Pool Elevs. 1 DELIVERIES No. of Line Elevs. 2
STATION ANALYSIS
Year | Total Deliveries | P.E. | % | Line | % | Special Grade | Quota Reduced | %
Total No. of Farmers: Prod. | N.P. | Total | %P.
Delivering 40 to P.E.: Prod. | N.P. | Total | %P.
Delivering All to Mine: Prod. | N.P. | Total | %P.
Delivering Part to P.E.: Prod. | N.P. | Total | %P.
1941-42 1,196
1942-43 18,626
1943-44 110,491
1944-45 61,505
1945-46 553,000 183,000 33 370,000 67 49 42 91 53 17 0 17 18.6 25 42 67 73.6 7 0 7 7.6
1946-47 247,000 86,000 35 161,000 65 57 23 80 7 4 0 4 5 20 20 40 50 36 3 39 48.7
1947-48 [illegible] 117,000 39 183,000 61 68 28 96 71 15 — 15 15.6 20 25 45 47 33 3 36 37.5
1948-49 434,000 164,000 38 270,000 62
1949-50 159,000 [illegible] 37 [illegible] 63 63 18 [illegible] 66 38 1 39 46 19 16 35 41 10 1 11 13
1950-51

The above is an interesting page from Pool records. In contrast, in the 1977-1978 crop year, there was a handling of 820,000 bushels of grain.

Pictures taken by Mr. Barrett and Mr. Harvey have been used in compiling this book.

Pioneers and Pensioners Association

Senior Citizens Recreation Centres have been started in almost every town in Sask. They are found in brand new buildings or older buildings that have been renovated, painted inside and out — largely through local donations, volunteer labor and federal and provincial funding.

Senior Citizens tour, 1978. Bob Boyd and Wanda Peden in foreground.

Maymont also has its Senior Centre, one to be very proud of; this is located on Maymont's main street, formerly the municipal office. The first organizers called it The Pioneer and Pensioners Association, but it is more lovingly called the Senior Citizen's Centre and Lounge.

The first president in 1973 was Mr. William McCready with Mr. Louis Karpan the secretary-treasurer along with several directors. The building has two parts to it. The main front room is carpeted with a piano, kitchen area, shuffleboard and many items that have been donated or purchased, like tables, chairs, drapes, dishes, mirrors etc. -- a picture of the "Bridge Opening" graces one wall.

The ladies do quilting in here, shuffleboard and carpet bowling, whist parties, parties and anniversaries are enjoyed.

The back room has a pool table, barber chair, and tables for card playing. The men usually consider this their domain where lively games of snooker, golf, pool, crib and smeer are played throughout the winter months. Some funny names given this area are "The Boar's Nest", "The Bear Pit" and others.

At present there are ninety-five members.

The Battleford Winter Games were held in Maymont in 1978, many seniors took part in the organizing and many more curled — played carpet bowling — shuffleboard and crib.

Maymont's team of Robert Gray, Ken Doolittle, Lily Reid and Emily Hawkins took a gold medal in Carpet Bowling — Lucy Harris and Gordon Johnston the gold in Shuffleboard and Derby Reid and Jack Bates the gold in Crib.

One of the projects started in Maymont by the seniors is newspaper collecting, for the Battleford's Shelter Workshop.

Post Offices at Maymont

Mr. William Andrew was the first postmaster at Maymont and the post office was in Mr. Bean's store, with Mr. Bean as the assistant.

Then followed Mr. McLaren, who furnished his own office and was postmaster until 1918. He was followed by Mr. Stan Thorsteinson until 1920, then Mr. Philpot until 1925.

For many years Clem and Min. Coleman ran the office in their home across from the station — where Mrs. Coleman still resides.

Harvey Johnston took over the Post Office in 1958 and retired in 1977. He had his office on Main Street close to the present Canadian-Imperial Bank of Commerce.

Bill and Darlene Melrose followed him and now have the Post Office in their own home near the Memorial Hall.

Restaurants and Cafes

Mr. Ebey operated the first eating place, and Mr. Len Carey had the first restaurant (just south of Mr. McCorkle's garage). The business was sold to Mr. Ward. He sold it to Mr. Charley Wing, who was the first Oriental restaurant operator in Maymont. Later the business had the following managers: Messrs. Cockburn, Jack Suong, Ed Broom, Wes Rolfe, Dick Greenslade, L. Hegland, N. Crawley, Ted Raw, Carlton and Mike Raw.

Mrs. McNulty, Mrs. Price, and Mr. Hayman each respectively operated a restaurant across the street called the 'Tea Cup Inn'.

An item of interest in connection with restaurants was that Mr. Patterson operated an ice-cream parlor in connection with his store, and made his own ice-cream.

Senior Citizens Low Rental Housing

submitted by Louis Karpan

Our senior citizen population had increased and accomodation in the village was unavailable. In 1974 a survey revealed that low rental accomodation was urgently needed, a canvas was made and a waiting list

prepared, and the village council made application to Saskatchewan Housing Corporation for assistance and guidance. A meeting was held in the Village of Maymont at 1 P.M. on July 15, 1975 to investigate the need and possibilities for housing for Senior Citizens in the village. Those present were Mayor William McCready, councillors Harvey Johnston, N. R. Bates and secretary-treasurer Louis Karpan together with Mr. ■. Wood and Mr. G. Walderman representing Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation and Mr. C. L. Herriot representing Saskatchewan Housing Corporation.

The need was established and the project agreed upon was to consist of ten units of semi-detached duplex type with C.M.H.C. calling for tender. The village picked an excellent site Lots 8 to 14 in Block 11 and lots 8 and 9 in Block 12 for the project which is close to all services and close to recreation facilities which will be used by senior citizens. In 1976 plans presented by C.M.H.C. and Saskatchewan Housing Corporation were studied, discussed and approved and C.M.H.C. calling for contract, awarded the same to Lorman Construction (1965) Ltd. for the sum of $196,-365.00. The project to be financed by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation seventy-five percent, the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation twenty percent and the Village of Maymont five percent. The project was completed by December 15, 1977, a Housing Authority was set up and tenants were moving in.

Maymont Housing Authority is composed of five members — Mrs. Loyola VanDerHaegen Colles Brehon, Wilfred Johnston, Franklin Mohler who ■ also secretary and Louis Karpan who is chairman. The board appoints an administrator who is Louis Karpan.

The first tenants moved in December 15, 1977. The following are tenants:

Mrs. Ethel Neill, Mr. Nick Sawyshyn, Mr. Stanley J. Long, Mrs. Constance Dallow, Mrs. Winnifred Corris, Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Webb, Mrs. Mary Rogers, Mrs. Merle Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. Mac Beckton and Helen Taylor.

We are proud of our Senior Citizens Low Rental Homes, it's ■ fine location, the homes are attractive and well landscaped. We are also proud of the way the tenants look after the property. The Housing Authority is grateful to tenants neighbors and the village council for their fine co-operation.

Sports

Maymont has always been a great community for sports. For years the annual ball tournament on May 24th has attracted crowds from far distant points. Hockey, football, curling, broomball, tennis and golf have all been a part of community life. To add to the list, the fun of cross-country skiing has become very popular in the area in the last couple of years. Probably the reason why sports have always been so

The ladies' 'ball team'. Back row — Alan Bean, Art Cassidy, Cupid Friedman, Wilf Reid. Front — Rev. ■. Myers, Jock Blacklock, Mr. Morgenroth.

The old and the new water tower.

popular here is that the district was settled by a collection of sports minded pioneers.

The first organized sporting event was held as early as 1904, in the form of a basket picnic on land northeast of the town which later became the farm of Mr. Percy Bouskill. Settlers came from as far as 20 miles on foot, horseback, ox and horse-drawn wagons and even a few top buggies with snappy drivers to take in the big day. Little time was lost ■ getting the competitions under way, highlights being an impromptu football match and a baseball game featuring the New Ottawa settlement from east of Speers versus the local talent. Foot races, tug-of-war and a host of other competitions were indulged in, everyone capable of self-propulsion taking part. For the women, they enjoyed not only participating in the athletic events but also the rare opportunity to chat with others of their own sex and exchange experiences and recipes until time ■ go home to their evening chores. The annual picnic was for many years the chief social event.

The first skating rink was made in 1907, and was a very worthy achievement considering all the water had to be hauled the five miles up from the river, all by volunteer labor. Those donating their time and teams were given free meals at the hotel and their teams were given free livery at the livery barn operated by Melrose and Reid. There was a lot of hockey talent

Ladies' broomball team. L. to r. — Mrs. Jean Martin, Mrs. Hickman, Mrs. Knight, Mrs. B. Dolden, Mrs. Lil Andrew, Mrs. E. Neill. Front — Olive Andrew.

among the first pioneers. The first team organized that year took the measure of every team between and including Langham ■ Battleford. Candidates for the hockey hall of fame are Dr. Scratch, Bill Oliver and Lew Andrew, Walter Mawhinney, Fred Carveth, Archie Robertson, Harold Bride and Herb Fallow.

A good many of the settlers had played baseball before coming ■ this district so there was plenty of savvy in the first team which was formed the following summer. They seldom met their equal. Some of the original players were Doc Scratch, George Florence, Charles Wright, Walter Mawhinney, Charlie Bride, Earl Lockridge and Harold Bride. Football was a very popular game in the early days, one reason being that the only equipment needed was a ball, a pair of boots with their toes still intact, and a good set of lungs. It was not uncommon for a homesteader to walk behind the plow all day, then drive eight or ten miles in a wagon to have a game of football in the long summer evenings.

■ 1906 a half mile race track was made on Section 29, just south of where the village now stands. Ploughs, disks and harrows were donated for the construction and as with the skating rink, all labor was voluntary, the Reids Melrose and Andrew brothers being particularly active in this project. Both harness and running races were very popular, and competition with horse owners from the neighbouring settlements had enthusiastic racers who owned a good horse or two. R. ■. Harris of Fielding had "St. Almo", driven by Bill Shanks. Oldtimers will remember Bill on the cart with the inevitable half-smoked cigar in his mouth. Sam Miller also of Fielding owned Harry B" and for many years kept a stable of good blood horses. Charlie Johnston of Ruddell had a very fine horse known as "Lord Roberts", and Joe Zimmerman ■ Radisson always provided good competition. From across the river Spinney Hill was always represented by entries from Bert Lehner's stable. The most outstanding horse of the bunch was "Old Freak" owned by Bill

Maymont Polecats late 1930's. L. to r. — Doug Coleman, coach; Roy Gray, Shorty Porter, Harvey Johnston, Everett Downing, Gordon Johnston, Wendell Reid, Clarence Reid, Archie Reid, Donald McCorkle, Wilf Reid, Nathan Friedman, Manager; kneeling is Ray Walton. Standing at back is Noel Crawley, caretaker.

150 men had the rink sheeted in in one day.

Sowden of the hotel in Maymont. Not renowned for beauty, Old Freak more than made up for this minor defect by the manner in which he could cover the ground.

In addition to harness racing every sports day, there was always at least three heats of running races which attracted competition from more distant points.

Besides the horse racing the early sports days featured other competitions such as ball games, foot races, pole vaulting and other track and field events.

Nearly everyone took part in some form of competition or other. This year Maymont held it's 74th annual Sports Day. Now however it takes the form of a ball tournament, with only a few participants and most of the people only spectators.

The winter months did not put an end to the recreational pursuits of the pioneers. The skating rink was always well patronized and parties and dances were always on the go in the school houses or in homes.

The open air skating rink was moved around from time to time. Jack Foster was one of the caretakers and shovelled snow many times to have the ice clean for the skaters.

Plans got underway in 1963 to build a new covered skating rink with a waiting room, dressing rooms for the hockey players and space for a concession. By April of 1964 the rafters were cut and the foundation was finished, The new Sports Centre emerged from foundation to completion in twelve working days.

Approximately 150 volunteer workmen turned out to complete the sheeting of the building in one day. At one time or another virtually every lady in the community took her turn at keeping lunch ready for the men. The community spirit was just as evident in 1964 as it was in 1936 when the first curling rink was built by volunteer labor!

From here submitted by C. S. Miller

In the fall of 1962, after taking off a poor crop, a group of interested citizens gathered in the Legion Hall to discuss the building of a skating rink. Moneywise, the task looked hopeless but a motion was made to build the rink if at all possible.

A committee was formed with Chester Miller as chairman and Lloyd Parker as secretary-treasurer.

The first task was to contact the contractor (Diener and Son of Tisdale), as they built a new style, cheaper building.

Diener signed a contract to supervise the building of the rink for $1200.00 in the spring of 1963. A lot of miles were travelled that fall, looking at other rinks and ordering supplies. The total lumber bill was $10,-000.00. Bolts, nails were etc. about $700.00.

For the next two years many functions in Maymont went toward financing the new rink. Our first canvas netted less than $2000.00; walkathons, auction sales, a Purebred heifer raffle netted $875.00., the winter works program was a great help. The rink was completely paid for in two years.

In the spring of 1963, the rafters had to be cut and bolted together and put in place. The big day came on April 27th, when, with everyone's help, at 4:30 P.M. 150 men came face to face at the top of the building. The rink had been completely sheeted in in one day! All the boards for sheeting were cut with hand saws.

The Community Sports Centre is the hub of all activities in town from November thru March each year. We have Senior Hockey, Minor Hockey for all ages, and a very active Figure Skating Club of which the highlight is the Carnival in the spring. For many years the Queen contest raised money for the rink. The new curling rink was built beside the skating rink and now our winter sports activities were all in one area.

About 1965, the Youth and Recreation Board was organized, to help organize all sports and cultural activities and is still functioning at the present time.

Maymont Girl's Ball Team

Shirley Miller

When Harold Smith came to teach school in Maymont, about 1942, he started up a girl's ball team. We played at many sports days and won a lot of games.

Those who played during this time were: Lois

One of the Maymont girls' ball teams. Back row — Phyllis Johnston, Faye Huziak, Mel Turner, Cosy Cline, Florence Barchaik, Terry Rush, Lois Stynsky, Shirley Miller, Audrey DeLong.

Cassidy, Mary McDonald, Phyllis and Dorothy Gray, Velma Melrose, Louise Ross, Cozy Johnston, Shirley and Melville Bright, Audrey DeLong, Fay Woods Florence Barchalk, Terry Rush, Iris Neill, Joyce Coleman, Maude and Myrtle Andrew, Vi McKay, Binky Saunders , Ev Turner, Gene Andrew, Delcie Gray, Margaret Miller, Lois Bohn.

After Mr. Smith left, other coaches were Roy Gray, Gordon Johnston and Muriel Brehon. There could be more players that I have forgotten.

We joined in the North Battleford League, playing our games at the North Battleford Airport, and our home games at the sports grounds in Maymont. I believe we played twice a week.

Dr. Scratch Memorial Curling Rink

In 1970 the first sod was turned by Rev. Frank Myers to commence the construction of a new curling rink. Mr. Ed Broom was president.

The rink which has two sheets of ice, was completed in 1971.

Opening of new curling rink. L. to r. — Ches Miller, Harvey Johnston, Ron Scratch, Franklin Mohler, Rev. F. Myers, Aerial F. Sallows, [illegible] Broom.

As many as sixty-two volunteers worked on the rink in one day. The rink was supported not only by local people, but also by donations received from former residents from coast to coast. "It was built by one hundred percent participation". A book remains in the rink, with all the names of the donors and also has a picture of Dr. Scratch and his two sons. The eldest Ron came for the official opening and threw the first rock.

Curling Rinks

In 1936 the first curling rink was built under the leadership of Rev. L. W. Schnell. Rev. Schnell is credited with being the person who had the most influence in its origin.

The cost was approximately 1,200, which was considered a small fortune in those years. Twenty-nine shareholders bought shares worth $350.00 and $250.00 was borrowed from Mr. George Holler. The lumber was purchased from McCorkle Lumber Yard and on a note which was paid in 1938. The rink was built entirely by volunteer labor.

The first curling season of 1936-37 had 16 pairs of rocks. The first bonspiel in 1937 had 24 rinks competing. Luth Ballstud skipped and won the first bonspiel. He was assisted by Mr. and Mrs. Roy Gray, and Miss Freda Mickleburg (now Mrs. George Gray).

The first year ended with $950.00 owing and 122 active members. The rink was wired in 1937 but did not pass inspection. However, it was re-insepcted in 1938 and approved.

The first president of the curling club was Rev. L. W. Schnell with Mr. N. Whitaker as first secretary. Mr. N. Crawley was the first caretaker.

By the end of 1938 Mr. McCorkle had been paid. In 1943 Mr. Holler had also been paid his loan of $450.00 (another $200.00 had been borrowed in 1938). General mixed bonspiels were held every year from 1938 on. The names of Caton, C. Friedman, John Hope, Sid Dolden and N. Whitaker will be remembered by the older generation of curlers.

A new brick siding was put on the rink in 1952 by volunteer labor. In 1954 sixteen pairs of matched rocks were purchased from the Queen City Curling Stone Co. at a cost of $1,100. These rocks were paid for during the same year.

The rink was used until 1970 when plans got underway for a new covered curling rink. The old building was dismantled in 1971-72. Some of the material was purchased by the R.M. of Mayfield to build a shed, some was used to renovate the roof of the Memorial Hall and some of the material was purchased by a local farmer.

All Saints Church, Maymont

told by Evelyn Bates

The first Anglican Services in Maymont were held at the home of Mr. C. Milman, Sr. in 1904 by student ministers who officiated until Reverend D. G. Schorfield came in 1906. The Right Reverend Newnham, Bishop of Saskatchewan held a service in Grey School in 1906. This gave the ladies of the district the incentive to form a Guild and by putting on bazaars, etc., raised money to help build a "shack" for Reverend Schorfield. Then the work of the church was begun and with the help of a four hundred dollar gift from the Old Country and local subscriptions, the one thousand dollar church was opened and dedicated "All Saints" at an Easter service on April 11, 1909. One week later the W.A. was formed by Miss Newnham of Prince Albert, the sister of the Bishop. It has been going on ever since, with a name change to A.C.W.

The first couple to be married in the church were

All Saints' Parish Leaflet

VOL. 2 MAY, 1918 No. 19

Motto: "Jesus Christ, the same, yesterday, to-day, and for-ever."

Incumbent, The Rev. B. B. Gartler, All Saints' Parsonage, Maymont.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, MAYMONT

Churchwardens

Incumbent's—Mr. G. Barling People's—Mr. G. H. Marlin

Vestrymen

Messrs. F. Butterfield, W. Archibald, J. W. Whitehouse, T. Neilbrown, L. Patterson, B. S. Griffin.

Organist—Mrs. A. E. Bean. Envelope Secretary—Mr. B. S. Griffin.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, FIELDING

Churchwardens

Incumbent's—Mr. R. Williams People's—Mr. J. P. Brownridge

Vestrymen

Messrs. R. Ireland, J. Brear, L. Stork.

Organist—Mrs. Ireland Sunday School Teacher—Mrs. F. Glynn.

BROMLEY SCHOOL, OLDBURY

Churchwardens

Incumbent's—Mr. E. W. Portter. People's—Mr. H. Cranswell.

Vestrymen

Messrs. W. J. Beaumont, J. Draper, L. N. Thompson, G. Bowaton, W. Phillips.

NEEPAWA—SCHOOL

Organist—Mrs. T. A. Amos.

BROOARD

Services in Municipal Hall on alternate Sunday mornings at 11.

SEND IN YOUR ORDER NOW FOR EAVESTROUGH, TANKS & FURNACE

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THE BATTLEFORD PRESS BATTLEFORD, SASK.

Front and back page from an Anglican Parish leaflet, 1918.

The Parsonage, Maymont.
Tuesday, April 23rd, 1918.

My Dear Friends and Parishioners,—

It is just a year ago today since I wrote the first letter for our Parish Leaflet. I must confess I was with considerable misgivings that one commenced the new "venture", but the general reception accorded the Leaflet each month has more than justified the initial effort.

The main idea for the issue of a Parish Leaflet was to keep our scattered people in touch with the life and activities of the Church, and also to further stimulate their interest by sending them a message from the Incumbent each month. One has indeed been gratified to find that this object has been more than realized in that many who on account of distance cannot get to Church very often welcome the arrival of the Leaflet each month, feeling despite their isolation the Church has not forgotten them.

Of necessity, work in scattered Parishes presents many difficulties, chiefly perhaps as a Pastoral nature—reaching each family throughout the Parish at regular intervals. Owing to the shortage of men, it has been found necessary to include the Oldbury District in this Parish. In order to accomplish the work satisfactorily, an effort will be made from now on to systematically visit the whole field. A programme of work for the month has been printed in this issue, and I trust it will serve a double purpose, first, systematize the work of the whole Parish, and also show that each Centre in turn is receiving equal Pastoral Visitation. I would indeed be grateful if parishioners would notify me at once of any cases of sickness; this would avoid delay in visitation, and also help to keep one in sympathetic touch with all.

Apropos of the enlarged Parish; it has been found necessary to enlarge the Leaflet in order to have sufficient space to chronicle the activities of the whole Parish. In order to meet the extra expense this will entail, I am asking all who are interested to subscribe 25 cents per year. This will cover postage and also help towards the cost of printing. I prefer the subscription to be voluntary so that it can still be issued to all regardless of charge.

Commencing the first Wednesday in May, arrangements are being made to hold Confirmation classes in All Saints' Church, Maymont, at 8 p. m., immediately after the Intercession Service. An invitation is extended to all Communicants as well as to those who are desirous to be confirmed, and also to any who are interested in the Church. Attendance at these classes does not necessarily mean obligation as regards Confirmation; rather are the classes designed so that the candidates may eventually fulfill the necessary conditions - to be "Ready" and therefore "Desirous" to be Confirmed.

Before closing I would add a word about Church attendance this summer. Now that the days are getting longer and warmer the temptation no doubt comes to many to make use of the time and get out while the days are good. I suppose it is natural to feel this way, particularly if Sunday is the only day we have for rest and recreation. Unfortunately this only too often interferes with Church attendance, and if we visit other people it prevents them also from attending God's House.

No matter what hour of the day we have our Service the extra hour of daylight should help us in this respect. There will still be both time and daylight after Church to spend in recreation. Sunday can still be a "Day of Rest and Gladness" - a time for rest and recreation, especially if we put "first things first". Shall we endeavour to do this each Sunday, making the first business of the day attendance at God's House?

Commending these matters to your earnest consideration,

Yours sincerely,
BASIL GARLICK.

The Incumbent's Visiting Appointments For May.

7th—9th. Maymont and District.
10th—12th. Richard and Oldbury.
14th—17th. Neepawa.
21st—23rd. Fielding and District.
23rd—26th. Richard and Oldbury.
28th—31st. Maymont and District.

Hymns for May

Maymont—5th. 615, 177, 617, 233.
12th. 599, 182, 443, 39.
19th. 189, 410, 578, 594. Whitsunday
26th. 1, 456, 631, 26. Trinity Sunday.
Fielding - 5th. 394, 220, 415, 37.
19th. 189, 419, 578, 233. Whitsunday
Oldbury—12th. 619, 500, 601, 37.
26th. 1, 456, 631, 26. Trinity Sunday
Neepawa (Mission Services).
5th. 212, 201, 879, 901.
19th. 270, 309, 396, 287.

N.B.—Richard Hymns will be printed as soon as the services have become well established.

Church Calendar for May

1st. St. Philip and St. James, Apostles and Martyrs.
5th. 5th Sunday after Easter.
6th, 7th and 8th. Rogation Days.
9th. Ascension Day.
12th. Sunday after Ascension Day.
19th. Whitsunday.
26th. Trinity Sunday.

Services for the Month

Maymont—Service each Sunday evening at 7.30. Holy Communion 1st Sunday in each month after the evening Service. Wednesday, May 8th, Intercession Service, 7.30 p.m. Thursday, May 9th, Ascension Day; Holy Communion 8 p.m. Sunday, May 19th, Whitsunday, Holy Communion 9 a.m.

Fielding - Services on alternate Sunday afternoons at 3 o'clock, May 5th and 19th. Holy Communion 19th (Whitsunday).

Neepawa—Services on alternate Sunday mornings at 11 a.m., May 5th and 19th.

Oldbury (Bromley School). Services on alternate Sunday Afternoons at 2.30 p.m., May 12th and 26th. Holy Communion May 26th (Trinity Sunday).

Richard - Services on alternate Sunday mornings in the Municipal Hall at 11 o'clock. Services on the 12th and 26th.

Holy Baptism

"In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost."

Sunday, April 7th—Ruth Caroline Garlick, born March 4th, 1918; daughter of Basil and Eva Lois Garlick.

Muriel Alison Butterfield, born March 2nd, 1913; daughter of Frank and Margaret Butterfield.

Rogation Days

The Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday preceding Ascension Day are called Rogation Days from the fact that Mamertus, Bishop of Vienne, in A.D. 467 appointed special Rogations (Litanies said in procession) to be said on these days in token of thanksgiving to God for deliverance from an earthquake which occurred during the hours of service in Vienne. Although there is no special service for these days, special prayers are used on the Sunday preceding, asking God "to give us fruitful seasons and to prosper the work of our hands".

Parish Notes

Sunday, May 5th, being the nearest to the Rogation Days, the Services in Maymont and Fielding will be appropriate for Rogationtide.

The Concert and Social Evening that should have taken place last month in the Orange Hall, Maymont, has been arranged for May 24th, Victoria Day. Proceeds will be in aid of the "Driving Outfit"

Arrangements are being made for a picnic to be held in connection with St. Andrew's Church, Fielding, at Mr. Elliott's (Senior) farm down by the river. Further particulars will appear in the next issue. The picnic is arranged for June 3rd (the King's Birthday).

Apropos of picnics, the second "Old Time Picnic" will be held on Dominion Day, July 1st, in connection with All Saints' Church, Maymont.

For sale - Large sized lumber water tank in excellent condition; would make a good trough for stock. Price $10.00, proceeds to be devoted towards Church heater. Tank can be seen at the Rectory, Maymont.

Maymont W.A. will meet at All Saints' Parsonage on Thursday, May 16th, at 3 p.m.

On May 12th (Sunday after Ascension Day) the plate collections (collections other than envelope) will be devoted to the Canadian work of the M. S. C. C.

A Thought for the Month

OVER AND OVER

"Over and over again,
No matter which way I turn,
I always find in the Book of Life
Some lessons I have to learn.

I must take my turn at the mill,
I must grind out the golden grain,
I must work at my task with a resolute will,
Over and over again.

We cannot measure the need
Of even the tiniest flower,
Nor check the flow of the golden sands
That run through a single hour.

But the morning dew must fall,
And the sun and the summer rain
Must do their part and perform it all,
Over and over again.

Over and over again
The brook through the meadow flows,
And over and over again
The ponderous mill wheel goes.

Once doing will not suffice,
Though doing be not in vain,
And a blessing failing us once or twice
May come if we try again.

The path that has once been trod
Is never so rough to our feet,
And a lesson we once have learned
Is never so hard to repeat

Though sorrowful tears may fall,
And the heart to its depths be riven
With storm and tempest, we need them all
To render us meet for Heaven."

Let Us Measure You For a New Suit. Fit Guaranteed.

PAINTS — PAINTS — PAINTS

Martin Seynour's 100 per cent. Pure will cover more surface than any Paint on the market.

Varnishes Stains Brushes

Next week we expect a shipment of

Smoked and Pickled Fish

Not a Luxury, but a Necessity.

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I.H.C., Case and Rumley Implements.

John Reid - Maymont

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The public will please note I am selling a large percentage of my goods at pre-war prices which means they are fully 50% less than present market values

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G. H. MARTIN, MAYMONT

All Saints Anglican Church.

Miss Lily Martin and Seager Wheeler in September 1909. A few weeks later Mr. George Florence and Miss Margaret Bouskill were married.

Reverend Schorfield later moved to Moose Jaw and students Gosden, Walker, and Bunting came until Reverend ■. C. Garlick came in 1914. He died of the 'flu in 1919, so his wife and family moved away. Student ministers Mr. Gray, Mr. Ashley, and Mr. Waite were there until 1921, when after ordination Reverend Ashley was asked to return as resident minister. He was moved to another parish in 1923.

Mr. Bradshaw came in 1923 as a student and was ordained while at Maymont and stayed until 1928. Reverend Jokes came from Wales in 1928 until 1930. Then Reverend Cozens until 1937. Mr. Simpson and Mr. Greenhalch, students took the services until Reverend Basil Saunders came in 1938. In 1941 he was moved to a different locality and Reverend ■. Crowder came until 1944.

Due to the depression after the war years, it was impossible to support a resident minister so a succession of students followed. They came from the East and Emmanuel College ■ Saskatoon. In 1956, a student from Nova Scotia, Randy Wood arrived for the summer months and under his leadership and a generous bequest the church was renovated and a chancel added. Reverend Blakely came next for two years. Then in April of 1959, Reverend Harry Fairbridge, took charge and under his direction the congregation were inspired to use the pledge system. The church was redecorated and in 1959 celebrated its Fiftieth Anniversary. Thanks to another legacy, a new furnace was added. Reverend D. Waddington came in 1961 and stayed until he was transferred in 1966.

Our present minister, Reverend P. Comerford arrived then. A new parsonage was built at Radisson, as our larger parish took ■ Radisson, Borden, and Halcyonia, so we have no resident minister. Reverend and Mrs. Comerford have twins, a boy, Henry, and a girl, Valerie, Henry is studying to be a minister and Valerie is a nurse.

In 1973, the bell tower of the church was removed, the bell stored in a safe place, new roof added and the exterior painted. Arch Deacon Blackwell and eight of his parishioners from North Battleford arrived one Saturday to help with the painting. Reverend Comerford and Henry, Ron and Dick Milman, Jim Gray, and Bob Bates all wielded brushes, even though it turned out ■ be the hottest day of the year, ninety-six degrees above Fahrenheit. The ladies provided lunches in the shade of the trees.

Reverend Comerford made and erected a wooden cross over the front door.

Mr. E. Wilmot left a legacy of beautiful hand carvings in the church. ■ 1910 he made the lectern; 1922 the pulpit and font; then the hymn board, book cabinet and chair stalls, up to 1929. The Communion Table or Altar in 1943, a missal (small reading desk) in 1946, a prayer desk in 1947 and six text boards, with the commandments carved on them, ■ hang between the windows.

Some of the pioneer names in connection with the church are: Milman, Dawson, Bean, Whitehouse, Butterfield, Bouskill, Wilmot, Martin, Pattinson, Shouldice, Chambers, MacPherson. There are so many more we would like to mention who came later and were very staunch Christians.

The Catholic Church, Maymont

First Mass was celebrated in the spring, possibly 1920, ■ the Orange Hall in Maymont. During the same summer, a second Mass was celebrated in Mr. and Mrs. F. Porter's home and a meeting followed. At said meeting it was decided to build a church.

It was financed through the Bishop, the Bank of Maymont, and donations from local members.

The foundation was dug and built by all the people of Maymont who donated their time, etc. Material was bought from Maymont lumber yard.

The date of construction was 1926. The church was built by Mr. Ted Wilmot.

The church vestments were donated by some church in Ontario, through Mr. Fred Porter.

The following were the first trustees; Mr. Fred

Catholic Church in early years.

Porter, Mr. Joe Ducharme, Mr. E. Andrew, Mr. David Fouhy, and Mr. Art Becker.

Mr. Neumeyer of Fielding was the first organist. The first choir consisted of three Neumeyer children and two Becker children.

The first funeral was Dorothy Fouhy in 1928.

The first wedding was Genevieve Fouhy and Albert McGaffin in 1932.

The church was in use until 1969 when the congregation from Spinney Hill built their own church which left few to attend Mass at Maymont so the Maymont church was moved away.

Maymont Catholics now attend Mass in Richard, Radisson, and North Battleford.

Maymont Foursquare Church

The Foursquare Church was started in September, 1936 when Rev. Arthur Bergman held a couple of meetings in the Calais School, south of Maymont. Considerable interest was shown by the people of the Neepawa S. D. north of Calais.

Rev. Ruby Rice and Rev. Gladys Nelson were the first pastors. Under their leadership services were moved to the home of Mr. J. L. Sloan in the Neepawa District. Additional services were also held in the home of N. W. and W. E. Andrew in the Keystone District and also in the home of Mrs. H. Holmes of the Grey School District.

In August, 1940, owing to the illness of Mrs. J. L. Sloan, the Sunday services were moved to the home of Mrs. K. Holmes in the village of Maymont.

In March of 1943 the Foursquare congregation purchased the old pool hall and barber shop, which was one of the pioneer buildings of the town. It was remodelled into a church and was dedicated on July 4, 1943.

Many alterations have been made from time to time including the lowering of the church from two-storeys to one-storey; taking out six feet of wall — this material was thus utilized by the making of a five-room parsonage at the rear of the church.

The Pulpit has been occupied by various Pastors including the Reverends Wilbur Curtis, Russell and Mrs. Andrew, Joe Galbraith, Floyd and Mrs. Sloan, Ralph Cook, William Bell, M. Belobaba, Reg Gillat, Arnold Hemmerling, Valerie Young, Brian Boxall, Jim Nesbitt, Allan Brown, Evelyn Teal, and Alvin Larson.

One Maymont couple who were married there were Walter Wiley and Norma Bohn. Some funerals were also held from this church. It will be remembered by many how the Ted and Evelyn Sloan children were so well versed in Bible verses that they won many contests here and in the U.S.A.

History of Maymont Sharon United Church from Previous Histories

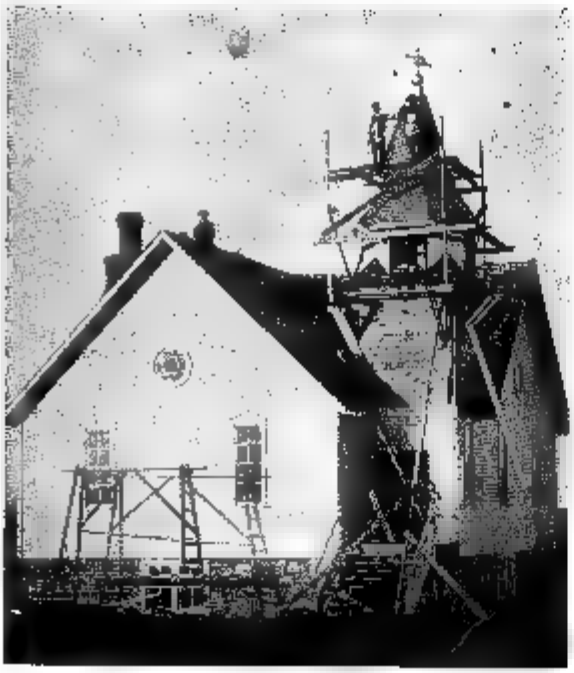
The history of Maymont United Church dates back prior to union when in 1903 Mr. R. N. Matheson, under the direction of then Prince Albert Presbytery, began work in the district, visiting homes and new settlements in the sparsely settled area. He worked from Great Bend (now Radisson) until 1904 when he worked in the area from Fielding to Denholm.

In 1905 Rev. J. C. Madill was appointed by the Home Mission Board to carry on the work of the Presbyterian Church and it was in 1906 that the first Presbyterian Church was built. This church was built on what is now the parking lot for the Memorial Hall.

It was in 1908 the congregations of Fielding, Maymont and Ruddell were organized as a pastoral charge and Rev. Madill inducted as pastor. Mr. Madill moved to British Columbia in November and the charge was vacant until 1909, when Rev. J. M. Fisher accepted a call.

The first annual meeting was held on Jan. 20, 1910. The following are the minutes of that meeting. "The Congregational meeting was held at the residence of Rev. J. M. Fisher at 8 o'clock in the evening, as per announcement from the pulpit on the two preceeding Sundays. Rev. Fisher presided and H. Elliott acted as Secretary. Minutes of a previous meeting were read by secretary and were on the motion adopted. The Treasurer then presented the financial statement of the year which showed the obligations of the congregation had been duly met. Moved, seconded and passed that the report be adopted. The Ladies Aid presented a report which showed the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars to their credit in the bank. This report was also on motion adopted. The Congregation then proceeded to elect officers for the year. It was moved by H. Elliott, seconded by Wm. Parker and agreed that the board of managers hereafter be composed of six members, two of whom shall be elected to this office. For three years Wm. Andrew, Sr. and F. T. McCorkle, for two years A. O. Hawkins and W. H. Carey. For one

Maymont United Church.



Presbyterian Church being built — 1911.

year Andrew Reid and A. A. Melrose. On motion it was agreed to leave the appointment of Sec. Treasurer to the board of managers.

Mr. A. O. Hawkins was appointed pew steward for the year.

Some discussion took place regarding the matter of a new church building, but as the hour was late it was agreed not to take up this matter until a later date. On motion it was agreed to adjourn, to meet on Feb. 23rd. The meeting closed with benediction.

The February meeting of the congregation instructed the board to consider plans for a new church capable of seating 200 to 250 persons at a cost of from $1600.00 to $2000.00. Mr. F. T. McCorkle was elected treasurer of the Building Fund. The board of managers were authorized to make application for a loan for the building of the new church. In Sept. the building committee, W. E. Cook, John Reid and Rev. Fisher were elected, with Mr. Wm. Burrows engaged as carpenter. In March 1911 the first congregational meeting was held in the newly constructed basement.

During Rev. Fisher's four years of ministry he promoted, encouraged and assisted in the building of First Presbyterian Church at Maymont. The new church was completed and officially dedicated November 10, 1911, by Professor E. H. Oliver of Saskatoon, who later became Principal of St. Andrew's College and was the second Moderator of the United Church of Canada. When officially opened there were 26 families and 49 communicants under pastoral care.

On Jan. 23, 1912, the first annual meeting in the new church tendered a vote of thanks to R. P. Blake of Winnipeg for a gift of a Pulpit Bible.

In 1913 Rev. Fisher resigned and as no ordained minister was available, a student minister, Norman Wright, took services for a time. Financial arrangements for a salary were: Maymont and Ruddell to pay five dollars each per Sunday and five dollars a week came from Home Missions.

Rev. Morgan came in 1914 and served until going overseas — then students filled in again until Rev. McPhedran came in 1918. The following year the basement was finished and rented to the Public School Board for a primary class.

The church was now free from debt so improvements could be carried on. The furnace was put in by contributions from the Ladies Aid. The new steps were built, church painted inside and out and pews were installed. The improvements meant heavy expenditures but the congregation felt they had a church second to none in any rural area.

In 1920 the minister's salary was raised from $720 to $900 per annum. Rev. Grant was the minister. He formed a Trail Ranger's Group.

Rev. Sibbald arrived in 1922. Twenty-seven members were present when Rev. Sibbald took up the matter of how the deed of the church property would be affected when Church Union took place. After considerable discussion the Board of Managers were instructed to "take proper steps to retain possession of the title of church property".

At this time the fields were re-arranged with Brada, Denholm and Ruddell together and Fielding, Eastbourne and Maymont.

In 1924 the house and lots of W. J. Mawhinney were purchased for $2000.00 for a manse. The first meeting of the Church Board after Church Union was held Aug. 10, 1925. In the summer of 1927 Rev. Hardy came. Both church and manse were paid for in full.

The Annual Meeting in 1930 reported 49 people braved the cold weather of 39 degrees below zero to attend. The Young People's Society was formed and that year the first supper meeting.

Rev. Hamilton came in 1931. The financial statement showed a surplus of $200.00 making it possible to have the church wired for electric lights in 1932.

Rev. Schnell came in 1936 with his special appeal to children and young people.

Rev. F. Myers came in 1937 on recommendation of Rev. Schnell.

Donations of paint were received and the church was repainted in 1939.

A Young Women's Service Club was organized in 1941 and the United Church and Anglican joined to form a Maymont Young People's.

Mr. McCorkle donated material for the coat rack and it was constructed by L. Curry. (Men to bring their own coat hangers). In 1944 the choir was elected to act as a committee to make inquiries regarding an organ.

The next year a fund was started and in 1945 a new Minshall organ was dedicated in memory of those who lost their lives in World War II.

Over the years improvements continued with building of new steps and the interior of the church being re-decorated. An automatic oil-burning furnace was installed and additional wiring done. The walls and ceiling of the church were insulated and covered with donnaconna. A new sink, drain and cesspool were added to the manse.

In 1954 the United Church Conference of Saskatchewan Honoured Rev. Myers by electing him President of Conference for one year. The three charges and people from a wide area gathered to especially honor him.

In 1957 a fund was started for the building ■ a new manse. Lots were purchased across the road south of the church and the new manse was officially opened Nov. 6, 1958.

The Maymont pastoral charge has changed boundaries on several occassions over the years and now Maymont congregation, since July 1967, has been part of the Maymont Larger Parish made up of three former pastoral charges of Maymont, Radisson and Speers, with two ordained ministers.

During thirty-eight years ■ ministry under Rev. Frank Myers, several events are worthy of mention. At the 25th Anniversary of the United Church, forty new members were received into the Maymont congregation. The 50th anniversary of the opening of the Sharon United Church was observed Oct. 29, 1961. The Ladies Aid celebrated their 50th year in 1960. The 50th anniversary of the congregation took place in January 1960, and every organization prepared a history for the occasion. Special recognition was accorded three pioneers, namely Mrs. George Mohler, who came to the district in 1903, Mr. Percy Parker ■ 1904 and Mr. Herbert Johnston in 1905.

A Life Membership was given ■ Mrs. R. F. Johnston who was a Charter Member of the Women's Missionary Society.

From a Memorial Fund set up by the congregation to receive Memorial donations rather than flowers, chimes were purchased and dedicated in 1969. They were first heard at Christmas of that year and since have been used ■ a call to worship on Sunday Mornings.

Sunday June 29, 1975 was an unhappy day for the congregation as Rev. Dr. F. L. Myers took his last official church service in the Maymont Church. Earlier in the month both he and Mrs. Myers had been honored by the Battlefords Presbytery and the local community with farewell teas and other events and presentations. They moved to Saskatoon where he has continued to serve the United Church as a part time chaplain at two of the hospitals and at Oliver Lodge.

In August 1975 the Rev. R. Sadler, his wife Ruth and their three children arrived in Maymont. His first service was Aug. 31. Mr. Sadler was born and raised in Almonte, Ontario. He taught school for a time, spent ten years in Hong Kong where he was the principal of a large school and helped to organize two other schools. He returned to Canada from Hong Kong and completed his theology studies in Ontario before coming to Maymont after ordination. He served the Maymont Larger Parish until June, 1979 when he moved to the Battleford charge.

In 1975 a garage was built at the manse and a family room was completed in the basement of the manse.

It has been a team ministry in the larger parish and this year, 1979, they hope ■ carry on with the help of Rev. Bill Richards of Speers until the Rev. Allan Porter of Landis arrives in November.

Maymont Pastoral Charge

July 1, 1936 to June 30, 1937

Rev. Leonard W. Schnell, B.A., B.D.

My association with the Maymont Pastoral Charge was of long-standing but of short duration. It began with an invitation to be your minister ■ a letter written by Mr. Andrew A. Melrose early in 1931. Previously we had met at a meeting of the Battleford Presbytery. Since Mrs. Schnell and I had been at St. Walburg for only two years, we felt we could not accept the invitation at this time. Andrew replied, "If not now, then sometime later."

We received a second invitation on March 16, 1936 — also written by Andrew. This was followed by an Official Call dated April 20, signed by forty-seven members and officers of the three congregations, Eastbourne, Fielding and Maymont.

We arrived on the Charge for the Conference year beginning July 1, 1936 hoping to serve for at least seven years. But at the end of June 1937, we said "farewell" ■ accept an offer from the Canadian Bible Society to be District Secretary for North Saskatchewan. It was an unexpected short pastorate, but nevertheless a most eventful one. We briefly outline the highlights under three headings:

I. THE PASTORAL CHARGE

July was holiday month. Returning on Thursday the 30th, I was well in time for my first services on Sunday August 2. Will Melrose accompanied me. Attendance: Eastbourne 40; Fielding 35; Maymont 75. I felt I was off to a good start.

(a) Pastoral Visitation — During August and September, I made calls on one or more families on each of ■ days. On August 16 after making six calls, I wrote ■ my diary, "It will be grand when I have met all my people in their own homes."

(b) Preaching — In addition ■ messages for special church days, Anniversaries, Christmas, Easter and Thanksgiving, I concentrated on two sermon series:

1. Our Statement of Purpose based on Article XX, Basis ■ Union, United Church of Canada.

ii. The Old Testament Prophets.

(c) The Bible Class — A terrific blizzard on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 1 and [illegible] closed the roads to Eastbourne until spring. Consequently on Sunday December 6, we started our winter schedule, i.e. no service at Eastbourne; a combined Sunday School and Church service with the minister responsible for the Bible Class in Maymont at 10:30 a.m.; and afternoon services at Fielding.

The Bible Class proved to [illegible] a most rewarding experience. We studied the Book of Revelation. It was difficult to interpret but the Class participated freely, and judging by the large and regular attendance found the study stimulating.

(d) Young People — There were active Y.P.U's at Maymont and Fielding. Reorganization meetings were held on October [illegible] and 6 respectively. On October 9 a Presbytery Rally was held at North Battleford. The total attendance was well over one hundred, of which more than one third was from the Maymont Charge including a small group from Eastbourne. They were so enthused with the Rally experience that they requested the organization of a local Y.P.U. This was held on October 26 in the Scotville School. Three carloads of young people representing the three preaching points attended the Saskatchewan Y.P. Convention held in Regina the weekend of November 22. "Enthusiasm" was the key word of the young people on the Charge throughout the season.

(e) Church Membership Class — Classes were held in Maymont and Fielding. At the first meeting in Fielding the attendance was 22 young people; in Maymont 8.

(f) The Sacraments.

i. Holy Communion — There were three celebrations of the Lord's Supper: November 1, 1936; January 3, 1937: Good Friday, March 26, 1937. At the last there was also a reception service when the following were added to our Membership Roll.

FIELDING —
Chester, Jean, Keith, Norma and Ruth Ferris;
George and Malcolm Garnett;
Lawrence Iveson;
Jean and Ross MacNaughton;
Alex Spence;
Robert Thomson;
Lila Thompson;
Donald and Elain Walz.

MAYMONT —
Winnie Dolden;
Muriel Foulston;
Horace Knight;
Emma MacDonald;
Lillian Martin;
Donald McCorkle;
Marguerite Mohler;
Lily Spence.

ii. Baptism — This rite was observed in each congregation when the following children were presented:

EASTBOURNE — Lorne Leslie Anger
Edith Adele Scott

FIELDING — Marlene Gertrude Roberts
John Charles Roberts
Dorothy Noreen Roberts

MAYMONT — James Henry Bright
Ellen Dunn Rogers

(g) Weddings: There were seven. At one of them the groom was 47, the bride 17. Just as soon as I pronounced them "husband and wife", I heard the groom whisper quite audibly, "Now you are mine!" The Couples:

10/9/36 — Earl L. Brown and Evelyn Viola MacLeod
8/10/36 — John McMillan and Margaret E. Roberts
16/10/36 — Will G. Scrivens and Mildred [illegible]. Mohler
17/10/36 — Edwin V. Sloan and Evelyn V. M. Andrew
14/11/36 — Norman W. Melrose and Grace E. Harkness
7/4/37 — Thomas H. H. Bates and Ada Pearl Rogers
15/5/37 — Will H. Griffin and Beulah O. Baumbaugh

(h) Funerals; Only two during my twelve months.

1. October 10, 1936 at Fielding for Paddy Spence.
2. March 1, 1937 at Maymont for Will N. Melrose — only 53, a premature death caused by Infantile Paralysis.

II. THE PRESBYTERY

I had been Secretary of the Battleford Presbytery while at St. Walburg. I continued in this Office when I moved to Maymont. The regular duties were simple enough, but now there was a big extra. The future of the Hafford Hospital was a red hot issue at the time. It required much correspondence, and many meetings [illegible] a special committee. When Presbytery could not settle the issue, it was referred to the Saskatchewan Conference to be considered at the annual meeting in June 1937. The final entry in my diary on this knotty problem [illegible] on June 8, 1937: "The Special Hafford Hospital Committee presented a resolution which after a long discussion was accepted by Conference".

III. THE COMMUNITY

(a) The Curling Rink.

Even though 1936 was the driest year [illegible] the "dirty thirties", it was my privilege to enlist the co-operation of the local citizens to build a Curling Rink by voluntary labor. The initial meeting to consider the project was held on October 5, 1936. The organization meeting was held on October [illegible] with construction beginning the following day. The rink opened for play on Thursday December 10 with twenty-four local rinks participating in a knockout draw. Each rink curled two ends. We finished at 2:00 a.m. It was a fun night. The Homemakers served lunch, coffee five cents, doughnuts five cents. Proceeds $13.00 which were presented to the Rink Committee.

(b) The orchestra.

Early in 1937 a local orchestra was formed with the following members: Leader — William Love (trumpet), Miss Ellen Reid (piano), Rev. Walter Cozens (cello), Tom Wood (mandolin), Wendell Reid

(violin), Wilfred Reid (violin), and Rev. Leonard Schnell (violin). The Orchestra's first public appearance was at the Curling Social in the Orange Hall on Monday March 29 when the Bonspiel prizes were presented. Between then and June 30, the orchestra played numbers at six other community events.

It was a pastorate of only twelve months, but one filled with excitement and wonder. Sharing it with me was my wife, Nellie, and our two year old daughter, Grace, born in St. Walburg on May 1, 1934. Our son Bruce was born in Maymont on May 1, 1937.

Women's Missionary Society

from previous history

The W.M.S. was organized in 1915 and the first report was given that year by Miss Flora Bohn. Members at that time were Mrs. F. McCorkle, Mrs. Wm. Parker, Mrs. A. Reid, Mrs. J. J. Reid, Mrs. D. McLennan, Miss Flora Bohn, Mrs. A. Melrose, Mrs. A. Martin, and Mrs. R. F. Johnston.

A group of W.M.S. ladies.

Mrs. G. Holler, Mrs. Wm. Reid and Mrs. W. N. Melrose joined shortly after that. In 1926 there were fifteen members, J. Brady, Mrs. Sibbald, Mrs. J. Taylor and Mrs. Herb Johnston having joined. In February, 1920 the W.M.S. ladies held a bake sale to raise some funds. The sale brought in twenty dollars. In 1927 Mrs. R. Hardy and Mrs. Christfield joined and in April of that year Mrs. Wm. Parker was presented with a life membership certificate.

In 1928 Mrs. Hardy invited the W.M.S. and the Anglican W.A. to her home for the World Day of Prayer Service. Mrs. F. McCorkle was presented with a life membership that year.

In 1930 there were four new members — Mrs. G. Mohler, Mrs. Jas. Rogers, Mrs. J. D. Blacklock and Mrs. H. Hamilton. In 1932 there were eighteen members. Officers in 1934 were Mrs. Herb Johnston, President (remaining in office until 1945) and Mrs. G. Mohler, Secretary-Treasurer (until 1946). Members helped with Red Cross Work during the war years.

Mrs. W. H. Reid and Mrs. Conkey joined in 1946. Mrs. A. Reid, Mrs. A. Melrose, Mrs. Wm. Reid became life members in 1949.

Mrs. F. Myers was presented with a life membership certificate in 1954 and Mrs. J. D. Blacklock in 1956 prior to her departure from Maymont. In 1957 Mrs. Herb Johnston was given a life membership by the Auxiliary and Baby Band Members. In 1959-60 Mrs. A. H. Johnston was President, Mrs. Myers was Secretary-Treasurer. There were fourteen regular members and twenty-two associate members.

Through the years the W.M.S. looked after the leadership of the younger groups. The Mission Band was organized in 1916. Miss Flora Bohn and Miss Frances Bohn were two of the early leaders.

The C.G.I.T. was organized in 1923 with Mrs. Christfield as leader.

The W.M.S. carried on faithfully through the years always doing a commendable share in the larger work of the church.

The United Church Ladies Aid

The Ladies Aid was organized in 1909. The constitution that was drawn up for the Ladies Aid Society said "the object shall be to raise funds for the support and improvement of the local church" The Ladies Aid was a local group who raised money for the local church and were not organized beyond the local level.

The constitution was drawn up in 1909, but there are no records of any minutes until Sept. 1910. Members who paid fees in 1910 were:

Mrs. Fisher	Mrs. Kerr
Mrs. Melrose	Mrs. Patterson
Mrs. Cook	Mrs. J. J. Reid

Early Ladies' Aid members in front of the first manse.

Mrs. McIlvride
Mrs. McCorkle
Mrs. Bergh
Mrs. Knowles
Mrs. Long
Mrs. Peden
Mrs. John Reid
Mrs. McLennan
Mrs. Carey
Mrs. Hawkins
Mrs. Loveless
Mrs. Parker
Mrs. A. Reid

The fees were 25¢ for joining and 10¢ each month.

Mrs. D. McLennan was President and Mrs. Wm. Cook was Secretary. The first bazaar was held on December 15, 1910; the first Sports Day supper on June 21st, 1912; the first Anniversary Supper in October 1912.

Proceeds of Ladies Aid activities throughout the years have been given generously to the maintenance of the Manse and the Church. They have also contributed to other local causes such as the Memorial Hall. They have supported the wider appeals of the Church in it's Social Welfare, it's Missionary Enterprises, the British and Foreign Bible Society, Religious Broadcasting, Church Camps for boys and girls and special appeals for the world's refugees.

For many years the Ladies Aid held three annual suppers — the Sports Day supper, the annual Fowl (later changed to turkey) supper, held in October; and the Bean Supper held in December, and although the Ladies Aid became a part of the United Church Women's organization in 1962, those three suppers are still held each year.

Mission Band

The first leader of the Mission Band was Miss Flora Bohn but it was taken over by Miss Frances Bohn in 1920. Mrs. Richardson and Miss Sadie Johnston took over for two years, then Miss Frances Bohn again took the leadership until 1945.

Membership in 1921 was twenty. In the following years the membership varied from twelve to twenty, with ages ranging from six to twelve years.

Leaders after 1946 were Mrs. Wes Britton and Mrs. Norman Melrose, for a two-year period each. Mrs. Myers took over the leadership in 1949 for a ten-year period. She was assisted by Mrs. E. Peden for six years and Mrs. E. Broom for one year.

In 1958 the age groups were divided, with six- to eight-year-olds staying in Mission Band and ages nine to twelve forming Explorers. Membership of the Mission Band in 1951 was twenty-eight members.

Mrs. Norman Johnston became leader in 1959, assisted by Mrs. E. Broom, until 1960, when Mrs. Anita McIvor took over until the Mission Band ended in 1962 and the group became known as the Messengers.

Maymont was the only Band that had carried on continuously since its beginning — a period of forty-four years.

All givings were voluntary until they began selling United Church calendars.

Young Women's Service Club

The Service Club was organized in 1941. The first President was Mrs. Simmons; The Vice-President was Mrs. N. Friedman; Secretary-Treasurer was Mrs. C. A. Reid. It was an interdenominational group with a membership of thirty. This club took in the younger women in the district, married or single. They put on plays, bought drapes for the Memorial Hall, planted trees around the Church, canvassed for the Cancer Fund, and the March of Dimes. They donated money for church improvements, painted the church steps, bought new Hymn books, kitchenware for the church kitchen, also purchased curtains for the Memorial Hall dining room and Kemtone to re-decorate the stage.

The Club assisted the Ladies Aid with the annual suppers.

In 1962 the Young Women's Service Club became a part of the United Church Women's organization.

Sunday School

(from previous history)

The history of the early Sunday School started in the spring of 1907 when it was organized by the Presbyterian Church. Frank Bohn was appointed Superintendent and teachers were Herb Elliott, Mrs. Herb Johnston, Ruth and Pearl Madill with Ruth Madill as organist. Sunday School was held at 2:00 P.M. in the summer of 1908, Miss Eva Smith, daughter of a Presbyterian minister in Ontario, taught at Grey School and was a part-time Sunday School teacher.

Mr. Madill left in the fall and the Sunday School was closed for a few months, but re-organized by Mr. Fisher with a new slate of officers and teachers. Mr. Fisher began a Cradle Roll Class — three years to five years. The attendance increased until the church was too small to hold everyone. For the next year or so services were held in the upstairs of the Pool Room until the new church basement was ready.

Percy Parker was secretary of the Sunday School.

In the early years of the First World War, Mr. Morgan the minister, asked the Sunday School to sacrifice the Christmas tree and give the money they would spend for gifts and treats to the Belgian Relief Fund. Forty-five dollars was raised.

The first mention of Sunday School in church records was at the annual meeting of March 9, 1911. In the report, average collection was $1.05 each week making a total of $56.05. Reverend J. H. Fisher was superintendent.

In the annual meeting of January 25, 1912 the minutes report the primary class contributed $27.00 towards a lighting plant for the church. The report of January 1, 1913 showed a prosperous year of $61.00, $17.00 given to Missions with another $8.00 being paid on the lighting plant which paid off the indebtedness. Miss Frances Bohn gave the annual report in 1916.

In the report of 1918 it showed four teachers and

Sunday School picnic at Grey School — 1925 or 26.

twenty-two pupils, also A. O. Hawkins was appointed Sunday School Superintendent.

In 1924 Mrs. A. Martin was appointed Superintendent. A picture lantern was bought by the Sunday School in 1925. At the 1928 meeting Mrs. Herb Johnston was appointed superintendent.

The names of the Sunday School Superintendents since 1929 and who took office January are:

1929-1930 G. Gerts
1932-1933 Don Campbell
1933-1934 Andrew Melrose
1934-1935 Mr. Glover
1936-1938 Franklin Mohler
1938-1939 Andrew Melrose
1941-1946 Franklin Mohler
1947-1951 Wilf Reid
1952-1966 Edwin Peden
1966-1967 Mrs. Phyllis Johnston

Mrs. Phyllis Johnston was superintendent until the Christian Education Committee took charge of the Sunday School.

United Church Women

In the spring of 1961, a provisional committee made up of four members from each United Church women's organization, met at the manse to set up the new organization — the U.C.W. With Rev. F. Myers as chairman, plans were made for a meeting of all ladies of the congregation to be held June 6, to gain further information about same.

Thirty-six ladies attended this meeting, discussing and reviewing plans for the new U.C.W. A committee of four was named to meet later with Mr. Myers to draw up a questionnaire to be filled out by all women of the congregation, with a view to finding out what kind of an organization was best suited to this area. This committee consisted of Mrs. C. Miller, Mrs. A. R. Johnston, Mrs. W. E. Johnston and Mrs. F. Myers.

The inaugural service was held January 9, 1962, in the church, with Rev. F. Myers leading the service.

Mrs. E. J. Peden was named head of the Central Committee of the new U.C.W.; 1st vice president — Mrs. W. Beaudoin; 2nd vice president — Mrs. C. Miller; secretary — Mrs. E. M. Turner; treasurer — Mrs. Robert Gray. Heading the various committees were Mrs. M. Mohler, Christian Citizenship; Mrs. D. Christie, Community Friendship; Mrs. R. Thomas, Co-operation and Christian Education; Mrs. F. Myers, Finance, Mrs. A. Bean, Flowers; Mrs. A. R. Johnston, Literature and Communication; Mrs. C. A. Reid, Manse; Mrs. W. H. Reid Membership; Mrs. W. Sadowsky, Nominations; Mrs. G. Brehon, Program; Mrs. E. Broom, Periodicals; Mrs. R. Rogers, Social Functions; Mrs. G. McIvor, Stewardship and Recruiting; Mrs. J. Rogers, Supply and Social Assistance; Mrs. N. Crawley, Press.

Five Life Memberships were given in 1962, to Mrs. G. Mohler, Mrs. R. Gray, Mrs. A. R. Johnston, Mrs. J. Rogers, and Mrs. A. Bean.

The money for the Life Memberships was raised by sale of birthday calendars.

There were and still are three units. The Eventide Unit meet in the evening — they convene the annual bean and casserole supper held in December.

The Friendship Unit consists mostly of the former Ladies Aid members — they convene the Sports Day supper. The Rebekah Unit are the former Young Women's Service Club, later the Sharon Group. They convene the annual Turkey Supper in October. The money raised from the Turkey Supper goes directly to the Church Board. In addition to the suppers the U.C.W. caters to wedding receptions and other dinners. The units have taken turns being responsible for convening these but all members and other ladies of the congregation help. The Friendship Unit no longer convene receptions or dinners.

The Social Functions committee plan the food lists for the suppers. They also prepare a list of ladies names who take turns sweeping the church.

In general the United Church Women combine the work and study of the former Ladies Aid and the Womens Missionary Society, raising money for a number of projects, studying various topics and visiting the shut-ins.

Explorers

The Maymont Explorers group came into being due to the Mission Band having such a large enrolment at that time, that ■ was difficult to handle them in one group. It involved an age group of six ■ eleven year olds, both boys and girls.

It was largely due to Mrs. Myers that the group was formed. Through Mrs. Myers, Mrs. Cunningham of Speers, who was leading an Explorer group there, was invited to come to Maymont to speak to the mid-week group leaders. As a result Explorers was formed.

The first meetings were held in 1958-59 with Mrs. Sarah Beaudoin as leader. Mrs. Beaudoin led the group for twelve years with the help of various assistants.

To raise money for Missions they held bake sales, sold popcorn and candy and crafts at the bean suppers.

When the TYROS were formed the boys in this age group went into TYROS and the Explorers became a group for girls only.

There has been an Explorer group in Maymont every year since. The present leader is Mrs. Mary Ann Broom.

Tyro

Tyro is a program for junior boys ages 9, 10, and 11. The letters in the name stand for "Try Your Reach Out". The basic purpose of Tyro is to help junior boys grow ■ Christian experience, democratic living, and physical skills and knowledge.

The first Tyro group formed in Maymont was in 1962 with Ken Britton as leader. In 1965 Dick Clayton shared the duties of leader with Ken Britton. George Brehon was an assistant leader for a time.

The following is a list of boys who took part in Tyro; Russel Beaudoin, Lyle Wood, Elwin Parker, Brian Johnston, Larry Roach, Harvey Rogers, Don McIvor, Ralph Johnston, Don Hawkins, Doug Britton, Kim Sherman, Dale McDonald, Jimmy Sanderson, Darryl Parker, Don Bates Bill Melrose, Barry Britton, Kelly Gray, Carmen Smith, Brian Rogers, Ted Leach, George Langley, Doug Brehon, Calvin Parker, Blair Roche, Wally Sadowsky, Tom Peden, Chris Sherman, Garth Brehon, Victor Tebay.

The Tyro group had bottle drives to raise money. They enjoyed many good camp-outs.

For a time the program was dropped but it was reorganized again in 1976-77 with Mr. Doug Sevick as leader. Doug arranged an excellent outdoor program for the boys.

The members for that year were: Clifford Greenslade, Neil Clayton, Ellis Clayton, Glen Milman, Brent Beierle, Myron Prescesky, Kevin Brehon.

Messengers

The Messengers, formerly the Mission Band, started in the fall of 1962 with Mrs. Lyle McIvor and Mrs. George Brehon as leaders. Attendance was 26 members ranging in age from 6 to 8 years.

Meetings are held once a month from Sept. until the end of June, when graduation is held. The girls graduate into Explorers and the boys into Tyros.

The Messengers sell the United Church calendar every year to raise funds.

Maymont C.G.I.T.

C.G.I.T. — meaning Canadian Girls In Training is a mid-week group of teenage girls, from ■ to 18 years, associated with the Sharon United Church.

It's aim ■ to make a girl true ■ all the relationships of her life, her home, her school, her personal friendships, her church and her community. It very definitely aimed to link up her interests in the mid-week with her Sunday School and Church life. At one time attendance at Sunday School was very important and if all did not attend, the chances of winning a chevron were forfeited — a chevron being the symbol to wear on the sleeve of the uniform, much like the stripe of an army officer.

C.G.I.T. girls at Roy Gray farm, Oct., 1944. — Pat Prynaiit, Eileen Bean, Alice Rogers, Thelma Rogers, Leader — Helen Armstrong, Lillian Nutbrown, Audrey DeLong, Delcie Gray, Gladys Harris, Eleanor Blacklock, Joan (Mrs. Riches niece), Terry Rolfe.

The uniform was quite simple consisting of a white middy with navy blue collar and cuffs with C.G.I.T. monogram embroidered on left sleeve. A black tie with friendship knot pinned at the waist and a white lanyard. This blouse was worn with a navy skirt. The uniforms and pins were introduced into the program ■ 1919.

Materials for the programming of C.G.I.T. came from the Conference Office in Regina. There is a Mission Study and Bible Study. They have their own Hymn, their purpose and a magazine called the Torch.

Our C.G.I.T. groups over the years have held Sunrise Services at Easter; sleep-outs during Easter holidays; Mother and Daughter banquets and Graduation Services for those leaving C.G.I.T.; initiation ser-

vices at the beginning of each year. The year runs from September to May.

As this group is not a money making concern, they try to hold two teas a year in order to make enough money ■ fund their projects, also selling greeting cards and novelties.

The meetings are held usually every two weeks and last for one and a half hours, ending by singing 'Taps', giving their own hand clap and saying 'thanks for the evening Comrades'.

The meeting is conducted by the girls, having nominated their own executive, with the guidance of two leaders. If the group is large it is divided into a junior and senior group thus having a leader for each. Usually a Superintendant is named from the community, to help the leaders with guidance and encouragement over any difficulties that may arise.

During the summer Camp Council is held, at Candle Lake, to which a girl may be sent by her group. Her expenses are paid and she has the opportunity to meet, share and work with other girls from all over the province. This camp lasts for ten days and is a worthwhile experience.

Some of the community activities they take part in are canvassing for the Blind, decorating the church for Thanksgiving, taking part in World Day of Prayer assisting with annual Church Meeting and have served at banquets.

The monies they are committed to giving include:
buying their Mission Pack;
buying the lanyards for girls going into the senior group when they are fifteen;
paying for their Torch magazine
paying for pins and insignias for new members as well as graduating members;
the girls usually donate thirty dollars each year to the Mission fund.

C.G.I.T. celebrated it's 60th year in 1975. There are 34,000 girls across Canada in the organization, all united by a common purpose:

"Cherish Health, Seek Truth, Know God, Serve Others and thus become the girl God would have me be".

At present there are fourteen girls in the Maymont group. The leader is Mrs. Cheryl Gray.

Ceramic Club

Geraldine Dube

In January, 1976, the Maymont and District Community College began a ceramic class. The interest was so great that the group who registered had to be divided into two. These classes lasted for twelve weeks. A kiln was purchased by the Maymont and District Youth and Recreation Board for community use.

On April 29, 1976, an organizational meeting was held at the school to form a Ceramic Club. There were 18 ladies and one man Mr. Ted Saunders, in attendance. Nominations were held with Gerry Dube elected as chairperson, Shirley Miller as secretary and Ted Saunders as treasurer. A membership fee of five dollars was charged. There were 34 members joined the club. For a time the kiln was kept at the Community Hall but it was later moved to the old library building which the village had turned over to the Recreation Board.

In March, 1977 a vice-chairman was added to the executive. Karen Schmidt was elected. On April 2, 1977, a ceramic show and sale was held in the basement of the United Church. Even though it was a snowy, stormy day, many came to the show to admire the beautiful articles the members had made. Coffee, tea, and squares were served for a nominal sum of .25¢

During that year many of the members motored to North Battleford to take advanced classes. On Jan. 29, 1978, the club displayed their works of art at the school during the Regional Winter Games.

■ Sept. 1978 nominations were opened for a new executive. Betty Prescesky was elected chairperson, Gail Voegeli as vice-chairperson, Gerry Dube as secretary and Jeanette Pauls as treasurer.

On Oct. 21 and Dec. 2, 1978, two day long seminars were held with an excellent turnout.

Ceramics has allowed many people to express themselves and develop their talent. It has also been a very good social outing for many.

The History Of The Purple Star L.O.L. No. 1969 And The Orange Hall

The Purple Star L.O.L., or more commonly known as the Maymont Orange Lodge was organized on April 27, 1907. It was one of the largest rural Orange Lodges in Saskatchewan, with members coming from across the river and from a large area on this side of the river.

One of the notable events the Orange Lodge sponsored each year was a parade and a picnic on the Twelfth of July. The Orangemen paraded in lodge regalia, sometimes led by one of the members riding a white horse. They carried their banner and marched to the music of the fife and drums. Mr. Ernie Fitzel to quote a member of the lodge was "a great old drummer" and Mr. George Lowery played the fife.

Large crowds attended these picnics and for years it was the highlight of the summer in this area.

One of the projects the Orange Lodge helped to sponsor was a Children's Orphanage at Indian Head, Saskatchewan. Each year money was raised and forwarded to the children's home.

The Lodge met in various places with varying degrees of success. Some of the meeting places were the first Presbyterian Church, which stood near the site of the present Community Hall, Grey School, and the basement of the United Church. Owing to lack ■ a

Early Orangeman's gathering — Photo taken beside the Orange Hall.

suitable meeting place, they decided to build a hall, this being in June, 1914.

During the First World War, 1914-1918 it was used very extensively by the Red Cross for various entertainments, as well as being used for travelling vaudeville and picture shows. During October, 1918 a stage was built onto the east end of the hall and a new piano was purchased. Then in late February and early March of 1919 the ante-rooms to the west were added, and it was at this time that the members of the I.O.O.F. started to use the hall for their meetings and continued to use it for many years.

Until 1921 the hall was lighted by the use of gas lamps, but during that year Robert Downing, the garage owner of that time, installed a Delco lighting plant in the garage and the hall was wired for electric lights and connected to his plant. In 1923 a welcome change was made when 250 new chairs were purchased, replacing the home-made benches in use until that time. In 1925 a projection room was added to comply with the then existing cinematographic regulations, and from that time on for many years weekly picture shows were held. As well as being used for picture shows and dances, it was also used for all types of public meetings, and many fine concerts and plays of local talent were held in the hall. It continued to be used as a public hall until the new community Hall was opened, when the old hall was sold to Mr. Tom Turner as a residence in 1949.

Maymont Figure Skating Club

The Figure Skating Club was first formed on December 16, 1965 with Shirley Miller as president and June Rogers as secretary-treasurer. We had a membership of fifty-six skaters and our teacher was Mr. Nick Krilow of North Battleford.

Our first carnival was held on March 13 that year with an estimated nine hundred people attending and total intake neared the $1450 mark. Miss Irene Free of Fielding was crowned Queen and was sponsored by Fielding Board of Trade. The colorful evening program consisted of solos, duets, drills, dances and animal capers. Numbers were announced by Ken Britton and music was directed by Mrs. Krilow.

During 1967-69, Phyllis Johnston was president and June Rogers remained as secretary-treasurer.

In 1970-72, Gladys Brehon was president and Doreen Parker was secretary-treasurer. During this time the figure skating teacher was Miss Joanne Storla of Saskatoon.

All through the first years of our club we always had the help of Fred Hawryliw of Fielding, who went on to make a career of figure skating.

In 1973, Doreen Parker became president for the following two years with the secretary-treasurer being Bonnie Milman.

Sandra Long took over in 1975 for one year and Inez Harris took the position for one year in 1976. Secretary was Pat Brown and the treasurer was Bobby Ross of Spinney Hill.

Kick Line in one of the Figure Skating Carnivals. L. to r. — Maxine Gray, Marjorie Spence, Yvonne Rogers, Margaret Rogers, Leslie Brehon, Sandra Garnett, Glenda Miller.

For 1977, the president was Bonnie Millman, the secretary, Isabel Tebay; treasurer, Bobby Ross.

Our present president, Charlotte Beaudoin began in 1978 with secretary Pat Brown of Fielding. The treasurer is Myrna Roberts also of Fielding. The club still has over thirty members who are mostly beginners now and a few juniors. Although queens are not part of the entertainment now, there used to be one every year.

Three trophies are given each year to members of the club who have won some special achievement.

The Wendy McIvor Trophy, presented each year since 1971 by the Lyle McIvor family, is presented to the most improved skater twelve years and under.

The Margaret Rogers Trophy presented annually since 1972 is presented by Margaret (Rogers) Thompson for the most improved skater thirteen years and over.

The Yvonne Rogers Trophy presented annually since 1974 by Yvonne (Rogers) Gray is presented to the most enthusiastic skater nine years and under.

Maymont Homemakers' Club

1922-1960 by Mrs. A. Mohler
1960-1979 by Mrs. Esther Tebay

The Maymont Homemakers' Club was formed February 6, 1922 in the basement of the Presbyterian Church. Miss Esther Thompson of the Extension Department of the University of Saskatchewan was responsible for the formation of our club. Many women felt the need of a community effort to improve home as well as the community.

The original officers were as follows: President — Mrs. F. Dudley, First Vice-President — Mrs. Rice, Secretary-Treasurer — Mrs. G. Mohler.

Thirty-nine members were on the roll in 1922-23. The smallest membership was in 1944 — 14 members. The average membership has been 20.5.

The names of our Life Members are as follows: Mesdames R. [illegible] Johnston, F. Butterfield, Mrs. Foster, G. Mohler. Those members holding the office of District President were: Mrs. G. Mohler in 1928, Mrs. R. [illegible] Johnston in 1933, Mrs. T. Turner in 1942, Mrs. J. D. Blacklock in 1945.

No member has held a provincial office. Every provincial convention was attended except one. No member attended the F.W.I.C. or A.C.W.W. meetings. Most rallies were attended. Our Club was host of four conventions — 1928, 1933, 1942 and 1954.

What were the highlights and frustrations? The highlight of the 1928 convention was an account of South Africa by a Mrs. Murray, whose home is in South Africa.

1933 — No report. Project afghan.

WAR EFFORTS

Red Cross — Parcels of clothing, quilts, hospital gowns, pyjamas, mitts, sweaters, etc., were sent [illegible] Britain.

1942 — 150 knitted garments, [illegible] quilts, 82 pieces of sewing had been sent to headquarters.

1944 — [illegible] garments sent. Utility bags made and sent to women of bombed-out areas 32 parcels sent to men overseas.

1945 — 172 garments and $1300 sent to headquarters. Money and other donations were sent previous years to the Navy League, Disabled Civilians, Milk for Britain, Mobile Kitchen, U.N.I.C.E.F.

Other donations such as: T.B. Fund, March of Dimes, Crippled Children, Films on Cancer and T.B., Tag Days for the Blind, F.W.I.C., National Emergency Fund.

Our Club contributed to the war effort as follows: Clothing was collected for destitute people of Europe. Rehabilitations — eight community socials held, ninety certificates presented to Service Personnel, six presented to next of kin. Adopted a family in Britain for a few years. Dresses sold for Crippled Children's Workshop.

Community Fairs were not organized by the Homemakers' Club, but we did serve cocoa and coffee on Field Days at different times, and gave prizes for different sports. One of our members was represented on the Fair Board for a number of years.

Trees were planted at the cemetery many years ago, road gravelled and a thorough Clean-up Day once a year has been held for many years. A large gate sign was placed at the entrance as well. The community cares for our cemetery. We have given a donation to the Skating Rink.

Our Charities — made layettes and gave them and bundles of clothing to the needy. Shower for a war bride, installed a telephone for one family, sent flowers to sick in hospital, made quilts, had a shower, twenty-five dollar gift to a family whose home had burned.

Community Projects — Our Club contributed a donation to two Music Festivals held in North Battleford.

Our Youth Work — The first Homecraft Club was formed in 1937. First project was tomato growing. 1938 — came second with poster at Regina, and honorable mention in Regina. The Maymont Homecraft Girls were one of forty-two teams attending the North Battleford Fair. One of the girls received honorable mention, an honor among so many. 1957 — Homecraft work was taken up once more and has continued until this year. Homemakers' Club offered prizes for their Achievement Day.

Fifty-four girls have been sent to Farm Girls' Camps since 1926. Forty-two girls have attended the North Battleford Camp. Nine girls have attended Farm Week in Saskatoon. Three girls have attended the Youth Training Course held in North Battleford. In 1945 one girl won the wrist watch and a book for first award in Homecraft work, one winning the second award. In 1948 two girls sent to Saskatoon won fourth

place for judging gingerbread. Also in 1948 the Homecraft Girls won first in Record Books as inter-club competition in Saskatoon. In 1950, three girls went to Saskatoon, one girl won second on skirt making. One came second in menu selection.

Our Club sponsored two girls to the United Nations Seminar in '55-'57.

Community Projects — The Homemakers' Club has presented awards for Oratory from Grades Eight to Twelve since 1931 until last year when it was given to the lower grades. The average value was about $15.00. The first year photos of the winners were placed in the schoolrooms. Sponsored a trip for school children to Art Exhibit held in Richard.

District Projects — Wire-flower making, reed basketry, spinning wool were some of the early handicraft projects. An afghan, toddler's outfit, a cushion and C.A.C. poster were made for district competiton. A kitchen improvement or re-modelling competition won a prize of fifteen dollars sponsored by the T. Eaton Company, Saskatoon. The Salada Tea competition consisted of articles made for a hope chest.

The Tweedsmuir Competition was a quilt block book which was awarded first prize at the District Convention. For the A.C.W.W. gifts to women of other countries were snapshot albums.

Several Distinction Awards were given to our Club for sending all reports. We did not enter the District or Provincial Artistic Competitions.

Projects and Awards

Club Projects — Our special club projects undertaken — raising money to purchase stage curtains for Orange Hall and Memorial Hall, window curtains for Legion Hall and Memorial Hall dining room. Sanitary toilets in both Orange and Memorial Hall. Beautification of cemetery, Potato seed contest. Farm markers — boards with farmer's names on them, lettering on board made of Scotchlite paper.

A weaving class was organized by one member and in 1943 a membership of twelve. Class worked for five years. Two or three are still weaving. Two were taught how to weave by members after finishing the course.

A Jubilee Cake was made which weighed thirty-six pounds.

Miss May from the Extension Department came different years giving demonstrations of dressmaking and millinery. Sold one hundred eleven cookbooks. They cost $174.15 and sold for $213.40. More than once Mrs. M. Ducie came and gave a course in sewing.

Community Projects — Pre-school clinics were held in 1936, 1939, 1943, continuously since 1953 to the present time. In 1938 a Health Centre was held with one hundred ten children passing through the Clinic. In 1939 one hundred twenty-five children were examined at the clinic. In 1942, thirty-two children were taken to Radisson for dental work. In 1946, a T.B. Clinic was held with one thousand three hundred seventy-six persons examined. In 1957 a Polio Clinic was held, members of the Homemakers' Club assisting. Gifts of clothing for children in Shelters, and knitting and in 1941 a monthly donation of eggs.

We did not build a Community Hall but have given donations to the Memorial Hall, toward a piano, cutlery, four tea wagons, and enlarging the kitchen, etc.

Finances — The money from our receipts for thirty seven years show approximately the sum of $12,-130.19. The amount we sent away was $2,146.83. To earn some of the money we catered to the Agricultural Society nineteen times, the Pool Committee twice and a few weddings.

Our highest financial venture was in 1955. We catered to two weddings, two banquets and sold many cookbooks that year.

Memories

They are mostly about muddy roads or snow. In the early years money was raised by putting on plays. Travelling by sleigh in winter time, having to stay overnight in a hall across the river, until daylight on account of a snowstorm.

Travelling home in wagons, in early spring when the ground was frozen, taking stage property along when the temperature dropped to forty below that early morning.

Another time two delegates coming home from Meota were caught in a rain storm and forced to spend the night in North Battleford. The storm damaged the power plant. Other times, it always seemed to rain when Richard had a convention. More than once on the muddy roads between Richard and Maymont the cars had to be pushed up the hill over the little bridge.

And now we come to the last eighteen years of the club as reported by Esther Tebay:

1961 — Maymont Homemakers' Club had a membership of nineteen with Mrs. Vera Gray as president and Mrs. Mary Nutbrown as secretary. Mrs. M. Martin has been treasurer for many years. There were many concerns, even then there was interest in car drivers obeying all traffic laws.

Homecraft Club was started by one of the members. Baby clinics were always helped by members.

There were many community concerns and interests. At this time donations were given to the River Heights Lodge; also repairs and help with additions to Memorial Hall.

Co-op School was another project. Members supplied pies. Materials were bought for the pies and each member made seven pies.

Hospitals have always been our interest. Articles collected this year for Notre Dame Hospital in North Battleford.

1962 — Saw Maymont celebrating their fortieth annual meeting of Homemakers. This was held in the Legion Hall.

Competitions in floral arrangements, designing, book markers were interesting projects.

1964 — August 28, proved to be a very sad meeting when Maymont bid farewell to Mrs. R. F. Johnston, as she was leaving to live in Edmonton.

Carpet bowling was one of the pastimes that was enjoyed.

A sewing machine was purchased by the club for homecraft project. The Memorial Hall was always one of the places looked after well. At this time tea towels were donated, also the hall floor was painted, and exit lights installed. Making quilts for the Unitarian Service Commission, also collecting used clothing was another project. Equipment for farm camp supplied.

The highlight of every year was the convention and fall rally. Casseroles and pies supplied by the club.

1965 — August — Eighty-nine students attend Co-op School. Four Maymont girls attend farm camp. Litter barrel placed at bulletin board. Helped supply candy for Christmas tree.

One member was teaching sewing lessons in 1966. Many courses have been taught since. Help was always given at Achievement Day by setting tables, making tea and coffee. The girls always did the serving.

The District Convention of 1966 was held in Maymont with U.C.W. catering to the dinner. The price was $1.25 per plate.

1970 — Physical fitness classes were started. The programs are varied: Arts and Literature, Agriculture Education, Public Health, International Relations, Legislation, Home Economics.

Each year we do a complete canvas for cancer.

1971 — On June 10 the Homemakers' Club was given a new name. It became known as Saskatchewan Women's Institute. Also instead of club we were known as a branch. In North Battleford District of Women's Institute there are eleven branches.

This was Homecoming Year. Many activities were planned. Two of our members took part in the quilting bee at the Development Museum. They were dressed in period gowns and looked lovely.

Members entertained former members at a tea in the park. Each guest was given a Saskatchewan Lily corsage, made by our own branch.

1972 — Our September meeting program was chaired by a Maymont girl, Clare Beckton who was studying law. She delighted her listeners with her enthusiasm about her work. She was on a project "Opportunity for Youth" that summer. She worked in remote areas out of Duck Lake. She now is a professor of law.

We have had Merit Award Nights when seven members received pins and certificates for over thirty years of service.

There have been hobbycraft collection shows which have been well attended. The first one had fifty-seven entries and over three hundred guests. The second one had fifty-three entries and two hundred eighty in attendance. Real enthusiastic people! So many varied hobbies and crafts!

1978 — Maymont hosted District Convention when one hundred four guests and members signed the book. The Memorial Hall Committee catered a hot turkey meal at four dollars a plate. It was an exciting day. The theme was INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. Each club represented a different country. The delegates were dressed in the costumes of their chosen country.

1979 — Federated Women's Institute of Canada held their convention in Saskatoon. Saskatchewan Women's Institute played a busy part in it. June 27 was declared Saskatchewan Day. Bus loads of delegates toured areas of Saskatchewan within a radius of one hundred miles of Saskatoon. Maymont was one area where a bus load of fifty-three delegates stopped. They toured the elevator and lunch was served by Maymont Branch. There was a display of handmade quilts, afghans and paintings.

Our W.I. Branch keeps active in community work. We have helped young people. We plan to honor all children of the community born this year — this being the "International Year of the Child".

We have catered several weddings this year. We also cater the Wheat Pool banquet once a year.

There are four life members in our branch. Mrs. A. Mohler, now residing in River Heights Lodge in North Battleford, Mrs. Mary Rogers of Maymont, Mrs. [redacted]. Martin of Maymont, and Mrs. Mary Nuthrown of Saskatoon.

There are eight members who have merit award certificates and service pins. Seven with thirty years of service and one with twenty years of service.

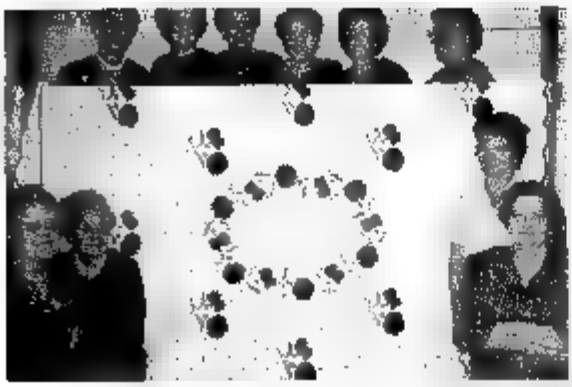
We have thirteen active members at the present time — August 11, 1979.

Maymont Quilters

[redacted] this year of 1979 we have a quilting club in our village. There [redacted] nothing unique about having a quilting club — Saskatchewan is probably full of quilters. The unique thing about this one is that it had its beginning during the last war when ladies of the community met to make quilts for the Red Cross war effort. They met in the Legion Hall once a week and at times there were enough ladies there to have two quilts on the go at once. Some of these first quilts were used in air-raid shelters and were made of dark materials such as the best parts of worn trousers, coats, skirts etc., lining being flannelette or dyed flour bags.

Materials were often donated by Eatons and Simpsons — money donations to buy supplies often came from the Red Cross Society. Many boxes of print patches were donated by individuals — once in awhile even the completed quilt tops. Some of these print patchwork quilts were raffled and the money spent to buy batts, thread or broadcloth.

In 1944 one of the quilters left the community and



A group of Maymont quilters.

she was presented with a quilt on which the members had embroidered their name. From that quilt the following list of names is taken and hereby recorded as being the first group of Red Cross quilters.

Mesdames: Wm. Gray, Ellen Melrose, Nellie Curry, Dorothy Andrew, Celia Rolfe, Mary Britton, Janet Harris, Mary Rogers, S. Dolden, Eva Holler, Annie Melrose, Winnifred Abblett, Annie Hawkins, Letitia Blacklock, Elsie Robbins, Dorothy Crawley, Dora Foster, Grace DeLong, Ethel Neill, Dorothy Sykes, Rosa Best, Miss Ellen Reid, Miss Francis Bohn.

At the end of the War, the group seemed loath to give up quilting so they began making and quilting for each other and from there to custom quilting.

In 1946 Maymont had its first War Bride (the late Mrs. Howard Rogers) and as a welcome to the community she was given a shower. Among the gifts she received was a quilt from the quilters. From that day to the present, each bride from the community has been given a quilt at her bridal shower and to date, one hundred and forty-four such quilts have been presented to brides. It is interesting to note here that since 1946 there hasn't been a year without a bride in our community — one year in particular there were as many as nine.

Obviously 144 names are to many to record here but perhaps we may be permitted to mention a few milestones along the way. Our 25th bride to receive a quilt was Gladys Brehon (nee Parker), 50th was Jeanine Fast (nee Dahl), 75th Margaret Walker (nee Bohn), and the 100th was Gail Palivoda (nee Reid).

After the war years a Memorial Hall was built and the quilters decided to donate money from quilt sales etc. to this project. Thirty-one years and many, many quilts later they are still donating to the Hall to assist in its upkeep and to purchase of necessary equipment as the need arises.

Before the Hall was completed in 1948 the quilters met in private homes but today they meet in the Hall once a week. The group isn't as large as the original one and only two of that first gathering still belong. The numbers have changed through the years — faces have changed but there are at present 17 active members.

Its a congenial group — we have no president, secretary or treasurer as such, though money and ordering are handled by one member and records are kept of expenses and receipts. A glance back to early records show quilt batts purchased at $1.00 each, broadcloth at 47¢ per yard and thread 12¢ per spool.

There have been errors and omissions at times but these are always settled in a good-natured way over a cup of tea at lunch break.

The Maymont Rifle Club — Early 1900's

I remember that as school boys, we hunted for rifle bullets on a hill East of town. Stanley Bohn recalls that his brother Alfred (who later was killed in the First World War) belonged to the Rifle Club, also his brother Jim, Charles Brehon, George Walton, and Alfred and Billy Andrew, Fred Carveth, W. J. Mawhinney, Percy Bouskill, Bobby Jack Andrew, Tom Bates and Wm. Dawson. We are sure there were others. They met on Saturday afternoons in summer. They had shoot-offs with a group from New Ottawa. Tom Ayres was one of their leading promoters.

There was also a Trap Shooting or Skeet Club. As far as we can find out this club was formed after the Rifle Club with most of the same people belonging to it. From 1908 on they met on the "Fair Grounds" where the present Maymont Central School is.

F. F. Mohler

School Districts

Beckwith School

Beckwith School, No. 526, was located across the road from the Beckwith property, for which ■ was named. It was on the N.W. corner of 19-40-11, west of the 3rd meridian. It apparently opened in 1911. Records of the early years are hard to obtain, but one of the first pupils, Lucy Clark, now Mrs. L. C. Mapes speaks of attending the school until they moved away ■ 1913. Her letter says: "Not many modern persons know of pioneer life and hardships, when we thirsted so for a school and knowledge, and studied hard. Beckwith School supplied a desperate need." She mentioned living ■ a tiny sod house, where her little sister Alice was born with a neighbor Mrs. P. Spence in attendance. Among the pleasant memories of that time noted by another former pupil, Mrs. Ora (Clark) Hollingshead, were the July 1st picnics held on the plateau above the North Saskatchewan river, which ran some two miles south of the school. She also mentioned the Indians camped by the river in the spring.

Beckwith School about 1925. Boys, L. to R. starting at top. Albert Sherman, Leo Wilcox, Bill Roberts, Hans Prechtl, Ken McLeod, Richard Prechtl, Alex Spence, George Garnett, Clayton Cure, teacher, Miss VI Laidlaw (behind Bill Roberts). Girls, L. ■ R., starting at top. Lily Spence, Annie Prechtl, Kathaleen McCarthy, Emma Sherman, Lillian Sherman, Anne Spence, Anne Sherman, Evelyn McLeod, Dorothy Clark, Esther Spence, Irene Sherman, Joan Woods.

A 1912 school register shows 8 pupils under teacher J. Dunning. At that time the school remained open during July and August, but was closed during the cold winter months. Of these first pupils there were five Clark children, two Beckwith children, and Dale Kiefer. By 1913 William and Hugh Spence were enrolled, and later ■ the year Clifford and Muriel Elliott also. By 1917 the enrollment had increased to 22 pupils, with the Prechtl, Kieper, Spence and McClintoch children on the roll. That year school opened on March 26th, and closed for two weeks holidays in July.

Many teachers came and went over the years, some only staying a matter of months. Among these, one teacher made a lasting impression on her pupils, and influenced them greatly. She was Violet Laidlaw, who is now Mrs. W. Fast, and who retired to Maymont to live eventually. There were 26 pupils enrolled under Miss Laidlaw in 1925. At that time the School Board consisted of J. Prechtl (Chairman), E. E. Garnett (Secretary) and U. S. Clark. The school library was increased to 102 books, and the children were encouraged to read. Playground equipment consisted of a baseball, bat and glove, a football, and swings for the smaller children. Drinking water was brought from a farm each morning and kept in a covered pail, and the children brought their cups from home. A pump organ, a globe, a case of maps, a hand bell, coal oil lamps, old style double desks were part of the equipment supplied. Pictures of the king and queen and a Union Jack decorated the Kalsomined walls. The school itself was typical of that era, a 20' by 24' wooden structure heated by a Waterbury heater, cold and draughty in the winter.

During the years church services and Sunday Schools were held at Beckwith from time to time, and it also served as a community centre.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DAILY REGISTER

FOR

RECORDING THE ATTENDANCE

OF

PUPILS

IN

Valley S.D. No. 3564

OF THE

Province of Saskatchewan

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1916

SUPPLIED TO SCHOOLS FREE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

THIS REGISTER IS A RECORD OF THE SCHOOL CAREER OF THE CHILDREN OF THE DISTRICT.
MARK IT CAREFULLY AND PRESERVE IT

Calais S. D. No. 2 Dist. 91

ATTENDANCE FOR THE MONTH OF November 1916

Vesa A. Copeland Teacher

Day of the Month

Pupil's Register No.	Age	Grade	NAMES OF PUPILS	1st WEEK					2nd WEEK					3rd WEEK					4th WEEK					5th WEEK					TOTAL
				MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	
1	10	I	Buell, Allyson	H	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	19
2	9	I	Buell, William	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	19
3	8	C	Gillan, Alex.	a	a	a	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	a	1	1	1	1	a	1	1	1	1	16
4	13	II	Northrop, Allan	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8
5	10	I	Long, Marjory	1	1	1	a	a	1	1	1	1	1	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	3
9	12	I	Long, Mildred	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	a	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	a	a	a	a	a	10
			TOTAL DAILY ATTENDANCE	2	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	4	4	3	4	4	4	4	3	4	4	4	4	74
			NUMBER OF "LATES"	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

Number of pupils in attendance during the month 4

I hereby certify that the above record of attendance is correct and does not include any record of teaching on Saturdays or other holidays.

Vesa Amy Copeland Teacher.

No. of teaching days school was open during the month 19

Aggregate days' attendance for the month 74½

Average attendance for the month 3.92

Percentage of attendance for the month 65.33

NOTE.—At the end of each month transfer each month's attendance to the "Summary of attendance for the term."

As the years passed farming methods changed, families moved away, the number of pupils gradually declined, until it was no longer feasible to keep the school open. In 1953 the school was closed, and Roy Kieper bought the building, later selling it to Lyle McIvor.

In some cases a second generation attended Beckwith, the four children of William Spence, and the two daughters of Roy Kieper. The children who attended this rural school were fortunate in many ways. Because the teacher was busy with many grades the pupils learned to work by themselves, and in many cases helped the younger children. They played with children of all ages, of necessity, and learned to co-operate with the teacher and pupils in games and projects. There was a good school spirit, and the children seemed to be proud of their school. Real highlights of the years were the Christmas concerts in which the children took part, and the summer picnics.

Calais School

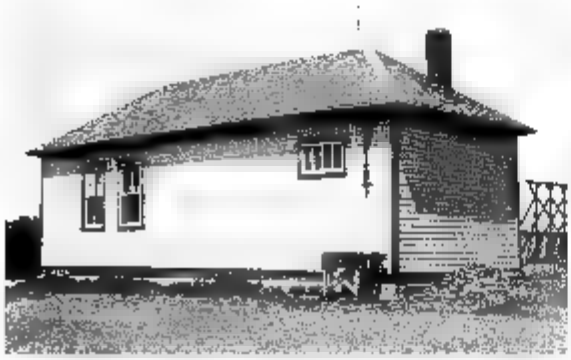
"Not for school but for life we learn"

Calais School District, No. 3554 was established April 26, 1915 and was opened in 1916 with Miss Vera Amy Cooper as teacher. Miss V. Cooper is now Mrs. Vera Petty of Paynton.

Calais School was situated on quarter section SW 11, 41, 12, West Third — a pretty location with native poplars in the background and caragana hedges around front and sides. There were always fireguards plowed each spring inside the fence, where children were encouraged to plant seeds of vegetables and flowers.

It was named "Calais" by Mr. Ernest Tyhurst after Calais, France — This was during World War I when Calais was much in the news.

The school officials in 1916 were [illegible]. Kennedy, Ed Buell, M. Davis. The chairman was [illegible]. Kennedy and the secretary-treasurer was Frank Collins. Pupils registered were Allyson and William Buell, Alexander Gollan, Jessie, Jasper, and Henry Wilmot, Allan Nutbrown, Muriel and Marjorie Long.



Calais School No. 3554.

Vera (Cooper) Petty first Calais schoolteacher in 1916.

Calais Pupils — 1947. Back row — Muriel Nutbrown, teacher Hazel McPherson, June Clayton, Phyliss Buell, Mervil Nutbrown, Walter Buell. Front row — Marmie Buell, Lucille Sherman, Dick Clayton, Les Buell, Edna Sherman, Dorothy Long, and Clarence Buell.

Calais School No. 3554 — Paul Reinhardt, Lloyd Hodge, George Hill, Annie Sherman, Hazel Hodge, Lucy Nutbrown, Delmar Ducharme, Emma Sherman, Stella Ducharme, Mabel Ducharme, Anne Hodge, Clarence Free, Jack Gollan, Edith Collins, Lillian Sherman, Edith Nutbrown, Mabel Hodge, Alice Gollan, Cecil Hodge, Albert Sherman, Tom Gollan, Jack Buell.

The building had an addition added on in later years.

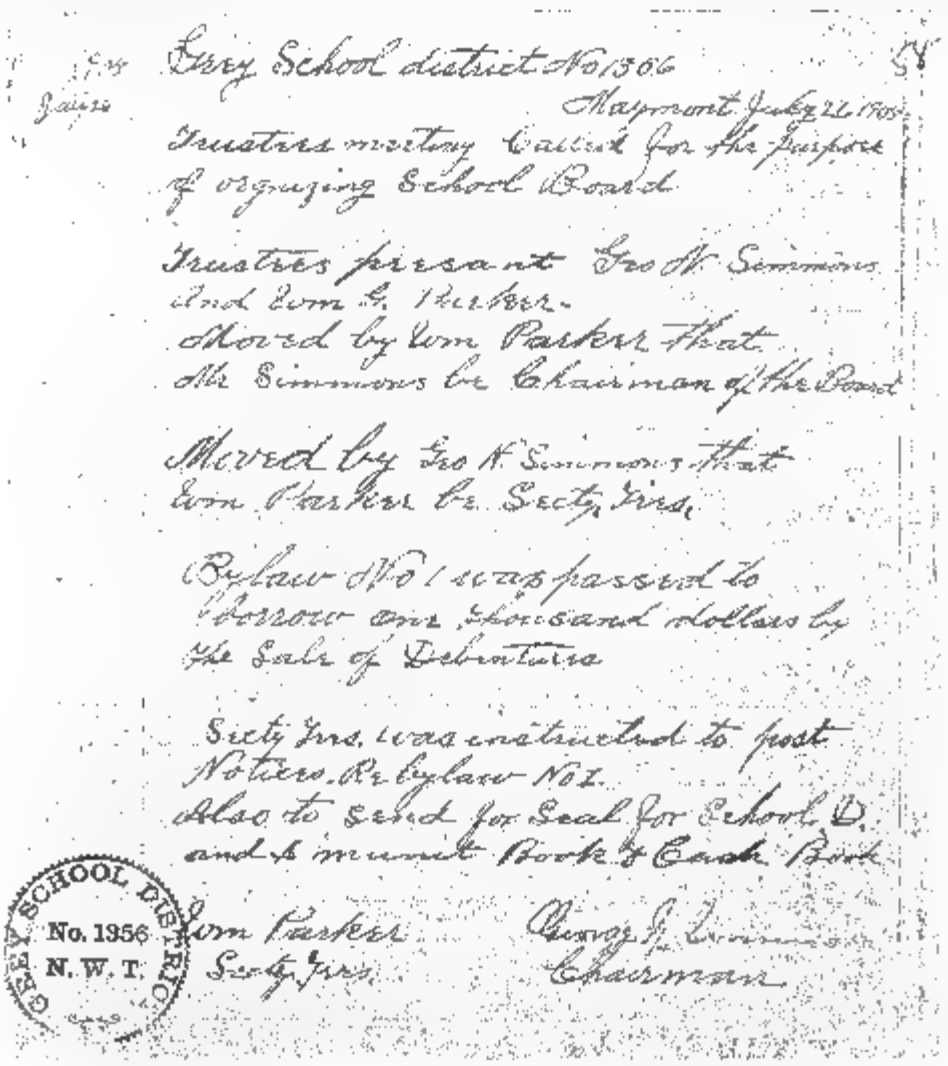
Some of the teachers through the years were: Clement Upshall, Mary Miller (Nutbrown), Margaret Nutting, Doris Plunkett, Gwen Saunders, Jean Downie, Margaret Megaffin (Long), Amy Heather, Hazel McPherson, Walter Belyk. The school closed when seven pupils were left. The pupils then were Dorothy, Bill and Clint Long, Edna Sherman, Alvin, Earl and Gary Nutbrown. The pupils took lessons by correspondence one year under Alvin Hamp's direction — a Grade Twelve pupil from Radisson.

Through the years Charles and Allan Nutbrown, Charles Sherman, Fred Long, Stanley and Philip Long, Albert Sherman, William Buell and Frank Clayton were trustees and secretary — among many others whose names are lost through the years.

Eventually the North Battleford School Unit was established March 18, 1946. Schools of Maymont and District became part of the Unit, so local trustees didn't have as much voice in policies. Improved library facilities, music festivals, better field days were introduced thus enriching courses of study. Children went on from "Calais" to Maymont and Fielding Schools to further their education.

The school will be fondly remembered as the communities meeting place for church services, card parties, picnics and dances. The school concerts were always a highlight.

The unit eventually sold Calais School to Maymont Town, where it was used as the rink house for the outdoor rink. After the new rink was built, and the old one no longer in use, Calais School was again sold and taken to the Tom Bates farm where it is still in use as a granary, across from the Dean Rogers farm. Mrs. Dean Rogers was June Clayton of "Calais District, No. 3554."



Grey School district No 1356

Maymont July 22 1905

Trustees meeting Called for the purpose of organizing School Board

Trustees present Geo N. Simmons and Wm G. Parker.

Moved by Wm Parker that Mr Simmons be Chairman of the Board

Moved by Geo N. Simmons that Wm Parker be Secty Treas.

Bylaw No 1 was passed to borrow one thousand dollars by the Sale of Debentures

Secty Treas. was instructed to post Notices Re bylaw No 1.

Also to send for Seal for School D. and a minute Book & Cash Book

SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 1356 N. W. T.

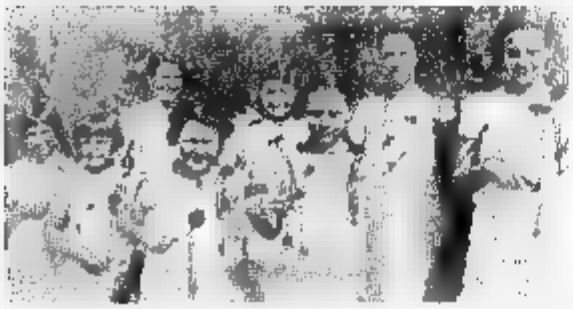
Wm Parker Secty Treas.

Geo N. Simmons Chairman

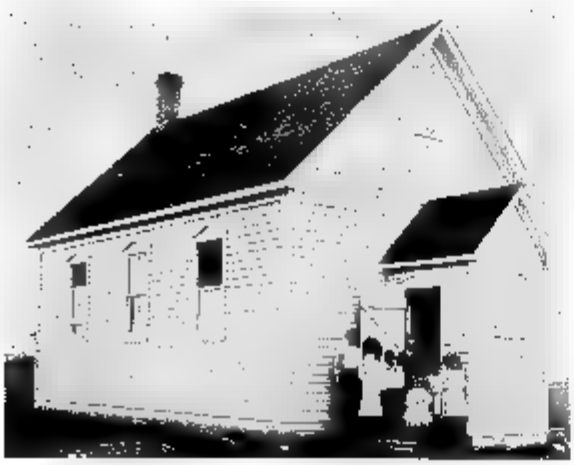
Grey School No. 1356

Submitted by Gladys Brehon

On July 26, 1905 a meeting was called to organize a school board and build a school so the children of the new community on the prairies would have a chance to get an education. Thus did Grey School No. 1356 come into being. The first Secretary-Treasurer was William Parker and the first Chairman was George N. Simmons.



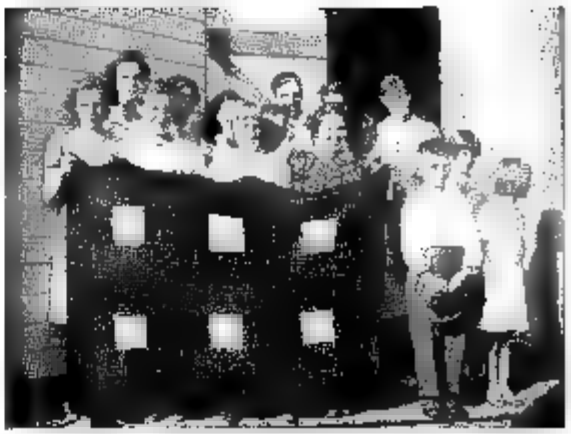
Crepe paper dresses worn in school Christmas concert 'drill' about 1937. L. to r. — Elsie Bohn, Thelma Rogers, Gladys Parker, Dorothy Gillatt, Mary Parker, Violet Foulston, Grace Johnston, Gladys Foulston.



Grey School, 1905. Teacher — Miss Annie Arkley with some of the pupils.

Tenders were invited for the erection of a building 30 feet by 20 feet with a 12-foot studding and a stone foundation. Tenders were received from Mr. W. C. Digman for $215.00 and from Mr. Chambers for $170.00. Mr. Chambers was awarded the contract. The lumber was bought from Mr. McCorkle and the heater and small hardware came from Bean's Store. The people of the district did some of the work such as hauling the lumber, shingles and gravel to the site.

The four hundred bricks for the chimney cost $5.60, ten thousand shingles were $35.00, one hundred feet of shiplap was $2.60 and shingle nails were five cents per pound.



Grey School — 1941-42, Teacher, Miss Kathleen Spence. This afghan was made by the teacher and pupils for the Red Cross during the war.

On October 27, 1905 a meeting was called for the purpose [redacted] hiring a teacher. Miss Annie A. Arkley was hired at a salary of $450.00, and on November 6, 1905 Grey School opened with 21 pupils. The first pupils were: Oliver Rogers, Elmer Rogers, Ruth Madill, Olive Parker, Eva Parker, Laura Parker, Percy Parker, Myron Little, Hugh Little, Jim Little, Billy Johnston, Morris Johnston, Lawrence Johnston, Grace Johnston, Arthur Loveless, Nellie Loveless, Ethel Loveless, Bernice Beedle, Harold Simmons, Katie Simmons, Ethel Campbell.

Miss Arkley taught until the end of 1906. Here is a list of the teachers who followed:

1907 — A. Elliott
1908 — Eva Smith
1909 — Annie Martin
1910 — Miss Connor, Miss B. M. Waters
1911 — G. [redacted]. Barker, A. T. Burgess
1912 — Jean M. McLaren
1913 — G. L. Cousley
1914 — Grace L. Ridley
1915 — Jennie B. Erskine, with the exception of the month of August when Mr. J. A. Henderson taught.
1916 — Annie C. M. Weber — On March 23, 1916, there is a notation in the register which read "School closed because of snow and terrible wind". The last week [redacted] April 1916, and the first week in May another notation reads "School completely closed for measles epidemic".
1917 — M. J. Fletcher
1918 — Stella M. Nutting — In 1918 school was closed for the last two weeks of October and all of November and the teacher had written in large letters "School closed for Spanish Influenza epidemic".

1919 — Helen C. Wood — first term
Oliver M. Paterson — second term
1920 — G. J. O'Brien — Jan. to March
Percy V. Parker — April
Margaret Gee — May and June
Mary O. Gillatt — September
1921 — W. Elkerton — first term
Helen M. Gunn — second term
1922 — Bertie A. Buxton — first two weeks
Miss Dorothy Chisolm to end of first term
F. E. Whitworth — second term
1923 — F. E. Whitworth
1924 — C. Hutton

Apparently at this time the school year changed to run from August to June.

Jean M. Martin — August 1925 to June 1926
Lillian Young — August 1926 to February 1927
Ruth ■. Reid — March 1927 to December 1927
Leila Smith — January 1928 to June 1930
Mary Lundy — August 1930 to December 1934
Harriet Ballsrud — January 1935 to June 1937
Margaret Kerr — August 1938 to June 1939
Muriel ■. Brehon — August 1939 to June 1941
Laura K. Spence — August 1941 to June 1942
Anne Funk — August 1942 to March 1943
Irene Hickman — April 1943
Marion McKerchar — May 1943 to June 1944
Betty Gurney — August 1944 to June 1946
Margaret Bork — August 1946 to December 1946

School was closed for the month of January 1947 until a teacher could be found.

Alice Langley — February 1947 to June 1947
Donald ■. Stynsky — August 1947 to June 1949
Colleen Comba — August 1949 to April 1950
May Bourne — April 1950 to June 1950
Betty McPherson — August 1950 to April 1952
Jane Miller — May and June 1952
Audrey Broadfoot — September 1952 to June 1954
Connie Buglas — August 1953 ■ June 1954
Doreen Webb — August 1955 to June 1956
John Roberts — August 1956 to June 1957

Trustees and Board Members over the years were:

William Andrew
George Walton
H. Elliott
Frank Bohn
J. Taylor
F. Hutchinson
James Bohn
Herbert Johnston
William Dawson
William Holmes
Gordon Johnston
Harvey Johnston
George Simmons
Rev. J. C. Madill
Jack Parker
Frank Butterfield
G. Mohler
David Mitchell
James Taylor
Tom Sawyer
E. Ramsay
Oliver Rogers
Roy Rogers
Mrs. Bob Boyd (Hazel)
William Parker
A. Elliott
Mr. Giffard
A. Bouskill
William Schmidt
F. McCorkle
O. M. Paterson
Ransom Rogers
S. F. Johnston
Percy Parker
Tommy Bates

Many young feet 'trod the halls of learning' in Grey School, some with great enthusiasm, some reluctantly, some for a few weeks or months only. Some began in Grade One and continued to finish their Grade Ten. Most of them left their initials carved either on the top of their desk or on the walls of the school barn. Some left with happy memories ■ teachers who were fun and dedicated to teaching the children with patience and kindness. Some left with unhappy memories of teachers too strict and unable ■ understand their problems, or school mates who were 'bullies'.

I might mention here that the school strap in the teacher's desk drawer was a very important part ■ school discipline in early days.

The largest number of pupils attending Grey School was 32 pupils in 1920. The least was seven pupils in 1957.

The following is a list of the pupils who attended.

Adeline Bohn
Etta Bohn
Flora Bohn
Mae Davis
Percy Parker
Stephen Bouskill
Olive Parker
Arthur Loveless
Ethel Loveless
Norma Taylor
Nellie Taylor
Delma Davis
Grace Johnston
Harold Simmons
Stanley Bohn
Eva Parker
Alex Bouskill
Stewart Bouskill
Elmer Rogers
Oliver Rogers
Laura Parker
Henry Bohn
Francis Bohn
Gladys Carey
Bernice Beedle
Fred Bohn
Ethel Giffard
Cecil Campbell
Maryadele Giffard
Gerald Walton
Katie Simmons
Gordon Campbell
Johnny Campbell
Roberta Walton
Frank Butterfield
Bruce Butterfield
Edna Brumbaugh
Hubert Brumbaugh
Lucille Giffard
Leta Walton
Edward Schmidt
Hazel Walton
Emerson Rogers
Clara Schmidt
Nellie Schmidt
Minda Westrem
Esther Rogers
Kenneth Taylor
Laurence Johnston
Ernest Johnston
James Johnston
Leo Keefer
Adelaide Baker
Alex Baker
Fred Baker
Melvin Campbell
Dolly Campbell
Beatrice Walton
Howard Rogers
Kathleen Wright
Alma Bouskill
Hubert Wright
Hazel Giffard
Olive Bouskill
Raymond Walton
Walter Dawson
Greta Rogers
Myrtle Johnston
Stanley Barrett
Walter Cannon
Dale Keefer
Ray Rogers
Emil Pigors
Marjorie Keefer
Jean Walton
Frank Collett
Freddie Nelson
George Cubbit
Gladys Rogers
Jack Cubbit
Annie Dawson
Russell Johnston
Robert Bates
Thomas Bates
Everett Nelson
Malcolm Taylor
Donald Gordon
William Potter
Edgar Gordon
Frank Potter

Hazel Johnston
Dorothy Johnston
Harvey Johnston
Sidney Partington
Sam Partington
John Bates
Robert Dawson
Oscar Holmes
Edith Brumbaugh
Orvil Brumbaugh
Arthur Johnston
Nellie Johnston
Roy Rogers
Perry Brumbaugh
Gertrude Brumbaugh
Sadie Johnston
Alice Dawson
Ada Rogers
Lilly Tebay
Alma Johnston
Hilda Keefer
Harold Keefer
James Greenwood
Florence Greenwood
Earle Greenwood
Hilda Johnston
Cecil Johnston
Sarah Gillatt
Gordon Johnston
Bursil Conkey
Gertrude Blanchard
Kenneth Johnston
Mary Dawson
Reginald Gillatt
Carl Johnston
Cora Johnston
James Dawson
Wilfred Johnston
Mildred Crozier
Howard Butler
Laurie Butler
Betty Schmidt
Mary Green
Elsie Green
Mary Parker
Elfrieda Saumer
James Crozier
Clara Foulston
Helmer Dahlseide
Gladys Foulston
Gordon Foulston
Gladys Parker
Muriel Foulston
Leola Johnston
Norman Johnston
Clifton Johnston
Lloyd Parker

Jean Steele
Grace Johnston
Arthur Foulston
Della Nutbrown
Eddy Nutbrown
Norma Nutbrown
William Parker
Violet Foulston
Thelma Rogers
Norma Bohn
Helen Nutbrown
John Parker
Verna Foulston
Elsie Bohn
Dorothy Gillatt
Inez Thompson
Leslie Parker
Lois Bohn
Edgar Foulston
Mabel Bohn
Dean Rogers
Betty Thompson
Shirley Parker
Ronald Bohn
Ralph Wiley
Walter Wiley
Margaret Bohn
Reta Parker
Winnifred Thompson
Ivy Greenslade
Beverly Bates
Elaine Rogers
Kenneth Thompson
Helen Warren
Barry Bates
Glen Boyd
Henry Bernard Holden
Allan Johnston
Christine Rogers
Dennis Ramsey
Patricia Ramsey
Sybil Ramsey
Carol Rogers
Gregory Johnston
Robert Johnston
Verna Bohn
Twila Bates
Jean Bates
Stella Bohn
Yvonne Bates
Lillian Thompson
Ruth Johnston
Ilene Johnston
Betty Wiley
Carmen Florence
Helena Johnston
Brian Johnston

Once a year a school inspector (later called superintendents) visited the school to see how the pupils were progressing. This visit was always unannounced. The inspector gave a little tap on the door and there he was. The pupils were asked to answer some oral questions. Of course, our brains all turned to water as soon as he stepped in the door and I'm sure he thought we were a pretty hopeless bunch. We all heaved a sigh of relief as soon as he departed, knowing it would be a full year before we went through that ordeal again.

Some of the inspectors were:

Mr. Magee	Mr. Bill Brennan
Mr. C. Innes	Mr. W. J. Drimmie
Mr. W. M. Veasey	Mr. [illegible]. Broley

The early Grey School students were taught their geography from the huge map case which hung on the wall. The maps were on rollers. When a certain one was needed you pulled it down as you would a window blind and when the lesson was finished you rolled it back up. A favorite trick of the big boys was to let the map up with a real snap and scare the wits out of everybody.

A gramophone was purchased in 1932 at a cost of $23.15. It was a floor model with a beautiful wood cabinet about thirty inches wide and sixty inches long. It had a spring in it which had to be wound by hand. This was done by a crank which stuck out one side of the machine. The records were all 78 R.P.M.'s. They were mostly rousing marches or opera. There was one Wilf Carter record — he was very popular about that time. Unfortunately the records all disappeared after the school closed.

The school was often used as a polling division during elections. It was also the entertainment centre of the district for many years. During the war years, there was a very active Junior Red Cross Association which sponsored many dances, card parties, and coffee and doughnut sales. The pupils took turns being chairman, secretary and treasurer. Unfortunately, I was not able to locate any of the minute books of those meetings. They would have made interesting reading now.

There was always a picnic at the end of the school year. The Herb Johnston family brought a freezer of homemade ice-cream and a big crock of lemonade made with real lemons!

In later years, Keystone, Grey and Eatonia combined to have their picnics at Grey School. There was great rivalry between the three schools as to who would have the best ball team! A booth was set up on the school grounds. It was a time of fun and visiting for old and young alike. I don't recall that the picnic was ever rained out.

It is hard to believe that the school operated for forty-six years before indoor toilets were ever installed. It wasn't until 1961 that an addition, ten feet by twenty feet, was built onto the school for cloakrooms, storage cupboards and indoor pail-type toilets. A new oil space heater was installed also.

In 1954 the power was installed, however, attendance was dwindling because of fewer people remaining on the farms and in 1957 Grey School closed. For one year Mrs. Phyllis Johnston conveyed the seven

remaining pupils to Maymont by car. After that a bus route was started.

In 1961 the school building was donated to the Western Development Museum in North Battleford and moved to the museum site in 1965.

We, of the Grey School District, hope it brings much pleasure and enjoyment to the many tourists who view it each year. We hope, too, it will bring back a few nostalgic memories to any of those who attended a one-room country school.

Three cheers for the school which served the area well for fifty-two years and for the pupils who were proud to yell the Grey School Cheer at ball games and other events.

Ching a lacka ching
Ching a lacka chow
Ching a lacka ching ching
  Chow! Chow! Chow!
Razzle, dazzle, hobble, gobble
  Ziss, boom, bah,
Grey School, Grey School!
  Rah! Rah! Rah!

Keystone School District No. 1144

The very name brings memories of bygone days, of folks of our district who are gone, of teachers long gone and even the old school building is gone, but the district remains and a bond still exists among the ones who were once a part of it. Its roots go back to 1904 when the district was formed. A meeting was held at Ben Martin's residence in 1905 to erect a building on N.E. 13-42-12 to educate the sons and daughters of the first settlers. There were twelve pupils who attended in May of 1905 when school opened. With gratitude we remember the names of Ben Martin, Jim Smythe and Jack McKeen who served on that first board. Jim Smythe was secretary-treasurer and Ben Martin chairman. Albert Elliott was the first teacher at a salary of fifty dollars a month, raised to six hundred dollars a year in 1906. It is very interesting to read the minutes of those days and realize how scarce money was, but how all obstacles were conquered to bring our Keystone School into existence. It was the second school north of the river in the North West Territories. The building was 26 feet by 18 feet with a small porch over the door. It was contracted for $125 to C. Tompkins (or Tompson) — some records differ as to the spelling. He received $20 for building the porch. The lumber for the school cost $680. J. R. Smythe received $6.50 for expenses for himself and team to take Ben Martin to Saskatoon. The purpose of the trip was to sign legal papers and bring back a load of lumber. Ben Martin received five dollars for the trip, a rather meager amount for the distance involved. Sam Chambers built the barn for $78. He also built an addition to the school (13 feet by about 10 feet) where the old porch had been. In 1907 Ben Martin was instructed to purchase what lumber was necessary to build extra seats and to submit his bill when the seats were finished. On December 16, 1905 the board accepted Alex Brehon's tender for twenty cords of wood at $4.00 per cord. They also accepted A. Hartwell's tender for ten cords of green wood at the same price. The first organ was bought in 1907. Ben Martin gave an address at the meeting on the benefits of pupils obtaining some musical training. The old school clock that ticked off the minutes and made recess so short was bought for less than five dollars.

Country schools were always used for social functions. Grace Smythe and Jack Beaton were the first couple married in the district. Grace Schmidt and Lloyd Parker's wedding supper and dance was held there and many concerts, parties and meetings. I remember a grade eight graduation banquet, when George Browne was the teacher. The Mennonite folk held Daily Vacation Bible School in summer holidays, also they had some services in the school. The United Church for many years had a service every second

Keystone School.

Keystone School, 1923 — Miss Geary, Teacher; next to her is Joe Chestney, Tom Meena, Mabel McKeen, Tommy Bates, Gladys Fast, Jack Bates, Ruth Barrett, Colles Brehon, Cozy Holler, Russell Andrew, Edna Cameron. Front — Winnie Chestney, Allan Miller, John Andrew, Earl Andrew, Dick Brehon.

Sunday and one afternoon every week was Sunday School. Reverend Hardy and Reverend Ambler were the ministers. Reverend Saunders from Maymont Anglican Church also held services at Keystone. Whist drives, dances, and picnics were the in thing at schools back then.

About 1915 there was a vote of the ratepayers on whether to move the school one mile west. It was ten to nine in favor of not moving it. The minutes of that meeting state M. Pitts was chairman and Alex Brehon secretary. The ratepayers who voted were Howard Chambers, Geo. Smith, Chas. Brehon, Tom Bates, Geo. Robertson, Fred Anderson, Wm. McKeen, Geo Holler, Hector Cowan, John Fast, Tom Meena, Percy Barrett, Wm. Millar, S. Chambers, Mr. Hancock, James Arkley, Len Chambers, Geo. Elford and Jack McKeen. Keystone closed in 1914 due to a low enrollment. The pupils attended other schools. Della and John Meena and Gladys Fast went to Neepawa. Cameron's went to Hillsboro. Stan and Ruth Barrett went to Neepawa. The year before Ruth started, Stan boarded at E. Ramsays and attended Grey School. Tom Bates' children were going to Etonia at this time as Mrs. Bates was teaching there. Keystone opened again for classes the first month of 1918 and remained open till 1959. In 1946 to 1959 Neepawa was closed and Keystone took some of the pupils for those thirteen years.

The old registers before 1930 were burned by a teacher who loved neatness more than he loved records so it hasn't been easy to find teachers names but with many thanks to the Brehon family in preserving the minute books and cancelled cheques I believe most, if not all are in this list — A. Elliott, Jean Winn, Annie Arkley, Maude Dunning, Ephrim Weber, Clara Ewing, Greta Jones, Tena McRae, Anna Belle Walker, E. M. Gould, Melinda Meenagh, Nina B. Crocker, Ethelwyn Bean, Grace Japp, Flora Geary, Irene Dafoe, Annie Lewis, Sophie Langham, Gladys Lindgren, Mrs. Henry Christfield, Phoebe Perley, Margaret McCorkle, Annie M. Haryett, Winnie King, Wm. H. Langley, Muriel Butterfield, Lilah Brehon, Helen Harbor, Ruby Martens, Joe Babchuck, George Browne, Pat Flynn, Catherine Moroz, Ewald Draeger, Paul Yur, Anita Lesko, Vilma Peters, Mrs. Lapshinoff and Mrs. Eleanor McCready.

When Jim Smythe moved out of the district Alex Brehon became secretary and served until 1932, then Mrs. Brehon held the office till Colles was elected. When he moved from the district, Dick Brehon was secretary till the school was closed permanently. Some of the ratepayers who acted as trustees for many years are as follows: A. C. Brehon, Tom Meena, Mrs. Brehon, George Brehon, Hector Cowan, Wm. Andrew, Dick Voegeli, Ernest Beaudoin, C. Epp, Dave Penner, George Holler, Roy Schmidt. Geo. McIvor, James Arkley. I see by the record that a trustee was compelled to visit the school at least twice a year. John Fast moved the motion, it was seconded by Mr. Wm. Hancock and all in favor. I wonder how many lived up to it?

Keystone was a cold school. It was not insulated till 1930, then only in the ceiling, and years later in the walls. There were many complaints at one annual meeting it was suggested the windows be fixed as the crepe paper curtains were blowing in the wind but one resourceful trustee who loved saving money more than having a warm school said to take down the curtains and no one would know if the wind came through or not.

Throughout the years the teacher's salary at the lowest was $450 in 1937 and rose to $3800 in 1959.

Some families were better than others in helping with school matters. I believe if a vote were taken, we'd all say the Alex Brehon family served our district better than most of us. Any fixing to be done and they were first on deck.

Our truant officers were paid five dollars per month. Mrs. T. Bates served for many years in this capacity and I don't think she was too severe in punishment or us kids would have been hung for sure. We were three and a half miles from school and if we attended over one hundred days we figured we earned a medal. Dad was not too educationally minded as I read in the minutes of a meeting of 1922 — "Moved by Wm. Andrew, seconded by Tom Bates that the compulsory education act be amended, that in some cases it is too harsh and that the matter should be more in the hands of the trustees of each school."

The janitor work was often done by the teacher as the cancelled cheques show the pay they received. We did have a lot of caretakers though. Some were Della Meena, Tom Meena, Corny Hiebert, Stan Barrett, Katie Hiebert. In 1947 Roy Schmidts were to sweep and scrub and Penners were to clean the barn, supply water, and light fires. In June 1919 a meeting was held regarding the caretaking and it states — "Moved by Geo. Holler that Della Meena receive five dollars a month for lighting fires or twenty-five cents for each fire lit. One dollar to thoroughly sweep school before starting to scrub same and two dollars every month for scrubbing the school. I wonder what a caretaker now would think of those wages?

It is interesting to note that twelve of our teachers were local (within fifteen miles of the school). Sure it was a great old school! After serving us it was moved to Badger Bluff for a teacherage. Many of us pretended we hated going to school, but we wouldn't have traded Keystone for any other in the world!

I will list most of the pupils who attended. The names of the first ones are not available. Jim Smythe's children and Hartwells attended, one Hartwell girl was Laura and one Bertha; Gladys Fast; Stan, Ruth, Irene and Ethel Barrett; Everett, John, Jean, Della and Tom Meena; Colles, Dick, Muriel, Lilah, and George Brehon; Mabel McKeen; Cosy Holler and Ross Holler; Russ, John, Earl, Evelyn, Hector, Elmer, Lew and Danny Andrew; Joe, Winnie,

Thelma, Ernest and Hazel Chestney; Clara and Dorothy Arkley; Katie and Peter Redekopp; Cornelius, Katie, Bernard, Helen, George and Jack Hiebert; Peter G., Nettie, Annie and David Redekopp; Roy Howell; Bob, Tom, Jack and Genevieve Bates; Allan Miller; Gordon, Stanley, Ina and Edna Cameron; Gertrude Gysel; Paul, Max, Allan and Norman Voegeli; Inez Thompson; Helen Warren; Bill Sloan; Ronald Tanchak; Erika, Hilda and Henry Penner; Fred, John, Walter, Helen, Donald and Clarence Pauls; Trudy, Sharon, Charlotte, Elmer and Leroy Sloan; Jim and Wayne Beaudoin; Darlene and Elaine Wood; Margaret and Rena Andrew; Clair, Lyle, Ronnie, Murray, Mona, Gail, and Doreen McIvor; Grace, Harold, Carl, Berniece and Wayne Schmidt; Mandy and Irmy Epp; Cecil Moroz; Florence, Berniece, and Lorne Hodge; Alvin, Jake, Erna and Edith Braun; Irene and Jean Peters; Albert Beaudoin; Anna Marie Kinner; Pat and Garry Lapsinoff. These pupils went out from Keystone's walls of learning to become teachers, farmers, chartered accountants, music teachers, truckers, artists, nurses, jockeys, preachers, lab technicians, authors, orderlies in hospitals, store keepers, hairdressers, aviators, mechanics, bank tellers, dressmakers, secretaries thus making a living memorial to a one-roomed school. I wish all these old voices of the past could come from the four corners of the earth and we'd send up a mighty shout as we remember our old school yell —

Rip Saw, Rip Saw, Rip Saw, Bang!
We belong to the Keystone gang.
Do we study? Well I guess —!
Keystone, Keystone, Yes, Yes, Yes.
Hooper out, shouter out, EVERYBODY roar!
Keystone, Keystone — loyal to the core!

Anecdotes of Keystone School

Miss Geary was a well liked teacher of Keystone. Mrs. Bates decided to invite her home for supper after school. Although Jack and Tom liked her, neither could be seen by the other school kids riding out of the schoolyard sitting by the teacher. Tom hurriedly jumped into the back of the buggy. Jack, not to be outdone jumped onto the horse's back. Miss Geary laughed like everything as she rode on the seat. They found a strawberry patch on the road home, stopped to pick it, having a good feed. Then safely out of sight of the school all got into the buggy and rode home together.

Montro School

In 1917 Montro School District was formed. This school was located on N.W. Quarter 35-41-13-W3rd. William Gray was one of the first trustees — May Rogers one of the first pupils. There were about eighteen pupils the first fall school opened. Some teachers remembered are: Maryadelle Giffard, Phylis Adamson, Hilda Foxster, Gertrude Thibeault, Dorothy Chisholm, Mary Reekie, Mary Patterson and Olga Isaac.

Montro School.

Some of the early pupils were: Dorothy Foster (Crawley), Ruby Reid, Cloie Rolfe (Purdy), Nellie Hone, Frank Abbot, Emma Gray (Johnston), Alma Hone, Jack Foster, May Gray (Rogers), Minnie Hone, Frank Foster, Eileen Abbot, Viola Abbot.

Neepawa School

Neepawa School District No. 1517 was established on April 11, 1906 and the school was completed and opened the same year with Thomas A. Amoss as teacher and seven pupils were enrolled, these being: Alfreda Slomer (late Mrs. Rollo Smith) her two brothers, Harry and Walter Slomer, Clarence and Walter Northcott, and their sister Florence Northcott

Neepawa School Bell, mounted by John Fast in the John Fast Yard in Maymont. Inscription reads, "IN MEMORY OF NEEPAWA SCHOOL" JAN. 1907 to 1943.

Neepawa School Pupils. Back row — Jim Smith, Sarah Warkentine, Myrtle Northcott, Elsie Tyhurst. Front row — Bert Sloan, Audrey Sloan, Grace Northcott, Joyce Beatty, Anna Warkentine, George Beatty.

(Mrs. Jack Miller) and William G. Fast (Bill) who retired from farming and still lives in Maymont.

Serving on the first board of trustees were: Henry Knight, George Northcott and George A. Fast. Jake Fast was first secretary-treasurer, a position he held for twenty-five years. Mr. Knight came from Neepawa, Manitoba and so wished that name to be used for the new district. Neepawa is an Indian word meaning 'the land of plenty'. S. E. Chambers, an immigrant from Yorkshire, England got the contract to build the school. The foundation was of field stone and built by Alex Garnett of Fielding. When S. E. Chambers was unable to finish building the school a Herman Reimer was engaged to complete the job, which resulted in the school being ready by December 31, 1906.

In July, 1920 the old school burned down; classes continued in the new barn until the new school was completed. A Miss Larson was the first to teach in the new building.

Some of the teachers through the years were local girls and men: Muriel Harris, Kathleen McKinnon, Lucille Giffard, Lydia Ballsrud, Irene Reid, Lillian Martin, Muriel Lawson, Charles Archibald, from Speers, Max Braithwaite — now turned author — taught for two years.

A list of pupils who were enrolled under Miss Lydia Balsrud (Mrs. Allen Bean) in 1923 were: Irene and Ira Thompson, Walter, Reta, May and Chester Miller, Edwin, Hazel and Vernon Sloan, John Fast, Clarence Northcott, Allan Tyhurst, Allan Miller, Jim and Wilfred Ryan, Elma and Mabel Anderson.

The school was closed when only three pupils were enrolled. Neepawa School was moved in 1953 to Keystone District; while in Keystone District children studying under Mrs. Eleanor McCready (who is now retired and living in Maymont were: Henry Penner; Fred, John, Walter and Helen Pauls; Murray, MonaGail, and Doreen McIvor; Ron Tanchuck; Darlene and Elaine Wood; Trudy, Sharon, and Charlotte Sloan; and Jim Beaudoin.

In 1959 the school was once again moved, this time to Maymont as an addition to the then existing school. It remained until 1970 when Bob Johnston bought the building. It was moved onto a lot south of the Tom Sawyer home — and was burned on May 3 when a grass and brush fire got out of hand.

These country schools were the social hall and many times a church for their community. Often card parties, social, funerals, Christenings, picnics and many concerts were held in them.

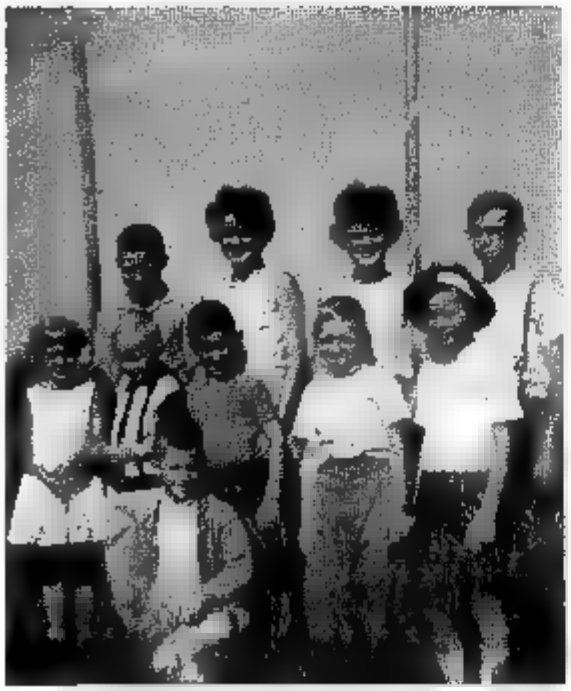
Wavie Bank School

written by Laura Prescesky

A meeting was held on July 25, 1927 at the HENRY VOKE residence to make arrangements for the purchase of the school site. Trustees then were: S. A. Johnston, John A. Conkey; H. Voke was secretary. On Aug. 6, 1927 a resolution was passed to borrow by way of debentures the sum of $4,000 for the building of Wavie Bank School No. 4711 and its furnishings. School was opened on Jan. 16, 1928 and MISS BAILEY was hired as teacher. Enrolments were large and the school served the following families: Conkeys, Johnstons, Presceskys, Woods, Littles, Martynes, Bulmers, Tebays, Hegglands, Selbs, Hewers, Thompsons, Alexanders, and Caldwells.

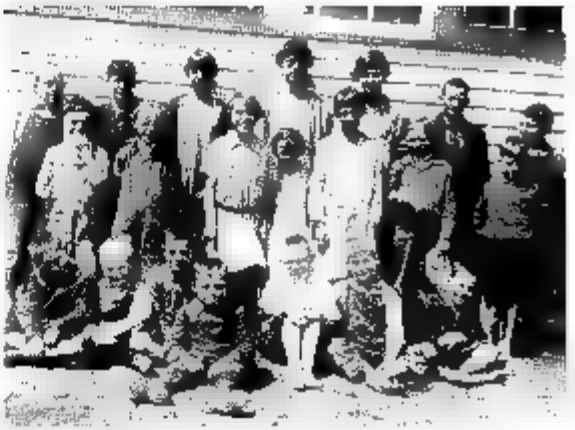
The following teachers served this School District:

1928- Miss Bailey, replaced by Miss Musk
1928-1929 Mr. Ken Doolittle



Wavie Bank School, 1965 — Edna Sherman (teacher). Pupils (l-r) Back — Ron, Terry and Pat Caldwell, Jim Prescesky. Front — Brenda and Danny Prescesky, Richard Selb Ken and Judy Prescesky. Kneeling — Doug Prescesky.

Wavie Bank school.



Wavie Bank school children (1928).

Wavie Bank class of about 1941. (l-r) Back row — Elmer Selb, Paul Prescesky, Gwen and Sadie Tebay, Mary Prescesky. 2nd row — Nellie Prescesky, Lillian Selb, Jennie Prescesky, Thelma Woods, Joyce Tebay. Front row — Victor Prescesky, Shirley Hewer, Henry Prescesky, Raymond Selb, Eddie Prescesky, Eleanor Selb.

1930-1932 Mr. Harry Broley (Salary of $950)
1932-1933 Mr. McFarlane (Salary of $600 — had to light fires)
1934- Mr. Stanley Aldritt
1935-1936 Mrs. C. Hall (Salary of $450, depression)
1936-1938 Mrs. A. D. Smith
1939- Mr. W. J. Strong
1940-1941 Miss V. L. Soderberg
1942- Mr. P. J. Moynihan
1943-1944 Mrs. Fraser
1945-1946 Miss L. M. Poukin (later to become Mrs. Pete Prescesky)
1947-1948 Miss Pearl Maksymchuk (later to become Mrs. Balych)
1949- Mr. Don Stynsky

1950-1951 Mrs. Tena Sawchuk
1952- Mrs. Barbor
1957- Miss Helen Demchuk
1958- Miss Berniece Iverson
1959- Miss Callfas
1960-1961 Mrs. Jennie Wallace
1962-1964 Mrs. Teeny Dryhorub
1965-1966 Miss Edna Sherman
1967-1968 Mrs. Laura Prescesky

The school was also used for dances, Christmas concerts, picnics, Sunday School and Church services. Mr. Bill Martynes on banjo and Mr. S. A. Johnston on violin provided music practically at no cost for dances which were usually held on Friday nights.

Trustees that served the school district were: Charles Wood, Stephen Prescesky, Bill Martynes, E. J. Prescesky, James Tebay, Paul Prescesky, Elmer Seib and Peter Prescesky.

Centralization of schools was becoming evident. In the fall of 1945 the school district was incorporated into the North Battleford School Unit No. 58. It was with reluctance that the school board turned over its records and financial authority as they realized they were losing control and felt they were only being left to do the menial tasks around the school. I must mention here that I was present at this take over and I still remember vividly sec.-treas. Chas. Wood being commended by Supt. W. Brennan for his excellent records and bookkeeping. School enrolments began to decline in the early 50's and the school closed on June 30, 1952 with the understanding that it may re-open at a later date. It re-opened in Sept., 1957 and closed in June, 1968 with Mrs. Laura Prescesky as its last teacher.

The building has been moved to the farm site of Everett Sherman where it is used as a garage. However, wonderful memories remain of this one-room schoolhouse and someday maybe a cairn will be erected to honor its site.

Ruddell Story

When one turns off highway no. 16 at the sign that reads Ruddell "No Services" and enters this quiet village it is hard to imagine the bustling activity of by gone years. This is the village that now has only the post office and a handful of residents. This is the village that at one time had four general stores, blacksmith shop, butchershop, school, Hotel, barbershop, bank, poolroom, two livery stables, three elevators, three implement agencies, bakery, a church, a doctor, and a veterinarian.

The Canadian Northern Railway Company first named this station Lucerne and it was later changed to Ruddell. No one seems to know why the change was made or whom the village was named for.

When the railway was being built in 1904, water close to the right of way was very scarce. At that time the big slough one mile east of town was full and

Ruddell Main St., 1912.

Ruddell's Main St. looking south about 1910.

resembled a small lake. The construction crew made their headquarters there. They had ovens built into the clay banks. The railway established a pump house there where the engines could take on water. Bert Watts was the operator, he and Mrs. Watts lived in a small house close by. Mr. and Mrs. Geo Mabey and family had the honor of being the passengers on the first passenger train to stop at Ruddell in fall of 1905. The first station agent was Archie McEacheran a jolly fellow who always went out of his way to help people.

The summer of 1906 was the start of the boom years for the little prairie town. The first grocery store was built by Allan Anderson who also was section foreman and homesteaded just north of town. He later sold out his business to Lowrey Brothers. The Lowery Bros. Ed and Jim built a large building on the west side of the street and opened a general store.

Two merchants from Prince Albert Geo. McAdams and Alfred Spence built a nice store building and carried a full line of general merchandise. Mr. McAdams bought out Mr. Spence.

The first real estate transaction took place when Mr. Anderson moved his little store across the street and sold the corner lot for the hotel site. The little building was purchased by Mr. William Thrower, a barber from North Dakota. Mr. Thrower homesteaded west of town and came in on Saturdays to look after

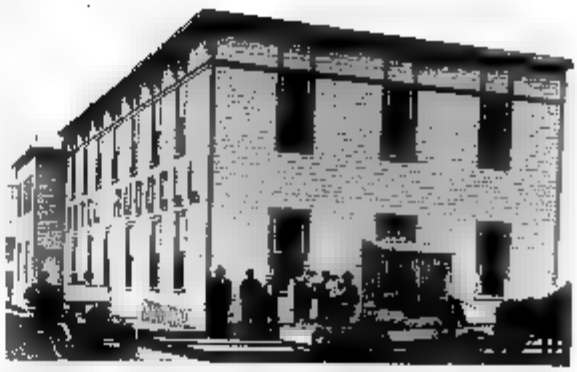
the districts barbering needs. Hair cuts 15¢ and a shave 10¢.

Mr. Spence built the Ruddell Hotel and was completed in 1907, which he and Mrs. Spence operated. Some years after the death of Mr. Spence, Mrs. Spence married an old family friend from New Brunswick, Charlie Johnson. They operated the hotel until their deaths. There was a sale in 1954 where all goods were sold including the hotel building. The building was sold to Ken Delong. He demolished the building and used the lumber to build the Locker Plant in Maymont.

Mr. and Mrs. John R. Kitchen of Alvinston, Ontario built a substantial building on the east side of main street and operated a boarding house. Mr. Kitchen also operated a real estate business. At the death of Mr. Kitchen, Bob Hayter, a barber from North Battleford bought the building and started a grocery store and barber shop.

Bern Robinson had the agency for Deering Machinery and operated a profitable business. Bern later took in Oswald Harper and the firm of Robinson and Harper was well known over a large area.

Charlie Robinson came to Ruddell in 1905 and he might be called the backbone of the prairie village. He operated a furniture store, a harness shop and the first lumber yard. He was a successful farmer. He erected several of the village houses which are still in use. He was an ardent gardener and set out the first trees to be planted in the village. He employed Charlie McCann as his full time harness maker. Mr. McCann was a first class craftsman and the harness business was a going concern.



Ruddell Hotel (Before it was stuccoed). In car, front seat — Fern and her dad (Bern) (George O.) Robinson. Back seat — Reg Dalzell (brother of Ruddell elevator agent), and Warne Robinson. Standing — Charlie Robinson (at corner), Shorty (Albert) Mallows (3rd from corner), next to Shorty Charlie Johnson holding ?. Sign over door — "Licensed to sell spirituous or fermented liquors".

Machinery on display in the early years.

Randy McNeil had his hardware store built in 1906 which he operated from that time ■ 1923. He also homesteaded the SE ¼ 20, 42, 13 W 3rd. He brought ■ the West a car load of settlers effects and a carload ■ apples. The apples came ■ large wooden barrels and sold for five dollars. The apple deal proved unprofitable. The local market was small, and many were frozen as there was no proper place to store them. Randy McNeil's store was to be completed before the family came in September, but when they arrived early ■ October it was only well started. Winter came early in 1906 and the last week in November saw 40 below zero. The plaster froze on the wall and all that winter the upstairs living quarters were glazed with ice. When spring came the ice fell off and the plaster with it.

Ruddell about 1910 taken from the top of the elevator.

Ruddell's main st. west side about 1910.

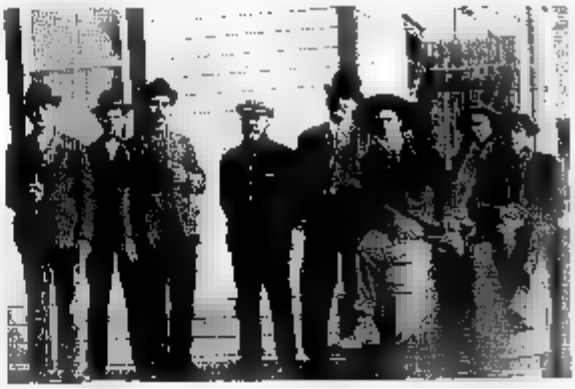
Duncan McKellar built the first livery stable in 1906 the first well ■ the village was dug just inside the front door. After digging through some forty feet of blue clay they despaired of getting water. In desperation they rigged up a 2" wood auger and drilled down some ten feet and water gushed into the well. There was always a plentiful supply but unfortunately very alkaline. The barn was burned in about 1909 and was rebuilt. Mr. McKellar later sold the barn to Dave Custer who ran the business until it was again burned. It was rebuilt by Turnbull Bros. but on a lot further east. A pump house was built over the old well which continued to supply water through the 2" auger hole. In later years a cistern type well was dug and water

Ruddell Post Office. Shorty Mallows, Reg Dalzell (back seat of car), Bern Robinson and Fern (in front seat). Standing ■ back — George Robinson, John Warden, Warne Robinson, Charlie Robinson. On wagon — Stanley Bright, Dave Custer (seated on side), 2 girls Esther and Lorne Warden.

hauled from the Turnbull farm ¼ mile south of the village. This type of well is still in operation.

The early settlers had to go to Battleford for their mail either by walking, horse and buggy, or oxen. Later mail came to the Megaffin house at Baljennie. After the coming of the railway a post office was set up ■ Lowery Bros. store. This post office sorted mail for Ruddell, Baljennie, Sonningdale, Lizard Lake and Spinney Hill. The well known pioneer Jim Megaffin came hell or high water to take the mail across the river once a week. The Lowery Bros. sorted the letters and first class items and newspapers. A sign over the door said ■. ■. Post Office which some people said stood for "easy running". Some of the other postmasters through the years were Geo Robinson, Warne Robinson, Albert (Shortie) Mallows, Bill Buttery and our present post mistress Elsie Nimilowich.

Tom Murtagh came west on the 1906 harvest excursion and in November of that year he started the butcher shop. He had no building to start in but had planks and sawhorses against the side of Kitchen's boarding house. Possibly the only outdoor butcher ■



Some of the Ruddell men outside the Hotel before 1914.

Cavan Church, Ruddell, 1908.

Mr. Madill (first minister in Cavan Presbyterian Church) and family. Lower row — Mrs. Madill, Mr. Madill, Alberta. 2nd row — Vi, Pearl, Ethel.

all Canada. He cut the frozen meat with a saw and cleaver. Later that winter he went back and returned with a new bride. In the spring he built a proper shop.

A. Gardner built the first blacksmith shop, but [illegible] sold [illegible] Geo Robinson [illegible] 1906. Geo. Robinson later sold out to McKenzie Bros. and bought Lowery's general store. He carried on a successful family business for many years.

The first religious services in this district were conducted [illegible] 1904 by Mr. Matheson, a Presbyterian student minister who lived in a tent on Mr. William Andrews farm at Maymont. His way of travel was by horse and cart or by foot. His field extended from Fielding to Brada. The C.N.R. was being built at this time and Mr. Matheson was holding services at camps along the right of way. He persuaded Mr. O. C. Harper to come along and help him as song leader. (Mr. O. C. Harper with his brother Monte had come to the district to homestead [illegible] 1903). Mr. Matheson had to [illegible] back to college and he left Mr. Harper to conduct the Harvest Thanksgiving Service in Cleators home south of Denholm. The collection went to the Battleford Hospital. This is recorded in the Battleford Herald.

Then came the Rev. J. C. Madill [illegible] 1905 who took over this large parish. He held services at Turnbulls, McClellands, Ralphs, also at Maymont, Fielding and Denholm. He also had O. C. Harper take over some of his services. Milage was about 50 miles, transportation was by bicycle.

The Cavan Presbyterian Church was open in Oct. 7 of 1906. The Rev. Mr. McKinnon from Winnipeg as guest speaker at morning and evening services. Mr. [illegible].

Ruddell U.C.W. by post. Back row, l. to r. — Mrs. [illegible]. Reid, Mrs. Murison, Mrs. Wrenshall, Mrs. G. Scott, Mrs. Naylor, Mrs. Firth, Eleanor Robinson, Marg Thrower, Mrs. Martynes, Margaret White, Mrs. Albert Steel. Front row — Mrs. Grover Reid, Gertrude Whitlaw, Mrs. Jack White, Mrs. Charles Johnson, Mrs. John Arnold, Mrs. A. W. Robinson, Mrs. Dave Arnold (Meda Husband), Mrs. Lotta (Ross) Stally, Mrs. Dorothy (Albert) Mallows, Ivy (Mrs. Bill) Turnbull, Betty Jane M. Turnbull (little girl).

C. Harper led the choir of twenty-seven voices. A. E. Whitlaw and Geo Turnbull took up the first collection

Rev. J. C. Madill was the first minister of this church. Chairs were used in the church for a few years. Later the present pews were installed by Mrs. Murison, Geo and Graham Turnbull in memory of their mother Mrs. Elizabeth Turnbull.

The organ, Communion table and Bible were gifts from a church in Brantford, Ontario. The Baptismal Font was given some years later by Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Geddie in memory of their son Keith.

The Manse was built in 1913. Cavan United Church has been the centre of numerous groups through the years, United Church Ladies Aid, Young peoples, Sunday School. Services were held regularly until 1968 when it became the product of centralization and was closed. Funerals are still held in the church and it is used for meetings by the Ruddell community.

The first school was built in the winter of 1906 and 1907. There was one teacher and Grades 1 to Grade 8. The first teacher was Duncan McKellar's wife Margaret. Around about 1920 a second room was added on the west side. In 1951 a new two room school was built. It was opened November 21 with a program. In 1967 the high school was closed and the students were bussed to Maymont. In 1972 the school was closed, sold and torn down.

TEACHERS WERE:

1907-1910 Mrs. McKellar
1910-1911 Lucy Merry
1911-1912 Holmes Cathcart
1912-1913 Miss McCrea
1913-1914 Medley Brundage
1915-1917 Francis E. Reid
1918-1919 Jessie Duff
Pearl M. Paterson
1920-1921 Elsie Elizebeth Reid
Genevieve Pearl Stevens
1922-1924 Hazel L. Leask
1924-1925 Marjorie G. Mackay
1926-1927 Blanche McDonald
Mary Isabelle Huston
1928-1929 A. M. Naylor
1929-1930 G. R. Foster
1930-1931 V. M. Ferris
1931-1932 G. D. Vail
R. Robinson
1933-1934 R. Robinson

Ruddell School, 1928. Left to right, sitting — Grant Topping, Bobby Bowers, Donald Robinson, Lyle Arnold, George Scott, Lewis Ferguson, Lance Robinson, Woodrow Roche, Harold Anderson, Jack Robinson, Herbert Anderson, Ross Abbott, Ross Arnold, Andy Abbott, Renton Naylor, Bill Robinson, Jack Wallace, Clifford Wallace. 2nd row — Lois Bowers, Lila Topping, Valerie Ferguson, Adelaide Turnbull, Gladys Anderson, Bernice Stally, Ruth Scott, Rolean Abbott, Jean Murison, Maxine McNeil, Willena Hone, Ruth Wallace, Kay Collins, Ida Anderson, Ethel Anderson, Eileen Abbott, Thelma Naylor, Helen Abbott, May Robinson. 3rd row — H. S. Robinson (teacher), Mary Huston (teacher), Ethel Molsley, Violet Wallace, Ivy Moore, Amy Topping, Hazel Anderson, Kay Naylor, Irene Collins.

Ruddell School Spring of 1911. Back row — Bess Turnbull, Louise Thrower, Russ McNeil, Edna Robinson, Maggie Collins, Lucy Merry (teacher). Front row — Bill Turnbull, Russ Geddie, Les Conway, Bill Gold, Herb Mabey, Fred Thrower, Mary Reikie, Phyllis Moisley.

Ruddell School, 1945. Row 1, l. to r. — Garry Hanson, Hazel Acaster, Don Schmidt, Ronnie Hanson. Row 2 — Katie Demchuk, Shirley Acaster, Audrey Jones, Ruth Voegeli, Ron Schmidt, Bill Blair, Mike Demchuk, Herman Soule, Gerald Acaster, Wes Schmidt, Russell Krake. Row 3 — Bill Schaefer, Art Martynes, George Skinner, Lorna Soule, Helen Demchuk, Doreen Krake. Row 4 — Della Beausoleil, Audrey Reid, Dorothy Gillatt, Shirley Blair, Joyce Jones. Row 5 — Norman Curry, Kathleen Barlow (Jr. room teacher), Allan Soule, Art Rein (Sr. room teacher), Norman Soule, Bill Caldwell. Missing from picture — Rita Buttrey, George Demchuk, Donald Belerle, Bill Schmidt, Ernie Voegeli.

1934-1936 M. Robinson
1936-1937 M. Grainger
1938-1939 Mary Welford
1940-1941 Mary Welford
1941-1942 Edythe Marie Hamilton
1942-1943 Edythe Marie Hamilton
1943-1944 Kathleen Melville Barlow

Ruddell High, 1947. L. to r., front row — Ron Schmidt, Ken Meena, Ron Meena, Bill Scheifer. 2nd row — Della Beausoleil, Joyce Leng, Lorna Soule, Audrey Reid, Ruth Voegeli. 3rd row — Allan Soule, Ernest Voegeli, Bill Schmidt, Norman Soule, Art Martynes. 4th row — Neil Geisbrecht (teacher).

Junior Room Ruddell School, 1951-1952. L. to r., back row — Anne Buttrey, Albert Freiermuth, Glen Meena, Peggy Daoust, Edith Acaster, Elsie Demchuk, Rita Buttrey, Eileen Meena, George Demchuk, Cliff Acaster, David McIntyre, Eugene Krake, Patsy Hewson. Front row — Lorane Geisbrecht, Roy Krake, Mary Rose Krake, Dorothy Voegeli, Bryce Whitlaw, Archie Robinson. Missing — Agnes Soule, Garry Schmidt. Teacher — Miss K. M. Barlow.

1944-1952 Kathleen Melville Barlow
1953-1954 Lillian Barbor
1955-1956 Anne Helen Leask
1956-1957 Kathleen Marjorie Turk
1957-1958 Caroline Susan Roenspies
1958-1959 Mary Thora Neilane Jensen

Ruddell High, 1957. Left to right, 1st row — Roy Krake, Dorothy Voegeli, Anne Buttrey, Archie Robinson. 2nd row — Lorane Geisbrecht, Sharon Toews, Doug Foulds (teacher). 3rd row — Carol Barber, Kathleen Toews, Agnes Soule, Peggy Daoust, Rita Buttrey. 4th row — David McIntyre, Albert Freirmuth, Garry Schmidt, Glen Meena. Missing — Elsie Demchuk, Eugene Krake.

1958-1960 Ruth Victoria Rauser
1960-1961 Mrs. John Brett
Lois Eilleen McGregor
Victoria Josephine Chernetski
1962-1963 Freda Alice Gray
1963-1964 Freda Alice Gray
1964-1965 Grace Darling Jess
1965-1966 Grace Darling Jess
1966-1969 Freda Alice Gray
1969-1971 Marion Elizebeth Thompson

HIGHSCHOOL TEACHERS

1921-1922 Ella Stewart
[redacted]. E. Webber
1922-1923 Katie B. Cole
M. E. Webber
Ella Stewart
1923-1924 Brenton M. Holmes
1924-1929 H. S. Robinson

Ruddell, 1963-64. Left to right, front row — John Mison, David Schmidt, Rick Schmidt, Kevin Leng. 2nd row — Margaret Krake, Anna Voegeli, Donna Starycki, Charlotte Wood, Christine Starycki, Darlene Schmidt, Monika Siebert, Maxine Gray. 3rd row — Eugene Daoust, Kathleen Acaster, Jerry Sawchuk, Mitchel Starycki, Lee Schmidt, Linda Voegeli, Donald Soule. Missing — Don Serool, Diana Serool.

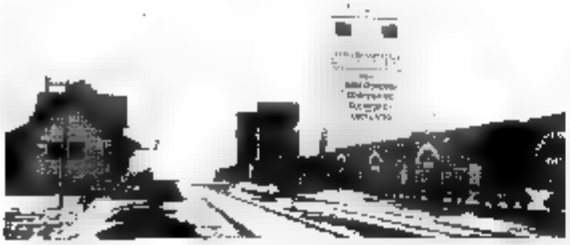
Freda and her class at Ruddell School, 1966-67. Front row — Rick Schmidt, Darrel Prescesky, Steven Prescesky, Barton Wood, Dwight Schmidt, Reid Schmidt, Kevin Leng. 2nd row — Sharon Meena, Debbie Schmidt, Roxanne Wood, Donna Voegeli, Colleen Menna, Carol Leng. 3rd row — Freda Gray (teacher), Donna Starycki, David Schmidt, Margaret Krake, Christine Starycki, Eugene Daoust, Anna Voegeli, John Mison, Darlene Schmidt.

1929-1930 Archibald Stanley McPhail
1930-1935 Garnet Aylesworth May
1935-1936 Ralph Nelson Wensley
1936-1938 J. E. Van Patten
1938-1940 Harold M. Paisson
1940-1941 E. A. Simmonds
1941-1942 James Edward Baikie
1942-1943 Agnes J. Walters
1943-1945 Neil Geisbrecht
1945-1946 Arthur H. Rein
1946-1947 Neil Geisbrecht

1947-1948 Donald Allan Morrison
1948-1950 Annie Rose Klassen
1950-1951 Kenneth Stuart McLaren
1951-1954 John Lindsay Constantine
1954-1959 Douglas Faulds
1959-1960 Ida Mae Gillatt
1960-1961 John Brett
1961-1962 Laurence Toole
1962-1964 William Thon
1965-1966 Ida Mae Gillatt

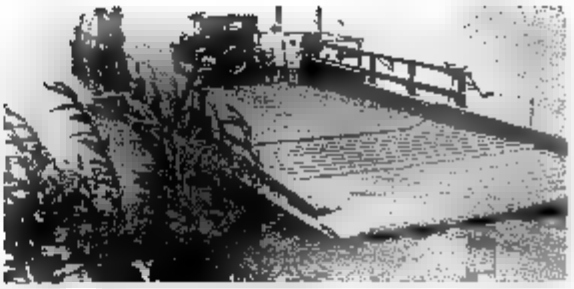
The first elevator was built by the Canadian Elevator Company in 1906. The first operator was Alex Young who lived in North Battleford. He never moved his family to Ruddell but lived at Kitchen's boarding house and returned to Battleford when the grain season was over.

Another elevator was constructed in 1907 by the British American Elevator Company. Jim Govenlock was its first operator. Competition was more keen. Sleigh loads of wheat, some from across the river, lined the main street waiting for the best bid from the elevator men.



Ruddell's Station and 3 elevators.

Ruddell's elevator about to cross No. 5 Highway.



Ruddell Ferry.

Later a third elevator was constructed by the co-op. Turnbulls also had a small elevator but it was torn down in the early twenties. The three elevators continued to serve the community. Their names were changed to the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, The National, and the Consolidated. The late 40's saw the National go. The Consolidated was taken over by the Saskatchewan Wheat pool. ■ the mid 70's saw the elevators close down. One was torn down, the other was bought by Art Martynes and moved to its new home on the hill one mile north of Ruddell.

The Ruddell ferry was installed in 1907. The farmers no longer had to wait till the river was frozen to haul their grain. Some of the early operators were O. Brumbaugh, Ed Ewing, Bill Kennedy, Robert Stephens. This crossing was two miles south and one mile east of Ruddell.

The town Merchants published a newspaper "The Ruddell News". Copies of the newspaper are now

G. E. Sherwood store, Ruddell.

RUDDELL NEWS

Vol. 1 Ruddell, Sask., December, 1906 No. 2

A MERRY XMAS TO ALL OUR READERS

Wanted in Ruddell

A GOOD DOCTOR

—AND A—

DRUG STORE

A GOOD OPENING ASSURED

ALSO GOOD OPENINGS

—FOR A—

BANK
FLOUR MILL
FURNITURE STORE
CEMENT BLOCK MANUFACTURER
BRICK YARD
BAKERY

A GOOD CENTRE FOR

MANUFACTURERS

SCARCITY OF EGGS

"Eggs are now very high in price and very few are coming into town at all," said a local merchant the other day. Would it not be a good idea to start egglaying competitions amongst the poultry of the district. We believe it has been tried successfully in some countries, the hens taking a lively interest. Talking of hens reminds us of the story of the farmer whose customers complained of the size of his eggs. He made promise to do better, and passing a store one day, he saw an ostrich egg, which he immediately purchased and hung in his fowl house with the following inscription. "Look at this and do your best."

GROWTH OF RUDDELL.

We are pleased to announce that, in the next few days, there will be an increase in the business section of Ruddell, namely, a hardware store, which will be opened up by Mr. R. McNeil, and an up-to-date meat store, by Mr. Murtagh, of Saskatoon. These two gentlemen were struck with the appearance of our town and with the bustling activity that presents itself to the onlooker. The present wave of prosperity that Ruddell is now experiencing will undoubtedly bring many more business men into the town, and to those who are looking for openings in the West, there is no town which offers greater inducements.

ON XMAS EVE.

That there will be lots of fun and enjoyment in this town on the 24th. goes without saying. It has already been announced that there will be a gathering in Ruddell Presbyterian church, on that date, for a concert and social, when an instructive and enjoyable program will be given by the Methodists of the district. A Christmas tree is also spoken of, and many other things. An enjoyable evening is assured.

ON NEW YEAR'S EVE.

It is announced that on New Year's eve there will be a concert and dance in the new public school of Ruddell, and we are assured that a very musical and tasty program has been provided for, to commence at 8 p.m. Admission, concert and dance, 50 cents, concert only, 25 cents, children, 15 cents.

McADAMS & SPENCE

GENERAL MERCHANTS

RUDDELL, - SASK.

FRESH GROCERIES

AT CITY PRICES

DRY GOODS

BOOTS AND SHOES

RUBBERS, ETC.

FLOUR BRAN SHORTS

WINTER APPLES

A FULL LINE OF

XMAS NOVELTIES

R. McNEIL

HARDWARE MERCHANT

I am just opening up my store with a complete line of

GENERAL HARDWARE

All the best makes of

STOVES AND RANGES

See my stock before going elsewhere. You will save money

LOCALS.

Mr. Irving of Saskatoon has been on a visit to this town.

Mr. and Mrs. McCann are now in residence in the station.

M. Mylrea has returned to his homestead from Battleford.

C. Robinson writes that there is ten feet of snow in Deloraine, Man.

J. Ingling has been in town and has erected the chimneys for the new hotel.

D. McKellar is busy well digging and is much pleased with the strata of Ruddell.

G. Hallman was appointed treasurer for the Board of Trade in place of J. Lowrey.

T. Stevens, Baljeannie has been a familiar figure in town lately, there is no weather too bad for this gentleman.

Wanted for Ruddell, freighters to haul freight to this town to take the place of the C. N. R., high prices paid.

Mr. and Mrs. Moffat of Baljeannie, gave a very enjoyable evening on January 18th to a large number of friends, dancing being kept up till morning. The host and hostess are to be congratulated upon the arrangements for the evening.

At the recent meeting of the Board of Trade all the officers were re-elected for another term of twelve months with exception of the Treasurer, the officers are A. L. Spence, President; J. R. Kitchen, Vice President; Mr. Hallman, Treasurer; G. McAdams, Secretary.

C. H. Robinson

Dealer in

LUMBER

All kinds of Spruce and B. C. Lumber.

I have 10 car loads of lumber on the way for my Spring trade.
Also a full line of
Harness and Supplies,
Robes and Blankets.

Insurance. Money to Loan.

Mr. Turnbull and Mr. Reekie paid a flying visit to Battleford but on arrival found that they had to perch a while. They arrived home on a wrecking train.

Mr. E. Whitlaw has been busy hauling sand in the town recently from the sand pit that he has located on his homestead. The sand is of the best quality and would make handsome cement blocks or bricks, this is another valuable asset to the district.

The result of the election for councillors have resulted as follows in the different townships: 42-18, Mr. Turnbull, retiring candidate Mr. Little; 43-18 Mr. Sample, retiring candidate W. J. Davis; 41-12 Mr. Osborne returned unopposed.

DENHOLM.

Mr. Fawcet took a trip up to Battleford to see the famous hockey match between the two towns and was very much elated at the result.

Quite a number of residents turned out for the dance at Mr. M. Baljeannie's and enjoyed themselves immensely.

Things are very quiet in this district just now except among the coyotes which are very numerous.

MAYMONT.

Great excitement was shown on the arrival of a freight train from the east and great disappointment was felt when it was known that no goods had arrived, and as under the present conditions eatables are getting scarce. One prominent merchant has only just received his Xmas. goods. We have only received one mail from the east for seven days now and it looks as if it will be some time yet before communications are restored. Trade is very quiet in town these days, the most flourishing business being the ice business.

Great regret was felt that there is a probability of losing our agent, but his present quarters are not too comfortable.

It will be good news to the farmers in this district to know that Mr. G. Robinson has started up a blacksmith shop in Ruddell, having acquired Mr. A. Gardiner's outfit and shop. He intends to give strict attention to this line of business. All kinds of repairs, smithing and shoeing done at short notice. Mr. Robinson is also an expert in plumbing and has had a good experience as an all around mechanic.

B. Robinson

RUDDELL.

Two car loads of Cockshutt machinery on the road comprising

Drills, Ploughs, Harrows, Packers, Cultivators, Blue stoners, Sulky Ploughs, Adams Wagons also Cutters.

Half car of Grey Buggies,
One car of Doering Binders,
Half car Plymouth Twine.

Call and examine my machinery before buying and get prices.

Machinery will arrive February. Call and get a Calender.

The Pioneer Store.

LOWREY BROS., RUDDELL.

We desire to thank our many customers for the liberal patronage we have received from their hands during the past, and would solicit a continuance of the same. Trusting that our business dealings will always meet with your approval.

We still carry a full line of

Groceries, Flour, Feed, Boots, Shoes, Hardware and Ready made Clothing.

Headquarters for Stoves.

G. HALLMAN

Ruddell, Sask.

Painter, Grainer, Glazier
and Paper Hanger.

Also Up-to-date

SIGN WRITING

First-Class Workmanship.

All orders promptly attended to.

THE RUDDELL NEWS.

VOL. I. RUDDELL, SASK., FEBRUARY, 1907. NO. 3.

WANTED IN RUDDELL

Bank
Flour and Grist Mill
Furniture Store
Harness Shop
Printer
Cement Block Manufactu'r
Brick Yard
Bakery
Drug Store

A good opening assured for any of the above businesses.

RUDDELL'S ADVANCE.

It is evident to the most passive onlooker that Ruddell will be a centre for the farmers for many miles around, even at this time of the year it is amazing to see the business that is done, very rarely it is that one does not see numerous teams tied up awaiting their owners who are busy purchasing the necessities and requirement of their households. The reason for this is apparent for the farmer can find a ready market in in Ruddell for his produce, whether it be eggs, butter, hay, oats or wood, in fact anything that is produced in the country finds a ready sale here, a large business is being done in the fur trade, quite a few shipments have already been made from this point. Another good reason for the prosperity of this place is that the farmers in this district are proud of the town and are pleased with the buildings that have been erected, and with their substantial appearance. It is the proud boast of this community that we possess the largest Presbyterian church in the west this side of Winnipeg and the public school that has just been erected is a credit to the town and vicinity. Applications have also been received from a doctor and druggist for a site in this town also the sites have been staked out for two more elevators which are to be built this year. There is no doubt that this year will see great changes and much advancement made to this growing town.

THE HISTORY OF RUDDELL.

Ruddell is situated on the C. N. R. twenty-two miles east of North Battleford, lieing in a fine stretch of fertile soil. There are two sidings between here and Battleford, but there are no prospects of a town ever springing up at either of the points, which leaves Ruddell in a good position to very soon become a town of at least fifteen hundred inhabitants. To an easterner it would seem rather previous for a town with a population of some twenty-five or thirty inhabitants to establish a newspaper, but this is the third issue of the Ruddell News and we expect it, like the town, to grow. Mr. McAdams is its founder and has associated with him in this issue Mr. J. R. Kitchin.

If the reader can glance over this vast prairie with its fertile soil lying along the great Saskatchewan River with here and there an occasional bluff, then he can see with his imaginary eye what the country lying between Saskatoon and Battleford was some five years ago save the presence of an occasional Indian in quest of game. In the fall of ninety-two the Canadian Northern Ry. engineers first made their appearances through this part of the country, shortly after this settlers commenced to make their appearance, the first to come being John White and Samuel Cameron who came from the vicinity of Deloraine, Man., about four years ago, bringing with them a yoke of oxen. After testing the ground in several places they located near here, each taking up a homestead, also buying a half section of C. P. R. land for which they gave three dollars an acre, the same now being worth fifteen per acre. Mr. Anderson was the first to attempt anything in the line of a store. He erected a small building where he kept a few groceries, but the business not being large enough to accomodate the public, and wishing to give more attention to other affairs he sold out in July, 1905, to Ed. Lowery, who erected a large

McADAMS
&
SPENCE

GENERAL MERCHANTS

Fresh Groceries at Right Prices,
Dry Goods, Boots & Shoes,
Rubbers, Moccasins, Etc.

WINTER APPLES $5.00 Per Bbl.
All kinds of Farm Produce Bought.

New
Blacksmith Shop

G. C. Robinson, - Ruddell.

Having bought out A. Gardiner I am now prepared to do all kinds of

BLACKSMITHING

and Wood Repairing to Wagons, Buggies, etc.

Also Plumbing Repairs effected at shortest notice.

Prompt attention and best Workmanship Guaranteed.

J. R. KITCHIN,

REAL ESTATE AGENT,

Ruddell - Sask.

200,000 ACRES

of Farm Lands for sale in the famous

BATTLEFORD DISTRICT

many of them convenient to railway.

Easy terms of payment.

Money to Loan. Insurance.

Auctioneer.

Commissioner for taking Affidavits.

building and started a general store, practically speaking this was Ruddell's first store. Ed. was then appointed postmaster, to his majesty, the king, a position which he still holds. In the spring of the present year Mr. James Lowrey left his former home, at Campbellville, Halton county, Ont., to seek his fortune in the west. He brought with him his wife, and entered into partnership with his brother. The firm's name now is Lowrey Bros., and they conduct a general store business, which is satisfactory to the general public. The next to embark in business here, were Chas. and Bernie Robinson, the former conducts the lumber business where the farmers come for miles to secure lumber to erect more substantial buildings on their homesteads, while the latter is engaged in the implement business, handling the Deering binders and the famous Cockshutt farm machinery. The large amount of implements handled by this gentleman during the past summer, proves his adaptability to please the public. The Robinsons came here from Waseca, Minn., but are formerly from Paris, Ont. W. Thrower next put in his appearance and purchased the building owned by Mr. Anderson, the striped pole annexed to his building will show one this is a barber shop. His geniality and good workmanship brings him a good trade considering the population of our town. Billy hails from Hamilton, N. D. but is a Canadian by birth, having been born at Goderich, Ont., he is proving up on his homestead near the town.

In the month of August last Mr. and Mrs. Kitchin erected a building where the former conducts a restaurant where the hungry may be fed and the weary may rest, the latter conducts a real estate, insurance and money to loan agency. Mr. Kitchin has recently been appointed a commissioner for taking affidavits and a petition is now in circulation to appoint him a J. P.

Messrs. McAdams and Spence are two gentlemen who came here a few months ago from Prince Albert, the former hails from sunny England and is to be congratulated for his interprise and adaptability to this western country, while the latter hails from N. B. They carry a heavy stock of general merchandise their attractive store and business principles bringing to them a good trade. They accept all kinds of farmers' produce in exchange for their goods. At the time of writing Mr. Spence has a large force of men engaged erecting a hotel the cost of which will be in the neighborhood of seven thousand dollars.

Duncan McKellar has had a fine livery barn erected, and has just placed therein some handsome turnouts in the livery line which is bringing to him a good trade.

Randolph McNeil also expects to become agent for farm implements.

Messrs. Kitchin McNeil and McKellar all hail from Alvinston, Lambton county, Ont.

Anderson & Arnold are the builders and contractors here. The buildings they have erected show they are masters of the situation and able to complete any undertaking. The former hails from Simcoe county, Ont., while the latter first saw the light of day near the city of Toronto.

John Ingling is the gentleman who looks after all the mason work and a glance at a job after it leaves his hands will convince one that he is hard to beat in his line of business. John is also a first class taxidermist. He hails from the town of Atkinson, state of Nebraska.

After the structures here are erected, Geo. Hallman is the gentleman who puts the glossy finish on the same, or does the artistic sign lettering. Any work undertaken by this gentleman is always done up to the mark. Mr. Hallman came here from Deloraine, Man., but hails from Walkerton, Ont.

Mr. Anderson Sen., is the section foreman here, who looks well after this part of the C. N. R., and a gentleman who has practically spent all his life on the railroad and comes from Orillia, Ont.

A. Gardner is the name of the gentleman who started the first blacksmithshop but has recently sold out to Geo. Robinson. Geo. comes from Sanilac Co., Mich., but is formerly from Brant Co., Ont.

Thos. Murtaugh dropped off the train here about a month ago and became fascinated with the surroundings, he said "by dad this is where I am going to locate," and before night he had a dressed beef hung up in Bernie Robinson's implement building and opened up business. He now has a meat shop of his own where he supplies the public with the sweetest of beef, an occasional slice of moose meat in season, or fish that will weigh from two to thirty pounds. Tom hails from Barrie, Simcoe Co., Ont.

One year ago saw the first wheat shipped from this point. During the season there were some ten carloads shipped out. The Canadian Elevator Co., now have an elevator here with a capacity of 25,000 bushels. Alex Young of North Battleford, the manager here, tells us he has so far this year shipped 100,000 bushels of wheat. There is still 25,000 bushels in the farmers hands for shipment. It is estimated that during the past summer 7,000 acres of prairie in this vicinity has been broken and will next spring be sown to wheat.

Homesteading is practically a thing of the past, all the homesteads having been taken up. Some lands are still held by speculators, which we expect will be turned over to the actual settler when spring opens up.

In regard to the class of settlers located hereabouts, we might say they have mostly been born under the British flag. There are a goodly number of English, some Irish, a few Scotch with a sprinkling of American people, but the majority are Canadians, many of them who have sworn allegiance to Uncle Sam, but have again returned to the land of their birth.

Farming is not the only occupation followed here, there are some few men engaged in the ranching industry. Among the foremost is Mr. Nolin who is a born Westerner, and was a member of the first Manitoba Legislature. He also took a leading part in the Reil rebellion.

Mr. Richard and Mr. McGaffin are also extensive ranchers, the latter gentleman being Postmaster, at Baljeannie, a post office on the south side of the north branch of the Saskatchewan river. The Presbyterians have a church which they have reason to feel proud of, the Rev. J. C. Madill is their preacher. The Methodist body also worship in the same building. Mr. Atkinson, who is a student, delivers the simple truth in a forcible manner.

A school has just been completed, where we expect the rising generation will receive an education, which will help them to go forth to do

honor to this town and province.

The C. N. R. have a fine station here and altogether our buildings are of a substantial structure, with a beautiful view overlooking the Eagle hills, which have been said by travellers, to be the most beautiful spot on the C. N. R. between Winnipeg and Edmonton.

ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS.

In accordance with the law of this province the election for councillors takes place on the second Monday in January. This election was duly held for this township 42-18 on Monday, 14th of January. Mr. Little, the first councillor elected for this township, was defeated by Mr. Turnbull. A number of the electors assembled at the hall to hear the speeches of the candidates. They were disappointed in this, and then found that this voting was to be entirely open, each voter stepped forward and inscribing his name on a sheet of foolscap and the name of the candidate he supported. The statements of expenditure, etc., were posted up on the wall of the building. There was much comment upon the method which was used upon this occasion and the question was asked, "Why should this be an open ballot, where each candidate could look over the shoulder of the voter to see what he was doing, also, "Why was there no nominations." As the elections are important matters for each township, we think that there should be a little more method used on these occasions. In this province one councillor represents a township and six townships form a council, and the majority rules on taking a vote on any question coming before them except in the case of a tie, when the decision is always given in favor of the negative. It is expected that in the coming session of the Legislature that improvements will be made in our municipal laws.

C. N. R. MAIL CLERKS.

It will be a source of pleasure to the people along the C. N. R. to learn that the Railway Co., has been fined five thousand dollars by the government for failing to take the mail out of Edmonton upon a certain date. The government could also profitably spare a little time in looking after the mail clerks on the different trains. It is a common occurrence to have mail for parties in different towns put off here in the Ruddell mail bag, and very frequently mail from the west is carried through and then thrown off here by the mail clerks from the east. The entire issue of the Battleford Press for Ruddell subscribers recently came from the east one month after being issued from the Press, and only recently the Manville mail was left off here and the Ruddell mail carried through, whether it ever returned or not we do not know. On one or two occasions our postmaster has met the train for the mails and has found the door to the mail clerks car barred and the clerk was apparently asleep inside.

WATER SUPPLY OF RUDDELL.

It is gratifying to known that this town will be well supplied for water. A town well has been sunk, and at 35 feet a good flow of water was secured. The residents of this town may now compliment themselves upon this good fortune, for without a good supply of water there can be no town of any consequence, but that Ruddell will be always fully supplied is evident by the numerous wells in this district and the close proximity of the river.

FOOTBALL AND BASEBALL.

Now is the time for the boys of Ruddell and vicinity to organise for a baseball and football club. It is certain that we have good material for to form a good strong representative team for each of these manly sports, and it is also sure that if the boys will come forward that Ruddell will certainly take no back seat with any of the clubs along this line, so what we would impress upon you is, that a committee be formed at once so that things may be in shape when the season opens.

J. R. Kitchen has been appointed commissioner for taking affidavits and a petition is in circulation for appointing him a magistrate.

Mr. Thompson who lately had the misfortune to freeze his hands and feet badly has almost recovered and is able to get around.

T. MURTAGH

BUTCHER.

Fresh Fish Now on Hand.

Highest Price Paid for All Kinds of Hides.

Cattle Bought and Sold.

R. McNEIL,

HARDWARE MERCHANT

A full line of General Hardware, Builders' Supplies, Paints, Oils, Glass, and the best makes of Stoves and Heaters.

Also for Sale:
1 Buggy, new.
1 Buggy, second hand.
1 Set Single Harness.
1 Set Single Harness, second hand.
1 Cart, nearly new.

If you want anything in this line it will pay you to call at an early date.

D. R. McKELLAR

LIVERY, FEED, AND SALE STABLE.

STYLISH TURNOUTS.

Conveyancing done at shortest notice.

WANTED.

Several good teams for general purposes, ready sale. Apply

D. R. McKELLAR, RUDDELL.

museum pieces. There were three issues published. When the passenger trains stopped at Ruddell the town kids would board the train to distribute the newspaper free of charge.

The spring of 1907 saw a young energetic man by the name of George Sherwood came to town. He was looking for a location to start a dry goods store. He decided Ruddell was the place. Charlie Robinson as usual was to help out by making a temporary furniture store. He lost no time in building George a fine store and a house to live in. The inside of the store was finally finished with counters constructed of one piece edge grain fir 24" wide.

Bass Mylrea's Bakery & Grocery Store. Summer Sports day, 1911.

Bass Mylrea bought Bob Hayters grocery store. After adding on addition he installed a modern brick bake oven. This became a bakery with the delicious small of fresh baked bread. Reg Mylrea built the poolroom which he later sold to Shorty Mallows.

Mr. Mylrea who had homesteaded west of town, moved to town and started a livery stable. He built the house now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Patterson.

In early 1907 the towns first doctor located here. Dr. Wheaten was a young medical man from Winnipeg. Charlie Robinson provided him with an office and a house to live in. Dr. Wheaten only stayed a short while. The house was later purchased by Wm. Geddie then sold to Ross Stally and is now the residence of Mr. and Mrs. J. Birse. Dr. Scratch came to Maymont in 1907 and there after looked after the medical needs of the area for miles around.

Dr. Dewalt, a veterinarian came to Ruddell and stayed a few years, but before he left he married Ruby Mylrea. Other early business people were: Dave Arnold and George Anderson were building contractors under the name of Arnold and Anderson. Mr. Anderson soon devoted his time to farming. Dave Arnold built a lot of barns and houses in the district and most of these remain in good condition. Bill Rosamond, Geo Gibney and Barney Welton were carpenters who worked for Arnold and Anderson.

The plastering contractor was old Jon Ingling (not because he was really old but because he wore a beard.)

Scotty Miller was the stone Mason. Many basements and foundations were built of local field stone.

George Hallman was the painter and decorator. All the signs on the buildings were from his fine handiwork. He and his son built what was intended to be a poolroom but funds run out and this building later became the first telephone office.

Some of the other businesses in Ruddell were. (not necessarily in that order)
Lawrence Robinson
Bowers Hardware
Jennings Gen. Store
Geo Robinson
Robinson & Harper Gen. Store
Tylor Gen. Store
George Fong Gen. Store
Fast Gen. Store
Harry Brown
Youngs Butchershop
Wardens Gen. Store
Morsley's Eating House
Braggs Hardware
Graham Turnbull built a store it was run by Mah Lee
Neil Geisbreckt
A.E. Steele John Deere Agency (This was housed in Lowrey's old Store Building)

Bill Turnbull had a gas station north of the track, south of now Peterson's house by the old Jasper Highway.

Herb Mabey had a gas station and a garage west of where the postoffice now sits.

Other garage and machine agency operators were: Bob Orchard, J. Prescesky, Walter Parent, G. Holmes, Whitlaws, A. W. Robinson, Eph Reid.

R. A. McIntyre operated a bulk gas station, garage and massey Agency for a number of years. Geo Pringle kept the books for a few years. Bob and Vi lived in Ruddell for 28 yrs. operating the garage and fuel business until the 60's then took over the grocery from Neil Giesbreckt which called for an addition to the garage. During the years before the business was closed in 1972, Bob travelled many miles delivering fuel, while Vi looked after the store end of the business. During the time they were in Ruddell they raised two sons David and Ron. They always had plenty of time for the many activities of the community.

The first picnic was held at the Maple Grove in 1904. It was only a small gathering. The spigots were still in the trees where the Indians had tapped them for Maple syrup. The hand crafted sap buckets made by the Indians were burned to boil the coffee.

As time passed, numbers increased with people coming from Richard, Denholm, Lilac, and Maymont.

Ruddell Maple Grove picnic, 1911.

Homecoming, 1971 at the Maple Grove.

It was said that around five hundred gathered one year. They met in the morning had lunch, then an afternoon entertainment, a basket lunch and more games. Sometime later a race track was built at Ruddell on the strip of land just north of the elevators. They combined the picnic at the Maple Grove with a race meet in town. The first of these occasions it is recalled the town and country was full of excitement. Somewhere about six hundred were present at all events. People began to gather at 10 o'clock with numerous flags flying, citizens all beribboned and smiling. Stores especially dressed for the occasion with good-things provided for the crowd. The prairie was a picture of wagons, democrats, and other vehicles of all description. The weather was fine and the fun began with a picnic at the Maple Grove then all kinds of races and games for all ages, including a basket ball match and a baseball game. Maymont versus Ruddell. At 2:30 the crowd assembled at the racetrack in Ruddell where horse races, pony races, ladies driving contests and other games were witnessed. A dance was held at night. This did not continue for very long as there was a lot of disagreement as to where the picnic was to be held. Through the years a picnic has been held each July 1st at the Maple Grove. The numbers attending have dwindled but fun is had by all.

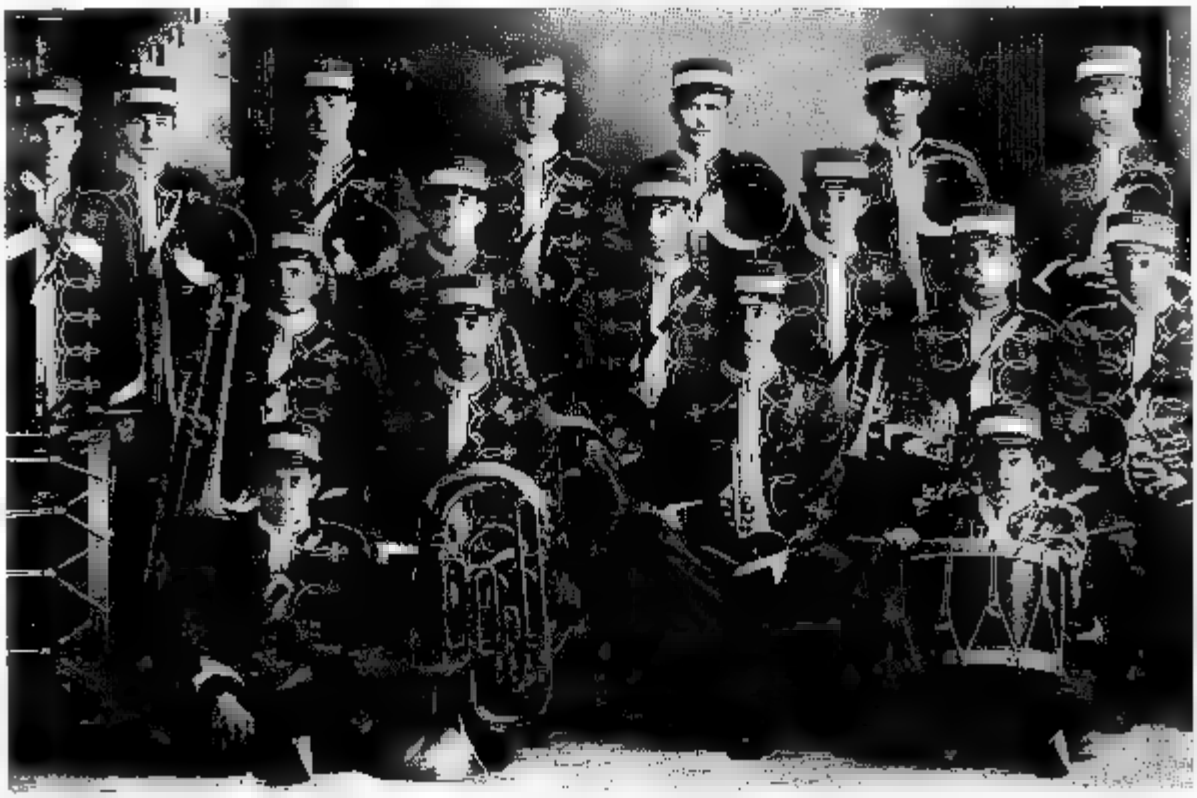
In 1912 a 25 piece Brass Band was organized in Ruddell. It was led by Ed Ewing. Ed was a real musician and could play any instrument. The band was smartly uniformed. They played at many engagements and local celebrations including the Battleford fair.

Ezss Mylrea had the first telephone. His sister Elsie was switchboard operator. The Ruddell Telephone Company came into being on Feb. 20, 1915. Some of the operators were Mrs. Rhody, Mrs. Collins, Marjorie and Jack Thrower. Marjorie and Jack Thrower operated the switchboard for nearly thirty years. On Nov. 14, 1970 the Ruddell Telephone Co. changed over to the automatic dial system. Somethings were gained like the twenty-four hour service. Others were lost like the general ring. The long ring saved many homes from serious fire as all neighbors rushed out to lend a hand. The general ring was also used to advertise meetings and social gatherings. Another chapter closed on one rural way of life.

The Ruddell cemetery was first located on N.E. ¼, 32, 41, 13W. 3rd. Later Graham Turnbull donated the land for the present burial ground. The cemetery was moved. At present the Ruddell branch of the S.W.I. oversee the up keep of the grounds.

Ruddell was incorporated as a village in 1914. It is considered a village and has its mayor or overseer and town councilors Wayne Acaster and John Birse.

Ruddell Baseball Team (1913) and Rooters. l. to r. — Mountie ?, Bill Geddie, Dave Arnold, Mr. Mabey, ?, Mrs. Dalzell, Grace Harper, ?, Hannah Robinson, Eleanor Robinson, Bess Murison, Florence Geddie, Bessie Coppock, Edna Robinson (Gibson), ?, George Sherwood, Bob Gordon, Bert Krug, Mr. Dalzell, ?, ?, ?, Eph Reid, Jack Arnold, Russ McNeil, ?, Charlie Robinson, ?. Front row — Reg Dalzell, Claude Jennings, holding Fern Robinson, Mrs. McCann, Mrs. Jennings, ?, Warne Robinson, ?, ?, ?. Standing in buggy — Art Robinson, Adah Squires.



Ruddell Brass Band. Back row — Bill Geddie, Warne Robinson, Phyl Myiren, Ted Kirk, Willis Swerdfurger, Herb Kirk, Lawrence Steele. Second row — Norman Andrew, Oswald Harper, [redacted] Ewing, Albert (Shorty) Mallows, Malcom Gray. Front row — Norman Kitchen, Albert Steele, Frank Claredge, Russ McNeil.

Ruddell Ball Team, 1914. Eph Reid, Warne Robinson, Russel McNeil, Jessie Bennett, ?, Claude Jennings, Howard Bennett, ?, Herman Spence.

Some parts taken from town books

Jan. 14, 1935

Moved by Councellor McKenzie second by Overseer Whitlaw that the village of Ruddell purchase the Lighting Plant from H. Mabey.

Feb., 1936

A communication was read from North Battleford Board of Trade regarding completion of Highway No. 5 asking for co-operation of the village.

May 1, 1939

A request from Mr. Palsson for free use of the hall, including lighting, to raise funds to send school children to Saskatoon on visit of King and Queen was discussed. This request was granted for May 19, 1939.

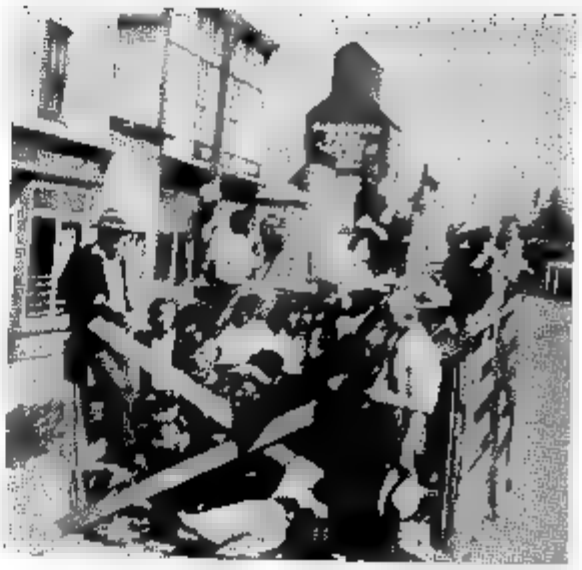
July, 1939

25¢ paid for red lights for silent policeman.

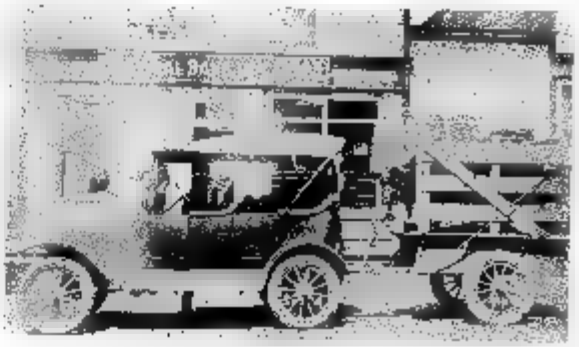
A town by-law was passed in Feb. 1947 which prohibits the depositing of ashes, dirt stones, or rubbish upon the streets or other public places within the village and compels the removal by party depositing same.

Up to the year 1954 cinders had been purchased from the CNR for the main streets then the CNR informed them there were no more available. Gradually gravel was put on the streets.

Maintaining the streets in Ruddell in the early years.



Young people loaded to go to Meeting Lake.



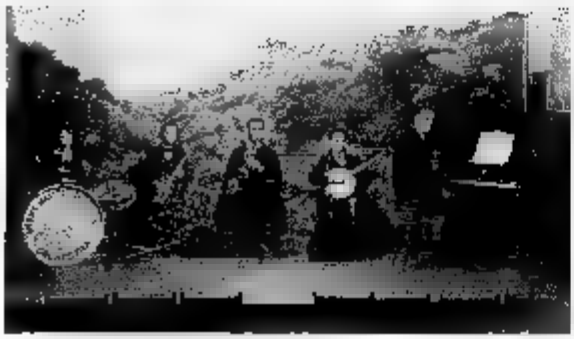
Imperial Bank of Canada, Ruddell.

During the years the town fire engine has been kept up and in working order. This engine moved to different places during the winters such as the livery barn, back of the hall until in 1958 it came to a house of its own on mainstreet.

The Imperial Bank of Canada came to Ruddell in about 1915. It was housed in the building that was Charlie Robinsons Furniture Store.

In the early days before there was no proper hall, the school, the room over Robinson's store, the church or the Oddfellows Hall over the Old Pool Room was used for gatherings. The Hall was built and was opened Nov. 1, 1919. Charlie Johnson was Overseer, Charlie McKenzie and Rev. McPhedran councillors when the meeting accepted Charlie Robinson's tender for $1,465 for material for the building. In addition the tender of Dave Arnold in the amount of $700 for construction was accepted Council secretary at the time was H. Ferguson.

This hall was built with great participation from the people of Ruddell area. Dave Arnold was foreman

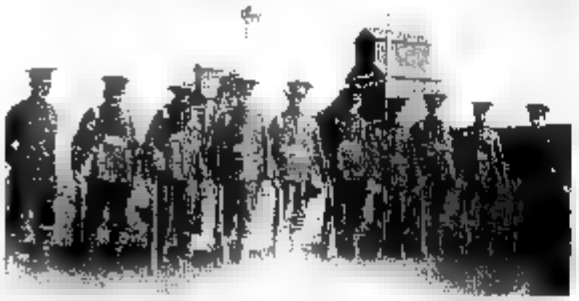


Medd's Orchestra played for many dances in Ruddell. Left to right — Joyce, Erma, Jack, Walter, and Nathan.

and he was assisted by Charlie Morrison. Others who helped were Jack Arnold, Little Jack Arnold, Miles Stalker, Peter Delh, Jack White, Warne Robinson, Russ McNeil, Bill Kennedy, Gid Blair, Charlie Murison, Graham Turnbull, Jack Campbell, Bill Geddie and many others.

This hall served our community well through the years. It saw many gatherings of all kinds. It was leveled by fire April 21, 1975. Thus leaving the town with no where to hold gatherings.

Ruddell had several bad fires. The Livery barn burned one Sun. night, and the small Grain Growers building. The bank was quite close and much hard fighting saved it, or the whole west side of the street would have gone up in smoke. Warden's store which had a residence ■ the back, Butchershop, McKenzies house near the Blacksmith shop and the Second Livery Barn. Nothing was saved.



Ruddell Militia — 1928. l. to r. — Sid Moore C.O., Vic Humphrey, Gordon Mitchell, Bill White, Jim Arnold, Jim Reikie, Lee Roche, Norman Martenson, Chuck White, Fred Thrower.

The cenotaph was erected in 1926. This was a memorial ■ those men who gave their lives in World War I. It was unvieled in Nov. 1926 by Mr. Dow. The band came down from North Battleford and an honor gaurd of Ruddell and Lilac district veterans were in attendance.

Mrs. Jack White and Mrs. McNeil on the day the cenotaph was unveiled. Nov., 1926.

It reads:

1914-1918

THEIR NAME LIVETH FOREVER MORE

S. Davey	C. Locker
F. Salter	C. Beechy
A. Miller	H. Mather
J. Beckett	C. Pringle
S. Jackson	H. Roberts
J. McMillan	H. Campbell
V. Grandboys	■. Bremner

1939-1945

W. ■. Gillatt	J. E. Wright

Sgt. W. H. Gillatt and F/O J. E. Wright were added after World War 2. There are two trees planted at the gate of the Ruddell Cemetery. These trees were planted by the Lilac and Ruddell Service Club ■ Honor of Sgt. W. H. Gillatt and F/O J. E. Wright who were lost in action.

Ruddell was not all business. They had many clubs and organizations.

Decoration Day — First part of Sept., 1928.

There was a baseball team from the early days of 1907. It has now turned to a soft ball team. One of the things they sponsored was the Ruddell Snow Festival in 1966 with the election of a Snow Queen and skidoo races for all ages. There was said to be close to a thousand people in attendance.

The Oddfellows Lodge with the spade work done by Jim Beckett began in 1914. They also had the Rebecca's at one time.

The Masonic Lodge with much of the organizing done by Arthur Bater and Geo Mabey.

The Ladies Aid which changed to the U.C.W. was active until the church was closed in 1966. They held a wild fowl supper on Oct. 8, 1907. It was said it was well attended.

Remembrance Day at the Cenotaph. l. to r. — Mrs. Dorothy Mallows, Levi Walden, Vi McIntyre, Mrs. Moore, Hannah Birse, Bob McIntyre, Lance Robinson, about 1968.

Ruddell had a Hockey club, Basketball club, (It was said the girls basketball team even defeated North Battleford.) and curling club. There also was a full sized tennis court across from the church.

The Homemakers came into being in 1947. The name has been changed to the Saskatchewan Women's Institute and there is still a branch in Ruddell.

The Ruddell Bucks Only Club is active in conservation and Preservation of our wildlife.

The Ruddell and District Branch No. 144 of the Canadian Legion was granted the Charter on Sept. ■, 1930. Twenty-one members signed the Charter. Seventeen members joined after World War 2. At one time there were between 30 and 40 members. The branch is still active with 4 members. They look after the grounds around the cenotaph and have a service by the cenotaph on Nov. 11.

There are still a few buildings left in Ruddell which were built in the early years. The homes of Wayne

Oddfellow's & Rebecca Parade, Ruddell.

Ruddell from the air, 1953.

Acaster and family, John and Hannah Birse, and Mr and Mrs. Patterson. Ernie Voegeli's shop which was the first home of Graham Turnbull and family. The old post office is all thats left of the McNeil's Hardware Store. Fred Wood's garage and shop was the Oddfellows hall.

People have come and gone during the years with hopes for the future. There may be few members but the community spirit is still alive. We are proud to say "WE ARE FROM RUDDELL".

Since the beginning of this account on Ruddell Jim Polgar, his wife Terry and son Dwayne have come from Winnipeg. They have built a new home and added a small store which is now open. Randy Woolsey (who is a clay sculptor) his wife Yoshimi (who does Batik) and their son Justin, are building a home and shop. Perhaps the boom of 1906 has began again.

Family Histories

David Angus Addley Family

(Submitted by Angus Addley)

David Angus Addley was born in 1882 in Lucknow, Ontario and died in 1960 in Saskatoon. He farmed in the Rabbit Lake Area of Saskatchewan before joining the services in 1916. He served with Royal Highlanders of Canada to June, 1919. While overseas his first major battle was Vimy Ridge. He married in 1919 and he and his wife, Jamesina, settled in Fielding that year. They spent the first year east of Fielding before moving to their own farm one-half mile south of Fielding. Jamesina was a "war bride" and was born in 1889 in Glasgow, Scotland and died in 1973 in Saskatoon.

They had a family of three daughters and one son. Jean was born at Fielding in 1920 with Dr. Scratch attending. Moira born at Fielding in 1922 — once again Dr. Scratch in attendance. Norma was born in 1924 at Radisson — attending physician was Dr. Whitemarsh. Angus was born in 1934 at Fielding. Dr. Scratch and Patricia McGrath, nurse, were in attendance. (Understood to be Pat's first baby.)

Jean married Harold Gerbrandt in Saskatoon in 1954. They have two sons, Gerald and Donald, of Saskatoon and one married daughter, Leslie Miller, of Edmonton.

Moira married Hans Prechtl of Fielding in 1942. They had two sons, Robert and Earl. Hans died in 1944. Moira married George Anderson in 1949. He adopted the two boys and they had one daughter, Diane. The family all reside in Saskatoon.

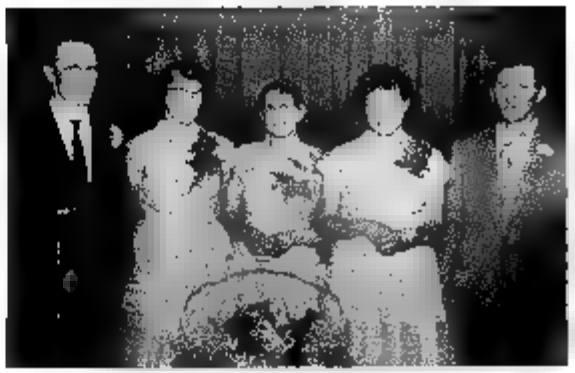
Norma married Murray Smith in 1945. They have one son, Robert Murray, and they reside in Saskatoon.

Angus moved to Loon Lake in 1953 and married Glenna Coolin in 1955. They have four sons Barry 22, Blayne 20, Graham 15, Cameron 10, and one daughter, Glenna Lynne 8.

The Wayne Addley Family

told by Reta (Parker) Addley

My earliest memories are of my first day at Grey School. What a thrill getting ready to go off to school



Reta's graduating class — 1957. From left to right — Murray Rogers, Velma Wiley, Reta Parker, Trudy Sloan, Billy Caruk.

with my sister Shirley! Grannie Parker cried that morning because the baby of the family was leaving for school! Whether the tears were real or just pretended to make me feel important, I don't know.

There were very strict health rules at school, Shirley had informed me. You must have a clean handkerchief, clean teeth, hair neatly combed and clean fingernails. I would get a star if I passed inspection. I cleaned my teeth and fingernails several times before I was satisfied that they would get me the coveted star that first morning.

I remember one of my birthday suppers I didn't get to. Dad asked me to go for a ride with him in the afternoon and we stopped to visit Merle and Harvey Johnston. Dad of course loved to visit and was never in a hurry so we arrived home late for supper. Everyone else had eaten supper — even down to the birthday cake! I wanted to bawl — my birthday and they hadn't even waited for me!!

I had two dolls that I can remember. One was a rag doll with a plastic face. My brother Lloyd wanted to see how close he could get to the stove with it before the plastic would burn. Of course, he did get too close and burnt a hole in the plastic face. I did bawl that

time! The other Doll I remember was a very special one. Hazel Boyd gave it to me as a Christmas present the year my mother died. It was the kind of doll I had dreamed about and always wanted and I spent many happy hours playing with her. I named her Diana Millicent.

I spent the first eight of my school years at Grey School, then Dad, Shirley and I moved to Maymont so I took my high school in Maymont, graduating from Grade Twelve in 1957.

I went to work in Edmonton where I met and married Wayne Addley in 1961. We have three sons Darnell, David and Brian.

We often go to the lake for weekends and holidays. One weekend when the boys were quite small we took the tent and set it up beside the lake. During the night a terrible thunder storm came up. The wind pulled one of the tent pegs out. We were wondering what we should do when Wayne (without saying anything to me) decided he would back the car up to the tent and tie the rope to the bumper and that would hold the tent down, so he asked me for the keys. I said "Oh, Wayne you're not going to run away and leave the kids and me are you?" and I bawled again! It seems to me I did a lot of bawling in my early days. Being the youngest in a family of eight it was probably the best weapon I had.

Wayne comes from a very small family, only himself and his sister, so he was really floored when he married me and found out how many relatives he had inherited. However we all enjoy coming back to Maymont to visit my sisters, Gladys and Shirley, and their families and my brother, Leslie, and his family at Radisson. We have had many happy family "get-togethers" either down at Glenburn Park or at one of their homes.

Our boys attended the same school, Eastwood, as their father and grandfather. Three generations of Addleys have attended that school. Our boys grandfather, Mr. Alfred Addley, was one of the first students in the school when it opened in 1923. Mr. Addley and Wayne had two of the same teachers and Wayne and our boys had two of the same teachers. There is quite a history of Addleys in the Eastwood School as other Addley relations attended also. This year, however, Brian graduated and for the first time in many years, there will not be an Addley in that school.

Our oldest son Darnell, graduated from high school this year and is enrolled in a Civil Engineering class at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, David is in his last year at W. P. Wagner, a trade school and Brian graduated this year into Senior High School.

The Will Agar Family

told by Agnes Bobby (Agar) MacKay

Caroline Mogk was born December 24th, 1878 at Bornholm, Ontario, and received her Public School education in the Township of Logan, Perth County. At

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Agar — wedding picture — April 3rd, 1902.

the age of 16 years, she worked out for her living as she came from a large family and was not needed at home. She says: "In those days everyone with any sense of responsibility worked hard . . . not only for eight hours a day but 16 hours or more." When she was 21 she left for Manitoba because she thought the wages were better there but found to her disappointment that it was a poor year so she did not profit by her move. However, while working at Boissevain, she met William Agar who was hauling wood in weather that was mostly 40 degrees below zero . . . 16 miles and for the large sum of $2.25 per load. Will Agar was also born in Ontario at Bluevale where his parents had a farm. They both died while he was quite young and as soon as he was old enough to get out on his own, he

went to Manitoba where ■ had two older brothers and a sister.

Will and Carrie married on April 2, 1902 and farmed on a rented farm for two years before moving to take up homesteading in Saskatchewan in 1904. They had a daughter Lenora, born in February, 1903. Will's brother, Tom Agar had staked the homestead claims 25 miles east of North Battleford. Since there was no railroad through as far as Battleford, their freight was only shipped ■ far as Saskatoon which had a population of about 200 persons at that time. They lived with Tom in a 12 by 12 foot sod cabin but as soon as they were able to obtain lumber, they built a ■ by 12 foot bedroom with ■ cellar under to store vegetables. Although people were friendly and took turns entertaining with dances and good food, Tom found the Prairie country pretty lonely and sold his homestead ■ Will and Carrie then left but not before breaking the virgin soil by a plow pulled by a team of oxen. In 1905, a second daughter . . . Lena was born; and in 1906, they built their own house getting a car of lumber from Dauphin, Manitoba. The cost was only some 500 dollars for a house and stable. Carrie's brother Henry came from Ontario and built the main parts of both buildings.

Nora, Lena, Mabel, Bobby (Agnes) and Florence Agar, with Ted the Collie.

The Will Agar's farmed a section and a half of land for over 41 years in the same place. Carrie states: "It really was work but not too bad when you could hire help but when the Second World War came and we had to do alone at our age, IT was rough." So, "we sold out" and came to British Columbia." Actually, they had good use of their daughters.

Life was not ■ work on the Agar farm and one of the daughters, Agnes or better known as Bobby who was born in 1917, looks back at her childhood on the Prairies with a great deal of pleasure. She recalls Dad buying their first radio in 1923; it was equipped with earphones and everyone took turns listening and that progressed to a loud speaker which sat on the player piano. This piano was a great novelty for visiting children who pumped and thumped the pedals for hours on end. Even before Florence, the youngest daughter was born in 1919, my parents had their own electric light plant which was run off wet batteries charged by a special motor in the cellar. This luxury was especially handy for the barn as Dad was always worried about fires caused by lanterns or smoking. Dad's large red barn was his pride and joy and built by a neighbour Stanley Richard.

The local one-room school . . . Bathgate . . . was on our property, and just a short run down the road, except when the Indians were travelling through to pick up their treaty money then in apprehension we walked the track. The railroad cut a piece off the corner of our land and when it was built, a curve out from Richard had to be constructed ■ order ■ preserve our farmyard which was ■ the surveyed path and Dad had to make some concessions to stop the railroad from being built cutting through between the house and the barn. By 1928, the school was moved to Lilac and re-named "Burnley." So Dad had a local blacksmith build a two-wheeled cart and we drove a pony the two and one half miles to school. In winter we drove a team of horses and a sleigh. Mother made us fur overcoats out of Dad's old ones . . . buffalo and racoon furs. We were glad to wear them over our own coats as ■ was often 45 degrees below zero, and we never thought of missing school. For a number of years, Florence and I took a cream can of drinking water to school everyday as the school had no well and for this effort, we received a paltry ten cents a day! This was usually spent, with some wise planning, on Christmas presents for the family and friends. After Bobby finished school at Lilac, Florence had to lug those heavy cans and lift them in and out of the cart all by herself.

Christmas on the Prairie was funtime. It seemed as if we spent months preparing for the school concert. On the big night, usually the week proceeding Christmas, we would shed our long underwear and shivering a little donned some fairy costume or such. The school was packed with families and district residents. A gas lantern hung hissing from the ceiling and the kids would be fumbling around in the half-darkness behind the curtains trying to change costumes. Eventually, the concert over, in breezed Santa on a wave of cold air and the children all received a Japanese orange, candy and a present, courtesy of the School Board. Then off we went home, bundled under robes in the sleighbox, with the horses all frosty their steamy breath floating by under the bright moonlit sky. At home we had to have a tree, and Dad made a special effort to obtain one. Mother always baked rolled sugar cookies cut in the shapes of animals and birds and decorated with icing and colored candy bits; these we hung on the tree, with strings of popcorn, tinsel, and real little candies in holders that snapped onto the fir branches. The day before Christmas was Mother's birthday and it certainly must have been a strenuous day for her after preparing the turkey, and then staying up late to play Santa. Christmas week was visiting time with the neighbors . . . eating big turkey dinners at noon, playing cards and other games all afternoon while continuously eating . . . nuts, candy and apples. Then the men would go home and do the chores, coming back for more turkey at suppertime.

Springtime! It was great to go slushing around in the Spring thaw, then trying to bobskate if the water froze overnight in the railway ditches. Soon the first Prairie crocus came out and dozens of birds of all kinds made nests in the windbreak around the north and west sides of the farmyard. We hunted crows' eggs as there was a bounty on them and then prick a hole in each end of the egg and blow out the contents. There was also a bounty on crows' feet and gopher tails which one turned in to the Municipal Office and received a cent a piece. Florence and I and her friend, Nora Dow, toted a barrel of water on a stoneboat drawn by a horse. One of us poured the water down the gopher hole while the other stood with a forked stick to pin the gopher as his head popped out. Our bulldog was ready to grab the gopher by the neck and scrunch, that was it! The tail was pulled off and we were away to the next hole. We even tried snaring the little beasts which resulted in itchy tummies from gopher fleas.

When school was out at the end of June, we headed for the wild strawberry patches, mostly in the railway ditches, with hundreds of blackbirds chirping and dive-bombing from the telegraph lines overhead. The last day of school our entire family loaded up the car with lunch and pails and wash boilers and we were off to spend the day in the ravines along the Saskatchewan river to pick saskatoons and other berries that happened to be ripe at the time. After tiring of picking berries and eating too many, we rolled down the hillsides.

Summer holidays always included chores, such as trudging around a half-section of land poisoning gophers which had a nasty habit of eating a large portion of the crop around their mounds; one carried a gallon-can of poisoned oats in one hand and put a spoonful of the mixture down each hole. It was a job thoroughly detested. Haying was another major task, with memories of jolting around the "big slough" on a hayrake, driving a pair of prancing horses nearly crazy from horseflies which literally covered their chests and the necessity of keeping the windrows straight so that the hayloader could pick up the hay. The loader was attached behind the rack and it was no easy feat driving the rough ground, keeping straight, turning corners without catching a slat on the rack and all the while staying out of the way of Dad's pitchfork. The hay was loaded on three slings usually, the load being divided in such portions so as not to overload and cause the sling to break. These were taken to the barn and unloaded by the use of a huge rope and pulleys. A team was needed at the rear of the barn to pull the rope up which lifted the slings of hay up the front of the barn and when they reached the loft, a person was required to turn the sling to run down the track and trip the sling which spilled the hay at its destination. Sometimes all these things didn't work out just right but it was always a challenge. When hauling loads of hay home, we often saw Indians catching gophers, skinning and roasting them over a campfire. Summer wasn't all work . . . Dad liked to have fun too, and was a great sport. We always had time to visit fairs and sports' days. Richard was our nearest town which sported a yearly agricultural fair. We kids were encouraged to exhibit baking, needlework, and Bobby remembers leading a calf around the ring waiting to be judged. Florence recalls the runt spotted pig that Dad gave her, she fattened it and won second prize. My sister Mabel won prizes with her calf as well as a black eye from a horn hunt. Lena entered the riding competition and usually won first prize with her horse, Joker. But the Fair in Saskatoon was the highlight of the summer, getting up early, Mother making a big lunch of delicious smoked ham sandwiches (ham from our own smokehouse), then spending the whole day wandering around the barns, riding on the Midway, eating cotton candy and even staying for the grandstand performance and the fireworks spectacular afterwards, getting back home after midnight. Then Mother milked her cows, sometimes as many as five. Most summers we spent a week or more at the Lake camping out as Brownies or Girl Guides (Lena was the Guide Captain for quite a few years) but the time spent was hardly enough to learn to swim well.

August and September were the harvest months and it was fun to ride on the binder around a big field of golden grain after taking lunch to the field for Dad.

The four-horse team was changed every three hours and on a good day, barring no break-downs, Dad was able to cut about 35 acres. As soon as we were old enough, the fun was over and we had to pull the sheaves ■ from the outside of the field to make it easier for the hired men to stook. Later, we had to stook too and the stubble scratched our shins and wrists while the stooks fell over as fast as we set them up until we acquired the knack. Then ■ was threshing time, up ■ the early dawn and out after dark, as we took our turn hauling grain with our own team and wagon to look after. Sometime we drove four miles ■ Richard to the grain elevators or unloaded the grain into a grainloader to fill the granaries at home or box-cars on a railway siding. However it was a good excuse to miss ■ few weeks of school and be outside in the beautiful Fall sunshine before the long winter descended.

Florence's recollections are of her pony and her friend, Nora and the fun we had racing our horses across the fields, rounding up cattle, visiting childless neighbors to cheer them up. There were school card-parties and dancing until the small hours of the morning; the Sunday afternoon baseball games and taking the fellows home for Mother's delicious suppers; and I like to think of the rides to church by sleigh, wagon in the early Spring and the car in the Summer where we met our friends at the little Anglican church in Lilac. If I shut my eyes, I can still see Mrs. Mabey playing the organ with the sun shining on her pleasant face as she led the singing as well. There were so many pleasant memories of those good old days when we were young. Mother and Dad never seemed to grow old . . . there they were always willing to help you and hoping that you would always be willing to help them.

Just in case anyone is interested, here's what became of the Agar family. In August of 1945 Mother and Dad sold their farm and most of their possessions. They packed up their personal belongings in the car and headed West to find a retirement home, thinking at that time of Vancouver Island. They stopped briefly at Nelson on the beautiful Kootenay Lake where Bobby was nursing at the time. Dad was all for buying an acreage with some fruit trees on the side of a mountain but Bobby realizing that it was in a heavy snowfall area talked him out of it. She took some time off and accompanied them westward, over the steep, curvy gravel road to Christina Lake where Dad tried fishing with no luck so the next morning found them proceeding over the dusty roads, down the steep, narrow winding side of Anarchist Mountain to Osoyoos, the most southern part of the Okanagan Valley. They arrived just in time to see, "Watermelon for sale" on a number of orchard signs. When Dad stopped to buy one, the orchardist loaded his car with free cukes and tomatoes. He had arrived ■ the land of "milk and honey," but continued northward up the Valley until they reached Penticton. Liking this spot, they rented a motel and bought a newspaper to see what houses were for sale and found only two. The house they bought was on Tennis Street near a children's playground and only four blocks from the shopping district, yet in a rather nice residential area. Bobby went back to her work but Florence arrived from Overseas service with the R.C.A.F. (WD) and waited for her discharge the end of December. Mother and Dad were lonesome but making new friends every day.

Early in the Spring of 1946, Bobby quit her job at Nelson and came to the Okanagan too. Dad bought a small orchard (5 acres) 12 miles north of Penticton in Garnet Valley. It sported a small house and had a creek running through the lower end. There were apple, pear, cherry and peach trees and Dad soon found that orcharding was ■ far cry from farming, requiring a good deal of handwork such as pruning, thinning, lifting ladders and picking the fruit. They kept their house in Penticton and drove the car to work, sometimes batching it at the orchard until the work was done, then they went home to town to rest up for the next trip. Finding the orchard unprofitable, they sold it and purchased properties in and past Westbank. Although neither properties were moneymakers, they kept Dad and Mother busy with canning and drying the fruit such as apricots and apples and was reminiscent of the times when they brought dried apples and maple syrup back to the Prairie from Ontario where they periodically visited relatives.

Florence and I decided we needed a rest in the spring of '46 from our nursing and steno jobs so we helped Dad with his orchard work and that is how we got involved in packing fruit in one of the Summerland packinghouses. Eating all the ripe peaches one desired was the best part of the job but packing them was an itchy experience. I made more money packing fruit than my previous job as nursing supervisor. Florence stayed with the packing job until the New Year after which she was employed by the Summerland Experimental Farm in the Plant Pathology Laboratory, but I left earlier as I had applied for a position with the Victorian Order ■ Nurses in Vancouver and they asked me to come right away. Later I joined a friend at a remote hospital in north-eastern Alberta and, in 1948, I returned to the Okanagan where I married Glen MacKay from Nelson; whereas, Florence married a Summerland Florist, Don McLachlan, and ■ the next nine years they produced five sons. Florence sometimes wondered what her Dad thought of all that male help while he struggled to farm with five daughters.

Periodically, Mother and Dad made trips back to Saskatchewan, Ontario and the Southern United States, spending time visiting friends and relatives. When at home in Penticton, they enjoyed the many Prairie visitors that shared their hospitality.

Mother and Dad celebrated their 50th Wedding An-

niversary with three daughters and families present. An Open House was arranged and many of their Penticton friends helped them celebrate. Dad, who was fond of gadgets, had ordered a large deep freezer made to order but was a little annoyed when he wasn't able to have it installed because of the busy anniversary preparations.

It was a sad day for dad when in his late seventies, the Motor Vehicle personnel decided that his eyesight wasn't good enough to drive a car and wouldn't re-new his driver's license. That didn't stop him from driving his tractor even though he had to commute to his property by bus unless he could get some one to take him. One day, he had an accident while cranking the tractor which lunged at him, breaking his ankle, several ribs and gashed his head. He thought he was a goner but in a couple of months he was up and walking, soon threw away his crutch and jumped on the bus to Brandon to visit an older brother who was dying. Unfortunately, time runs out even for hardy old-timers, and after spending a few winter months with a degenerative heart condition, Dad passed away at home on February 17th, 1961 at the age of 83.

Mother continued to live in Penticton and had her good friend Rosy Gale (nee Vowels) call on her most everyday to lend a helping hand or shop. Mother kept up her garden and visited at her daughters and was also able to take a few trips during the next ten years. Even at the age of 90, when she fractured her hip, she was determined not to be an invalid and was able to take long walks after several months.

Her daughter, Nora from the Prairies, came and resided with Mother periodically for a few years. And by 1971, because of ill health and failing eyesight, it was necessary for someone to live with her permanently as she had no desire to leave her home. Lena and Bill Carnahan sold their property in Princeton (Bill having recently retired from his job with the Dept. of Highways) and moved in to look after Mother until her death on June 7, 1972 at the age of years. The headstone on her grave reads, "she gave us courage."

Happy Memories of the Agars

by Lena (Agar) Carnahan

One of my earliest memories, is going for a visit to Ontario in 1910, of sleigh riding down the driveway from the loft of the big barn, or the barrels of russet and snow apples in the cellar. Of my grown-up cousin offering me a pretty stick pin if I swallowed an oyster. Of Nora getting lost in Eaton's Store. Of me asking Mother what those little white animals were, and when she said, "Kids," I said, "They don't look like us."

When I was about nine, Dad and Mother planted fourteen rows of trees as a windbreak, and I had to ride the horse pulling the cultivator, three times up and down each row. When Phyllis Moisley came to the farm, she was allowed to do this, and I was given an even less agreeable job.

One year Inspector Magee's niece taught our school and boarded at our place. We must have got caught up on the work, for we all piled into the McLaughlin, including a nice old bachelor neighbour, and went to Meeting Lake on a Saturday. Dad and Mr. Carpenter caught some nice fish and Dad cooked them over an open fire. Never has anything tasted so good. We stayed overnight at a bachelors, and our dignified Miss Magee suggested we climb out the window and for a walk in the moonlight.

In the meantime, Dad and I had many escapades such as hitching the stallion and another horse to a sleigh and before I had time to climb in, they took off, shearing a post off like a matchstick. Around and around they went, until I wondered if I should climb the windmill for safety. One day I was riding one of the broncs that Dad had bought. She had a habit of jumping ahead when I dismounted. Mother was coming out of the barn with a pail of milk, so I asked her to hold the reins. First thing I knew, the horse had jerked the reins out of Mother's hands and was running across the yard with me standing in one stirrup.

Another fond memory, is the time we came in from the field, and mother had set the table on the verandah, and we had the first new potatoes and new peas in cream sauce.

Then there was the time when Dad suggested we girls make a freezer of ice cream and mother made a layer cake, and we all spent a pleasant winter evening at Mr. Carpenters.

To show that I could enjoy things without food, I loved to ride across the prairie on my favorite saddle horse, when the perfume of wild wolf willows was in the air.

I must not forget the June of '[illegible] when Dad, Mother and I and the three youngest went on a camping trip to Vancouver Island. The Essex seats let down to make a fairly comfortable bed, so Dad and Mother slept in it, while we girls had a new tent with a floor in it. This with a gasoline camp stove, was luxury camping in those days. My only worry was Dad would buy a place in B.C., and I would have to leave Saskatchewan. We had a good time, enjoying the fruit and the boat rides. Dad had planted Garnet wheat and we returned to a bumper crop of forty-eight bushels to the acre, which I had to help stook. Anyway Dad bought me a nice fur coat in the fall.

Mom was a good pal too. One time she saved up her cream cheques and took us all to see "Gone with the Wind". This was when our first little girl was about three years old. Afterward we had a nice picnic in the park — ripe tomatoes on good homemade bread.

The Agar Family

told by Nora Soule

When asked to give the history of the Agar family at Lilac, I asked my sisters to give their memories of the old farm as I had been away since the age of ten, going

to school in Battleford, then teaching, then married when Florence was only four. Now my own early days:

Dad came west when I was 15 mos. to please his brother Tom since they had been orphans from about eleven.

Dad believed in punctuality and organization. Sunday mornings we often went to the barn where he gave his team salt and an extra brushing. We soon got a white pinto pony "Lulu" who became part of the family and lived to 35 yrs.

He helped organize a beef ring with Alf Tyson, and Saturdays "Lulu", Lena and I delivered beef shares to Mrs. Welford, Bulmers, Tysons, Evans, Swans and Turner and Adams.

There were the prairie fires across the northern hills. In the spring the waters ran to the Big Slough — a marsh at least 4 miles long. The nights would throb with the sound of nesting waterfowl around it. In fall there was the clangour of wild fowl in their millions. We trod the buffalo paths and played in their grassy wallows and marvelled at the many huge skulls. Later Bathgate School closed so we drove to Ruddell and became acquainted with burrowing owls, meadow larks and many others as well as the wild flowers! golden Arnica, Salmon pink spires of Hedysarum, grass of Parnassus. How rich we were! Then I left to attend school in North Battleford. Dad was a real pioneer. He loved the land, enjoying his animals and loving his fun as he laughed when Tom took a lantern and led the minister around about before bringing him home to stay the night.

Many were the travellers who "dropped the traces" to stay for rest and food and talk. Mother was a shining example of hospitality like all homesteaders. In her own words she wrote:

"We moved to Sask. in 1904 before the rail went through to N. Battleford from Saskatoon. We freighted our settlers effects consisting of 4 horses, 1 cow, 2 pigs, 40 hens besides two boxes of salt pork and some necessities and 200 bus. of oats.

We joined with two other homesteader's families in Saskatoon who were going our way, camped on the way to Elbow of the North Sask. river. Next morning we ferried across the river and cut across the country sometimes double hitching through a slough.

One night it being very stormy we stopped at a settlers shack to get out of the rain. He came home and ordered us to "get our bloody traps out of there." So the weary wet men had to harness up again in the blizzard and came to another shack. Once more we unloaded and stayed there for a day and a half. We made ourselves as comfortable as possible wondering what the owner would say. When he returned home he welcomed them and apologized for the poor accommodation.

Next we came to Richard's Ranch. Tom's shack was only about 4 miles and he came to meet us. Our friends went on to Jackfish.

First to be done was to build a sod stable for the animals and fowl.

The mail came once a week via Old Battleford to Richard and neighbours took turns to get it on Saturday then it was relayed from there.

Tom, Will's brother had 3 oxen so we got [illegible] more to break [illegible] acres while Will did other jobs. Later he backset the breaking with his horses. We lived with him two years, boarding him for the rent.

There was no time to be lonely, plenty to keep one busy.

In the spring of 1905 we had our first prairie fire. Men ploughed with oxen before it reached the fire guard. The same year our second child was born, Lena. It being cold in the shack I went East for the winter to visit my parents. The next year we built our house and barn. Water was a big draw back. We dug some 20 shallow wells to no avail. We got a good drilled well in 1917 so we went into mixed farming.

Mabel was born in 1913 and grew and thrived like the rest of us. One of her memories is hooking up the big team and taking Mother to help start the Homemakers. Mabel, too was a school orphan and got her education in Old Battleford collegiate where she graduated winning the Medal for Proficiency. Hence she took normal training and taught Prolific and nearby schools for promissary notes! Depression had come!"

Les and Jack Allen Families

by Jack Allen

Dad was born in Northern Ontario of United Empire Loyalist stock in 1894. His mother died when he was small and when his father remarried and raised a second family, Dad was sent to Southern Saskatchewan with his old Granny to help her prove up a homestead. He never really re-established a connection with his family after that and is now hazy on his

Lois and Jack Allen.

brothers and half brothers. As a young man he moved to Moose Jaw, became a licensed mechanic and worked at that and as a driving instructor at an auto agency. In the earyly 1900's, he took a homestead at Valjean, Saskatchewan near Moose Jaw and entered a few years of independence and pleasure at being alone. He is remembered in that community as a very strong young bachelor, a super baseball player and a hero who nursed many through the 1918 flu epidemic.

It was during this time that he met Mother. She was Vida Blakely from Sintaluta, Saskatchewan, a young school teacher in the Secreton School. They married on New Year's Eve of 1924 and entered a period of great prosperity. Dad bought more land, had a lovely farm home built by John Blakely, my grampa, an Irish journeyman carpenter, got rid of the oxen, bought horses, started a cattle herd, had a daughter (my sister Lois) and built a new barn. By 1929 when I made the scene, Dad had a new 15-30 McCormick tractor and a brand new 1928 Chev with oilcloth top.

Then came the Dirty Thirties. Our farm continued to produce but the economic system fell apart and even in that rich land, we were going broke. By 1934 he left everything to be repossessed for taxes and moved us to Fielding (probably that choice was stimulated by my mother's sister Annie — Mrs. Charlie Roberts).

He bought a little Esso service station from Bert Brickwell and we moved into the "Brickwell House" in Fielding. It was an old hip-roofed structure with a galvanized tin porch set in a beautiful triangle of flowers and trees next to the service station. I remember the excitement of wooden sidewalks, the train coming in, my first friend, Chester Free, and playing in that lovely yard. Mother remembers leaving her new home and moving into that old wreck with its uneven floors and drafty doors — along with the occasional chimney fire from burning green poplar.

Dad set about earning our keep and worked so very hard. As well as selling gas, we sold binder twine and washing machines and battery radios. We charged up two-volt radio batteries and provided electric lights in the town hall. Our living was augmented by cows, and chickens and a huge garden. I remember the old Fielding pump crying out so it could be heard all over as one thrashed the handle to void a little trickle of water for a thirsty cow.

We shopped at Gunn's and Stott's and bought candy at Pop Chinamans. Dinty Garnet ran the poolroom and barber shop and Jim Streeter was the postman. Torrance Free and Phil Philips ran the elevators and the days events was "train time" where, in later years, George Fast regailed us with tremendous stories of his youth. We laughed at him and with him and he never told a story that ever hurt anyone or did any harm — a gentle and fine man.

I started school in 1935 and remember a few teachers names — Eileen Treleaven, Irene Reid and Kay McNaughton (can't remember her maiden name — Robertson). Sports and outdoors were our social events and in those years the Feilding rink over by the livery barn behind McNaughton's Garage, was lit by gas lanterns and then a Model T Ford engine whose cooling system was a stock tank of water (which was used after skating to do a hot flood on the rink). Hockey was a passion, Ches Miller, Alex Spence and Kevin McGrath equalled LaFleur to me. Ches Buell was a fancy skater equal to many professionals but never had the opportunity to do anything but work. School was good — a beautiful three-room building tended by Mr. and Mrs. Ned Smith. Some of my school chums were: Mac Scott, Don Stott, Chester Free, Chester Marshall, Wilfred Gelinas, Grace, Edith, Edna and Lois and Lila Scott, Ron Smith, Harold Gelinas, Mary Downie, Janet Downie, Jean Downie, Lillian Neumeyer, Norma and Jean Addley, Warren Wager, Mary Garnet, Jim Garnet, Dwight and Lewis Cousins, Gilbert and Alec Holmes, Ron and Stuart Atchinson who lived at Charlie Neumeyers.

During summer holidays some of us boys would walk out to Ryans three and a half miles on the old highway and swim in their fresh dugout (temperature about 45 degrees F). Sometimes in school I had fights because so many of my relatives were teachers and my Uncle Will Drimmie was a school inspector with one short leg.

I remember the terror I felt when I heard of the Declaration of World War II. (Alec Gunn, got quite drunk that day and backed his little Ford truck into the ditch across from the store). I remember the news flash of the attack on Pearl Harbor and clearly recall Roosevelts' message about it. During those years (I was 11, 12 and 13) I worked for R. B. Harris along with Alison Harris cutting crops, hauling grain and late fall cultivating. I learned a great deal about hard work and sound business economics from these honest, hard-working folks with whom I formed an attachment that was warm and rich until they passed on. During the war I lived the romance of fighter and bomber aircraft and knew the performance and capability of everything that flew. During those days old Gramp Blakely said the Nazis would lose because of hurting God's chosen people — the Jew — and that the Jews would someday move back and live in Israel. I was embarrassed at these pronouncements because everyone who heard him thought he was a "Bible spouting old fool". On V.E. Day 1945, Chester Marshall and I went hunting in the "Jerry Hills" all day, and cooked a rabbit in a jam can without benefit of seasoning or shortening. That night we returned to a town celebration highlighted by a fireworks display saved for the occasion by L. W. Stott.

Adolescent years were spent at work, in school and around the Fielding United Church. The Church connection gave me access to the pretty girls in the Maymont Choir and we had some thrilling times dating out of town females. I remember a couple of very nice

young ladies, Eleanor Blacklock and Terry Rolfe. They were good friends, good dancers and lots of fun. Fielding had no bar and all our activities were without liquor. I don't even recall any temptation to take a drink prior to my twenties. Surely Fielding should get some applause for being such a wholesome place to grow up. I contemplated going into the ministry under Reverend Frank Myers in 1945-1946. This explains the sermonizing.

I graduated from XII in June 1947, entered Saskatoon Normal School that fall for the most broadening and pleasure-filled year of my life and emerged a teacher in June 1948. I taught a year at Dinsmore, Saskatchewan then moved to Dewberry, Alberta to take a class vacated by the marriage of Genevieve Bates of Maymont, (Mrs. Herb Webadale). I taught at Dewberry several years and in 1951 met and fell in love with Elaine Batty of Kitscoty, Alberta — a young teacher with a singularly beautiful singing voice. Elaine and I married in 1952 and that year I left the teaching profession for what I thought was a summer away from books before going back to University to finish off the few classes I needed for my B.A. and B. Ed., with an eye to going into Medicine. I became a salesman for Mutual Life and loved it — remaining in it for fifteen years and acquiring the degree of C.L.U.

Mother and Dad moved to Lloydminster in 1953 and he became maintenance supervisor at Sidney Roofing. In 1954 his health failed and Mother went back teaching at Kitscoty. She continued until she retired in 1968. Dad's health improved and he worked eight more years at Mills Transport and the Jubilee Lodge in Lloydminster.

By then we were in Lloydminster and in 1953 our first daughter, Betty, was born, Brenda arrived in 1956, Shelly in 1958 and finally Barbara in 1962.

In 1967 I went into partnership in the Kentucky Fried Chicken business and after getting in found it was so busy that to successfully retire the debt, I would have to give up my insurance practice and devote full time to it. We lost the business to a fire in 1970 and after some severe family problems coupled with a prolonged illness for Elaine we bought out the interest of my friend and partner and in 1973 named the business Allen's Dairy Freez, Ltd.

In 1977 we built and opened a second store and continue in this demanding business which we love.

Betty is on our executive team.

Brenda is an R.N. in the Lloydminster Hospital and is now Mrs. Sheldon Servold.

Shelly worked for us for years and is now Mrs. Richard Lyon and has presented us with our first grandson, Robert Allen.

Barbara is nearly seventeen and finishing up Grade XI.

Mother and Dad are quite well and now live in Friendship Village here in Lloydminster.

The Lord had been gracious to us all. We have enjoyed health, happiness, friends and prosperity. We love our community.

I never forget my beginnings — my rich upbringing and the wonderful times and people that were at Fielding.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Alexander

Dave Alexander was born in Magbermorne, Ireland in October, 1884. His father was a farmer but Dave operated the donkey engine in a local salt mine. In 1911 he and his two buddies — (Tom Patterson and Jack English) decided to come to Canada with Jim Semple who had been on a visit to Ireland and was returning to his homestead at Lilac. Coming by steerage class on the S.S. Lake Champlain the boat fare was six and one-

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Alexander.

half pounds — (approximately $30) from Belfast to St. John, New Brunswick — an eleven day trip. The men landed in Ruddell the evening of March 17, 1911. Since there was no one to meet them, the four carried their hand luggage and walked the 5¼ miles to the Jim Semple homestead north of Lilac by moonlight. The temperature was mild but the footing poor. On arrival at the homestead shack they roused Tom Caldwell who had been left in charge and ■ prepared them a meal of fried pork — pork which was cleverly sliced from a frozen chunk with a sharp axe.

Dave worked for Semple Bros. that summer and went ■ Edmonton for the winter where he worked in a bush camp until spring break-up. Here a badly cut foot sent him to hospital near the end of the logging season. On recovery, he went back to Lilac and worked for Mr. H. Welford ■ the early summer of 1912 and helped Mr. A. Tyson with custom breaking later on. He again went to Edmonton for the winter but this time worked in the railway roundhouse and continued with this work until the spring of 1916. He came back to Lilac with horses and machinery and bought the Hibbard homestead — S.E. ¼-28-42-13 — where Pete and Laura Prescesky now live.

Dave batched there and later bought an adjoining quarter of land. He built the main part of the present house and later added to ■ as well as building the barn which is still in use.

In the winter of 1926-1927 he went to Ireland for a visit and went back again the next year returning in the spring of 1928 with an Irish wife, Mary. They lived happily here until 1945 when they sold the farm, had an auction sale, and returned to Ireland to retire. On May 29, 1958 Dave passed away and Mrs. Alexander lived only a few years longer.

Fred Anderson

submitted by the Anderson Family

Mr. Fred Anderson from Minnesota, arrived ■ Fielding, Sask. in 1908 seeking a new adventure ■ life and prospects for the future. ■ November of that year he went to North Battleford and filed for a homestead on section 30-41-11-W3rd, along with Jim Shanks, George Lowrey and Dave McKay (always ■ good neighbour and friend). Fred, being affluent in several languages, found ■ easy to mingle in these surroundings, and along with many of the farmers, while proving up their homesteads, worked at building the grades on railroads. In later years, he also took contracts to put in similar roadbeds along the present sites of Juniata and Kinley. He also spent much time in digging wells, owning two of his own well digging outfits, powered by horses. He eventually sold one to Charlie Collins ■ Perdue, Sask. and the other to Downey Bros. of Fielding, Sask.

Looking back to those days ■ bald prairie and the breaking of same, and then farming this land with

Back row — Fred Anderson, Harry White, Harold Warcup. 2nd row — Eleanor Anderson holding baby Elmo, Besse White holding baby Willie White, Mattie Warcup holding Harold, Grandpa Edward Streeter. 3rd row — Mabel Anderson, Eddie Anderson, Eleanor Warcup.

oxen and horses, one can imagine the love and care, that went into the hours, days and years of hard work.

The first house built on his new farm was ■ sod house. It burned down one night, when he was away playing the violin at one of the local dances. Another new house was built, which now sits at the farm of Chester Miller, having been moved off, when S. R. Miller bought the farm.

After eight years, having saved a fair portion of his earnings, Fred Anderson married Eleanor Ann Streeter at Radisson in 1911. Eleanor had come from Sussex, England in 1909 to work for the family of R. ■ Harris of Fielding. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Anderson had four children, born at home with Dr. Scratch in attendance.

Later, her father, Edward Streeter, came from England and lived for many years with the family. (He is buried ■ Fielding cemetery.) Two sisters also came from England; Mattie Steeter (Mrs. Harold Warcup) and Bessie Streeter (Mrs. Harry White). A brother, Andrew Streeter, also came after serving in the forces. He married, and had one daughter — Iris (Mrs. Jim Clark) now living in Islington, Ontario. Mr. Streeter was postmaster in Fielding for many years before moving to B.C. Andrew passed away in Toronto, 1969. Mrs. Streeter is still living ■ Ontario.

We children well remember all the happy sing songs at our home with mother playing the organ, and dad his violin; also walking the two miles ■ Neepawa school, sometimes catching a ride with the Thompson children. Later we drove ■ horse and rubber-tired buggy, and in the winter, a horse and cutter. The old school burned down in 1920 and we attended school in the horse barn until a new school was built.

The teachers we remember were Mr. Almass, Miss Nutting, and Miss Ballsrud. The highlight of the year was our annual Christmas concert, with everyone taking part. Candles and all placed on the tree. After the program, everyone took part in the fun and dancing with Fred Anderson often helping with the dance music by playing the violin. We remember one concert in Fielding community hall when the Christmas tree caught fire from the candles on the tree and the hall burned down. The hall was filled to capacity but with good management everyone got out safely.

Mr. and Mrs. Anderson and family left Fielding for Saskatoon in 1926. Mr. Anderson was then a foreman of Robin Hood Mills in Saskatoon when it was being built. He then bought a farm at Kinley, Sask. in 1930. He farmed at Kinley until his untimely death April 19, 1937. He was buried in Kinley cemetery.

Fred Anderson was a charter member of the Oddfellows Lodge — Fielding.

The farm was then taken over by his two sons, who farmed it until they sold it in 1977.

Mrs. Eleanor Norris (Anderson) died May 19, 1974 and was buried in Kinley cemetery.

The family of Fred and Eleanor (Nellie) Anderson are:

Edward — married Ruby Friend. Living in Perdue — retired. They have three children: James, married with two children — Claremont, California. Marion Button married with two children — Tisdale, Sask. Kenneth resides at Edmonton, Alta.

Mabel — married Theodore Vogelsang. Living in Perdue — retired. They have two children: Roger, married with three children — North Battleford. Darlene Swiderski, married with two children — Saskatoon.

Elmo — married Edna Souster. Living in Kinley — retired. They have three children: Donna Jensen, Saskatoon. Gary — Swan Hills, Alta. Elaine Millard — Winterburn, Alta.

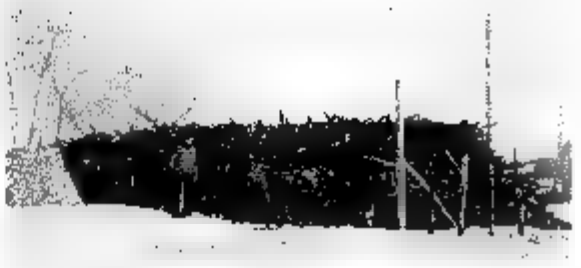
Velda Cowley (widow) — Alberta Beach, Alta. They have four children: Eleanor Taggart — three children — Edmonton, Alta. Eddie — married — three children — Dalmeny, Sask. Connie Toombs — two children — Grandora, Sask. Earl — Alberta Beach, Alta.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred J. Andrew

(by Mrs. H. Greenslade)

Alfred John Andrew was born on July 1, 1881 at Balmoral, Manitoba. His parents were William Ezra Andrew and Esther Rogers. He was brought up with six brothers and three sisters on a farm.

In early June 1903, Alfred along with his father and sister, Maria, and her husband, Robert Williams, and son, George, left Balmoral for the promised land. They shipped a carload of settlers effects consisting of six horses, a cow and some equipment; and Robert



Alfred and his big woodpile.

Williams' household effects by rail from Balmoral ■ Saskatoon. Alfred and Robert accompanied the household effects. William Andrew, Sr. and Maria and George went by passenger train arriving in Saskatoon on July First. ■ took three days with two wagon loads of their belongings to reach their homestead seventy-five miles northwest in Township 41, Range 12, W3.

Most of the trip was across lonely trackless prairie with only an occasional prairie trail. The first day they reached the elbow of the North Saskatchewan River (Borden) crossing by ferry. The ferry was operated by George and Andrew Boyd (later they moved and now are well-known as Boyd's Automobile Business in North Battleford.) In addition to a small monthly allowance paid by the Northwest Territorial Government the Boyds received ferry fees of twenty-five cents for each team and wagon, seventy-five cents for each horse and buggy, ten cents per saddle horse, and five cents for each person.

On the third day the Andrews arrived at seven o'clock in the evening at Robert Williams homestead on the N.E. 28-41-12 W3. First job was ■ put up a tent which served as their home until a building could ■ built, doing all their cooking by camp fire.

Alfred, Dorothy and Kay Andrew, June, 1955.

Alfred said the first sight of their new home made a deep impression on them. Nothing around but gently rolling prairie, sparkling with little sloughs filled with water embedded around with fringes of small willows. For company they had the dismal howl of the coyote. Gophers were in countless numbers popping in and out of the holes and also badgers with their handsome striped faces.

The first house built was on the Robert Williams' land. Then they built a house on the Williams Sr. homestead.

Alfred with a Verity 12 breaking plow set to breaking and broke six acres on each of the four homesteads. Alfred's N.E. 34-41-12 W3. Oliver's was on the N.W. quarter of the same section. Brother William's, Jr. S.E. 2-42-12 W3 and his dad's S.E. 4 in the same township. Before winter came Robert and Alfred had hay to cut and stack for the oncoming winter. Alfred lived with the Williams the first winter as William Andrew Sr. returned to get the rest of the family to get them ready to return to Maymont next spring.

In the spring of 1904 Alfred was appointed as Ministrator Land Locator (this being to find the homesteads for the newcomers).

Alfred took great interest in hockey and was a player for the first hockey team established in Maymont.

In the summer of 1912 Alfred started to build a house on his homestead and in August 1912 he married Annie Kennedy of Ripley, Ontario. When she died on January 29, 1913, Alfred took her body back to Ripley, Ontario.

He farmed all his life with horses only. During the hunting season he and his buddies went north to Green Lake to hunt, for many years. Many of their families still have the prize deer and moose heads mounted. In fact Alfred's prize head was donated by his daughter to the museum in Saskatoon in memory of Alfred and all his hunting friends.

Alfred was a charter member of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, and a director of the Maymont Rural Telephone Company. He served as director on both until his death.

In October 15, 1924 Alfred married Dorothy Kate Barnecutt from England. From this marriage came one daughter, Josephine Kate (Kay). The family lived on the farm until Alfred became ill with arthritis and had to retire November 1943. They bought the Sam Stynsky house and moved into Maymont.

The farm was rented to George McIvor and family for a few years. Then Mr. and Mrs. Jim Steele and Lucille rented the farm until spring of 1961 when their daughter, Kay, and son-in-law, Harold Greenslade, took over the farm.

Dorothy and Alfred were born very community minded and loved to have friends and relatives come to visit. They both served on the Red Cross Committees during World War II. They both worked hard for the Memorial Hall — Alfred as director and Dorothy on quilting and kitchen committees. Dorothy was a member of the All Saints Anglican Church and W.A.; later known as A.C.W. member. Since coming to Maymont, she played the organ for over twenty-three years until her death and was also a member of the Homemaker's from 1944 to her death in 1967. Alfred was a member of the United Church. Alfred had an interest in all aspects of Maymont area history and being ministrator for land locator had the first map of the first homesteaders which is now in the hands of Kay.

After moving to Maymont interest went to vegetable gardening and wood cutting always keeping a two-year supply ahead.

Their daughter Kay married Harold Greenslade September 23, 1950.

January 1, 1963 Alfred passed away suddenly at his home. Dorothy passed away May 22, 1967 in Borden Hospital after a long illness with cancer.

The Billy Andrew Family

by daughter Evelyn Sloan

When my grandfather, William Andrew, married my grandmother, he brought five children from his first marriage and grandmother brought her son, Ransom Rogers. Grandpa's five children were Ernie, Byron, Edna Fines, Maria (Williams) and Annie (Hawkins). They moved from Ontario to Balmoral, Manitoba where my father, Billy, was born in 1880. Other children born to this marriage were Alfred, Oliver, Marmie and Lew. Eventually, all lived in the Maymont area for many years with the exception of Byron and Edna. In 1904 the family sold out at Balmoral and shipped horses, cattle, and pigs, along with machinery to the closest railway centre of Saskatoon. Grandpa, Alfred, and Maria's husband, Bob Williams, came the previous year and hauled lumber for Grandpa's house which stands today on land owned by Harold and Ken Meena.

Other members of the family who came when my

Billy and Carrie Andrew on their 40th wedding anniversary, 1952.

Dad did were: Uncle Ransom Rogers and his wife Rachel with their children, Oliver, Elmer, Emmerson, and Esther; Grandmother Andrew, Uncle Lew, Uncle Oliver, Aunt Marmie and Aunt Annie.

I have listened to the stories of those years and I think there were few hardships that could not ■ conquered. It seems the depression ■ the thirties was much harder for all to bear.

Back ■ 1904 they had ■ haul all supplies from Saskatoon. Both women and men must have planned their needs very carefully. Later, Great Bend became their Post Office. When Mr. ■. Bean set up his general store in Maymont, Grandfather Andrew was the first Postmaster.

Dad's sister, Marmie, married Sam Miller and fourteen months later she died along with her newborn son.

In 1912, Dad married my mother, Caroline Campbell who came to Ruddell in 1906. Her father, Sandy Campbell, left his career of sea captain in the Maritimes, and with his two sons came to Saskatchewan ■ 1904 to prepare a home for the family. Mother's brothers were Ken, Jack and Hector and her sisters, Ollie (Skinner), Belle (McPherson), and Blanche (Brown). Her half-sister, Dora Foster and brother, George Reid, came later.

My parents lived on S.E.¼ 2-42-12 and our family was Russell, John, Earl, myself, Hector, Elmer, Lew and Danny. Family life back then was very different to now-a-days. We had no T.V., and no radio till we were almost grown. We had no power, or water in the house. Any fun we had — and ■ was lots — had to be homemade, like our old stick horses. I imagine Hector and I rode thousands of miles on them. We stole oatmeal and brown sugar for them to eat. Usually they didn't clean it up good enough so we had ■ help! Memories I treasure are the winter nights around the old wood heater where we listened to Dad and Mother tell stories of that other day when they were young. Some of those stories were doozies and me thinks my Dad had more fun than Mom and all us kids put together!

Dad always did two things before turning in for the night. He picked out some dry wood and with his jack knife made a heap of shavings ■ no time flat and crumpled a piece of newspaper beside the pile in readiness for a quick morning fire. Then ■ and Uncle Alfred talked on the phone. I don't ever remember him saying, "Goodbye"; ■ always said "Goodnight Alfred". A neighbour who was on our old line two said they always listened in and they called it the "Bedtime Story".

Before Dad was married, he worked in the winters for Jim Reid butchering beef. Jim shipped the frozen dressed carcasses to Ironside Co. in Winnipeg. They did many hundreds of them — a far cry from the way beef is handled now!

Dad worked the year of 1907 for Bill Parker on his road gang; later had his own crew for many years. This picture was part of his gang in 1929 at Petrofka. He had a sleep tent and a huge round cook tent. In later years, Dad worked on P.F.A. work.

In summer holidays we always spent some time at Meeting Lake. We left the older boys at home to do the chores. There were two years Dad couldn't afford to run his old Model T so after much grouching from us kids we made ready to ■ by team and wagon. Dad rigged up a dandy wild west covered wagon and we drove the fifty miles, camping the first night at the Belgium Flats by the creek and then reached the Aumacks' Resort by dinner time. One year my cousin Maude came with us and another time Cozy Johnston came along. We had wonderful times. In those years the Boy Scouts had a special camp site there, and everyone at the resort gathered around their bonfire in the evening to sing songs. I shall never forget Mrs. Bert Langley making a wash boiler full of the best cocoa ever and as she stirred it she sang, "There's One More River To Cross". Good things always end and so did holidays and back to school we'd have to go.

Schools back then were not like now. Our Keystone School had only one room so we learned alot we shouldn't have and missed some that we should have learned. Genevieve Bates, Muriel Brehon and I started the same day and we were always together until we finished Grade Nine. Others came and went in our grade for a few years but we three always stayed and I have many good memories of our friendship ■ those days. We were three scared country kids when we had to go to Maymont to write Grade Eight exams. I think it was a wonderful thing when, starting the next year, they let country pupils write at their own school.

One day at recess during a game of Steal Sticks, Winnie Chestney and I got in a dispute and I came out second best, minus much hair and a hunk of hide. Winnie and I were always good friends after that because if she yelled "jump!", I said, "how high?".

Mr. Drimmie was our school inspector. I was always scared of him; I'm sure he could have sliced any one of us in two with his nose, it was so thin. ■ seemed one of his legs was too short on one end and so ■ had a decided limp. One day ■ spent the morning with us. We were dismissed for dinner and ran to the porch for our dinner pails while Mr. Drimmie went to his car. Hector put his foot on his lard pail and limped up the aisle to his desk amid the laughter of us all. All at once a voice roared out and we all froze. Mr Drimmie had followed Hector in after getting his own lunch from the car. We all thought he had gone home. My, what a howling and a growling took place! ■ almost spoiled our noon hour. School lunches were not so great then. In winter we fared pretty good, having beef or pork sandwiches and an apple, which froze on the way to school.

In summer we had mostly squirrel peanut butter sandwiches and a wish for an apple. (I still don't like peanut butter.) There was one thing in the 20's and 30's

concerning apples. In the fall a carload would come to town in bulk on the railway. Folks took containers and bought them for three cents a pound. We had our own shortening from our pork so pies were a cheap dessert and very yummy. As long as the apples lasted us Billy kids didn't fight about who had to go down cellar for potatoes!

To us kids our school concert was the highlight of the year. We tried ■ do our parts really well so Mom and Dad would "butter us up" on the ride home. When Santy came we loved it. One year Santy was Mrs. Billy Holmes and when she said, "I can't see a thing with this blowed mask on," we all knew who it was. Once when we were quite small and really figured Santy came from the North Pole, Hector and I were waiting for our candy and I noticed Santy had a stiff finger like Dad so I told Hector. He looked him over and said, "By gosh, he's got on Dad's button boots, too!" That nearly finished Dad's career at that job.

Rev. Hardy came from Speers to our school once a week and held Sunday School. Church services were also held every second Sunday at the school. Peggy Bowers and Mrs. Bates were the organists for us and Alf Ridley always took up the collection. When Rev. Hardy moved to Maymont in 1927, Rev. Ambler carried on till 1931.

One evening the Ambler family had supper at our house. The oldest boy fell in love with a little pup we had. His Dad said he could not take it home; he cried a little, but the Reverend didn't soften. When they left for home the boy stepped down into the porch and the puppy fell out of his pant leg. It was a sad boy who went home with no pup.

About this time Ethelwyn Bean was the leader of the Brownie Pack in Maymont. Irene Barrett and I used to ride old Buck and Queen to the meetings. I was only five miles away but Irene had six and one half miles to ride. Many Saturdays Ethelwyn took a load of us by car to Frank Langleys farm for our meeting and a time of fun, followed by cocoa and cookies. Later, we joined the Girl Guides with Mrs. Wilmot as leader.

School dances in those days were a real social event. Then men paid twenty-five cents admission and ladies all brought lunch. Along with lots of coffee no one went home hungry. The supper hour included a local "spur of the moment" concert — singing, reciting, and step dancing. Mr. and Mrs. George Holler, Faulky Miller, Billy and Kate Holmes supplied our music. They sounded much better than the rock and roll we have today.

In the 20's one day our school got a boost in attendance when eleven new kids walked to school. It must have been quite an experience for them. George Holler had sold his farms to Pete and George Redekopp and Mr. Heibert. Katie Penner was one of those kids and she is the only one who lived in our district till she married and raised her family.

■ school one day, Jack Bates and Colles Brehon were taking turns reading a play aloud; ■ may have been "As You Like it". The one who had Orlando's part didn't start quickly enough and Miss Langham yelled, "Orlando!" My brother Earl thought she said "Earl Andrew", jumped up and said, "What?" That noon hour wasn't much for him as he sat in his desk while the rest of us played.

I guess school days were not so bad if only I had not worn those awful long legged underwear and black wool ribbed stockings in the winter. We were 3¾ miles from school and ski pants weren't invented yet.

Dave McKays lived about ½ mile from us. One year they had a pet owl and Stanley loved to tease it. We were outside one evening and heard Mrs. McKay yelling at Stanley. "Sonnies, if you don't quit making that howl "owl I'll give you something to 'owl about!"

When we were little on a certain date in July each summer many covered wagons filled with Indians came by on their way to the shrine at Duck Lake. They came from Red Pheasant and Stoney Reserves. They camped at night a mile east, which is where we live now. There was a well in the corner that the earliest homesteaders said was there when they came, maybe Indians dug it, I don't know. They came for two years after we lived here and after that they used cars and trucks so didn't camp here anymore. Many times the Gypsyies came. They always came to the house to beg some tea, potatoes or anything we would give them. Usually, they wished to trade horses and once we ended up with a balky pinto gypsy horse we could have managed without.

Back in that other day we were plagued with peddlers of every kind. Some were pests and others had a special place in our memories. Bob Ray was our Watkins peddler and us kids always stood around with our tongues hanging out waiting for the package of gum he gave us after Mom bought her spices and flavors.

The one peddler who was great to have come was Bill Brown who sold for the Cressey Co. He often stayed at our house overnight. Obadiah, his old bay horse, looked as old as its name sake. One night he asked Mother for a pan of water to wash his feet before he went to bed. We all watched the operation and I still believe he had the biggest toes in Saskatchewan. He was lots of fun and when we saw him coming we knew we'd get a treat even before he peddled his wares.

Mrs. Billy Holmes was a neighbour of ours. I loved to get her telling stories of true things and real people because she knew lots of them. After Billy died she went to work for Dick Gysel for a spell and Dick always told her she was out trying to catch a man. One day she was putting in the garden and dug up a leg. (Mr. Fry had lived there years before and he wore out many artificial legs and buried them.) She took it in and set it by the table and when Dick came in she said, "Well, Dick, I'm a-goin' to get that man yet, you see, I found a piece of him this morning!"

Dad had pneumonia one winter and was really sick. One day Tom Ferris drove Doc Scratch out to see Dad

and while Doc was tending to him, Tom played with us kids. He said to Hector, "Is your Dad very sick?" Hec said, "He sure is!" Tom says, "Well, he's such a miserable mean old man I hope ■ dies." Hector was only five but he sure gave him hot tongue for a spell and the more he talked, the more Tom laughed so Hector tied a good licking on his shins by kicking them. Tom really enjoyed it, and years later at Lyman and Evelyn Reid's 50th anniversary celebration, he could still chuckle about it.

When Danny was three he and Dad were visiting Dr. Myers. Dad was asked how many sons he had and when he answered, "seven", Dr. Myers turned to Dan and asked, "So you're the seventh son. Well, it is very special if you were born with a veil on. Were you?" Dan didn't know what was meant and looked at his holey old sweater. He let out ■ swear and said, "No, just this old red 'fweater."

There were eight children in our family and unfortunately it is a fact that we never once ate a meal with the eight of us and Mom and Dad present. When Danny was born some of the brothers were living in other provinces as he was born twenty-four years after Russell. Then, during the war John, Hector and Elmer were overseas and so Mother really planned on the time they would get home and we'd all gather around the table for that fine dinner together. Fate decreed other wise and Elmer sleeps in Holland where "Age shall not weary him, nor the years condemn."

Hec and I live at Maymont, Earl and Edith in The Pas, Manitoba, Lew and Mae in Edmonton, Danny and Louise in Campbell River, B.C., Russell and Cathy at Shawnigan Lake near Victoria, and John and Nel in Los Angeles. Mom died in 1953 when she was ■. Dad died in 1961 at 81 years.

In the early thirties on a Saturday night in town I saw someone I fell for, and Ed Beaudoin was talking to him. At the first chance I got I asked Ed who he was. He laughed and said, "Why he's your neighbour to the south, only 2½ miles away." I wonder how come I had been north, east and west and never south? But by 1936 I had my directions straight and Ted and I were married on both our mothers' birthday. Weddings weren't so plush then as now. We were married at my home by Rev. Schnell. We had a buffet lunch, there were sixty friends and relatives there. We didn't go for a honeymoon; we drove home to a one room shack where we lived for two years. Money was very scarce and everyone was making do or using substitutes. My cousin Geordie Williams told us about coffee made from wheat. He called it "Sin and Misery". When I asked him why, he said it was a sin to call it coffee and ■ was misery to drink!

At threshing time one fall George Lowrey and Ted were watching a lad bring in a load of sheaves and George mentioned the small load. Ted said, "I think he's getting better", and George answered, "Yes, he's better, but he ain't well yet!"

In '38 we had two new experiences. Trudy, our first child was born and we moved to Joe Davidson's farm near the river. ■ 1941 we lost our second daughter when she was four days old. Laurie Currie and Clara lived a mile away on John Rolfe's farm, and Laurie offered to make a casket for her. He proved to be a wonderful friend, and I always thought of him in ■ special way after that.

We bought our first car that fall for $10 in good running order, tires and battery, but we couldn't afford a license or gas so Ted built us a dandy buggy and it sure beat the old wagon ■ long way.

In 1944 Sharon was born and Charlotte two years later, then Elmer, Leroy and Shelley. In 1946 we bought a half section a mile east of Dad's farm, where Warkentins and Friesens lived. Later on we bought ■ 1926 Chev from Uncle Alfred Andrew. ■ was a dandy motor, but the wooden frame was starting to rot at the corners and the doors didn't always stay shut. One day, making ■ turn at Bean's store, it opened and Charlotte flew out. We drove it to church and an evangelist from Ontario just stared as we started unpacking it. There were five kids, then Ted and I. When we all got out he said, "My, what a wagon!" Shortly after that we got a newer model, but we used it till 1955.

Trudy and Dennis live in North Battleford as do Sharon and Bob, and Elmer and Marilyn. Leroy and Shirley are in Edmonton and Charlotte and Lawrence at Spruce Lake and Shelley and Roger at Turtleford. Years back, one thing I was always afraid of was the school teacher, both when I went to school and when the kids had teachers. Here I end up with five teachers, four of ours and a son-in-law. We have seventeen grandchildren so may get more teachers yet!

We spend a lot of our time now visiting among our family. On special occasions they all come home and we have singing and music like in the times past and it makes one glad to be a part of a big family.

I feel we are so very fortunate to live in this community of Maymont where neighbours are real friends, we can truly say they are the 'salt of the earth' and no other place could ever really be "Home Sweet Home!"

Ernest Edward Andrew Family History

told by Myrtle Clipperton

My Dad, Ernest Edward Andrew, was born in Huron County, Ontario, in 1874. He homesteaded in the Radisson area in 1902. Finding his land there was light and sandy, he sold his quarter section in 1910 and bought a half-section two miles east of Maymont. He lived there alone for seven years — some of which were good and some not but Dad worked hard and was fairly successful. ■ shack was not the epitome of cleanliness and comfort, it didn't worry Dad. He was content and the welcome mat was always out to anyone passing by to partake of food and lodging, such

as they were. Dad was rough but he had a heart as big as all outdoors.

Dad had an old sow named Sue. When she got cold, she liked to get into the shack and lie near the stove and did so every time she could root the door open. One afternoon, Dad went to Maymont and stayed until quite late that night. In the meantime, Kate and Billy Holmes stopped at the shack and finding no one home, they put their horses in the barn and went in and made supper. There was only one bunk, so when ■ got late and Dad hadn't returned, they spread their bedroll on the floor and went to bed. Dad came home, happy, as ■ had spent some time in Bill Sowden's Bar. He staggered into the house reaching for a lantern; stumbling over Kate Holmes he let out a roar, "Get the hell out of here, you damned old sow."

After things were straightened out with Dad on his feet and a lamp lit, ■ apologized to the big woman who was lying there, rubbing her backside and laughing her head off. They stayed with Dad a week until they bought land three miles north, where they lived for many years. Years later, when Kate used to tell about it, she'd say, "With the three of us, two big bulldogs and half the time a 400 pound sow, in that small shack, I could hardly move."

■ 1914, came the war and Dad went off to enlist. However, he was told he was more valuable to his country, raising wheat and that he should go back to his farm. By this time, he had acquired more land and was raising quite a lot of grain.

In 1917, Dad rescued the lady who was to become my mother. By that I mean ■ probably saved her and her eight kids from starvation. Mom — Agnes (LaFreniere) Beaudoin — had come from Michigan in 1905. She and her husband had homesteaded near Hafford. He had bought, on time, a steam tractor and threshing separator, putting up his farm and practically everything he owned as security. When he drowned at a picnic in 1915, the land and all of the livestock and machinery were seized by the Machine Company. Mom was left with seven kids and another on the way, a collie dog and 35 cents in cash — also one milk cow which she held onto, brandishing her shot gun (all four foot eleven inches and ninety pounds of her) and dared them to take that as well.

Mom had indomitable courage in the face of hardship and was the second woman in Saskatchewan to file for her own homestead. Being the sole provider for seven kids, she was certainly eligible. She was able to get a pre-empted quarter with an old log house on it, badly in need of repair and with dirt floors. She and the kids chinked it up with manure and mud and moved ■.

The following two years were ones of hard won survival for her and her children. She was forced to drag her own wood in out of the bush and live "off the land". She with the help of the older son, Isidore, snared and trapped rabbits, weasels and muskrats. The rabbits and muskrat were a source of food along with an occasional grouse which she was able to shoot. The hides were skinned out and stretched to sell for a few staples.

Dad took on an awful responsibility when he married her on April 10, 1917. No one can tell me he wasn't a hero and I am certain he never regretted it. He had built a couple more rooms onto his shack for his newly acquired family so after the wedding he loaded his bride, the eight kids and the collie dog onto the sleigh and set out to drive to the Maymont farm over roads which were not the best, due to the spring break-up.

Mom's children at this time ranged from Jean who was 14 to Ernest (Gug) who was born seven months after his father drowned. Jean (Campbell) now lives in Edmonton. Isidore (Wop) in Calgary, Edward, Agnes (Doolittle), Walter (Chinny) and Gug are at Maymont and Ida (Schmidt) lives near Ruddell. Louise died in 1918.

Three children from the second marriage are Maudie (Butler) of Saskatoon, Norman in Maple Ridge, B.C., and Myrtle (Clipperton) at Kamloops, B.C.

I grew up with nine older brothers and sisters. How could my childhood have been anything but happy. Besides that, I was surrounded by Aunts and Uncles. Four of Dad's brothers and his Father had taken homesteads in the Maymont area, while his sister, Maria lived just up the road.

Dad died in October 1941 and Mom in April, 1969.

Lewis O. Andrew — New Life Springs Forth

submitted by Lewis O. Andrew

It was 1930, the last snow banks were shrinking away, mud was everywhere and tiny crocuses poked their delicate flowers forth — a new season for all.

At the William Andrew house Caroline gave birth to a baby boy on April first. He was given the name Lewis Oliver, named after two of his uncles.

Many memories come to mind of my early childhood, of hot windy days when the sun was obscured by dust blowing and one year the army worms crawling everywhere — their destruction was uncomprehended by a small child, only the nuisance of them.

One day my uncle Alfred came to our place ■ his car. He said he had a job for me. On the way to his place the story unfolded of how his little girl, Kay, two years younger than I, could no longer play outside because their rooster would chase her. I was to wear an apron and her sunbonnet, play in the yard till the rooster came then use a switch that he had prepared and drive the rooster back to the barnyard. The ploy worked and soon the rooster came on the run but didn't stay long with me using the whip. As we reached the barnyard I turned back and so did the rooster. Round two was different as he would fly at me through the air. The whip was getting shorter and as his head got closer to me I got in a sound blow. There was boiled

chicken and dumplings that evening at Alfred Andrew's house. I never was sure if they were angry or not at the loss of the rooster.

Another big day in my life came early in September, 1936. Arriving at Keystone School riding bareback behind my brother, Elmer, and bouncing all the way. My seat was very sore. Whether I paid more attention to Miss King's teaching or to those two sore spots I don't quite remember. However one of my projects that day was to trace over a small A. This I did many times. This card was taken home and on arrival I asked if anyone wanted to see my 'ah'.

Our next teacher was Mr. Langley. It was during his term that King George visited Canada and many of us travelled with Mr. Langley by car to Fielding, then by train ■ Saskatoon to see our King and Queen. That was some day to remember.

One boy from Maymont, Jimmy McCleish, crawled on his hands and knees through people's legs arriving right in front of King George V and had an impromptu conversation with his Highness as well as smiles all around from the official party.

Each year at the end of the school year we had a joint picnic with Grey and Eatonia schools, races and a ball game were the order of the day. It seemed that Grey School always won the ball game even though Keystone and Eatonia joined forces due to small enrolments in our schools.

Ice cream was usually free to school children or sometimes if you won a race you were given a token for a cone. Many of my peers and I would watch who was scooping the ice cream because one lady would have made half as much go twice as far while all the others would give you a good big scoop rather than have it go soft soaking the cone and causing many spills and soiled clothes.

Like my father and his father before him the call to go west was strong in me so ■ 1948 I moved to Edmonton, Alberta where I still reside. I have returned for visits and for family weddings. Two of the trips were very sad. Those were when my mother and father passed away.

In 1962 I married Mae Jeannotte who was born in Cutknife, Saskatchewan and came to Edmonton in 1957. Our firstborn was Timothy on May 22, 1963. Cindy Lou followed on April tenth six years later.

I believe that for many people like myself, who were born in the Maymont District, they keep returning ■ be close to those dear hearts and friendly people.

History of Russell Wm. Andrew and Family

told by Russell Andrew

My father Wm. E. (Billie) Andrew was born in Manitoba in 1880. He came to Saskatchewan in 1904 and took up a homestead ■ the S.E.¼ 2, T42, W3rd. In 1912 ■ married Caroline McCurdy Campbell. I am the oldest of eight children. Seven are still living. My brother, Elmer, gave his life in the Second World War.

I went four miles to school using horse and buggy or sleigh. Some of my teachers were Miss Japp, Sophie Langham and Mrs. Christfield. I was eight when I started school but had to stay home to help with seeding and harvest, etc. many times. One year I did chores for Mrs. Percy Barrett and went to school from there. Over the years I worked for a number of different farmers — Sam Miller, Stan Barrett, Brehons, George Holler, John Rolf, Jack and Frank Langley, Alfred and Ernie Andrew (my uncles) and Jim Taylor.

In 1936 Gladys (Nelson) Fast and Ruby (Rice) Sloan came to the district holding gospel services in different homes which resulted in the opening of the Foursquare Gospel Church Maymont. I gave my heart to the Lord which made a definite change ■ my way of life. In the fall of 1937 I left for Vancouver, British Columbia to attend the Foursquare Gospel Bible School and also to find work, returning to Maymont July 1940. I left again in February 1942 for Welland, Ontario where I married Catherine Gordon a girl I had met in Bible School. Our daughter, Margaret was born December 1943 and in 1945 we returned to Maymont as Pastors of the Foursquare Church. Our daughter, Rena, was born in Fielding in 1946 at Mrs. Garnett's, Dr. Scratch attending.

We again left in 1947 for B.C. returning in the spring of '49 to work for Malcolm McNaughton and live on their farm. Our son, Gordon, was born that July ■ North Battleford hospital. We made a detour to Edmonton and from 1951-1955 I worked for McNaughton and Langley's. We lived in the old McKay house a couple of winters. Gug Beaudoin took the girls to Keystone along with his son, Jim, and Darlene Wood. Spring and fall Cathy took them by horse or car, depending on the roads. And here Cathy has a story to tell.

"The roads were usually deep with snow when we moved onto the McNaughton farm ■ the spring. One spring we borrowed old Barney from Ted Sloan and old Nellie from Chinnie Beaudoin. I had never had anything to do with horses. Russell would harness them but I had to hitch them up, which I didn't always get right. Barney would start off at a gallop but after a quarter of a mile you could hardly get him to walk. I have vivid memories of the horses going along very nicely and the next step going through the snow up to their shoulder, and the sleigh would tip to one side. Gordon and Rena would be hanging onto my coat crying but they weren't any more scared than I was."

Margaret and Rena both started school at Keystone. Margaret's first teacher was Anita McIvor and she named her daughter Anita. They also attended Maymont School for a couple of years, at which time we lived in the Langley building next to the poolroom.

In 1955 we again left to open the mission at Livelong and then on to pastor churches in Ontario. When we returned to Maymont in 1965 we bought the old Gray house from Bob Gray. I went to work for Jim Ryan and Cathy filled in as pastor of the Foursquare Church for a couple of years with a lot of help from the young people of the church.

Gordon took Grades Eleven and Twelve at Maymont and was sent to Owen Sound, Ontario on the Student Exchange Program. He was also valedictorian on graduation.

Margaret married William Wasmuth. They have four children and live on a farm south of Battleford. Margaret and Rena were both given lovely community showers. Rena married Ralph Finch and lives in Invermere, B.C. Gordon married a Victoria girl, Linda Yeats. They now live in Victoria and have two daughters. Gordon works for Island Farms Dairy and they are also part owners of a marina in the Cowichan Bay area. Cathy and I live at Shawnigan Lake, B.C. at present.

Ross Arnold Story

When one thinks of the early settlers on the Canadian prairies, you often wonder what it was that motivated them and helped them to persevere and carry on. Perhaps there could have been some glamour and no doubt a lot of satisfaction in breaking and putting into production the virgin soil that had lain there since the Ice Age. But even so, when you look back and compare our standard of living with that of the homesteader you can't help but feel that we are deeply indebted to them! There had to be some feeling of accomplishment to make up for the loneliness and the privations of daily routine that each settler must have experienced and it is easy to understand the friendship and the loyalty that the homesteaders had for each other. There were seven with new homesteads that spent the winter of 1903 in the Ruddell District; John White, Sam Cameron, Ernie Whitlaw, Alfred Pegg, Charles Murison and Dave and John Arnold. I spent a number of years with very close contacts with three of these men and never once can I remember any harsh or vindictive comment directed toward any of the seven.

1909. Phil Mylrea with oxen, John Arnold with horses. House is the first section of the Lyle Dean home.

1928. Left to right — David Arnold, Meda Arnold (nee Crowle, Mt. Albert, Ont.), James Arnold, Emma (Arnold) Stokes, Duncan Stokes, Mt. Albert, Ont. Seated — Jessie (Reynett) Arnold, Galt, Ont., John Arnold, Clara (Kester) Arnold, Zephyr, Ont., Lyall Arnold. (Photo taken by Ruddell B.A. Elevator house, near John Taylor's present house.)

Jack Arnold "A Good Hunt", 1912.

Thomas Arnold, my great-grandfather, came to Ontario in 1835 from the Bally Bay area in Monahan County, Ireland. My grandfather, also Thomas Arnold was born in Buttonville, Ontario in 1841. My father, James Roy Arnold, born in 1869 at Mount Albert, Ontario was the second youngest of a family of eight, four of whom spent some of their years in Ruddell. My mother was born Clara Mabel Kester at Zephyr, Ontario in 1895, one of a family of eight. An uncle, David Arnold, born in 1870 worked his early years in Mt. Albert and then went to Penn Yan in New York State where he worked several years for a farmer who owned a grape vineyard. From there he went to Sault Ste. Marie where he worked as a carpenter till 1901. In the spring of 1902 he was joined by his twenty year old brother, John, and they went west to Winnipeg where they worked in construction. Carpentry didn't appeal to the younger brother and he joined a schoolmate, Alfred Pegg in North Dakota. They worked the winter

on separate farms, going into the Ruddell District the following spring where they met Dave Arnold and the three of them filed on homesteads. John White and Sam Cameron were already located one and a half miles west of the townsite; Alfred Pegg took a quarter south and west of them. Dave Arnold a mile south of the townsite and John Arnold filed on land about four miles west of town but later transferred to what is now the Lyle Dean farm (Costa Lotta). Charles Murison took the homestead a mile west and south of John Arnold and Ernie Whitlaw — located one mile west of Alfred Pegg.

The Arnold brothers spent that winter in a sod house on the quarter south of Ruddell, taking turns with the other five men in walking to Battleford for mail and whatever provisions they could carry. I think it was the following winter the mail started coming to the Jim Megaffin home near Baljennie and this place soon became a central point for social and business activities. The third, brother, Will Arnold filed on the quarter west of his brother, John. This quarter corneied that of Murisons and these two were very good friends. Will Arnold did not stay in the area for many years and moved to Opheim, Montana and made this his permanent home.

Breaking and getting land ready to crop must have been a slow and tedious job with the limited horse or oxen power available and I remember Uncle John was then boss on most farm operations and Dave would put his income from carpentry into the farm operation. They worked on this basis until about 1928.

My parents were married in Toronto in 1912 and spent their first year on a farm at Meadowvale near there. The next spring they came to Ruddell, living with my two uncles and working on the farm for about three years. During this time I came along and can still remember a few happenings while we lived there. Getting into the pig pen to try to sleep with them; picking up and trying to smoke any pipe that was left in reach; also the time when Uncle Dave had been hunting and they pulled the moose out of the sleigh box. I was terrified and it took a lot of persuading to get me out, from under the bed clothes and how I avoided that spot for days!

Our next move was to the Beierle farm west of Lilac where we were neighbors of the Collins family, our close friends ever since. By this time I was running away from home and my first visit to the Collins' was one of these trips. They knew I was A.W.O.L. and started me on the way home but I wanted to stay and play until it was either Albert or Ted started throwing sticks from the woodpile at me and finally persuaded me that I wasn't too welcome. I recall a couple of runaway trips to see my Uncle Dave when [redacted] was building the Harold Pain home for Mr. Dow; the first time he took me home after work but the second trip brought my father and a real good spanking seemed to take all the fun out of running away!

In the spring of 1919 we moved to the Bern Robinson farm one mile west of town and Dad farmed there for three years. My brother Lyall was born there in 1921 and I started school the same year. I had many misgivings about going to school and remember how glad we were that Walter and Ethel Whitlaw were close by and willing to take me. I rode with them most of the winter but would sometimes get a ride with Del Thrower as he drove past our house to and from school.

That fall the Grain Growers Building just south of the Imperial Bank burned down and in the spring we moved into town and my father took over the new Grain Growers operation. Miss Jessie Reynett was working there as secretary, having come from her home in Galt, Ontario in 1920 to visit her sister, Mrs. Bill Geddie and to recover from a serious illness. Some strong friendships developed and the climate seemed so agreeable that she decided not to return to Ontario. One of her closest and longest lasting friendships was with Edna Gibson (Robinson), another one with my teacher, Hazel Duncan (Leask), and we sometimes were couriers for notes that passed between them. She and my Uncle John were married in Saskatoon in 1923.

It was about this time that sport coverage from the U.S. started [redacted] be [redacted] interest [redacted] young and old alike. Radio was getting [redacted] be very popular and a lot of wintertime conversation centred around each set and how far away each owner had picked up stations the previous night or morning; it was quite common for more competitive owners to stay up till two or three A.M. trying to outdo each other!

The National Baseball League now had about six teams, maybe eight, and it was possible to know most of the players and their respective teams. Lawrence Collins was the local authority on sports and he could give you batting averages, league standings, how the hockey leagues were being developed and the latest on boxing, dominated those years by Jack Dempsey. We never called him Lawrence and he was known as "Dad" Collins, a name someone had thought appropriate because of his great knowledge of sports. He was teasing me one day and I flailed into him with both fists and boots and in his amusement at my futile efforts he said, "We should call this guy Dempsey". That name stayed with me all through school and, with some friends, on into adult years. We remember one occasion when I certainly didn't do justice to the name. One of my classmates and myself got into an altercation in the school cloakroom and I came out of the fight with two sore badly stretched ears and having to be rescued from the bottom of a wrestling match by some of the eager onlookers. They thought I was laughing and were afraid of me passing out from lack of breath so pulled off my adversary. Her name was Ruth! Another classmate all through school was Irene Collins and we used to love to annoy her. She sat ahead of me in school with hair long enough to reach the inkwell in the desk top, or you could drum on the desk top

or tap on the bottom of the seat if you could get your leg around the outside without getting caught. Irene stayed at our home one summer when her mother was in Rochester and it was so nice to have someone our own age to play with but I still continued to bedevil her. One day we had snared a good-sized gopher and all of a sudden had an idea. Took gopher and snare home in my jacket, got between Irene and the house, unwrapped the animal and started chasing her; if the gopher ran in her direction, fine, otherwise it was dragged by the snare. I suspect my mother heard the shrieks and came ■ her rescue!

The strap was used in the school in those days and it was quite a highlight when someone finally exasperated the teacher to the point where they 'got the strap.' A boy's reputation depended on whether or not he cried during the ordeal but the girls very seldom needed such severe punishment. I do remember once when several girls underwent the treatment. We used to have a swimming hole about half a mile from the school and we would swim there till the "swamp itch" drove us out. One noon hour some of the girls decided they had as much right to the pool as did the boys and went swimming. When it came time to dress and rush back to school the girls' modesty got the better of them and they stayed in the water till all the boys were gone. This made them late for school, in deep trouble with the teachers and told to report ■ the lady teacher ■ the junior room after school. Curiosity was high and several of us interested boys quietly gathered under the school windows to listen to the proceedings. The girls were each questioned and then strapped and we can still remember how we boys resented that treatment of the girls! We felt they were good sports and we sort of admired them for their venturesome activity. That lady teacher wasn't very popular and we did nothing to co-operate with her for a long time.

Grade Ten was ■ far as we could go in Ruddell so when we finished there in '29 we went to North Battleford Collegiate Institute. Bessie Coffin, Edna Tyler, Thelma Naylor, Ruth Robinson and myself went that year and we used a good rail service ■ come home for the weekends. My father had been buying grain for several years but when the financial crash came in 1929 the company closed the elevator and we were into the depression.

Ruddell had grown and prospered up to now and you would often find no parking room left on Main Street on a Saturday night. The depression changed all that and seemed to be the start of the decline for so many prairie towns. Little did a person realize the extent to which this decline would go or the number of people that would leave the prairie; some to the east but many to the Pacific Coast.

Dave Arnold and Meda Crowle were married in Mount Albert, Ontario in 1928 and had settled in Ruddell. Aunt Meda had been a schoolmate of my mother's in Zephyr, Ontario and she was readily accepted into the family and was very shortly involved in the community. We had started carpentering with Uncle Dave and income from this together with what we were able to make at farm work helped us through those lean years ■ the "dirty thirties". As the depression deepened the government set up relief camps for single men who could not find work but not many from rural areas were forced into them. The government started paying farmers who would keep help during the winter months, five dollars a month to the farmer and the same to the hired man but most farmers would give their share to hired help.

There were now a number of young people in the district, some unable to find work and staying with parents till some job came along. The Young People's Society was sponsored by the church and we had a good active group. The district organized the Ruddell Community Club which lasted for several years. Self-entertainment was the order of the day and there were a number of plays and evenings of entertainment put on by the two groups. Some of the talent was no doubt amateurish but we are sure that some of those plays and skits are more vivid in our memories than most of the professional entertainment we have since seen! The price of admission to some ■ those evenings, dance included was ten cents and bring your own lunch!

■ 1931 Dave Arnold built on the farm two miles north of town and we became close neighbors and friends of the Peter Martynes family. They and some of their families had managed to escape the persecution in Russia and had come to Ruddell to join a brother, Bill, who had earlier come to the district.

Some time before building, Dave Arnold had taken down three-quarters of the two-storey McNeil Hardware Store and this lumber went into the buildings along with a carload of good fir lumber ordered directly from B.C. and costing about $800 F.O.B. Ruddell! We helped on these buildings, never suspecting that later on they would become our own home.

We spent the 1934 summer and winter in Shellbrook. Albert Collins had left Ruddell ■ 1926, on a forty-two year career with the Bank of Commerce. He was now in Shellbrook, involved with the local baseball club and made arrangements for me to join them; also with the local contractor to give me work carpentering. That winter we ran the curling rink, and then went home for a short visit ■ the spring.

Sickness prevented us from going back and I was under the care of Dr. Scratch. He made several trips to Ruddell, made arrangements for Kay Naylor, R.N to help nurse and a number of later office calls and we never were able to get him ■ send us a bill. We had played with his sons, Ron and Pinky, on the Maymont ball team and when we finally did get a verbal bill I'm sure he was thinking of this more than of how much he would make that year. We are one of the many families who have fond memories of the ability and the compassion of Dr. John Scratch!

It was about 1936 that my parents and brother,

Lyall, were to leave Ruddell and work for Jack Jones at Denholm and eventually on to B.C. We spent the next two or three years doing what carpentry came available and working for the Murison family. Their home was close to both the railway and the highway and you could see the sad effects of the dry years and the depression. The summer trains would often carry many transients; and the highway many families with all their possessions ■ one or two wagons, sometimes leading one or two head of livestock as they moved from the south to the Peace River District. Some would stop for feed for the horses and cattle and Mrs. Murison gave many meals to strangers as they passed.

We went to Wiseton at the start of the 1939 ball season, did a lot of carpentry and were harvesting with Stan Nelson when word came that Uncle Dave had died. We went back to Ruddell and from then on we seemed to have stability and some objective in our enterprises. Aunt Meda suggested we run the farm on a share basis and keep a hired man so we could continue to do carpentry work. We did this for three years and in 1942 Aunt Meda and Gordon Husband of Harris were married and made Harris their home.

We bought the farm before they were married; a modest price, a verbal agreement, a small down payment and the balance whenever we had enough to make a payment. Mr. and Mrs. Dawson were with me for a couple of years and we started to see a lot of Marie Reisinger. She had been staying at the Harper home in Ruddell and a dance in the town hall had started us on our courtship! We still get a chuckle from a little incident that happened one night as I visited her at the Harper home. We were all having a snack around the kitchen table and teasingly I called her "Mary"; she fired back "Don't you mar(r)y me"! This seemed to strike a fun note with all of us and Marie got a lot of teasing from Marjorie and her father!

Mr. Wrenshall married us on June 10, 1944 in our Ruddell Church; Marjorie Thrower was organist; Louise Thrower vocalist; and we still appreciate the lovely decorations and the flowers arranged by Chuck and Margaret White!

By this time most of the first homesteaders had retired. Mr. Cameron to the East; John White, Charles Murison, Ernest Whitlaw and John Arnold in Ruddell and Alfred Pegg in British Columbia.

My parents were well established in Vancouver, my father a painter for the B.C. Electric Company and in the fall of 1948 we made our first trip to the coast. Cliff and Rojean Custer moved onto the farm and ran it till we sold the following fall. Wartime shortages were still quite widespread, making it impossible for us to buy a car but we finally found a Ford ton truck at McNaughtons in Fielding. This was our vehicle for several trips to and from B.C. and later was ideal for the construction business. We sold it in 1973, still in good service! Nails were very scarce at the coast and my dad suggested we bring some on our first trip. We did this and the five kegs of nails helped me get work with a Vancouver contractor for all of that winter and until we were settled in Richmond in 1950.

We liked the coast and found many of our friends who had left Ruddell and settled in B.C.; Mrs. Collins, Albert and Susan, Ted, Irene and Kay; Fred and Mary Thrower; Dave and Thelma Jordan; Bob and Fern Orchard; Vic and Dag Humphrey; the Coffin family; the Alf Peggs from Denholm. There were also those who had made the move in the 1920's; the Sherwoods, the Ryans, Mr. Herb Trimble and the Gibsons in Victoria! We still had many misgivings about pulling up roots and leaving the farm, family and friends but finally decided we would make the move! We sold the farm, with the exception of Uncle Dave's homestead, through an ad in the paper and had the Blacklock Bros. of Maymont handle our auction sale.

The coast was good to us, construction a good trade to follow and in about five years we had our own home at our present address. Before this we lived in a small duplex in what was to become the business centre of Richmond and we loved to share our tiny accommodations with those who would visit us; Marie's parents from North Battleford, our uncles and aunts, Gordon and Meda Husband from Harris and John and Jessie Arnold from Mt. Albert, Ontario. Once in our new home we had plenty of room but we did miss the fun of being jammed in the small duplex.

We stayed in construction till partial retirement in 1968 and full retirement about five years later. Our three adult children, David, Marilyn and Robert are all in the Vancouver area and they and our two grandchildren are often with us. We have done some travelling, mostly to visit friends on the prairie and have very much enjoyed having friends and relatives spend holidays with us.

James Arkley

by Lilah Brebon

James Arkley (1880-1928) was the first of his family to come west sometime before 1905. He took a homestead on the SW¼, Section 14, T42, R12, West of the third Meridian. For a time he lived in a shack on the west side of the quarter. After his marriage to Emma Plienes in February, 1918 they built a two-storey frame house with two good-sized rooms on the ground floor. This was built on the south side of the quarter. They had three girls and a boy — Clara, Dorothy, Viola and Richard. Richard, unfortunately, died of a ruptured appendix at the age of seven. Clara nursed in both the Saskatchewan Hospital and Notre Dame Hospital in North Battleford until she contracted polio. During the war she fell in love with and married a sailor boy, Roy Armstrong. They now live in Prince Albert where Roy is a stoker at the Penitentiary. They have a daughter and two sons. Dorothy also worked as an attendant at the Saskatchewan Hospital and still

James and Emma Arkley.

lives in North Battleford. Her husband, Al Kroner, passed away in 1976. Viola graduated as a lab technician. She worked in Trail, B.C. and there married, David Waldie, a machinist with the Cominco Company in Trail.

The tale is told of Jimmie walking to Radisson where he became the proud owner of a new pair of boots. He wore his old patched and darned felt boots till he got a few miles from home. Then he traded footwear and left his old boots beside the trail. The next morning when he got up the old boots were on the doorstep. We're not sure he ever found out who knew him by his boots and played a trick on him.

In early days Jim had a team of oxen which were afraid of women. He would back the wagon or sleigh up to the door and the women would crawl in out of sight. One day he took his sister, Annie, to meet the members of a school board. She thought he had the team tied up and stood up too soon. Away went the team and wagon and Annie with it. Happily the lines became entangled in the wheels and brought the oxen to a halt.

Later, Jimmie graduated to owning a good driving team. His daughter, Dorothy, relates that Dr. Scratch used to change horses there when he went to Speers and Hafford. On the return trip her mother would make him a meal and often he would sleep for a couple of hours.

Jim passed away with pneumonia just before Christmas, 1928. When Richard died and no son remained to inherit the farm it was rented and Emma and the three girls moved to a two-roomed house in North Battleford. Clara and Dorothy often returned to Maymont to spend several weeks each summer with their Aunt Annie and family. George and Lilah used to be sent to destroy the eggs of turkeys who were nesting late in the raspberries. Since they were afraid of the turkey hens Dorothy would have to act as decoy while George and Lilah rushed in and robbed some eggs. The latter two being cowards Dorothy often had to risk her safety two or three times. Those turkey hens got smarter each time too! Following Dr. Scratch's picnic, Dick, Lilah, and George all came down sick. Dr. Scratch began a check for typhoid fever and sent Clara and Dorothy home much to their chagrin — especially since the typhoid scare was a false alarm.

In her small home in North Battleford, Emma performed an outstanding feat in housekeeping by always having a place for everything and keeping a spotless house in such cramped conditions. In later years she was able to buy a nice two-bedroom home. She died of cancer in March, 1974.

Mrs. James Arkley
nee Annie Alicia Boomer

In 1905 Annie Alicia Arkley accompanied her youngest son west where they took up a homestead on S½ of Section 34-42-12-W3rd. The two-storey house was built on a hill with a wide view to the south reminiscent of their home at Leeds, Quebec. At the time Mrs. Arkley was 51 years of age when she left her three daughters in the East and became a western pioneer. Since she was one of a few women in the West at the time she was often called on to nurse the sick and serve as a midwife. Also she often did mending for her bachelor neighbors.

Mrs. James Arkley Sr.

One winter night when she became lost on the prairies she had presence of mind to burrow into a straw stack and thus survived.

Later she and her son, William, moved to the Spinney Hill District. For a time they lived in a sod house. Then they built a new two-storey house on a snug basement. The carpenters did a dandy job of finishing and no nailholes were apparent in the door and window casings.

Annie Arkley was a tiny lady four foot eight inches in height and weighed about one-hundred pounds. Even so, she could carry two five-gallon oil pails full of swill for the pigs. One day a bull, whom the children used to

tease on their way to school, probably mistaking her for one of its small tormentors, knocked her down and broke her arm. Someone was nearby and realizing something was wrong managed to save her. She stayed at her daughter Annie's home while her arm was mending. One day her granddaughter, Muriel, dropped an iron on her foot. Her grandmother reported that, "That woman dropped an iron on her foot, and she's down." Muriel was lying on the bed in the porch nursing her wounds.

Mrs. Arkley was quite vain about her tiny feet. Her granddaughters can remember her placing her foot alongside their big ones and boasting of her shoes, "Them's size twos." She said of their "whoopee" pants (jeans with a red pie-shaped piece set into the cuff). "Them's fine pants" but she clearly thought they were devil's apparel.

She died at the home of her youngest daughter, Annie, at the age of 85.

William Boomer Arkely (1887-1943)

William Boomer Arkley and his mother came west and lived together until his mother's death. He was a kind-hearted, mild-mannered person. He liked horses and had a large herd at the time of his death. In 1943, he had a heart attack at his home and died instantly. He was an honest man who enjoyed a joke and could see the fun in a situation. The homestead farm was rented until his death and then sold to the Wiley family. John Guzik bought the Spinney Hill farm.

Colles Brehon can remember going to Spinney Hill over the West ferry and visiting his Uncle Will and grandmother when they lived in their sod house. His niece Dorothy Arkley remembers driving from Maymont with her father in a buggy and staying overnight. Her grandmother made homemade icecream and she remembers it fondly. Croquinole was a game the Arkleys liked to play and they were sharks at it. Annie often told of them warning "Keep your seat! Keep your seat," when anyone gave the least hint of moving the board or themselves to better advantage when shooting. Will's sister, Mae Williams, who lives in Vermont, U.S.A., is ■ years old. She still loves a game of croquinole and is a strong adversary. Mae and Will were each other's favorites.

Billy Arkley — early 1900's.

Ron Atchison

Everytime I hear the town of Fielding mentioned a flood of warm memories rush through my mind. . .

The year was 1942. All available men were overseas fighting ■ the Second World War, so farm help was impossible to get. Because of this shortage Charlie Neumeyer came from Fielding into Saskatoon looking for some young boy to look after his sheep.

Ron Atchison — Rough Rider Football Star at Regina.

It was a hot dry afternoon at Lundy's Riding Stable where I spent all my spare time. Having been raised on a farm I had come to love animals. Well, ■ wandered Charlie looking for all the world like Edward G. Robinson. He asked if any of ■ boys would be interested in a summer job taking care of his sheep I was twelve years old at the time and I must admit it was not just taking care of his sheep but the thought of all that farm food that interested me. So when no one else spoke up I stepped forward. I asked where his farm was and he said halfway between Saskatoon and North Battleford at ■ town calling Fielding. After a hurried trip home to gather some extra clothes I announced that I was ready to go. Charlie looked a little dumbfounded, "Well how about your parents? Don't you think I should meet them?" "Oh, well." I explained, "I just have a mother and she will be glad to get rid of me for the summer!" But Charlie insisted that we see Mum. I was right though — she was so happy to see me get out of the city that she could not thank Charlie enough.

■ the ensuing years Charlie became like a father to me. He was just the influence I so badly needed at that time. Living ■ ■ city with no father is no way for a boy ■ be raised. Charlie never drank, smoked or used

profanity. Even when I killed his best milk cow (I broke her neck trying to teach her to lead) — the worst he called me was a darn fool jackass.

I spent three months of that summer and four months of the next at Charlies. Then in 1942 I ran away from school, home, and the city and asked Charlie for a full time job. The next three years had to be the happiest of my youth. I loved the farm work but all week long I would look forward to Saturday night ■ Fielding. First all the young boys would gather around to watch Mac Scott and me wrestle, then we'd go to the Chinaman's Cafe for an ice cream and a soda pop. The whole evening would not cost more than fifty cents, unless of course I happened to meet Mary Garnet who I had ■ big crush on at the time. The two and a half mile horseback ride home to Charlie's was never long enough for me. I could have ridden for hours just thinking of all that had happened during my evening in town.

Sundays were a day of rest. All I had to do was milk seven cows, feed fifteen chickens and clean out the barn twice. Then I'd go to church with Mr. and Mrs. Iverson. They were our closest neighbours, very wonderful people, I just loved them both. Each week I would walk half a mile and meet them at the Fielding graveyard and they would drive me ■ town for the service at the United Church. The minister was the Reverend Frank Myers and Bill Brown was the Young People's Choir Leader. Poor Bill, I'm sure he'd have greater pleasure ■ hearing saws being sharpened than in listening to my singing voice.

We had many wonderful neighbours. One of the most interesting was Mrs. Stewart, who lived just north of Charlie's. Though she was well into her sixties she had the most beautiful face, her brown eyes so soft and loving. I heard many stories of the rodeos that she held on her farm and it was not hard to believe that cowboys came for miles just to look at her. How the years had changed her life! Now she was living with two old characters, Ralph and Jack. Ralph drove an old Essex truck and it never failed just fifteen minutes after every rain Ralph would come down the road slipping and sliding from one side to the other leaving ruts a foot deep in the mud. Charlie would just shake his head and say, "The darn fool jackass, why can't he wait until the roads dry up? Now no less than a team of horses can follow his track."

Other neighbours were Art Robb and Irene Beattie. They lived a little south west of us. Mrs. Beattie could tell the girls of today quite a bit about women's rights. She raised two kids, milked cows, shovelled manure and could outwork any two men in the fields.

Charlie's Mum and Dad have a very warm spot in my heart, to say nothing of Charlie's sister, Lillian. Her ravishing beauty and quick step on the dance floor left the boys looking like sick cows.

My years in Fielding were most rewarding. To mention them all is simply too much to do at one time. However, I would like to take this opportunity to say how much your friendship has meant to me through the years.

My wife, Monica, and our three children have heard about Fielding many times over.

Ron gave 'Riders 16 'fierce' years

by Don Lovegrove, Spectator Staff

Being selected to the Football Hall of Fame ■ a signal honor, but if Ron Atchison had his way he'd still be wearing ■ green and white uniform for the Saskatchewan Roughriders, not receiving a retiree's tribute.

"When I quit, they're going to have to carry me off the field," the 6-4, 240-pound tackle and middle guard declared in 1964 when asked about his retirement plans. He had just completed his 12th CFL season with the Roughriders and was 35 years of age.

"They just about had to," he says as he looks back. "I really enjoyed the game a lot."

Atchison went on to play the game for another four seasons before he was forced to the sidelines in 1969.

"They were wondering if I was going to die out there," he says.

"I had a talk with the coach (Eagle Keys). Or you could say the coach had a talk with me. A guy slows down and you're not the first one to notice — you're the last."

So, Ron Atchison hung up his number 41 jersey for the last time after 17 seasons of battling in the CFL trenches, not a record career for a CFL player, but a record for a lineman.

Junior career

The irony of the Atchison story is that he had to be cajoled into trying out with the Roughriders in 1952.

After a fine junior career with the Saskatoon Hilltops, Atchison had graduated at the close of the 1950 season.

"I'd never seen a pro game," he says. "I had no inclination that I'd make it ■ a pro. I sat out the 1951 season. I didn't think I had a hope."

But the Hilltops knew better. They finally convinced him to ■ to the Roughrider camp and an outstanding career began.

■ his fifth season, he was selected Western Conference All-star at middle guard. He repeated in 1960-61-62-63, and when the middle guard position disappeared, he was selected an all-star at defensive tackle in 1964.

Roughrider fans tendered Atchison and two other veteran linemen, Reggie Whitehouse and Bill Clarke, an honor night in 1963 and then speculation developed regarding his retirement. Atchison fooled them all by sticking around a few more years. It's just as well ■ did.

Saskatchewan was hardly a power in those days, but in 1966, Keys hit the right combination and Atchison got his first trip to the Grey Cup. He made no

mistake helping 'Riders to a 29-14 win over Ottawa Rough Riders at Vancouver. He was back in 1967, but this time Hamilton spoiled the trip by beating 'Riders 24-1 in Ottawa.

Defensive threat

While two-way players were still in vogue during his early pro career, Atchison reserved his talents for the defensive side of the game, a situation that may have cost him a few dollars in pay.

"One time, I went to see Ken Preston about a raise. 'But you only play one way,' Preston said. 'But I play it for 50 minutes,' I said. Those were the days before we had a good team."

Linemen are generally regarded as the unsung heroes of the game, but Atchison became a legend of his time, not just for his longevity, but also because of his adept use of his right forearm.

"There were a few times when I wore a cast on it. Once, just for an experiment," he says. "I had a sore arm and borrowed a cast from Martin Ruby. That's where controversy started. There were some complaints about it."

He always padded the forearm heavily and that only added to the controversy.

"Every time I hit a guy, it got built up a bit more."

The reputation of the Atchison forearm is such that some of his opponents feel that the cast he used occasionally should be enshrined in the Football Hall of Fame, too.

Upon his retirement, Atchison was given a job in promotion and advertising by the Saskatchewan government. He held that job for seven years, then returned to his original trade as a carpenter. He is now self-employed, buying old houses in Regina, refurbishing them and re-selling them.

But his first love was always football. He was described, during his 17-year career, as "fierce, aggressive and ruthless". But that was on the field. Off it, he was warm, friendly and articulate.

"I think anyone can play pro football," is his message to young Canadians aspiring to CFL careers. "It's a lot better than carrying a lunch pail."

Autobiography of Mr. and Mrs. Harold and Violet F. Baker

told by H. B. Baker

I was born in one of my grandfather's houses in 1894 amid humble surroundings in an English village half-hidden among the Hertfordshire Chiltern Hills.

This village was astride the line of penetration by the Danes north of the Thames River in territory once occupied by Queen Boadicea's Iceni tribe — a tribe eventually conquered by the Romans. When the Romans left the Anglo-Saxons took over. These people were overthrown by the Normans in 1066.

All in their turn had left behind pottery, artifacts in stone, copper, bronze, iron and porcelain; and

Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Baker children and grandchildren.

earthworks and stone ruins as evidence of their periods of dominance. Of these remains I became deeply interested.

However, during my childhood most of the countryside was owned by descendants of the barons and squires among whom William the Conqueror had divided the country and foreign financiers who had moved in. These aristocrats had, over the years increased the size of their estates by passing enclosure acts by which they robbed the common people of twelve million acres of common land. This left no land for those who wished to start farming on their own as I did.

By the time I was eighteen I had a good elementary education and had gained farming expertise from surrounding farms. Thus fortified and disgusted with the English class system I set sail for Winnipeg in 1912, two weeks after the Titanic went to the bottom.

In Manitoba and south-eastern Saskatchewan I learned to drive tandem teams, dig deep wells, adjust to the climate and prairie farm practices. By my second year in Saskatchewan I was herding cattle for a rancher on my own horse and had my own buggy and cow, and knew what it was to live in board shacks, log shacks and sod shacks.

In 1915 I filed on a homestead near a stretch of free range southeast of Battleford, built a shack and log barn near a sparkling creek on whose green banks on a summer eve the glowworms shed their mysterious light, and in the humid air the fireflies weaved in magic dances. Never before had I had such a measure of freedom and pleasure.

But the war did not end in six months as was predicted. And as I did not want my three brothers to fight my battles, I enlisted in a Battleford battalion and soon found myself in the hellish Ypres quagmire fighting to capture Paschendaele Ridge.

Following the armistice period of occupation in Germany I returned to the homestead. The adjacent land necessary to make my holdings an economic unit had been taken up, my log house had been taken down and made away with, on the supposition (so folks said) that I had been killed in action. So I moved to raw prairie on the north side of the river under the Soldier Settlement Board. On this land I have lived ever since.

Before I left for the war I had become engaged to be married on my hoped for return to a dark-eyed, dark-haired Manitoba maid. In December 1920 we were married in Prince Albert and this year - 1979 - we hope to celebrate our fifty-ninth wedding anniversary.

Except for the cooking utensils our furniture was used. The old iron stove I had bought for five dollars. Because the stand had been broken in my absence, we had it propped up on bricks.

Our first baby daughter died when a few days old. Later came boys Crawford and Woodsworth and daughter Iona.

Until 1929 fortune favored us. I was appointed to positions in farmers' and co-op movements. Then came the dirty thirties — high winds, drifting soil, grasshoppers and drought and depression. When the price of wheat dropped to nineteen cents a bushel our finances petered out.

In case I might go dead broke and need a different vocation, through home studies I gained my Grade 12 Diploma in 1942, and went on to University English and Philosophy.

In 1931 I underwent an operation for a W.W. 1 abdominal injury. Three weeks after the operation the doctors found that they had operated while I had typhoid fever. In the meantime my wife had to undergo surgery. It took us two years to pay off the doctor and hospital bills. A heart block twenty years ago knocked me out for a year or two. So much for illness.

World War II was now on; the rains came; the dust storms ceased; the grasshoppers vanished, and I was on call as a member of The Saskatchewan Security Corps. After sixteen thousand soldier settlers of W.W. One had lost their farms while under contract to the Soldier Settlement Board I was elected president of the Soldier Settlers Association of Canada and in that capacity led several delegations to Ottawa on the veterans behalf. As well as many letters and historical articles to the press I have written the historical novel "Rebellious Hearts" based on facts which deals with the life of Britishers before they emigrated and after their arrival here in the gay nineties. I have also written "Homes for Heroes" — a history of the veteran's vicissitudes under The Soldier Settlement Board of Canada. As a community project I have for some years been local correspondent for The North Battleford News Optimist.

In 1925 I started beekeeping and growing alfalfa and sweet clover. Since then I have won top honours at all the major agricultural shows in Canada and thus over the years helped to establish the high quality of western Canadian honey both for home and export purposes. Restricted by my age I now keep a few hives as a hobby and to pollinate our fields of rape. On June 8, 1978 The Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists elected me an honorary life member for my outstanding work during the last sixty years for Saskatchewan and Canadian Agriculture. As a tribute of my sixty years work for Saskatchewan and Canadian agriculture, the R.M. 406 Council and Saskatchewan Highways Department named the seven-mile road, one mile west of Fielding, and south from Highway 16 (Yellowhead Route) the "Baker Road" and erected signs accordingly.

In 1925, after our fields had begun to show the dangers of soil drifting, my wife and I planted field shelterbelts and windbreaks around our home, plantings of sharp-leafed willow, maples, Russian poplar, ash, laurel-leafed willow, caragana and Scotch pine. My wife led the horse on a one horse cultivator while I guided and held the handles.

With my wife's story I now continue, for without her help and devotion our undertaking here would not have been the success that it is.

My wife, Violet Rose Tolley, was born in the Portage la Prairie district in 1898. Her father, Thomas Tolley, arrived from England some years earlier. Her mother, Emily Elizabeth Hodson was the daughter of Mr. Charles Ernest Hodson, blacksmith and carriage builder at Portage la Prairie. Thomas Tolley homesteaded northwest of Bruno and later worked for the C.N.R. until his retirement. Not until Violet was eleven years old was a public school built in Bruno. Prior to that she attended school in the new Anglican church. Before the building of that church Anglican services were held in the Tolley farm house and the station house. I met Violet Tolley when we were teaching in the Fielding Anglican Sunday school. She agreed to marry me on my return from the war. Not until five years later did I consider myself well enough off to be married.

We lost our first baby daughter at ten days old. Later she presented me with two fine sons Crawford and Woodsworth, and a lovely daughter, Iona. All three worked on the farm while they were gaining their Grade Twelve Diploma. It was with their unstinted help that we made the last payment of $1338.19 — thirteen hundred and thirty-eight and 19/100 dollars to the Soldier Settlement Board of Canada to clear the mortgage on the N.W. 29-40-11-West 3rd Mer., Nov. 16th, 1944, and have that Department return to me the title of my homestead which I had had to mortgage to them to receive a loan in 1920.

Since that time our sons have purchased land for themselves and farm ours and their own pretty much as a co-operative farm would be worked — four thousand acres more or less. Our cattle brand is the Lazy Bee Bar.

One quarter section my son Woodsworth purchased contains the ruins of the Beckwith Lime Kiln which

was built before the railroad came through in 1905. The overgrown ruin of the once proud kiln is situated on the N.W. ¼ 24-40-12 W 3rd. The kiln was the brainchild of A. L. Beckwith, an American who homesteaded the S.W. ¼-30-40-11 W 3rd. Al, as he was called, was a good organizer. During the pioneer years of 1911-13 he was sec-treasurer of the local school board which organized the building and funding of the school which was named after him. Our children received their elementary education there at Beckwith School.

With the assistance of other homesteaders A.L. dug a circular shaft seven feet in diameter and between twenty and thirty feet deep in a sidehill and a wide deep trench through the slope to the base of the shaft or flue. Local limestone rocks were piled into the flue and fired for several days and nights with local wood until the stones turned to lime. This lime and nearby sand was used to plaster log buildings inside and out. Arthur Davis's house — now owned by our son Woodsworth Baker — is an example of this construction. Al Beckwith sold out and with his ailing wife and two children returned to the U.S.A.

By way of another hobby I have built up over the years a collection of Indian artifacts and fossils.

Violet at 80 and myself at 85 still keep the home fires burning in the farmhouse we have worked so long and hard to build and furnish and in which we have lived happily together.

George Barling

Silverhill, Hurstgreen, Etchingham, Sussex, England TN19 7QD

It is sixty years since I left Maymont, having just had my eighty-eighth birthday. I remember Mr. Alec Brehon and Mr. Chas. Brehon who I think were brothers. There was also a brother who was in the bank at Maymont who I think was killed in the 1914-1918 war. I flew out to Vancouver in 1970 and paid a visit to Maymont but found about ten folks who were children when I was there excepting Mr. Jack Miller. I met a Mr. Bates who I think was a son of Mr. Tom Bates who I think lived near Mr. Chas. Brehon.

I was a young bachelor out from England and not a

Maymont Grain Growers' Association, Ltd.
This is to Certify that George Barling
owner of one Share of the Capital Stock of
Maymont Grain Growers' Association, Limited
In Witness Whereof
this 23rd day of March
George Barling
$25.00

George Barling Share Certificate.

single relative in the country and no roots there or I might have been able to contribute more. I have however a daughter living in New Westminster, B.C. married to Mr. Ed Northcott of a Maymont family.

I am enclosing herewith a share certificate but you may have one already, if not make what use of it you like.

Maymont Grain Growers Association Ltd.

In 1917 many farmers in the district were discussing amongst themselves the possibility of forming some form of Co-operative organization whereby bulk buying of various commodities could be undertaken. A meeting was called and attended by practically all the farmers from a wide area, and after much discussion it was decided [illegible] proceed with the formation of a company to be known as the Maymont Grain Growers Association Ltd. with an authorized capital of $10,000 of $25.00 subscription shares and an initial paid-up capital of $5.00 per share. Mr. W. E. Cook was appointed chairman of the Company and Mr. George Barling as secretary. If they could quote a price approximate with bulk prices it was decided in the first place to offer the business to the local tradesmen as the new Company was looked upon by some with concern. The very first transaction was for a carload of apples in barrels. Going by train [illegible] Saskatoon one day, the secretary was in conversation with Mr. Simmonds who at one time owned the land later owned by Mr. Thomas Sawyer, and talking to him about the aims of the association, he undertook to select and forward to Maymont a box carload of apples in barrels. It was necessary [illegible] contact shareholders immediately for orders and the demand outstripped the supply. Arrangements had to be made with the local bank manager (Mr. John Moffat) for funds to pay for the consignment as the account came attached to the Bill of Lading and had to be paid before the seal on the car could be broken. He was always very helpful in this respect. The very first order for a barrel came from Mr. [illegible]. T. McCorkle and the car was quickly emptied and the bank repaid. Subsequently there was [illegible] difficulty in getting a car released. As the association had no storage facilities cars had [illegible] be emptied within three days to prevent having to pay demurrage, although the Station Agent [illegible] that time would sometimes give a bit of extra time. All goods were delivered from the car to buyers.

The secretary who was farming on his own account found that he could no longer give the time required and had to give up his position in the association, which was now firmly established and handed it over to a new secretary but for some reason trading ceased.

Mrs. Evelyn Bates

told by Evelyn

Evelyn Plews was born [illegible] Baljennie and attended school there; then went to North Battleford for four years of high school and to Saskatoon for nine months of Normal School. Then armed with a First Class Certificate she taught school at Willowmoor for three years. She married Gordon Niven on November 10, 1931 and moved to Spinney Hill to farm during the depression. Peter, Tom and Guy were born at Baljennie at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Plews. In the spring of 1941, the family moved from the farm to help Mrs. Plews run the Post Office and store. Gordon died that fall, so they carried on alone, until December 7, 1943, when Evelyn married Bob Bates. Cleve was born the next year and in 1947 they moved to Saskatoon to start up a grocery store. They stayed for twelve years; then moved to Maymont. After a year or so, Evelyn went to Hair Dressing School at Vocational School in Saskatoon. She is still doing some hair in her home in Maymont. She is active in the Legion Auxiliary, A.C.W., and Quilters.

Bob and Evelyn Bates' 25th wedding anniversary, Dec. 7, 1968. Bob, Evelyn and Evelyn's Mother, Mrs. Plews.

Cleve Bates

told by Evelyn Bates

Cleve Bates was born in Maymont but lived in Spinney Hill until the family moved to Saskatoon, when he was three years old. They moved back to Maymont when he was fifteen, so he finished his high school there. He played hockey for the Beaver Bruins in North Battleford and for Maymont Settlers for several years. He was a pitcher for the fastball team, until he hurt his shoulder playing hockey, then [illegible] was in right field. He went to the Yukon to the Asbestos mines in 1969.

Jack Bates Family

Jack Bates married Esther Spence of the Fielding District in October, 1938. They remained on the farm at Maymont and had a family of four daughters and one son.

Jack Bates family. l. to r. — Yvonne, Don, Margaret. Seated — Jean, Esther and Jack, Twila.

Jean, the eldest, is married to Bill Perkins and they live at Codette, Saskatchewan. Jean is a nurse in a clinic at Nipawin. They have three girls, Joan, Sandra, and Janice.

The rest of the family presently resides in Saskatoon. Twila, a former teacher, is married to Sol Baerg of Saskatoon and they have one daughter, Tasha, and three sons: Robin, Ryan, and Jason.

Yvonne, who teaches in Saskatoon, is married to Bunny Combres, formerly of Richard. They have two girls: Deena and Karla.

Margaret works at the College of Education.

Don, who is a teacher, is married to Wendy McEwen, formerly of Quill Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Bates

told by N. Robert Bates

Thomas H. Bates was born in County Carlow, Ireland. He enlisted in the South African War. After the war he returned to Ireland but again went back to South Africa, working for the railroad and in the police force. There he met his cousin Charles Brehon, also a was veteran.

They decided to come to Canada and homestead as Charlie's brother, Alex, was going to do.

They came to Manitoba, near Brandon, and worked on farms until 1904. Thomas hauled wheat from Hayfield to Brandon that winter, a distance of eleven miles.

With a carload of settler's effects, they came to Saskatoon. The following day the ice took the railroad bridge out.

They thought they would try to build near where the proposed railway would be. It turned out that they settled in the Keystone district north and east of the present day village of Maymont.

That year Thomas Bates hauled piles for the bridge at Ceepee and Alex Brehon hauled the pile driver from Saskatoon to the North Saskatchewan River.

In 1906 Mr. Bates went to harvest in the Pense, Sask. district, near Regina. There he met Miss Mary Read who had come in 1904 to Meaford Ont. where she had three brothers and three sisters. She came to teach school.

Tom Bates and Mary Read were married in the Anglican Church in Pense. It took three days to return to the homestead, and three locomotives as it was a very cold winter and there was lots of snow.

In 1909 their house burned down. They then bought another quarter of land and moved the house off of it to the other side of the homestead.

Mrs. Bates helped out with church work and played the organ in Keystone and Grey Schools for church services.

The Bates' had three sons N. Robert, Thomas Jr., and Jack, and one daughter Genevieve. Thomas Jr. passed away in 1966. N. Robert and his wife Evelyn and Jack and his wife Esther are retired and live in Maymont. Genevieve married Herb Websdale of Dewberry, Alta.

The Tom Bates Family History Including the History of the Early Lives of Charlie and Alex Brehon

submitted by Genevieve (Bates) Websdale

Thomas Brehon Bates, one of the original pioneer settlers of the Maymont District, was born in County Carlow, Ireland. He was the son of a gentleman farmer. The Bates in Ireland had at one time been quite wealthy, but by the time Tom was born the fortune had somewhat dwindled. They still lived in the large ancestral home, named Janeville, which had

Bates family — Jack, Bob, Tom. Seated — Mrs. Bates, Genevieve, Tom Bates Sr.

The Tom Bates home on the farm.

thirteen fireplaces in order to keep it heated. Four servants were hired to keep the house in order — two parlormaids, a cook and a nurse for the children. At the back of the house was a schoolroom where the children were tutored by their mother, a well-educated woman, who had received part of her education in France. Once a week a tutor came to teach French and German — lessons which Tom despised. They had a piano and a singing teacher come to the house also. The singing teacher did not care for either of the two pianos they owned so a third one was purchased. They then had a piano in each of the two drawing rooms and one in the dining room. Later Lady Hamilton, a close family friend, came to teach the girls music. She would take no pay because she enjoyed doing it for a hobby. Tom soon rebelled at practicing scales so was allowed to drop his piano lessons. Tom later went to a public school where ■ received a good education in English and mathematics. He always liked to read the works of Shakespeare, Scott, Tennyson, as well as the newspapers and western magazines.

Church played an important part in the early life of the Bates family. Each week they drove in a carriage to the Anglican Church at Fenagh. One of their ministers was a Jew, who had become a Christian. Perhaps it was through him that Tom learned a special love for the Jewish people, as he had many Jewish friends all his life, and enjoyed dealing with them. At the church Tom was chosen ■ sing in the Choir of One Thousand Voices. This choir was made up of young people from Anglican churches all over Ireland. Once a year they went to Dublin where the thousand young people sang together for special services.

The Bates' had their own pew in the Fenagh Church. During the summer the family of Lord Bessborough sat directly behind them. Tom used to speak ■ one of the boys, a year younger than himself. This boy later become Lord Bessborough and governor-general of Canada. The Bates' also had another link with the governor-generals of Canada. Sir Price Blackwood, a first cousin of Lord Dufferin, Governor-General of Canada, was a paying guest ■ the Bates home for many years. He had never married so chose to live with the Bates' whom he regarded as his own family. When the first Bates grandchild was born (Bob Bates of Maymont) Sir Price wrote to Tom congratulating him on the birth of his son stating in the letter he cried for joy when he heard the news.

All throughout his life Tom was to have a close relationship with his cousins, the Brehons, who lived at New Ross, Ireland. The Brehons were much better fixed financially than the Bates so were able to hire a butler, as well as many other servants for their home, also a carriage-man to drive them places. The ballroom in the Brehon home was said ■ have been as large as the Orange Hall in Maymont. Tom was to become very close friends of the two oldest boys, Alex and Charlie. Charlie was sent to a very select school in Ireland. He became rebellious because of the strict discipline, so he ran away to sea at the age of fifteen. He joined the Merchant Marine and rose to the position of first mate. He was in line for captaincy when he returned to Ireland before the Boer War.

By the time Tom was ■ his teens the Bates family fortune had dwindled to the point where they could no longer live in the style to which they were accustomed and they considered moving to Australia. About this time Tom's oldest brother got a good job managing a lord's estate and his wages held the home together. Tom then took over the job of overseeing the Bates estate where they raised pigs, cattle, horses, coarse grains and turnips with the help of servants.

When the Boer War broke out Tom decided to join the army. Because he was an excellent rider, having taken part in many fox hunts as a young man, he was chosen to go into the cavalry. He was soon aboard ship on his way to South Africa to fight in the war. On board ship ■ got a rude awakening of the hardships of life. At home he had been accustomed to fine meals cooked and served by the servants (who were not allowed to eat with them). The table at home was always covered with pure linen and the meal served on fine china and good silverware. On board ship ■ refused to eat the gummy porridge, the hardtack and the bully beef which was all that was offered. After two or three days of self-starvation he learned to eat the food without complaint.

Tom did not like to talk about the Boer War but he did tell a few of his experiences. He used to tell how the Cavalry had to cross the Orange River by getting off the horses, forcing them into the water, the soldiers hanging onto the horses' tails to keep from drowning while the horses swam across. At one time the unit Tom was in was surrounded by Boers and food was very scarce. At night Tom would ■ out in search of food. He was fortunate ■ finding an orange tree on a Boer's farm and took back a number of oranges for himself and his friends. Next night when he returned for more, two very cross dogs were chained to the tree — so he left the tree alone. Another time he found an

ostrich egg which he made into an omelet and shared with twenty-nine others. Each soldier had to cook his own meal over an open fire. At one point in the war all they had to eat was canned apricots. Tom became so sickened of them he would avoid eating apricots the rest of his life. However he was fortunate not to have been in the siege of Ladysmith, where the British soldiers surrounded for a long time, were so hungry they even tried eating their shoe leather. Tom's unit pitched their tents for a time on a desert where puff adders, one of the most deadly snakes, were often seen and killed. The desert was terribly hot in the daytime but at nights they would shiver with the cold.

Tom went back to Ireland after the war but soon returned to South Africa, a land he had learned to love. He went to the city of East London where he got a job as a policeman. While there one of the first laws discriminating against the black people went into effect. When the Negroes came to the city from the country they were quite untamed. They would run madly down the streets knocking over anyone in their way ■ it man, woman or child. A law was then passed saying the Negro people would not ■ allowed to walk on the sidewalks of the city

It was in East London that Tom met up again with his cousin, Charlie Brehon. By this time Charlie, although only twenty-five, had been a first mate on a boat (next to the captain), a conductor on a train running from Cape Town to Victoria Falls, and had fought in the Boer Wars. Now Charlie decided ■ work his way on a ship ■ Canada. At East London ■ soon found a ship where he was hired as first mate. After signing the agreement with the captain ■ went below ■ talk to the ship's cook. The cook told Charlie he was sure the captain was planning to sink the ship for the insurance money. The cook told Charlie the boat was not seaworthy, and showed him places in the ship's structure where, as Charlie described it, you could see daylight coming through. The cook said only a small amount of food had been purchased, not nearly enough for the voyage, and the boat was heavily insured. At that time there was a law stating once you signed an agreement to work on a ship you had to go. The captain had moored the ship out about half a mile from shore. Escape was almost impossible because of ocean currents and undertow. In spite of this Charlie left all his belongings aboard ship, jumped overboard, staying under water as long as possible to avoid detection and made the long hard swim to shore. He made his way to Tom at once. Tom took him ■ a house of his friend who had given him the key and asked him to watch it while they were on holiday. At night Tom took Charlie food prepared by Tom's landlady. In the daytime Tom searched for Charlie (in vain) along with the other policeman. The ship was unable to find a crew and it was several days before it set sail. Charlie would still not be free of the law for a period of ten days after the ship sailed. Finally the ship left for Canada. The captain ran ■ aground on a big sandbar but it did not sink. A tug was sent out ■ tow it and get it on its way again. It set out for Canada and it was never heard of again or any of its crew.

Charlie then took a job in Africa and worked for a short time when he became ill with typhoid fever. He realized the serious nature of the disease so before he went into the hospital he drew his life's savings out of the bank. He gave these to a friend, Paddy Devlin, to keep for him while he was sick. Hospital care was very expensive and if they knew one had money they had to pay for it — if not — hospitals were free. The friend, Paddy Devlin, took off supposedly for Australia and was never heard of again. Once again Charlie was in desperate need of help, so when he recovered from his illness he once again made his way to Tom who paid for his board and room and got him a job. Tom by this time was working as an inspector of railway cars and got Charlie a good job with his company "making up trains". Tom's job was to see that several Negroes who worked under him did their work thoroughly. They had to clean the cars and disinfect them for bed bugs. It was a hard job to keep the Negroes working. As soon as they had some money they would go back to the country and buy another wife.

Charlie's job was to make decisions about when and where different railway cars were to be moved. One time he was told a certain railway car contained nothing but whiskey. He and his helpers decided they might like a bit of it. They made sure the car wasn't sealed after it was inspected. They placed it on a train going to a country location near East London and Charlie gave orders it was to be placed on an out of the way siding. Then in the evening he and his helpers went out to get themselves a taste of whiskey. You can imagine how disgusted they were when they opened the car and found it contained nothing but canned apricots. Charlie, like Tom, had had an overdose of apricots in the Boer War.

In January, 1904 Tom and Charlie decided to go to Canada because Alex Brehon was there. It was 104 degrees Fahrenheit when they left South Africa and 40 degrees below when they arrived in Winnipeg. Tom got a terrible cold. Because he coughed so hard people thought he had tuberculosis and one told him not to worry as the Canadian climate would cure him. They worked at Hayfield, Manitoba for a time and later went to Pense, Saskatchewan to work. It was at Pense that Tom met Mary Read, who was teaching at Lumsden, and who was later to become his wife.

Tom, Charlie and Alex Brehon took up adjoining homesteads northeast of Maymont. When they went to apply for their homesteads they had to cross the river at Battleford by boat because there was no bridge. They hired an Indian in a canoe to take them across. It was very stormy and after they got out from shore they realized the Indian was drunk. They were sure they were in for trouble but the Indian managed to get

them across safely. They made sure to hire someone else to get them back across the river.

For a time they lived in an abandoned shack a few miles from their homesteads. A young minister lived with them for some time. They enjoyed his company and had many serious religious discussions. Later they discovered the minister was using their oats for his own horse so they were relieved when he decided to move to the Hillsborough District eight miles away. One cold stormy night several weeks later they heard a terrible eerie sounding noise in the middle of the night. It sounded like somebody pounding on the roof and sounds of moans and screams. The three young Irishmen were terrified. Finally Alex went out to investigate. He looked all over but could see or hear nothing. Later they found out the minister had died that night. He had been ill with a fever and wandered out of his shack and had frozen to death close to his own shack. For years they refused to talk about it.

Later the three men built a log shack on Tom's quarter where their land adjoined. Alex and Charlie broke up the land, while Tom did the cooking, walked to New Ottawa for supplies, and did chores around the farm.

On January 3, 1907 Tom married Mary Read at Pense. Then they started back by train to Fielding. A very bad blizzard came up and the train trip took three days instead of the usual one. The train, blocked by snow, ran out ■ coal and there was no heat on the train. The conductor gave Mrs. Bates his fur coat to help keep her warm. It was still storming when they got to Fielding and this was the last train to arrive for weeks. People ran out of supplies. Coal oil for lamps was especially scarce. Fortunately Alex had bought a good supply and they rationed it carefully. A neighbor, Mrs. Arkley, knew how ■ make candles, so when her coal oil ran out she melted down fat and made her own supply of candles.

Mrs. Bates had come from a background somewhat similar to Tom's. Her father, Nicholas Read, was born in Ireland of a once well-fixed family. He came to Meaford, Ontario in about 1885. There ■ took a farm, was made a magistrate, also was reeve of St. Vincent for many years and had a seat on the Gray County council. He was sent on several occasions by the Gray County to meet with Sir John A. McDonald whenever the county needed help from the government, because Mr. Read was a witty persuasive man and Sir John enjoyed his sense of humor. When Sir John visited Owen Sound Mr. Read rode in the carriage beside him as he drove through the streets. Mrs. Bates, a small girl at that time, remembered watching them. When they drove under a certain bridge in Owen Sound a young girl dropped a wreath ■ flowers over Sir John's head. Mrs. Bates often wondered how the girl managed to be so accurate.

Mrs. Bates, as a young bride, stepped into a very difficult situation. She had to cook for the three men and their two hunting dogs. She found it very hard work washing their heavy woollen underwear by hand. The men had big appetites and the dogs each ate a loaf of bread a day. Mrs. Bates said the bread she made was very poor and heavy because she was too tired ■ punch it down properly and the old coal and wood stove had a poor oven.

As time went on the work did not get less. Bob was born late in October and shortly after, Tom Brehon, another brother of Alex and Charlie, came to live with them. Mrs. Bates now had four men and a baby to cook and wash for. One day Tom Brehon, a fine man who lived up to his Christian principles, collapsed while working in the hayfield. He told the men (for the first time) that he had tuberculosis of the bone and he had hoped to get better in the Canadian climate. For a time Mrs. Bates nursed him, and then he was moved to the home of Mrs. Smith, a kind English lady, (mother of Mrs. John A. McKeen) who nursed him until ■ died.

About this time Tom Bates built a two-storey frame house which was considered quite grand for those times. Alex Brehon decided to go to live on his own place, but Charlie stayed on the Bates'. Tommy Bates Jr. was born in the new home in February. He was just fifteen months younger than Bob.

When Tommy was two weeks old he contracted pneumonia. Dr. Scratch was called in and did all he could but it was clear Tommy was dying. Tommy turned blue, became cold and stopped breathing. Mrs. Bates, Tom and Mrs. Smith, who was helping nurse Tommy, got down on their knees and prayed to God for healing. When they looked into the crib again they saw that Tommy was alive and breathing once more. He soon recovered and became a strong baby.

May the eighteenth of the same year was a windy day. Mrs. Bates lit the coal and wood stove and the stove pipes caught fire. She fought the flames ■ the ceiling but could not stop the fire. She took the children, money, important papers, and Charlie's seamanship papers out of the house and ran to Tom for help. By the time he got there it was too late. The house burned to the ground and all was lost. They then moved to a one-roomed shack on Charlie's place and Charlie slept in a granary on the farm.

Fortunately Tom had taken out insurance on the house. With the six hundred dollars he received he bought a second quarter of land that had on it a two-storey house 14 by 20 feet. This house was moved to its present position on the original homestead. This building still stands. ■ was built onto until ■ became a fairly large home with four rooms and a porch downstairs. Two stairways led to the four bedrooms and a bathroom upstairs. Jack and Genevieve were born in this home.

In 1914 Tom planted several hundred trees around the farmstead. He loved garden work and soon had the grounds looking very attractive. By 1917 Tom had prospered well enough to purchase his first car, a Gray Dort, which served him well for many years. A few

years later he got a threshing outfit, threshing for himself and many of the neighbors.

Tom especially enjoyed hunting for ducks, geese and other game birds in the fall. ■ was on one of these hunting trips that he and Charlie Brehon were yet to have another adventure. They were looking for ducks near Redberry Lake when they got lost. Tom went to the door of a small home to inquire about the road. A woman came to the door with such a wild look in her eyes Tom decided they should get out of there quickly. He ran back to the cloth covered car, which Charlie was driving, and said, "Get out of here, quick!" Charlie became so excited ■ gave the car too much gas nearly killing the engine but managed to get going in a series of leaps and bounds. As ■ swung the car around an axe came hurtling through the air and landed onto the back seat of the car. Needless to say, Charlie did not stop to return the axe. It was a good Hudson Bay axe and Charlie proudly showed it off ■ people for years. They found out later that the woman had once been a patient in a mental hospital, and whenever she saw a car coming ■ the yard feared that someone was coming to take her away once again. One day when the Reverend Hardy, a United Church minister from Speers, drove into her yard, she threw a heavy pole at his touring car. Keeping one hand on the wheel, Mr. Hardy managed to catch the pole with his left hand before it could hurt anyone.

In the nineteen thirties the dry years came to Saskatchewan and the world-wide depression was on. Times were hard but Tom was always optimistic. One year the crop averaged a half bushel to the acre but in the other years Tom managed to grow a bit of crop. He could always grow a good garden and would give vegetables from it to many people. In the fall he would take a half a wagon box load of vegetables ■ town to give to people in unfortunate circumstances. Mrs. Bates always canned one hundred quarts of raspberries from the garden patch, then after that neighbors were invited for a meal and a day's picking of berries were given to them to take home.

Quite a number of men came to the Bates home looking for work in the thirties. One time six Hungarians came together. They were very hungry and begged to work for their board. Mr. Bates felt sorry for them so gave them a job cleaning out corrals. They worked very hard so Tom decided to pay them. He had to take them to Richard to get money cashed at the Richard bank. They did not want to go there because they had been at Richard before looking for work. He could not get them to understand about the bank as they could scarcely speak English, so he drove very fast because they wanted out of the car. When he got to the bank a clerk there could speak Hungarian. The men were delighted when they found they were to be paid. Mr. Bates advised them to split up as very few would hire six men at once.

Another day Mrs. Jack Langley phoned to say a man, who was acting crazy, had gone by their place, and was heading toward the Bates'. Mrs. Bates hurriedly got Genevieve, Muriel Brehon and Evelyn Andrew, who were visiting that day, into the house. After a couple of hours the "crazy man" arrived. He was a poor old man in search of work. His feet were so sore he could scarcely walk so he would get down and crawl. He had only a pair of rubbers on his feet — no socks. Mrs. Bates got him a good meal, gave him a pair of Tom's brand new socks and money to get him room in the hotel for the night. The Bates boys drove him to town. The last heard of the old man he was seen sleeping in a manger (instead of the hotel) for the night.

Quite a number of people drove to the Bates home as they moved in wagons from their dried out farms in Southern Saskatchewan moving on to the north in search of homesteads in a more moist climate. Bates' always fed their horses, gave them meals and kept them overnight ■ they wished to stay. Often they gave them a bag of flour ground from their own wheat at the Radisson mill. Mrs. Bates always used to say "I've fed the whole country", and it was true because she was always kind and very hospitable to all who came to her door.

One time Mr. and Mrs. McLeish, the bank manager of the Imperial Bank, were invited to visit. Mrs. Bates prepared a good meal and cleaned the upper part of the house in preparation for company. She told the family not ■ take the McLeishes to the basement because it was not tidied up. (Mrs. McLeish, who was very much at home at the Bates' would often run down to help bring up a jar of fruit, etc.). All went well until evening. Mr. McLeish went outside for something, came back into the house, took the wrong door and fell into the basement. As he fell ■ grabbed for the wall, bringing down empty jars to add to the clatter. Mrs. Bates said her first wicked thought was, "Now, they'll all go to the basement!" instead of wondering how Mr. McLeish was. Fortunately, he was not hurt so after everyone saw the basement they continued their visit.

In 1942 crops were looking very well and the dry years seemed ■ be over. One July day Mrs. Bates was at an afternoon tea at Mrs. Hollers while Mr. Bates was at home alone. A terrible hailstorm came up. The wind set the pipes of the coal and wood range on fire and Tom pulled them down to get the fire out. Then the hail broke the windows. Soon the place was a sorry looking mess as the water from the storm and the soot from the pipes got mixed and tramped over the floors. A woodpecker flew into the house through the broken windows. Although the Bates' crops were almost totally destroyed Mr. Bates was able to joke about it. He told Genevieve he was surely glad she wasn't at home or her head wouldn't have been safe with that woodpecker there. The same storm caused a lot of damage in the community. Mrs. Stewart, who lived near Fielding, chased all her chickens into the chicken

house, making the hired man sit on a chair in there to watch the chickens. Then the chicken house blew away leaving the man still sitting on the chair unharmed. Milman's chicken house blew away too after Mrs. Milman got all the turkeys in but one. Mr. Frank Langley, who got under his tractor in the field for protection, found himself knee deep in water. Mr. Bates once said he had been dried out, burned out, rusted out, hailed out, and suffered financial losses in other ways but he never felt discouraged. He always hoped better times were coming.

The Bates' were very interested in the church affairs. Although they were Anglican they often attended the United Church because the services held in Keystone School were closer to home. Mrs. Bates played the organ there for years and later at the Grey School church services.

As the Bates boys grew up they helped a great deal with the farm work. They all drove six horse outfits at an early age. Tom, Jr. learned to run the threshing outfit when he was very young. Bob moved to a ranch across the river at Spinney Hill for a few years. Then he married Evelyn Niven of Spinney Hill, a widow with three boys, Peter, Tom and Guy. They kept the Spinney Hill store and post office for a time. A son, Cleve, was born there. Then they moved to Saskatoon where they started the Bates' Grocery, retiring to Maymont in 1959.

Tom Jr. married Ada Rogers and lived on a farm before moving to Maymont. They had two children, Barry and Beverley. Tom died of a heart attack in 1966.

Jack married Esther Spence of Fielding. They farmed the home place and other land. They moved to Maymont, farmed for a few years longer and then retired. Jack and Esther have five children: Jean, Twila, Yvonne, Margaret and Don.

Genevieve became a teacher and later married Herb Websdale of Dewberry. They live on a farm and for many years Gen taught music. Herb and Gen have two children, Sidney and Lynette.

Mr. and Mrs. Bates stayed on the farm until Tom was in his eightieth year. Then they moved to a comfortable home in Maymont. Mrs. Bates lived to eighty-four. After she died Tom lived with his son Jack and spent part of the year with Gen at Dewberry. He lived to eighty-seven. He was proud of the fact that he was the oldest man in Maymont, and one of the two original homesteaders of the Maymont district still alive, the other one still living at that time being Charlie Milman. He said on several occasions how fortunate he had been to live in Maymont District, after having travelled half way across the world, because the Maymont people were so nice.

Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Bean and Family

by Ethelwyn Leonard (Bean)

My parents and I came from England, arriving in Maymont in 1905. As I recall, the railway was very recently through that area. The local station consisting of a box car. The first station agent was Mr. Lewis.

A Mr. Dignan and his wife built a house on the south side of the "tracks" and our general store and the brick TYNAN HOUSE hotel went up on the north side. The store continued on in the family hands for approximately fifty years.

My sister, Cassie, and brother, Alan, were born in Maymont, and in June, 1907 our father was killed in an accident at the railway crossing. For the first few years we lived in quarters above the store, and then, in 1909, we moved to our newly built home on the northern outskirts of the town, on an "acre" purchased from Mr. Whitehouse, another pioneer. A Mr. Bouskill was the man who built our home in 1909, some of his descendants are probably still living in the vicinity. The home is presently owned by Mr. and Mrs. Bill Fast.

Before the days of T.V., and radio, and even the telephone, I recall how one of the regular routines of the day was to meet the evening train, to witness the comings and goings, and to be in touch, for a brief moment, with the great outside world, as the brightly lit cars stopped for a moment in our little hamlet. I can still hear the whistle and envision the sight of the big engine coming slowly to a stop, and then picking up speed again on its way into the never-never land of far-off mystery.

How many people will recall the BIG FIRE? One clear winter night, in the twenties, we were driving home from Fielding in an open cutter, when suddenly we saw, in the distance, a very bright light. What could it be? As we got closer to Maymont it was ever bigger and brighter and finally, in the quiet, sleeping village, we could see that the big red livery barn was going up

Mrs. Edgar Bean's house — Cassie on black horse, Mrs. Bean, Ethelwyn, Alan on gray horse.

in flames. What to do? Why, of course, ring the fire bell ontop of the old pump house, and soon sleepy people were rising from their beds to combat the blaze. But, alas, — to late, — ■ burned to the ground. I think it belonged to a Mr. Melrose, or perhaps it was the Melrose Brothers.

Our mother died in Maymont in 1949, and brother Alan died ■ 1965, survived by his wife, Lydia, who now lives in Saskatoon, his married daughter, Mrs. George Sayers, who lives in Vancouver, and his married son, Bill, who lives in Saskatoon, and eight grandchildren.

My sister, Cassie, (Mrs. Harold Guest,) lives with her husband (now retired) in Victoria, B.C. and I live in Qualicum Beach (about one hundred miles north) of Victoria.) and work in Parksville, — the next town. My only daughter, Claire, married and with two teen-aged sons, lives in Nanaimo, which is located between Victoria and Qualicum Beach.

My first teacher in Maymont was Miss Isa Melrose (Mrs. Art Martin) and my last teacher there was her older sister, Mrs. Weber. All the Melroses (and the Reids) were good singers, and I can still remember the rousing songs these ladies taught us. Our one and only doctor was, of course, Dr. Scratch, and the druggist was Mr. Mawhinney, who married the lovely blond Lily Davis. Some of the early workers in our store were: Stella Reid, Edna Brumbough, Harry Martin and Ernie Patterson, and Nan Gray (Mrs. Billie Melrose.)

By the laurel bush at the front of my Qualicum Beach home about 1977. L. to r. — my younger grandson, Mark, Margaret (Langley) Strautman, Jean (Langley) Snell, Ian Langley.

Some of the early family names I recall are: Hutchinson, Dignan, McLaren, Fry, McIlbride, Andrew, Hawkins, Milman, Malgrem. Johnston, Reid, Melrose, Rogers, Cook, Williams, Bohn, Dawson, and Giffard. Also McLennan, McCorkle, Long, Knowles, Turner, Gray, & Fricker, and Kerr and Campbell.

I think the first Presbyterian minister was Mr. Madill, and his church was a small frame building behind what used to be the Drug Store. Early Anglican ministers were Reverend. Schofield, Gosden and Garlick and Ashley.

In the early twenties I taught school ■ Maymont in the basement of the United Church, and have many warm memories of my pupils of that time. Especially I recall the wonderful Christmas concerts we all enjoyed, — where the easily trained pupils really shone in those productions. Also I later had some excellent music pupils, particularly including Mrs. Ivan (Maureen Melrose) and Mrs. Hughie Reid (Dolores Delong). ■ the district we also were fortunate in having, amongst the adults also, much musical and acting talent, and the concerts and plays and entertainments of all kinds were highlights for us all.

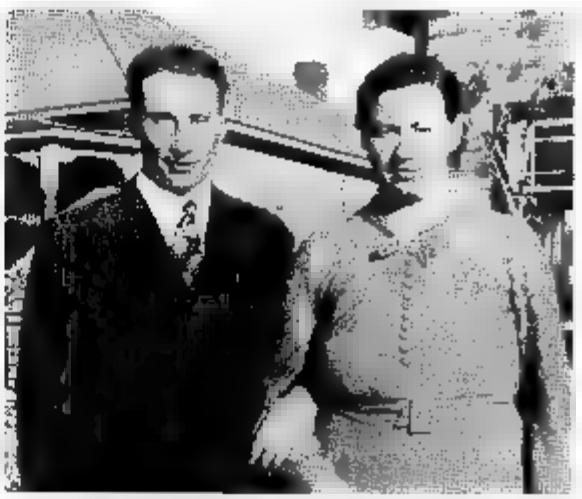
Ed and Hazel Beaudoin

told by Hazel

Ed's parents were Ernest and Agnes Beaudoin who homesteaded in the Hafford district, coming from Michigan in 1905. Ed's father was drowned ■ 1915 leaving his mother with eight of a family. She married Ernie Andrew of Maymont in 1917, and came ■ Maymont district where she lived out her life. They worked very hard breaking up land etc. with a large family to feed.

Ernie Andrew passed away ■ 1940. Mrs. Andrew in 1964.

Ed born May 21, 1906 at Hafford.

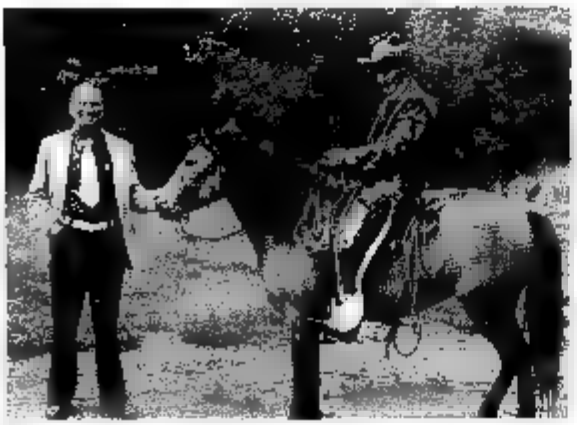


Ed and Hazel Beaudoin on wedding day — Oct. 19, 1938.

My father was Les Sloan who came from Lindsey, Ont. to homestead in 1903 in the Fielding district.

My mother was Mary Fast who came from Nebraska, U.S.A. with her parents and brothers to homestead also in Fielding district in 1902 or 1903.

I was born Hazel Annie Sloan, on February 17, 1916, went to school at Neepawa School north west of Fielding. I was one of a family of ■. Many good times were spent in our younger years playing ball and having musical evenings with much singing, as neighborhood young folks gathered at our place. It was at one of these gatherings where Ed and I realized we were meant for each other. So, we were married on Oct. 19, 1938 at North Battleford in the Foursquare Gospel church manse.



■ after a trail ride, 1977, renewing old acquaintances with Bob Butterfield.

In the years previous to this I had looked after the home and younger brothers and sister's milking cows doing gardens and many everyday chores. So, it was quite a change to start cooking for two people. We farmed a ½ section three miles north west of Maymont. To supplement the farm we raised cattle, shipping cream, and always tried to have a few pigs to sell. I always raised a lot of chickens and grew a good garden.

We were at the end of the road so never had a proper road, making life very miserable, walking a half mile and carrying groceries etc. in spring and when snow storms plugged up the roads many times I've pushed the car half a mile to get home when a rain made mud a problem. Before car days it was battle the elements with team and wagon or sleigh. Ed farmed with horses until 1953. We got the power into our farm in 1961, which helped the work load quite a bit.

We've had quite a lot of sickness especially in our later years.

Our oldest child Edna was born on Sept. 19, 1940, the day my mother passed away. She started school in Maymont in 1947 and after she graduated worked in the Bank of Montreal in North Battleford for four years then married Norman McKenzie of Scott, Sask. on October 12, 1963. Worked in the Imperial Bank of Commerce in Wilkie until 1973 when her youngest child was born. They've had quite a trying time with sickness in the family and they farm.

They have 3 girls and one boy.

Our second girl Linda was born October 6, 1946, a twin and fortunate enough ■ be the survivor of the two. She began school in 1952, hating every moment of it. She married Ralph Macnab of Wilkie on May 26, 1967. They have 4 children, 3 boys and 1 girl. They've had many accidents with their family. They live on a farm in the Drummond Creek district. Ralph also works as mechanic for Spence Construction at Mayfair.

■ 1970 we moved into Maymont to retire because of poor health, but Ed not being one to give up has managed to keep working for other farmers in the summer and doing odd jobs around town. Winter is a time of helping holidayers — and shovelling snow for many in town who are unable to do that kind of work.

Through the years, many without anyone to turn to, have stayed in the home and never asked for any payment in return. God has been good ■ us.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Beaudoin

told by Sarah (Gillatt) Beaudoin

Elizabeth Laura Parker was the youngest ■ a family of four children. She was born in Rosendale, Manitoba in March, 1900, and came west with her mother and father, William and Elizabeth Parker, to Maymont in 1904. She started ■ school when she was five years old but in later years quit school at grade 8

W. Beaudoin family — 1953. Back row — Sarah, Russell, Chinnie, Albert. Front — Dale, Terry.

Celebrating two anniversaries — Aunty Eva and Uncle Norman's 45th, and Mother and Bill's 25th in Nov., 1974.

and helped her mother. She loved the farm and outdoor life. She helped several neighbours in the threshing seasons to feed and cook for the threshing crews. When she was little she said her Dad carried her on his back to church at Grandpa Andrew's house.

In 1917 she was married to Alfred Edward Gillatt who came from England. He was born in Kelsey Closes, England, in June, 1894. There were 4 children born. I was born at Maymont on the Doherty quarter and Molly Long stayed with Mother at night when Dad was away working. Mother told me that Zadia Rolfe used to come over to see the baby bathed and then hold

The Belanger family about 1960 — Glenda, Ken, Evelyn, Dorothy and Norman, Edwin.

Chinnie and Ed milking their cow — 1930's.

me. I was born in January, 1918 and it was a real cold winter. I was the first grandchild and my Uncle Percy Parker was teaching at Blue Bird school (north and east of Mayfair) and he said he drove in the team and sleigh at 40 degrees below F. to see me. He had a fur coat on but he said his arms were frost-bitten even through the coat.

Mother and Dad made a lot of hay that summer and of course I was out there with them and slept on the shady sides of the haystacks. There weren't baby sitters in those days. We moved to Birdview which is Donavon now and that was where my brother Reg and a sister Elsie Irene were born. Dad had a livery stable, draying business and the mail. I can remember Dad and Mother liked curling and one year came home with the Grand Challenge cup from Rosetown. I don't know who the ones on the team were unless one was Harry Weldon. They were our neighbours but hadn't any family. They were good to us kids but we used to get bored because as all kids say, "there isn't anything to do there." When our little sister was born we had the whooping cough and she caught it and her life was short-lived. She was laid to rest in the Delisle cemetery where we had moved three years previous. I just started to what we call Kindergarten now when my Dad dealt with Jack Nugent for some land at Maymont and they went to Delisle. There are still some Nugent off-spring at Delisle.

Mother and Dad farmed north and east of Maymont for several years and both worked hard. Reg and I did a lot of walking to Grey School which was 2½ miles away. On our way home at night we were to look for the cow and bring her home for milking. Many hours Mother and Dad were out clearing brush with the team of horses and the logging chain on "15". Reg and I used to run behind the harrows and catch them. One day Dad told us to go home before we got hurt or our clothes torn but as kids we didn't always do what we were told. Girls wore dresses then and I remember bending down and the harrows caught my dress and ripped it all the way down. I scampered home very quickly before Dad could see it. I don't think there was

ever a summer went by that Reg and I weren't laid up with blood poison in our feet. We would step on boards with nails, some rusty, and we wouldn't take care of our sore until our foot would be swelled up and a red streak was going up our leg. Then we would have ■ sit bathing them for a couple of days.

Dad always would get some unbroken horses ■ the spring from across the river and break them ■ on the machinery, etc. We kids were told to stay back but the excitement of seeing them rear up and twist fascinated us. Dad had a ■ volt light plant which we thought was great and he had a threshing outfit. I remember the separator was called the Red River Special but I don't remember the tractor's name. We used to go with Dad when he rounded up his threshing crew and taking lunch to the crew at 3:30 was a big deal. Dad and Mother went to England in 1925 and Reg and I stayed with Aunty Olive and Uncle Frank at Lilac.

About three years later Dad rented the farm and moved ■ North Battleford to another livery barn and taxi business and also had a mail route to Rabbit Lake. My sister Dorothy was born there.

My Grandpa and Grannie Parker were staunch Presbyterians and later supporters of the United Church. Even when times were tough, Grannie would supply 4-6 pies, two roasted chickens, potatoes, carrots, pickles and buns for the Fowl supper. Grandpa Parker had fixed an apple box with shelves so Grannie's pies could be more easily transported. A "must" at Grandpa and Grannie's was the saying of Grace before a meal. Grandpa said the Grace, but if he wasn't present, then Grannie took her turn. I can remember coming out from North Battleford to spend the week-end. That particular Sunday, Grandpa as a layman took the Service at the first Presbyterian church in Maymont. Another tradition which lasted as long as Grandpa and Grannie were living was the "going home" to their place for Sunday. As long as the weather permitted, the Parkers, the Gillatts, the Croziers (later Cheals) and the Ernest and Walter Beaudoins met there. Sunday supper would require more than one table setting.

Due to marital relationship breaking up Dad and Mother parted. She was left with three children and the dirty thirties were starting. Mother kept the mail route as long as possible. The roads were terrible when it rained but through strain and worry I don't think she ever missed taking the mail. She also took passengers quite often, Chinese people going to the restaurant or coming back to North Battleford. She finally had to give back the car as she couldn't keep up the payments and I do believe that Rabbit Lake got a route system.

Mother did housework for different ladies at 35¢ an hour and I baby sat 35¢ a night and 50¢ after midnight. My brother sold papers and earned from 25¢ to 60¢ a night. That all went to buy groceries. Sugar was 5¢ a lb.; hamburger 10¢ a lb. on special for 3 for 25¢; bread 5¢ a loaf; tomatoes and pineapple 10¢ a can; bananas 5¢ a lb.; but it was hard to get a nickel or a dime. Quite often the soles of our shoes had holes and we put a piece of cardboard in the bottom.

Mother decided we would move back to the farm. What we really missed coming back to the farm were the electric lights and running water. I guess things were a bit cheaper on the farm as we ran and got our own water so there was no water bill. We would buy a gallon of coal-oil for 35¢. It would last quite a long while especially in summer as we were generally in bed as soon as darkness hit; so that saved the power bill.

My brother and I used to be caretakers of the school; go early in the morning when it was really cold and light the old heater to get the school warm. Your teeth would be chattering and fingers and feet cold as you would have to stay there until the stove got going good. Then you could throw some coal on top of the wood. We would supply the water to drink for the big sum of $5.00 a month.

One thing our Mother could knit good warm mitts for us. When I was around 7 or 8 we always got our underwear, our black ribbed socks, and our laced boots. We couldn't shed that long underwear until the 24 of May. There should have been lots of good floor cloths and dusters ■ the spring to last all summer anyway.

We had some good times at the country schools. The Christmas Concerts that were put on by 15 or 20 children would make these large schools look shamefaced. Our teachers would always come out and play at noon hours. We would play Prisoner's Base, shinny, Fox and Geese in the snow, and Run, Sheep, Run. There seemed to be a closeness in the good old country schools. In 1927 Grey School entered a float in the Jubilee Parade and we won a prize. Our teacher was a Mrs. Read.

As we got older I wrote my Grade ■ and then went to work for Mrs. Hope for $1.00 a week. I had an embarrassing thing happen. Elaine Hope was a baby and Mrs. Hope had just washed her fuzzy coat out by hand and it was real clean. I was to take the baby out in the carriage for a walk while Mrs. Hope gave a piano lesson to Dorothy Crawley. It was in the spring of the year and windy. So off I ■ with the baby. I was walking to the post office with the baby in the carriage and by Bean's store the sidewalk was about 2½ feet high. I got the carriage up. The wind blew my hat off. I turned to run after my prize hat. Lo and behold when I turned around the wind had blown the carriage off the sidewalk. The carriage toppled over and poor Elaine fell face down in a mud puddle. Her face was black plus her nice clean furry coat. I hurriedly picked her up not knowing how many people might have been looking from the cafe or store. I wiped her face off and whipped home to get Elaine into dry clothes and tell Mrs. Hope what had happened. My husband told me 7 years later when we were going together that ■ had seen that little incident from the cafe window!!

I worked for some farmers at Prince for a year for $5.00 a month. Up early in the morning but in bed as soon as darkness came. Then I worked in Prince for a storekeeper's wife who had three children. I got $15.00 a month which was like a fortune. I came back ■ Maymont and met the man who was to become my husband. Walter Beaudoin (Chinny) and I were married in November, 1940. While I was out working, my Mother had my sister and brother with her. She worked for $18.00 a month trying to clothe everybody.

I stayed with my Aunt Olive and Uncle Frank at Lilac and went to Burnley school for 1½ years. Mother was working near Redfield. While there she met a nice man who became her husband about 15 years later. Bill Penny's mother and brother were at Coronation, Alberta. As wages were $5.00 a month for men in winter and about $15 or $20 in the summer, Bill went to Alberta and got a job on the railroad where he worked until his retirement. Mother went later. She cooked in hotels, cafes and later got a job in the laundry in the hospital. She worked there until she was ready for retirement. A cement outfit set up a plant a little way from Mother and Bill's house. Whatever is in the processing of this cement the dust covered everything in the yard. Mother was a great worker in her yard and flowers. This dust gave her a rash. She swelled up all over and her blood pressure soared terrifically. She ended up in the hospital and whatever it was it affected her health for the remainder of her days.

In the dirty thirties raising a few turkeys and selling them before Christmas was our big amount of money to buy a few extra goodies for Christmas. There was a lot of hard work went into these turkeys as they were all dry plucked and fixed up so nice. I remember Mother had saved and saved up a $1.50 to buy a cooler can of cream to churn for butter. Bill went to get it on the stoneboat. Coming home he hit a bump in the road and over went the cooler can and most of the cream was spilt. I imagine the air would be blue for awhile!

The day Chinny and I were married it turned out to be a real storm, snowing and blowing. Mother put on our wedding supper at the old "Holmes" place. Uncle Percy and Aunty Hazel brought their gas lamp and I'll always remember them going home with the lamp lit so the mantles wouldn't blow off. Uncle Frank gave me away and he came over in his Chev car but I think that was the last day it was driven as the roads were not built for winter driving and no one had anti-freeze. The cars were drained. Then water was put back in when you were ready to go.

That first winter we were married it was really cold, down as low as 60 degrees below F. and I believe where Voegeli's live now it went to 70 degrees below F. Of course coal was a luxury and sometimes you would buy a few pounds to put in your stoves around Christmas time. The men used to get loads of wood out in the fall and everyone had a day of wood sawers. It was a hard day's work but there was lots of fellowship and community spirit. If you ran out of wood or didn't get enough to last the winter you got on the old bucksaw and sawed it up everyday. That wasn't just a few sticks. The old woodbox had to be filled to the top. I think that was one of the essentials in the old country kitchens those days was the "good old wood box". The daily chores for the women or children after school was fill the woodbox, empty the ashes, carry in the snow and see that the water pails were filled for the night. After the doors being opened that long the house really got chilly but my Grandfather used to say the house was warmed up quicker after that as the stale air had got out and fresh air had come in.

The roads used to get like rolling hills before spring. I remember one day Chinny and Mother went to town in a little cutter. On their way home the cutter hit one of these bumps at an angle. Over went the cutter, Mother fell on Chinny. The flour and the other groceries were falling everywhere. Another time Uncle Percy and some of his family, Roberta Walton, Chinny, Albert (who was a little boy) and I were going to Keystone School to a whist drive. It was a real dark night and hard to see. We were all sitting along one side of the sleigh box. Uncle Percy and Chinny were standing in front. The horses were trotting. All of a sudden we hit another snow bank sideways. Over went the sleigh box off the bunks. We were all lying in the snow laughing. We got up and got ready to put the box back on the sleigh and finish our journey.

Walter Beaudoin was born at Hafford in 1910. He came from a family of 12 children. His father was drowned when he was five years old. A couple years later his mother married Ernest Andrew. His mother was left with 8 children and expecting the ninth. Chinny's mother had taken a homestead up near Lorenzo so she had ■ live there so many months ■ prove her claim.

The family moved to Maymont in 1918 and Chinny has been here ever since. He got his nickname "Chinny" from playing shinny at school. He was very small but played hard and put all his heart into the game. That nickname has stuck with him all his life. He liked cattle and in 1923 Ernie Andrew bought a calf that had been shipped in from Ontario. Chinny looked after it and his calf gained the most of all the calves that were shipped in. When Chinny was a young boy he used to catch birds, snakes and any kind of animal that ■ could catch. He'd make his sister Agnes miss school and help him get young hawks and owls. One time when he was robbing a hawk's nest the hawk swooped down and hit his head. Her claw stuck right into his head. When they pulled it out, blood just spurted out. Agnes and he were really scared he would bleed to death. One time Chinny had enough animals gathered up he held a circus and charged 10¢ for admission. His mother made him a batch of beer. He sold that mostly to one or two of his neighbours. He had his young brother, Norman, in a cage as a monkey. When Norman's father saw that he was a little aggravated as

Norman was his father's pride and joy. Chinny's son, Russell, is something the same as Chinny for animals. He's always catching owls, hawks, rabbits, or whatever and bringing them home for his children.

Chinny liked veterinary work and has been all over for years delivering calves, castrating and has been called out of his bed many times in all kinds of weather. How he never got pneumonia being in his bare skin from his waist up, other people standing around in their parkas, was remarkable. He worked several hours on one animal sometimes until he would be blue and numb with cold. Chinny took an artificial insemination course, the second course that was held at that time. In 1964 the Fielding Community Pasture started and Chinny and Roy Rogers were in the A.I. field. Charlie Large was the manager and still is today. Chinny stayed as A.I. technician until ■ was 65 years old. Then the government quit looking after the A.I. section. Our son, Dale, took over looking after this area and he is the A.I. technician now. Russell can also do this ■ necessary. Chinny had several different riders to help him through the years.

Some humorous events that happened with the Kids were when Albert was about 14 months old he fell in a scraper of water and got soaked from his head to toe. How ■ ever got out of there ■ a miracle as he was very tiny and could have drowned so easily.

Russell was about 5 years old and was running with his dog. They went through ■ fence. Russell got caught and couldn't get out. We missed him and started to search for him. Finally we heard the dog barking. Russell was crying so we located him. Another time the tripod was still up from butchering. Somehow Russell was playing and got in the ropes and was hanging up by his feet. We were milking our cows and Em Williams stayed with us. He saw Russell caught and got scared and came running to the barn yelling "Russell is hurt!" We ran to get him out. He was all tangled and really scared.

When Terry was ■ she was playing the organ at church. This particular Sunday she had ■ play. It was wet and real muddy. Chinny took her in the truck. Every half mile the truck stopped. It was getting later and later. When they finally got near the highway Terry got out of the truck, took her shoes carried them in her hand with her hymn book, and ran the rest ■ the way to the church.

The first year we were married we kept some horses for Pete Sloan who had gone to the coast for awhile. He had one horse which was a bronco, very nervous. One had to use the greatest care with him. He was a good worker but one never knew when he would take off like a shot. One night in the spring we thought we would take the wagon and go for a ride. Chinny and I and the baby started out. We called ■ at Mother's and picked up my sister Dorothy who was about 10 years old and started off for a peaceful ride. All of a sudden away went Pete (the horse) kicking, bucking and then running with all his might, this side and that side of the road, Chinny pulling on the reins with all his might. It was sure lucky that his team mate was quiet. Dorothy was petrified and I had the baby held tightly in my arms. When we arrived back at Mother's, Dorothy never even waited until we came to a dead stop before she was out of the wagon and into the house. Another time during the winter we went to Four Square Church with Floyd Sloan and his wife. The road was just dip after dip. We had the same team. After coming over one ■ these dips the eveners ■ Pete's legs. He got scared and away ■ went. Three of the traces came undone. Floyd and Chinny were pulling on the lines as hard as they could so the pole would not fall down. We went like this for three miles before the men could get him stopped. We decided that after that, if we wanted a longer life, we would have to get rid of him, which we did.

In 1945 we bought the Northcott farm and moved over the day that Theodore Roosevelt died which was April 12. It was a beautiful March that year. Norman Andrew ploughed a field on March 28 and then it turned cold in April. The spring was late, the crops were poor that year.

Dale Beaudoin was born May, 1946 which was another poor year. We were milking 15 cows that year. Terry Beaudoin was born May, 1948. I was by myself at the time of her birth but wasn't excited or scared as I knew Doc Scratch was on his way. That was a bad winter with lots of snow but the crop was poor that year also. Seeding was just starting by most people that year and the year that Dale was born seeding of wheat was all done.

Albert had four miles to go ■ school at Keystone. He was only about 9 and he was driving the horse and buggy himself. The one winter there wasn't any snow until just before Christmas but it was real cold. We heated stones and put them in the buggy for his feet. His hands used to get cold and we will always be grateful to Henry Penner who would always unhitch his horse and put it away for him. He would hitch it up for Albert after school again. Now these days you have children complain about riding the school bus. How things have changed! In 1952 we traded the Northcott place for the Ernie Andrew place with Malcolm McNaughton. Chinny was back home again. That ■ where the Beaudoin family came with their mother when she married Ernie Andrew in 1917.

Russell was born ■ October, 1952. We were still milking cows and milked until we left the farm in 1970 and moved into Maymont where we are today. My brother Reg and Hector Andrew were 14 years old when the two of them went on a stook wagon together for $2.50 a day. It was hard work but the money looked good. Reg went to the coast ■ Vancouver when he was 17 and got a job on a sawdust truck and went to Bible College. When the war broke out and the 21 year olds were conscripted ■ joined active service and remained ■ the services until 1945. After the war ■ went to Los Angeles and went to L.I.F.E. Bible College

and became a minister. To pay his tuition he worked in ware houses and a bank at night. While at College ■ met Appy Mae Rigenhagen and they were married in May, 1950. After a number of years ministering back in Canada at Victoria and Penticton he came back to Maymont for a year in 1960. He and his wife, Mother and Bill, Chinny and I went to California for a three week trip. It was really wonderful to leave in March below zero weather and arrive in Los Angeles at 85 degrees to 90 degrees above. We went to Disneyland, Knotts Berry Farm, Tijuana, Mexico and went swimming in the Pacific Ocean on March 11. It was a real trip as my brother was familiar with the country and the first time I saw palm trees and miles and miles of orchards.

That year Reg went to the States to live again, for awhile logging and then to College to receive his Teacher's Degree. A couple of years later his wife went to College and she is a teacher now also. They live at Nampa, Idaho, both teaching, and have a parish church a little way out of Nampa. They have three children: Linda who is a teacher and married an ex-football player who is in Real Estate. They live in Boise, Idaho and have a small daughter. Timothy Gillatt is married and lives in San Diego. The youngest son, Leroy, is married to a girl from Nampa. She works in a bank and Leroy is going to College taking commerce.

My sister Dorothy while staying at our place met a young man who came from the east to harvest at Sam Miller's, Norman Belanger. He worked out west a couple years before he went back to Sault Ste. Marie where his sister lived. He got a job in the steel plant. Dorothy went down east and she and Norman were married in October, 1949. They have four children: Edwin who is married and is a teacher lives in Sault Ste. Marie. His wife also works. The next son, Ken, is married and has three children, 2 boys and a little girl. Ken works in the steel plant. Dorothy's first daughter, Glenda, went through College. She works with elderly people and retarded children. She is getting married in October, 1979 and hopefully we'll be there. Their youngest child, Evelyn is still going to school and is in Grade Eleven. Norman is still working at the steel plant and will soon have his retirement.

Mother and Bill Penny were married in Coronation in September, 1949. They stayed there until Bill retired and moved back to Maymont in 1974. That same fall they were married 25 years and Aunty Eva and Uncle Norman Cheal were married 45 years that same year. Millie and I had a family supper and "Open House" in the fall for them.

My Mother's health began to deteriorate and on May 4, 1978 she went quietly away to rest and was buried Maymont Cemetery on May 9, 1978. She had ■ grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. Mother had worked hard all her life with very little at times. She always welcomed anyone to a meal and a bed if they were stranded. She enjoyed the simple things and had a husband who was very good to her and they were happy.

My family are close by. Russell and Dale both farm at Maymont. Albert drives semi-trailers. Our daughter, Terry, lives at Uranium City. God has been good to us by giving us healthy children and we have 10 fine grandchildren, 5 grandsons and 5 granddaughters. Chinny and I are both healthy and hope to live to see our grandchildren grow up to be fine young men and women.

The Beckton Family

In Canada the Becton family origins were in Ontario and Prince Edward Island. John McCrimmon Beckton was born on May 15, 1900 in Kincardine, Ontario. His mother and father were born in Canada but his grandparents on both sides originated in England, Ireland and Scotland. He says, naturally, that ■ inherited the best qualities of all those nationalities. The family was completed by two brothers and a sister.

In 1917, Mac, as he became known to his friends, decided to go west to look for a job. At one time he had visions of studying medicine or education but the family fortunes did not allow him this opportunity. His exodus from Ontario first brought him to Welwyn, Saskatchewan where he worked on a farm for eighteen months. Then it was on to Manitoba to haul logs in a bush camp since farmers rarely needed assistance in the winter. The next few years saw him working at many jobs such as farmhand, railway worker and tie camp employee. On one occasion he even had to wash dishes in a cafe in Edmonton because he had spent his last dime.

Finally, in 1921 ■ saw the light and came to work for a farmer, named Reid, in Maymont, Saskatchewan. It was in the fall of 1921 that he was persuaded to purchase a quarter section of land in Maymont, which from then on became the home quarter. Since the quarter section of land wasn't really

Mac and Dorothy and family, May, 1954. Christening of George Alexander, the last baby.

enough to keep Mac busy he hauled grain for Elmer Fouhy in Sonningdale for a number of winters.

It was at this time that he acquired a reputation for breaking horses. When he first bought the quarter section of land farmer Reid sold him a "nice" pair of horses. When first hitched to a rake they promptly ran away. After a few lessons to the horses on the disadvantages of running away, they never tried that again.

In 1926, contrary to his neighbors' advice, Mac purchased another half section of land. The first winter that he owned it he had to work in a bush camp in Alberta to make ends meet. By 1929 Mac had diversified his farming and was raising hogs and keeping chickens.

Mac continued to farm through the thirties when the depression hit Canada. There were times when all there was in the house to eat were eggs so the fare for the day would be eggs for breakfast, dinner and supper. During this time Mac became known as one of the confirmed bachelors in the area.

How long life would have continued in this manner can be left to speculation. In 1939 World War II started and with it came changes in Mac's life. Although farmers were exempt Mac decided to enlist and help out his country in this manner. This was quite a big step for Mac who was thirty-nine when World War II broke out. He enlisted in the autumn of 1941 and was called up by the R.C.A.F. in the spring of 1942. Leaving his farm to be cared for by a neighbor, Ed Peden, he left for Toronto where he trained as an aircraft electrician. The military was obviously short of supplies, as he discovered, when he was issued a uniform with a hole in it. Needless to say, he would have been reprimanded for a hole in his uniform so he became adept at the use of a needle and thread.

Following his training in Toronto he was posted to St. Jean, Quebec. It was here that an event was to occur which would drastically change his life. While sitting in a park in Montreal on August 14, 1943 he was approached by an attractive lady who was fleeing from another suitor. Dorothy Feigen was a twenty-eight year old Jewish girl who also had escaped the bonds of matrimony. Her father and mother had emigrated from Austria to Canada just prior to World War II.

In early September, 1943 Mac discovered that he was to be posted overseas so he proposed to Dorothy. Since no Jewish Rabbi would perform the ceremony, Mac found a Methodist minister who would, and rushed Dorothy to the Altar. His days as a confirmed bachelor were officially over.

However, instead of going overseas Mac and his new bride were sent to the air base at Rivers, Manitoba. It was there that Dorothy learned to cook through many trials and tribulations. In 1945 they were sent to Pennfield Ridge, New Brunswick just as he was ready to leave the Americans dropped the H-Bomb on Japan bringing the war to an end.

In 1946, following his release from the R.C.A.F. Mac went to Vancouver for the winter leaving Dorothy in Montreal. They were reunited in the spring of 1946 where Dorothy learned that her new home in the country was a one-room shack. Soon several more rooms were added but that house was never graced with electricity nor running water.

Dorothy and Mac wanted children but thus far their efforts had failed. Finally on February 9, 1949 their attempts were successful and John Allan was born. Afraid that their luck might not hold, they tried again immediately and were rewarded with the birth of McCrimmon Beckton on December 8, 1949. On the way to the registrar's office, Mac Sr. forgot his other proposed name and so only registered McCrimmon. A year and one month later, January 7, 1951 Clare Frances was born. She was to be their only daughter.

In early 1954 near disaster struck when five year old John contracted polio. Dorothy was also pregnant at this time with their fourth child. John was rushed to the City Hospital in Saskatoon where he spent the next weeks. Fortunately he was not left with any crippling effects from the polio. When he returned from the hospital he brought the chicken pox home for his younger brother and sister to contract.

Despite all of this commotion, George Alexander arrived safely into this world on April 16, 1954. In the next few years, however, they almost lost him as he suffered a number of serious attacks of bronchitis. A good many times they had to rush to Maymont in the sleigh and send Dorothy with young George to the hospital in North Battleford. After a few years he outgrew this ailment and never suffered from it again.

The 1950's and 60's were years of raising four children and trying to make a living from the farm in spite of drought and grasshoppers. Since the road to the farm was not plowed in winter, when the children reached school age they had to be driven to school by sleigh. In the summer Dorothy would drive them after she obtained her driver's license. Mac had purchased a car in 1958 and Dorothy had proceded to learn to drive. More than once she had to call for help when the car became stuck half way up a hill because she couldn't change the gears.

One winter in the late 50's Mac Sr. and the kids contracted a serious flu. Dorothy, assisted by a neighbor, had to help with the chores to keep the farm operating. One afternoon they drove the team and sleigh to town to obtain water and groceries. Neither one was an experienced driver so when they returned to find the gate full of snow, an incorrect turn caused the sleigh to upset spilling themselves, the water and the groceries over the snow. Fortunately good humor prevailed and no one took the incident seriously.

During this time Dorothy's cooking fame had spread over the neighborhood and often the small house would be filled to capacity for supper. All the neighbors loved to come to a woodcutting session at the Becktons. One Sunday Mac took the kids for a drive

to the river at 4:00 P.M. When they returned to the house an hour later Dorothy had invited twenty neighbors, who had dropped in, to stay to supper.

In 1964 they bought a house across from the school in Maymont. Since John, Mac Jr. and Clare were now teenagers more space was required and this meant less driving time ■ take them to the various activites they were invloved in. Grandma Feigen came from Montreal to live with them for a few years.

A short time later Mac Sr. built a new hog barn on the quarter section of land facing Wilbur Peden's farm. Here he could raise three to four hundred hogs without the work involved in the old farm. The new barn had special farrowing areas so Mac wouldn't have to be present at the birth of his pigs. Gone were the days of playing midwife to pregnant sows. He continued to raise pigs until the winter of 1975 when he finally sold them and continued only with grain farming.

In 1967 Mac Jr. and John graduated from high school. John decided to stay on the farm but the following winter he took a six week farm welding course in Saskatoon. He enjoyed it so much that the following autumn he enrolled in a two-year diploma agriculture course at the University of Saskatchewan. He graduated two years later winning the gold medal for the top student. Upon completion he enrolled in the agriculture degree programme specializing in economics. He was also active in politics and for several years was the president of the Young Conservative Party on campus. ■ the summers John would work on the farm ■ Maymont. Not satisfied with all his training he stayed on to complete his Master's degree.

Now John was so educated that ■ didn't want to settle on the farm and obtained a job with the Alberta Government Agricultural Loan Department. After several years with the Alberta Government he returned to Saskatchewan and joined the Bank of Nova Scotia as their agrologist for the province. In the spring of 1979 ■ opened a hardware store in Regina with brother George managing it. At present John continues to work for the bank and farms in his spare time.

Mac Jr., on the other hand, left Maymont to work for the Royal Bank in Rosetown. From there he moved to Fillmore with the bank. After a few years ■ moved to Vancouver where he worked with the credit union for approximately six years. During this time he travelled through the United States and acquired a love of travel. In 1975 ■ moved to Toronto and continued to work for financial institutions. In 1978 he became a credit manager with Jim Pattison Leasing and has continued to work for them. Last winter he travelled to Spain and has future plans to go to Europe.

Clare graduated from high school in 1969. In the fall she entered the University of Saskatchewan with ■ scholoraship to study Arts and Sciences. A year later she made the decision to study law and entered the law school in the autumn of 1971. During her three years at law school she won many scholarships and graduated in 1974 with great distinction. During her summers she kept busy working with legal aid in Saskatchewan and then with the Federal Government in Ottawa.

Following her graduation in 1974 with an LL.B. and B.A. she attended the University of Illinois to obtain her LL.M. Having completed the year programme she accepted a teaching position at Dalhousie University's Faculty of Law ■ Halifax. During her four years in Halifax she travelled extensively in Europe and in the United States. In 1979 she received a promotion to associate professor and also obtained a year's leave of absence to write a book entitled **The Law and the Journalist in Canada.** She will be writing this book ■ Winnipeg where she will live after her marriage to Kenneth Walper, an Armed Forces Pilot from Biggar, Saskatchewan. She met him in Halifax while training to obtain her private pilot's license and will ■ married October 6, 1979.

George Alexander completed his grade ten in Maymont and decided that was enough formal education. He went to work as a psychiatric aide in the Provincial Hospital ■ North Battleford. After working for a year on the ward for the criminally insane he decided to move to Calgary, Alberta. There he obtained a position as a corrections officer for the Calgary Correctional Institute. He was eventually trained for the riot squad and spent time working in the prison camp set in the mountains.

In the winter of 1978 ■ was invited by John to join him ■ establishing a hardware business ■ Regina, Saskatchewan. In February, 1979 the business opened its doors with George managing it. In March George met a Newfoundland nurse, Elaine Harding. True to his parents' tradition it was a whirlwind courtship which ended ■ their marriage on June 29, 1979 in Regina where they now reside.

Mac Sr. and Dorothy continue to live in Maymont. For the past four winters they have travelled to Vancouver, Toronto and Halifax to spend time with one of their children, then return home to farm in the summer.

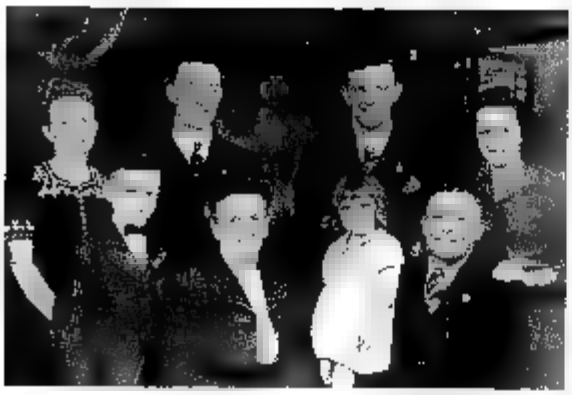
The Dave Belerle Family

written by Elsie Belerle McIvor

Dave Belerle was born in Belgium and came with his father and mother to North Dakota at an early age. From North Dakota they moved to Woodrow in Southern Saskatchewan and had five quarters of land.

Dave was ■ World War I and after his return from the war he married Emma Baumbach. His father then turned the farm over to him and his father operated a harness and shoe repair shop in Woodrow.

Dave and Emma had a large family. There were Thelma, Alex, Lawrence, Ella, and Don born while they were in Woodrow but they also lost four children in infancy. Between sickness and poor crops they had a



The Dave Beierle Family, 1949. Back, l-r — Thelma, Alex, Lawrence, Ella. Front — Don, Mrs. Emma Beierle, Diane, and Dave Beierle.

hard struggle. They decided to move to Central Saskatchewan where at least there was lots of wood so as to keep the fires burning. They rented a quarter section south of Denholm ■ the Harringay district. In November of 1934 they started out in their Chev car pulling their belongings and bedding. At that time the Government moved their machinery, livestock and household furniture. When they arrived at the farm the family who had rented it before them, "Eldon Anderson" were still in the house. They all had to live together for quite sometime before the Andersons found somewhere else to live. One night there were seventeen altogether, and it was a small four room house.

They rented this land until 1936 and then moved to Ruddell and rented a one-half section from Lawrence Robinson and lived in the house that Bryant Fletcher now owns. Here they raised turkeys and chickens, had a few cows and a good garden spot so they had plenty to eat. Dave joined the army in World War II but his wife carried on with the farming with the help of his family. In November of 1942 Diane was born at Maymont.

Alex joined the army in 1942, and Lawrence in 1943. Then in 1946 the Beierle's had a sale of the machinery and livestock and moved into North Battleford. Dave worked at the Provincial Hospital on the "Work Gangs" until his health failed. He died ■ June 1960. His wife, Emma, bought James Street Grocery and operated ■ until 1960. She then moved to different places in the United States, British Columbia, was in River Heights Lodge for a short time and is presently in Regina.

Thelma Beierle married Harry Nedowin in December, 1942.

After being discharged from the army, Alex worked in North Battleford as a milkman for the Dairy Pool. In 1946 ■ got the North half section 36-42-14-W3rd, through the V.L.A. where the Tommy Caldwell Senior family were living, which was originally the

Alex and Elsie Beierle wedding — Oct. 12, 1949.

Harry Turner farm west of Lilac. Alex worked his land with his brother-in-law, Harry Nedowin, that year. In November of 1946, Alex lived with his mother and worked for C.J.N.B. radio station as "Transformer Operator". Then in the spring of 1949 ■ bought a new tractor — a "Massey Harris 30" and a second hand tiller and put in his own crop and continued his job with C.J.N.B.

On October 12, 1949 Alex married me, now Mrs. Clair McIvor, then Elsie Leech from Baljennie. I was a Registered Psychiatric Nurse and had graduated in May 1949. I continued to work at the Provincial Hospital after our marriage and Alex quit his job with C.J.N.B. and went back to the Dairy Pool working as a milkman again. In May of 1950 we moved out to the farm and I quit my job. Alex did the farming after delivering milk so his days were very long. During the winter months we moved into North Battleford. In May 1955, Alex quit his job and I returned to work at the Hospital so he could at least get his machinery ready for the field while baby-sitting and this worked out much better. Once Betty started school we stayed on the farm during the winter and took things a little easier.

We bought the Whitlaw quarter, S.E.½ 30-42-13-W3rd in 1956.

On September 30, 1959, the Superintendent of the National Grain Company offered Alex a job as grain buyer at Lilac and ■ took it as it had rained for almost

Russell and Betty Beaudoin, Dana, Terra and Devin — May 19, 1979.

a month and we didn't have any crop left. In October of 1962 the company transferred him and the family to Manning, Alberta where the railway had just been put in and new elevators were built in the Peace River country. There the cost of living was very high and things didn't work out to expectations and Alex quit his job in August of 1964 and moved back to Lilac. We were all happy to be amongst our friends and neighbors again.

We built a new house starting it in the fall of 1966 moved into it the following spring.

On February 15, 1966, Alex took on the job as mail courier from Maymont travelling north six miles and then west on the "correction line" to Lilac delivering the mail twice weekly.

On October 4, 1968, Alex was the victim of a truck hoist accident on his farm.

We have five children. Betty Anne was born in September 1950 and she married Russell Beaudoin of Maymont on April 1, 1972. They have three children — Dana, Terra, and Devin. They live on the Dave Penner farm. Elaine Mae was born on May 18, 1953 and she married Garry Dearborn of Richard on October 9, 1971. They have two children — Sean and Tanya and they live in Maidstone, Saskatchewan. Alan William was born on December 5, 1954 and married Donna Starycki in November of 1977. They have a son, Chad. They are living in Maymont at the present time. Donna is working at the Saskatchewan Hospital. Calvin James was born on June 15, 1958. He graduated from Maymont Central School in 1976. Both Alan and Cal work for Art Martynes in Ruddell, Saskatchewan. Brent was born on May 12, 1965 and keeps us busy with hockey in winter and ball and 4-H in the Light Horse Project in the summer.

I continued on with the mail route after Alex's death and I still have it. There are presently twenty-four households on the route. In September of 1978 the route was changed so as to include the Prescesky and Seib farms travelling south from Art Reiley's ■ Highway 16.

On June 30, 1973, I married Clair McIvor and my house was moved to the McIvor farm in August 1973.

Our house is "home" to both families and this is the way we want it.

Lawrence Beierle married Olive Boucher of Baljennie in November, 1952. They have two daughters — Donna Lynne and Marilyn.

Ella married Bill Thrower in April, 1949. They had three children — Linda, John and Doug. Bill passed away of cancer and she married Mel Wenzel and they are presently living in North Battleford.

Don lives in Manoteck in Ontario — and has a son, David.

Diane married Hans Briner. They have two children — Melodie and Danny and they live in Cloverdale, B.C.

Arthur and Mary Bennett

by Mary Bennett

Arthur and Mary Bennett arrived in Fielding in November, 1955 with their family, Bernice, age thirteen years, Dale ten, and Keith five. They came from Pathlow, Saskatchewan where Art worked on the railroad. The reason for moving from Pathlow was to obtain year-round employment as first man on the section. This was done by bidding on Fielding Section and gained by seniority. Art worked there from 1955 to 1962 at which time some sections were closed, Fielding being one, and gangs were formed. Art worked on a gang for nearly three years, then got on the section at Maymont. He worked there till it closed in 1969. He then worked on the section at Borden till 1971 when he retired.

Mary was switchboard operator at Fielding from 1964 to 1969 until the telephone lines were connected to the Radisson Office.

Art's parents of Scottish and Irish descent came from Graysville, Manitoba — originally from Ontario. Mary's father came from near Belfast, Ireland at the age of twenty-one and obtained work building the railway bridge at Borden in 1904. Mary's mother of Scottish and Irish descent, was born in a block-house in Prince Albert during the "Riel Rebellion" in 1885. She's still going strong at the age of ninety-four.

Bernice married Lesley Buell in 1960 and to that union four children were born. Their oldest boy, Kelly, was tragically killed on the highway at Fielding at the age of eight years, ten months. Daren is now seven-

teen, Tammy eleven and Jeffrey five. They are farming at Fielding.

Dale married Elaine Breitkreitz in 1967 and they have two children — Troy, four years; and Brandi, two years. They are living in Saskatoon.

Keith married Alice Cyr in 1970 and they have two children — Kyle, nearly three and Sandra, nearly two. Their home is in Port Alberni, B.C.

The Bennetts moved to Radisson in 1969 where Mary worked in the telephone office for two years, till dial telephones came in.

My Life History

written by Charles Glen Bird — Mosquito Band 200 — aged eleven

On February 4, 1960 a wonderful thing happened. Charles Glen Bird was born. I don't know the place I was born or how big I was, but when I was three weeks old I was brought to Mrs. Lindberg's place in North Battleford. When I got older she told me I used to get sick a lot when I was a baby. One of the things I don't think I'll ever forget is when I was about the age of two Mrs. Lindberg would roll me up in a blanket and cut my hair.

When I was just a baby, Mrs. Lindberg's son, Joe, used to carry me up to bed. When I was about five, Allen Sapp drew a picture of me sitting on Mrs. Lindberg's knee.

Mrs. Lindberg had a sister which lived with them and everyone called her Aunt Edie. She was always very kind to me and when I would go to the hospital she would always come and see me and bring me treats or bananas.

I started kindergarten. My teacher was Mrs. Josie. I had a lot of fun there. We used to take a lunch. When we got out, we got out earlier than the big people so we would practice riding bikes.

I started school at Connaught School. In grade one and two we had Show and Tell. I was to take something and tell about it. I usually took Indian beadwork of Mrs. Lindberg's. I remember once I took a papoose bag beaded all over on the velvet cover and lined with silk. Another time I took a silver fox for wearing around your neck.

Once I went to visit a cousin of mine who lived on Red Pheasant Reserve. I remember seeing a small boy chopping wood in the yard. When we were invited into the house I saw a baby in a hammock made of twine, hanging from the ceiling.

Mrs. Lindberg's daughter and her family took us to visit Joe who was teaching in Alberta. While we were there we went to the zoo. I remember seeing many [illegible] wells.

My Favorite place on Saturday when I lived in North Battleford was the stockyards. I would go there with some of my friends. We would ride the old work horse, tease the cattle that were being loaded and chase the sheep.

Other times we hitch-hiked to old Battleford or we rode our bikes.

On Sunday I always went to Sunday School with Mrs. Lindberg. When I was eight years old, Mrs. Lindberg got very sick and Aunt Edie told me I would have to go to another home. The preacher brought me here to Ted's and Ev's. The day after I came here, Mrs. Lindberg died. I have gone to visit Aunt Edie many times since I came here.

This summer I went to Turtle Lake for one week of camping. When I got home I went on a Trail Ride. Shelley rode her horse Shayne, and I rode her other horse, Farmer. We started at Radisson and rode to Glenburn Park where we slept out over night and we sure had fun. There were twenty or thirty horses but I was the only one who rode bareback. We got home at noon Monday. Charlotte and Lawrence took us to Waskesiu till Friday.

Although I lack some things other kids have I'm happy and would not trade with anyone.

John and Hannah Birse

by John Birse

Hannah and I came from Newton Stuart, Scotland. I arrived in Ruddell in May, 1920. I went to the Labour Exchange in Saskatoon and was placed to John Anderson at Ruddell. Mr. Allan Anderson and three sons all had homesteaded, Ernie and John at Ruddell and George close to Dempholm. After a little while I homesteaded one quarter and one quarter soldier's grant at Loon Lake. The town of Loon Lake is located on the land I filed on. I worked with the Andersons that summer and winter. My wife joined me in June, 1921. We worked with Andersons until after harvest and then went to Arnold Brothers, Dave and John. We stayed there until the spring of 1924 when I rented the east half of 4-42-13 from Turnbull Brothers (the Campbell place). We farmed there until 1935 when we moved two miles west on to three-quarters on section 32-41-13. This land was owned by the Bromley Bros., Jim and George. They homesteaded the north half and Mr. Claud Jennings the south west quarter. He was a

Mrs. Birse and Mary Black (teacher at Montroe school). Good crop of wheat about 1930.

John and Hannah Birse 50th anniversary. March 12, 1970.

grain buyer at Ruddell for some time. I arrived there in good time for the dirty thirties. Jim had already died but George was on the farm when we moved on. He went east the following winter to Renfrew, Ontario where he came from in 1903, where he died.

Bromleys acquired the southwest quarter and gave them 300 acres of arable land and the rest pasture, only ■ acres able to be broken. My brother-in-law Bobby Clark farmed with me for two summers. Then he joined the army. I bought the farm from the Bromley estate. I had some crop in by Vern Schmidts. By war end, I got myself a Massey 30 and a six foot tiller and farmed until the late sixties when I rented to Wes Schmidt. We bought a house in Ruddell from Mr. Ross Stally and moved into Ruddell. I then sold the farm to Wes and had a sale.

Blacklock's at Maymont

The Blacklock's came to Maymont in 1920 and left in 1956. J.D. or "Black" as he was called by Doc Scratch and his friends, ran the Mc Cormick-Deering implement business, a hardward store, and Imperial Oil.

In the 1920's J.D. sold a lot of 10-20's and 15-30's. Also a lot of binders, mowers and rakes. He became involved with what became the International Harvester Company when he came west from Glenburrnie, five miles north of Kingston, Ontario, in 1918. He worked with the Company out of Saskatoon.

After marrying Jane Letitia Johnston in a farm house east of Laura at Christmas time in 1920, he had

John and Letitia Blacklock and family in their back yard — spring, 1932. Jock, Benson, Billy and Eleanor.

the chance of taking out the dealership at either Melfort or Maymont. In those days Maymont looked like the best territory, so he settled there.

J.D. was the eldest of 10 children and so it was his responsibility to leave home in Ontario, the old stone house and barn, the apple orchard, the maple sugar bush, the milk cows and the hauling of the milk ■ the cheese factory. There were enough younger children to fill these jobs and get them done.

Trading new machinery and taking payment or part payment with horses and cattle became a tradition when people became short of cash in the 1930's. So the Blacklock's rented land from Bill Sowden, the Hotel proprietor. This was beside town where the hockey rink is today. Land was also rented from Mawhinney the druggist. This quarter section was down toward Beckton's. A quarter of land was bought just south of town and adjoining the school grounds in 1929. The pasture land on this quarter became travelling ground for many people, young and old, over the years. There was a dugout with trees around three sides. There were nice paintings done by Edith Butterfield, who later married and now lives in Dundee, Scotland.

The famous picnic ■ 1932 in recognition of the services of Doc Scratch was held in this pasture field. Doc was presented with a buffalo coat and a sporty new car. He was much admired for miles around. Every family can tell at least one story about the grateful assistance given by Doc Scratch.

Over the years J.D. was very active in community work. Chairman of the Athletic Society which ran the sports day every May 24th. Chairman of the school board. Chairman of the United Church board. Chairman of the Mayfield and Douglas Agricultural Society. He was active in all the things that made it a great town.

Mrs. Blacklock helped with all the church groups, ladies aid, C.G.I.T., baby band, camp mother. And of course also the Homemakers Club. As with ladies with families in the community, Mrs. Blacklock spent much of her time raising four children and seeing that they received an education.

They were Jock, Ben, Bill, and Eleanor. The boys went to University and eventually ended up auctioneering. Eleanor took nursing at City Hospital. All are married with families and the boys are now grandparents.

Mrs. Blacklock is now enjoying her 88th year, and is living in a small house in Saskatoon. J.D. passed away in March, 1963.

It is with great pride and pleasure that all members of the Blacklock family recall their days spent in Maymont, and the associations with people there.

There was the old pot-bellied stove in the hardware store or "shop". A small light bulb supplied with power from McCorkels power plant. The floor was squirted with oil and swept with dust-bane. The bridge game went on day after day, sometimes for nickel White-owl cigars. Some of the players other than J. D. and Doc, were Coleman, Dudley and Melrose.

Saturday nights, Sawyer would bring in the bleached flour sacks, oozing blood, for the meat ring customers. Farmers and townspeople would stand at the store front, visiting.

There were good times and hard times. Sometimes they occurred at the same time. For most of the citizens, life was centered in an area of not too many miles.

Last But Not Least!

by Shelley Bloom

I was born in 1956 into the already ample family of Ted and Evelyn Sloan. My preschool days were spent absorbing the attention of a big family and enjoying the farm. I especially loved being outside helping Dad with the chores. (I marvel that [redacted] had the patience to bother with me.) Some of my earliest memories include my Grandpa Billy Andrew who was always good for treats and stories. Mom has inherited his ability to tell stories. She can make the ordinary come alive and delights the grandchildren with her fascinating way of telling stories "out of her mouth", as my son refers to one that is not read from a book.

Roger, Shelley, Kris and Seth Bloom, March, 1979.

Being so much younger than the rest of my family I had to content myself with cats and dogs for playmates until the fall of 1965 when a shaggy black pony named Farmer wandered into my existence. Farmer was all a horse crazy nine year old girl could want. I not only had the horse I'd been wanting for so long, but he also offered access to kids my own age. For years after, Esther Pauls and I were inseparable. We practicaly lived at one another's homes. Henry and Jessie were always very good to me. Sometimes Esther and I would venture to Dave Penners to play with their grandchildren or ride on to Lyle McIvors or Woods to ride with Dwight or Orvillie. We often rode to Clair McIvors to [redacted]t in some girl talk with Karen and Lorraine. Anita always made us a big lunch and made us feel so welcome. Farmer also gave me the opportunity to join 4-H. The Light Horse Club was lead jointly by Ches Miller and Roy Rogers. I was a part of the program for three years. I loved riding [redacted] our meetings, bathing our horses for Achievement Day and learning more about horses. My husband and I raise Arabian horses now and I often consult my 4-H books about one thing or another.

Esther and I spent most of our free time riding horses [redacted] the "Berg Place", a half section of government hayland bordered by "Rabbit Road" near our farm. It seems sad when I go home now to see the Berg Place fenced and filled with cattle and Rabbit Road is torn up under construction. Although places have changed a great deal, Farmer is much the same as he was fourteen years ago. He is somewhat gray now but he is alive and well at almost thirty years old and continues to delight the children who ride him.

One of the greatest things about the Maymont community is the neighbours. Gug and Millie Beaudoin were almost like an extra pair of parents for me. They always took time to visit, Millie made me birthday cakes and Gug even gave me a horse. We still have her and Shayne [redacted] a lovely mare.

School held no particular fascination for me. Parts of it I enjoyed but my happiest days were those when Dad had a calf [redacted] find in the pasture and needed me [redacted] home or when I was able to sneak off on a little trip somewhere and skip a few days or weeks . . .

When I was twelve, Glen Bird came to live with us. He came [redacted] us for two weeks and stayed eight years! In some ways I found it difficult to adjust to having an instant brother but Glen was a good kid and we all learned to love him. Although [redacted] is working in the U.S.A. now, we keep in touch and he [redacted] still a real part of our family.

I graduated from Maymont School in 1974. Many of us from that class still keep in touch and our friendships continue despite the different directions our lives have taken.

In July of 1974 I married Roger Bloom, a farmer from Turtleford. We live northwest of Turtleford. Our rural backgrounds help us appreciate farm life. God has been very good to us; we have two sons, Seth, born in 1975 and Kris in 1977.

I feel fortunate to have been part of a big family. Despite the years and the miles between us, we have remained very close. We learned to love music when we were young, and even now a family gathering is not complete unless my Dad dusts off the fiddle and we have a chance to sing together. Roger's family is also musical and his sisters, Verna and Wendy, and I spend alot of time playing and singing together. Mom and Dad have a home with elastic walls. Somehow, no matter how our family expands there is always room for us all and at least a half dozen friends besides. I am proud of my Mom and Dad and the priorities they have tried to teach us. I hope I can convey to my own children the kind of respect for life and the love of God my parents have given to me.

The Francis (Frank) Bohn Family History

as told by Stanley Bohn

Francis Bohn (Frank), Stanley Bohn's father, came from Germany in 1867 to settle in Renfrew, Ontario, at the age of 4 years. He took his schooling there and after completing school was apprenticed to learn the blacksmith trade. Feeling the call of the West in 1879 he freighted for the Hudson Bay Company from Fort Garry, Manitoba to Fort Saskatchewan with oxen and Red River carts (up to 100 in the train of carts). On the return trip they were loaded with furs. The round trip took six months. He also worked in the C.P.R. shops, and while in Winnipeg he met my mother, Sarah Parker, and they were married in 1880. They homesteaded in Rose-Hill, Manitoba, a district Southwest of McGregor.

Not being able to obtain land, father came to Saskatchewan to get homesteads. In 1903 he and son, Fred, came to what is now Maymont district and filed on NW¼ 8-42-12-W3rd and also filed proxy on SW¼ 8-42-12-W3rd for son, James. They travelled by train from Rose-Hill, Manitoba to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, (the end of the railway at that time); then drove to the homestead location — later filed at the Land Titles office in Battleford, Saskatchewan. They returned to Rose-Hill for the winter. Father and son, Jim, came back in the spring of 1904 with a carload of settlers' effects to Saskatoon and from there by horses and wagons.

The first buildings were a log house, with a sod roof, and sod barn. Father and Fred returned to Rose-Hill in the winter of 1904 and Jim stayed on the homestead with William Dawson whose homestead was on NE¼ 8-42-12-W3rd. They took turns once a month walking for groceries and mail to the elbow of N. Saskatchewan, now known as Cee-Pee. Jim remained on the farm 1905-1906 to break and prepare the land for cropping.

Father came back in May, 1907, with the family, by train to Maymont as the railway was completed in 1906. That year a frame house was built, which still stands. The family consisted of seven girls and five boys: Minnie, Mrs. William Dawson; Ernestine, Mrs. Herb Johnston; May, Mrs. Jim Greenwood; Adeline, Mrs. Paul Serack; Henrietta, Mrs. W. Baker; Flora, Mrs. [illegible] Greenslade; Stanley, in army 1914-18; Frances, Mrs. William Cameron; Fred, in army 1914-18 war; Alfred, killed in action 1914-18 war; Henry, retired; Jim, passed away 1964.

My father was active in community activities. He helped build the first Presbyterian church which was located on the present parking lot of the Memorial Hall. He helped organize the cemetery and was the first person to be buried in it on September 7, 1906. My mother helped our local Dr. Scratch (who came in 1906) by nursing maternity cases in her home and district.

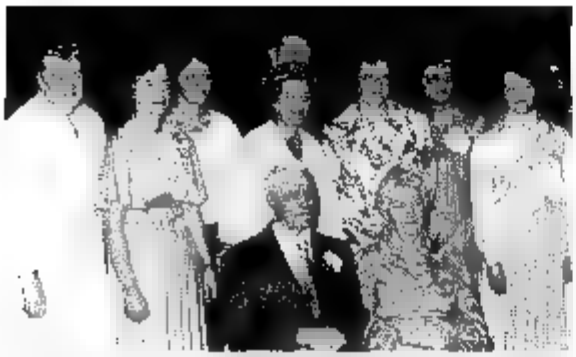
The homestead was farmed by Jim and Henry until 1964 when Jim passed away — leaving Henry to farm until 1970 at which time the land was sold.

Frank Bohn family — 1908. Back row — Fred, May, Alfred, Teena, Jim. Centre — Frances, Flora, Effa, Adeline, Minnie. Front — Frank (father), Henry, Sarah (mother), Stanley.

The Stanley Bohn Family History

written by Stanley and Leta Bohn

Stanley and Leta Bohn (nee Walton) were married April 18th, 1928 and took up farming on 22-42-12-W3rd (my old home). We farmed with seven horses and a one-way discer. In the spring of 1948 we bought a Co-op tractor which was driven (by Stanley) from Saskatoon. This tractor was used until we quit farming in 1974. The harvest was done by cutting the crop with binders — stooking and threshing. In the early 40's we bought a pull-type combine and later a self-propelled.



50th wedding anniversary, April 18th, 1978. Back row — Norma, Elsie, Lois, Mabel, Ronald, Margaret, Stella, Verna. Front — Stanley and Leta.

Ready for Sunday School — Norma, Elsie, Lois and Mabel with old 'Prince'.

Our family consisted of seven girls and one boy, who are all married and on their own: Norma, Mrs. Walter Wiley; Elsie, Mrs. Olaf Nylander; Lois, Mrs. Ralph Wiley; Mabel, Mrs. Ben Dyck; Ronald Bohn, married Elaine Rogers; Margaret, Mrs. Charles Walker; Stella, Mrs. Tony Roman; Verna, Mrs. Glen Osterlund.

They all attended Grey School, Eatonia, and Maymont Central High School.

At one time Leta made as many as five lunches each day. Each one had individual lunch kits. As one couldn't run to town for an extra loaf of bread, etc., it was important to watch the disappearing loaves. Leta usually made six ■ eight large loaves at a time and usually a pan of cinnamon rolls. And it was mostly a weekly job. Nothing fancy in those days so our own beef, pork, chicken and eggs were used to a great extent along with jam and peanut butter. Dozens of cookies were also made and kept especially for lunches. Then in the fall when boxes of fresh apples came in everyone enjoyed them.

To supplement our revenue we milked eleven cows by hand — shipped cream and made our own butter. During the depression we drove nine miles by horse and cart with a can of cream to Speers Creamery amounting to $2.50. We raised chickens and sold eggs for 10¢ a dozen as well as butter for 10¢ a pound. We sold dressed chickens for 25¢ each, while turkeys were kept for home use. We also produced a large garden but didn't forget the beautiful flower display. We also experimented with plum, pear, currants (black), and crab-apple trees. Along with wild fruit, this required a lot of canning.

Our home was always a scene of sport activities for young folks who would gather to play ball, horse shoes and other games. In the winter a skating rink was made beside the dug-out. A rink house was built, due to the efforts of the skaters. As many as 20-25 young people would gather for skating parties — ending with a weekly batch of doughnuts and drinks (milk/tea). Many good times were had!

When the family had grown up and left, Stanley and Leta farmed the land from 1960 ■ 1974. ■ 1968 they moved to town, which enabled the girls to go to high school and they farmed from town.

In 1974 they rented the farm for three years, then sold it.

After moving to town, Stanley was care-taker of the Memorial Hall for 21 years. We take an active part in community activities which include churchwork, Senior Citizen's, Sport Center, Memorial Hall, Glenburn Regional Park and the Lakeland Regional Library.

Stanley is a Life Member of the Royal Canadian Legion and Leta a member of the Auxiliary R. C. Legion since 1943. He is also on the cemetery committee. Stanley served twenty-one years on the Board of Stewards of the United Church and twenty years on the Session. Leta is a member of the United Church and a regular quilter.

We celebrated our 50th Wedding Anniversary last year (1978) and were very happy our eight children, twenty-eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren were able to attend. Many relatives and friends from B.C., Alberta and Saskatchewan were present.

We still grow a garden, strawberries, raspberries and ornamental shrubs, and many varieties of flowers.

At the combined age of 154 years is this being retired or just tired?

The Bodie Family of Fielding, Saskatchewan

by Mrs. Edgar Bodie

The Bodie family came from Bruce County, Ontario to Carman, Manitoba where they lived and farmed for several years. The older children began their schooling there. Then they moved to Fielding about 1907. They raised a family of nine, all living except one son, John, who died in April, 1973.

The homestead was located nine miles north east of Fielding. They built their home and other building of logs, broke the land, and went into mixed farming.

The Bodie Family, 1915.

Firewood and logs came from nearby bluffs. A wood-sawing bee for each neighbor came up each winter. All had their chores, even the littlest ones, helping with stock, poultry, berry-picking, and garden. Working bees were regular happenings in the district.

Mrs. Bodie supplied bachelors and other neighbors with home baked bread, butter and eggs, besides cooking for her own family.

Mr. Bodie was always called on in case of illness or accident. He willingly left his work ■ help a neighbor in trouble. Also be held office ■ all district organizations. This home was a favorite stopping place for travellers and salesmen. Mrs. Bodie died in 1918. The older children left home ■ turn to start homes of their own.

Edgar stayed to farm until 1976. Mr. Bodie died ■ 1954.

John served with the Canadian Army for two years overseas. The farm ■ now owned by Bruce and Cathy Flath.

Hillsborough School was built about 1908. The family took their education there. A teacherage was built later. Eastbourne United Church was nearby for Church and Sunday School, also the Ladies Aid Society. Several ministers took charge of the parish before Dr. Frank Myers came to Maymont to be the minister until the church was moved to Halcyonia District north of Borden. Many social events were held in both the church and the school.

Dr. Scratch of Maymont and Dr. Rose of Hafford were well-known names.

The new school was opened in 1952 and closed in 1961. The building is still used for a home on the Kuntz farm near Fielding. Pupils were taken by bus to Hafford to finish their education.

The Fielding-Hafford Community Pastures came into being after that. Some farmers sold their land and moved away. Some of the nearest neighbors were Fisher, Hockley, Downie, Flath, Bower and Breitkreitz families.

Bob and Hazel Boyd

Mr. Robert (Bob) Boyd came to Canada from Ireland at the age of seventeen. He arrived at the train station in Saskatoon with only a few pennies in his pocket. Bob got a job on a large ranch in Southern Saskatchewan.

He married Hazel Johnston, oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herb Johnston, and moved to a farm in the Maymont District. The farm was located two miles north and three miles east of Maymont.

Hazel Boyd was a woman noted for her generosity

THE FAMILY NOW

Mary Campbell	Now in a home in Battleford	1 son in Speers
Leslie Bodie	Speers	1 daughter near Ottawa
William Bodie	Lloydminster	7 children ■ grandchildren
Emma Cunningham	Camrose, Alberta	6 children 8 grandchildren 1 great-grandchild
Muriel Drabble	Speers	5 children 7 grandchildren 2 great-grandchildren
Barbara Anger	Dechemel, Alberta	7 children 17 grandchildren
Edna Hambly	Markham, Ontario	2 children
Edgar Bodie	Radisson	2 children 1 grandchild

Hazel Boyd.

and hard work in community endeavors. She passed away in 1975.

When Bob and Hazel retired to Maymont, Bob became the townman. He still retains this position and is well known for his kindness and willingness to lend a helping hand.

Bob and Hazel had one son, Glen. Glen is married and has two children, Carrie-Ann and Douglas. His wife Sharon teaches school in Maymont. Glen owns and manages the local hotel.

Albert Bouskill Family of Maymont, Saskatchewan

written by Marguerite (Florence) Maywood

I hope to be excused, both by friends who knew my forebears and my members of my own family, for any inaccuracies in this report. I had this not unpleasant task thrust upon me on short notice and there was no time to verify facts or memories.

My mother, Mary Margaret Bouskill (Maggie), held her face pressed against the window of the train as it sped westwards from Winnipeg that spring day in 1906. Her spirits sank lower and lower as she saw mile after mile of empty prairie, small bluffs and evidence of devasting prairie fires across the flat land. When she finally reached her destination at Maymont, Saskatchewan, (it was still the North West Territories until the previous year) and saw the little freight car serving as a station house, and not much else, she was almost ready to take her trunk full of new clothes, she had enjoyed wearing so much the year before visiting relatives in Toronto, and ■ back ■ St. Andrews, just north of Winnipeg, where she was born. But her brother Percy was there to meet her, full of optimism and soon convinced her that this was an exciting new world, full of opportunity and adventure.

On April 18, 1905 my grandfather, Albert Bouskill had filed on a homestead on SW 10-42-12-W 3rd, four

Albert Bouskill — June, 1933.

and a half miles northeast of Maymont and my Uncle Percy's claim was adjoining on SE 10-42-12-W 3rd. It was two or three years before the rest of the family was completely moved from St. Andrews, ■ far as my grandchildren can remember being told. My mother had come out west to spend the summer and keep house for her brother and returned to St. Andrews in the fall.

Albert Bouskill was born in 1852 at Port Hope, Ontario, the third son of John Bouskill and Mary Margaret Bletcher. Both families had come to Canada by way of New York and the United Empire Loyalists from York County, England. Albert Bouskill left his parental home about 1875 and settled at ■. Andrews, Manitoba where ■ made his living as a carpenter and contractor. He married Jessie MacDonald in 1879. She was the granddaughter of one, Daniel MacDonald who served with the Hudson's Bay Company out of Fort Edmonton from 1805 ■ 1838. During that time "Big Scot Dan" lived with the Blackfoot Indians as a liaison between the Hudson's Bay Company and the North-West Company who were in fierce competition over the fur trade. Albert and Jessie Bouskill had nine children, seven of whom survived ■ maturity. Jessie died in childbirth, leaving a family of seven: My mother Maggie, Percy, Edward, Rose, Alex, Stephen and Stewart.

Albert Bouskill built many of the schools in the district around Maymont, and Stephen and Stewart were pupils the first year that Grey School opened near the farm. He also built the Anglican Church in Maymont. If I remember correctly, I was told the famous Seager Wheeler, wheat king, and his bride were the first to be married in that church, and my parents were second, on November 24, 1909 by Reverend Schofield. I was baptised and married in that same little church, and

my Uncle Percy who died in 1954, left a legacy to it in honor of his father.

My grandfather also had a brother Charles, who married into a Barrett family, and settled in the Maymont District and had a large family, many of whom lived in the area for several years.

Uncle Percy never married and cared for his younger brother Alex, who was an epileptic, with the help of several housekeepers. I remember Mrs. Peck a large kind hearted deaf lady, who quite late in life, married Watt Smith, an elderly bachelor, who lived east of Richard. Next came Robert and Mrs. Neill, a young Irish couple directly from Ireland. Their ready wit, good humor, and jovial personalities, did much to brighten up the atmosphere of a bachelor's domicile. The Neills were well received in the district, and decided to settle in Maymont, where they and their daughters contributed a great deal to the social and entertainment life of the community. Mrs. Rose Schmidt with her daughter, Betty was another who was there for many years. When Percy died, in 1954 he left the old homestead to my brother, Donovan Florence.

Percy Frederick Bouskill was a man of great porportions, both mentally and physically. He stood six foot three in the Indian mocassins which he wore every winter, and weighed in at from 220 to 230 pounds in his prime, all muscle, sinew and bone.

Percy's prowess with an axe, a pitchfork, a shovel, or with his bare hands, are legendary. In harvest time, it was nothing for him to unload a three-deck box of wheat into the bin with a grain scoop without stopping to rest, or even to cause him to breathe heavily. A load of hay (and they were LOADS), disappeared into the hayloft in less than a dozen forkfuls. Pity the unfortunate individual in the loft trying to fork it back!

In the early days, one of the highlights of the year, was the annual 'hunting trip' to the North country for big game. Percy was an avid hunter, and always looked forward to this trip with great enthusiasm and excitement. The hunting party was made up of local farmers, mainly, — Billy Holmes, the Langley Brothers, Watt Smith, Andrew Bros., Jim and Stanley Bohn to name a few, and of course Percy. The journey to the big game in the vicinity of Green Lake was made in sleighs, loaded with bedding and all necessary provisions, including an adequate supply of medicinal liquids, and drawn by the finest teams available. The recounting of the events following one of these trips filled many a pleasant evening round the fireside for the rest of the winter.

Percy was a quiet and kind man. One of his greatest interests was his horses, and they always received the best of care and attention. No one ever saw a thin horse on Percy's farm. Percy was slow to change; and long after the age of mechanization had taken over, Percy stayed with the horses. In fact, he never learned to drive a car, a truck, or a tractor, and never owned a car or a truck. During World War II, when help became scarce, he was forced to give up the horses for field work, and purchased a tractor. But he never ever drove it himself, and kept horses for choring, putting up hay, and for transportation to town for the mail and groceries. Up until the time of his death in 1954, a familiar sight was the black team and buggy, on the road between the farm and Maymont.

Uncle Ed married Annie Philips of Richard and had six children. Aunt Rose married Thomas McBratney who was a blacksmith at Maymont. They later moved first to Nanaimo, B.C. and then Vegreville, Alberta and had five children.

Stewart remained a bachelor and lived on his farm northeast of Richard which he left to Ed's only son, Dennis, upon his death. Both Stephen and Stewart served in the army in World War I, and were in the trenches in France. Stewart left the district in the 1920's and lived in Saskatoon several years before settling at the west coast. He was twice married and

Percy Bouskill — 1915.

George Alexander MacRobbie Florence and Mary Margaret Bouskill wedding picture — Maymont, 1909.

had two children. Both Steve and Stewart were again in the Canadian Army Overseas in World War ■.

All of the Bouskill pioneers are dead and long gone and it shakes one up to the startling realization that life is so short. If only we had listened and learned more of their lives, this report would ■ easier to write.

It was 1906 or so when my mother Maggie Bouskill and my father, George Alexander McRobie Florence, met at a dance after the Borden Sports Day. She said this dark handsome man who had been playing the violin in the orchestra came and asked her to dance the Newport waltz — and they had not even been introduced! But she defied the Victorian conventions too — by accepting! From then on, my parents never missed a Borden Sports Day if they were in the province, until my mother died in 1956.

To go back — in 1903 the Barr Colonists had arrived in Saskatoon which was then just a little village. Many of them settled along the North Saskatchewan River as far as Lloydminster, which was named after Bishop Lloyd who with Mr. Barr, had sponsored the 2000 odd immigrants from England. It was an exciting time for the prairies, with many new settlers and promises of the railway being built beyond Saskatoon. It was the spring of 1903 that my father George Florence, aged eighteen, had left his parental home at Balmoral, Manitoba, to work with a survey crew of the Dominion Lands Survey and helped to survey the sections and quarter sections all the way to Alsask on the Alberta border. His parents had come from the highlands of Aberdeen, Scotland, with two children to settle near Balmoral, Manitoba and my father was the first born ■ Canada. It was that summer that the Barr Colonists arrived in Saskatoon and it became a tent city overnight. When the tired survey crew, who had run out of food except for raisins and rolled oats for days before they returned to Saskatoon but with their pockets full of their summer wages, came within miles of the city, they were met by real estate agents in buggies, anxious to sell them land and relieve them of their money. My father bought a small piece sight unseen and when he finally located it, found it was mostly a slough. He never did pay any more taxes on it, and about 1924 he had a letter from the City of Saskatoon requesting his signature on a quit claim to the land, only to realize too late, that it was in the University of Saskatchewan grounds.

I have no idea how my father happened to choose his homestead site on NE 18-43-12-W 3rd, one mile east of Richard, on October 30, 1905, sponsored by James Debbon and Oliver Andrews. I do remember him telling me how his brother Percy Florence who became a well known auctioneer, at Wilkie, filed his claim and they walked from the Land Titles Office ■ Battleford to Wilkie where the land was, and stopped off at the Phelps farm.

My father worked for Emile Richard who was a rancher, in the interim of proving up his land, and herded horses and cattle on what was once known as the Belgian Flats, between Richard and Meeting Lake. He spent many days and even weeks absolutely alone and once showed me a spot near Square Hill where he used to have ■ sort of lookout over the herds. There he remembered lying face down ■ the hot dusty grass, his heart aching with loneliness, with nothing to break the profound silence of the immense emptiness of the vast prairies but for the sound of birds and the occasional gopher with which ■ tried ■ make friends. At night the coyotes were terrifying to this lonely boy who longed for human companionship.

My parents moved to the homestead and there I was born with Dr. Scratch attending as he did all the subsequent births of my siblings. The railroad from Prince Albert to North Battleford went through that land in 1912. Settlers were few and memories were long. It was in the 1950's after my husband, Orval Maywood died, and I was working at the Health Region in North Battleford, when a Mr. Joe Vessey, another old timer from the Richard District, came into the Office and was so surprised to see me that he bellowed out for all to hear that he remembered the day I was born. It was that day when the district was hit by a devastating hailstorm that wiped out all the fruits of the labors of the new settlers. By 1917 I had two brothers, Donovan and Douglas, and a sister Myrtle and we moved to Edmonton. I vaguely remember, just before we moved, the 'flu epidemic that hit. My father had a relapse and nearly died and I was very ill, I still remember the blood running down my throat and the hallucinations I had — of "the Germans coming to get me." My mother, and Don who could not have been more than four or five years old, had to feed a big herd of cattle in the deep snowdrifts and chop ice in the creek to water them, as well as nurse the sickies in the house. My father had a business in Edmonton, and we also lived briefly in Fielding in 1924-25 where he had a General store and finally ■ joined the Manufacturers' Life Insurance Company as an agent and worked with them until his death in 1967.

I was married at Maymont to Orval Maywood ■ 1935 and we had three daughters. He and my sister Myrtle's husband, Pearce Sunderland, ran the Sunderland and Maywood Corner Store in Richard from 1931 to 1947. In 1943 we moved to North Battleford where Orval was Credit Manager of the Western Grocers and died suddenly in 1949. Pearce had sold in 1947 the Richard store and moved to Vancouver and also died suddenly in 1950. They had two sons. Myrtle remarried to Aart de Jong and had one daughter and they now live in West Vancouver. Donovan married Beryl Ramsay in 1948, had two children and now lives alone on the original Bouskill homesteads near Maymont. Douglas married June Light of Battleford, and lives near Brada on his farm. They have three children. Our "little sister" Beverley who came along later in our family, ■ married to

David Powell and after living for several years at Williams Lake ■ B.C. now lives in Cranbrook. They have four children.

All these children now live in a world far removed from that of their relatively recent ancestors, and they must write their own history.

Lo! Some we loved, the loveliest and the best
That time and fate of all their vintage prest
Have drunk their cup around or two before
And one by one, crept silently to rest.
The moving finger writes; and having writ
Moves on: nor all thy piety nor wit
Shall lure it back to cancel half ■ line
Nor all thy tears wash out a word of it.

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Bracht
Mr. and Mrs. John Ryan

Told by Elva (Peden) Ryan

Philip and Barbara Bracht immigrated to Fielding in the spring of 1905 from Caselton, North Dakota. Three children came with them: Joseph, Theresa, and Laura.

A fourth child, Mary, was married and remained in the U.S.A. Her married name was Cure. They had four children: Harold, Helen, Madelaine and Clayton. Mary was killed in a train accident when Clayton was very young. Harold and Helen remained in the U.S.A. and Madelaine and Clayton came to Fielding. Madelaine was raised by Philip and Barbara Bracht, her grandparents, until she was married to Clifford Foster of Speers. She had eight children, ■ now a widow and living in North Battleford. Clayton was raised and taken care of by his Aunt and Uncle Theressa and Scott Wilcox. He ■ married now, has a family and is living at Rossland, B.C.

Philip Bracht on coming to Fielding purchased land one mile west and one mile north of Fielding. They constructed a house and other buildings in the next few years, where they resided until their deaths. Philip Bracht died in 1936 and Barbara Bracht in 1940. The house is still there and is the present home of Hugh and Lynn Ryan. Except for minor renovations, it is much the same as when it was built.

Joseph Bracht married Minto Allmus, possibly in 1916, and farmed two and one-half miles north of Fielding. Joe Bracht operated a steam thresher for several years. He also used a steamer to pull a ten-bottom plough. He sold his farm around 1927 or 1928 and moved to Saskatoon, where he purchased seven houses and ran a trucking business for several years. He also managed Saskatoon Sand and Gravel until 1945 when he sold out and moved to B.C.

He had three children: Margaret, Mary and James (Jim). Margaret married Ray Questad and now lives in Seattle, U.S.A. Mary has remained single and lives and works in Vancouver at present. Jim has a family and lives in Port Alberni. Theressa married Scott Wilcox and farmed four miles south of Fielding until his death in 1952. They raised one son, Leo, and their adopted nephew, Clayton Cure. Theressa moved to Saskatoon after her husband's death and operated a rooming house there for several years. Then she moved to Rossland, B.C. about 1965 and lived with Clayton and ■ at present living in a home at Rossland. She is around ninety years old.

Laura attended school in Fielding. One of her teachers was Mrs. James Robertson whose husband farmed just south of the Bracht farm, on the farm where Bill and Pat Brown, Jr. and family now live. Laura married John Ryan ■ 1913.

John had come west from Riceville, Ontario, in 1911, with ■. J. Scott, who operated a machine agency and real estate business in Fielding. John later worked for I. H.C. as blockman out of North Battleford. ■ 1918 he rented Philip Bracht's land and as well he purchased in partnership with his brother, Urban, a half section which he farmed until his retirement in 1956. Urban came to Fielding after the War and farmed with his brother in the mid forties. He took a job as janitor of the Fielding School which he held until his death in 1963. The grounds in front of the school were a tribute to his caretaking. John also operated road maintenance out of Radisson from 1939-1944. John and Laura retired to Radisson in November 1955. John died December 15, of the same year at the age of sixty-four. Laura lived in Radisson until her death in 1965. John and Laura had five sons; James, Wilfred, Lawrence, Myron and Hugh. They lost Hugh at two years of age.

James was married in 1948 to a Maymont girl, Elva Peden. He farmed with his dad until his retirement and then James took over the farm in 1955. Jim and Elva had three children; Hugh, Barbara and Jackie. Hugh now farms on the home place since the death of his father in July 1976. Elva retired and is living in Radisson. Hugh married Lynn Mikituk ■ 1977 and has two children; Nicole and Shea. Barbara married Ken Stauffer of Tofield, Alberta, and has three children; Ryan, Cameron, and Lisa. Jackie graduated from the College of Law in 1977, articled a year and passed the Bar Exams ■ 1978 and is now practising in Swift Current. She married another lawyer, Morris Froslee, in 1978. At present they are both working for the same firm.

Wilfred joined the Air Force in 1942. After the war he was married to Margaret McKenzie in Calgary. Except for a few years ■ Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, they spent most of their married lives in Alberta — Calgary, Stettler, and where they live at present, Edmonton. They have four children; Judy, Ronald, Allen and Kenny.

Lawrence joined the Air Force ■ 1941. He married an English girl, Betty Margetts, while stationed in England during the war. After the war he finished his university education and worked for Farm Credit, holding positions in Ottawa, Calgary, and Edmonton.

He retired in 1975 to Sooke, B.C. They have five children; John, Sharon, Lynn, Gail, and Michael.

Myron married Joyce Hockley and is now residing in Regina. He worked for National Grain for many years at St. Gregor, and Regina, and has been for the last few years with Mutual Life of Canada. They have five children; Robert, Rae, Kim, Sandra and Pat.

Max Braithwaite

I went to teach at Neepawa School in Sept. of 1932, for a salary of $500.00 per year. I taught in this one room school, most of the grades from one to nine, with ten and eleven taking correspondence courses, until June 1935, three full terms.

For the first year I boarded with Vi and Billy Fast. For the remaining two years I boarded with Johnny Ryan's family. The members of the school board were Jake Fast, Johnny Ryan, Mr. McKay and Mr. Carman. Billy Fast was the Secretary-Treasurer.

I can remember the names of most of the families, Ryan's, three boys; Tyhursts, a boy and a girl; Northcotts, two boys and a girl; Sloans, three or four children; McKays, three children; Jake Fast, one girl; Friesens, one or two boys.

The thing I remember most about teaching was the satisfaction I got from teaching Grade One students to

Max Braithwaite teacher at Neepawa School years 1932 to 1935. Author of the three books, **Why Shoot the Teacher. Never Sleep Three in a Bed. The Night We Stole the Mountie's Car.**

read. I've been in touch with many of the students since and they all seem to have done well. We had great fun playing baseball in the yard and the Christmas concerts were a roaring success. (See Why Shoot The Teacher, Chapter IX). Marjory Fast on the old wheezy organ was the only source of music, as I myself couldn't tell one tune from another. But the comic skits were great.

I remember riding to school with Wilfred, Lawrence and Myron Ryan in the buggy and walking home across the pasture, keeping a wary eye on Johnny Ryan's bull, an unfriendly beast, who was reputed to have put more than one person over the fence. I also remember the School Board meeting far into the night, debating the necessity of reducing my salary by $5.00 a month, which they finally did with so much reluctance that Johnny Ryan donated me a quarter of beef. This wasn't worth much money in 1933, but it helped keep my family in Saskatoon eating through the winter.

I participated in many activities in Fielding with C. M. Mooney, the principal of the school, putting on plays, organizing dances, attending church Young People's Meetings, helping with Christmas concerts and so on.

My wife Aileen Treleaven, came to Fielding town school as a primary teacher in Sept. 1934. As soon as I met her that fall in Maymont at a district Field Day, I started courting her with more than considerable ardor, and kept it up until we were married Oct. 1935, and I've been courting her ever since. We have raised five children, three girls and two boys, and have nine grandchildren with another just beginning.

Most of my memories of Neepawa School and Fielding are good ones. Despite the hard times the people were friendly and hospitable. I have particularly fond memories of Johnny Ryan, one of the finest men I ever knew.

The Jacob Braun Family

submitted by Erna (Braun) Lawley

Jacob Braun served in the Russian Army in the years 1920 and 1921. After leaving the army, he lived in Germany for two years. Here he met Martha Friesen, and together with her and her family immigrated to Canada in 1923. Jacob and Martha were married in the Immigration Office just before boarding the ship to sail from Hamburg, Germany to Montreal, a voyage which lasted for nine days. From Montreal they travelled by train to Rosthern, Saskatchewan. They stayed at Rosthern with a family by the name of Kroeker, for approximately one year.

In 1924, the Brauns together with two partners purchased a farm five and one-half miles south of Speers. Farm life in those days was extremely hard, all machines were horse-drawn and people worked very long hours in a day. The crops grown were mainly wheat and oats, and stock raised was mostly cattle and pigs. Large gardens were planted each year and with the produce of the gardens and with raising their own meat, people were very self-sufficient.

Travel was also by horse drawn buggies and sleighs. Jacob Braun did acquire a 1927 Ford in 1928 and drove it for approximately twenty years. Travel by car was strictly for the summer months as the roads were covered with several feet of snow all winter.

The Brauns had five children, two sons and three daughters. All five children attended Keystone School until 1940 when the farm was sold and the Brauns moved north of Speers. The children's names were: Alvin, Jake, Erna, Edith and Frieda.

Travel to school was also with horsedrawn buggies in the summer time and sleighs in the winter time.

During the winter two or three families would travel to school in the same vehicle.

Teachers at the school during those years were Winnifred King, Bill Langley, Muriel Butterfield, Lilah Brehon. Probably one of the most remembered occasions is the Christmas concerts. Teachers and students used to put in a tremendous effort to make the concert a success and Keystone concerts were always very well attended, not only by the parents of the students but also people from neighboring communities.

The family lived north of Speers until 1951. As the three oldest children had moved on, the parents decided to sell the farm and go to live near the family. They settled in Calgary, Alberta.

Jacob Braun will celebrate his eighty-third birthday in September, 1979. His wife, Martha passed away in 1964.

Alvin, the oldest son, was killed in an automobile accident in 1977. As he was the father of six sons and two daughters, he will not soon be forgotten.

Jake, the second son, is the father of two sons and three daughters. He lives in Calgary.

Erna, lives with her husband in a small town outside of Calgary and has one son and two daughters.

Edith was widowed and lives in Calgary with her son and daughter.

Frieda, also lives in Calgary and has raised three sons and one daughter.

Annie Alicia Brehon

by Lilah Brehon

Annie Alicia Brehon (August 12, 1885 - March 16, 1978) received her schooling in Leeds Village, Quebec where she was born. She attended high school in the village taking Grade I and II Academy. Then she went to McGill Normal School in Montreal where she received her diploma and won a scholarship. She used this to take a short course at Guelph Agricultural College.

Annie came to Maymont, the first time, when her brothers sent for her to come and look after their mother who was very ill. Grey School was in the process of being built so Annie taught there from November to June. She told of fainting one day and came to, to find her hair (which was so long she could sit on the ends of it) streaming out in a pool of water and Bill Parker, whom the pupils had called, pouring a jug of water over her.

When her mother was obviously recovered Annie returned East and taught school there. When she returned to the west she taught at both Etonia and Keystone schools until she was married. She walked many miles over the prairies to get to these schools and said her long skirts were often wet to the knees till dinner time. Perhaps memories of those uncomfortable experiences made her ready to accept new fashions. One time while tenting at Meeting Lake she and Mrs. Bob Downing decided to wear their sons' knee length baggy trousers which were still in good condition but out of style for the boys. They did not intend to get caught by the Ladies' Aid which they knew to be arriving later in the week but you guessed it and great was the glee of the women of Maymont when they caught them.

Mrs. Brehon could always get through a great deal of work in one day. She made her husband's work clothes and clothes for all the family. In early days women would ask her for sewing lessons. One day when her son Colles went to Maymont with a shirt she had made for him, Cupid Friedman wanted to know where he had bought it so he could stock some like it in the store. Colles had designed the shirt with a large front midriff pocket so he could put his hands in from either side. Annie baked and canned, fed many workmen, and often boarded the schoolteacher. Sometimes she had a girl to help her with the work. When it was time to can peas they would be out early in the morning to pick three and a half large milk pails heaping full of peas. While they were being shelled Annie would test fourteen quart-size sealers. She did so by putting an inch of boiling water in each sealer, quickly putting on the lid and turning the jar upside down to see if any water or steam escaped. If it did, the rubber ring or metal ring would be substituted and the sealer inverted again. After the sealers were filled with peas and cold water they were put in a wash boiler half full of hot water and kept at a steady boil for three hours. She lost very few sealers of anything she canned because of painstaking methods such as this.

When her sister-in-law and her husband, Maisie and Jack Henderson, lost their home in B.C. in a fire they stayed at the farm. Jack Henderson was a very clever man when it came to book learning but his favorite perch to read his law and engineering books was right in front of the cellar door. After wasting time moving Jack several times, Annie preferred to climb into the cellar through the cellar window. Jack for a time took on teaching duties at Grey School. It fell to Mrs. Brehon and Jack's wife to get him and the horse and buggy off to school in the morning and prevail on the colt to stay at home. While the struggle ensued to get Jack on his way, Maisie would say, "Now don't laugh, Annie," but as soon as he was out of sight, Maisie would herself lie on the floor and laugh. At school, Ernie Johnston had a desk at the back of the room. One day while Mr. Henderson was bent over helping the pupil in front of him Ernie put a pair of dividers in the toe of his boot and kicked his teacher. Mr. Henderson was a powerful man and was so enraged he flung Ernie the length of the school. Years later Ernie would roar with laughter when he told the story of how he ended up under the blackboard.

In the thirties, bridge parties were a favourite form of entertainment for the Hollers, Bates, Potters,

Langleys and Brehons and any of their other friends who happened to be around at the time. The parties always began with a sit-down supper and were followed by five or six tables of auction bridge. A lunch about midnight ended the party. People arrived in cutters and sleighs. One night when Hollers were driving Annie home from one such party through Jack Langley's field Annie remarked it would be easy enough ■ get lost. "Oh, no," said George Holler as he pointed out the landmarks. All the time ■ was following the trail to a strawstack instead of the one he should have been on. When he realized his mistake and stood up and saw the Brehon cutter to his right he cut across country and ended up with his horses plunging through the snow-filled draws leading to Langley's dam.

Of her first night ■ the west Mrs. Brehon said the Andrew men met her in Maymont and she was to stay the night ■ the Andrew home. At bedtime great was her embarrassment when she had to climb up a ladder to the upstairs in front of all the Andrew men.

Mrs. Brehon's 90th birthday was celebrated at the farm. Several friends came to the tea in her honor. Among them were four pupils who had been her pupils at Grey School. They were Mrs. Cheal and Mrs. Penny (nee Eva and Laura Parker) and Elmer and Oliver Rogers.

When Mrs. Brehon died at 93 she left a family of five, Colles, Dick, Muriel, Lilah and George. They were all married but Lilah. She also had thirteen grandchildren and one great-granddaughter, all of whom she was very proud. She had an excellent memory to within three days of her death. She took an interest in the happenings around her and her appearance right to the end. She cooked for her daughter, Lilah, until she was ■ and could still make some of the lightest buns ■ the community.

Alec and Annie Brehon — married Feb. 28, 1911.

A. C. Brehon

by Lilah Brehon assisted by memories of Colles Brehon

Alexander Colles Brehon (May 23, 1880-April 23, 1936) came to Canada ■ 1902 from New Ross, Ireland. He worked the first two years at a farm near Brandon. He had been attending Dublin College and had never done any manual labour. He came down to breakfast the first morning in a blue serge suit and a high white collar. The farmer said, "I see you don't intend to work this morning or you wouldn't be all dressed up." Alec replied, "This is my oldest suit." The farmer stated ■ had never owned one so good.

In 1904, Alec came ■ the Keystone District and took up a Homestead. There he was joined by his brother Charles, and cousin, Tom Bates. Tom did the cooking and used to walk to New Ottawa to have the spare ploughshare sharpened. Charlie and Alec did the ploughing. When Tom Bates was married Mrs. Bates

The Brehon barn built in 1918.

cooked for ■ three. She said the Brehons had big appetites and she used to cook a duck apiece for Alec and Charlie. Also they insisted on keeping two big hunting dogs which ate a loaf of bread every day. Mrs. Bates said she was too tired to punch the bread as it should have been punched. Charlie used to complain of her heavy bread and probably the men never thought of helping.

The three men chose their homesteads on the middle of three surveys for the railway. Traces of the trail which originally joined New Ottawa and Maymont is still apparent on the north west corner of the SE quarter of Section 32, Township 41, Range 12, West of the Third Meridian.

Alec acquired a team of very large grey horses. To illustrate their size — Stanley Barrett who drove the team when they were older used to stand in the manger to put on their collars. With this team Alec used to freight from Saskatoon to a store two miles north of Radisson twice a week. He would go to Saskatoon on Monday, load on Tuesday, return to Radisson on Wednesday and make a similar trip the last three days of the week. He hauled the engine that drove the piles for the railway bridge at CeePee. It weighed 6600 pounds. He had loaded it so most ■ the weight was on the front wheels of the wagon and every badger hole whipped the tongue so violently he hired an Indian to hitch his team to the tip of the tongue to control it somewhat. It required 12 teams to haul the engine into position in the river.

Annie Arkley and Alec Brehon were married in Battleford on February 28, 1911. Their first home was a two-roomed one with a summer kitchen added. It was on a rented quarter of Section 13 beside Keystone School. One day while driving eight horses abreast on two outfits of harrows Alex went chasing gophers. The horses ran away and he had a real tangled mess. One crop on the quarter took four pounds of twine per acre to tie up but it was frozen and didn't pay for the threshing. Grades apparently were not very good in those days. A carbon copy of a letter sent by Alec ■ the Grain Commission bemoans the fact that grain that graded No. 5 in Maymont graded No. 6 in Winnipeg and the suggestion is evident that he felt cheated. Copies of letters to George Langley, M.L.A pleading the farmers' cause and for grain cars are also available.

The family home was built on the quarter south of the homestead, that is, the southwest quarter ■ Section 24, T42, R12, W of 3rd. It was 28' by 20' and two storey. Since it was one of the first wooden homes this size people came for miles to see it. It was built in 1916. Mrs. Brehon used to tell the story that the night the first gas lamp was lit and hung in place she grabbed up the broom and swept the floor. Apparently her home hadn't been as clean as she supposed it to be. The Delco light plant was put in in 1918 and the barn was built the same summer. It was 80 feet long, hip-roofed and had hay slings to lift the hay into the loft. The wind electric was erected on a bitterly cold day in January 1941. The difficulty with the wind electric was that in December when the lights were turned on early, the wind often failed. ■ February when the snow drifts were deep someone would have to wade out to the wind electric and turn it off because the batteries were overcharging. Gen Bates thought it was a great joke when she arrived one night to find the empty washing machine, electric churn motor, and vaccum cleaner all in the middle of the floor running in an attempt to use up the excess power. Someone finally had to give in and wade out. Colles, later installed inside the cellarway door a system of cables, pulleys and a ratchet with a crank, to turn off the wind electric.

The first radio was an Atwater Kent. Mounted on a board, it had three dials which all had to be set exactly the same to get anything on the radio. There were 2 or 3 sets of earphones with it. Alec's last radio was a Marconi with a 12-inch speaker. He used to turn ■ up so loud at times that small tables walked across the room from the vibrations.

The first threshing machine was bought in 1923. It was a 22-36 Rumley. He also had a Rumley 12-20 tractor.

Hunting seemed ■ be a favorite sport. The story is told of Will Barrett standing up in a car and firing off a shot gun as the car was being driven around the yard. As you can see from the picture of the hunt they had something to celebrate about.

The 1919 hunt ended on October 8. The four Langley men, A. and C. Brehon, Tom Bates and Will Barrett took off with four Touring cars and tents. The sun rose on a beautiful morning but by mid-morning it was snowing heavily. They took shelter in the tents, thinking it would soon be over but it got worse and by night was much colder. They had to drain the cars' radiators so next day they melted snow and heated water to get the cars going and get home. Fortunately cars in those days were built much higher and had a lot more clearance with those 34 inch wheels. Even so it must have been quite a job to get home through the snowfall which remained on the ground from then till April.

Alec was secretary of Keystone School Board for 25 years. From the numerous carbon copies of letters he wrote concerning the school a genuine interest in school affairs is evident. When the Rural Municipality of Mayfield was formed in 1910, ■ became one of the first councillors. — a position ■ held for 16 years. He served as president of Maymont Rural Telephone Company from 1918-1931. He was interested in and a director of the Mayfield and Douglas Agricultural Society. One of his last services to the community was serving as a collector for the fund for Dr. Scratch when enough money was collected to buy a car and a buffalo coat. This presentation was made in August, 1932. Alec entered the Saskatoon Sanatorium in November, 1932 and passed away in April, 1936.

On the lighter side, his friends tell the tale of his return from a hunting trip whence he'd had three flat tires but he had had a "GREAT DAY". He was proud of his heritage and the name THE EMERALD FARM was painted on the side of his barn. People said of him "That is an honest man".

Charles Francis Brehon

by Lilah Brehon

Charles Francis Brehon was born in New Ross, Ireland. His mother, nee Charlotte Bates, died shortly after his birth and he was raised by nannies. Perhaps this was one of the reasons he became what can only be described as a character.

At the age of fifteen he became enraged with his school master who told him his head was made of wood. He barricaded the school master out of school and finished teaching the rest of the day. Afraid to [redacted] home, he hid in the woods and his cousin, Tom Bates, smuggled him food until he ran off to sea. His apprenticeship papers for service on the Elldenhope were made out on parchment, and he was paid £30 for his four years apprenticeship in the following manner: £4 for the first year, £6 for the second year, £8 for the third year, and £12 for the fourth year, with ten shillings per annum allowed for laundry. While serving on the Elldenhope, he sailed around the Cape of Good Hope several times. One [redacted] his duties was to clean the barnacles (a small marine animal) off the sides of the ship. With sharks watching nearby, the job became quite exciting. Charlie was shyly proud of his recommends for very good conduct and ability made out at the time of his discharge. He also worked on the Natal and Transvaal Railroads as shunter and learner guard in South Africa and served in the Boer War. While in Africa, he contracted typhoid fever [redacted] an acquaintance who believed [redacted] was dying took off to Australia with his money.

His nephews tell of going into Blacklock's Store in Maymont where a pin could have been heard dropping. Charlie was telling tales of the Boer War and his sailing days. Blacklock's Store was also the scene of many a bridge game. Charlie's opponents felt he knew what they had in their hands equally as well as they did. In later years his nephew, Dick, declared Charlie went out and knocked the stove pipe on his house down and then phoned for some one to come and fix it and bring a fourth for bridge. These games would last from the middle of the afternoon till 11:00 p.m. with time out for supper.

Charlie Brehon — 1915. Children are Colles Brehon and Lilah and Jimmy Henderson.

DOMINION LANDS.

INTERIM HOMESTEAD RECEIPT.

Interim Homestead receipt — 1904.

One day while herding cattle with his nephews, they were avoiding anthills when looking for a place to sit at dinner time. Charlie declared that if they'd fought in the Boer War they'd be glad of an anthill to hide behind; and, thus saying, he sat down on the anthill and ate his dinner. Before he was finished, the ants were crawling out of his shirt collar but he stayed with it.

Charlie loved [redacted] hunt and even though he had poor eyesight and had to shoot left-handed because his left eye was the best, [redacted] was a crack shot once a duck or goose came in range. He depended on his hunting companions to let him know when the ducks were coming as he couldn't see them till they got near. One day his young companion tricked him by yelling, "NOW!" Charlie jumped up to shoot and not a duck in sight.

He batched in a one-room shack until he had lumbago and sciatica; and one day while being attended by Dr. Scratch who was accompanied by Alan Bean, Alan asked how they managed to keep warm in this unlined shack in the winter. Tom Bates, Sr., replied jokingly, "Charlie always wears his fur coat to bed and he sleeps on the side of the bed next to the stove with the hired man sleeping at the back of the bed. When the hired man gets cold, he gets up and restokes the fire. If [redacted] gets really cold, Charlie goes out and stands in the shelter of the barn with the cows."

Not long after his bout with sciatica and lumbago, Charlie had a house built, and Mrs. Margaret Warren with her baby daughter, Helen, came to keep house for him. The people of the district had fun giving him a house-warming shower and he received everything from egg-cups to wash tubs. I'm sure Mrs. Warren should [redacted] thankful to have the house thus outfitted.

While Mrs. Warren would be serving a sumptuous meal to their visitors, Charlie would tell how well his old shack was being used. The vegetables were stored in the basement and the top was a hen-house. Then he would add he used to sweep his shack but all the dirt fell through the cracks in the floor before he got it to the door.

Although my uncle took delight in shocking people, if he chose to do so he could be on his best behavior and true to his upbringing. When he went to Vernon, B.C. to visit his sister, Marion Henderson and her family, he "did her proud". She said he could take his place in any society. His housekeeper, Mrs. Warren, described him as a gentleman for which to work, and his ship's captain wrote that he conducted himself in a manner befitting a gentleman. Although he would not have liked people to suspect him of being kind-hearted and God-fearing, I found him to possess both traits of character.

When Charlie was eighty years old, he could still leap to his feet. He declared he would live to be one hundred, but that was not to be. When he was eighty-six, he was hospitalized during the doctor's strike and died of cancer. Mrs. Warren moved to White Rock, British Columbia, and the house was sold to Ron Milman who moved it to his property.

Brehon (Colles Alexander)

I, Colles Brehon, was born January 16, 1913, on the farm eight miles north and east of Maymont, where I grew up and lived until I was married.

Among my recollections are the Chautauqua held each year in a big tent at Speers.

Light for the house was provided by a gasoline mantle lamp which required preheating with an alcohol torch to light it. Then, in 1918, my father bought a Delco light plant, and it gave us electricity until the Sask. Power put in the hydro in the mid '50's.

Our radio was the first in the district and many of the neighbours came to listen to it with us.

I remember the building of the barn and how the carpenter, Walt Evans, would scare me away by running after me with a hatchet in one hand and a saw in the other, all the time yelling wildly.

One fall a snow storm came on October 8 and caught many children at school barefoot. During the winter there would often be only three pupils at school, and we would sit around the coal and wood heater to keep warm.

My dad had about thirty horses which had to be clipped to remove the long winter hair before they were put to work in the spring. It was my job to crank the clippers while Dad did the clipping.

My father became very ill and had to go into the Sanatorium in Saskatoon in the fall of 1932, and I took on the task of managing the family farm which consisted of eleven quarters, six of them rented, and a section of leased pasture.

Four generations — Colles, Janet (Brehon) Eckel, Pamela Eckel, Mrs. A. Brehon. May 8th, 1977.

The next five years were very dry and people were forced to sell their cattle for lack of feed for a cent a pound or less in some cases. Grain prices rose a little, but there was none to sell. Most people had to go on relief and went into debt for feed and seed. The first year was 1937, but a late-sown crop yielded enough wheat for seed. By the next year or two, conditions began to improve again so, in 1939, we traded our old steel wheel McCormick 1530 for a Cockshutt 80, the first fully equipped tractor of its kind in quite an area, and a big improvement over the old one, as twice as much work could be done in a day. By 1941, we were able to buy our first combine, a McCormick Deering engine-driven, pull-type on steel wheels.

In the spring of 1946, William Cook offered to sell me his farm; and, with the family backing me, I bought his farm but continued working with Dick and George until I eventually had enough machinery to do my farming independently.

I married Anna Maxwell in November, 1950, at the Maxwell farm home at Baljennie, and the Reverend Frank Myers officiated at the ceremony. A short while later, we moved to the former William Cook farm where we have lived and raised our family. Much time and effort were spent improving and modernizing the farmstead.

Our three daughters and son; Colleen, Janet, Doug, and Carol, all took their schooling and graduated from Maymont Central School; Colleen being honoured as one of the recipients of the Ronald Ferris Memorial Award; Douglas and Carol each being recipients of the Governor Generals Proficiency Award. After graduating with honours from Saskatoon Business College, Colleen worked for seven years as a legal secretary in Lloydminster; then decided to have a change and moved to Edmonton to study professional photography at N.A.I.T. Janet received her business training at North Battleford Comprehensive High School and, upon graduating, worked for three years at

The Battlefords Credit Union. In 1976, she married Alan Eckel of North Battleford. Alan is a welder with Wylee Trailers and took further welding training at the Moose Jaw Technical Institute. They have two small daughters, Pamela, and Amanda, who are the first members of the fourth generation and to whom Janet now devotes her full time. Carol worked for a time at the Dairy Queen in North Battleford, then attended Reeves Business College; and, in 1978, she married Wayne Bulitz of Borden. They are residing in Saskatoon where Wayne is continuing his carpentry career with Logel Construction after having attended Kelsey Institute.

All four of our children have benefited from their time with the 4-H Club, the girls making much use of the sewing learned; and Douglas having done a good deal of carpentry work including pieces of furniture, houses, garages and interior finishing. When not carpentering, Doug helps his dad with the mixed farming.

Over the years our family have served in many of the Maymont Community organizations. I have given much of my time and energy to the Maymont Memorial Hall which I have been involved with since its conception back in the early '40's to the present time. I was secretary of the Wheat Pool Committee for several years and was previously a Wheat Pool Delegate for three years. I was also president of the Maymont Telephone Company for many years until Sask. Tel took over in 1977; and I was secretary of the Board of Stewards of the United Church for many years, as well as being a wood-working leader in 4-H for ten years.

Anna was also a 4-H leader for five years having taught sewing and photography. She has been an active member of the U.C.W. for many years, having held office as president and secretary of her unit. She has also given considerable time to the Memorial Hall and the skating rink.

The neat appearance of our home and grounds are due, for the most part, to Anna's efforts.

Her practical mind and wise planning have helped us in many ways.

The George Brehon Family

as told by Gladys Brehon

I was born on February 16, 1926, the second child of Percy and Hazel Parker. Daddy always told me I howled the whole first winter so I was probably not the most popular member of that household.

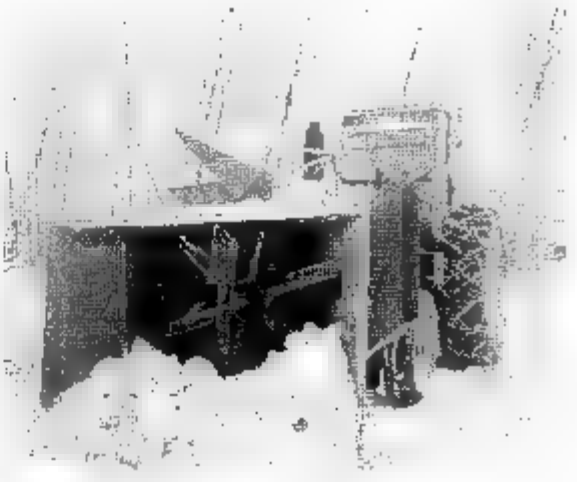
My earliest memories are of my first days at Grey School. I remember clearly playing games at recess, being protected by my older sister, Mary. My first teacher was Miss Mary Lundy. She had the loveliest handwriting I have ever seen. For Christmas she gave each of the girls an autograph album. I came across mine not too long ago with the autograph signatures of

Leslie, Garth, George, Gladys, Kevin and Maureen Brehon.

people I had almost forgotten. From the day I started school until I finished grade 10 I never had anyone else in my grade. I was always the only one. I always wished for someone to compete with.

Since the school was situated on our home quarter we always ran home for lunch. I always wished we lived further away so I could have taken my lunch! Other kids always wished they could go home for lunch like the Parker kids but to the Parker kids it was a great treat when it was bitterly cold or stormy and Daddy would bring our lunch over to the school for us. Then we could have a turn at swapping a cookie or an apple with one of our schoolmates.

School Christmas Concerts were the highlight of our year. I suppose around the middle of November we were given our parts to study. Drills, recitations, plays, skits, songs and always a nativity play! The girls drills were something to behold. One pretty cantata we put on was "The Wedding of the Painted Doll". All our costumes were made from crepe paper. That



Snow plow built by George and Hec — 1951.

must have been a lot of work for the teachers and mothers.

A few days before the concert the Dads came to put the stage in so we could put the curtains up and get in a practice or two before the big night. The "curtains" were sheets supplied by various mothers. We strung wires and sewed the sheets to the wires to hold them up. The students helped decorate the tree and we always had twisted streamers from corner to corner of the ceiling with a big red bell in the centre. It's a wonder the place didn't burn down as we had either coal oil or gasoline lamps. We always took at least one gasoline lamp from home to the school for the night. At last the big evening arrived, supper and chores were done early. Usually we had new clothes for the concert and everybody had their hair done and looked like a million dollars! What a thrill to enter the schoolhouse to see the decorated tree and later Santa Claus came and distributed candy, nuts and always a Jap orange in the bottom of the bag.

Christmas days were always exciting, too. Grannie always had Christmas at her place and as many of her family came as were able to do so. The table would be loaded with Grannie and Mom's baking — always turkey with all the trimmings, with a rich fruit Christmas pudding and brown sugar sauce. I'm sure us kids must have nearly torn the house apart, but we had some wonderful times. The older people played "500" — a bidding game using the jacks as bowers or trump. These games could go on until the wee small hours of the morning.

Sometime during the busy years my mother taught me to crochet, knit and embroider. I wonder at her patience with a houseful of children and so much work to do.

In the winter, after school and on weekends and any other time they got the chance, Daddy and the boys played "shinny". The boys went to the bluff and cut sticks, shaped like a hockey stick, and used a wooden puck, which they cut from a small tree. As they played ball in the summer, so they played shinny in the winter. They were often joined by Bill Penny, who worked for Daddy under the government scheme where a farmer who paid $5.00 per month to hire a man and the man was also paid $5.00 per month. They played in the yard in front of the house and it was so packed down and icy that it was a great danger to man and beast.

During the summer holidays we played ball. Daddy loved a game of ball and since there were lots of us kids, and neighbours close, Sunday nearly always saw a crowd at Parkers playing ball. The Gillatts used to come almost every Sunday, the Dawson kids who lived half a mile up the road, and anyone else who came along. We played ball by the hour. Everybody would stay for supper. We usually set the table twice — the adults sat down at the first table and the kids "waited".

We had a cold cellar outside under the maple trees which was used in the summer. This was a fairly deep hole dug in the ground large enough to hold a cupboard with shelves. There was a ladder down into it. In this we kept the cream, the crock of butter and the milk can. We carried our jello down there so it would set. It was quite an accomplishment to get a jello out to the cellar and down the ladder without spilling it.

One of our favorite desserts when we were kids was oranges and cream. Mom peeled a big bowl of oranges, cut them up and covered them with sugar and when we were ready to eat them she poured the cream on. Nobody ever seemed to worry about things being fattening then.

The depression years are still vivid memories. The grasshoppers ate holes in everything that was left outside, including paper bags. The eastern people sent out apples, cheese and fish. The cheese was good, so were the apples, especially in the dead of winter. The fish were something else. The boys thought that they would make good snowshoes. I don't remember eating the fish. I suppose that we did, because it runs in my memory that the more mom cooked it the tougher it became.

Occasionally we were allowed to go visit one of the relatives for a little holiday. I spent some holidays at Aunt Leta and Uncle Stanley's. Aunt Leta used to sit in her rocking chair rocking one of her babies and reciting poems for us. This was one of our favorites . . .

A Mortifying Mistake

I studied my tables over and over,
And backward and forward too,
But I couldn't remember six times nine —
And I didn't know what to do!

Till sister told me to play with my doll
And not to bother my head
If you call her 'fifty-four' for a while
You'll learn it by heart," she said.

So I took my favorite Mary Ann
(Tho I thought 'twas a dreadful shame
To call such a perfectly lovely child
Such a perfectly horrid name)!

And I called her my dear little 'fifty-four'!
A hundred times or more
Till I knew the answer of six times nine
As well as of two times four.

Next day Elizabeth Wigglesworth
(Who always acts so proud) said
"Six times nine are fifty-two"!
And I almost laugh out loud.

But I wished I hadn't for teacher said,
"Now Dorothy, tell me if you can"
And I thought of my doll and — sakes alive!
I answered 'Mary Ann'!

I was in my teens during the Second World War, Mom and Grannie used to do a lot of baking to get parcels ready to send overseas to the two of the cousins who were in the forces. I remember with great sadness, when we heard that first one and then the other of the boys were reported missing and presumed dead. Those were our cousins Jim Crozier and William Gillat.

Since jobs were plentiful after the war I went to Vancouver and worked for the Bartram Paper Company. I ran a big printing press which had been confiscated from the Japanese during the war when they were forced to leave the coastal region and move inland.

After my mother died in 1947, I came home to help Dad and my two sisters.

On August 14, 1952, I married George Brehon, the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Brehon. George was born on November 4th, 1925 in Maymont. He attended Keystone School for most of his schooling with one year at Maymont.

George built our first house. It was 24' x 26', very cozy and warm. We didn't have power or running water so we had the "little house out back". We had a barrel under the drainpipe to catch soft water for washing or George hauled it from the dug-out. In the winter we carried snow in and melted it in a barrel in the house. That was a messy job, besides cooling off the house when the weather was cold, you had to clean up any spilled snow which had melted on the floor.

We used gasoline lamps. They gave a lovely white light but they had to be filled with lamp gas, 'pumped up' and mantles changed when they broke. To heat the house we had a Coleman floor furnace which burned oil and for cooking we bought a coal and wood range from Mr. Louis Karpan who was in business in Maymont at that time.

Since cars were being used more and more in the winter, it was necessary to find some way of keeping the roads free of snow, so in the winter of 1950-51 George and Hector Andrew built a snow plow. This plow was used for several years until the municipality built better roads and began winter maintenance.

The power came to our area in 1954. What a great change it made to the people of rural Saskatchewan! How lovely to be able to press a switch for our lights after years and years of gas lamps. Yard lights sprang up over the countryside. From our kitchen we could see Jimmie and Ethel Steele's yard light to the south and Gordon and Pearl Halliday's in the north-east.

We got an electric stove from Vanderhagen's hardware and sold our coal and wood stove. What a treat not to have to empty any more ashes!

We have a family of four — two girls and two boys. Leslie Joan born on May 14, 1955, Garth Alexander, August 18, 1956, Maureen Faye, April 26, 1958 and Kevin George, May 29, 1966.

Two years before Leslie started school, Keystone was closed and a bus route was started. Our children attended Maymont Central School. I had all I wanted of school lunches then!

When our family were small Glenburn Regional Park was established and the covered skating rink was built. We spent our time between the Park in the summer and the rink in the winter. They all learned to swim at the pool and we enjoyed many barbecues and family picnics at the park. They learned to skate and took figure skating, and the boys played hockey.

The church plays a very important part in our lives and the children's. George was a member of the church board for many years and is now a Member of the Session. I was chairman of the Rebekah Unit and taught Sunday School for several years. The girls belonged to Messengers, Explorers and C.G.I.T., taking their turns as officers. The boys belonged to Messengers, Tyros and also were officers at various times. They sang in the choir until it disbanded.

When our family began growing up the small house became rather crowded so in 1963 we built a split-level home and put in running water and sewer, so we became fully modern!

George and I celebrated our 25th wedding anniversary in 1977. We were very lucky to have all of George's family and all of mine, except one brother, and a lot of friends and relatives to help us celebrate a very memorable day.

Leslie Joan took her schooling at Maymont Central. When she was in Grade Eleven she was chosen to go on an exchange trip to Ontario as one of the 'Young Voyageurs.' She was a member of the Maymont School 'Reach For The Top' team which did so well in 1969-1970. She was class valedictorian when she graduated in 1973. She attended the University of Saskatchewan for one year, then went to work for the Saskatoon Credit Union where she is still employed.

Garth was a participant in the Canada World Youth Program and spent a year travelling and working in Canada and Mexico. He graduated from Grade 12 in 1975. He is presently attending the College of Engineering at the University of Saskatchewan.

Maureen had a trip to Montana in 1975 as a 4-H exchange student which was both educational and enjoyable. She graduated from high school in 1976 and graduated from Kelsey Institute of Applied Arts and Sciences in 1978 as a Recreational Technologist. She married Richard Kachmarski of the Speers area on June 16, 1979, lives in North Battleford and continues to work for the Mutual Life Assurance Co. Kevin is a Grade eight student still attending Maymont Central.

Lilah Viola Brehon

Lilah Viola Brehon is the second daughter of Annie and Alec Brehon. As a girl she was a care to her

mother because she spent about one week of every eight sick in bed. At age eight while determinedly running drinks to her sick older brother and sister it was discovered she herself had an excessively high temperature. That evening Dr. Scratch was called and prescribed two medicines one which was to be taken every half hour and another every two hours. While her mother sat up all night making a pneumonia jacket of flour sack and cotton batting her father drove to Maymont for the medicine. In his haste he forgot gas for the car and had to wade the last two miles through deep snow to bring the medicine. Dr. Scratch had not expected a cure but his skill with pneumonia patients prevailed.

One day Lilah saved her brother George's life. He was always inventing labor-saving devices and other gadgets. This day it was a small tin stove; the fuel was ashes with gasoline poured on. Of course the fire travelled across the floor and set his canvas boot on fire. She stood petrified until he began to jump and cry. She turned to run for help, her eyes lit on a gunny sack and one whack from it put the fire out. When the sole of the boot fell off a few weeks later their mother sent it back to Eaton's and got a refund. She never knew till years later what really happened to the boot.

Going to North Battleford was a big event in Lilah's young life. She never liked getting out of bed in the morning but news of a promised trip to such an exciting place soon made her arise. George often used the words, "Come on, Lilah. Get out of bed. We're going to Battleford" as a successful alarm clock irregardless of whether it happened to be true or not.

Lilah's first school at Keystone found her teaching pupils all of which she had gone to school with except the grade ones. The school was not very weatherproof and heated by an oil burner. If it became windy the school cooled off even with the stove turned to its highest. So one night after hearing the forecast she left the burner turned as high as it would go. Instead of getting windy the weather warmed up. The next morning when she got to school some of the pupils who had arrived earlier had all the doors and windows open. Clair McIvor informed her, "Oh, Miss Brehon, don't go in there. It's so hot it takes the spit right out of your mouth." The thermometer stood at over 120 degrees fahrenheit.

Another day the pupils reported flames shooting out the bottom of the stove at intervals. She said nothing but decided to open the doors and give the stove more air. She opened the outside door, turned around and nearly fell over the pupils. Without a sound they had moved as one and were all in the porch. Said they, "If you were getting out so were we."

One Sunday when Mr. Myers was preaching at Grey School, Lilah, went to church. She had been attending church where the minister always used six illustrations to bring out the same point in his sermon. So Lilah had fallen into the habit of day-dreaming the first half of the sermon and listening to the last half. She should have known better because she knew Mr. Myers preached briefly, positively and to the point but the school room was decorated with many examples of pupil art and work and she decided to view these and listen later. Suddenly by the little flourish that Mr. Myers often put at the end of his sermon she knew he was finished and she had not heard one word. True to human nature her first thought was, "Mr. Myers, I got all dressed up and drove four miles to listen to you and you didn't tell me a word." She never made the same mistake twice and would like to thank Frank Myers for the many inspiring messages she did hear.

One time when my mother had high blood pressure and the doctor had told her to stay in bed for a few days and not have any visitors she was quite worried about herself. Mr. Myers came to visit. He turned a chair with the back to the bed, sat astride it and told Mother about his mother whose blood pressure was even higher than Mom's. Mr. Myers said they hired a girl to do the housework but when they went to visit her they found their mother waxing the floor and the girl reading a magazine. His mother said the girl liked to read and she liked to do the floor so that was what they were doing. Mother was noticeably improved when Mr. Myers left.

Lilah taught twice at Keystone and twice at Hanley. She taught in several town schools and then at a rural school named Furdale just south of Saskatoon. Then in 1963 she became the proud possessor of a B.A. degree. Since then she has taught in Hanley but is now happy to be retired from the teaching profession. She hopes to have time for many things which teaching seemed to prelude. One of these is her hobby of painting. She took two painting courses at Emma Lake where she learned to really see and Saskatchewan changed from a dull province into a beautiful one. She'll always be grateful to her mother for sending her to art school for the first time.

Richard Colles Brehon

Richard Colles Brehon came to Canada in 1912 and he and Val Jeffries who accompanied him stayed for a time with Alec and Annie Brehon in their two-roomed house. The two men slept in the summer kitchen. Dick took a job in the Royal Crown Bank in Maymont. When it moved to the new building he moved with it. (You'll notice from the picture of the bank that bankers worked in cages in those days). When World War I broke out Dick enlisted in the Regina Mounted Rifles and was sent overseas. Dick was 6 foot 3 inches in height and one story told that he was thus an obvious target when leading an attack from the trenches and was immediately cut down by fire. Another story was that he had been taken prisoner of war. His medals were sent to his brother Alec. Many years later one of his comrades in the trenches presented his nephew and name sake with a book of poems which Dick had written in the trenches.

The Richard and Shirley Brehon Family

Today when you drive between Maymont and Richard, those excellent snow-fence hedges you see were planted by the Young Farmer's Club. Dick Brehon was a member and took part in this enterprise.

He was also a member of the Mayfield and Douglas Agricultural Society and Secretary Treasurer for many years. The Society recognized Dick's service by presenting him with a Life Membership. He is a long standing member of the Wheat Pool.

When the power was installed Dick and Jack Langley canvassed the district to sign up the farmers. It was touch and go for some time to get the necessary number. However, the spirit of co-operation prevailed and power went into the farms between Maymont, Richard and north of Fielding.

Being Secretary-Treasurer of Keystone School ran in the Brehon Family; the position being handed down from Alex Brehon ■ his wife to Colles and finally to Dick who held that position until the school was closed and was moved west of Richard.

Dick has a love of animals. Dogs on the farm became his personal pets. When cattle were rounded up in the fall he knew exactly which ones were missing.

Nature holds a special place in Dick's life. He is interested in wild birds, animals and plants. There was always a large garden on the farm which he planted and cultivated.

Hunting and fishing also hold a special place in his life. There are many happy memories of hunting and fishing trips. Many tales exchanged over a meal of fish, venison or duck.

Dick married Shirley Hughes, daughter of Jean and Frank Hughes of Luseland and Wilkie. Shirley taught at Maymont.

They lived for a time at the Emerald Farm and then moved to the T. B. Bates farm. Bruce, their first son was born while they were there.

They moved to Radisson where Dick was employed by Vaughn Lafoy. While the family was in Radisson, Jeananne was born.

Dick then took a job with the Co-op Lumber in North Battleford and the family moved there. They bought a house in the Riverview area, and their second son Charles was born.

In 1966, Dick became buttermaker at Dairy Producers Cooperative in Lloydminster. Twice ■ has received awards as top buttermaker in the province.

Shirley was active in church work and Brownies as well as helping with a private kindergarten. Later when kindergarten became part of the school system she went back to teaching full time.

A cousin once remarked the Dick Brehons have a "lively family" and this is true. Bruce has graduated from High School and ■ planning to go to Australia on a work visa. Jeananne ■ in Grade Twelve and involved ■ Candy Stripers Charles is in Grade Ten and has inherited his fathers love of hunting and fishing.

Thomas Colles Brehon

Thomas Colles Brehon came to Canada in 1906. He lived with his brothers and Mary and Tom Bates. He and Bob Bates, who was a toddler at the time, had a mutual affection for one another. No one realized that Tom had tuberculosis of the hip until he collapsed in the field one day. Mrs. Bates said it was one of the hardest things she ever did to have to tell a sick man that she could no longer keep him. Mrs. Smith (Bertha McKeen's mother) was his benefactor and nursed him till ■ died in May, 1909. His eighteen year old sister and brother died in Ireland the same year. They had all become infected by one of their mother's cousins. Not realizing at the time how contagious tuberculosis was, and out of kindness, Mrs. Brehon had nursed her cousin in her fatal illness.

The Brickwells

told by Doris Roberts

Dad emigrated from London, England to Winchester, Ontario in the early 1900's leaving a job as an accountant in one of the leading stores to become a farm worker for the late Frank Summers, who later came to Fielding and was one of their successful farmers. He often told us of the tricks the Summers boys played on Dad and they were many.

One of Dad's colleagues had settled on a farm east of Vanscoy so he finally decided to come west and take up a homestead near Pike Lake.

He had been corresponding with a pen pal back in London so Mother accepted his proposal and arrived in Saskatoon in the fall of 1912 leaving her family with the thoughts of seeing them soon but there was no reunion with either families until 1948. A cousin of Mother's had come over with her to be married also. A double wedding was performed in the Anglican Church in Vanscoy on December 5, 1912. The first mode of travel was horse and buggy.

Their first home was a one-room shack built on the homestead. The boards covered the outside frame but no finishing on the inside. As many of you know green poplar wood doesn't burn too well and of course there was a tin hanging from each pipe join, to catch the drippings. Many winter mornings they woke up and found the bed clothes covered with frost. The first years were very lean and not much to eat, however, Dad's philosophy was that God never let the birds starve so they would not be let starve. At one time they had to depend on gophers and rabbits for their meat supply.

Myself (Doris) and my sister, Hilda, were born at Pike Lake so the doctor at Delisle was the most available person for the big event.

Guess Dad could see not too bright a future for his farming so he decided to move to Saskatoon in 1916 and for a time worked for F. R. McMillan's, a store remembered by many people of the area. The third daughter, Elsie, was born a year later. Dad had taken

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Brickwell.

a mechanics course in the meantime and an opening came up at Fielding Garage so the Brickwells arrived there in 1918 with a family of three girls. Another three children were born in Fielding namely Hazel, Edna, and John. They all attended the Fielding School.

The first garage facing the railroad was a home and garage combination. The living quarters had just been enlarged before a tragic fire took place in 1926 leaving us with nothing, only the clothing we wore. The community was so helpful in getting Dad started again with a house, furniture, clothing, plus money to build a brick garage which stood till recently when it had to be dismantled. His garage provided many services besides fixing cars and machinery, such as gas and oil, farm machinery and repairs, binder twine and radios. When radios were being first introduced Dad had got the parts to assemble one and it was one of the first to be heard in the area which attracted many people who showed interest.

A tennis court was made outside our back door and many happy hours were spent with friends playing tennis.

They were staunch supporters and regular attenders of the United Church. Took part in the plays put on by the Community Club and often reminisced about the happy memories during their stay in Fielding.

The depression came upon us in 1929 so in 1934 they left for the West Coast arriving in Powell River but due to Dad's honesty and generosity people took advantage of him so had to leave there and find something in Vancouver. It took some time before he was able to get work in a welding shop. However before long he was fortunate enough to purchase a business of his own. John was of age to become interested in welding and together they ran "THE NEW METHOD WELDERS" for many years. During this time they had also built a number of large steel boats for log salvaging along the coast. Although John didn't have a university education for reading blue prints the results spoke for themselves. The shop was later sold. John moved to Nanlamo and Dad retired at eighty-five. At the age of eighty he made a beautiful chandelier for our living room which we are very proud of because it is one of a kind.

In 1972, Mother and Dad celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary with most of the eleven grandchildren, thirty-two great grandchildren plus many friends present. Dad's health started to deteriorate in 1976 and he left us in 1978. We all miss him but I must say I never heard him say an unkind thing about anyone. Our door is always open to any prairie friends, so please take advantage.

The Bright Family

This is the history of the Bright family who came to Maymont in 1935.

Stanley Bright, originally from Mazeppa, Minn. U.S.A. was adopted as an infant by W. H. Bright and brought to Canada in 1910 or 1911.

He married Irene Megaffin of Baljennie. They had a family of five children.

Shirley married Ches Miller and is now living in Maymont.

Glenn has married and spent twenty-eight years in the army. He is retiring this year and moving from Dartmouth, Nova Scotia to Regina.

Melville married Ted Turner and lives in Regina.

Jim is married and is living in Grande Prairie. He is working for the Hudson Bay Company as a Credit Manager.

Wayne, married Carol Rogers of Maymont and is teaching school in Plenty.

The family moved to Salvador in 1948, except for Shirley, Glenn, and Melville who had all taken up residence elsewhere by then. Mrs. Bright passed away in 1957. Then Wayne returned to Maymont to complete

his schooling. Mr. Bright lived out the remainder of his life in Salvador and passed away in 1975.

While in Maymont, Stan Bright, worked at McCorkle's Garage and with Harold Curry operating the town's power plant.

Some of the teachers we had during our schooling were, Mr. J. McVae; Mr. Harold Smith; Mr. Glover; Miss Wells; Mr. Morgenroth; Edith Butterfield; Miss Page, and Mr. J. Armstrong.

The school was divided into three rooms with four grades in each room.

The family of Ches and Shirley Miller are:

Marlene, married Garry Swain. They had three children and live on the Miller farm.

Faye married Dennis Hofer. They have one boy and are presently living in Swift Current, where Dennis is stationed as a member of the R.C.M.P.

Glenda married Eugene Pidwerbesky and they are living in Borden.

Glenn Bright Story

Glenn has retired from the Armed Services as Sgt. Major with twenty-eight years of service behind him. He begins his write-up by mentioning to his sister that he had devoted much time to trying to recall a worthy incident to mention but owing to the fact that he left Maymont at the age of eighteen that sort of precluded any "worthy incident" other than the fact that Allan Dolden and he went off to join the Army. So he has decided to relate incidents of the humorous or adventuresome category. At least they are humorous when looking at them from this point in time. Having many of us been in Glenn's shoes and asked to write for this book we can sympathize with his problem.

During the years of World War II harvesting help was scarce, therefore, Jim McLeish and I could immediately see a great opportunity to earn some much needed money and approached Franklin Mohler for a job. He provided the team and rack and agreed to pay us I believe it was $3.00 a day for the two of us — quite a considerable amount in those days. We could immediately envision new ball gloves, bicycles, etc., new things we thought only other kids had, possibly even a "real date" when we could spend more than the fifty cents admittance to the old Maymont Hall and possibly even go to the Chinese restaurant at halftime!! However, our introduction to harvesting was short lived, when, after four or five days Franklin's patience ran out and he fired us. Seems he figured we fooled around too much and would never make farmers. In retrospect it seems he was right.

My "farming saga" did not end there. I was full of determination so after some considerable effort I managed to talk Mac Taylor into hiring me. Seems my reputation may have preceded me as I had some difficulty, anyway he took a chance and I was hired to drive his tractor pulling a binder. During those long hot days this sometimes became a very onerous task. My active mind, therefore, developed an "emergency procedure" to be used when the boredom became too great. I would increase the speed of the tractor until finally some part of the binder would break and this would make it necessary for me to go to town in Mac's truck to obtain a new part. In those days the truck driving part was much more desirable to someone my age. It seems I lasted there long enough to earn $25.00 because I can vividly remember my brother-in-law (or sister's boyfriend — I don't remember which), Ches Miller, taking me to Grobman's Store in North Battleford where I purchased my first suit — a blue pin-stripe!

My farming experience also included a short stay at Frank Miller's — stooking green clover. I can well remember that the sheaves were heavier than I was. Looking back on this experience makes me think that the only reason I stayed was because Shirley was either married to or going out with Frank's brother and I didn't want to "lose face" with the family. However, I think it was about this time that I developed an allergy to grain dust which seemed to have ended my brief association with the farming industry at a very appropriate time as I was running out of prospective employers.

Other items of interest to me that come to mind during my early years in Maymont include the following.

Sometime after I purchased the "blue suit" I can remember being at a dance in the old Maymont Hall dancing with Bea Knight and we were swinging and swaying with much grace and skill when she hooked her heel in Jock Blacklock's pants and fell — taking me to the floor with her — not considered the thing to do in those days.

Going to Sunday School was mandatory in those days, even if it was not your parents' church, as I can remember attending the Anglican Church — with Jim McLeish I think — for one year and winning a pencil box for attendance — thereafter I returned to the United Church with my coveted pencil box.

I can well remember sitting on Alan Bean's store counter with my sister Shirley singing "Red Sails in the Sunset" and Alan giving us candies; also playing "hookey" from school and going to Melrose's dam to swim and more than likely picking up "duck itch" as we usually did each time we swam there.

The Ed Broom History

written by Ed Broom

I bought the Pool Room and Barber Shop from Mrs. Anger. I was living and farming at Spinney Hill at the time. I had a farm sale on March 15, 1944, and moved to Maymont to live where Phil Long now lives. We had not been over here very long when we bought out the restaurant. It was owned by Mr. and Mrs. Wes Rolfe.

We moved in and the wife looked after the restaurant and cooking. We had it for about two years, then we sold the restaurant to Mr. and Mrs. Greenslade. We moved across the street beside the Pool Room. I think Mr. Neill had just moved out of there and the building belonged to Frank Langley. I asked Mrs. Langley if I could move the pool room in where I was living because it was a lot bigger. She said if I paid all the bills I could. So I did and put in two more pool tables. When the house became empty at Bill Sowdens Park we moved down there for two years but then we had to move because Nelson Nutbrown had bought the farm. We moved over ■ the Foster house to live for the winter. Then I bought the house that I am living in now. It had belonged to John Rolfe. I also had bought the livery barn from E. Sykes (that was in 1950). J. Foster worked for me and I worked, too.

After the train stopped, things got slow but I still had the Pool Room. I sold it and I started ■ work part time for the Glenburn Park when it started up. After about two years I went full time looking after the park. I moved the Pool Room back across the street where the restaurant was before I sold it. I had a sale and sold the livery stuff and the livery barn and it was moved away. I worked at the Park until 1971.

I am retired now and I like living in Maymont. I used to come across the river to curl in 1936 the year they built the curling rink. On my rink I had Bob Bates, ■. Holden, J. Cash and G. Krischke. They all played with me. We used to curl two games when we came over. We enjoyed it but we had some cold trips. We used to put the horse in G. Walton's barn and we would eat dinner there. She always made us tea and we would bring a load of wood with us sometimes.

The Buell's Family History

by Mrs. Torrance Free

Edward Franklin Buell who was born in Dayton, Ohio, U.S.A. married Evangeline Isabel Harris who was born in Cambridge, Mass, U.S.A. They were married in Cambridge, Mass and it was there that their first child, Allyson Frances, was born on June 1, 1906.

In the fall of 1907 we came to Fielding, Saskatchewan and stayed with R. ■. Harris and family, my mother's brother, until my dad got a homestead west of Fielding. He built a log house and sod barn on it. He started farming with three oxen and a pony.

Three brothers and a sister were born at Fielding. William farms at Fielding, Chester worked in a store. He passed away December, 1978. Jack farmed at Lloydminster and Ruth passed away nine days after birth.

William and I went to Beckwith School for a short time while Calais School was being built. Miss Vera Amy Cooper was the first teacher at Calais School. Her name is now Mrs. Hugh Petty, Bresaylor, Saskatchewan.

Joe Ducharme was our first neighbor.

Dr. Scratch was the first doctor I could remember.

In November, 1918 my dad left my mother and family and have never heard of him since. My mother and family carried on with the farming with some hired help. Chester stayed with his uncle, R. B. Harris, and went to school with his family until ■ grew up.

Clarence Buell

My name is Clarence Buell. I am the middle son from the Bill Buell family. My mother's name is Helen. I have two sisters, Phyllis and Marmie, and two brothers, Walter and Leslie. The seven of us lived in the Calais School District where my dad and Leslie still farm. My mom, my sisters and I live in Saskatoon. Walter lives at Chandler, Arizona. My mom and dad have twelve grandchildren.

Some of the first memories are of my play farms in the dirt around the house. Imagination was such an important part of play. My tractor was part of the frame of an old horse drawn disc, my brother's was part of an old binder. Imagination gave them wheels and living color. My brother's was green but mine was bright red just like Albert Sherman's new one. Such a contrast from today when most children have an abundance of manufactured lifelike toys. A bicycle or a wagon in those days would have been such a prize. The bicycles leaned against the fence in our backyard until the middle of May this year before our children had the time or interest to take a ride.

Travel was so restricted that our world was very small. As a boy I remember how big I thought Calais School or Gunn's Store were.

In the years when I was in grade three or four there were great numbers of crows, magpies and gophers. The fish and game league paid a bounty of one cent per egg for crow or magpie eggs. My brother and I collected four hundred and sixty-eight eggs and took them to school for our teacher, Miss Downey, to record.

As we grew older we organized a school softball team to compete at sports days in the surrounding towns. Our team had players from Calais, Beckwith and Hopewell Schools.

When we were teenagers our family moved to the Gollan farm where we had our own ball park in the cow pasture behind the barn. "Cow Pad Park" as it was named by Philip Long, saw many a good hit and many a safe slide.

The ball game started right after supper and didn't end until it was too dark to play. After the game was over we milked our twelve cows.

These are a few of my memories.

Walter John Buell

Born Oct. 30, 1933

This brief account of Buell family history will mostly cover my life activities. The history ■ my parents,

grandparents, etc. will probably be presented to your library by family members of those generations.

I was born at Fielding on Oct. 30, 1933 and lived with my parents and 2 brothers and 2 sisters in the old Buell house until Friday August 11, 1944 when we moved to the Shire place. I wrote this date in my diary then and (right or wrong) I still remember it. A couple of years later we moved to the Cameron place, then to the Gollan place where Dad still farms. I attended Calais School thru most of grade 10 and took partial grade 11 in Fielding High School in 1950-51.

I worked at various jobs in Saskatchewan and British Columbia until the end of 1956. On Jan. 14, 1957 I emigrated to the United States. All the important events of my adult life have occured here in the U.S. I was reluctantly inducted into the U.S. Army in the fall of 1958 and served until 1960. The Army trained me as a medical X-Ray technologist. This was a good night-time occupation that fit in well with my attending various Universities and Colleges during the day. I graduated from the University of Utah in 1965 with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering. I worked at Utah Power and Light Co. for 2 years as an Electrical Engineer. Since I lacked one Engineering class, University of Utah records show my graduation as 1966.

Just before moving to Arizona in 1967 the most important event of my life occurred when I married Sharon Lee Schow on Dec. 6, 1967. Since coming to Arizona we have increased our family from 3 to 7 children. The names of our children are: Edward Ricks, Del Ricks, Carolyn Ricks, Steven Buell, Tonya Buell, Brian Buell and Kevin Buell. I have been employed as an Electrical Engineer by Salt River Project (an Electrical and Water Utility in the Phoenix area) for the past 11 years. Our family is also involved in various land development projects in the Phoenix area. Farming skills that I learned in Saskatchewan [redacted] years ago come in handy even in todays modern world.

E. J. (Ed) Buhr

Ed Buhr came to Maymont in 1917, from the Hague district, but he was born in Mountain Lake, Minnesota, U.S.A. on June 15th, 1888. He worked as a carpenter and ran steam engines on various farms in the early years. In later years he helped the Turner family at harvest time, running the combine.

He built a garage in Maymont in 1931, and did mechanic work on trucks, cars, lawn mowers and anything with a motor.

He was also one of Dr. Scratch's drivers, through all kinds of weather and to all parts of the district travelled by this pioneer doctor. He was Doc's companion, and when they were not travelling on a medical case, they were playing their usual game of cards.

Ed is very fond of children and over the years many a child got a nickel or a dime for treats from their

Ed Buhr and Jimmy Rogers.

friend, Buhr. On Hallowe'en nights he had more children visit him than any other household and he had treats for them all.

Over the years, he has received cards, wedding invitations, and birth announcements from children of the district who grew up here, and when they come home to this day they make a habit of visiting Buhr.

His hobbies were hunting and fishing in his younger days, and he was an ardent photographer, and took many pictures [redacted] the town and the residents therein.

He helped his brother Cornelius, build the Memorial Hall and kept a key for the convenience of people engaged [redacted] activities in the hall, until the last few years. After being in his location in Maymont for the past [redacted] years, on Sept. 28th, 1979, due to failing health [redacted] moved to River Heights Lodge, North Battleford, where, [redacted] his 91st year, he can be found reading his favorite detective story or locomotive magazines or playing a game [redacted] solitaire, without the aid of glasses.

Mr. and Mrs. John Bulmer
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Bulmer

told by Howard Bulmer

John Bulmer at age 15, together with his brothers and sisters, came to Canada in 1903 with his parents Mr. and Mrs. John George Bulmer from Hartlepool, England with a group of Barr Colonists. They homesteaded S.E. 4-43-13-W3rd. He helped his parents on the farm as well as working for rancher Charles Nolin. He also worked in Battleford. When he was 17 he filed on N.E. 10-43-13-W3rd. For a time he was a member of the Mounted Police. He also was in the army in the first World War. After his discharge he resumed farming.

John Bulmer with his 4-month-old grandson Kolin Bulmer, 1962.

(l-r) Mrs. George Mabey with two grandchildren and Mrs. Malvina Bulmer.

In 1923, he married Malvina Wintle. She had come out west about 1911 from Sherbrooke, Quebec. They continued farming. They raised one son, Howard, who still resides on the farm. Malvina passed away in 1946, a victim of cancer. John died in 1962 of a heart attack.

For ten years, starting in 1939, Howard attended what was then known as Burnley School later to be known as Lilac School.

In 1956 Howard married Effie Stewart of Metiskow, Alberta. They raised a family of five children, Kolin, Colleen, Wilfred, Anita and Dawn.

Nov. 1, 1975, Kolin married Connie Long of Maymont. They have two sons: Dale and Gary. They live in Battleford where Kolin is employed with Kindersley Transport.

Feb. 3, 1979, Colleen married Doug Prescesky of the Wavie Bank district. After living in Battleford approximately six months, they are now making their home on the Bill Thrasher farmstead.

Wilfred is living at home and at the time of this writing is working for the Great Bend municipality mowing the road allowance ditches.

Anita and Dawn are attending Maymont Central School.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Burrows

submitted by Mr. Allan Burrows

Two young enterprising Englishmen, Fred and Sam Simpson, migrated to Canada from Scunthorpe, Lincolnshire, England and arrived in Maymont, Saskatchewan about the year 1905. Fred Simpson took up a homestead north of Maymont which later was sold to Charlie Tiplin. Sam Simpson also acquired a homestead near Eatonia School next to the Potter's.

Both young men returned to England in the fall of 1907 and returned to Maymont in the spring of 1908 along with my Mother and Dad, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Burrows and Lily Simpson who later married Bob Johnston.

Dad and Mother lived in Maymont from 1908 until 1915 when they took up homesteading 3½ miles south west of Speers, Sask. They lived on this farm until 1929 when they moved to Saskatoon. They left Saskatoon in 1949 to retire in Victoria, B.C.

During Mother and Dad's stay in Maymont they lived next door to our famous Doctor Scratch. Dad often mentioned that he would have to douse the ashes from Doc's stove with either water or snow to prevent setting the town on fire. Doctor Scratch brought all five children into the world. Bernard and Leonard born in Maymont, Phyllis, Allan and Doris born on the farm.

Dad was engaged by the Maymont council to build the Maymont Presbyterian Church, now United Church, in 1911. I saw the church a couple of years ago and it seems in good shape and as Dr. Myers pointed out to me "not a sag in its roof after all these years."

We also understand that Dad was Mayor of Maymont sometime before 1915, date unknown. He also belonged to the famous Maymont Rifle Club. We have to this day a shield and a watch fob which he had won in shooting contests while a member of the club.

Bob Butterfield

told by Bob

It was not until my father Frank Butterfield Sr. built the big house circa 1917 that I have any recollection of the farm and home. I slightly remember the old house which was small and partly of frame and partly of log.

During the time the big house was being built I wanted to be in there helping at six years of age and even at mealtime I would wash up with the men and get soap in my eyes.

The house was built of frame to a set of plans from Eaton's and lumber from Eaton's — the cost of which was $1200.00. The plans are still in the house. It was built on a stone foundation by a stonemason. The brick chimney and fireplace were his work also. Shorty Stewart was one of the carpenters and I remember him well because he walked the top plate before the rafters went up and to me at that age was something to behold atop a two-storey house. The plumbing and tinsmithing were done by Henry Tadey of Radisson. The pressure system was a two hundred gallon tank with a hand pump and rain water was taken from a cistern in the basement that was also built by Henry Tadey. In later years I had the tedious job of pumping up the system. The house has a high pitch roof to run the snow off and a double veranda on the south side — one up and one down. The one up was for sleeping out in the summer but brother Bruce would sleep there all winter with a horsehide robe to keep his body heat in.

At one time the front lawn was kept like the greens of a golf course so we used to play tennis on Sunday after Sunday school.

I walked to school with my brother and sister my first day and the teacher picked me up and set me on her knee, on which I promptly peed, with fright no doubt. When the horses were all working in the fields we would walk to school but other times we would drive in a buggy with an oat sheaf in the back for the horse at noon — then in winter we would drive with horse and cutter. I remember one day dropping into the parsonage after school with the horse and cutter waiting outside but we visited too long and the horse went home on his own and was standing at the water trough waiting for someone to pump him some water, when we got home with a neighbour. Occasionally my younger sister and I would ride to school on horseback, using my foot for a stirrup Muriel would climb on and away we would go.

One of those years as a boy, I had to run the churn to make butter for the threshing crew — I was impatient and kept opening the lid to see how it was coming. I guess I didn't close the clamp correctly and on one of those barrel churns you either lock it up or you didn't have any butter so guess what all the cream ended up on the ground!

I remember my father going for a grist with a team of horses. He would take a load of wheat to Radisson, twenty miles away, and bring back 20 cwt. of flour, our years supply. The flour in 100 pound bags had to be carried up to the attic, placed on 2x4s suspended from the rafters by wire to keep the mice off; mice got wise and slid down the wire so then metal was put on like a roof so the mice would slide off the roof leaving the flour untouched.

The Gothic roof barn was built by Charlie Fry of Saskatoon in the early thirties and not too many years later horses were done away with when the tractors took over, but the cow barn is still in use today.

At age 18, I was one of the threshing crew. I gained ten pounds with all the food, exercise and sleep.

I stayed on the farm until I was 25 at which time I tried selling Insurance and was sent to Kirkland Lake, Ontario where a new branch was being opened up. At this I couldn't earn enough so I went underground as a hard rock miner for three years until 1939 when the war started. I then moved to Toronto to serve my time in a machine shop for an aircraft firm to which trade I spent most of my forty years in Toronto.

I am married with one son and two grandchildren living in British Columbia and two daughters living in Ontario. Now at the age of 67 I am retired and spend the winter months in Florida or Arizona playing golf and bicycle riding.

The Bruce Butterfield Family

My early life at Maymont was I suppose nothing out of the usual. The Sports Day on May the 24th was always a highlight, and we boys always tried to get the spring work done before that big day.

Being always interested in farming, I had quite a bit to do with grain and livestock clubs for the younger set.

When the thirty's came along with the drought, there wasn't much future insight, so on May 4th, 1934 I left home (Maymont) by team and wagon for the homestead at Somme, Sask. which I had acquired a few years earlier. It was quite a trip with the team and took ten long days to cover 300 miles.

When I was about two thirds of the way across, I met up with two young Ukrainians driving a team of oxen. I asked how they liked driving oxen. They replied in broken English. "It's all right in a pinch, but that is about all".

Then in 1937, I married Ethel Dearborn, of Richard. We were married in the Bromley Church, in late October. After a short honeymoon, we started for our home at Somme, in a converted Model T truck.

The first years were rather tough, but eventually things improved, and we acquired more land. During the years we took an active part in Community affairs such as Church, Curling Club, Agricultural Society, of which I was secretary-treasurer for 26 years. Chairman of Senior Citizen's low rental housing, and I was on the Telephone Board, to name a few. Ethel has been

involved in the Ladies Club, and Anglican Church Women's group for many years.

We have a family of four: two boys and two girls and they were all very active in the 4-H Clubs.

Ron, our eldest son, graduated from Agricultural College at the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon in 1963, is married and farming in the area. They have two boys. Elaine, who attended Teachers' Training College and the U. of S. has taught school for a number of years is married and lives in Calgary, and has two children. Robert who graduated from the College of Engineering in 1966, has a position in Saskatoon and is also doing part time farming at Somme. He is married and they have two children. Marlene, who also graduated from Teachers' Training College and U. of S. after teaching a few years, married and lives near Lintlaw with her husband and one little boy.

Our retirement is being spent on the home farm with time taken out for travelling.

We are proud to have pioneered and lived in one of the finest agricultural distircts in Saskatchewan and to be a part of a friendly and industrious community.

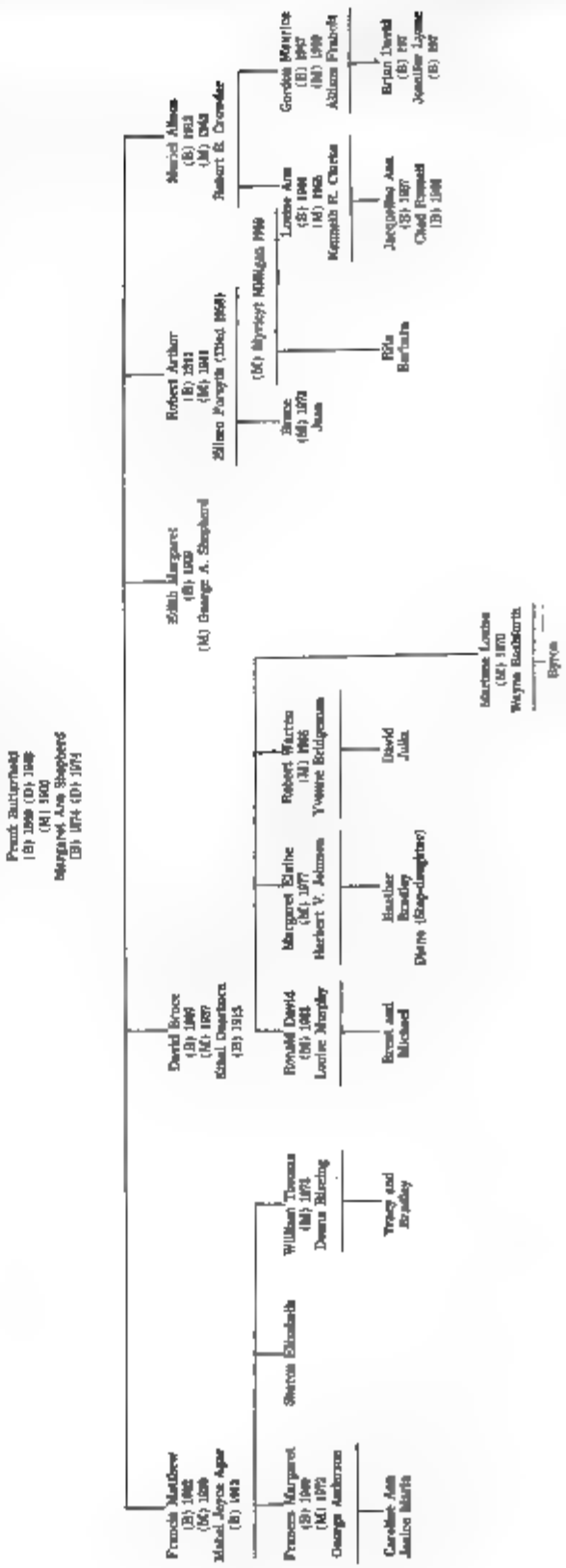
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Butterfield Senior

Frank and Margaret Butterfield arrived on their homestead in the now Maymont area on Easter Day, 1905, with their young son, Francis Matthew, and were destined to see the bald, rolling prairie develop into a wholesome farming community, which was to be their home for the rest of their lives.

Frank, senior, was born in Ambleside in the Lake Districts of Cumbria, England and in 1900 met and married Margaret Ann in London. Their son, Francis Matthew was born in England in 1902.

After deciding to come to Canada Mr. and Mrs. Butterfield arrived at Halifax and proceeded to Wawanesa, Manitoba, where they worked on George Mooney's farm. While there they acquired some settlers' effects and in 1905 went to Saskatoon and took up a homestead in the present Maymont area S.W.¼ 42-12-W3. Like many other pioneer families their

Mrs. Butterfield, Senior.



domiciles progressed from tent to log cabin with a sod roof to a lovely, modern two and a half storey home built in 1918.

The intervening years were scarred with the hardships of the dirty thirties but healed by the friendship of community neighbours and friends. During these years were born Bruce, Edith, Robert and Muriel, who all pitched in to make the home farm a thriving enterprise. Later Bruce left home for the district of Somme with his young bride, Ethel, and pioneered in that area much in the same way as his father had 'broken sod' at the turn of the century. Bob was more of an adventurer and travelled East to Ontario where he worked in Kirkland Lake and later in Toronto. Edith obtained her teaching certificate in Saskatoon and after teaching at Maymont and other communities eventually travelled to England and Scotland where she married George A. Shepherd. Muriel, who obtained her teaching certificate in Saskatoon and her Degree in Music from Toronto, taught in Maymont area till 1943 when she married a young Anglican Minister, Robert B. Crowder. They are now living in Calgary. Frankie stayed with the home farm. In 1937 he married Mabel Agar of Lilac.

Frank Butterfield, senior, was a man of thrift and hard work. His interest went farther afield than the homestead and is remembered as a man who not only helped build but loved his church where he was warden for many years. For many years he was President and director of the local telephone company and was a member of the local Orange Lodge. He was quite active in the community and the farm until his death in 1948.

Margaret Butterfield like all pioneers had to contend with the primitive style of pioneer life for many years. But in spite of this she raised five children and contended with the care and occupation of farm life. Her interests spilled over into Church and community life where she was made a life member of both the Anglican Women's Auxiliary and of the Home Makers Club. She lived to the ripe old age of One Hundred Years minus four months, and laid to rest beside her husband in the Maymont Cemetery.

Billie Butterfield, their grandson now operates the farm with his father, Frankie.

Frank, Jr. and Mabel Butterfield

Francis Matthew Butterfield was born in 1902, in London, England. A year later and his parents, Frank and Margaret Butterfield, arrived by boat in Halifax, Canada. From there they took the train to Wawanesa, Manitoba, where they worked for G. Moody throughout the summer. In the winter, Frank Sr. worked at Hudson Bay cutting trees, in order to earn enough money for equipment to go farming out west of Saskatoon. He and his family, then proceeded by wagon to their homestead (SW ¼, 4, 12, 42) where they borrowed a tent from the Andrews, for Margaret and Frank, Jr. to live in until he hauled lumber from Langham for their house.

The mail came to W. Andrew, Sr. on the next homestead east. The house still stands as a pioneer post office. Postage from England and Scotland was a penny for letters and a half-penny for cards.

Frank Sr. worked on the road with his neighbors for income. Some of those he worked with were: Sam in the Field, Bob Johnston, Bill Dawson, Dick Hiltz, Jimmy Pickett, Joe Adams, Wilf Baker, and Joe Vassey.

Frank Jr. went to Grey School in 1908, where Miss Erskine and Miss Waters (Mrs. Dan Prosser) taught them all the old songs. Mr. Baker was another teacher. Later, Frank walked across country to Maymont, where Miss Carter (Mrs. W. Langley) and Miss Chisolm and Mr. E. Weber (who later taught French at B.C.I.) were his teachers. Frank's education was interrupted by World War I, during which he stayed home to help build the new home and became a Soldier of the Soil, for which a bronze medal was given by Mr. Borden's Government.

In 1924, Frank Jr. went with the Langleys hunting up north. It took about five days by team and wagon to get up to Green Lake. They built a spruce log shack for shelter, then hunted for deer, antelope and moose. Percy Boskill, Jim and Henry Bohn, Harold Coombs and Mr. Haight were among the hunting party.

In 1927 the homesteading bug again hit the Butterfields, when Frank Jr. and Bruce travelled two hundred miles east to Somme to make their new homesteads. They built themselves a log shack for lodging. George, Bob Lynn and Mr. Briese were neighbors. Edith went weekends from the Dunwell School District to help with the bread baking. Bruce stayed on the homestead and married Ethel Dearborn in 1937.

Frank returned home to help his father on the original homestead. The transportation between the homesteads was a Ford Touring Model A, and the road was open in late fall.

They used a Rumley tractor and separator for harvesting the rather scarce thin crops in the thirties. In 1936, Charlie Fry helped build the arched roof barn.

In July 1939, Mabel Agar and Frank Butterfield were married in Lilac, at St. Mary's Church, which was later moved to the Western Development Museum in North Battleford. Their house was the old Oliver Andrew's house, which was located on S.W. ¼, Section 34 and moved into the same yard as Frank, Sr. and Margaret. Mabel and Frank had three children, Frances Margaret, Elizabeth Sharon and William Thomas. Their first daughter, Frances, was born in August 1940 — Frank and Margaret's first granddaughter.

As help was scarce during the Second World War, the first rubber-tired tractor, a John Deere Model A, was purchased to do the field work, along with the two Clyde horse teams (Ned and Pat — Flash and Brow-

nie). The Model A is still used by Frank on the farm today as a front-end loader.

In 1949, Frank purchased a Ford half-ton truck for hauling grain and livestock as well as transporting the children to and from school.

In 1952, Frank purchased a Massey self-propelled combine which was used until the fall of 1977 when Bill and Frank replaced it with a Versatile pull-type.

The original party line telephone was changed over to modern style in 1970. Frank was on the board of directors. The phone company was taken over by Sask-Tel in 1978, who put in buried cable for more efficient services.

Modern day power came in 1955, to replace the old 32-volt power plant that was kept in the basement.

In 1972, Frances married George Anderson, in Calgary, Alberta. They now live in Mississauga, Ontario where George works as an executive with the Bay. They have two children, Carolyn Ann and Janice Marie.

In 1973, William Thomas married Donna Risling in North Battleford. For the first year they lived in Saskatoon, where Bill was taking an Agriculture course at the University and Donna worked for Turbo Resource as a Secretary-Accountant. Bill worked the first few months of 1974 at Neils, as a mechanic, until seeding started. They now live on the original homestead, in the old house of Frank Sr. They've spent the last five years remodelling the house. They have two children, Tracy Lynn and Bradley James.

During one of the coldest days of winter of 1978 the new transformer that the power company had installed earlier that year exploded, shaking the houses and rattling the windows. Sharon was alone in one house and Donna and Tracy in the other. Both thought the other's furnace had exploded. They soon realized that it was the transformer when they saw the flames shooting out of one of them. Sharon called the power company and Donna called David Voegeli, who went for Bill and Frank down to the pasture, where they were rescuing a stranded calf. The power company came and worked in 40-below weather installing a new pole and larger transformer. The second transformer exploded about an hour after the first one did but with less impact than the first. We all kept from freezing by huddling around the old wrought iron range, and dined by candlelight with the added help from a trouble light connected to a six-volt battery. We were toasty warm in the kitchen but the rest of the house was thirty-five below. All was back to normal by 10:30, except the house didn't get warm till an hour later.

After having several heavy snow falls during the winter of 1979, the last being an inch or so on April 28, we had a very late spring, causing many flooding conditions including the F. Butterfield's yard. The yard and garden area was flooded to waist high. This happened at 2 a.m. in pitch darkness, the water moving like a river, sounding like rapids. The water came from across the road, into the yard and into the basement. Frank and Bill made blockades to divert the water away from the barn and corrals. Amazingly enough it was all clear by 8 a.m. leaving no great damage in its wake.

The years have rolled by leaving behind lots of wonderful memories, and some that we'd rather forget. We've come a long way from the horse and buggy days, come through the world wars, a depression and hard times. The past seventy years have brought us to modernized equipment, fast vehicles, and improved technology. What the next seventy years have in store for us, remains to be seen.

Bill Buttrey

In the year 1926 at the age of fifteen years I decided I was going to imigrate to the "Colonies" as it was referred to in those days.

I made application to New Zealand, was refused; then to Australia, again refused; and South Africa with the same result; and all because of my poor eyesight.

I finally applied to Canada and this time was successful.

In 1927 I was accepted for immigration to Canada under the auspicies of the Church of England. The Church paid all the expenses and undertook to accept responsibility for my care for three years.

In late July, 1927 I boarded the S.S. Athenia bound for the port of Quebec.

There were ten or twelve of us all about the same age (sixteen years) and we were headed for Melfort, Saskatchewan where the Church of England operated a hostel. There local farmers could apply for a young lad willing to do farm work.

After eight days on the ocean and a week on an immigrant train out of Quebec we finally arrived at Melfort. The journey on the train was an experience I will never forget. The passengers were all new arrivals in Canada, all hoping to find fame and fortune in a new land.

The wooden seats on the train when made into a bed were as hard as a rock. I slept upon the luggage rack.

We were met in Quebec by a minister of the church and had a huge supply of groceries, enough to feed us on the journey from Quebec to Melfort. There was a little cubby hole in the railroad car with a small cook stove and everyone in that car had to do their own cooking. The temperature was in the ninety degree mark and between the smell of perspiration, garlic and food cooking it was an experience never to be forgotten.

A few of the boys had little money, but it didn't last long for the Newsies on the train were very persuasive and had little difficulty getting the boys to part with their money.

We finally arrived in Melfort and found we had jobs waiting for all of us. Myself and another lad had to purchase tickets on the C.N.R. for Lilac where we would be met by our future employers.

When I left England I was wearing a bowler hat and wore it all the way to Melfort, so naturally wore it on the journey to Lilac! At least it was the cause of lots of laughter for the ensuing years. Mrs. McCann met me ■ Lilac and I was on my way to a life as the hired man. Never having done a day's work in my life, for I was still going to school a week before I sailed for Canada, life changed drastically. I can remember one thing now — what ■ ■ to be homesick. All I could think of was to save enough money ■ get back ■ England.

My first wages in Canada were set ■ ten dollars per month for nine months. At the end of nine months I put eighty dollars ■ the bank.

I will never forget the kindness of our closest neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. King Turner. They were from England and had a young Scottish lad about my age working for them. Most of all they had a piano and they made me feel very much at home and encouraged me to play the piano. When I think now of the many times I walked over there and kept them up late at night while I played that piano. I must have made an awful pest of myself, but they were wonderful people and always made me feel so welcome.

I could fill a book with my experiences with Bobby Gage, the lad who worked for Harry Turner, but one thing I will never forget is the wonderful kindness to a very homesick boy who had but one thing in his mind — to save enough money ■ get back home.

Finally ■ 1931 I achieved my goal with about one thousand dollars saved I bought my one-way ticket back to England. What a surprise! I couldn't stand it when I got home. Even though I had a good job, after three weeks I bought my return ticket to Canada. I stayed in England four months and really enjoyed myself, but was very happy when I finally boarded a Cunard liner bound once again Canada.

Now the idea was to save enough money to make a start at farming on my own. This was the beginning of the dirty thirties, money was something to dream about. I worked for many local farmers, sometimes for my board, but always with wonderful people who made me feel like one of the family and never that hated word the hired man.

Finally in 1938 I took the plunge and rented a half section of land from Ross Stally. Did a lot of work on the house that is still on the farm and in the fall of 1938 married May Robinson. Our first daughter was born ■ this house. We have two other daughters, Ann and Dawn.

Due to the war we were away from Ruddell for a few years returning to farm in 1959. I became postmaster at Ruddell, retiring in the village.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Buziak

by Emma Buziak

We came to the Lilac District in 1943 to a farm two and one-half miles west of Lilac. At that time we had one child, a girl, Geraldine. That fall in October we had a son, Dennis. Both Geraldine and Dennis went ■ Lilac School.

Walter was raised ■ the Whitkow Area and went to Proswita School. Emma grew up in Rabbit Lake District and went to Park Royal School.

Lilac was a busy little place with Post Office, store, garage, two elevators and a church. A curling rink was built in 1945 and it really kept us busy in the winters.

Our mixed farm kept us busy as we milked quite a few cows and shipped cream. Walter also did carpenter work in North Battleford for four years. Then we went into the chicken business in 1954 and supplied hatching eggs to Longstaff's Hatchery in North Battleford, and Anstey's Hatchery in Saskatoon and Lloydminster. We also supplied graded eggs to the Safeway Store in North Battleford. Our flock usually numbered about 1400 laying hens. We quit the egg business in 1966, when we lost our home in a fire which destroyed our egg graders, washers and cooler.

In 1966, July 3, a lightning storm had burned our home; later that summer with the help of our neighbors we had poured a basement. After harvest we started to re-build our home. We got moved into it in February, 1967. That was a real cold winter, as we nearly froze ■ the little trailer we lived in while we were building the house.

Geraldine, now Mrs. Vern Young, lives ■ Montreal and has three children, two boys and a girl. Dennis and Donna live on a farm in the Lilac Area and have three sons.

We are semi-retired now but are staying in our farm home.

The Dennis Buziak Story

The Five D's began on April 23, 1965, when Dennis, a Lilac resident, married Donna Strong, a girl from the Murray Lake district. The first three years of their married life was spent in Edmonton, Alberta, where Dennis worked as a mechanic and Donna a typist. Their first son, Dwain Walter, was born on January 20, 1968 in the Royal Alexander Hospital in Edmonton. They returned to Saskatchewan when Dwain was about three months old. Dennis worked in North Battleford as a mechanic and then operated a service station at Denholm. A second son, Dean George, was born ■ the Union Hospital in North Battleford on August 2, 1970. After giving up the service station they decided to give "Beautiful British Columbia" a try. In the fall of 1971 Dennis loaded up his family and moved to Prince George. Although the jobs were plentiful and wages were good, the terrible odor from the pulp mills and rough lifestyle proved to ■ undesirable. A third son, Devin Patrick William, was born on December 18, 1972 in the Prince George Hospital. When Devin was only four months old they decided once again to move. In the spring of 1973 they returned to Saskatchewan. They now reside on the Levi Walden farm, where Dennis farms and does mechanic work for neighboring

(l-r) Devin, Dwain and Dean Buzlak.

farmers. Dwain, Dean and Devin attend school at Maymont and during the winter are avid hockey players.

The Caldwell Story

Thomas Boyd Calwell was born in County Antrim, Ireland on June 7, 1889. His mother died of 'galloping consumption' when he was three months old. This was probably why the young lad was sent to Canada — it was believed the drier climate would be beneficial to his health. Thomas arrived in the Lilac District in 1906 and worked for the Semple brothers on their farms. His free time was spent at the Collins farm where he was treated as "one of the family".

Later he had his own "homestead" and also worked for other farmers and one winter he worked for Maymont Livery Stables.

The spelling of his name was changed when he joined the Ninth C.M.R.'s in March, 1915. This, of course, caused problems years later whenever he had to show his brith certificate. In June, 1915 Thomas went overseas where he was stationed at Canterbury. Here he was assigned to the "C" Squadron, Fort Garry Horse and had combat duty in France and Belgium. It was 1919 when 114014 Thomas Caldwell was discharged and able to return to Lilac. During his four years in France he also had pneumonia.

It was while he was stationed in England in 1915 that Tom met Mary Elizabeth Holmes who was later to become his wife. They were married in Saskatoon June 7, 1922, and farmed west of Lilac until July, 1948. During this time they had five children — the first baby being premature only lived two days, as in 1923 there wasn't the scientific knowledge we enjoy today.

However, they raised three boys and one girl with few calamities other than oldest son Tommy Junior breaking his arm once and having concussion after his pony slipped on ice and fell. At that time we were very lucky to have Harry King-Turner who had studied to be a doctor as a near neighbor.

When Harry and Margaret King-Turner returned to England in 1936, the Caldwell family moved to their farm and with the assistance of his own sons Thomas cultivated that quarter section plus the Collins farm. Mrs. Collins was a widow and had moved to Ruddell to handle the telephone exchange years previously. They also farmed the land left when the Richie Scott family returned to their native Scotland.

In 1948 Bill Caldwell joined the R.C.A.F. and left Lilac District to see the world. Thomas Holmes Caldwell remained in the area and married Lillian Seib. The rest of the family moved to Nanaimo in July, 1948 where Bert finished school.

When Bert was seventeen he returned to Lilac and worked for farmers for a short time. He took a correspondence course on drafting and went to work on the South Saskatchewan Dam. Later he worked at Waskesiu Lake with Parks Board and presently is in the Parks Office in Winnipeg.

After leaving the Air Force Bill also returned to Lilac to visit his brother and family. He trained in Psychiatric Nursing at the Battleford Hospital. Here he met his future wife who was the occupational therapist. Bill with his wife and three children live in Meadow Lake.

Thomas Holmes Caldwell and his wife raised six children. Five are married and raising their own families now. Only the youngest, Ron, stayed in the Lilac District to farm.

Laura married Eric Sahlstrom and they raised a family of three. They now have four grandchildren. Laura, now widowed, lives in Nanaimo, B.C., and works as part of the housekeeping staff of the Nanaimo General Hospital.

The following was written by T.B. Caldwell in answer to a request from a Lilac school student. It was written as part of a Homemaker's Project to celebrate Saskatchewan's Fiftieth Birthday.

"I arrived in Canada on March 12, 1906. My first home was a Log house. It was called the "Bachelor's Retreat" as most of the settlers used to congregate there on Sundays. It belonged to Mr. James Semple for whom I worked for three years, cutting scrub and breaking land for seeding with a team of oxen.

I homesteaded north and east of Lilac in 1908. I lived there in a sod shack in winter and worked out in summer. I think Mr. Wm. Agar was first to own a car, and also first to have a radio. I cannot remember who had the first truck unless it was Walter Parent.

I lived in and around the Lilac District from 1906 until 1948, when I went out to British Columbia and settled in Northfield, with the exception of my service days in the First Great War when I was in France in 1915. I arrived back at Ruddell in June, 1919.

My experiences were many and varied but as I was just a boy in my teens I took them as a matter of course. I was lost several times on the prairie while looking for horses but usually managed to arrive at some bachelor's shack where I stayed until daybreak.

My sod shack which I built on my homestead sank down on me as the sods had been frozen when I built it

and when they thawed out they sank so low that I had to dig down in front of my stove or else get down on my hands and knees to light it.

Ruddell had only one store at that time. We could drive across country in those days as there were not many fences.

The Campbells are Coming

Evelyn Andrew Sloan, Maymont, Saskatchewan, January, 1979

A team of oxen had been standing for almost two hours near the railroad station of Ruddell, their heads nodding in the hot August sun.

"Look," Dave said to his partner, "I wonder what brings the two Campbell boys here with the stone boat. Must be going to haul something."

"Didn't you hear?" Ike replied. "Sandy sent for the missus and kids. Yes, sir, the Campbells are coming!"

"Oh, so that's it," said Dave. "Well, settlers are getting common".

But the Sandy Campbells were not a "common" family . . .

It was back in 1862 that a cholera epidemic took many adults in the village of Baddeck on Cape Breton's rocky shore. Alex and Isobel Campbell fell victims to the plague, leaving nine children. One was a baby of three weeks. The oldest was Alexander, twelve years old whom they called Sandy as he inherited some of the reddish tinge of his mother's hair. Mary was thirteen. Next were Dan, Kate, Etta, Belle, William, Pete and the baby, Dolly.

When tragedies of this nature occurred there, friends and neighbours usually distributed the family as they saw fit. The Campbells had no kin living nearby and so the town squire and the minister called it their duty to go to the little house and break up the family, so that they could be cared for. However, they found a defiant Sandy. This family was his to care for! He was too young to realize that it could not be done.

The next day many folk came to look them over. Mary held Dolly close to her and tearfully stated that she would not be parted from her baby sister. A kind-hearted lady took them both and with them all was well.

The squire looked Sandy up and down and decided a lot of work could be done by a boy of his age and so he chose him.

Tourists from Maine, U.S.A., often holidayed on the Island. A doctor and his wife also looked the family over, thinking to take back home a fair-haired, blue eyed girl to make their childless home complete. When they chose eight year old Etta, Kate, nine and Belle, seven, cried so hard and held on to Etta so tightly that after much coaxing, the wife persuaded the doctor to take all three!

The family, standing wild-eyed and sorrowful, was getting smaller. A lady came and fussed over little

This Picture is most of the Sandy Campbell clan. Rose is missing and Hector did not return from the war. Standing with hat on is Ken, Jack (in uniform), Caroline Andrew holding Hector, just above is Billy Andrew holding Evelyn, behind him is Bob McPherson holding Sylvia, Belle McPherson, Dora Foster and Jack Foster Sr., above is Hilda Foster, Harry Skinner holding Lena, next to Jack Foster Sr. is Ollie Skinner, Blanche Brown holding Irene, Minnie Reid and George Reid. Directly below Billy Andrew and Evelyn is Walter Reid, Frank Foster, Dorothy Foster, Jack Foster Jr. Front — Russell, John and Earl Andrew, Alex Skinner, Tug and Pink McPherson, Vivian Reid. Seated — Sandy and Selina Campbell, Audrey Brown, Ruby Reid, Doug Skinner, Gloria McPherson.

five year old Peter, comforted him, and soon he was over the border in a new home in the U.S.A. Little did he know what lay in store with this woman.

Dan and William were taken to separate places and the little house was like the children — very much alone and very sad.

One night of sleeping in a coal bin, very little food, threatened with the whip, and told ■ could work for his keep and get no wages, did not appeal to Sandy. The next night ■ the cover of darkness a heartbroken boy became a stowaway on a ship.

When discovered aboard ship, Sandy told his story to the captain. He promised to do anything they wished if they would only let him learn to be a sailor, where his cares could be left ■ the bottom of the ocean. He did not wish to live on land — it was hard and it was cruel. So it was that Sandy soon learned to be a sailor and a captain. Five years passed and Sandy was a man. He wondered where his brothers and sisters were. He thought of Mary and Dolly. They should ■ ■ Baddeck. The rest, ■ knew not where.

One day the captain of Sandy's vessel said they had to go into harbor at Baddeck. Sandy left ship on arrival and hurried to see if Mary was still there. What a grand evening he had with Mary and Dolly!

He also saw the squire again. As he looked into his face he was glad he was bigger now and glad he was of age so he would never have to bow to Squire Giggs.

Repairs to the ship delayed sailing and Sandy met a girl. Back on the sea the land didn't seem so bad anymore. Time had soothed his wounds and he was in love. Sandy married his sweetheart when he was twenty-one and she was a few days less than fifteen years old. It was great, except when he had to go to sea. After their baby daughter was born, Jessie had company. Sandy was captain of his own schooner and loved it.

He had been away for over three months and lost his cargo in a storm. He worked his way home on another sailing vessel. He almost ran up the hill to his home, to find — that the land was hard and cruel. The windows of his house were boarded up and the door was locked. He went to Jessie's father's home and knocked on the door. ■ was opened, then quickly slammed in his face. He yelled at his mother-in-law standing by the window, staring at him, stony faced. No answer. Sandy went to the bar. He asked the bartender what had happened. He was told that Jessie had died two months before and little Jessie, now over one year old, was with the Ridecuts. Sandy walked to the cemetery and there he found what he hoped he would not find. "Jessie Campbell, aged seventeen years. Asleep ■ the Lord."

Sandy went again and begged through closed doors to see his daughter but his mother-in-law said, "Never!" Jessie had fallen, lost the baby she was carrying and died. Sandy was unaware that there was to be another little one.

The captain was soon back at the bar and soon his sorrow was drowned in booze. For two weeks ■ was drunk and near death when an old sea captain saw him and took him out to sea.

A few years passed and no more trips into the old port near Baddeck. Sandy drank when he could. ■ helped him forget.

He sailed into port in Newfoundland at Little Bay and ■ was looking for a boarding place for the weekend. He also wanted to have his laundry done. He stopped at the first place he saw which offered these services. A tall, dark widow met him at the door. She hoped he had laundry to do for she needed extra money. It was agreed and she soon had his first meal ready and was washing his clothes.

He asked her where her husband was and she said that he had died some time ago. She now had to take in washing to help feed her two girls, Dora and Bertha, and a son, George. She told how her husband, Tom, had been a miner and was first to go down the shaft every morning. On a certain day he had returned because he had forgotten his lamp. He started to leave again, then returned for his lunch. She told him, "Don't come back the third time no matter what, because that means bad luck!" Tom Reid laughed, turned again and kissed her goodbye. As she washed dishes she watched him stride to the mine entrance about five hundred yards from home. She heard a noise and saw three men fly high in the air, twist and fall. She knew one was Tom. Four men carried him home ■ her. He wasn't laughing or joking as always. He was very still and from that time on, Selina knew what loneliness meant.

Sandy, too, was in need of telling someone his heartache, but he decided he would have to know her better. He went to the bar to drink and to think.

When Monday morning came he was sorry to say goodbye. He paid her and said if he ever came by again he'd have her wash for him. She wouldn't leave it at that. Instead, she told him that he shouldn't drink. It wasn't good for him, she said, and she also slipped in a little lecture about drinking sailors and where their final destination would be. Suddenly, Sandy didn't like her anymore and he hit for the ship.

Next month found Sandy hoping she still lived there. He listened a little more to her preaching. He told her his life had been rough, like the sea in a storm, and she was sorry for him. Still she insisted that liquor would only dull the pain and would ruin him. Each time he left ■ thought he would never return, but return he did every chance he'd get for a whole year! Selina persuaded him that Sunday should be the Lord's day and she said church was where sailors and widows should be. Always Sandy reluctantly went along.

One cold Sunday the preacher announced he would not ■ back until April as the cold made the trip impossible. He said ■ any couples wished ■ be married before April, they should come to the pulpit after the service. He had marriage licences with him. Sandy and Selina walked up to the front along with two more

couples. She wore a plain grey dress, her Sunday best, and he wore his sailing togs.

Times were tough in Newfoundland and so after about four years they decided to move to Baddeck. By this time Sandy and Selina had two children and another on the way. They decided somehow they would find Jessie. When they went to Rideouts they learned that the grandmother was dead and after much pleading it was agreed that Jessie could come to live with the Campbells over half the time. So now they had Ken, Rose and Jessie. Blanche was born a short time later. Then Hector and Belle came along.

Selina prayed that Sandy would take a job on land as she worried everytime he set sail. She finally did some scouting on her own. She found for the Captain a job as handyman and gardener on the estate ■ Alexander Graham Bell where he and the McCurdys were working ■ airplane development. A house was provided which was larger than the one they now rented. Sandy was indignant. Him a land lubber? No! The battle raged and finally it was Sandy's lot to live on land. This lasted about two years or more and he hated every minute. Selina and the children loved it.

A new baby girl was born. Mrs. Bell and Miss Caroline McCurdy admired her and asked the name. When they learned that she wasn't named yet, they suggested "Caroline McCurdy". They said they would "make it right" with Mr. Campbell. The next day a gallon jug of black currant wine (for a tonic, of course) was delivered to the gardener's home, along with seven new baby dresses. My mother, Caroline, wore those dresses and Sandy drank the wine. (Selina was one who would "taste not nor touch not.") In a year and a half, Jack was born.

Sandy was itching for the sea again. After awhile ■ up and quit, moved his family and headed out to sea. In 1897 Ollie was born. This was the last of Selina's babies as she was now forty-five years old. Sandy hauled cargo to put the food on the table for four years.

He left one day for a three week trip and did not return. They prayed and they cried and they waited. In a month a plank washed up on shore with the name "Talahassee" on it — Sandy's vessel. The next day two of the crew were washed ashore. Where oh where was Sandy? In six months the memorial service for the Captain and his crew was held. Selina was at her wits end to know how to raise her children. Her oldest boy George (Tom's son) was about to get married, but he decided his wages would go to mother now. So it was that the Campbell kids ate lots of fish and stews, and many meals were soup. Dora and Bertha were married and lived in Boston. Many boxes of necessities came from Dora as she was an excellent dressmaker.

The days were dreary for Selina. They hadn't found the body and she kept hoping that the sharks would not eat a captain. The children often spoke of papa. They could vaguely picture him with his long whiskers and his very wrinkled neck which the salt spray had worn tough as iron. One Christmas had passed and summer was gone again.

As Christmas rolled around once more, Selina told the children there would be no presents. She told them Dora had sent a treat, each was to have an orange and mittens from her. George bought a roast of beef which was also a treat as they always ate stew. The house was scrubbed and so were the kids, from oldest to youngest. There were seven of them now as Rose was married, and of course George would spend part of the day with Minnie's folks. No matter what, Selina insisted that all go to church on Christmas. They arose early, found their orange and it was good, the first they ever ate! They were dressed, ready to go.

A knock came on the door and Selina opened ■. A clean shaven man was standing there. No one spoke.

"Selina, don't you know me?" he asked. She ran into his arms, and cried, "Oh Sandy!" The wee ones came out of hiding in the stairway and stared at the papa they did not know. A papa should have whiskers!

That was one Christmas the church bells rang and no Campbells came. They were listening to the story of Sandy's rescue when he was going down in the water for the third time. When he woke up he found he was on a ship to South America and they could not return to Cape Breton. He was taken on to Peru where ■ was forced ■ serve in the Peruvian army. Finally his chance came and he got passage on a ship heading north. They encountered pirates at one point and the sailing was rough. The ship was old and many times they thought it would capsize but the Lord was watching over Sandy. An opportunity came to work his way on another ship going further north and closer to home.

The best Christmas was soon passed. When bedtime came Selina said, "That's it, Sandy. No more sailing!" So Sandy did odd jobs, but the sea was calling and ■ couldn't go. He had no ship. When it irked him bad, he'd hit the bottle again. That's the only time the Campbell kids ever heard the captain sing. It was always the same song. When they heard ■ they knew he'd been on a "toot".

"Bonnie lassie, Highland lassie
Where you been to all the day."

One day Selina saw a paper in the down town store called "The Winnipeg Free Press". She read that land could be homesteaded away out west for only $10. "But maybe there are Indians," Sandy argued. "We have Mic Mac Indians here and we're still living," replied Selina. So they argued day and night. Sandy wouldn't farm, but one thing he would do is go to sea and forget all about it! He soon had a small vessel purchased on borrowed money and a crew ready. A cargo of coal from Sidney Mines was ■ be delivered in Boston. No one in Baddeck knew as ■ was making his plans very quietly. But, one woman knew Sandy very well. Selina saw that he was up to no good. She sneaked and watched and listened. Then one day she knew for sure

that Sandy was leaving so she called the kids, and told them a story. They must never breathe a word, she said, but they were going on a holiday to see Aunt Mary and sister Dora in Boston. They were so agog, they sealed their lips. Sandy came home from the bar one night and he didn't speak to Selina. She did not sleep and neither did he. At four o'clock Sandy silently slid out of bed, in his pants and out the door, being careful not to bang it. Selina knew this was it. She, too, dressed in a hurry. Before going on a voyage Sandy's habit was to go to each room to kiss the children good-bye. This time he did not.

Selina pulled the blinds, lit the lamp and called the family. Each one dressed and pulled from under the bed the box or bag he was responsible for. No breakfast was eaten. She blew out the lamp and walked to the door. It was a cold grey morning, just before dawn. As she led them down to the wharf, not a word was spoken.

Ken was working and Rose was married so six children and Selina stole aboard and into the captain's quarters where they would not be noticed. The room was 10' x 12', a low bunk in one corner and nothing else. Selina gave each one a scone and told them "Shush", which meant to be quiet. It was nearly two hours before they were away from shore and out of the harbor. The wind was great and they were making time. About midmorning the Captain decided he should turn his duties over to his mate and get abit of sleep. He walked to his cabin to lie down but how could he lie on a bunk with seven people sitting on it! Some were looking white and scared; Selina was looking very defiant and ready. They had a battle royal. Among other things he accused her of wanting to drown all her children. She replied that from now on they all went or they all stayed home. The wind was wrong or Sandy would have set sail for home and ended it then. He did have to get his cargo through . . . wasn't he the skipper of the Schooner trade out of Halifax?

They were a tired lot when they landed in Boston. The kids were tongue-tied. Oh, the beauty of it all! Selina and the children were soon visiting and very happy. Sandy was mad and the crew knew it. They worked fast and unloaded fast and loaded salt fast to bring home. When Sandy looked at Selina he knew she would carry out her threat and tag along. When they got back home he asked for the Free Press.

Sandy decided to sail a few more times and then go west. His oldest son, Ken, wished to go along. A few days out a storm capsized the sailing vessel and tore it apart. It was night and very cold. Sandy panicked. Where was his son? He held to a large beam until he could no longer hold on. His hands loosed so that he could drop into the sea. Then a voice said, "Here, hold on. I'll help you." Strong arms heaved him on top of the plank and the rescuer said, "Oh, Dad, it's you!" Sandy blacked out knowing it was his son who saved his life. A ship passing rescued them and once more he was back on land and recovering.

So, in 1904, the sea-loving skipper bought a ticket to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Ken and Hector came along and they took land at Ruddell, about sixty-five miles from Saskatoon. The two young men broke the land while Sandy worked on the C.P.R. bridge in Saskatoon. He earned enough money to erect the buildings and to send for Selina and the children.

In the fall of 1906, the family bade goodbye to the island of Cape Breton and boarded the train. Blanche was eighteen years old and could have been quite a help caring for the younger ones. However, Blanche found a boyfriend on the train and had a dandy trip. They brought their food along in boxes and bags. Near Lake Superior the train had a breakdown and was stalled for two hours. Blanche and her boyfriend decided to pick blueberries for the family. When they had filled a pail with berries, Blanche spied a cow in the field close by. She thought she would add to the feast so ran to catch and milk the cow. The conductor called, "All Aboard!" and was about to proceed on the journey when Selina told him her daughter was missing and they would have to wait. (And wait they did!)

They arrived at Warman, the end of the rail. Sandy was there to meet them. They were driven by horses to Saskatoon, only four miles away, by stage coach. They boarded the CNR train and soon landed in Ruddell. The train was late and two young men had been waiting with oxen and stoneboat to bring them the last three miles of the journey.

Again, the kids were thrilled, but hours of hard work were all the parents found time for. Selina felt sorry for the many bachelors in the area and baked bread for them. She baked six days a week but "never on a Sunday".

Blanche soon found work and Ken and Hector left to work in Edmonton. Caroline and Ollie married bachelors and Belle married a man who recently came from Michigan.

Hector was killed in action in The Great War, leaving a son and daughter and a wife whom he had parted from prior to going overseas. Jack came home badly wounded to find his mother very ill. Her grief over Hector, along with diabetes had taken its toll. Insulin was not known then. Sandy hoped she would improve if he moved to Maymont where many of her children were. Ollie, Caroline and Belle lived nearby. Dora and family and George and family also lived there. Sandy sold his farm and the following year built a new house for Selina. But she did not improve. Instead she grew steadily worse.

Ken came from Edmonton. He had done very well since leaving home. He had interests in a mine and in a box factory. He had married and had a daughter. He came in his car so he took his mother home to Edmonton where he had doctors care for her. She soon returned home to spend two years in bed. Dora did

double time caring for her own family and for her mother.

In 1920 she was released from her pain. Sandy was very lonely and he knew again that the land was hard and cruel. He often longed for the sea and in about 1927 he did have an opportunity to once more view his beloved sea and spend a month in Baddeck visiting his sisters.

His daughter, Jessie, stayed there when he moved West and no one heard from her after 1912. Mary and Dolly had kept in touch. Now Etta was writing to Sandy, too. The doctor and his wife had given Kate, Belle, and Etta a good education. All three were nurses. ■ later years when the doctor was a victim of paralysis. Etta left her job to come home and nurse him until the end.

Sandy put a notice in a paper for missing persons. Peter, now grown, was a coal miner. He read and reread the ad. Though ■ knew nothing of where any of the family were, he could remember their names. He then came to Sandy's and bought a small farm nearby at Spinney Hill.

Sandy found that Dan lived in Chase, B.C., and so he went to visit him.

William was a gold miner who found little gold. He came from the United States to visit Sandy and brought a few stones with gold in them. He always had ■ corn cob pipe.

Pete, William and Dan did not marry; neither did the three nurses. Each one had faired very differently. Pete had an unhappy boyhood and finally ran away when he was only fourteen years old, to fend for himself for the rest of his life. His foster mother was a sex pervert and had come ■ his bed. Pete was out the other side, dressed and amid her cursings walked out the door, a bewildered boy. He was already working but he decided ■ would never go back. He hid among papers on a freight car and landed in Chicago with only the clothes he had on. He knew one thing and he remembered it well — Women were no good and he hated them. He had his own code of morals. You could not play cards on a Sunday. He caught us once and it never happened again. After that we were very careful if Uncle Peter was staying at our house.

Sandy went to live with Jack and Jean. When his meal was finished he would get up, and with hands behind his back, pace up the floor, turn and come back. He said he was walking the deck. One cold night in the early thirties he took very sick. The Campbell clan gathered around. Ken came from Alberta and he and Jack prepared to take their Dad to a Saskatoon hospital. Sandy now lived close to the railway tracks. A stretcher was made and ■ was taken through his bedroom window ■ the waiting train. ■ his delirium he thought he was being sewn in the Canvasa coffin to be cast overboard. He roused and said, "Good boys, heave ho!"

Three days later, we buried the captain, and the prairie winds blow over his grave far from the harbors he loved. I like to think he is waiting on this side of the Jordan and he had the old Talahassee all in ship shape. When the last of the Campbells climb aboard, it will be anchors away and he'll sail us all into the Harbor of Home Sweet Home Home". Until then, he is just walking the deck and waiting, and waiting.

Donald Campbell

A Scotch lad, with no relatives ■ Canada, drifted into Ruddell, got work with Turnbull Bros. In the summer months he'd have a route which he walked leading Turnbull's Clyde Stallion from stand to stand.

With horses gone, Donald went to Vancouver Island and is buried at Sidney.

Jack and Jean Campbell

as told by Jean

I was born Eugene (Jean) first daughter of Ernest and Agnes Beaudoin ■ Ishpeming, Michigan, U.S.A. I came with my parents, brother Isidore, and grandparents, the Lafrenieres, ■ the homestead ■

Jack and Jean Campbell — 1958.

Saskatchewan in 1904. The women and children travelled by passenger train, but the men travelled by freight train with the horses, cows, and other settlers effects to Saskatoon. They homesteaded in the district that is now Hafford.

I started school in White Berry. My first teacher was Francis Reid. I loved school but I could only attend once in a while because I was needed at home to look after my brothers and sisters.

After the death of my father in a drowning accident life was very hard for mother and us eight kids. We moved to Maymont in 1917 when Mother married Ernest Andrew.

I married Jack W. Campbell in November 1923. Jack had come to the Ruddell area in 1906 with his family. Jack was a veteran of World War I where he had received a medal for bravery. Jack had been farming on the farm nearby.

Back row — Lil Lafreniere holding Edward Beaudoin, Agnes Beaudoin holding Ida Beaudoin, Topsy Lefreniere. Front — Jean and Isadore Beaudoin.

We were married in Saskatoon and then went to Winnipeg for a few days on our way to Chicago. It was there that Jack bought me a warm winter coat and a new pair of shoes. I had never had shoes that cost so much! They cost five dollars!

Jack found a job with Sears and Roebuck in Chicago. Our son, Norman, was born there. After a year there I persuaded Jack to take me back home. I was so lonely for my family on the prairies. So Jack did just that.

We farmed in the Maymont and Ruddell areas on rented farms. It was here that our three children were born; Violet, Ken and Shirley.

I remember one spring when we were renting a farm near Ruddell, I wanted some chicks but I didn't have a clucking hen. A crow had a nest near the house so I decided maybe she could hatch me some chicks. I robbed her nest and replaced her eggs with three hens eggs. She hatched my eggs alright but promptly ate the chicks as they came out of the shell. So much for those chicks that spring.

In 1937 after trying to struggle through the depression we decided to move to Edmonton. Jack went ahead of me and found a job with his brother in the mines. The kids and I went later on the passenger train from Maymont. I had packed a lunch of sandwiches, oranges and apples for our trip. Oranges and apples were a real treat to our kids and they would have eaten them right away but I told them they were for on the train. We had hardly left Maymont station when Norman said, "We're on the train now Mom can we have an orange?"

Jack again joined the army in 1939. We couldn't rent a house in Edmonton that would allow children so we moved to Fort Saskatchewan. We finally found a house in Edmonton so back we went.

When Jack returned home after the war he got a job at the Students Union at the University of Edmonton. We bought our present home when Jack retired. Jack had just been retired for a short while before his death on Father's Day 1966. He had a heart attack while out golfing with Shirley and her husband, Bill.

I still live in our home in Edmonton. Jack and I have eleven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Our son, Norman, passed away in 1974. Ken and Jean and Norman's wife, Doris, live in Prince George, B.C. Vi and Wayne live in Camrose, Alberta and Shirley and Bill in Calgary, Alberta.

Pat (Prynallt) Campbell

I was born in Maymont in 1932, delivered by Dr. Scratch at home. I took my schooling in Maymont, my teachers being Miss Edith Butterfield, Miss Audrey Page and Mr. Jack Armstrong.

I graduated from Saskatoon City Hospital in 1954 as a Registered Nurse.

I was married in October, 1954 to Sam Campbell at Sharon United Church, Maymont by Reverend Myers. We live in Luseland, farming from town. We have three children and are expecting our first grandchild.

Duncan (23 years) married wife, Pat, and lives in Buffalo Narrows, Saskatchewan. He is a Conservation Officer.

Janice (20 years) is in third-year Education.

Dean (18 years) graduating in June, plans on taking Vocational Agriculture.

I have been working as a general duty nurse at Kerrobert Union Hospital for the past nine years.

Allan and Edna Carnahan

told by Edna Carnahan

Allan and Edna Carnahan began their farming career with the purchase of the pioneer homesteads of

Allan and Edna Carnahan.

Collins, Panton and Ray Cameron from Alvin Nutbrown, who had owned it for a number of years. They since have added the Albert Sherman farmstead in 1977.

Allan born March 8, 1942, is the eldest son of Stan and Elsie Carnahan. He attended Ranger School, east of North Battleford. Allan has been a semi-truck driver since 1969 and at present works at Kindersley Transport, North Battleford.

His interests include John Deere tractors, fishing, hunting, curling and travelling.

Edna born June 28, 1942 at the family farm is the second daughter of Albert and Gertrude Sherman. She attended Calais School until it closed, then Fielding and Maymont. After attending Saskatoon Teachers' College, she has taught school at Alticane, Willow Springs, Wavie Bank, Denholm and is at present teaching at Cochin School.

Edna enjoys farming, horses, fishing, travelling, and rock collecting.

When Calais School closed these pupils were in attendance — Alvin, Earl and Garry Nutbrown, Clint, Bill, and Dorothy Long and Edna Sherman. Our last teacher was Mervin Hodgins.

We lived close to the school, so it wasn't a great problem to go to school.

I remember every time the superintendent came to visit the teacher we kids, would catch and kill a mouse and hang it on his car door handle. But we chickened out and always removed it before he came out.

I was in the usual community things concerts, plays, C.G.I.T. and choir at Fielding — also in 4-H Grain Club. While in the 4-H I won the trophy for Gary Oats in the Fielding Club. After tediously repicking it over, it was entered in Saskatoon in a provincial grain show. I won the Line Elevator Trophy and was Saskatchewan Junior Oat Champion in 1959.

I also kept Saskatchewan University grain plots on the farm — several varities of grain were sown in short rows in a plot. The University was experimenting in various communities as to best variety for soil and moisture conditions.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Carpentier

by Mary (Williams) Carpentier

I was born Mary Louise Williams, the only daughter of Geordie and Adeline Williams. I have many memories of my childhood such as farming with horses, the old wood stove, coal oil and gasoline lamps and waking up in the morning to find it cold as ice.

I attended Maymont Central School which was a three-room school with a basement. In the earlier years I was taken to school by horse and buggy in the summer, and in winter an open cutter when the weather was cold.

It was a big thrill when my parents bought a Model A Ford. In later years when I grew up I learned to drive it and called it Chippendale. It was all decorated up with arrows going in all directions and balls made out of yarn. I am glad I grew up in the fifties — to me they were great years.

In 1959 I married Bert Carpentier from Paynton. We worked on a farm at Paynton for the first year, then bought a house trailer and moved to Saskatoon. We lived in the trailer for seven years and working on construction we moved around to many different places. We have lived at Saskatoon, Elbow, Lily Plains, Red Deer Hill, Fenton, Blaine Lake, Hafford and Bradwell. It was fun as there were more families and we moved around together. But by this time we had a family and it was time to settle down. Marty, Todd and Karen were born during our rambling years. Marty started school at Clavet.

In 1967 we moved back to Maymont, bought a house and moved it on my parents' farm. It is situated directly east of the spot where my Grandmother Maria Williams' house was built in 1903. We prefer living on the farm to living in the city or moving around from place to place. Our second daughter, Koral, was born after we settled at Maymont.

Bert worked for the R.M. of Mayfield for quite a few years but then decided to see something different. He is now driving a chartered bus for Frontier Coach Lines out of North Battleford.

Time rushes on and our family are growing up but we have a lot of happy memories and each day is fulfilling as we live one day at a time.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank (Mary) Charlton

written by Mrs. Mary Charlton

I am writing, as requested, my part of the Maymont district from when I can remember the fall of 1942. Since then I haven't been around there too much as my life has been all over the 3 prairie provinces.

First, I am the eldest child of Percy Parker and Hazel Walton, Mary Ellen Parker. My father was the son of William G. Parker and Elizabeth Hird (we still have many relatives from Manitoba to the Quebec border). My Mother was the third child of George Walton and Lydia Flaws. Both sets of grandparents were pioneers of the Grey School District, 3 miles north and 1 mile east of the village of Maymont where I went to school from 1930-1939. From school I worked as a "hired girl" for various members of the Maymont community. I was baptized in the Maymont United Church as it's known now, but at the time I was baptized it was Presbyterian. I attended the United Church from cradle roll to adult. I remember 25¢ being a lot of money for collection.

In the fall of 1942 I tried to join the army and in the spring of 1943 I made the grade and was accepted as a member of the Canadian Women's Army Corps where I served my King and Country until January, 1945. ■ October, 1944 I had a 2-week leave and went to Fort William, Ontario (now Thunder Bay) and married Noel Hatter. We had one son, Lyle Kenneth born July, 1945. Noel and I were divorced in 1956 and ■ 1958 I had secured a housekeeping job ■ Alberta and October, 1958 married Francis W. Charlton. He also had a son by a previous marriage (his wife died of cancer ■ 1954), so Frank and I each had a son, Lyle Hatter and Leslie Charlton. There were many tears trying to put two families together but we managed and had a good home. In 1963 Frank and I had a son of our own which we lost 17 hours after he was born. It was a difficult time for all. Now we have 4 beautiful grandchildren. Our son Lyle Hatter married Cheryl Jacque and they have a girl, Michelle and a boy, Blaine. Our son, Leslie Charlton married Reta Wood and they have a boy Gary, and a girl, Michelle.

In the year 1971-72 I went to a Technical School and received my Commercial Baking Papers, also Short Order Cooking and now I am busy doing birthday, wedding, and anniversary cakes as well as teaching cake decorating at times.

My husband, Frank, had open heart surgery in March, 1976, and as he hasn't been able to work since, we have done a lot ■ travelling. In 1977, we travelled from coast to coast, Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island to Vancouver. Also, 1978 we were up in the North West Territories, Yellowknife, Pine Point, and Hay River. Then in October, 1978 we went ■ Salt Spring Island, B.C. for the winter and came back to Alberta in March, 1979.

We live in Bowden, Alberta, when we are home. Most of the time we are here and ■ not, anyone of our neighbors can tell where we are.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave. F. Christie

Richard Pioneers

After spending the first five years of their retirement in North Battleford, Mr. and Mrs. D. Christie moved to the village of Maymont, in the fall of 1952, where Dave could walk the length of the village and chat with former friends and neighbors.

Mr. Christie, an early pioneer had taken a homestead in the fall of 1902; the S.E. quarter, Section 6, Township 42, Range 13, West of the Third Meridian, located in what later became the Mayfield Municipality.

During the first few years his summers were spent in "proving up" the homestead and in the winter he worked out. It was while spending a winter at Ruddell, working for Turnbull Bros., that he met Alice Carter who was to become his wife.

Alice Carter had come from London, England to visit her sister and brother-in-law, Nellie and Herbert Young, who at that time operated the Wanganui Post Office some fifteen or eighteen miles north of the village of Richard. When she heard of a position in Ruddell Hotel she decided to apply, and while working there she met Dave. They were married October 30, 1911 in St. Mary's Anglican Church, Lilac, which is now part of the Battlefords' Museum.

While living on the homestead their first two children were born — a son David and a daughter Ethel. Mrs. Christie tells of Ethel's arrival in a real heavy rainstorm. The roads were so bad that Dr. Scratch didn't make it in time, so Mrs. Conkey as midwife made the delivery.

They later moved to a new location one mile north in the R.M. of Douglas where they lived and farmed until their retirement. It was here their third child, Roberta, was born. David and Ethel started school at Bathgate School, later moved and named Lilac, but soon transferred to Richard, now their home town. Roberta took all her public and high school in Richard School and was the first student to return home to teach.

During Mr. Christie's years on the farm he raised and cared well for many prize winning Clydesdale horses, of which he was very proud. For years he attended the North Battleford Fair with his horses and always made his expenses plus a bit extra ■ prize money.

Mrs. Christie was an active member of the Richard Homemaker's Club for many years.

■ the fall of 1947, they retired from farm life to North Battleford, where they enjoyed life until the move to Maymont. Mr. Christie passed away the fall of 1958 and was buried in Maymont Cemetery.

Mrs. Christie was a member of Maymont United Church Women while living in Maymont. ■ 1968 she sold her home there and spent the winter with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Les Johnston of Richard. However being of independent nature, the next spring she decided ■ return to Maymont, where she purchased the old telephone office, which she had renovated and made her home there until 1974. She then bought the former Richard teacherage and moved there to be nearer her daughter. Finding it a bit dif-

ficult to cope with household chores she moved into River Heights Lodge in October of 1977 where she still resides.

On May 31, 1979 her family gathered at the home of her daughter to celebrate her ninetieth birthday, having a family dinner. In the afternoon and evening a 'Come and Go Tea' was held in the Richard Recreation Hall where close to one hundred people signed the register. When they gathered around in the evening to sing "Happy Birthday" Mrs. Christie said, "This had been the most wonderful birthday I have ever had. I never thought it could happen to me!"

The Frank Clayton Story

written by Frank Clayton

Born on a farm near the village of Freiston, Boston Lincolnshire England, September 27, 1903. Received his education in this area. Left school during first World War (1916) when manpower was getting scarce. Immigrated to Canada, along with a cousin, Jack Crunkhorn, in 1923. Left Liverpool on Friday, April 13, 1923, anchored in the ocean for one week, due to fog and icebergs. Took sixteen days for crossing. Landed at St. Johns, New Brunswick. Travelled by train to Conquest but was held in quarantine for 24 hours due to one passenger having broke out with small pox at Outlook. Supposed to have a job at Conquest, but was too late arriving. Obtained a job on a farm at Anerley. Worked there the summer and harvested there. Went to Saskatoon for two weeks, then obtained a job in the bush at Mistatim. Worked in the saw mill, arriving Christmas Eve. Worked here till sometime in February, when the mill burned down. Went to Saskatoon for a few days, then got work on a farm cutting firewood, breaking colts and general chores at Artland. Stayed here for a month then went back to Saskatoon for a few days. During April of 1924 got a job working for Tom Turner Sr. in the Maymont district. Worked there the summer. In fall of 1924 went to Carruthers district to be with the cousin who had immigrated at the same time. Went to help the cousin build a shack on the land that he had purchased. Purchased a C.P.R. quarter for himself in January or February of 1925. Early in spring of 1925 returned to Turners for summer. Cousin broke 30 acres on quarter during summer. Returned to Carruthers in fall of 1925 and in spring of 1926 bought an outfit of 5 horses and a breaking plow, borrowed a drill and planted 30 acres of wheat. Broke 130 acres of prairie land between the two men and 30 acres for a neighbor. Come August 7, the whole crop froze black, cut it and stooked it. Thrashed some of this crop but burned most of it. Following year (1927) sowed a few acres of oats and rest to wheat. Broke about 60 acres for a neighbor. Oats turned out pretty good, wheat froze worse than 1926. Most of it burned. Spring 1928 rented 3 quarters of land. Farmed this for four years. Spring of 1932 moved to Maymont and bought 2 quarters of land. The next spring bought another quarter. In November 1933 married Marjorie Ellen Long, and resided on NW¼, 3,41,12. In June 1934 a daughter, June was born. Pretty good crop this year. After this drought years hit and until 1937 it was very dry. In 1937 got nearly all seed back. The year 1938 proved to be better. November 1939, a son, Richard (Dick) Edward was born.

June started school at Calais School in Fall of 1940 and Dick started in fall of 1945. Continued schooling here until 1949 when family moved closer to Maymont. Bought the NW¼ 20,41,12 so children could go to high school. Took the whole family "home" to England November 1946 to March 1947.

June married Dean Oliver Rogers on January 30, 1954. Dick married Elizabeth Doreen Broom on October 10, 1959. Both families reside in the Maymont area.

Marjorie and Frank celebrated their 45th Wedding Anniversary November 1978. At present they have 8 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. They still reside on their farm south of Maymont.

The Richard Clayton Family

Richard Clayton is the only son of Frank and Marjorie Clayton. I was born in the village of Maymont with Dr. Scratch in attendance. I took my Grades One to Four in Calais School District and in 1949 our family moved to Maymont where my parents are living now one-half mile south of Maymont. I took Grades Five to Twelve in Maymont School and after completing Grade Twelve, I took two years of university attending the School of Agriculture and graduated from there in the spring of 1959.

I married Elizabeth Broom, the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. [redacted] Broom in the fall of 1959. Elizabeth was born in the Spinney Hill District. Her family moved to Maymont in 1944. Elizabeth attended school in Maymont.

We lived in a two-room house on my father's farm which they had lived in when they were first married. We had two sons, Kern and Tracy while we lived there. In the fall of 1962 we bought Nelson Nutbrown's place which was one-quarter mile east of Maymont on the old highway. It was well known as the Sowden Park. While we lived there Ellis, Neil, Leann and Marla were born.

In 1973 we bought the farms of Allen and Charlie Nutbrown. We moved to the Charlie Nutbrown farm in October of 1973. We built a house that winter and moved in the new house in the spring of 1974.

Our family takes an active part in community activities such as, 4-H Beef Club, church activities and sports. Kern has completed Grade Twelve and has attended first-year university at the School of Agriculture.

The George A. Clark Family History

George A. Clark, Uel and Mary Clark, Clayton and Louise Clark, William Lee and Karen Schmidt (Clark)

Mr. George A. Clark was born April 29, 1845 in New York, U.S.A. He married Alvire J. Cory on October 18, 1866 in Minnesota. George Clark was a schoolteacher in the U.S.A. Then in 1909 he took his seven children and wife to homestead in Canada. They made the family home south of Fielding.

December, 1913 Uel Sumner, George's youngest son, married Mary Mabel Parker. Then in 1919 George passed away leaving Uel to farm. Uel and Mary had three children — Dorothy, Clayton, and Mabel. In 1948 Uel passed away due to a heart condition, leaving Clayton to farm and support his mother and Mabel.

In 1950 Mary and Mabel moved to Vancouver, where Dorothy was married to Jack Barker and resided there. Mary lived there until her death in 1965.

March 22, 1950 Clayton married Louise Ward. Still on the homestead, they farmed trying to make a living always fighting the lack of water. Then in 1962 they bought the Keith Ferris farm north of Fielding. They moved off the homestead but this day they still farm the land, but now Clayton's son, Murray, owns the land.

Uel and Mary Clark.

Clayton and Louise Clark, granddaughter Mandie Schmidt.

Murray and Ruth Richards and their family, Jeffery, Wendy, and Jody on mom's knee.

Clayton and Louise have four children — Ruth, married in 1971 and living in Prince George, B.C. with her husband, K. Murray Richards, and their three children — Jeffery, Wendy, and Jody. Karen, married in 1973 and living in Maymont with her husband, W. Lee Schmidt, and two children — Mandy and Wade. Murray lives in the John Kuntz farm home in Fielding and farms and works for a construction outfit. Beverley has finished her Grade Twelve in Maymont Central School and plans to attend University of Saskatchewan in the fall of 1979.

William Lee Schmidt is the son of William E. Schmidt and grandson of Vern Schmidt. He was born April, 1952 and married Karen L. Clark April, 1973. They moved to Lloydminster, Saskatchewan where they both were employed, Lee for the City and Karen in the Credit Union. Then in 1976 they moved to Maymont where Lee joined his dad's construction, Schmidt Construction. They have two children — Mandy and Wade.

The Coleman Family

I will start from the very beginning of my husband's and my Canadain life. First of all Clem came to this country, with Les Harmsworth, more or less as an adventure. They both worked as hired men on a farm at Rosetown, until the First War broke out, when Clem joined the Eighth Winnipeg Rifles and was sent overseas in 1914.

I met Clem in 1917 when he was in hospital blues at Ealing. We were married in the latter part of that year.

In 1918 he came back to Canada leaving me in England with my first baby, Doug. He had planned on finding a place for me to come to, however, he was unable to find something suitable, so I came out here and arrived in Maymont March 1, 1920. In the meantime Les Harmsworth had left Rosetown and settled at Spinney Hill, where Clem had visited and decided he would settle there also. Mr. and Mrs. Tom Young were our neighbours and were so very kind to us.

Clem had warned me before I left England that I mustn't expect any luxuries and on asking just what he meant, he told me not to expect a bathroom with all the facilities for one thing. I asked how we would manage, he told me that he would dig a ditch so many paces from the house and that was to serve as a W.C. He also said that I would be lucky if I had a one-room shack in which to live, which proved to be true. I asked what we would do if visitors came to stay overnight and he said that large spikes were hammered into the two by fours around the walls and sleeping bags were hung on those. I was so very green and really believed all these things.

Before I arrived in Maymont, Clem had sent a big order away to Eaton's for groceries (those days folks used to send to Eaton's or Neal Bros. for groceries, enough to last the winter). The grocery order consisted of the bare necessities, but there was ten pounds of dried apple rings and five pounds of bulk baking soda. Clem kept asking me to make an apple pie and "baking soda biscuits" so I undertook to make some. I first made the biscuits. I had no baking powder, so thought that as the recipe called for three teaspoons of baking powder I would use the same amount of soda. The biscuits were a sickly looking green and of course were not eatable. I then undertook to make an apple pie, the crust was alright, but when it was cut into the contents were like rubber. I hadn't soaked the apple rings!! as I had had no experience with dried apples, — for that matter no cooking experience at all.

I must tell of a rather funny experience, at least it was for me but not for Clem. In the order from Eaton's was a large dish pan which was to serve as a bath, washtub and was used to set bread dough after having been scoured out first with ashes and rinsed. Friday night was bath night, Clem was taking his bath beside the big old heater and he bent over to dry himself with his back to the heater when I heard expressions and words that I never heard before. He had burned is "sit upon" quite badly and of course I couldn't help laughing although it really was not a laughing matter.

We were very hard up when we first came out here. The government wasn't as generous after the First War as after the Second War, even after serving four and a half years, three of which Clem served in the front line at different times and was wounded in the face and arm. The authorities deducted so much off each pay check while the men were overseas and that was paid back to them on arrival back here. Clem's amounted to four hundred dollars. At first it was difficult to get work and Clem dug telephone post holes at Spinney Hill, for fifty cents a hole, when the phones went in.

In May of 1920 we heard that the West Ferry was needing an operator, so Clem applied for the job, which we were glad to get. I used to go down to that one-room shack for the summer months and back up to the same kind of abode on Les Harmsworth's farm for the winter. In 1923, Albert Davis was leaving his farm and wanted to sell his quarter section so we cabled home for the money to purchase it, (we swallowed our pride to do that). In 1925 Bill Philpott, the postmaster in Maymont at that time asked us if we would take over the job as he and his brother-in-law wanted to buy a store at Lashburn, so again we had to cable home for money.

We ran the post office for thirty-three years. Those days were very different to nowadays. There were four trains each day that carried mail. Two jitneys and two main trains, and which by the way had to be met every day, including Sundays. We also served Spinney Hill and Sonningdale.

Now a little bit about my family. Douglas was born in England at Hanley in Surrey. Maurice (who passed away in 1938) Joyce and Allan were born at Spinney Hill and Dennis and Brian were born in Maymont here.

Douglas and Allan served in the Second War overseas and Clem served as instructor at Dundurn for one and a half years.

The post office was run by Mr. McLaren, followed by Stan Thorstensen (who later left the post office to run the British American elevator here). Bill Philpott took over the office then. And as I mentioned before we moved after that. We retired in 1958.

My family is scattered miles from here. Doug is married and living in Hamilton, Ontario. Joyce with her four children lives in London, Ontario, with the exception of Maurice (her youngest son) who is living in Toronto. All her family are doing well.

Dennis is living at Stoney Creek, Ontario. All his family are established there. Allan is at Sioux Ste. Marie and Brian is at Vulcan, Alberta. His eldest, son, Douglas, is stationed at Battleford at present in the R.C.M.P. His two older daughters are at Lethbridge. Yayna is attending University there and Danette is working at the Commerce Bank.

I would like to add before closing that the old timers at Spinney Hill were all so very kind to me when I first arrived in this country. The majority of these kind folks have passed on.

Conditions here were so very different ■ those I left behind ■ England and I would have returned home across the ocean, had ■ not been for the kindness of those kind folks.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Collins

by Fred Collins

My father came to this country in 1905 which was seven years before I was born, so I have to rely on memory of his telling of experiences happening during those times. As to the naming ■ the school I believe it was Mrs. Tyhurst who suggested the name "Calais". Mr. Tyhurst had lived in France for some time and as the school was built during the First World War and during the time discussion of a name for the school was going on, events going on in Calais, France, were quite prominent in the news, ■ I think this was why the name was chosen. As we lived close to the school most of the teachers boarded at our place.

Frank, my dad, came to Canada in 1905 from England. He and his brother ran a Confectionary and Catering business in England. The Collins family were in England for generations. My dad and his brother were the first to break tradition.

My dad filed on a homestead, the NW¼, Section 2, Tp. 41, Rge. 12, W3. Most of the farm work during the first years was done with oxen. The extent of farm machinery for the most part was the walking plow, disc harrows, drill and binder. During the first few years most of the homesteaders had only a few acres so they stacked their crop to be threshed later.

There were a few large steam threshing outfits and they threshed the larger fields from the stooks and when these fields were done they went around to the smaller farms and threshed the stacks. Later some settlers had a small threshing machine. These machines were hand-fed; one man would place a sheaf on a platform and the man at the machine would cut the twine and feed the sheaf into the machine. When the straw came out of the back of the machine ■ just dropped on the ground and some one with a bucking pole pulled by an ox or a horse would take the straw away. I heard of an instance where a lady was taking the straw away with a bucking pole and for some reason, she got in front of the pole and was rolled over into the straw much to the amusement of the men working there.

Dad went back to England for part of the winter of 1906 and 1907 and came back in the spring of 1907 to continue improving the homestead. He went back to England in 1910 and married my mother, Frances Chandler, in June. He then came back to Canada and my mother came later.

■ was quite a trip for her, by boat to Halifax; from there to Winnipeg by train. Then they boarded a special train to Fielding. Some of these cars contained cooking facilities for making meals. She landed ■ Fielding, a small village, to be taken to a small farm house by oxen and buggy. Mother had lived and worked in a small village and wasn't used to farm living and was quite frightened of the oxen. She soon got less frightened of the oxen and was able to hitch one to the buggy to go to town. After a few years the heel flies came and the oxen were phased out ■ favor of horses. Our house was of frame construction with two additions built on later.

We moved to the Birch Lake Area in 1933. We made many trips by horse and wagon, a ninety mile trip. We started over again in bush country, doing some breaking with horses and some with a tractor.

I am a bachelor, still living on the farm but don't take much part in the farm work. I am getting the pension so can get along very well.

My sister, Edith, is living with her daughter a mile and a half away. My nephew ■ working my farm. He is married and has two children. My niece ■ married and has three children.

James and Margaret Collins and family

James Collins and Margaret Drysdale Collins were both born in Belfast, Ireland and educated there. James spent twenty years of his life as a sailor on sailing ships, during that time Margaret operated a shop and raised their children. In 1903 James came to Canada to take advantage of the 160 acres of free land being offered by the Canadian Government. He homesteaded about a mile west of the Lilac post office which was not in existence at that time.

Margaret left Belfast in 1905 with their five children (Jean, Margaret, Dick, Harry and Tom). They arrived in Saskatoon by train, during the summer. James met them there. They journeyed north by ox cart to Prince Albert where Margaret and the children lived until 1908. During that time Harry and Tom died and another son Lawrence was born. James worked proving up the homestead during the summer and spent the winter ■ Prince Albert working on railway construction and other jobs.

The construction ■ a sod house was finally completed and the family moved from Prince Albert to the homestead. Albert, Ted, Irene and Kay were born in ensuing years. Meanwhile the older girls, Jean and Margaret, were married and moved to North Battleford and later to California where they now reside. Dick was drowned in the Red Deer River.

As the years went by the railroad was completed from Prince Albert to Denholm. Mr. Warden opened a general store in Lilac. The Sask. Co-op built a grain elevator. As they became old enough, Lawrence, Albert and Ted commenced their education at the Bathgate School. Miss Dewdney was their teacher.

Margaret accepted the job of telephone operator in

Ruddell and James the job of repair man. The family moved to Ruddell ■ the summer of 1918. The children attended Ruddell School. Their teacher was Miss Duff, who later married Ephram Reid. Kay's first teacher was Miss Leask.

Lawrence left Ruddell in 1927 and went to Winnipeg where he worked for Walter Woods Ltd., in their china department. He became their sales manager. He eventually bought a manufacturer's agency and operated his own business until he retired in 1973. He now lives at Winnipeg Beach in the summer and spends the winter in California.

Albert joined the Canadian Bank of Commerce in 1926. He worked for them in various branches and then enlisted in the R.C.A.F. in 1941. He spent 3½ years overseas and returned to the bank at the close of hostilities in 1945. He retired from the bank at the end of 1969. He lives ■ Vancouver.

Ted went to Winnipeg ■ 1928 and he, too, worked for Walter Woods. He joined the R.C.A.F. ■ 1942. He received his discharge in 1945 and moved to Vancouver area where he now resides.

Irene worked on the switchboard at Ruddell until moving to Vancouver in 1941. She married there and now lives in South Burnaby.

Kay graduated from ■. Joseph's School of Nursing in Victoria ■ 1940. She worked ■ Shaughnessy Hospital during the war years. Married in Winnipeg and now lives in Saskatoon.

James Collins died in 1930 when his safety strap broke whilst repairing a line.

Margaret (senior) moved to Vancouver in 1941 and died there in 1952.

This was composed by Ted Collins and presented to Mrs. Collins one Mothers day many years ago.

MY MOTHER

I well remember how our home,
Was oft beseiged by more than one,
Who needed help in their bad plight
Or somewhere to put up at nite,
Whose sorrows imagined or real,
Had made them look for friend and weal,
Which role you'd always fill.

Our home was overun with kids,
Who under decorum put the skids
A place to freely go and come,
Whene'er a child a nurse did need,
To you with all good haste they'd speed.
And soon their fears you'd still.

Your heart doth overflow with good
For those you think in need of food,
Or shelter from the stormy blast,
That whistles round the windows past.
You knit and sew and plan and save
To satisfy poor children's craves,
For clothes and things to wear.

In all the length and breadth of earth
There is no one of such deep worth.
As thou, Oh Wondrous mother mine
I think you're grand. I think your fine.
You gave me all I'll ever own —
I would not change it for a throne.
To be a son of such as thee,
Is something extra specially
A pride and joy so rare.

The James and Margaret Collins Family of Lilac Ruddell

submitted Lawrence Collins

James and Margaret were born in Belfast, Ireland. James (1867-1930) went to sea at an early age, in the service of the British Merchant Marine. Three trips around the world with stops in many countries, convinced him that Western Canada was the country he should emigrate to with his large growing family. The main reason for his decision was: lots of room ■ breathe, freedom of speech and the opportunity to own his own land. Margaret (1875-1956) during this time, was ■ Belfast where six of the older children of the eleven were born. When the children started to arrive, she realized that she could no longer look after the family and still ■ to work. To supplement the family income she opened a shop in the front section of her home and sold groceries etc. This venture was apparently successful, as attested to by letters of recommendation received from the Belfast Wholesalers. These are now in the hands of her daughter, Irene, in Vancouver.

The family sailed for Canada in the spring of 1906 to follow Mr. Collins who had gone ahead to file claim on a homestead, located one mile west of what is now Lilac, Saskatchewan. Mrs. Collins packed up everything she could take, including a Singer sewing machine and a cylinder gramophone with the cylinders, and five of her children, the sixth child, David, had died ■ the year of his birth. Arrival at Clark's Crossing (Saskatoon) was a real event in the lives of the Collins family. Two days in Saskatoon was followed by the trip by oxen ■ Prince Albert, where Mr. Collins had rented a small house (present site of the R.C.M.P.) where they could stay until the homestead was in shape to receive them.

During the time Mr. Collins was making improvements on the farm that were required, the family lived in Prince Albert and during this time Lawrence was born. It was in Prince Albert that tragedy struck, ■ the sudden deaths of Henry and Tommy at the same time.

Early in the spring of 1909 the family moved to the homestead where they lived until 1918. Farm life was hard ■ those days, but with the selling of butter, eggs, chickens and on occasion vegetables to supplement the main income of wheat, the family lived a good life. While at the homestead, Albert, Edward, Irene and Kathaleen were born. ■ 1918 the family moved to Ruddell. Mrs. Collins managed the Ruddell Rural

Telephone Offices, looking after the people with telephones in Ruddell, Lilac and Baljennie Districts. Mr. Collins was a line and repairman until 1930, when in a bad windstorm he fell from a loose pole onto the stump of another pole and within a week died of the injuries. Mrs. Collins remained at her job with the help of her younger daughters, in particular Irene, until early in the second World War. At that time she and her daughter, Irene, moved to Vancouver to join daughter, Kay, who had established herself as a nurse. Mrs. Collins died in Vancouver in 1956.

The Collins family are now spread throughout the U.S.A. and Canada.

Jean who was born in 1891 in Belfast lived in Lilac and North Battleford most of 1909 to 1920 when she moved to California with her husband Earl Bennett and son, Leonard. She is now a widow living in a nice Senior Citizens Home in Rosemead, California.

David born in 1894 and died the same year in Belfast.

Margaret born 1897 in Belfast, lived in Lilac and North Battleford until 1920 when she married Albert Bates and moved to Winnipeg, Manitoba, followed by a move to California in 1924. She had with her her first son, Kenneth and later another son, Bill, was born. Margaret is now a widow living in California. She is still driving her car on the freeways to visit her sons and other family members.

Richard (1898-1915) born in Belfast, lived in Lilac until he was drowned in the North Saskatchewan River.

Henry (1901-1908) born in Belfast; died in Prince Albert.

Thomas (1904-1906) born in Belfast; died in Prince Albert.

Lawrence born in 1908 in Prince Albert, lived in Lilac 1909-1918, Ruddell 1918 to 1928 when he moved to Winnipeg and became associated with the wholesale firm of Walter Woods, Ltd. In 1954 he opened his agency business known as LARRY COLLINS AGENCIES, LTD., with branches in Winnipeg and Edmonton. He and his wife, Regina Mason retired in 1974. They sold their Winnipeg home and moved to their summer residence on the edge of Lake Winnipeg, in Winnipeg Beach. They now live a full life with Lodge work and world travelling. They spend part of their summers at home and the winters in warmer climates.

Albert born 1909 in Lilac lived there until the family moved to Ruddell. In 1926 he joined the Canadian Bank of Commerce and was stationed at many towns in Saskatchewan. He joined the R.C.A.F. and went overseas until the war ended in 1945. He had married Susan Belcher in 1941. When he returned from the service, they moved to Vancouver and he returned to the Bank there. He retired in 1969, but at the request of the bank he works as relief manager in remote areas (such as Dawson City, Yukon) so the resident managers can take vacation. They have a son, Kendal in Vancouver and a married daughter, Janet McGillicudy in Adelaide, Australia.

Edward James born 1911 in Lilac, lived in Lilac until 1918, then Ruddell until 1929, then Winnipeg until 1941 when he joined the R.C.A.F. When the war ended in 1945 he took his discharge in Vancouver. The next few years he worked for a furniture manufacturer who closed down because of a fire. He then joined Eaton's Mail Order until they closed that Branch. The Woodward Department Store was next until retirement at age sixty-five. They asked him, however, to remain with the Company on a part-time basis, which he likes very much. This enables him to travel and to do special services for friends.

Irene was born in 1918 at Lilac and lived there until the family moved to Ruddell in 1918. She remained there until she moved to Vancouver with her mother. During the period in Ruddell she was the telephone operator. In Vancouver she worked in a book store. She met and married Leonard Cotton, a newspaper man. They have one son, Richard, and a married daughter, Joan, both living in British Columbia. Irene keeps busy with church and social work. Since her husband's retirement they are able to do some travelling, such as a return to Ruddell.

Kathaleen (Kay) was born in 1916 in the hospital in North Battleford while the family lived in Lilac. Kay was the first of the family of eleven to be born in a hospital. The first two years of her life, she lived on the farm. From 1918 to 1937 she lived in Ruddell. She took nursing training in Victoria, then moved to Vancouver. At the end of the war she moved to Winnipeg where she married Arthur Mewdell, employed by Phillips Electronics. Later they moved to Regina and then to Saskatoon where they still reside. They have three daughters and one son. Art is a department manager at A. A. Murray, Ltd. Through the years of raising a family Kay has always kept her hand in at nursing, and as soon as her children were old enough to care for themselves, she returned to nursing full time. She is now Superintendent of Nursing at the former Veterans Affairs Hospital now owned by the Saskatchewan Government.

"A Move From Western Ontario to Saskatchewan in 1910" William and Maria Conkey John and Alice Conkey

by Alice Conkey

William and Maria Conkey came west from Caradoc, Ontario first to the Vanscoy area and later bought a section of land in the Maymont District — Section 25, Township 42, Range 13, West of the Third Meridian. There was a family of five came west: Fred, Frank, John, Hazel and Georgina. Later two married daughters came west: Laura (Mrs. George Baptist) to Vanscoy, Saskatchewan and Ida (Mrs. Archie Campbell) to Pelly, Saskatchewan.

William and Maria Conkey.

Farming was done with horses and it was mixed. They built a small house and sod barns for horses and cattle and broke up most of the land.

My brother Sam Johnston came west in 1911 and bought a half section of land from Walter Shouldice — also in the Maymont District.

My Uncle Frank Johnston and Aunt Margaret came east on a visit the winter of 1912 and I came west with them in the spring of 1913, and stayed with my brother. I liked the prairies.

I had only intended staying through the summer but spent over two years before returning east the fall of 1915.

My brother worked on the railway being built from North Battleford to Prince Albert the summer of 1913. There was no village of Richard or Speers in 1913 but both were flourishing by fall of 1915.

When I went back east the fall of 1915, I found [redacted] lonely; not as much activity as in the west.

In the spring of 1916 I went to Thessalon, Ontario to take care of my brother's three children while my sister-in-law had surgery.

When all was well again I started working in a telephone office there from June until December. I

50th wedding anniversary. Merrill, Shirley, Ron, Thelma and Bursil. Seated — Mrs. Conkey, Mr. Conkey.

went home for Christmas to attend my youngest sister's wedding. John Conkey had come east to visit a brother and sister in the east the fall of 1916 and came to see me at my home at Plantagnet, Ontario in January, 1917. While there we decided to get married and come west again. I had gone with him a lot during my stay with my brother. We were married February 8, 1917 [redacted] my sister's home in Ottawa. [redacted] the east there was a lot of snow that winter and roads were not very good. We spent a month visiting the kin folk at Stratroy, London and Caradoc which was very enjoyable.

The summer of 1917 was a busy one. John's folks were having a deep well drilled and we were having our home built. We moved in the fall of 1917. Our oldest son, Bursil, was born March, 1918.

When Bursil was three years old a little white dog came to our place. We could not find anyone near us who owned it. Bursil and the dog romped and played together. About two weeks later while the child was having a nap a man came and claimed the dog. His name was Hodge from Fielding. Mr. Hodge said [redacted] had been to a ball game at Ruddell and while there the little dog strayed away. That was seven miles from our place.

When Bursil woke up and found the little dog gone, he was very upset. When I got him calmed down he wanted to know where his daddy was. I told him [redacted] had taken a load of grain to town and would soon [redacted] home. We went to get some wood to start the fire and get supper. Some pretty flowers were growing near the wood pile and I told Bursil to pick some for me.

A little later when [redacted] didn't come in and I could not see him anywhere, I went looking for him. John arrived home and the search began. He was found at Richard, five miles away. While picking the flowers [redacted] had seen the Richard elevators and went to meet daddy the wrong direction. John had gone to Maymont. I have often thought that was the beginning of his many travels through the years, started young.

There were more neighbors close by there than later years. Just south of us the Loveless family lived, two girls, Nellie and Ethel, and Arthur at home. Harold and Roy away. The Charles Bouskill family a little further west; two girls Alma and Olive, two boys, Frank and Andy; three girls married. The James Little family just a little west and north of us. Five boys; Myron, Stewart, Jim, Hughie and Leslie; one girl Lois. My Uncle Frank and Aunt Margaret lived just a mile and a half east of us. Their son, S. F. Johnston, and I saw their family grow up and enjoyed many happy visits with them.

Our nearest school then was Bathgate over seven miles from us. Bursil went there first with Leslie Little in 1924. When Leslie quit school Bursil then went to Grey School with my cousin's family until the Wavie Bank School was built in 1927 and opened in 1928. The first teacher was Miss Alice Bailey from Indian Head. The second teacher, Mr. Ken Doolittle, was there from 1929 ■ the summer of 1930. Mr. Harry Broley was the teacher ■ 1930 and 1931. These three teachers boarded with us. The trustees were Mr. Dave Alexander, Mr. Henry Voke, and John Conkey. Mr. Charles McFarlane was the fourth teacher and a teacherage was built while he was teaching there.

We got our mail at Maymont a couple of times a week and sometimes oftener in the summer. The first postmaster at Maymont was Mr. McLaren.

While Mr. McFarlane taught at Wavie Bank Sunday School was started and there was a big class often as high as sixty, some from Ruddell and Lilac District. What was first known as Bathgate School was later named Lilac and a new school built further west.

Ministers that we had at Wavie Bank were Mr. Herman Whiting of Melfort, Mr. Mack of Edmonton. These were student ministers and friends of Mr. and Mrs. McFarlane. Later Mr. Dorimer from Ruddell. Also Mr. David Cline held services in the school. Wavie Bank School closed in 1968.

■ the early years we used an ice well on the farm, filled with blocks of ice to keep cream and perishable foods throughout the summer months. We also had a large pit covered with poles, straw and earth and had all vegetables which kept lovely from one season ■ another and had extras for the neighbors ■ they wanted them.

We had a wonderful doctor in Maymont from 1907 for over fifty years. He served the country for miles East, West, North and South and I'm sure he was loved by everyone and we were proud to call him "Our Doc Scratch".

Many other incidents happened throughout the years too numerous to mention all a part of life and living.

Many small towns that were one time doing a prosperous business have faded out due ■ larger farms and fewer residents. Some people have moved away and many have passed on.

I moved to Maymont in the fall of 1976 and live in a suite in the former locker plant.

The family of John and Alice Conkey:

Bursil: who is now living in San Diego, California and has one daughter, Evelyn, living in Vancouver.

Merrill: who until just recently still farmed the original land and is now living in Maymont.

Thelma and Shirley (twins):

Thelma married Bill Thompson of Hornpayne, Ontario and ■ now living in Kitchener, Ontario. She has two children, Darlene and John.

Shirley married Earl Manchester of Toronto and lives there.

Ronald: married to Marg. Allen of Perth, Ontario. They have three children and live in Toronto. Ron's eldest daughter, Beverley is married to Nev Battitson and they have a daughter, Karen. His second daughter, Laraine is married to Peter Exley. Ron's son, Keith, the youngest family member, is still at home.

The first three teachers at Wavie Bank all boarded at John Conkey's so needless to say none of the Conkey children played hookey or tried to pull the wool over the teacher's eyes, and none of them can say they can't look back and recall many fond memories of the teachers being there. Thelma and Shirley were made to write right-handed by their teacher, Mr. Ken Doolittle. This was considered the proper technique by teachers in those days.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Cook (Bill and Ella)

Mr. Cook was born in King, Ontario July 8, 1860. He moved to Balmoral, Manitoba ■ 1888.

■ 1892 ■ married Ella Mitchell at Balmoral and they moved to Maymont in 1905 where they settled on land purchased from the Canadian Pacific Railway. At that time a half section of land cost $2560, interest rates were 6% and the amount was paid off in 6 equal payments plus interest.

The Cooks were never blessed with a family of their own but over the years raised three boys, William Storey, Dean Crossley and Jack Donald.

During the years 1912 to about 1925 Mr. Cook became quite well known for his herd of purebred Shorthorn cattle. He turned ■ mainly wheat farming when pastureland and water supply became a problem with a large herd of cattle. Later he became interested in raising hogs but not to the same extent that he had been in cattle.

Both were very interested in community work and were firm supporters of the United Church. In fact they were both involved in construction of the then Presbyterian Church which still serves the community.

Mrs. Cook passed away in 1942 and Mr. Cook in 1948. Both are interred in the Maymont Cemetery.

Mr. Harold Coombs

written by F. F. Mohler

Born in England November 13, 1883. His father was a civil engineer, who supervised the building of quite a few bridges among other projects. As the family moved as each was completed Harold gained considerable knowledge of a wide cross section of life. Once while stationed for three years near a military establishment, he observed their rigorous drill and meticulous dress and strict carriage during their training. Harold felt that after enduring this for some years the men would be bursting to engage an enemy, if only to relieve his feelings.

Harold loved the old land and its people. His collection of pictures and clippings showed his loyalty and devotion to the Royal Family. However the calls of freedom and opportunity in the new land interested him, so he sailed for Canada early in the 1900's.

He first helped a rancher at Broadview, Sask. Then he took up a homestead on the West side of Meeting Lake. He walked or drove horses to North Battleford for supplies. He proved upon the N.E. of 32-48-12 W3rd in 1925.

He farmed this land with four horses till 1956, being the last farmer to use horses for power in the district. He gave them the very best of care and treatment.

After the horses were gone he spent more time than ever carving knick-knacks from roots, figures of all kinds from bits of wood as well as animals, birds and snakes, etc. Part of these efforts we now can see in the Western Development Museum. His relatives and people will now be able to get a great deal of enjoyment from his artistry.

Harold visited his relatives in England in 1912 and again in 1935. He seemed glad to get back to his life of freedom, to wear the kind of clothes he fancied; (We have other individuals doing this too) or doing things he wished despite the hour or day of the week.

He planted thousands of trees and shrubs on his farm. He defended the existence of a row of spruce and scots pine sufficiently during the widening of the right of way for a grid road, to save them. Now the long distance telephones bows out around them. He was an ardent gardener, never losing hope despite many failures.

When he passed away there was more than a year's supply of wood cut, sawed and stacked by his own effort from native wood from his own farm. He only used a little coal two winters to hold fire over night.

Although the power line passed close to his house he chose to use a simple coal oil lamp to the end. However, he read something every day, including many books, by Its' feeble light.

Only in the last years did he use glasses for reading. In earlier years he hunted game, large and small. Most of the friends of hunting days predeceased him.

While he took time to visit friends occasionally he was never idle. He rode his bike to town his last afternoon as he had done a good many years. Among other things he firmly believed "The devil finds work for idle hands."

Charlotte Sloan Cooper

submitted by Charlotte

A young father in Russia built a cradle for his first born. One hundred years later I rocked my babies in this same cradle. I am impressed again to realize I exist because of precise timing and the unique set of circumstances which brought to the small district of Maymont, Saskatchewan, this German from Russia, a Nova Scotian sea captain, and a couple of farm families from Manitoba. These people were my great grandparents and I am grateful to them for the priviledge I have had of being raised in this community.

My early memories include kittens of my own each spring and a playhouse in the bush. I was always afraid of the dark and I dreaded that moment each night when my Dad blew out the lamp. No one was more thrilled than I to snap on the electric lights for the first time.

On summer evenings the cows were milked outside. My little brothers and I moved with Mom from cow to cow, cuddled in old coats for blankets, and listened to her fascinating stories. She is probably the most creative person in the world. Who else would transform a hot day hoeing in the garden a mile from home into a special memory with her idea of a noon corn roast and a story!

Charlotte and Lawrence Cooper and Family.

My Dad gave us a love for nature. He often stopped the tractor ■ move a duck nest rather than till it under in the field. He taught us to especially appreciate the birds and for this we repaid him each Christmas with a small hard cover bird book. The price was right — three books for $1.00. I admire more than anything my Dad's priorities in life — time for people and things that count.

School life for me was varied. I first attended Keystone School and our horse, Barney, was sometimes more than my older sister could handle. One day I bounced out of the buggy on my head and I heard the old buggy wheels rattle as the girls disappeared down the road in a cloud of dust. I later endured long school bus rides to Maymont School. We sang to pass time ■ the bus and I think Les Parker often had a headache when he parked the bus for the night!

The year I was eleven I spent my school days in bed doing Grade 7 by correspondence because I had an attack of rhuematic fever which enlarged my heart. Several relapses during the subsequent seven years interrupted my school attendance and I enrolled ■ more correspondence courses. I depended on my family to do things for me that other girls my age took for granted. I was a teenager who needed help even to wash my hair and I could walk only short distances. During noon hour I rested at my Grandpa's house in Maymont. During this time I spent a total of two years in bed and I wondered if I would ever lead a normal life.

All this changed the summer I was 18. I attended a Bible camp and while there, I simply asked God to make me well. A week or two later we received a letter from a heart specialist in Saskatoon where I had been examined after camp. The letter advised that the size and shape of my heart was now normal! What an exciting day for our family and what a change in lifestyle for me from that time on ! I have continued to enjoy excellent health since then for which I am consciously thankful.

Our horizons were broadened during our teen years when my brothers and I entered a Bible quizzing program. Canadian playoffs were held each year ■ Vancouver and International playoffs in Los Angeles, California. We each managed ■ go to the finals three years and our expenses for all these trips were paid for us. Quizzing brought us closer together. One fellow quizzer said to me, "They can't be your brothers — they're too nice to you!" Perhaps my family has always been especially good to me because of the sickness I had. We are all friends as well as siblings and I value each one of them.

When I left Maymont School I attended Business College, lived in B.C. for one year, then worked at C.J.N.B. Radio in North Battleford. Soon after our marriage, Lawrence and I flew to the north shore of Reindeer Lake in Manitoba. I felt completely at home in the quiet beauty of that isolated area and we felt we had flown into another world. Even adults there had never seen a horse, cow, car or train. Brochet seemed to be a town of dogs and more dogs, mukluks, planes, rocks, and winter picnics.

During the Christmas holidays we had the fun of bringing a small Indian girl "To South" (as she called it) to introduce her to our way of life. Her spending money for the trip came from a pile of little squirrel hides her father had skinned at nights on the trapline.

We saw our son for the first time while visiting my Uncle Earl and Aunt Edith Andrew in Manitoba. He sat on the floor bouncing to the music of a T.V. show and as soon as we saw him, Lawrence said, "That's our boy!" Three months later I carried Kevin from the pontoon plane up the steep bank of Reindeer Lake to our home. The following year we found out how good it is to have a baby born into a family, but still, there ■ no excitement that can beat adopting a child you already love. All arrangements had been made via poor connections on radio. I remember the priest's assistant in Brochet shouting as loudly as possible, "Do you have news for the Coopers?" and I remember Lawrence and I straining to hear the social worker's verdict through the static ■ the line.

Our daughter, Sunny, was born in North Battleford. When she was six days old we headed back into the North. The old Russian cradle had been given to me by my Uncle Roy Sloan, and it was piled on top of the suitcases at the back of our plane. In years past the cradle had travelled 3,000 miles more than half the distance around the world — by wagon train, camel, raft, rail and on ship over the Atlantic Ocean. Now we added "bush plane in northern Canada" to the cradle's colorful travel history.

We reluctantly left the North the following year and since then we have lived ■ the Turtleford area, about one hundred miles from Maymont. Lawrence is a reading specialist and travels with a reading lab throughout this school unit.

We call our acreage SHALOM, the Jewish greeting and farewell, meaning "peace". The atmosphere is suited to persuing our mutal interest in writing. This location ■ much like the farm at home, and as I walk through the pasture here I often think of my years at Maymont. I remember the load of dry wood my sister and I gathered for sale ■ town. I think of neighbours from home, like Gug and Millie Beaudoin, who are more than friends to me. And I remember the community shower that was held for me. I think of my Dad's fiddle and the tunes I grew up on. I find when I go home I feel just as much a part of the Maymont Community as I ever did.

Jeremy Jon was born to us two years ago and he also rocked ■ the old cradle. Recently, I was given the opportunity to write a book called The Mennonite People which is used in Canadian Schools. The story includes some of our own family history and it seems

that the cradle has become to me a symbol of God's loving care and protection not only in the past, but now and in our future.

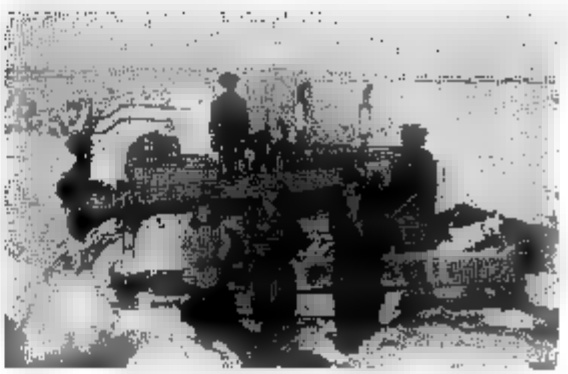
The Cliff Custer Family

Clifford W. Custer and Rojean J. Abbott were married in Ruddell April 10, 1942 uniting two pioneer families. Cliff was born in Baljennie the third son of Dave and Linda (nee Megaffin) Custer. His Grandparents came to Baljennie from Battleford where his grandfather had served with the North West Mounted Police. Cliff's father had come to Canada from U.S.A., the only member in his family to do so. He was well known for his love of a good horse trade, and in the years of horse-power travelled his proud stallion throughout the country on both sides of the river. He made many friends along the way.

Rojean's parents, Samuel and Mary (nee Kennedy) Abbott came to Ruddell from Ontario in 1905. Her Dad had been a logger in Northern Ontario since the age of fourteen years and her mother a seamstress from Toronto, a skill that came in very handy making new and made-over clothing for her family of seven. The prairie must have seemed a very lonely place for a city girl.

Cliff and Rojean started their married life on Bern Robinson's farm west of Ruddell but it was war time

Carole (12 yrs.), Harvey (5 yrs.) with Belarie's dog Ted at Lilac.



Carole, Cliff, Verne Schmidt and Harvey after ploughing snow, 1956.

and Cliff was drafted into the P.A. Volunteers one month later and was soon stationed in Vernon, B.C. Rojean followed in July and they loved the valley and enjoyed picking the various tree fruits and seeing the different way of life from prairie grain farming, especially the irrigation, thinking how the farmers back home could have used it in the dry years. It was a time of great change for them as army life was a new and not altogether happy experience as being wartime one didn't know what to expect. Carole was born February 23, 1943, while Cliff was on an army course in Woodstock, Ontario and he didn't see his daughter until she was four weeks old. It was at this time that Rojean had word that her dad had cancer and must undergo surgery, so Cliff eventually received a discharge to manage the farm until other arrangements could be made. Thus began several years of moving from place to place, including three years at Baljennie where their son, Harvey, was born in January, 1947. In 1953 we moved to the Lilac District having purchased a farm through the V.L.A. — the Dan Scott place which was to be our home for the next eight years. As the acreage was small we rented pasture land from Eph Reid, the Collins place, where we were able to raise feeder cattle. After much renovating the house was made liveable and with the help of good neighbors we were able to get our crop in and off with our limited machinery, and knew the value of people working together in true western fashion. One of the happiest times was when the power was finally brought to the farms in 1956 and we could enjoy the luxury of lights and the other conveniences that electricity brings. And when we got our T.V. it was a red letter day. Along with everyone else we battled the drouth, grasshoppers and rust when we couldn't believe that our nice stand of grain would yield nothing, never having experienced rust before.

There were many things we will never forget, among them being the springs when our basement would fill with water from the spring run-off, and once again we knew the value of good neighbors as they would come with their shovels, but in spite of their ef-

forts the water would break through. Carole and Harvey enjoyed it all as they could raft all around the house. In the winter of '64 when the snow all but buried us, Vern Schmidt came with his cat and ploughed ■ divert the water. We didn't get flooded that year and soon there was a culvert put in which solved the problem. Happier memories were the many dances we attended around the country as well as the square dance club when we danced several times a week to prepare for the jamboree, the New Year's Eve parties at the Buziaks and the Christmas concerts as well as the Beaver Baseball games with Elsie Beierle that she and Rojean enjoyed so much, but with Emile Francis ■ coach how could we lose? These are all pleasant memories to look back upon.

Carole will never forget the Hallowe'en the Moffat girls and she went trick or treating only to find when they got back to the Moffats that Joe had a trick or two of his own planned as they found out as they jumped into bed and received a shock from the bed that Joe somehow had wired.

Harvey lost his appendix his first month of school only to be followed by the other beginner Faith Parent. His comment was "The Copy Cat".

In the fall of 1960 we decided that the farm could no longer support us as the cost of farming like everything else had risen, so we moved to Saskatoon where Cliff had found employment. Rojean soon found employment also, and eventually went to work for the Federal Government where she is still employed. Carole graduated as a Certified Nursing Assistant and worked for a time at the University Hospital. In 1968 she married Mervin Zaleschuk from Maymont who is employed with the Power Corporation. They have a son, Darren, born September, 1966 and a daughter, Carmen, born August, 1973. Harvey had had his own Semi for several years — no surprise to those who knew him — as from the time he was a small child ■ had a car or truck in his hand. He married Diane Martyn in 1970. They are both graduates of Mount Royal Collegiate where Diane worked as secretary for five years after graduating from business college. They have a son, Wade, born March, 1975, and a daughter, Christine, born November, 1977.

Although Saskatoon is home now and has been good to us affording us vacations we couldn't take while on the farm, we are not sorry that our children have a farm background where they could experience the joy of growing things, the animals and slower-paced life, and we had a pang of regret when we learned that the house on the farm at Lilac had been destroyed by fire caused by lightning.

This was written in 1954 in answer to a letter from his granddaughter, Carole Custer, (a student at Lilac School) as part of a Homemakers' Project for school children on "Pioneers" to Commemorate the Saskatchewan Fiftieth Anniversary.

Dear Carole,

I will try to give you a little of my early experiences.

I arrived in Saskatchewan by train from Ontario in 1905, and stayed in Saskatoon a short while. At that time it was mostly tents. I was prepared to file on a quarter of land, which later would have been practically the centre of Saskatoon, but decided to move further west — much to my regret years later ■ I saw how the city grew.

I finally settled in Ruddell District and broke my land with four horses on a walking plow. Took off my first crop in 1907, — a good crop and very encouraging.

I recall one bad prairie fire that narrowly missed my land and was started by cinders from a passing train.

Having no way to travel and wanting more groceries than I could take on horseback — I found a plank and hitched my horse to it.

By 1909 when my wife came out from Ontario, I had a very small frame shack with a cabinet, stove, two chairs and a bed. When we weren't using the chairs, they were put on the bed to make more room to walk around the tiny floor. Nevertheless it was home until it burned in 1915 and I had the present house built.

Sincerely, Grandpa
(Mr. ■. Abbott)

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Custer, Sr.

Mrs. Custer went to Ruddell as a young woman of 18 years. Mr. and Mrs. Dave Custer had been married in 1912. Goo (Albert James) was born in Baljennie. They bought the livery barn from Herb Tremble — had traded the Plew's place in Baljennie for it. Dave, Junior, was born while they lived in Ruddell. She recalled living not far from the tracks on Mrs. Shield's place when the turkeys were making a dreadful noise due to an approaching train. She looked toward the tracks and saw Goo sitting in-between the rails. She said she just managed to rescue him in time. He was about 1½ years old at the time. They had the contract to haul mail and did draying. When fire took the barn they sold the lots ■ the Turnbulls and used the insurance money to buy the William Lachman farm which was just west of A. J. Custer's present farm.

Muriel Alison Crowder (Nee Butterfield)

My first claim to the fame was that I arrived before Dr. Scratch and from then on "I had ■ made". I had three older brothers and a sister to spoil me. Although we lived two and a half miles north east of town I was educated in Maymont and during those years, experienced the same type of "junior years" as my contempories. I walked to school, rode horseback, used the buggy or cutter and finally got my grade twelve. Very often ■ the fall I would help at harvest time by hauling grain to one of the elevators in town.

During my school years I was allowed the privilledge of learning to play the piano — a factor that was to be a distinct asset and gift for the rest of my life. As everyone knows those were strenuous, rough, "slim" years. Years during which everyone was bound to his neighbour by the common factor of poverty. Having obtained my degree in music I began to teach piano, often using team and cutter to reach my pupils as far north as Richard, and by car or train to Fielding. I played for Church and later on found the piano a distinct advantage after I got my schools teaching certificate. I first taught at Keystone School (for $500 a year) and then at Hughton near Rosetown. It was during this time I met Bob, a young Anglican minister, and in 1943 we were married in the little Church of All Saints, Maymont. We have now been married (1979) for 36 years and have two children, Louise and Gordon, (both married) and four grandchildren. Louise obtained her degree in Business Administration Environment Control. The past years have been very rewarding and we now live in Calgary and "my beginnings" in Maymont have stood me in good stead. I am now retired and Bob has his Doctorate in Theology and is the Archdeacon of Calgary.

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Crozier
Mr. and Mrs. Norman Cheal
Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Beaudoin

told by Mildred (Crozier) Beaudoin

My Mother, whose maiden name was Eva Parker, was born May 1, 1898, and moved to Maymont with her family, the William Parkers, and lived on the same land as Grey School. Marve Crozier was born in Ontario. He came to Brandon and then to Edam where he met Eva Parker who was teaching school at that time.

Mother and Dad's 45th wedding anniversary, Nov., 1947. Back row — Eleanor, Wayne, myself and Gug. In front — Mother and Dad.

On a trip back to Glaslyn after 38 years, I am standing beside the old log house Dad built on the homestead in the 30's.

They were married and had 2 children, Jim and Mildred. Mildred was born in Eatonia, Sask., on March 28, 1921, and Jim was born June 23, 1924, at Edam Sask. My Dad and Mother farmed at Edam and then moved to Carnduff, Sask. Dad ran a poolroom. Here he took an appendix attack and passed away in hospital. I was around 5 years old then. Mother came to North Battleford and did odd jobs and looked after us kids.

In a few years Mother married Norman Cheal who was working around Maymont. We lived on a farm not far from Grandpa Parker and Jim and I went to Grey School, (the same school my Mother had gone to). Then we moved to a homestead at Glaslyn. We went with a team of horses pulling a rack full of worldly possessions. Here we had good and bad times.

My Dad built a log house and barn. We had lumber on half the floor; the other half was just dirt. Our horses died and we used oxen for work and going to town. We often walked to town which was 5 miles away. Jim and I went to Glaslyn Rural School. We walked most of the time. Sometimes in the winter we would walk and catch a ride with a neighbour. The entire families went to school house dances. The women took lunch and someone played the violin and piano and that was the orchestra. We had lots of fun. There was always entertainment at lunchtime; some sang, some played a musical instrument. I remember my Dad and Jim doing a step-dance. We made many good friends. We went to Sam Woods for Xmas several years. That was always a special occasion. I still write to 3 of my girlfriends from Glaslyn.

In 1936 we moved back to Maymont and lived in the house where Harry Wohlberg lives now. Jim and I finished High School. Jim worked out on the farm a bit. Jobs got scarce and war broke out so Jim joined the R.C.A.F. He graduated as an AirGunner.

■ 1942 our family moved east and Jim came to our place on his last leave before going overseas. We sure had a memorable time and hated to see Jim leave. As it turned out it was his last leave home. We had word saying he was missing in action on the night of Aug. 23, 1943, on a mission over Hamburg. His crew were all English lads. I still correspond with his pilot's sister.

I started working out for $1.50 a week; then I got up to $13.00 per month and then $13.00 a week. I worked in a confectionery store in the east. Before that I had done housework.

In the spring of 1944 we came west again. Mother and Dad worked around Saskatoon and 8 years ago Dad retired from being a caretaker of schools. They still live in Saskatoon. They celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary this year, 1979.

Now ■ continue on with our immediate family, I, Mildred Crozier, married Ernest Beaudoin ■ 1944 and we had 2 sons, Jim and Wayne. The summer of 1945 Ernest, (who was in the army before we were married) worked for his brother Norman. We stayed with them until fall. Jim was born on Sept. 10, 1945 ■ Grandma Andrew's house with the help of Dr. Scratch, Grandma Andrew and Sarah Beaudoin (my cousin).

On September ■ we went to my cousins place in a bad snowstorm but October came out nice and hot as one day Sarah, Albert, baby Jim and I drove ■ Granny Parkers with a horse and buggy. We lived in the Warkentin house one winter and in the McNaughton house. Then we bought the land we are now living on but we had built a house 1½ miles north of Ted Sloan. In 1950 with the help of our good neighbours and relatives we got the house jacked up onto wagons and pulled by tractors to our present place. We had 2 boys by then. Wayne came along on May 20, 1948. Mrs. Herb Johnston and Dr. Scratch delivered him. Mothers had ■ stay in bed 10 days at that time so Mother came and looked after us.

Jim and Wayne started school at Keystone in the fall of 1958, later to Maymont as our school was closed. They played hockey and ball (Ernest and I also attended Maymont School). The boys had a bus to ride instead of horse and buggy ■ summer and closed-in-cutter in the winter. The men used to have to get up early to do chores and milk cows before starting off to school. Our kids had 3½ miles to Keystone. One day the cutter upset with Rena and Margaret Andrew and the Ted Sloan kids. They all laughed later but at the time it was quite serious. The kids even got a few rides to school ■ the truck or car. That was a real treat at that time. Most of the kids now have their own car to go to school. Jim got his first car by working in the summer for Jim Tebay.

In 1954 we got electricity — What a luxury that was — no more oil lamps or smokey lanterns. When we first got electric lights the kids were busy switching lights on and off. With electricity came appliances and motors. We got an electric motor on the cream separator — no more turning by hand. Ernest sat down with his feet up on a chair and watched the milk separate into milk and cream. Then along came T.V. It was unbelievable to see a show in your own home.

We had a lot of sickness in our family but with the help of our neighbours, doctors and relatives we made it through. My garden was put in several times and vegetables frozen.

One year our crop was put in for us; some did the seeding, some harrowing and some gave money for gas. We will never forget their kindness and help given to us over the years. We seemed to be always needing help.

Another luxury was the water pressure system being put in the house. It saved a lot of carrying of snow and water. Before deep freezes came into being we had to carry in lots of water for canning vegetables on the old wood stoves. What a job in ■ degree above F. weather and having a roaring fire on. The deep freeze was a great help to farm women.

Sawing wood days used to be fun. The men each got a pile of logs or poles and then each had a day for sawing it up. The women went along, too, to visit and help the lady of the house. Threshing was another big time of work and visiting. Then the combine came along and replaced the threshing machine.

The boys left school, worked on farms and then left for greener pastures. Wayne was an Orderly for awhile. When he got laid off he went to a Sports Store business and Skateboard Park in Saskatoon. In 1969 Wayne married Eleanor Poulter from Richard. Eleanor is a secretary for C.S.P. Foods. They live in Saskatoon.

Jim went to Saskatoon and worked for $1.00 an hour. Then in the fall of 1969 he and his cousins, Dale and Russell Beaudoin, and John Hawkins went to the mines in Yellowknife. He came back to Saskatoon and then ■ Edmonton. He still works at the same place as a welder. He went to Welding School for 3 winters and now has his First Class Papers. In March, 1972 he married Lynn Leier. They have 3 girls and live in Spruce Grove. Lynn is a hairdresser.

Ernest and I still are on the farm waiting for the old age pension checks and retirement.

A Brief Autobiography of Josephine Shields Currie

I am presently living happily retired in the pleasant little town of Oakville here ■ Manitoba between Winnipeg and Portage la Prairie. I share residence with my youngest daughter while another daughter and her family occupy the larger unit of our duplex.

My life has been an intermingled career of raising a family and teaching school. While in Manitoba I spent nine years working with retarded children in Portage la Prairie and four years in a rural school.

Before moving to Manitoba my husband and I spent twenty-two years of our married life at Kakabeka Falls near Thunder Bay where he was an employee of

Mrs. Walter Currie, nee Josephine Shields, 1936.

Ontario Hydro. It was here our family grew up and received their education.

Previous to this I taught school in Saskatchewan for several years. ■ was during one of these assignments that I met the man of my life, Walter Currie. At that time a married lady was not allowed to teach school. The Board would not give us a Unanimous decision to get married and allow me to continue teaching. So, after much planning we decided ■ take a "holiday trip" to Ontario to visit relatives and get married quietly there. I returned to Saskatchewan and resumed teaching still under my maiden name — a tacky thing to do, but it worked. Of course there is no need to hide the secret now.

My ambition as a little girl was always to become a teacher some day. I attended the little Baljennie school which was three long miles from my home. I walked, rode a pony, drove a two-wheeled cart, rode a bicycle and hitched rides with the neighbor kids sometimes. With great determination I passed every grade and finally obtained my elementary diploma. In those days our exam papers came from Regina and were returned there to be marked. Oh, happy day when I received the news in the mail that I had passed my entrance!

I had two lady teachers ■ elementary school. Do any of my readers remember Mrs. Wickens? She was a middle aged English lady and ■ excellent teacher. As well as the basics she believed that girls should

My mother, Ellen Hibbert, her father, Joseph Hibbert, her brother, Edmund.

learn to sew and knit. Once a week we had a sewing class — on Friday afternoon if I remember. I tried my best to make a handkerchief with a piece of cloth I took from home. When I had finished she examined it and commented, "It's as crooked as a dog's hind leg." I don't remember my reaction but I do remember the handkerchief. Then we got a more modern young lady teacher — a Miss Alice Wilson from Saskatoon. I was fascinated with her nice clothes and how well she could twirl her marking pencil around her finger.

The next step was to persuade my mother to allow me to go to High School. This wasn't easy. It took her a long time to make up her mind. Finally after a lot of coaxing the decision was that I could go on the condition that I pass every grade and the first time I failed that was it. Of course, I did not fail. My four years at the Battleford Collegiate cost me twenty-five dollars a month for board and room plus my books and a few clothes. My father, mother and I had to work hard ■ finance my way. After finishing High School I took one year teacher training at the Saskatoon Normal School. A young teacher had to get a school before two years expired or the interim certificate would no longer be valid. In the '30s competition among aspiring teachers was keen and one really had to try hard to get a school- make a personal application was most effective ■ possible. This meant that one would have to make a train trip ■ some location that you would really like to have. The wages at my first assignment were $350 a year. As time went on ■ was possible one might get a $50 a year increment. In some areas teachers worked for room and board moving from one home to another. They were promised their wages when the School

District was better financially situated. There were doubts whether these teachers ever did get paid their arrears.

I grew up an only child on a rocky little farm near the Baljennie hamlet that once was, ■ Saskatchewan between North Battleford and Saskatoon. It was a very poor 160 acre rocky farm with a large alkali flat ■ the middle. My Daddy grew a little grain and we had a few milk cows and some chickens. Farm work was done with horse power. We never owned a car. Father got this farm as a homestead deal for $10. As a poor boy raised in Tennessee and working his way north to Canada on the railroad ■ heard about the homestead deal and so he and a friend each took a homestead in Baljennie. Father not being very selective and not looking at what he was getting made a poor deal. However, we struggled along and made a meagre living. My father, Robert Allan Shields met my mother, Ellen Hibbert, born 1884 an English cotton-mill girl and got married. Ellen and her father, Joseph Hibbert left England to seek a happy land they heard advertised so much in England. They had a real struggle to survive — living in a sod shack, and battling the hard cold winters. Shelters for farm animals were made from poles daubed with fresh cow manure. My mother and my grandfather acquired two oxen to plow with. They were Moses and Aerron. Mosquitoes and black flies made life miserable for both man and beast. Oxen were used to break up the sod to grow a little grain and a bit of garden. In fly time ■ the hot summer days they would run from the field where they were working ■ the nearest mud hole, harness and all and stay there until they were jolly good and ready to come out. My mother related how she would walk nine miles to get a pint of fresh milk for her and her father and by the time she got back home she had drunk all the milk. Wild duck eggs, saskatoons, wild raspberries strawberries and gooseberries provided a little variety to their food fare.

My grandfather Hibbert is buried ■ the Maymont cemetery, my mother ■ Ruddell cemetery and my Daddy ■ Baljennie.

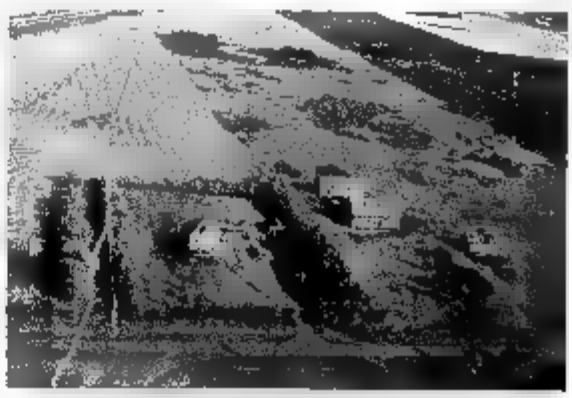
Do you remember when Charlie Johnson used to run the Ruddell hotel, Bill Kennedy was always on hand, George Sherwood ran the general store on the corner, two brothers operated the blacksmith shop (I can't recall their name just now), Mrs. Mosley served country home-cooked meals in her own home, and Ma Lee ran a short order cafe and store. Mrs. Collins was in the telephone exchange. Harry Best used to operate the ferry across the Saskatchewan River so we could cross over in the summer time to get from Baljennie to Ruddell to get groceries, sell grain and do our banking. This was before the railway came from Saskatoon ■ Baljennie. ■ the winter we would go straight north over the frozen river which was much shorter.

Many of my readers will remember the Friedman store in Maymont Bean's general store and Dr. Scratch. He and Dr. J. H. Storry of Rabbit Lake were two very honorable men who served the sick long and well for miles around. My mother suffered heart trouble for many years of her life. When she would feel sick, bored and depressed she would send for Dr. Scratch to come to her home. She would tell him how poorly she felt and finally he would suggest that she should rest in the hospital in North Battleford for a couple of weeks or so. This pleased her. While there she would have a good rest, good meals and meet many new acquaintenances. She would return home and carry on again for another year. She lived for several years alone ■ Ruddell but had many kind and helpful neighbors.

I was widowed in 1972 but a wonderful family helped fill the gap. Our oldest daughter, Jean (Mrs. Robert Gairns) and her family live in Ottawa. She operates a hair dressing salon. Her twin sister, Catherine (Mr. Ken Vezey) and her family live here in Oakville where she manages the dining room ■ the local motor hotel. Our youngest daughter, Frances is a correctional officer at the Portage la Prairie Women's Correctional Centre. She is also a qualified beautician. In between, is Eileen (Mrs. Gary Flath) who lives with her family in Courtenay, B.C. where she nurses. Our only son, Edward, a member of the R.C.M.P. resides with his wife, Theresa at Campbell River, B.C. Nine grandchildren complete the circle.

The Daoust Family

■ 1918 the Daoust family left Plaisance, Quebec and headed west. A family with eight children, four boys and four girls ranging ■ age from just a baby to twelve years. Phil was just eight years old at the time. They settled in Gravelbourg for two years before moving on to La Fleche. By 1921 three more girls were born to the family. That same year Phil's mother died. In 1923 the family moved back to Gravelbourg. Three of Phil's brothers and sisters are still living there today. The rest have spread out and settled ■ different areas.



Aeroplane view of Daoust farm (now owned by B. Fletcher), 1952.

In 1928 Phil left Gravelbourg looking for work. He travelled as far as Windsor, Ontario but unable to get a steady job he returned to Gravelbourg where he worked on a farm as a hired hand for five years. When the Depression came Phil was out of work again. He finally got a job in Herschel. He worked there as a farm hand for two years.

In the fall of 1934 Phil went back to Gravelbourg for a few days. There he met with the Gaudet family who were moving to Denholm. Phil came with them and went to work for Walter Parent. They baled and shipped straw to southern Sask. They worked from Brada to as far east as Ruddell.

At Ruddell Phil started working for Bern Robinson and worked for wages for three years. In 1938 Phil rented a half section from Bern Robinson. The first year Phil's share of the crop totalled $79. In 1946 Phil bought a house and farm from Lawrence Robinson and farmed it for twenty-six years along with the half section he still rented. Phil retired in 1972. He sold the farm and house to Bryant Fletcher and bought a house in Ruddell.

In 1939 Phil married Ruth Scott whose parents also farmed in the Ruddell area. They had two girls and a boy, Peggy, Annette, and Eugene.

Eugene grew up on the farm and when [redacted] was fifteen started working for Art Martynes during the summer and after school. When the farm was sold in 1972 Eugene was working at the North Battleford stock yard while continuing to work for Art. In 1973 Eugene married Debby Laughlin from the Richard area. He worked at the stock yard until April of 1975 then moved to Art Martynes' house at the feedlot to work with Art full time.

In 1977 Eugene and Debby had a son, Lee, so that the Daoust name could carry on in the Ruddell area for some time.

The W. J. Davis Family

Although originally from Ontario, William John Davis and his brother Charlie came from Toulon, Manitoba, to take up homesteads in the Lilac district (W½ 4-43-13 W3rd). His first wife had died leaving him with a family of five — two boys and three girls. Annie and Florence were older and never lived here but Catherine (then in her later teens) and her brothers Archie and Robert came out in 1903 to join their dad and uncle on the homesteads. They rode the [redacted] miles out from Saskatoon on a load of lumber and supplies. The trip was made even slower when along the way they picked up some cattle which the men had bought earlier and these had to be driven home. First they lived in tents until a log house could be built. Catherine told of making butter using an improvised churn and sharing this butter with other homesteaders. She also baked bread for the neighboring bachelors. In 1954 she recalled it as "a labor of love but it did not avail me much as I am still an unclaimed treasure at [redacted] years.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Davis about 1930.

She made two batches of bread in a day as her mixing pan and oven were both small. Bread, salt pork, beans, and oatmeal were staple foods.

Soon after this Mr. Davis married a Mrs. Bacon with two grown children but his new wife lived only a short time. By this time he had bought E½ 32-42-13 and moved there. Mr. Davis had a well-equipped blacksmith shop and was kept busy sharpening shares for breaking ploughs and other jobs for his neighbors. He bought the first steam threshing machine in the district — in 1907 or 1908 and did custom threshing for many of the homesteaders. He had a cook car and a sleeping car for the men — a crew of around 21. He also had a grain grinding attachment on his windmill in later years, so had to choose a windy day to grind his grain.

Catherine kept house for her dad until he married Rebecca Jane Ricketts (a sister of Mrs. Welford) in 1915. She was an English girl who had come out for a

visit but got stranded here due ■ the outbreak of World War 1 in 1914. They worked on the farm until failing health led to their retirement to North Battleford ■ 1928.

Mr. Davis died in 1943 and Mrs. Davis in 1973. Both are buried ■ Ruddell Cemetery.

Archie Davis went out to B.C. where he operated a successful ranch until his death. Rob went back east to Toronto ■ work in a factory until he died. Catherine cared for an elderly aunt in Minnesota for many years and later came home to assist her stepmother in the care of her dad when he became an invalid. She then cooked on a ranch in B.C. — one belonging to the famous Douglas Ranching Co. near Merritt. She retired ■ Merritt but died ■ a Kamloops Nursing Home, May 2, 1967.

The Dawsons

written by Annie (Dawson) Thompson

William Dawson was born in Ireland on May 2, 1874. He had two older brothers and one sister younger than he. William, or "Billy" as he was known, enlisted ■ the Irish part of the British Army when war broke out ■ South Africa in 1899. On the signing of the peace for that war, ■ returned ■ Ireland, having earned a medal and seven bars for each major battle victory. He returned then ■ 1902 and immediately emigrated to the new colony — Canada.

He worked on farms in western Ontario and southern Manitoba till the homesteads were opened up ■ Saskatchewan. The railway was slowly moving west and Radisson was the farthest Post Office and that was where he started. He took up a homestead approximately 25 miles west of there. How this portion of the Western Trek was covered is not clear, but I possibly expect this could have been where ■ purchased a team of oxen, a walking plow and whatever other things he needed to open up a homestead. Billy homesteaded on the northeast quarter of Section 8, Township 42, Range 12, West of the 3rd Meridian. He built a sod shack and the first winter he had a companion, in the form of one George Holler. It is not clear where he came from or how they managed to settle in together, but they did and many a story was told of how they baked hardtack biscuits on the tin heater and who was the best cook. George Holler went on and settled some six miles east on a homestead.

By this time, settlers were coming ■ quite quickly, and in 1905 a school was built across the corner from the Dawson quarter. The school was erected on the S.W. corner of section ■. It was named Grey School. Two or sometimes three generations of the original settlers got their educatuion there.

There was almost open prairie in this part of Saskatchewan and the cultivation of the land was comparatively easy and was done by oxen and walking plow to start with. Even then, more efficient machinery was quickly being built and bought by the settlers, so the land could be cultivated and productive so much faster.

One of the big chores to most of the folks ■ this area at this time was the long trip to the flour mill in Radisson for a grist. The grist was the farmer taking his fresh threshed wheat and having it ground into flour. This was usually a long hard day's trip, especially when the oxen were used. Even after the advent of horses it was still a long day. By this time the town of Maymont was incorporated and with the advent of General Stores and machine companies, the new land opened up quickly and settlers were many.

One of these families was the Frank Bohn family that had come west the same time as Dawson, but didn't move his family until 1906 or 1907.

By this time Dawson had built himself a lumber shack and in 1908 married the eldest Bohn daughter — Wilhelmina, known as Minnie. They settled down to a family and the business of living.

Their first son was born one year later, delivered by the new young Dr. Scratch that had arrived to practise medicine in 1907. He was assisted by Minnie Dawson's mother, who had been a mid-wife in Manitoba and continued to be one for many more years. The second child, a girl, was born two years later in August. That was me, Annie. As I write this biography, I will say that my Dad always told of the night that I was born was the night he was completely hailed out and I never did find out which he considered the bigger tragedy, my birth or the hailstorm.

Billy Dawson had learned the trade of plastering and bricklaying and he went out much of the time before 1914 and did this kind of work. Some of the larger jobs we heard much of, were the hotels built in Radisson, Fielding and Maymont. By the time he enlisted in the war of 1914-1918, he had another son and he went overseas late in 1914. The next spring my sister was born. My mother carried on the farm with the help of hired men. One man, Harold Coombs, stayed and helped with the farm till Dad returned in 1919. Harold Coombs stayed on for a time, then went on and eventually set up his own farm on the land close to the town of Maymont.

During the period between 1908 and 1919 another quarter of land was added to the Dawson homestead. It was the quarter on the S.E. corner of Section 8 and it was owned by a man named Herb Elliot. I do not recall ever hearing why he sold, but it was bought by Billy Dawson. That was the way the farm stood until sold ■ the fifties.

During our growing up and school days we didn't do much more than just live. The farming was done with the horses and horse drawn machinery. The caring of the livestock and the machinery was a full time job. In this period a new barn was built to house the animals during the winter and a supply of food and bedding was kept ■ the huge loft. A barn warming was held as a barn dance. As I remember it was a huge success. In

those days everyone brought food and lunch was served in that manner. ■ 1927, a new house was added and with a good supply of water it seemed no time until prosperity should have been a sure thing. But then, as always, follows a boom, there was a recession. ■ 1928, wheat was hard to sell and this was followed by a stock market crash in 1929. Then, things got worse. The drought set in and with grasshoppers eating the crops and no rain, crop failures were a sure thing. This went on for the next five to seven years. The drought seemed to let up in the late 1930's, but many people had moved farther to the north to new homesteads but Dawsons stayed on.

Billy Dawson was an Orangeman and his wife belonged ■ the women's section of this lodge. So the meetings of this lodge and the yearly July 12th celebration was a highlight of the time. They also belonged to the Veterans' Lodge that is known as the Canadian Legion. Minnie was also the President of the Church of England Women's Auxiliary, All Saints Church branch for nearly twenty years, and was a Life Member. This was an honor accorded to one with ■ or more years service in the W.A.

We, as kids, belonged to the Girl Guides and the Boy Scout movement. My older brother was also an Orangeman. Billy Dawson was also on the Board of Trustees for Grey School for a number of years.

During the late thirties, the rumblings of unrest in Europe had filtered to Canada. In 1939 things came to a head and war was declared. Billy Dawson, being military minded, tried to get into the service immediately but was declared overage. But, the family responded. The second son Bob and son-in-law Ivan Thompson (my husband) joined the army in 1941 and went overseas. Bob returned in 1942 because of a health problem and took over the farm. This led to Jim, the youngest son joining the Air Force. By this time, the West Coast was on guard because of the Japanese — U.S.A part of the war and Walter, the oldest son, joined the Merchant marines and served in that branch until the peace was signed. Bob was on the farm with his parents and kept up with the farm work, but by the war's end he had decided to go into construction which left the Dawson farm to be rented ■ others as Billy Dawson was too old to carry on by this time. The younger son was still overseas and on his return did not return to the farm, so Billy first rented the farm and lived in the buildings, then finally sold it to their nephew and niece. They lived in Maymont two years and finally moved to Saskatoon in 1954 and lived there ■ their house till 1962.

In 1960, the youngest son died in the Air Force, having reenlisted. In 1961, Minnie Dawson had a serious illness and could no longer look after Billy as he was in a wheelchair. So, Billy was admitted to the Veterans' nursing home.

Minnie lived with the second daughter, Alice, with visits to others in between. In 1962, Billy died at the age of 88. He was buried in Soldiers Field in Woodlawn Cemetery, Saskatoon. Minnie lived on with Alice and her husband Cleo Taylor until her last trip to have Christmas in British Columbia with the youngest daughter Mary in 1966. She took sick in January in B.C. and died there on February 9, 1967, at the age of 86. She was buried in Woodlawn Cemetery as well.

Charles W. Dickinson

by Verna Dickinson Galbraith

■ 1905, Charles W. Dickinson, who had been a general merchant in Ontario, moved to Fielding, Saskatchewan and built a store. It was then on the mainline of the Canadian Northern Railway. His family moved later after the school was built.

There was a three-storey hotel facing the railway station and grain elevators.

There was a continental train each morning from West and one in late evening from the East. The evening train time was a popular time to meet at the station to see the train — seven coaches — arrive.

At a later time a daily passenger train also ran, in the morning from North Battleford to Saskatoon and returned in the evening.

Other stores at that time; a general store first owned by James McGregor and taken over by others when the McGregor family moved to Saskatoon; a blacksmith shop owned by Andrew Murray; a Chinese laundry; a butcher shop; two farm implement offices; Mr. Joe Giroux had a furniture store and he was later postmaster.

Our first church services were held in the school — later the Anglican Church was built. It had church pews and rich red drapes that came from some big church in England.

Mr. Robert Ireland from England, a farmer and former Sea Captain and talented artist painted a lovely window — "Christ the Good Shepherd" and several smaller windows for the church.

Nearby a Presbyterian Church was built and Methodists rented it — ■ years before union.

There was also a Catholic Church built, too.

At first, banking was done in Radisson and later a bank was built in Fielding.

Each little western town had a tennis court and a rink.

It was surprising the talent that came to these small places. As well as teachers, singers, and music teachers from Ontario, there were many talented singers from the British Isles. Each little town was able to prepare a concert.

■ the summer of 1922 — late on Saturday night a fire broke out which burned most of the village down. Our store was the last to catch fire but it burned too. Some of our belongings and store stock was saved. We rented the town hall which was next door and carried on business until December.

A few years ago we motored from Calgary, to Ed-

monton, North Battleford, Maymont, Fielding, Radisson, and on to Saskatoon. I felt very much disappointed with all the little towns — stations all down — buildings not replaced — no longer was it a mainline railway. I recall when Speers was called New Ottawa because a number of the people had moved there from Ottawa. I believe it was named Speers when the railway was built in that area. Railways did so much in opening up the country. I had a trip on "the Canadian" a few years ago and did not think the service as good really as in 1907.

Dr. Scratch came first to Fielding and he was a friend of C. W. Dickinson. He moved on to Maymont and was thought of so highly by the whole countryside. I have heard when he arrived, his patients began to feel better!

Numerous names I recall: Walter Mason, his parent and sisters, Ethelbert Iveson and parents, Robertson Family, Geo. Elford Family, Bracht Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Pitt, Mr. William Ferris Family, Mr. Robert Ferris Family, Mr. Harrop and Family, Ridley Bros., Joe Prechtl, Mr. Schloemer, George Sloan, Vince Sloan, Carman Family, Jim Robertson, Tom Ferris, Glenn Family, Tommy Buchan, Sam Miller, Tom Miller, Herb Miller, Wes Sloan, Les Sloan, Alex Gunn, [illegible]. J. Scott, McGrath, Wm. Shanks, Mr. Busby.

Doug and Lillian (Nutbrown) Dodd and family.

Lillian (Nutbrown) and Doug Dodd

Lillian was born on the farm four miles from Maymont during the "dirty thirties". Early memories are of loving parents and grandmothers, wonderful aunts, uncles and cousins. How well I remember the April Sunday my sister was born. The air was so full of dust that Dr. Scratch had to watch the telephone poles to be sure that he stayed on the road during his trip to the farm. Top soil drifted over the fence lines and into the trees. It was very dry and Russian Thistle grew in abundance — no chemical sprays those days. We usually went bare foot in summer so we watched where we walked to avoid the thistles. As if the drought wasn't bad enough, there were infestations by grasshoppers. The bait was poison mixed with saw dust spread early in the morning in an attempt to control the insects. We also had army worms one year.

My mother carried water to irrigate the garden and we always had an abundance of vegetables and flowers. Wild berries — Saskatoons, Pincherries, chokecherries, wild raspberries, cranberries and strawberries were picked, then canned or made into jams and jellies.

Dad farmed with horses until he bought the "Hart Parr" tractor. In 1944 we had a new "Massey". During the early years of my life most people had several horses. Transportation was by hitching up the horse or horses to the buggy, "Bennett buggy"' or cart or wagon in summer and sleigh box or built in cutter in winter. We used hot bricks to keep our feet warm on a cold day. Roads were not built up so the sleigh track got pretty bumpy at times if there were many snow drifts. At times we had to detour through farmers fields. Roads had no gravel or very little gravel so if it did rain it was very muddy.

Calais School was 3 miles from home so in summer we either walked or rode horseback. When my brother and sister started school he drove the horse. During the winter we skied or drove the horses.

Christmas concerts were the highlight of the winter. We would practice our recitation, plays, monologues, songs and drills for about a month before the big evening. The week of the concert a stage would be built at the front of the classroom and curtains were hung. The christmas tree was decorated, the big evening soon arrived and the school would be filled to capacity with relatives and friends to view the performances. Santa Claus and lunch completed the evening.

The final day of the school year ended with the annual picnic — ball games were played and races run. There was a "booth" and mother always made ice cream for it. Never have I tasted such good ice cream. Supper was a picnic lunch.

We usually went to the Spinney Hill picnic. This meant a trip across the North Sask. River on the ferry. Our Ross cousins lived at Spinney Hill and this was the time to have a good visit with them.

Church was held at the Calais School during the summer months. Anglican ministers I recall were Rev. Cousins; Rev. Saunders, Rev. Flegg, Rev. Crowder and several student ministers.

Before the advent of power most people had an ice house or ice well to keep milk, cream and food cool during the summer months. Ice was cut at the river during the winter, the blocks were hauled home by sleigh and placed in the ice well, packed in and insulated with saw dust and straw. We usually had ice into the late summer or early fall months. Power in 1952 also meant no more filling of lamps and cleaning of lamp chimneys. (Unless there was a power shortage.)

Grades 8 to 12, I attended Maymont High School — approximately 30 students grades 9 to 12 in one classroom with Mr. J. N. Armstrong as a most able principal. During these years I was active in C.G.I.T. and Homecraft and taught Sunday School 1949 to 1952 I attended the Saskatoon City Hospital School of Nursing. I was employed there after graduation until late 1954. I then was employed by the Sask. Anti-Tuberculosis League (at the Saskatoon Sanatorium), until 1966.

In 1953 Douglas Dodd and I were married at Maymont. Doug was born at Kandahar and had lived at Lone Rock, Dunfermline, Borden, Unity, Saskatoon and North Battleford. We lived in Saskatoon for 10 years, then on a farm 18 miles east of Saskatoon for 3 years before moving to Rabbit Lake in 1966. Our farm buildings are located in the north west corner of Rabbit Lake and our farm land is south and west of Meeting Lake. We own the land which was homesteaded by the late Harold Coombs.

We have 2 daughters — Mary Lou who is a Social Service worker is married to Bruno Bavaro (a teacher) and they live in Edmonton Alberta. Cheryl Lynn is a 1979 Commerce graduate from the U. of S. Both girls enjoy sports and were active in 4-H.

Doug, who played baseball with the North Battleford Beavers in the late 1940's and early 1950's has been instrumental in reviving baseball in this area — he still coaches. He also helps with hockey.

Lillian continues her nursing career at the Rabbit Lake Union Hospital. She has also been employed at the Borden and Spiritwood Union Hospitals.

We enjoy travelling and taking part in community activities.

Ken Doolittle Family

Kenneth Harvey Doolittle was born December 17, 1905 in Cedar Falls, Wisconsin. He was the youngest of four children, three boys and a girl.

He came with his parents and family to Maidstone, Saskatchewan. His father homesteaded about ten miles north of Maidstone. As a boy of five years old, he was sent to report a prairie fire. He had to run two miles to do this. A five-year-old made into a man in a hurry as he used to say. He and his friend, Elmer Rudler used to like trapping muskrats, camping and fishing together. Ken really liked the outdoors.

He started in Tee-Beau Corners country school and

Ken Doolittle.

completed his high school in Maidstone. He was always a good hardworking student. His mother wanted and saw to it that he would be a school teacher. He attended Normal School in Prince Albert and Saskatoon. He taught at St. Walburg his first year — a young man of eighteen years old. He taught in country schools — Lorenzo, Blue Bird, Wavie Bank, and Gunness (north of Sonningdale).

He met Agnes Beaudoin at her grandmothers while he was teaching at Lorenzo. They were married in June 1930. They spent their honeymoon camping on Kingsmere Lake where one day they went to visit Grey Owl. After they were married Ken taught in Saskatchewan at Raymore, Valpraiso and Glamis.

Ken and Agnes had one son, David, born in June 1936. He was born in Maymont at the old farm home of Agnes' stepfather, Ernest Andrew and her mother. He was delivered by Doctor Scratch and nurse, Pat McGrath. Dave is now in Montreal running his own business as Pro Shop Goods for Ten Pin Bowling. He used to be a pro himself having bowled on many occasions on T.V. He was once on a top (Juniors) bowling team in Victoria, B.C. He has three sons.

Ken joined the Navy at the beginning of World War II, where he began as a leading writer. He graduated to Lieut-Commander before the end of the war. He was a very conscientious service man and was respected by all his Commanders and Captains. He also taught Navy Manual at a school in Montreal. He had the organizing of this manual training school building and wrote several training books for the Navy. He taught Wrens and Leading Seamen. He was Pay Master for sometime. (His wife, Agnes, always worried about him when he was in charge of thousands of dollars for salaries). He usually had two M.P.'s with him when he went to the bank. He carried the money in a large canvas bag. One day one of the M.P.'s asked him, "If we get held up, Sir, what should I do? Shoot?" "Hell no!" Ken said, "Give the money up." However they never had to do this.

During a tour of the Navy Band across Canada Ken was their secretary and paymaster.

After retiring from the Navy, Ken was back at

teaching as principal of Star City School. He then taught in a large high school at Fort William, Ontario for four years until he was stricken with cancer and had to quit a few months before he planned to retire. He was operated on and recovered.

Agnes and Ken retired in Qualicum Beach, B.C. There Ken was secretary to the Chamber of Commerce and also looked after the Tourist Bureau. Agnes pursued her talents in clay modelling and painting. Agnes could not take the damp winters and constant rain. They sold their house and moved to 100 Mile District in B.C. They were happy there for five years, living in a home on one acre near beautiful Horse Lake. Here the cry of the loon kindled a spark in their hearts. Here they didn't have to go far to enjoy camping. Ken loved to hunt and fish.

Ken wrote several articles for magazines. One of these was Cry of the Loon. He was a free lance writer who wrote many articles usually on the great outdoors. He had several articles published in Saskatchewan Outdoors and B.C. Sportsman.

The life in the Cariboo was too good to be true. Soon the lake that had no buildings and was beautiful and wild became a real haven for buyers of land. The quiet road by their front door that at one time only had one or two cars now became a freeway. The traffic noise and dust became too much for them so they sold their house and moved back to their home province of Saskatchewan. They lived in the municipal house as renters for the first winter. In the spring they bought a three-bedroom trailer in Radisson. Ken fell ill in January once more stricken with cancer, and after two weeks in hospital succumbed on February 6, 1979 — a sad way for such a learned good-living man to go. Agnes sold the trailer and moved into a small house in Maymont where she has not yet recovered from the shock for her great loss. She recalls Ken as saying in the hospital in Saskatoon, "Honey we came home to live our last years with family and friends, but someone threw a monkey wrench in our plans."

The Dows

The Dow family was one of the true pioneers of the west and of the Ruddell and Lilac districts.

William Gerrard Dow was born in Whitly, Ontario in 1849. As a young man he joined the first survey party sent out by the Canadian Government to map out the 49th parallel. He was taken prisoner by Louis Reil but escaped and enlisted to take up arms for his country during the Finian raids.

Later he returned to the farm at Whitly and was married to Anne McAllan. Together they raised five children — Isabella, Marion, Josephine, Anne and John, the only son born in 1882.

In 1887, he moved his family west to Pilot Mount (Manitoba) to farm and where the children went to school.

In 1903, he and his son John moved to a rented farm just outside of Saskatoon.

In 1904, John took a homestead 4 miles north of Ruddell, NW 32-42-13 and William took a homestead by what was known as Goose Lake. The railway was not completed to Ruddell so lumber for the house etc. was hauled by horses from Saskatoon.

The Dows moved in the spring of 1906 from Saskatoon to their homestead which at that time was north of Ruddell. Lilac did not appear on the map until 1915. The siding of Snoden was moved a mile and a half further east on the north east of John Dows homestead and was renamed Lilac after a Lilac Bush that Anne Dow grew in her garden. Daughters Josephine and Marion were teachers, both in Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

Josephine married Carney Ferry. It was the first wedding in St. Mary's Anglican church, Rev. Bunting was the minister. They had two children, Marion a Registered Nurse in B.C., and William now a Judge in B.C.

Marion married Thomas Pain, a farmer at Vonda, and raised three sons, Harold, Thomas and Arthur.

Annie Dow Sr. died in 1915 and daughter Anne stayed home to look after her dad and brother. That same fall, John Dow enlisted in the Army and went to Winnipeg with the 183rd Battalions and then transferred overseas in 1916. In England he met and married Marjorie Ellen Rake in 1918. He and his bride arrived back to Lilac in 1919, to a new house which William G. built in 1918 for his son's homecoming. The house was built across the road from John's homestead on the NE 31-42-13 and they lived in it until 1938 when he and his family moved to Saskatoon. The family consisted of four children, Herbert, Nora, David and Elizabeth. The Dow's were very active in all community activities. John was noted for poems he wrote about almost anything.

Herbert and David both saw service in the Navy during World War II. William G. fondly known as "the Gentleman" passed away January 9, 1937, at the age of 87.

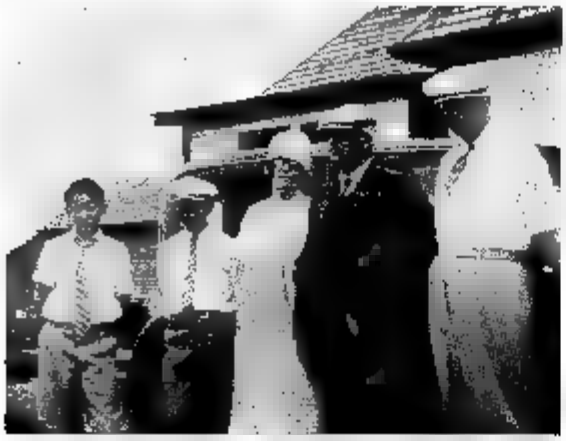
John died in September, 1969 and Marjorie passed away December 30, 1974. Anne Jardine, sister of John, died December 10, 1974 at the age of 94. She must be remembered also as a true pioneer, one who devoted her life as one who looks after others. She kept house for her dad after her mother passed away. Then raised her sister's family (Josephine passed away in 1922).

The Dows laid to rest at Ruddell cemetary are Anne in 1915, William G. in 1937, Josephine (Ferry) in 1922, Isabella (Gilbert) in 1948, Marion (Pain) in 1960 and Anne in 1974.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. A. Donald (Jack and Phyl)

Jack Donald was born in Saskatoon on February 24,

The Wm. Cook farm about 1920.



L. to r. — Alan Crossley, Jack Donald, Mrs. Cook, Mr. Cook, Dean Crossley.

1916 and came to Maymont at the age of 4 years to live with his Aunt and Uncle Mr. and Mrs. Cook.

He attended school in Maymont from grades 1 to 12 beginning in the church basement then to the "New" school on the site of the present newer school.

In 1940 he married Phyllis Burrows of Speers and Saskatoon whose parents Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Burrows were residents of Maymont from 1906 to about 1915.

In March, 1941 Jack joined the Canadian Army and Phyl went to various training areas when possible. After over 4 years overseas he returned and took advantage of the Veterans training program. He graduated from the University of Saskatchewan in 1948 with a degree in Mechanical Engineering.

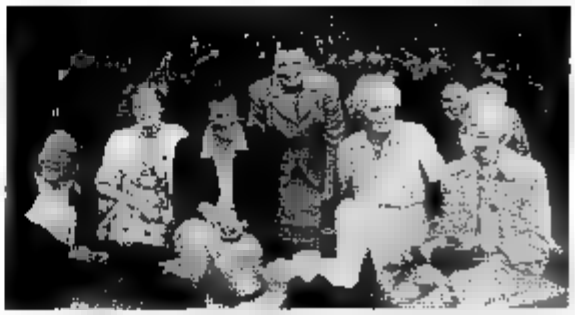
After spending about 13 years in various Ontario centers Jack and Phyl returned to the West and lived in Regina, Edmonton and Calgary.

In 1972 they moved to Victoria where they still reside and expect to do so for some years to come.

The Robert (Bob) Downing Family

by Stella (Downing) Brown

My dad, Robert Downing — Bob to everyone young and old, and Mom 'Stella' came to Maymont with Irene, Everett and Valentine from a homestead in the Fielding, Radisson location — I don't know if there was a name to the district — but they were neighbors of Bodies and Fishers. This was somewhere in 1917-20.



L. to r. — Bruce Kerr, Orla Squire, Scottie Campbell, Irene Downing, Mrs. Kerr, Stella Downing, Mrs. Downing.

They came to Maymont after the war as Dad was in Radisson when he went to war. We were in Maymont in 1920 as I was born there in 1920 in the telephone office home with Dr. Scratch attending and Mrs. Marguerite Thompson of Fielding as mid-wife.

Dad worked the telephone switchboard in Maymont — he was also line-man and was out any hour of the day on lines. Mom worked the switchboard and Irene who wasn't too fond of school, quit early in her Grade Eight to work on the switchboard. Myrtle Johnston, now Mrs. Nathan Friedman, was Irene's friend and in time she was one of our big helpers in that Telephone Office. Mrs. Leta Bohn (Walton) was also one of the main operators and with Mom's help — and Dad's — they were open all day and mostly until nine and ten at night, and any emergency in the night. Mom and Dad's bedroom was just off the office.

As Everett, Val, and myself got older we worked the switchboard, too, and Mom was relieved more and able to have a home life. We lived in four rooms at the back. In the winter snow piled up between the joined part of kitchen and bedroom to the front. So in winter the kitchen was moved to the one main room, cozy, but we had a lot of happy days there.

Our house was a drop-in centre for many of our friends and we had a lot of music — sing-songs and get togethers. Doc Scratch was one of our favourite pianists. Could he play! Often when he was waiting for a call in the Telephone Office, he would come in and play — a joy to remember!

Kathy, Edith Hamilton and Val would play by the hour. These girls were Reverend Hamilton's girls, the United Church minister. Pink and Ronnie Scratch played the Banjo (I think) and they would join in. They were at our place a lot and were just like family. Most of the time the bank boys came into our place like home also. Irene, Mom and Myrtle Friedman were good at baking; the fresh cakes, etc. really caught it.

On our Sunday drives Dad would take us out to their old homestead. It was a mud hut and we did hear many stories. Mom used to shoot a gun to kill birds and rabbits. She would grab the kids and hide outside when she would hear anyone riding up.

We lived in Maymont until 1937. Dad had been out to B.C. with Mr. and Mrs. Kerr and he said when he came back he was going to move out. We thought of this as a joke but he was determined. He was a pensioner and had arthritis and French Fever disability of some kind, so he thought he'd feel better out here. Maymont people had a big Farewell Party for us in the hall which was next door to the Telephone Office. We were given lovely gifts. I still have the tray the Homemakers had given Mom. The carving set is still here, too.

Dad had a garage up the street towards the hotel beside the Bank and at the back he had the Power House where he controlled Maymont Lighting. Whenever and whatever was on for entertainment in the hall — the Downings were there, as that is how Dad took out his payment for advertising on the telephone of the event. This was called a 'General Ring' — a long, long, ring on all the lines, and the event would be read off — Great Memories. We went to everything in town. We made coffee on our kitchen stove for these events, putting a big boiler on, of cold water in the afternoon on the old wood stove.

Many meals we would be having and the lights would flutter. Dad would start to run and would work at that machinery until everything was in order again. I can remember even Christmas Days he'd have trouble. But that was his 'Baby' — anything in machinery was his work.

In the office part, Mom did the book work until Irene was old enough to take over.

Friedman's Store and Bean's was our source of food. Dad did have a good garden in the later years. We went to school in the school across the tracks — Many times we were late because the train was in and we were unable to cross the tracks.

I remember one time Dad was driving an old Ford Truck across that track. He had his big dog (Min) beside him. The dog was nudging him but Dad wasn't paying any attention (he was deaf, too). The train was coming and the engineers were waving for him to stop. He thought they were just waving 'Hello'. The train hit him, turned the truck around but no one was hurt.

Maymont and all other towns had their "Fowl Supper" downstairs in the church basement — What a gorgeous meal! I hope to see the United Church this fall when we come back. The concert was always great and one thing stays in my mind was Mrs. Kieper from Fielding who recited. She was great and it was Mr. Braithwaite (who is quite well-known for his books and writings now) did very good verse on occasions.

Mom, Dad, Mrs. Bruce Kerr and Mrs. Don Campbell were enroute to Radisson's Fowl Supper in our car one night. A team of horses was coming from Radisson with a load of flour with no light to show them on the road at all, and Dad hit them. Our car and four people were really a mess. Mom and Dad were badly cut up since they were in the front seat. Doc Scratch mended all in our living room. Mom's forehead was badly cut, just a little stitching by Doc. Dad had a piece of glass near the jugular vein in his neck somewhere. All the rest of his life would rub that spot and say could feel it. Scottie Campbell (passed away last year out in Richmond) said she'd never ride in a car again. But many times we've seen her out here and she got over it. Mrs. Kerr was banged up but not too badly.

Every summer when we kids were out of school, Dad took us bag and baggage to Meeting Lake. He would rent a cottage and with a tent for us kids we were fine. We were up there for two or three weeks every year. I remember still and can see it in my mind. Sam Miller's cottage (from Fielding) we rented. We kids each took a friend. Pink Scratch always went with Everett; Kathy Hamilton, Lillian Martin, Margaret Hickman, Verna Thorsteinson were some of the girls that went. What fun! Kathy Hamilton (Johnston) now lives in Victoria. Margaret Hickman married Ted Newboldt of Radisson Meat Market. They live in Merritt, B.C. near Margaret's brother and wife, Albert and Irene Hickman Lytton, Verna Thorsteinson (Honeybourne) lives at White Rock, B.C. These three people we still see quite often. Changed! But still a part of Maymont.

Meeting Lake then was a long drive but a great place to go, too. That sand and water! We have been back to Maymont three times but never did go to Meeting Lake or Meota.

The school we went to is not used now, or is it? Mrs. Maurice Martin was my first teacher and Ethelwyn Bean was Val and Ev's. We also had Miss Alice Mohler, George Gerts, Ralph Wensley, George Glover and of course Mr. McDonald, Earl, I think.

We as kids hadn't too much as sports to take part in. Everett was of course in ball and hockey, also rugby. He was always strong in sports. Every night for entertainment for most of us we would go to the station and watch the train pullout, then go over to the Post Office to get the mail — Daily! Mr. Coleman was a big tease and kept our tongues and minds alert.

Mom belonged to Homemakers and out here she belonged all her days (they were called Women's Institute out here). She was one of the first women of the Orange Lodge Auxiliary. Dad was a strong Orangeman, and Legionman. Mom was Legion Auxiliary.

Irene, Everett, Val and I were all skaters. We always had a season ticket. Irene played broomball as did Dad.

When Margaret Hickman and I were about twelve years old we did the Highland Fling and a Doll Dance on different occasions. Irene (Reid) Hickman taught and played the piano for us, as did Ethelwyn Bean. We were taken to Fielding, Ruddell and Richard on occasions, to do our 'thing', going with the orchestra —

Bruce Kerr, Irene Reid and Ernest Tiffin. Sometimes Ron Scratch played in this orchestra as did Pink Scratch.

Maymont had a "Big Event" for Doc Scratch while we were there. It was countrywide in a field south of town Everyone was there. "Great Old Doc" was presented with a car and a big fur coat. (maybe more) but these I remember. He was one of the greatest. Since we have been out here Pinkie has been out here about three times. We have great times talking of Maymont. The last time was before Everett died. We went to Val's at Cultus Lake — Dorothy Kerr, Mom, Everett, myself, Val and Pinkie all of Maymont. Pinkie hadn't changed we didn't think.

We have been back to Maymont a number of times — drove out one time — Irene went with us. It was the Centennial. We went to Fielding. It rained, so we stayed only a short time. Another time was a big church gathering at the park. We saw so many. Mom was with us then. Another time we just made it there at the same time. Mrs. Brehon and Muriel were home ■ the farm. We did enjoy that as our family had spent so many days and nights with the Brehon's years ago. Val and Ev spent numerous holidays out there. I did also. I went ■ Bates more. Genevieve was more into the dolls like me. We did spend so much time with Brehons and Bates'. Our first trip back to Maymont we were at Bates in town and at the farm of Brehons. Mom came with us each time; she loved it — whenever the car was ready, Mom was, too.

On one of our visits out there, Mrs. Neill took us inside the Anglican Church — it was a real treat. We were United Church people but at times had gone to the Anglican.

When we came out here in April of 1937, we came out in the same Chevrolet that Dad had the accident in. Mrs. Kerr (Jean), Bruce, and Myrtle Johnston were in their car and we travelled together. We had stopped in Edmonton and saw Mr. Merrell. He had the Drug Store in Maymont before John Hope. We had a great visit with him, recalling Maymont days. We made the trip in a week. After a short time Dad got a home just on the outskirts of Chilliwack. He had pears, plums, apples, grapes and raspberries, and a garden. He loved it. He had cows, pigs and chickens. The first winter was cold but Dad worked hard getting wood chopped and cut out trees. He was in his glory — made lots of friends. Then in February, he went up town to buy a money order to send to Everett who was 'pan mining' with Bill Kerr and Walter Dawson up in the Lytton Area. (then that was a long way to go). Dad fell over dead in the Post Office. He always said ■ was going ■ "trip over a feather" to die, and he did. He died at sixty years of age.

Irene lived ■ Langham. She had married Mel Squires, a C.N.R. man. His father worked on the tracks after Mr. Hickman — Alex Squires. Irene and her girl, Orla, came out twice regularly to visit us. She soon moved out here. Mom moved off the farm and for many years Everett, Val and I lived with Mom.

Everett got working for a Meat Market here, then when war broke out, he joined up and went overseas, with the Westminister Regiment. He married over there, an English girl who was in the service. Everett was sent home on the first hospital boat to come out with tuberculosis. We didn't know he had this until we saw a picture of him being carried off the boat by stretcher in Canada. He spent a year in Vancouver, Victoria, and Kamloops with T.B. He had one lung collapsed and ribs removed. (He had a crib board made from his rib). He stayed with Mom until his wife came out. When he was well again he worked for the Elk Creek Water Works here in Chilliwack for years. Then he worked for our Colliseum as manager and while there he took keen interest in skating, and hockey. "Boys Hockey" was his "thing", also ball. He refereed and was really interested. Having been a lacrosse player and hockey player when he was young he was interested in sports here. He was presented with the honour of being the "First Sportsman of the Year". Since then we have a Sportsman named every year. His picture hangs in the Lobby of our Colliseum. He was made presentations and given a "Big Occasion". After a few bouts of poor health, stomach trouble, etc. he was operated on for kidneys. He only had one kidney working — resulting in his death September 16, 1974 at age fifty-nine. He has a wife "Eddie" (Elyse) and daughter, Sandra, still in Chilliwack.

After Irene moved out here she worked for several Ladies Clothing Stores, then went to our Eaton's Store to work for fifteen years until she retired. She was in Mens Wear and saw many of her prairie friends come in. She had married the second time to George Schmisser, a man from the Army. After many good years she passed away with cancer. She was only hospitalized one month before she died May 22, 1976 at sixty-nine, after a year of heavy therapy in Vancouver. Mom, Stella Downing, after whom I was named when I arrived on her birthday in 1920, was a very small but very wiry person. She had her share of sickness but got over all. She was very fair in bringing us kids up. She had good health to the last — only sick about two weeks at the end. She passed away July, 1975. She was ninety-one going on ninety-two. As Mom got older, she got younger and she only weighed ninety pounds. She was always so fond of Mrs. Brehon and Mrs. Bates.

Valentine lives in Cultus Lake. She worked after Dad died in Woolworth's, as I did, and at the same time. She went to school as soon as we came as I did. She was married during war time to a Chilliwack man, Milford Buckingham, an airman. He has worked at the Army Camp here since it was built and they live at Cultus Lake where they moved after the war. Val has two girls, Judi — who trained as a policeman in England after school and working as a stenographer

here. She came back from England and had to train again as Canadian Policewoman. She graduated in Vancouver and I'm glad Mom was here for that! Linda lives in Vancouver, too. She is a Bank girl. She spends a lot of time on sports and skis.

Myself, Stella Brown — married Victor Brown when he first joined the Army. He was a Post Office employee — joined up in Postal Corps and after the war came back and went into the Post Office again. He worked thirty-five years then, retired. Now works from February to September in a nursery and is off work all winter. He just went there to help out one year and has been there five. He loves it. We have lived in this house twenty-five years. Victor was born in Sardis, five miles out of Chilliwack. We have three children. Dorothy is married; her husband works at the same nursery as my husband. They have two girls. Terry works at the C.N.R. station in Kelowna. He has two children, a boy and a girl. Shelly lives at home. She graduated last year and has worked since, working first at the nursery where her dad did, then at Zellers at a new mall just out of Chilliwack.

Joseph and Ellen Ducharme Family

by Bernice Ducharme

Joseph Ducharme was born into a large family at Drysdall, Ontario, on August 10, 1889. He took up homesteading in the early years on a farm south of Maymont overlooking the North Saskatchewan River. The river was a source of joy to Joe all his life. He never tired of watching it through all its moods and seasons. He was an avid hunter, gardener, trapper, as well as a farmer. This is a trait he passed on to his sons and grandsons. He raised and used large hounds in his coyote hunting in the early days, being a familiar sight to his neighbors in the community.

Joe Ducharme with hunting hounds.

(Mrs. Joe) Ellen Ducharme and nieces.

Joe Ducharme Family. Delia, Mark, Desmond, Delmar, Adolph, Stella, Mabel, Francis.

Some of his early friends were Alex Gunn, Alex Garnett, Leo Gelinas and others from Fielding. Some early neighbors were Mike Burns, Charlie Sherman, Nutbrowns, Dobertys, Denomys and Bill Edge.

Joe married Miss Ellen Englisbee on August 12, 1912 at Fielding. She had come from the county of Longford, Ireland with her parents, brothers and

Francis and May Ducharme.

sisters to the Fielding Area. Ellen Englisbee was born on July 11, 1890.

Joe and Ellen had a family of three girls and five boys. Ellen was a quiet reserved person. She was a loving mother and grandmother. She had a friendly manner and welcomed visitors to her home. Joe was especially happy when there was music being played. He could tap dance and dance so enjoyed school dances and neighborhood gatherings. They were faithful members of the Catholic Church both at Fielding and later in Maymont. Joe had taken his turn at being a trustee of the Calais School where their children took all their education, walking through some severe weather up and over the river hills, three miles. Three of their sons served during World War II, namely Adolph, Desmond and Delmar.

Ellen passed away suddenly at the age of sixty-four years on February 14, 1954. Joe passed away on March 17 ■ 1971 at the age of eighty-one.

Their children are: Francis, Stella, Mabel, Delmar, Adolph, Desmond, Mark and Delia.

Francis who farmed east of Maymont on the Ernest Tyhurst farm married May Miller, daughter of Sam and Edith Miller. They had one daughter, Mary; who became a nurse. She married Dave McIntyre of Ruddell. They now live at Kronau, Saskatchewan. They have two children, Robbie and Sheri. May passed away in May 1977. They had been retired to Maymont for four years.

Stella is married to Gus Denomme at London, Ontario.

Mabel is twin to Stella. She is now married to Douglas McKnight in London, Ontario. Mabel has two children by a former marriage.

Delmar now lives in Picton County, Nova Scotia. He has raised four sons.

Adolph married Bernice Johnson, daughter of Reuben Johnson, ferry operator for many years. They have six children, two girls and four boys. Brian lives in Maymont. He is presently employed in Uranium City as a truck driver, owning his own truck. Cheryl is a nurse. She married Robert Stack from Moose Jaw. Robert a Captain in the Air Force is currently stationed at the Canadian Armed Forces Base in Baden Baden, Germany. They are enjoying sightseeing and will be away three years. Their home is in Calgary, Alberta. Gregory is a pipe fitter on Robert Johnson's backhoe operation. Michelle, Darren, and Lorne are all at home, still attending school in Maymont.

Desmond and his wife Violet live in Calgary, Alberta. They had two children.

Mark and his wife Betty live in Surrey, B.C. They had one son, Larry.

Delia is Mrs. Stan Bedard of Courtright, Ontario. They had five children.

Englisbees

Ellen Ducharme had two brothers Pat and Tom who farmed two miles west of Fielding. Their parents passed away, 1925 for Mr. Englisbee and 1935 for Mrs. Englisbee.

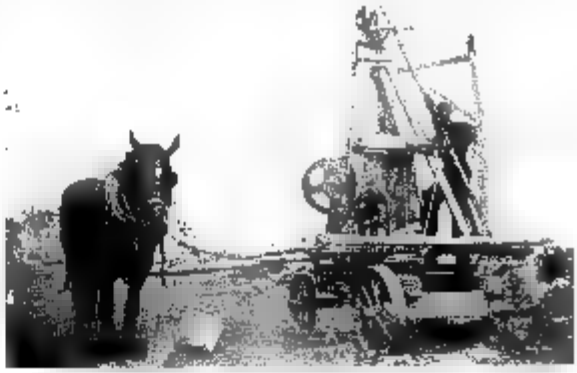
Tom married Myrtle Davis of Sonningdale, Perdue Area. They had four daughters, one passed away as an infant. Tom died in 1943.

Pat married Lorraine Rash of Mullingar Area. They raised four children: Joe, Marie, Eilleen and Jimmie. Joe married Diane Kostyk of Mayfair. They have three children. Eilleen a school teacher lives and works in London, England and Jimmie married and has no family. Marie married Dave Kostyk of Mayfair, they have two children.

Mrs. Ed Neumeyer was also a Miss Englisbee so she was Pat, Tom and Ellen Ducharme's sister.

The Alwyn Ebach History

Alwyn Ebach and Mable (Surry) were married November 4, 1940, in North Battleford. They lived in Hepburn until 1942 when they moved to the Ruddell District to the Jack Arnold farm (where Lyle and Lillian Dean now live). ■ 1951 Alwyn and "Mae"



Well-boring machine — Len and Alwyn Ebach, 1941.

Elmer and Agnes with sons Clarence, Leonard and Alwyn Ebach.

Alwyn and Mable Ebach, Linda, Carol and Betty.

moved to the Lilac area settling about one mile east. They raised a family of four.

■ served as councillor in Mayfield Municipality, resigning when he moved to Lilac as Lilac is ■ the Rural Municipality of Douglas. Al became active with the Ruddell Rural Telephone Company and soon became president. He held that position until the government took over the telephone system.

Alwyn passed away in March 1978. Mae still resides at the farm home.

Len Ebach

On May 26, 1938, Mabele Ayers and Len Ebach were married at Laird. They farmed in the Hepburn area until 1944, when they moved to Lilac. Len bought the South ½ of 3, Twp. 43, from H. P. Voke, and the West ½ of 5 and N.W. ¼ of 8 from Stephen Prescesky. Later he sold the "Voke half" to his brother, Alwyn, and bought the Jack Evans farm. Mr. Evans was one of the

Lenhard and Mabelle Ebach.

Garnet and Douglas, Sept., 1959.

Summer of 1978 — Lia and Doug.

original Barr Colonists who, with his mother, homesteaded section ■.

Garnet was born in 1953, and Douglas in 1954. They attended Lilac School until 1966, when they were bussed to Maymont School to continue on into High School.

In February, 1974, Thelma Sanders and Doug were married at Wilkie. Elaine Saunders and Garnet were married in Borden the following June. Thelma and Doug have one daughter, Lia Carreen.

Len still farms, but any spare time in summer is spent at Turtle Lake. The winter months find Len and Mabele at their house 2032-99th St. North Battleford.

John Evans

This letter was written the spring of 1954 in answer to a letter from a Lilac school student as part of Homemakers project to celebrate Saskatchewan's Fiftieth Birthday in 1955.

I arrived in Saskatoon April 7, 1903, with the Barr Colony. There was some confusion there, so some of us looked round for a job and were referred to A. T. Bell of Prince Albert. We went up there and worked a while at a sawmill thirty miles north, about south of the present Waskesieu Park. It was all forest there then. Then about the end of June, S. Semple and I walked up from Rosthern and arrived on Township 43-14 about June 21 where the Harper Bros. and Sempples were camped in tents. This was the first of the new settlers that I know of, as the land was not surveyed that summer and was quickly taken up. The only family before this was Cheves Nolin, on his ranch on Section Twenty, three miles north of Lilac. I went to Battleford and filed on my homestead June 26, 1903 and was I believe the first to do so, and then returned to Prince Albert and the sawmill. The sawmill burned down, and to fill up time while it was being rebuilt, I returned and spent Christmas with W. J. Davis on the southwest quarter of 4-43-13. Then when the sawmill had been rebuilt I went back to Prince Albert on the ninth of April 1904. I returned to the homestead with tools, etc. and built a sod shack, ■ x ■. It was very comfortable for three years. The first year we got our mail at Battleford, but there was much confusion there, so I altered my mail to Great Bend, north of Radisson, I had to walk there, stay overnight at the post office, the next day walk back. Later in 1904 the mail was carried to Richard by S. Nolin and we got our mail there. Then in the fall of 1905 the mail came on the train to Ruddell.

You will see in No. 1 issue of the Ruddell News that a house party was held at Houstons. This was a wedding party and there were a hundred or more in that house where Mrs. Beierle . ... now lives; quite a party. In No. II Issue, November 28, another party at M. E. Harper's at the NW 8 celebrated his wedding; another overflow event.

My last trip to Prince Albert by road was May 1905. I walked via Richard Speers, Marcelin, and Duck Lake; after that civilization caught up with me and I travelled by train. In December 1906 in the election for municipal councillor, my mother voted, being the first woman to vote in the township. It was forty below that day. We voted in a sod house belonging to Henry Allen on Section 16.

The first church services were at W. T. Davis' house. The first threshing I know of was Jim Little's and Richard's in 1905.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. (Walt) Evans

told by Mary (Evans) Edgelow

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. (Walt) Evans came to Fielding in 1923, moving into the house formerly owned by Mr. and Mrs. Bob Thompson, and lived there for nearly 40 years.

Walt was a contractor and carpenter and built schools, homes and barns in the Meota, North Battleford, Speers, Borden, Radisson and Fielding districts. He was a hard worker and expected good results from his helpers. "Nail 'er boys!" was often heard on his construction jobs. Walt was the Imperial Oil bulk dealer for many years, and a good many barrels of gas were delivered to farmers in a small trailer behind W.D.'s car.

He was overseer of our village for over 20 years, as well as serving on the hall and local school board. One Christmas concert time the school board was not really in favor of a dance following the concert, and were told in no uncertain terms — "No dance — no concert!". Who was the ring leader? W.D.'s daughter.

Mrs. Evans was active in church, Sunday School, Ladies' Aid and W.M.S. work. She was noted for boarding teachers, baking for fowl suppers and washing church windows. Her embarrassing moment was entertaining a certain politician for coffee after

Following Old Custom

W. D. Evans, 81, retired Fielding carpenter and contractor, is seen here collecting sap from his soft maple trees at his home. The flow was good and he was able to bottle a number of quarts of syrup. According to his neighbors, his syrup was just like the Quebec product.

he had told her daughter she should have stayed at home from the meeting!

The Evans' took pride in their yard and garden and when Walt was retired he made some syrup from his own maple trees.

Walt passed away in 1960, and Jean in 1973. Their daughter, Mary, taught school in Saskatchewan for 10 years, married George Edgelow of Meota in 1950, and now live in Edmonton. They have three daughters and two sons.

Mr. and Mrs. George Fair

written by Betty (Stott) Fair

George and Betty (Stott) Fair were married in 1935, by Rev. Cozens in the Anglican Church at Fielding.

George came from London, England to Canada and Sherbrooke, Quebec, at the age of 14 years, to foster parents Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Frazer. In 1923 he came to Fielding with a harvest excursion.

I came with my parents to Canada from London, England, first to Hamilton, Ontario, then to Fielding in early spring 1911, where I lived until 1951, when we moved to Baljennie where George took over the Pool Elevator as agent. We resided there until his retirement in 1965, then moved to Radisson, Sask.

We had two children, Joan and Robert. Joan was born 1937 in City Hospital, Saskatoon where she had her Aunt Kay (Stott) as nurse.

Robert was born 1939 at Fielding. Ron Scratch, who was assisting his Dad at Maymont was our Doctor. Mrs. Alex Garnett was nurse.

They both attended Fielding School until we moved to Baljennie. Joan took Grades IX and X by correspondence and then graduated at North Battleford Collegiate. After attending Teacher's College in Saskatoon, her first school was Keatley. The next year to be nearer home, she taught at Prongua. She spent a year at the University in Saskatoon before teaching two years at King Street school in North Battleford.

In all she spent 13 years teaching, the balance in Nipawin. During that time, July, 1962, was married to Dave Nelson of Saskatoon, formerly of Richard. He was then employed at Squaw Rapids dam, as an electrician. Since finishing there, owns his own electrical business in Nipawin, Sask.

They have a daughter Joanne, born in 1963.

Bob finished schooling at Baljennie and Grade X at North Battleford Collegiate. He worked for Moffat Motors, North Battleford, where he apprenticed as a mechanic. In 1960 he married Patricia Becker, of Spinney Hill, who was secretary with E. Mighton, Q.C. in North Battleford.

They have three children: Juanita, born in North Battleford, Robert and a chosen daughter, Sharlene in Calgary, Alberta.

After moving to Calgary, the first ten years Bob was employed with Dominion, also Esso Motors, the latter as a transmission expert. The past six years with City of Calgary, Mechanical Services Division, as heavy duty mechanic.

I have witnessed many changes, particularly in the grocery business where my sister Molly and I assisted Dad. Such things as raisins, currants, dates and dried fruit came in bulk and had to be packaged into paper bags soon as they arrived. There were no plastic bags, waxed paper or saran wrap in those days; also tea came in fifty pound cartons. Bananas, complete with stalk, were pulled to the ceiling with a rope and pulley. We couldn't keep up with the demand for their containers; a large basket sold for 25¢ and used for clothes hampers. Cheese came in a large round and cut as needed with a special cheese knife. Many groceries were exchanged for eggs, 10¢ a dozen and butter 25¢ a pound. Many of these went to the nuisance ground; eggs contained chicks and butter rank with French

Weed. Candy came by bulk and put in a candy display case, where many children longingly eyed them, especially the Christmas candy with its large swirls. Chocolate bars were 5¢. What we could have done with refrigeration and deep freezers.

The store lights were gasoline mantle lamps until Dad got his own electric light plant; this was used until the power came to the district.

When the river was frozen and until Sonningdale had its own railroad, it was quite a sight each winter, at noon, to see a long line of horses with loads of grain coming ■ town. Their teamsters clad ■ buffalo coats walking beside them to keep warm. At times you could hardly see their faces for frost.

Since retiring to Radisson, George and I have kept busy and are enjoying our retirement, George with his garden, I have my plants and hobbies. We are both active with the Agricultural Society and 71 Senior Club. I enjoyed being news correspondent for the North Battleford News Optimist while in Fielding, Baljennie and Radisson.

Gerhard A. Fast and His Family

Gerhard A. Fast — Fielding, Sask.
Katherina Fast — died Dec. 24, 1913 after ten years on the homestead.

Much has already been written of the Fast family, who came from Gladstone, Nebraska in March, 1903, settling on Sec. 24-41-12-W3. Gerhard Fast's and Jacob Fast's account of their early days on the homestead are told in **To Find The Daily Bread**; which had the honor of being the first book printed by Prairie Books, Western Producer, Saskatoon. It was reprinted serially in The Western Producer in the summer of 1976 to celebrate the anniversary of the coming ■ age of Prairie Books, also the first serial in the series'; they were all accounts of pioneers in Western Canada.

After retiring from active farming, Gerhard and his second wife, Anna, tended a large garden each year. He supplied fresh vegetables — cabbage, cauliflower, carrots, beets, and potatoes — to the hotels in Fielding and Maymont, and to the farmers who had large crews of men to feed during harvest and threshing. He, with his democrat buggy drawn by "Jewel" were well known as far as Ruddell, Richard and Speers. He had a day each week for certain customers. He was also a director of Mayfield and Douglas Agriculture Society and always exhibited vegetables.

When the Wheat Pool was being organized, he accompanied his son, Jacob, to meetings and was asked to speak of his journey experiences, after travelling so far under such adverse conditions.

He was very happy to have achieved his goal — land of his own and for each of his sons, and ■ spoke to try to better conditions for all.

After his death June, 1924, Anna Wall Fast returned to her former home in Henderson, Nebraska.

Gerhard H. Fast, (eldest son), was known as George. He and his wife, Augusta and children, Mary and William G. (Bill) Fast. A man of many talents; a builder, blacksmith which was a help to all his brothers in those early days. Always interested in home, school and church. He retired to Fielding where he continued to be active in the community. After the death of his wife, Augusta, he lived with his daughter, Esther, in Saskatoon.

Jacob H. Fast — also homesteaded on the same section as his father. Well known in the Co-operative movement, Wheat Pool and politics. Perhaps Rev. F. Myers said it best: "He was an ardent missionary in the cause in which he believed." With his wife, Paulina, he built up a prosperous farm in addition ■ the original homestead where ■ lived all his life.

William C. Fast, after ten years on the homestead and working out, brought his bride, Laura, from Kansas, where they returned to live after spending several years on the homestead. ■ Kansas he worked for the Santa Fe Railroad which had a round house and yard at Herrington where Bill and Laura spent the rest of their lives. Bill returned several times to visit.

David D. Fast, after proving his homestead, became one of the threshermen with a steam engine. He did not keep ■ or the homestead long; preferring to work at jobs other than farming. Being mechanically inclined, he operated engines and turned to carpentry which continued to be his trade after retiring to Vancouver in 1940. Dave and his bride, Florrie, lived in a small house on his father's farm for several years. During this time, he was interested in photography. He moved to Rosthern where his ability to speak several languages and his carpentry were invaluable in managing a lumberyard for Monarch Lumber. He was transferred to Vonda. After a number of years in the lumber yard, they moved to Saskatoon where the children could get a better education. Dave returned to carpentry at this time.

Mary Fast married **Leslie Sloan** whose story appears elsewhere in this book.

John A. Fast (See separate story.)

The Jacob Fast Family

(As written by Jeanine and John Fast and Marjorie Hanlon)

Mr. and Mrs. Gerhard Andrew Fast came to Beatrice, Nebraska, U.S.A. in September, 1884, after a long trek through Europe and Asia. They lived there with their family of five sons and one daughter. Mr. Fast worked at various jobs. He owned and operated a shoe store and a shoe repair shop. Repairing shoes, but more so, making shoes was his trade, as in 1868 he was apprenticed to a cobbler where he learned the trade for three years ■ Europe. Due to a chest ailment he started farming. A brother in Canada helped him find a homestead, so in 1902 he came to Rosthern, N.W.T. and filed on a homestead near where Fielding now

stands. He returned to the States and the following year brought his wife and family out. There were no railroads, so everything had to be hauled from Rosthern to his homestead by horses and sleigh, across the river where the Borden Bridge now stands. The homestead of Gerhard Fast was NE¼-24-41-12-W 3rd. They lived in a tent until they built a sod stable, then lived in the stable for a couple of months till a sod house was built. In this house they lived for fourteen years. The first two years they had to go to Rosthern for groceries. Their mail came to Great Bend (north of where Radisson now is). Later a post office was built at Fielding. The railroad was being built from Saskatoon west at this time. By Christmas of 1904 the roadbed was ready for the steel track up to the North Battleford railroad bridge site, west of the place to be North Battleford. There wasn't much work for men to do in the winter time, so Jacob (one of the sons) went to Rosthern to work. He got a job for the winter of 1904 and 1905 cutting firewood. In April he came back to his homestead and broke more acres of land. In the summer of 1904 Gerhard Fast helped Julius Schloemer (Slomer) build a sod house on SE¼-36-41-12-W 3rd. That house was lived in for twenty-four years. In October Jacob, Mr. Schloemer and Dave McKay got the loan of John Sexton's covered wagon to go to Rosthern to bring Mrs. Schloemer and their three youngest children back to the homestead. Later Mrs. Schloemer helped in many maternity cases as a midwife. The two oldest girls, Paulina and Annie stayed in Rosthern doing housework, Annie later married Bill Lewis. Jacob and Paulina correspooded for the next few years and finally got married February 25, 1905. They lived in the sod house till 1926 when they moved into the house they had built, which is on the farm, now owned by W. Hamp. Julius and Mrs. Schloemer moved to London, Ontario in 1924 to live with John, one of their sons. They passed away in 1934 and 1935.

Of their family in which there were three girls and three boys, as I said Annie married Bill Lewis. Elfreida married Rollo Smith. Walter and Harry both went to the States. At this time John and Harry are the remaining living ones. Rollo Smith took over the Schloemer homestead.

Neepawa School District No. 1517 was organized in the spring of 1906. An acre of land situated on the SW corner of NW¼-30-41-11-W 3rd, was donated by George Northcott. The first school opened with seven pupils with T. A. Amos as the teacher. This school burned down in July, 1920. Everything was lost. School was held in the school barn until the new Neepawa School was built later on that year. The new school was located on the NE corner of NE½-24-41-12-W 3rd and operated till 1943. At that time it was closed, for lack of pupils. In 1953 it was moved to the Keystone District where it was put to use again. Then in 1959 it was moved to Maymont and used as a classroom until the new portable classrooms were added. Bobbie Johnston bought it, moved to the SW corner of Maymont, where in 1973 it accidentally got burned down. So ended the era of Neepawa School. At the present time John Fast has the outside bell mounted on a stand-plaque in his yard — a reminder of Neepawa School District No. 1517.

At one time there were twenty-three children going to the country school. Now three generations later, in the same district, there are only four children of school age. Jacob Fast was secretary-treasurer for the Neepawa School for twenty-five years. Some of the teachers were Mr. Amos, as mentioned, Lydia Ballsrud (Mrs. Alan Bean), Muriel Elliott, Muriel Harris, Kay MacKinnon (Mrs. Roy Kieper) and Max Braithwaite among many others during the years.

In the old sod houses they had phones. The Fielding telephone exchange started up near 1920. In the very early 1920's Jacob Fasts had the phone.

The first threshing of grain was done in the fall of 1904 with a Case 20HP steam outfit owned by John Swain. The straw was burned to generate steam which furnished the power to move and operate the machine. The grain was hauled to Radisson where the Topper Elevator Company had built the first elevator. They got fifty-five cents a bushel by the wagon load.

If you wanted a new sod, or log house built, or maybe a barn, or help with getting up the winter supply of wood, bees were the thing amongst the homesteaders. Then also when it came to the day of worship, in 1904 they headed to the home of Gerhard Fast. At times the minister was Mr. Matheson, at other times ministers came from Rosthern or a small place near where Borden now stands. The first Community Christmas celebration was also held in the same house. This sod house was 16 x 40 feet inside measurements, thus making it a foot or so more on the outside, so quite a few people must have had many good times in it.

Dr. John A. Scratch came to Fielding in the fall of 1904. He put up his sign in the window of his room in the hotel. That was his office, until he moved to Maymont in 1905.

Mrs. Gerhard Fast passed away on December 24, 1913. Gerhard married Anna Wall later the next year. She had two sons, Herman and Jacob who resided in the Fielding District for some time, and a daughter who only came for visits. Gerhard died June 29, 1924, just forty years to the day he left Orenburg on the boundary between Europe and Asia, many thousands of miles away. Jacob Fast took over his dad's farm as well as his own and farmed for many years, through many hardships what with prairie fires in the early years, to drought, grasshoppers, etc., in the later years. He and Paulina had no family of their own. The one daughter who was born to them May, 1910 lived only a few hours. So they adopted two children, a boy

John S. Fast, born October 18, 1913. Later they adopted Marjorie born in 1920.

John stayed on the farm and farmed, until 1965. He had married Gladys Nelson in 1938. The marriage dissolved some sixteen years later. He then married Jeanine Doll from Sonningdale. They sold the farm in 1965, bought a house in Fielding, moved it to Maymont and live there. John does some carpenter work and gardening, while Jeanine does the sewing, gardening and helping with the carpenter work.

Marjorie married Wilbert Hanlon of Sonningdale, and lives on a farm there. They had three children. Glen the oldest died of polio in 1949. Valerie came next in 1950 and Louis in 1952. Both are married. Valerie has a daughter, and Louie and his wife, Bonnie, have two children, a boy of their own and an adopted daughter. So this is the family of the Jacob Fast branch.

During the mid thirties Fielding was quite a hive of entertainment. The Chautauquas toured the country. Some of the more spectacular things they had were the Swiss Bell Ringers. Then also a Mr. Hoffman with large rings that he jangled together to make many patterns. Now we see the same thing on TV. Fielding young people with their Young People's Club put on numerous three-act plays. Every March 17 was Irish Night. The Irish people put on the program. Also there was Scot's Night in January. — Even to the bagpipes, highland flings, — all Scottish entertainment. The Fielding Community Club had dances every week or so. People every Friday night hooked up the team and sleigh and away they went, young and old. Young kids learned how all the dances were done there, and they did them. Dads danced with girls six years and up. How enjoyable it was! Of course it was radios at home then, and before that the old gramaphones with the cylinder records,updated to the disc records. We in our area had a lot of house parties during the winter. We would go to houses in the neighborhood. There we would play games — spin the bottle, musical chairs, and many more. Much singing went on. In the summer we played ball every Sunday at Les Sloans. This was during the depression years. The mode of travel was horseback for many, although buggies, wagons, etc., were used. No money for gas so people did what they could. The depression years were tough on everyone. So were the war years what with gas rationing, sugar, butter, coffee and all the other rations we had to deal with. Even vouchers for clothing and groceries at the store. Each family were allowed so much money to go on. It naturally went for the things that were needed the most. The men that worked outside, of course, had to have the most of the clothing voucher.

Gerhard A. Fast and Jacob H. Fast have written a book "To Find the Daily Bread" about their struggles and hardships of travels and homesteading in the late 1800 and early 1900's. The book is in the Maymont Library.

John A. Fast and Anna C. Fast
Maymont, Saskatchewan

submitted by Gladys (Fast) Zimmer, Edmonton, Alberta

My Father, John A. Fast, came to the homestead — N.W. 2-42-12-W3 from Fairbury, Jefferson County, Nebraska, to join his parents and brothers and sister who had come from Nebraska in March, 1903.

No. 73 NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES OF CANADA
LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT 21-J-3

RECEIPT FOR TAXES.

RECEIVED from M. C. J. A. Fast
of Great Bend the sum of
Two Dollars,
in payment of taxes due to Local Improvement District 21-J-3 for the year 1915 in the following Lands:
N.W. ¼ 2 42-12-W3rd

Dated at Great Bend this 31st day of July 1915
$2.00 David Mitchell
Sec'y-Treas.

John Fast receipt for taxes.

John, Anna and Gladys Fast.

He brought a carload of settler's effects by rail to Saskatoon, arriving on Christmas Eve, 1904, after ten days travelling. He was met by his brother, Bill, (William C. Fast). They loaded what they could on wagons and leading the extra horses and shivering colts, drove out to my grandfather's sod house, later returning to Saskatoon for the remainder of the goods that had been stored there.

He brought the basic farm implements, plus whatever the family had left behind in Nebraska. There was a wagon, bob sleigh, and two buggies. There were walking plows, single furrow 14 and 16 inch share for stubble and breaking. I am sure one plow had a wooden beam cut from a single piece of oak. Perhaps the slant tooth drag harrow survived the longest. He had a certain amount of optimism since he brought the corn planter which was called a lister plow and used for the 44 years he lived on the homestead for ridging in the garden and plowing out potatoes, after the seeding attachment had been removed. I believe that my Uncle George Fast who could do blacksmith work made a garden cultivator. The wheels became the base for a harrow cart; otherwise, one walked miles a day in the dust.

My father brought horses. He never did farm with oxen as many others did. The two colts, whose sire was of the same blood lines as the famous Dan Patch, grew up to be the driving team. They were never used for field work unless there was urgent need for an extra horse at light work as they were too light for the other work. Since he brought a top buggy and an open one they were often borrowed by the Andrew boys for taking their lady friends to the dances. The light wagon was soon only used for the road or as an extra wagon at haying as the high wheels and narrow tires were not suitable for use in the fields hauling sheaves as they cut too deeply into the fields. There was machinery bought — a disc harrow to work down the breaking, and later a Massey Harris drill and a Massey Harris binder, the Bain wagon and box, Deering mower and a Massey Harris rake for haying.

There was seed brought from Nebraska — corn, alfalfa, and timothy proved unsuitable for the climate. Also seedlings of trees — oak, walnut, hazel did not survive the winter.

Mrs. Anna Fast, Miss Lily Martin and Miss Lura Hartwell — log house with sod roof — 1908.

My mother, Anna Fast, came to Saskatoon in January, 1905. By this time there had been snow, so her drive to Grandfather's was in the sleigh. The horses were not used to the cold weather or to travelling on a snow road. They took a wrong fork in the road and her first experience in a sod house was at a neighbor of Grandfathers, the Frank Bergmanns. Mrs. Bergmann put her into a bed warmed with well wrapped stones which had been heated in the oven and rubbed her chest with the good old Dr. Thomas Eclectric Oil to ward off the chill. She was very cold despite the fur coat that Aunt Mary Fast had sent for her to wear home on the trip.

The balance of that first winter was spent at Grandfather Fasts. They moved into the log house with sod roof in June, 1905. The house had been built by a bee of the neighbouring settlers.

Mother was fortunate to have a floor of plain boards. Many early houses had only the earth floor at the start. She also had new furniture, table and six chairs, wooden bed, dresser and washstand, and her prized sewing machine. Mother had been surprised when she arrived in Saskatoon to be given a note from Grandmother instructing her to buy suitable material for a wedding dress for Mary Fast. That was her first dressmaking in Canada. She had spent several weeks at Fasts each year sewing for Grandmother and Mary. The wedding dress was worn on March 13, 1905, when Mary and Leslie Sloan were married. It was the first wedding in the new settlement. Mother also sewed a wedding dress for Paulina Schlomer when she married Jacob Fast, February 25, 1906. Both these dresses were worn as costumes more than twenty years later by Adeline Sloan and Eva Rinehardt, winning prizes and attracting much attention at masquerades.

The balance of the furniture was from my father's bachelor days — a small cook stove and an Oak heating stove; kitchen baking table that had two pull-out boards for bread and cutting boards and two half round pull-out bins for flour under the cutlery drawer; several kitchen chairs and packing boxes with a curtain in front made other storage cupboards.

At first the house had no partitions. Rooms were divided by curtains strung on wire. Later, when the sod roof became very leaky after heavy rains it was replaced by a half-story frame gable and shingle roof. The rooms were properly partitioned then.

Little has been said about the women settlers who were used to different houses and manner of living. Perhaps the men found it easier to adjust with being busy getting the required ten acres per year broken and working wherever they could to earn the extra cash that was needed to carry on. There was always a need to buy staple groceries and seed, plus whatever repairs to harness and machinery that they could not do for themselves.

I believe that my parents were better able to manage, as they had a farming background, than the

neighbors who came from England and were used to city life and factory work. Mother had worked in the city for bankers who were from Boston, so had learned special cooking. She was an excellent cook and baked five wedding cakes. The first was for her fine friend, Maude Martin, who married Percy Barrett, the pioneer photographer. She also baked the wedding cake for Lilly Martin who married Seager Wheeler. For these two cakes she did the icing herself. For Maggie Bouskill, who married George Florence, she baked the cake and Maggie and her sister, Rose, walked more than a mile across the prairie in deep snow to help do the decorating. This was the largest and most elaborate cake she made. Later, she baked the cake for Nellie Milman who married Rev. Scholfield and for her sister, Emily Milman, who married Dick Williams. These cakes were decorated by Mrs. A. E. Bean, who was artistic.

Mother always had a garden but some years tender plants were killed by late spring and early fall frosts. It was many years before tomatoes survived long enough to bear fruit. She also sent to Indian Head Experimental Farm for tree seeds and perennial flower seeds. These were planted in Grandmother Fast's garden as it took several years to get a suitable garden spot prepared. She also brought seeds of the wild plum. The Manitoba maples planted there are still living. After many years the plum trees bore fruit and Grandfather received a special prize at the Agriculture Society fall fair held in the Maymont school.

I was born in the log house. Dr. J. A. Scratch was the doctor and Mrs. Margaret Thompson, a nurse from England, lived-in for several weeks, leaving her two little girls in the care of her sister who lived on a homestead some six miles east. Mother had a hired girl, whose parents, the Hartwells, lived a mile east of Keystone School which I later attended.

My first two or three years of school were at the old Neepawa Public School, No. 1517. T. Alf Amoss was the teacher. He taught us phonetics, a sound foundation for reading. Also instilled an interest in good literature. After there were enough pupils in the district, Keystone Public School No. 1144 was re-opened. I finished my schooling there with Miss Grace Japp of Speers for Grade VIII teacher and Miss Flora Geary of Keppel, Sask. for Grade IX.

During that time the Rev. R. W. Hardy drove with his horse and buggy from Speers one afternoon a week to give Sunday School instruction after the afternoon recess. Church services were held in the school every second Sunday afternoon during the spring and summer, usually ending with Harvest Home.

There are many stories told of prairie fires. I was so frightened that I still remember the last one that came our way although this must have been before I went to school.

A beautiful spring day when suddenly the clouds of smoke could be seen coming from the east. Lew Andrew saw it where he was plowing his field south of our house and came straight across the prairie throwing up two furrows all the way and extra furrows near the house. My father plowed deep furrows and ridges in the open grassland to the north till he and Lew had made a circle on the sides the fire was coming from. Those deep furrows remained until the pasture was finally broken. As the fire advanced rapidly, the animals from the bush dashed across the yard in headlong flight, coyotes and many bush rabbits paying no attention to each other. Even deer which weren't seen often then.

Mrs. Rogers who could see the smoke more than a mile away, put her pre-school children in the buggy and came across the prairie. She brought with her a tub of water and sacks and a broom with which to beat out the sparks. The roar of the fire was dreadful and the wind generated by the flames carried the sparks far. All watched to beat out any that came inside the fireguard. The fire was turned from the buildings and burned itself out when it reached Lew Andrew's plowed field.

Neighbourly help was always given unstintingly where it was needed and I hear that the pioneer spirit still carries on at Maymont.

I expect that others have written about the old time threshing. My father hauled water for the huge steamers for five years — three seasons with Ernie Andrew and two with Les Sloan. Mother was left at those times to care for the stock. When the large outfits came they had a cook car and a bunk house for the men so mother only cooked for the grain haulers. Much farm work was exchanged with neighbors, a day's work for a day at whatever job help was needed.

My parents spent 44 years on that homestead until failing health forced them to retire to Saskatoon where they spent the rest of their lives. Both are buried in the Maymont Cemetery.

After 20 years in Saskatoon, I moved to Edmonton.

Prices of Groceries and Supplies — 1906, 1907

Flour (one sack)	$2.75
Tea (lb.)	.40
Coal oil (1 gal.)	.40
Sugar	.50
(Sugar, Tapioca, rice, dried fruit, raisins, apple, currants, apricots, prunes — no quantity specified, bought by .25 or .50 cents worth.)	
Lard	.75
(likely 5 lb. pail)	
Pork (4 lb.)	.40
Coffee (1 lb.)	.30
Broom	.30
Baking Powder	.30
Baking Soda	.10
Barbed wire must have sold by pound.	
4 spools wire 431 lbs	$18.30

Axe handle	.35
Garden rake	.35
Stove pipe elbow	.25
Overall jacket	1.00
Hat	1.50
Lamp Glass	.10

Our Neighbors

by Gladys Zimmer

Albert Boskill — came from Manitoba with his daughters, Maggie and Rose, and sons Percy, Ed, Steve and Stewart. The girls often told this story. Mr. Boskill was a carpenter and while the young folk went to a dance he decided to change the door to the other side of the house. The girls got a surprise when they couldn't find the door when they came home in the wee hours! The farm was taken over by the oldest son, Percy Boskill, who lived there the rest of his life. Percy farmed with horses long after others had changed to tractors. He had extra men as his farming land needed at least two outfits. He had several house-keepers. The one who stayed longest and was best known is Mrs. Rose Schmidt, and her daughter Betty. Betty attended Grey School till Grade VIII and then went to Saskatoon. Mrs. Schmidt stayed on at the job till Percy's death; then she returned to Saskatoon. The neighboring homestead was taken by William Holmes with his wife Katie. They came from Nebraska. Mrs. Holmes was also a mid-wife and helped Dr. Scratch many times, sometimes driving for miles with her horse and buggy or by cutter in the winter.

Henry Christfield also came from Nebraska and homesteaded the adjoining quarter. After proving his title, he became an implement agent in Maymont. After selling that business he moved to B.C. with his wife and family.

Mel Shrock came from the U.S.A. with his parents and wife, Cora, and three children, Treva, Leland and Moody. Their homestead years came to a sad conclusion in 1911 when Cora died at the birth of a tiny daughter. The neighbors offered what help they could to the grieving family. Mrs. Holmes took care of the baby, Mrs. Wm. Parker and Mrs. John Fast attended to the necessary task of preparing Cora for her last rest. Someone stayed with the family till after the funeral. The Grandmother felt she could not care for the frail baby Cora beside the other children, so the baby was adopted by George and Eva Holler with whose love and patient care she grew. The Shrock family returned to the United States, and happily, after many years, Cora found her family and was able to visit them. The baby Cora is now Mrs. Frank Miller.

Hector Cowan homesteaded next to the Shrocks. He was a bachelor who lived in a very tiny shack.

All of the original homesteaders of Sec. 36-41-12 have gone. Some stayed only a few years.

Henry Knight from Neepawa who suggested that name for the school.

Frank Bergmann and family. Theirs was a stopping place on the trail and they did not stay very long. Last heard of in Washington State. Their daughter, Martha, a popular young lady became Mrs. McKeller and lived at Radisson, Son Walter and his mother in Vancouver, B.C.

Julius and Maria Schloomer(Slomer), came from the U. S. A. in 1903. Mrs. Schlomer was a mid-wife and called to help many times. She also baked bread for the bachelors, did laundry for the Hotel before there was a Chinese laundry in Maymont. Her daughters, Annie (Mrs. Bill Lewis) and Freda (Mrs. Rollo Smith) helped when not out working. (In those days they were called hired girls.) Julius Schlomer also grew vegetables for sale. Their sons, John and Harry, played the violin and Freda played the organ. Many sing songs were enjoyed there. Harry became quite an accomplished musician and now lives in Washington. John and Walter went to Ontario where Julius and Maria soon joined them.

Dave McKay came from Manitoba in 1903 and was a bachelor for some years. He spent a good deal of time at Schlomers with the young people. Dave was a good shot and his 22 supplied meat for the table. One time he asked Mrs. Schlomer to cook for his threshers. He was to supply the meat so shot rabbits. Being a resourceful cook, Mrs. Schlomer made the meat into hamburger meat balls and all enjoyed a good meal. It was the duty of N.W.M.P. to visit the district. One fine spring day, Dave shot a duck, cleaned it and was cooking dinner when a Mountie rode up. Dave invited him to share his meal. The evidence of the illegal game was still by the door, but nothing was said! Dave McKay and Bessie Cook from England were married in Schlomer's house. Bessie had baked her own cake. She was a good cook and soon learned to use all the wild fruits. Bessie always had a garden and was especially interested in new varieties of perennial flowers. Their son Stanley was also a hunter and trapped. Weasels and other game in the area did well to avoid him. After Dave's death, Bessie and her daughters, Violet and Pearl moved to Fort William, Ontario and Stanley lives in Edmonton.

S. E. Chambers came from England with his wife and family. The older daughter and sons soon went to Prince Albert. Lily, Howard and Leonard remained with their parents. Mr. Chambers helped build Keystone and Grey Schools. Some of the first Keystone teachers boarded at Chambers. They were a musical family; Leonard played the accordion and Howard the violin and mandolin or banjo. After the death of their parents, Lily was married and Leonard also, elsewhere. Howard left the farm and was last heard of in Vancouver. The adjoining homestead was taken by **Ben H. Martin** who came from England with his wife, Hannah, and sons, Ben and Harry. His wife could not survive the climate. After her death, Mr. Martin sent for his daughters, Maude and Lily to join him and keep house. Ben Martin was an organ builder and brought

materials. One of his organs is (was) in the Anglican Church at Maymont and one at Grey School, besides the one his daughter had in the home. They, too, were a musical family and good singers. Ben senior returned to England. Harry worked in Mrs. Beans store and had the undertaking business, later joining his brother, Ben, in Lethbridge. Lily married Seager Wheeler and lived at Rosthern. After some years in Maymont where her husband Percy Barrett was photographer, Maude and Percy returned to the farm.

Henry Bergmann was well known in the district although he became a resident of Maymont only after retiring from his farm at Spinney Hill. Henry came from Beatrice, Nebraska in 1913. Homestead land was all taken so he filed on a homestead near Cando. When not putting in his homestead duties there, ■ lived with his aunt and uncle John Fast.

He worked during the summer, seeding, haying, harvesting and threshing and then returned to the homestead. He sold that and bought a farm at Spinney Hill, usually returning to his aunt's for the winter. Like all retired farmers, he still found little jobs to do ■ Maymont besides curling in the winter and playing cards.

The William Fast Story

I was born in Nebraska in 1902, and came with my pioneer Mother and Father in 1904 to a homestead in a district which was later called Neepawa, 5½ miles north-west of Fielding. I was the eldest boy in a family of 3 boys and 3 girls, 2 of which are still living, Esther of Radisson and Arthur of Edmonton.

We grew up on the farm and when Neepawa school was started, I was one of the first pupils. Mr. Amoss was the teacher for 14 years, and I still hear from his son, Bruce of California, every Xmas.

In due time the railway went through the country and the village of Fielding came into being. We had good times going there to dances, picture shows, and sports days.

Later on the Curling rink was started, and everyone was very enthusiastic. I curled there many winters and later on in Maymont.

I married Violet Laidlaw on July 9th, 1928. She was a school teacher at Beckwith school south of Fielding.

We rented the William McNaughton farm and while there we boarded the teacher at Neepawa school. He was Max Braithwaite, who has since become a well-known writer.

We have a daughter, Maxine, who was born in 1936. She started school at Neepawa and her teacher was Miss Lillian Martin, now Mrs. Kimbel of Luseland who boarded with ■.

After one year the school was closed as there was only 8 pupils. Maxine then went to school ■ Fielding. She stayed with her aunt Esther who was the telephone operator there. She graduated from Grade XII in 1954. Later on she took her nurse's training at Saskatoon City Hospital, and graduated ■ 1957. She is married to Darryl Dodds, an electrician, and lives at Snow Lake, Manitoba. We have two granddaughters and one grandson.

We lived on the farm 4 miles east of Maymont till 1968 and then moved to Maymont. We sold our farm in 1973.

We celebrated our golden wedding on July 9th, 1978 with a Come and Go tea in the Community Hall. Vi heard from 21 of her former pupils, and 8 of them were present, and helped with the program.

We enjoyed our life on the farm, good times and bad, and if it was possible, would gladly do it over again.

Bill and Vi's 50th wedding anniversary — July 9th, 1978. L. to r. — Heather, Bill and Vi, Darren, Maxine and Darryl, Kim.

Cecil Ferris Family History

by Betty Ferris

Cecil was the seventh child of a family of thirteen born to Robert and Maude Ferris. He began his farming career by working ■ the home farm. In 1935 he moved ■ the farm which his father had purchased from Will Ferris. He remained there for six years until he returned to the home farm after his father's death. He and his brother, Chester, farmed together for one year until Chester joined the armed forces. Cecil has farmed the home place ever since.

I came to Fielding in 1945 to teach the junior room at Fielding School. It was a two-room school at that time. Raymond Kachur was the principal the first year that I taught at Fielding School and Bob Olson became principal the second year. I boarded with Mr. and Mrs. Walter Evans and they remained very dear friends of ours until their deaths.

Cecil and I were married ■ 1947. We had little but love to live on that first year. The first rain of the season came in the form of a cloudburst in mid-August, the evening of our wedding dance in the Fielding Hall.

Many of the crops came up after that rain. Feed for livestock was scarce as there hadn't been enough moisture to produce a hay crop.

As luck would have it, the drought ■ 1947 was followed by a severe winter with above average snowfall which stayed with us till near the end of April. Many farmers ran out of feed for their livestock and poor quality hay was shipped into Fielding. The hungry animals were ravenous when fed this mouldy frozen fodder but ■ kept them alive.

We soon found our home livened by "The patter of little feet". We had five children in all, Lesley, Ronald, Audrey, Gregory and Joanne.

July 21, 1966 was the saddest day of our lives when our eldest son, Ronald,was killed when the tractor he was operating overturned, pinning him beneath.

Lesley became a teacher and is now married to Dennis Morgan, ■ farmer at Marsden.

Audrey is a nurse married to Constable Edward Miller of the R.C.M.P. They live at LaRonge but this summer are being transferred to Meadow Lake. They have one son, Gregory.

Our son, Greg, has joined his father in the farming operation.

Joanne became a Laboratory Technician and ■ presently employed at St. Joseph's Hospital at Ile-a-la-Crosse.

Through the years we have witnessed many changes ■ rural life. When we were first married we travelled by horses and sleigh in the winter. Nowadays if the roads become heavy with snow we wait for the municipal plow to clear them so that we can get out with the car.

In about 1954 the power line was put through this area and this did much to brighten the homes and enable the farm homemaker to acquire many of the appliances which made her work lighter and more pleasant.

We had many neighbors in years gone by whose homes now stand vacant or have been demolished. Farms are larger and farm homes ar farther apart.

The farming operation itself has become more complex. It seems strange that with all the efficient farm machinery, and gadgets, farmers still work long hours and under even more stress than their forefathers. There are fertilizers and numerous chemicals which are applied ■ the land and standing crops, to combat weeds and insects. Granted, we do grow higher yielding and cleaner crops than in years gone by but I often wonder what the long term effect of this "chemical farming" will be.

Mr. and Mrs. Chester Ferris

This is another branch of the Ferris Family and one of the larger ones in later years.

Chester, youngest of five brothers, went off to war in 1941. After four years had past the second World War was over. Then while still in Holland he met a Dutch girl called Willemijntje Liefhebber. They were married ■ Delft, Holland in December, 1945. After returning home with his wife they raised a family of six children namely:

Diane who married ■ farmer, Robert Quick of Radisson, and are now farming at Mayfair, Sask.

Robert William, who married Patricia Parchoma of Krydor. Bob is Customer Service Manager for Air Canada and lives in Saskatoon, Sask.

Terry Donald who married Carrol George of Livelong and is ■ school teacher in Blaine Lake, Sask.

Edward Allan, who married Mary Maxwell of Radisson. He is a store clerk and living ■ La Ronge, Sask.

Marilyn Ruth, who married Ian Masear. He works in the oil fields at Lloydminster and are living at Lloydminster, Sask.

David Lloyd at home going to school, living with Dad and Mom.

Chester was postmaster at Fielding, Sask. for ■ years and ■ now in his own Insurance business at Radisson, Sask.

Willemijntje ■ now Postmistress at Fielding, Sask., where she and Chester still make their home.

Mr. and Mrs. William Ferris

by Gladys (Ferris) Tapley

Mr. and Mrs. John Schrader and young daughter, Jennie, came by covered wagon from Iowa, U.S.A. and took up a homestead in the early 1900's in the Yorkton District known then as Assiniboia. Later after building a log house Jennie's father had an accident and he passed on. Then the mother and her daughter were left alone on the homestead. So the daughter, Jennie, got a job cooking in the hotel at Yorkton.

In the meantime my father, Mr. William Ferris, and his brothers, Bob and Harry, and Telford and Tom Ferris decided to go west from Ontario. After coming west my father, William Ferris, worked for the T. Eaton Company at Winnipeg as he had experience in working in a store ■ Ontario. But his older brother, Harry Ferris, insisted that my father come west. They could get one hundred and sixty acres for ten dollars. Well, this looked good at the time. Then my father

William L. Ferris born June 30th, 1880, passed away Dec. 26, 1964.

Mrs. Wm. Ferris with Gladys age 6.

came to Yorkton where he worked for some time in the Flour Mill. It was here he met my mother, Jennie Schrader; later ■ married her on March 23, 1904. They were married by the Reverend Bennie of Yorkton. Father worked for awhile in the Flour Mill but came west with his brothers and got a homestead three miles east of Fielding. The railway was not through yet but the family would come as soon as they could.

I was born at the Yorkton Hospital on January 30, 1905, the year the Province of Saskatchewan was formed. After I was six months old the railway had gone through so they decided ■ come to their homestead. It was fall and we had no buildings so my father's brother let us live in his tar paper shack for the winter as he was a bachelor and was not home. Tom was ■ good carpenter so was in demand We got our log house built the following summer -- also log barn and chicken house. My father came with the livestock and machinery in a car. He had to haul it all thirty miles to Canora so he went through many hardships. Mother and I came by train. The engine broke down so we stayed for sometime.

After our buildings were built my father had to plough a fire guard around in case of prairie fire as the land was all prairie.

Our first close neighbor was Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Thompson who lived northwest of our homestead. Mr. T. Thompson had ■ steam threshing outfit. So my father got ■ job hauling bundles as money was scarce in those days. The land had to be broke up and worked so it took a number of years before you had a crop. The neighbors were very good to help each other in those hard years.

My mother told me that she used to take me in the baby carriage to town with eggs and butter and walked three miles each way. We did not have a horse and buggy, only a wagon and my father was busy working and breaking up his land. The first winter my father had the misfortune of losing two of his horses so he had only one horse. A Methodist minister gave my folks his team for the winter. My father was very grateful for this kind act.

When I started school I walked the three miles each way and I got the mail also a few groceries. I remember my first year at school ■ Fielding. It was a large room and only one teacher. His name was Bennie Summers. He taught the beginners to High School and you could hear ■ pin drop ■ school the order was ■ good.

Every fall we had a prairie fire when the wind got in the South, because there was a muskeg and when it got dry a spark from the railway engine would start the fire. The slough ■ front of our place always saved our buildings.

We lost our barn ■ the fall of 1914 and a lot of hay. But the hired man and I saved the animals. My father was away hauling grain three miles when he noticed the fire. So my father got a contractor and built a new barn as winter was coming on and the animals needed shelter. My father also had purchased another quarter of land east of us. It had a shell of a house. After the harvest was finished Tommy Thompson moved it over for my father. So we got the house fixed up and moved in. The house and barn still stand.

My sister was born September 15, 1916 at the City Hospital in Saskatoon. The telephone was just being put in. In those days we had no radio or phone. There were Dr. Scratch at Maymont and Dr. Whitemarsh at Radisson. Our travel was by horseback, or buggy or wagon. So my mother administered the old time remedies and they worked.

Finally we got a buggy so that was sure nice to drive to town. The cars were just starting to show up. The horse was very scared at first but got used ■ them.

I remember the bad 'Flu' after the First World War the fall of 1918. There was no school as you were to keep away from crowds. The doctor had a man driving his car as he went from patient to patient. The people who got the 'Flu' had to have doctor's care or they died. So we owe our early doctors a lot for saving lives. We were lucky and missed the 'Flu'.

We had our good years of crops and some were poor. But we managed ■ live as we milked cows and shipped cream to buy our groceries and clothing.

Later years Mr. Wes Sloan used to thresh our grain with his steam outfit and cookcar. The cook car fed the bundle teams, twelve ■ all.

I received most of my education at Fielding School — getting all my Grade XI but a couple of subjects. Miss Blakely was my last teacher. We went to the

United Church for High School as the old school was not large enough.

However I got married quietly, July 21, 1926 and moved to Radisson where I still reside. My mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. William Ferris, had celebrated their twenty-fourth wedding anniversary quietly on March 23, 1926. During the two years after I got married mother had not been feeling well. However we did not realize that she was so sick. So on Easter Monday, April 9, 1928 my mother passed on in her sleep. I really did miss her. My sister, Mildred, was only eleven and a half years old.

My father sold the farm after mother's passing. Later he bought a John Deere Agency at Battleford which he operated for ten years. Then he sold out. Then he lived with my sister, Mildred, at Allan and her husband, John, for awhile. Then he came back to North Battleford. He was a night clerk in the Clarendon Hotel in North Battleford. He worked there till his eyesight failed. He was then eighty-two years of age. My father also loved hockey and baseball.

In the later years my father stayed with me at Radisson. He liked talking of the early days. His memory was wonderful for his age, although he had been ailing for sometime. My father passed on in the City Hospital, Saskatoon, December 26, 1964. He was laid to rest by mother at Radisson.

My husband, Raymond Tapley, passed on June 12, 1940. My girls Gladys and Barbara were small then. But they have grown families and are doing fine in life. It gives one great pleasure to see your grandchildren grow up to be good citizens. My sister's families have grown up and have their own families. So I have seen a lot of changes during my life time.

My sister, Mildred and John have retired and live in Saskatoon.

The R. W. Ferris Family

by T. L. Ferris

Robert William Ferris had come to western Canada a little ahead of the homesteading era. His place of birth was Alliston, Ontario. The beginning of the 19th century found him engaged as a lamp lighter for the burgeoning city of Winnipeg — gas lamps were in vogue at that time. Mrs. Ferris (Maud) practiced her trade in millinery. Their rented home while not pretentious, was reasonably comfortable, and served as home for a couple of unmarried Ferris brothers. These brothers were railroaders, working westward with the foreward push of the C.N.R. and the C.P.R.

Early in 1903, an unfortunate boiler explosion crippled one of the brothers for life. At that time the great homesteading boom had begun, and the Ferris brothers were caught up in the lure of a ¼ section of land for only $10.00. Now they all headed westward in search of land. The C.N.R. had not yet built the bridge across the North Saskatchewan river — like many others, the Ferris Brothers crossed by Gov't ferry.

The R. W. Ferris family. Back row — Cecil, Keith, Enid, Vivian, Edna, Telford, Russell, Verna. Front row — Father, Chester, Ruth, Mother, Norma. Missing from picture is the eldest daughter Leota.

They chose their future homes not far from present day Fielding. At that time, the man who had settled on that particular quarter, was named Peter Shack. So when the nuclei of the village began to form, it became known as Shacktown. But with the arrival of the railroad it was changed to Fielding.

Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Ferris laid claim to the NW¼-22-41-11-West 3rd. This ¼ was located 3 miles north east of present day Fielding. The most noticeable thing about the topography of the ¼ was the presence of two large, flat topped hills, in the southwest corner. Mr. Ferris built his log house on the top of one of those hills — this afforded a panoramic view of a large area to the south, including the site which was to be Fielding. The old "Battleford Trail" passed by just at the foot of the Ferris hill, and I can remember our parents saying how the sound of wagons and democrats passing by helped to relieve the loneliness of homestead life. That hill upon which the Ferris home was built, was the reason our Dad named the Farm "Observation Farm". I should have mentioned how the ruts in the virgin prairie, made by the wagons on the Battleford Trail, remained visible for many years, because it crossed what was to become part of our cow pasture.

I was born in that log house on the hill — but by the time the next child arrived, Dad had built a new house of sawn lumber. That house sheltered the family up to, and including No. 13. We were eight girls and five boys. Everyone worked in our family — even the young ones had jobs assigned them suitable to their age. It is hardly necessary to say it required exceptional management to feed and clothe us all. Yet we were well fed, and while plainly dressed, it was entirely adequate. Looking back now, I cannot but marvel at the ingenuity of our parents.

Even so, or perhaps because of our large family, R. W. Ferris found time to serve a growing community in many ways throughout the years. He served on the council of our municipality — he served as a schooltrustee — on the church board, and just anywhere he was needed. To illustrate — I might mention one bit of conversation I overheard some ■ years ago. Two of the town fathers were discussing a mudhole in the street which needed filling — "we'd best get Bob Ferris", said one man, "he is the busiest man around, but ■ will get the job done" — the other man agreed. That ■ of philosophy has stuck in my mind over the years.

As time passed, our father bought the other 3 quarters on our section. That farm ■ still intact, and is home ■ C. R. Ferris, third son of Robert William. Though the others in the family have of necessity, spread over the whole of Canada, our roots still tug with nostalgic longing for the old prairie homestead.

Dad bought one of the first automobiles to come to our area. It was a seven passenger Studebaker, but carried the entire family on occasions. The car was bought ■ 1917 from Boyd Brothers, who had gone into the business after having farmed near Radisson, Sask. Other neighbors soon blossomed out with new cars also. Some of the more popular makes at the time were — Saxon Six, Grey Dort, McGlaughlin and Overland, as well as the Ford, the tin Lizzie, as it was popularly known.

Dad also purchased one of the first combines in the district. It was a 16 foot J.I. Case, and must have been 30 feet wide, including the body. We pulled the machine with an 18-36 Hart Parr tractor, at a speed of about one mile an hour. It should be remembered no one really knew how to prepare a crop for harvest with a combine. Since all previous experience had been with a binder and stooks, we did not realize how dry the grain must ■ for combines. Grain testers had not evolved to useful proportions — so we had lots of heated grain on our farm that year. Our farm was cross fenced in several places, ■ accomodate a large herd of cattle. Those fences were badly breached by the time harvest was over — that big combine didn't suit the gates, so we had to cut the fence to get from one field ■ the next.

I am not sure when our town of Fielding really began — probably about 1902. Since the railway came in 1905, that is the time the village began to grow. In those early years there was no rail line south of the river in the Sonningdale area. So the farmers from that area hauled their produce to Fielding as soon as facilities were available. So the town prospered, and by the time I started to school, it was. a boisterous, thriving frontier town. There were all the usual businesses — right from a chinese laundry to a well. equipped hotel — complete with a stand up bar of course, to satisfy the thirsts of the more rambunctious element — not unusual in any frontier town.

Those early days in the life of Fielding were very different from the present. The Ferris clan lived 3 miles from the school in town, where we were obliged ■ attend. Because horses were scarce, and needed for farm work, we walked to school in the summertime. Even ■ the winter, if the weather was not too severe. It has always seemed to me I might have been an inch or two taller, had I not worn it off from the bottom and walking to and from school. Later on, we did drive to school with a horse and buggy — or "jumper", in the winter time. As many as seven Ferris kids clung ■ our vehicle to and from school, as family size demanded.

It has always seemed to me that those small hardships of the early days, served to promote resourcefulness above all else — a quality that diminishes with affluence. This ■ likely why these quarrels errupt with the modern bussed to school families. They object even when the bus won't come the last 100 yards in to the house. Our family had to cross a small ravine on our way to school. Most of the year this ravine was dry, but the spring run-off changed it to a raging torrent. Since it had to be crossed twice a day, we just urged our reluctant pony into the water, and hoped to arrive at the other side reasonably dry. At least once, I remember when the water proved too deep, and we saw our school books and lunch boxes float away downstream. We did manage to fish them out from ■ vantage point down the stream a bit, much the worse for the ride. As well, there were many accidents over the years — such as run-aways, upsets, broken wheels or harness, not to mention frozen toes or fingers ■ the winter. But we survived it all without undue hardship.

I do think our parents did not come through those early years unscathed. Their consideration for the welfare of their offspring required much dedication. Perhaps they did not live as long as they might have under less rigorous conditions. Our mother passed away in 1929, while dad lived on until 1940. But they had left good memories in the life of their chosen community. I like to think they left a useful family for society. I know we are proud of our pioneer parents — we are proud of the community that sheltered us during our formative years.

Fielding has since suffered many reverses over the years. Three disastrous fires have decimated the village. Circumstance of economy has shrunk the place to near oblivion. Yet it is far from dead — since those who remain insist on supporting their tiny town. As one of the babies born on the almost virgin prairie, I know I can speak for the family when I say we are proud and thankful for having been born and reared in and around Fielding Saskatchewan.

I think ■ might be suitable to the intentions of this book that the names of such a large pioneer family should be recorded here — they are as follows. Leota, Vivian, Verna, Telford, Enid, Russel, Cecil, Edna, Keith, Jean, Chester, Ruth and Norma.

Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Ferris

submitted by Mrs. Evelyn (Ferris) Webster

My mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Ferris, raised and educated their family at Maymont. T. D. Ferris came west to Saskatchewan ■ 1904-1905. He hauled lumber with horses and wagon, between Saskatoon and North Battleford, for a living. He took up ■ homestead at Fielding. In 1908 he married Bertha Johnston of Maymont.

Tom Ferris

In 1908 my mother and father farmed on the homestead. Earl Ferris was born in 1908. Dr. Manly of Fielding delivered the baby. In 1911 Evelyn Ferris was also born on the homestead, Dr. Scratch delivering her.

In 1914 the Tom Ferris' moved to Maymont and farmed next to Jim Reid. He bought a J.I. Case Threshing Machine and cook car and did the threshing for all the farmers around for years. In 1917 and 1918 Lola Ferris and Lorraine Ferris were born, Dr. Scratch again being the doctor.

Tom Ferris was on the school board for years. He was a prosperous farmer and was fond of everyone in Maymont. In 1918 Tom Ferris drove Dr. Scratch during the winter when the flu was so bad ■ Doc was too tired to drive himself had to answer all calls. Tom Ferris was a councillor for the rural municipality when the new school was built.

He passed away in 1976, being ninety-two past. He had many trips back to Maymont. Bertha Ferris in her ninety first year lives in Winnipeg.

I enjoyed growing up in Maymont. I have many pictures of the school kids and Sunday School group I was in when Mabel Merrell was our teacher. She formed a club called U. A. D. (Up and Doing). I left Maymont when I was seventeen years old. All us Ferris kids married. Earl is in Vancouver; Harold in Montreal; Lola and Lorraine in Winnipeg. I am retired at Brighton, Ontario. I am now sixty-eight years old.

Our children have done well. You may be interested to know my son, Dr. Ferris Webster, an oceanographer, was appointed by President Carter to be in charge of all research and development of the oceans and the weather in the U.S.A.

I have many recollections of Hallowe'en escapades. When one of our teachers was living at Andrew Reid's, we knew which room she had, so we tried to put a ladder up to scare her. Mr. Reid came out and someone said he had a gun so we ran. His yard had a barbed-wire fence and I still have the scar on my throat where I cut myself trying to get under the fence. Dear Andrew Reid would not take a gun to any child! I feel I could write a book about my happy times in Maymont.

My mother ■ a sister of Grace Foulston, Herb Johnston, Alex Johnston, Bob Johnston and Lawrence Johnston. Their father was Mr. Alex Johnston.

The Ron B. Firth Family

In September, 1933 Ron and Joy Firth, their son Brian and daughter June, moved to Lilac from the Lloydminster area. Ron was the Wheat Pool elevator agent there from 1933 until he joined the Air Force as a mechanic ■ 1941. The family moved to Ruddell for one year before going to Saskatoon in 1942 when Ron was posted to the No. 4 Air Training base ■ that city.

While ■ Lilac Joy Firth was active in the Anglican Church Ladies Aid and Sunday School occasionally pinch hitting at the organ when the regular organist could not get ■ for services.

For a number of years Ron played drums ■ a local band with Herb Mabey on violin or Sax and Annie Lewis at the piano when the local dances were the highlite of the winter entertainment scene.

Ron Firth passed away in 1970.

Joy Firth ■ living at Oliver Lodge in Saskatoon.

Brian, Joy, Ron and June Firth, 1942.

The William Fisher Story

told by Wilf Fisher

William Fisher was born in 1883 in Ashburn, Ontario — near Toronto. He attended school there for a few years, going to school in the winter and working at home on the farm during the summer. In those days it seems that education was secondary, work came first. Anyway he got a few grades during the winters.

In 1905 he came to Fielding and got a job herding cattle for Bob Anger. It seems that these cattle were from several owners around Fielding and Radisson.

Eastbourne Ladies' Aid, 1914/16, Mrs. Johnston, Mrs. Hockley, Mrs. Schreiber, Mrs. Fisher.

He told stories of a very bad winter when he hauled a load of straw, from straw stacks, every day. It seems that it stormed every day and was cold. He had a good sheepskin coat with a big collar and it protected him from the cold. He had to travel a good distance for some straw.

He took a homestead when that area was opened up — must have been 1906-1907. He built a log cabin, dug a well and built a log barn.

Dad's uncle, Ed Bodie, was homesteading at the same time, half mile south and they helped each other with a lot of work.

In 1910, Dad took a trip back to Ontario, where he met Nellie Ball — fresh out from London, England. They corresponded for a year, then in 1912, January 24, they were married on the next trip he took. He had lots of company those days. There was always someone visiting. Lady cook, I suppose.

That must have been about the time they built Eastbourne church. I don't know where the financing came from but Wm. Kerrod was carpenter and Dad was main helper. The other neighbours must have been helping, too, but I don't know much of that. Kerrod and Dad built Hillsborough school about the same time and the school started in 1911.

Dad was on the church board most of the time. Mr. A. H. Johnston, Fred and John Wilcox were serving quite often, too. There were others but these are uppermost in my memory.

Then of course there was the Ladies Aid who had their meetings — I don't know how often.

In 1917 Mom's sister, Ada, married Dan Hockley and came for a honeymoon visit and settled across the road and raised their family. It was great company for Mom and Ada to have each other so close. They had a wonderful time tormenting the men and more than once they got their feet stuck in the water trough in retaliation. Mom and Ada had tea every afternoon without fail — Old English Custom you know.

Dad's brother, Alf, came west about 1916 and got a homestead on Section [illegible]. Alf joined the army in 1916 along with two or three others that the game warden caught poaching — deer hunting, of course.

There was at that time a government sponsored rifle range operating on Section 15, west of Hillsborough School, where the young men spent a lot of leisure time.

Then one must not forget the annual Eastbourne Picnic spent at Dubbins Lake. That was the event of the year. Ice cream, pop, chocolate bars, peanuts — the only time I ever saw pop bottles. There were the pillow fights, races, prizes and ball games, and horse shoes. Decorated booths and ladies all dressed up in pretty gowns.

Louis Flath even had a canoe there one year. Then the slough went dry and when they had the picnic elsewhere, it seemed to have lost something.

In 1924, Dad got his first hive of bees from Eaton's. I think it came complete with mask, smoker and gloves. Anyway it became a life hobby with Dad and he kept at it until he was not able to lift the supers on the top of the hive anymore. In hard times he took honey to Speers and the proceeds from the honey paid for the twine to tie up the crop, if there was any.

Dad never got very rich but he was happy and contented on the homestead he chose. He lived there until 1958 when he died at the age of 75. Mother lived on until 1972.

Grace Foulston

In 1903 three of my brothers were working in North Dakota when they heard of the homesteads to be had in Saskatchewan, and several men from the Dakotas were going over to have a look so our boys went too. The result was they each filed on a homestead.

Alex and Will got their homesteads on the same section 5½ miles north of Maymont. Bob got his in the Lilac district.

The boys went back to North Dakota and worked during harvest, and then came back to their homesteads.

The boys in the meantime had written to father in

Ontario and he in turn talked to two of his brothers and they moved out with their familys and homesteaded.

Father and Uncle Robert got homesteads on the same section 3 miles north of Maymont. Father shipped a car of settler's effects, in the spring of 1905, and also brought 2 more sons Herb and Maurice. Herb worked on the railroad when it went through in 1905.

Father drove the mail from Great Bend to Maymont, Richard, and New Ottawa. Mother, Bertha, Lawrence and I came out in September, 1905. The railroad was completed then. The people who moved in with their settler's effects had to unload in Saskatoon, as there was no railroad in here yet. The boys had horses and they did a lot of hauling freight from Saskatoon. They also hauled for the Barr Colony.

Will had to give up the first homestead he filed on because of ill health, so he went back to Ottawa and studied for the ministry. But he still wanted to farm and have horses, so he filed on another homestead and started farming. He shipped in a lot of horses from Ontario and also some McFaddan Bronc's from Alberta. Some of his family still live on that homestead.

In 1905 Alex shipped the first car load of wheat to leave Maymont. He had to go to Radisson to bill it out as there was no agent at Maymont.

He lived on his homestead for a while then went to B.C. where he worked on a telegraph crew. Later he took a pre-emption in Buckley Valley, B.C. He came back to Maymont, got married and settled down.

Herb homesteaded in the Eatonia district and Maurice homesteaded north of Richard. Lawrence never had a homestead. He worked in Bean's store for a while and later in McGregors store in Fielding. Then he farmed for a while and later moved to Rabbit Lake, where he had a store and Livery Barn. He married and later moved to Duncan, B.C.

My husband, Albert Foulston arrived at Maymont in 1912, coming from Balmoral, Manitoba. The first couple of years he worked in Maymont then he and my brother Lawrence rented some land north of Speers.

We were married in March, 1917 and moved to Tatsfield, Sask. We farmed there for 5 years then came back to Maymont. In 1941 we moved to Speers and in 1944 we bought a farm at Lilac.

In 1958 we moved into Maymont where we still reside. We celebrated our 62nd anniversary in March, 1979 and Albert just turned 90 years of age in May.

A lot of changes have taken place since then but it is nice to look back and think we played a small part in the settling of the west.

They have 4 children, 3 are still living. They have 28 grandchildren, and 20 great-grandchildren.

Mr. and Mrs. John Foster

told by Dorothy (Foster) Crawley

My parents, John and Dora Foster, were not pioneers in the true sense of the word, but hard work, hardships, and doing without were some of the

Mr. and Mrs. John Foster, Frank and Dorothy.

qualifications, then I'm sure they qualified many times over.

We came West from Nova Scotia in 1919, to live a year in the Ruddell district and the following year in Maymont.

My dad was a professional gardener by trade, having worked on estates in Boston and later in Market gardens in Nova Scotia. How forbidding the prairie must have looked to him! He hired out to various farmers working with horses which he loved.

When we moved to Maymont he and his brother-in-law, George Reid, bought the A. Hawkins farm, a partnership which failed partly perhaps because of inadequate equipment, lack of experience in prairie farming on my dad's part, and overall a clashing of wills! A herd of milk cows and large bountiful gardens were our mainstay in those days.

Dad became school janitor after we moved into the village — of both the two-room school and later when it was moved and additions built. My mother was a dressmaker and also made beautiful hooked rugs-sale of which to the more affluent, added to the family income. We also had a milk route-milk being 10¢ a quart at that time.

Some say that my dad was a stubborn old Englishman — I remember it wasn't a good idea to get into an argument with him even if you knew you were right. My mother was very outspoken and when she knew she was right she backed away from no one — teacher, preacher, doctor, lawyer, or Indian Chief if there had been one!

I remember one occasion when she had a run-in with the minister of the Anglican Church which she and dad attended faithfully. Mother went to Church one evening minus a hat — something frowned on in those days. All would have been well if the Minister had spoken to Mother about it in private, but the following Sunday he made the grave mistake of bringing up the matter during the service. That's all my mother needed! She cornered him after the service

and among other things gave him to understand that with, or without, a hat she thought it was better to attend than add to the increasing number of empty pews, evident since his ministry.

My dad passed away in 1947 at age ■ — my mother in 1958 age 90.

I live alone now, my husband Noel having died in 1974. My two bachelor brothers, Jack and Frank, live near me. All in our 70's, we look after each other whenever and wherever possible and will continue to do so until health fails.

Mr. and Mrs. Torrance Free

by Mrs. Free

March, 1918 Mr. and Mrs. Ben Free and family of Red Wing, Ontario settled on a farm in the Radisson District. They were Vinie, Torrance, Hilda, Clifford and Clarence.

I, Allyson Frances Buell, eldest child of Edward and Evangeline Buell, married Torrance Harold Free in 1929 in Fielding.

Torrance started to buy grain for the National Elevator in Fielding in 1928 and was in the same elevator for thirty-nine years.

Chester Free, and Jack Allen.

We have two children. Chester who is married to Mary Warkentin and Shirley who married Bob McAuslan. Chester and Mary had four girls. Barbara (was killed in a car accident in 1975) Audrey, Donna and Betty with their parents live in Radisson.

Shirley and Bob have two adopted children, Barry and Kelly, living in Saskatoon with their parents.

Torrance and I moved to Radisson in 1968.

Isaac Montgomery Fry

Dr. Fry was born at Tiffin Ohio in 1841. He was married in 1871 and with his wife crossed the central plains in a covered wagon to Empire Prairie, Missouri. His wife died in 1872 at the birth of a son. He married Ellen Ellis in 1874 and they moved to Hebron, Nebraska where they resided until 1906. He practised denistry and was a lay preacher. There were 6 children born to this union. In Feb., 1906 Dr. and Mrs. Fry with a son and 2 daughters took a homestead at Maymont. Ellen Fry died Dec. 29, 1907 and Dr. Fry returned to Nebraska. In May, 1915 while on a trip to visit his family he was taken ill and died in Minneapolis. He was brought back to Maymont to lie beside his wife.

Ernest and Margaret Garnett

Ernest E. Garnett was born in 1874 at Mount Pleasant, Ontario, while Margaret Mary Halliday, his wife, was born in 1881 at Minniska, Manitoba. They were married in 1906 and farmed first at Russell, Manitoba. Then Ernest and his brother, Harry, came west to C.P.R. land they had purchased southwest of Fielding. Their families came in June, 1917.

Two boys, Elgin and John, came to Fielding with their parents while two more sons, George and Malcolm, were born at Fielding. Both Ernest and Margaret 'May' took an active part in the Fielding community. Ernest had been choir leader, organist, a member of the session, and Bible class teacher in the Fielding United Church. He was also secretary-treasurer for ten years of the Beckwith School District.

'May' was an active member of the Ladies Aid and the Women's Missionary Society.

Their four sons joined the service of their country during the war years. Elgin and John in the army and George and Malcolm the airforce.

Ernest passed away in January, 1936, while Margaret passed away in May, 1950.

The boys all married — Elgin to Emily Iveson of Fielding; John brought home an English war bride named Maud; George married Kathleen Katerynych of Radisson; George passed away in January, 1973. Their three children are Ronald, Billy and Sandra. Kay resides in Fielding. Malcolm married Irene Stewart of Saskatoon. They make their home at Penticton, B.C.

Mrs. Mary Glynn holding nephew Ron. Garnett, and Mrs. Ernest Garnett holding granddaughter Gail.

About One Branch of the Garnett Family

by Elgin Garnett

It was in June of 1917 that the Ernest Garnetts and the Harry Garnetts came to Fielding from Russell, Manitoba. Ernest and Harry had come a few weeks before and had houses under construction on the C.P.R. land they had bought.

I went to school a few days in June, through July and the rest of the summer. The school was closed most of the winter. The summer was not too good, however, we got through it — and the winter also.

1918 was quite a year! I can remember about September, we went to town and there was quite a celebration on. It was the last day the bar was open. A Saturday, I believe it was, and it came to be known as "Prohibition". The bar was never re-opened as the hotel was burned down. A few weeks later, in November, the phone rang and we heard the news that the war was over.

The winter of 1918-1919 was particularly bad with the flu. We all survived it but it was some experience.

1919 was a dry year. It seemed to us that things were going from bad to worse except the years from 1925 to 1928 when we had four good crops. In 1929 prices dropped and like so many others, we had troubles.

The thirties were hard years — little money or crops, plenty of drouth, dust and thistles — especially Russian thistle. My father died in January of 1936, at the age of sixty-one. The depression and hard winters were too much for him.

In 1937 I left Fielding, except for short visits, and went to The Pas, Manitoba, and back to Hudsons Bay Junction where I met a Fielding neighbour Cliff Elliot, who told me where to get a job. It was only a farm job but I kept it for three years until I joined the army.

My brother, John Garnett, had also joined the army. He got back to Regina about the same time I did in 1945, and in 1946 he came to Caycuse where we had settled. Now we are both retired and enjoying our homes here.

Editors Note — Elgin Garnett passed away in June, 1979, after submitting his story.

The Giffard Family

On November 24, 1908, Falconer and Bertha Giffard with their four daughters — Ethel, Maryadelle, Lucile, and Hazel — arrived in Maymont by train from Omaha, Nebraska. The family had become interested in Maymont through their relatives, the John Careys, who had lived there since 1907. Preceded by a car of settlers' effects and farm animals, Falconer and Bertha were well prepared to face life as pioneer prairie farmers. Their new five-room house on 7-42-12 was just across the road from Bohn's farm buildings and only 2½ miles north of Maymont.

Maryadelle, Lucile, and Hazel first attended Grey School. The building had windows on both sides, a blackboard across the front and neat rows of double desks in varying sizes. Winter heat was provided by a barrel-shaped, cast-iron, wood-burning stove. Readers were supplied by the Department of Education, but the pupils supplied their own slates for "figgering." Early teachers were Miss Barbara Waters and Miss

A group that went to hear Swiss Bell Ringers in Maymont — probably early in 1909. Back row, l. to r. — Stanley Bohn, Mae Davis, Ethel Giffard, Flora Bohn, Minnie Bohn, Olive Parker. Centre row — Grace Johnston, Delma Davis, Gladys Carey, Francis Bohn, Eva Parker, Henry Bohn, Percy Parker. Front — Lucille Giffard, Laura Parker, Maryadelle Giffard.

Birthday party at Giffard's 'Ball Rock Farm', eating Jack Horner pie.

McLaren. Later the Giffard sisters transferred to the two-room school, half a mile south of Maymont with Mr. and Mrs. Ephriam Weber in charge.

As our father always grew a big garden, the whole family was involved in planting the potatoes on May 24. Harvesting this crop usually occurred on a Saturday near Thanksgiving Day when a very extensive family effort was followed by a festive supper to make up for the weary backs of the potato pickers. Corn roasts — actually corn boils — were the Giffards' August contribution to the social life of the district.

Even now we remember these and other happy parties arranged by our mother who was a most enthusiastic party giver. After Cometta was born on May 19 while Halley's comet brightened the night sky, there were five girls' birthdays to celebrate in addition to Hallowe'en, Christmas, Valentine's Day, Easter and many others. We enjoyed strawstack-burning parties, hayrack rides, Jack Horner pie surprises, music, dancing, and homemade ice cream at any time. We rural children enjoyed a very pleasant childhood.

In the early years our winter transportation was provided by a double-seated red sleigh made by father and drawn by a team of black horses. In summer we travelled in a two-seated carriage complete with fenders and steps on which we were sometimes allowed to stand while the carriage was in motion. When cars arrived, they were at first such a novelty that school children were sent from the classroom to stand against the pagewire fence and watch the vehicle pass, often in a cloud of dust.

Our first farm implements were drawn by horses. We girls were taught to drive two- or four-horse teams, and if farm help was scarce we frequently served as grain haulers. Hoping to be able to thresh his own crop, father bought a small Stanley Jones outfit which we used for a few years. Large steam engines and later gasoline engines provided the power for the custom harvesting which suited most farmers better.

Our first Sunday School teacher was Mrs. Fisher and we met at her home in town. Later student ministers came to Maymont in the summer and held services in a large room above Patterson's Pool hall and Barber Shop. Finally the Presbyterian church was built and there we young people held our school Christmas concerts after which Santa Claus came with treats for all the children. For the church bazaars mother made a huge bread-mixing pan of popcorn balls, a popular children's item.

Maymont was a thriving village in those early days and the true centre of the community. Dr. Scratch was a busy young doctor, Dr. Fry was the dentist; the druggist was Mr. Mawhinney. Bean's Grocery and Dry Goods store and John Reid's store served the needs of the people. There was a butcher shop and a harness maker, a hotel and a post office. Main street was a busy spot, especially in the evening just before the "train came in." Literally everyone went to the station to see this important event. Then the people gathered at the post office to wait for the mail to be sorted. When this job was completed, the wicket would be opened for a short time to give out the mail to those who did not have mail-boxes.

On August 10, 1912, our crop and many others were wiped out by a hail storm. As the grain was almost ready for harvesting, such a total loss was a heartbreaking disaster. Many were financially troubled that year. Still we could enjoy the Mayfield and Douglas Agricultural Fair, the Annual Fowl Supper in the church basement, the Chautauqua, and open-air skating; baseball was popular with an excellent men's team and for a few years at least, a ladies' team.

All five Giffard girls became teachers and three married teachers. Ethel taught at Eatonia, Maryadelle at Montro, Lucille at Neepawa, and Cometta at WavyBank — all in the Maymont area. The family's teaching service in Saskatchewan schools totals 183 years. Added to this are 17 years of teaching in the United States by our father and seven years of Adult Education night classes by Cometta who is still teaching at Camosun College in Victoria. Moreover, the family tradition is being carried on by Ethel's granddaughter, Dianne Murray, who now teaches in a Vancouver High School.

In 1918, Ethel married George Murray. Both passed away in Victoria in 1966. Their three sons and families all live in Canada. Maryadelle married Cecil Holtby in a Maymont wedding at the Giffard home in 1921. Cecil passed away in 1976. One of their sons, Norman, lives with his family in Canberra, Australia. The other son, Earle, has recently moved to Victoria with his family after retiring from the RCAF. Lucile married Larry West and both taught in several towns in Saskatchewan before retiring to Victoria in 1963. Hazel and her husband, Hailey Goodman, farmed at Carrot River where Hazel taught for over 25 years; Hazel's son, Dr. Ron Goodman, is engaged in research in Arctic waters. They welcome his visits in their Victoria home several times a year. Cometta married Charlie Hall and at one time lived on the farm at Maymont before moving to Meadow Lake and later to Prince Albert. They now live in Victoria, retired more or less. Their

daughter Ann is still with the Royal Bank and her children live in British Columbia.

Maymont remains as an essential part of our family history. At our frequent Giffard gatherings in Victoria, Maymont reminiscences are sure to surface. We all have such happy memories of our young days there and we are proud to have had a share in the community life of the district.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank H. Gillatt

Frank Herbert Gillatt, son of Herbert Samuel and Sarah (Clifton) Gillatt of Wroot, England, was born June 5, 1891 at Graizelound, England. He was the third child of eleven — seven boys and four girls. His parents started as farm labourers and eventually became estate owners.

Frank, his brother Alfred and an uncle, Albert Clifton, came to Canada in 1913. George Gillatt, a brother, had come to Canada in 1912 and had found Frank a job working for George Langley, on the Langley farm, north of Maymont. One can imagine the differences Frank must have found coming from a country of small farms, moderate climate, and large population, to one of large farms, severe climate, and sparse population.

After working on the Langley farm for two years, Frank and George Gillatt bought the livery barn in Maymont. Thus began a different type of life; — buying and selling horses, providing feed, shelter and water for travellers' horses, and providing livery.

One man who often called on Frank to drive him was Dr. Scratch. These were often trips in the night to farms surrounding Maymont as well as those further away. It seemed that an emergency would often occur during the coldest and stormiest part of the winter. One such trip took them over twenty miles north and it occurred during a terrible blizzard. Roads were impossible to see and as they travelled home Frank was certain they were lost, so he wakened the sleeping doctor. Doc. told Frank to sit down under the blankets with him and let the horses take their own lead as the horses would find their own way home. Frank consented and eventually he woke up to find the horses stopped by the livery barn.

On June 23, 1920, Frank married Mary Olive Parker, of Maymont, and they moved to a farm on the west half of 33-42-13 that Frank was buying northwest of Maymont in the Lilac District.

Olive, the oldest daughter of William G. and Elizabeth (Hird) Parker, was born March 1, 1896 at Rosendale, Manitoba.

The Parker family had moved to the Maymont area in 1904. Mr. Parker, as well as farming his homestead, had a road construction outfit and helped build many roads in the Maymont-Richard area.

Olive attended Grey School, then completed her High School at Battleford Collegiate. Following this she attended Normal School in North Battleford where she acquired her teaching certificate. She taught at Bromley School, Prolific School and Grey School. The Frank Gillatts had a family of three sons: William Herbert, Wesley Alfred, and Clifton Percy.

Incidents in the Life of the Family

FIRE!

Fires of many kinds have always been a worry to rural people. Prairie fires were one of the worst kind

Herbert, Sarah and Mabel Gillatt.

Frank and Olive — June 23, 1920.

Wesley, Clifton and William Gillatt.

to plague people of Saskatchewan. Therefore most families ploughed a fireguard around the farmstead to protect buildings and livestock.

Fires in buildings usually resulted in total loss of the building and at times lives, livestock and feed were also lost. The Gillatts lost three barns but were fortunate in that chickens were the only animals lost. [illegible] Irvine, of Richard, was called upon each time to help rebuild the barn. Once the lumber was obtained, Ed would come and cut the beams, studs and rafters. When this was completed, a building "Bee" was organized and the construction completed.

A fire in their home could have resulted in tragedy but a little house dog began barking and aroused the sleeping family. The fire had started in the back porch and Frank and Olive were able to extinguish the fire using the water from a barrel kept in the kitchen.

ACCIDENT!

[illegible] the fall of 1935, Frank was hooking the disc to a John Deere steel-lugged tractor when the bands on the hand clutch broke allowing the tractor to back over him. Dr. Scratch and his nurse, Pat McGrath, were called upon [illegible] care for Frank at his home as his many injuries prevented moving him to the hospital. Thus the doctor whom Frank had driven so many times, was able to return service for service.

From his years in the livery barn, Frank had learned a lot about horses and so was often called on [illegible] do veterinary work.

He served his community as well by being on the local school board and as a member of the Lilac Wheat Pool Committee.

World War [illegible] brought many changes and often sadness to many families and Gillatts were no exception. William joined the R.C.A.F. on May 13, 1941. He served with the R.C.A.F. in Europe and while there gave his life for his country on February 6, 1944. Frank also joined the R.C.A.F. in October 1941, but his term of service was spent in Canada. Frank suffered a broken neck in a bus accident while stationed in Alberta. So during this wartime period Olive was left on the farm with only two teenaged boys, Wes and Cliff, to do the farming. Add to this worry of a husband and son in the services, and then later the loss of William and one realizes that Olive had courage and faith.

Olive, besides caring for her family found time to take an active part in the Lilac community. The Lilac Community Club helped to provide entertainment, relaxation, and community togetherness. They sponsored drama, card parties, dances and garden parties.

Having been raised in a very Christian home, religion was very important to Olive. She took an active part in the Ladies Aid of the United Church as long as it functioned at Lilac. Each fall the Ladies Aid had a supper in the school. Some family would bring a cook car to the school and place it so that food and dishes could be passed through a school window. Water had to be hauled, dishes brought, food prepared at home, and transported hot, coffee and tea made in boilers on the stove, and then the meal served.

In later years Olive belonged to St. Mary's Anglican Guild and attended church in the little church at Lilac during the summer and the United Church at Ruddell the remainder of the year. When St. Mary's Church was moved to the Museum in North Battleford, the Lilac Ladies Guild had a Cairn erected to mark the place where the church had been. As Olive was the president of the Guild she helped in the unveiling of the Cairn.

When a U.C.W. (United Church Women) was organized at Lilac, Olive took an active part.

Frank, due to poor health, had to lead a quiet life in later years. He devoted his time to gardening, chores, and advisor to Wes and Cliff who had taken over the farming operation.

In the fall of 1949, the family moved to S.E. 5-43-13-W3, to the Semple house one-quarter mile north of Lilac.

Wesley married Charlotte Boutilier, August 5, 1958, and [illegible] built a house in the same yard. They have a family of two sons: David and Gerald, and three daughters: Sandra, Catherine and Susan. These grandchildren were a great pleasure to Olive and Frank.

Clifton married Ida Boutilier August 4, 1956, and Cliff moved a house from the Mike Kormish farm into the yard.

[illegible] June 1964, Frank and Olive took a trip to England so after fifty-one years Frank returned to his birthplace and saw his brothers Harold, Arthur, Thomas, and sisters Hilda Markham, Edith Prentiss, and Mabel Bowskill, as well as other relatives.

They spent a few days with Dave Boutilier in London and [illegible] took them to an uncle, Charlie Clifton. When they arrived at the address they found the tene-

ment buildings were being torn down. They asked one ■ the workers if ■ knew where the Veterans had moved to, and the worker said that some of them had been moved to tenements several blocks away. Dave and Frank decided they would drive on and ask at the first tenement they came to. They had only travelled a block when Frank said, "Stop! There's Charlie on that porch." Sure enough it was Uncle Charlie! They stopped and Frank visited the uncle he had not seen for over fifty years.

George and Mabel Bowskill came to Canada in June 1969 to visit Frank and Olive. They were able to see the country that Frank had told them about.

The following May 30, 1970, Frank passed away and four weeks later, June 30, 1970, Olive followed. They were buried in the family plot in Maymont Cemetery.

Mr. and Mrs. Wesley A. Gillatt

Wes Gillatt was born at Lilac, Saskatchewan, Jan. 4, 1926, the second son of Frank and Olive Gillatt; attended Burnley School (later ■ be re-named Lilac School) where ■ completed ten grades ■ nine years. He received his Gr. XI and Gr. XII in the two-room Ruddell School, graduating June 30, 1942. Because both his father and older brother, William, were in the R.C.A.F., Wes, with his younger brother, Clifton, engaged in farming full time on N½ section 33-42-13 W3rd.

Charlotte Boutilier, (who later became Mrs. Wes Gillatt) was born at Meota, Saskatchewan, Feb. 19, 1929; as a baby in arms with her parents, Roy and Anna Louise Boutilier, older sister Anna Louise, and two brothers, David and Leaman, moved to the Sandhill Farm, 2½ miles east of Richard, in August of 1929. Her brother Leaman died in Dec. 1929. A sister Ida Mae, was born at Richard, June 4 1930. In 1937 the Boutilier family moved into the village of Richard. Charlotte attended Richard School for ■ years graduating June 30, 1948. The first week in July of that same year, Charlotte entered the Normal School in Saskatoon for the last 14 week crash program ■ instruction for teachers which had been used to help alleviate the teacher shortage caused by the exodus of so many young men and women into the Armed Forces.

Wes Gillatt family (25th Anniversary — Aug. 8, 1978). (l-r) Gerry, Sandra, Wes, Charlotte, Cathy, Susan and David.

Although Lilac and Richard are only 7 miles apart, it wasn't until Charlotte was teaching the 1949-50 school term at Badger Bluff that she and Wes had the good fotune (?) to meet. They were married in the Richard United Church, August 8, 1953.

Their first home was a house Wes had built in the yard of his parents (S.E. 5-43-13 W3rd — where the Semple Bros. homesteaded and had built a two storey house). It was a 4 room bungalow, 24' x 28', with a full basement and a cement cistern for soft water, with electricity but no plumbing. Much of the lumber in their house had come from the F. Gillatt house on N½ 33-42-13 W3rd. While living in this home their five children were born.

David — Dec. 10, 1955 — licensed Electrician, Feb. 1978.

Sandra — April 12, 1957 — Registered Nurse — August, 1977.

Gerald — October 16, 1958 — Grade XII graduate June, 1976, now farming with his father and uncle (Gillatt Bros.).

Catherine — Jan. 3, 1962 — Grade XII graduate June 30, 1979. U. of S. College of Education.

Susan — Nov. 1, 1965 — Grade IX student at Maymont Central.

Following the death of Wes's parents (father May 30, 1970, and four weeks later his mother, June 28, 1970), Wes and Charlotte and family moved into the Semple house, December 19, 1970.

Sometime after Cliff and Ida were married in 1956, ■ was decided that a second outhouse was needed. So one Saturday morning Wes and Cliff loaded on to a truck the "Biffy" from the old place and headed for home through Lilac. As they passed in front of Mabey's General Store the outhouse fell off. Mail morning, too! Life's embarrassing moments.

■ early days prairie fires destroyed all in their paths, taking no pity on man or beast. They too, experienced fires. In the last ten years many fires were started along the railroad right-of-way when grass along the track was ignited as a freight train passed by on its way west. The Harold Pains, Joe Moffatts, Alwyn Ebachs and Pete Wood yards were all threatened at one time or other. Gillatts yard was threatened once, when the fire came across the stubble on Grant Reid's field. In all cases only quick action by neighbors prevented a disaster. Lilac itself could have been wiped out. A C.N.R. work crew had been burning debris along the spur line and had gone home. Later that evening a pile of ties were noticed burning. Apparently the fire had travelled through the undergrowth. That was one work crew who had very little sleep that night.

Putting in fence posts with a tractor-driven post

driver is a vast improvement over doing all the work by man power. In June of 1971, while using a post driver, Wes had two fingers of his left hand smashed. The driver was accidently released when he was lining up a post. It could have been much worse as he could have had the whole hand smashed.

Many changes have taken place in their 26 years of marriage. In 1953 J. Gillatt and sons farmed 5 quarters. This has now increased to 15 quarters and 80 acres (1954 — 3 quarters from Mike Kormish; 1964 — 5 quarters and 80 acres from Clarence Reid; 1974 — 2 quarters from Albert Foulston). All farm machinery is larger and more powerful. Horses are not used anymore not even for winter chores since they purchased their first snow tobaggan. Deep well water is pumped by an electric pump — jack and carried to the livestock by a pressure system and heated water bowls. Since their home is now heated by a propane furnace it is no longer necessary to saw and pile wood, nor haul in a winter's supply of coal. A Silage Co-op with Gillatt Bros., Ralph Rafuse, Ray Ruzesky, Bill and Walter Jess was formed in 1965 to enable the production of nutritious green feed for the livestock in winter. Steel machine sheds and granaries are used for storage. They now use heat bulbs for brooding chicks instead of an oil brooder. They used to haul their year old laying hens to North Battleford to be sold live; then for a time they butchered them all at home and had to hand pluck them all; now four families (Harold Pains, Walter Buziaks, Elsie Belerle McIvor and Gillatts) own an electric plucker and in just one morning 100 or more birds are made ready for the oven. Since 1969 a milking machine has been used to speed up milking and eliminate the "hand work". Now they are one of the few district families who still milk cows and keep laying hens.

Changes have come in the house, too. A deep freeze in 1954; their first refrigerator in 1957, T.V. in 1956, electric clothes dryer in 1968, running water late in 1961, a propane "gun control" propane furnace, a microwave oven and a dishwasher, easy care carpeting on most floors except kitchen and bathroom.

Both Wes and Charlotte have helped in the community. Wes has been actively involved in sports especially softball, curling, broomball, oldtimers hockey, and golfing. He was a member of the original LILAC SOFTBALL team. He was the municipal councillor for Division 3 of the R. M. of Douglas No. 436 from July of 1962 until December, 1974. In 1967 he received the Centennial Medal for his work as a councillor. He has been on the executive of the West Side Snow Plow club, Lilac School Board, Lilac Wheat Pool Committee, Lilac Community Club, and together with Charlotte was one of the directors of the Speers Old Time Dance club. He was the Douglas Municipal representative on the board of Directors when Glenburn Regional Park was started. In the fall of 1966, Wes started a school bus route for Lilac pupils commuting to Maymont Central School. Later when Wavle Bank school closed the route was altered to pick them up also. He is still driving the bus.

Charlotte taught Lilac School the 1954-55 term; also a Sunday School teacher in Ruddell until the United Church there was closed in June, 1966. She has been a 4-H leader for eight years five years of which she was the General Leader of the Mayfield Multiple 4-H Club. She was a member of the Richard W.M.S. and later the U.C.W. at both Richard and Lilac. She is now on Mistikwa Community College Board, and Maymont Library Board. She is Secretary of the Lilac Ladies Guild and has been named to the "Lilac Celebration Saskatchewan Committee".

The first 50 years of Saskatchewan history was a growing process and the last 25 years has been a rearranging, a declining of rural families and community life as well as a swing to centralization and urbanization. The Lilac store, Post Office and Ruddell United Church closed in 1966 and their School closed in 1971, then their elevators were closed and soon there was no train service at the Lilac Station. There has been a gradual move to more straight grain farming.

The telephone System has gone to 24-hour Direct Dialing; telephone wires are buried and many fence lines have been removed. Many electric or mercury vapor "electric eye" yard lights are visible all hours of the night. Many of the conveniences that we take for granted would have been real luxuries to our parents. What changes will the next 75 years bring?

Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Gillatt

written by Mrs. Ida Gillatt

Clifton Percy, third son of Frank and Olive Gillatt, was born April 15, 1928 at Lilac. He received his formal education there and in Ruddell. Miss Annie Lewis was his teacher for years.

Ida Mae Boutilier was born June 4, 1930 at Richard and went to school in Richard. In 1949 Ida attended Normal School in Saskatoon and in the fall of 1950 began her teaching career at Prolific S.D. — north of Richard. Following two years at Prolific, she taught in Richard, Battleford Central, and Spinney Hill.

On August 4, 1956, Cliff and Ida were married in Richard United Church with Rev. Myers officiating.

Cliff had moved the house from the Mike Kormish farm in the yard of his parents; Cliff and Ida lived there until the fall of 1976.

Cliff has taken an active part in sports all of his life. Playing softball at school, then for the Lilac Men's team. In 1951-52 he and Wesley played for the Saskatchewan Hospital in Provincial Competition. In 1951 they lost in the Northern final whereas in 1952 they lost in the Provincial final.

In following years Cliff played for Maymont, Mayfair, Ruddell and Richard Oldtimers.

Baseball was always a love of Cliff's. He played for Mayfair and Maymont for several years. Then in 1977 and 1978 he joined the Twilight (everyone over 35)

Cliff and Ida Gillatt.

playoffs with North Battleford. In 1977 they played in the Provincials in North Battleford and Assiniboia in 1978.

Curling started in Lilac in 1946 with the erection of a one-sheet Curling rink. Since that time Cliff has been an enthusiastic curler and especially enjoys competitive curling. ■ four different years the team he was with were able to go ■ Zone, Northern and Provincial playoffs.

1962: Mike Katerynych, Cliff, Harold Pain, —
1972: Bob Legoffe, Jack Rowley, Cliff, Al Stade.
1973: Doug Scott, Vern Bannerman, John Kaberoff, Cliff.
1979: Ed Zawada, John Saranchuk, Cliff, Les Moffatt.

Ida continued to teach school, after marriage, and taught at Ruddell and Maymont. Now she substitutes at Maymont when required. She has also taken part in Richard Women's Missionary Society, Lilac U.C.W. and Lilac Ladies Guild.

Ida was a 4-H member during her school years, later she acted as Camp Hostess at North Battleford Farm Girls' Camp, then taught sewing for several years. Now her main interests are the Richard W.I., Embroiderer's Guild and Lilac Ladies Guild.

Ida also enjoys sports and she is a member of the Battleford Ladies Curling Club. In the winter of 1955, while curling with Mr. Leslie of Battleford, they laid an eight-ender.

Farming has been their way of life, a life they both enjoy. There is a lot of hard work involved but there is always variety and sometimes a lot of laughs. These laughs are the result of unwanted visitors — SKUNKS! They usually put in an appearance when the chickens are running loose and especially when they start ■ lay eggs. They also usually appear after dark and the result is a nocturnal hunt.

■ the fall of 1976, Cliff and Ida moved six miles north to the Russell Reid farm where they had built a new home. Therefore for the last while their time is spent finishing the house and working on the yard.

Mildred (Mohler, Scrivens) Glass

Some of Mildred's childhood memories:

It seemed that very often men from the British Isles or Europe were sent out from Maymont to help Dad on the farm. These men carried on very interesting conversations with Mom and Dad and they shared goodies with us children such as sweets in tins, preserved ginger in squat ginger jars, or chestnuts to roast in Franklin's "fort" fireplace. Then there were the two men who painted saucer-size bright red spots on our old white horse so they could join the parade. And too, there was the one who climbed up on the roof of our house to pour salt down the stovepipe that had caught on fire.

One of the earliest memories dates back to the day Marguerite was born. Bessie, who was helping Mom those days, took Mildred to Schmidts for the day. And though Mildred recalls the excitement of having a baby sister her most vivid memory is of a muskrat with that strange tail which Mrs. Schmidt showed her. Twice Mom took her young family to spend some weeks on Grandpa's ranch ■ Montana. Alice and Mildred had many ways of amusing themselves such as collecting snakes' rattles, testing "soap holes" by sticking in fingers to see how far they would be pulled down, or skating down the creek to a favorite resting place where they sat on old "Macroni and Cheese" two ranch horses that hadn't survived the winter. They also learned not to chase the goldfish around the bowl with a long lead pencil or to feed them bits of oleander leaves. I think, out of self defence, and even though they were very young Mom taught them to embroider, knit, crochet and even tat.

Other memories of childhood were the dresses Mom made for her girls. And since Mildred's birthday is in June she had many birthday parties. One in particular stands out. The men unloaded the hayrack in the yard. Mom wove leafy branches into both ends and arranged tables in the centre. Soon the young guests arrived all bright and shining with their gifts of yards of shimmering satin hair ribbon and bottles of "perfume". Remember old Major, the shiny brown horse, that took all the children to school? Dad made a skating rink on the croquet grounds every winter. And ■ made a flat-bottom boat which he named the Marguerite. Many children from town came out to pole the boat around the slough north of the house. And Franklin and Dad made a tennis court which the family was expected to keep in shape.

Some of Mildred's memories of days at the old Maymont School:

Each spring there was the excitement of a paper-chase. The "hares" with school bags stuffed with bits of paper slung over their shoulders were given a head start. They were quickly out of sight behind the bluffs leaving an exceedingly scant paper trail. After a few minutes the "hounds" followed. Once the children were out of sight of the school they slowed down, everyone relaxed. Some brave enough to risk itch went swimming in the sloughs. Others picked wildflowers while still others enjoyed a snack. After an appropriate length of time had elapsed all returned to the school only to find that some of the more conscientious "hounds" had indeed caught some of the slower "hares".

The basketball court was some distance north of the old school. There the girls spent their noon hours in energetic play. When Miss Neale left Wm. Reid's house all play stopped. Though many years before it became so popular, Miss Neale jogged ■ the way down that little path to the school. And ■ order to cover twice the distance the girls sprinted.

Those were the horse and buggy days. And that could be exciting too. In the mornings the drivers would position the vehicles facing the wide school gate. As the hands on the big clock approached four o'clock desks were cleared, homework was gathered and everyone prepared for a quick exit. Once out of the schoolrooms everyone getting a ride rushed out and climbed into the vehicles, all except the persons who held the horses heads and the ones who fastened the traces. That done with a whoop and a holler they too jumped on the rig as the excited horses raced for the gate. Once through there was a sharp turn onto the road toward town and here the race continued slowing down as they approached the tracks. Though two vehicles sometimes tried ■ go through the gate at once, sometimes on two wheels; and in the winter a sleigh box was known to roll, to my knowledge no one was every hurt.

Before some of the girls were old enough to become C.G.I.T. they formed a club which they named U.A.D. "Up and Doers". Miss Merrill, a favourite teacher, helped design a club ring which the jeweller made for the members of sterling silver and heavenly blue enamel. Mrs. Giffard and Mom helped the girls make their uniforms which consisted of "bloomers", white caps and blouses.

Later most of the girls joined C.G.I.T. Mrs. Blacklock was one of the leaders. One summer holiday when no leader was available to take the group ■ the lake for camping Mom offered and thanks to her we didn't miss our annual outing. Those were the days when we learned to swim, row a boat, learn water safety and to take our turn at K.P. Even in those days "doing your own thing" was sometimes attempted. Like the time the two girls, who were cooks for the day couldn't agree who should peel the potatoes. So they comprised deciding ■ boil them with their jackets on. However the whole operation took considerable time since neither girl was prepared to scrub those potatoes and they were forced to change the water a couple of times when it became somewhat muddy.

Mildred attended Bedford Road Collegiate and Saskatoon Normal School. Her first school was in Bapaume. A brand new school; a janitor; a low salary but a cheque every month; Annie Reid as sponsor; Mr. Osler, who had worked for Dad, as secretary of the school board; and Rex Ferris, brother of Mildred's special friend, as superintendent. She had it made.

In 1936 Mildred married Bill Scrivens, brother of Alice's husband Ted. In 1940 Dale was born. Bill was president ■ North Rosetown Telephone Company and a steward for the United Church in Rosetown. He had a fatal heart attack in 1956.

Mildred returned ■ the classroom in 1959 when she began teaching her friends' children at Camberly School. She taught there for seven years spending her summers taking university classes and travelling. In 1966 she began her work with the mentally retarded. The eight years she taught at the Opportunity School were very demanding but vastly rewarding.

■ the meantime Dale had earned his B.A. and Law Degree at the University of Saskatchewan where ■ met Marlene LeBoldus who was taking nursing. They were married and set up housekeeping in Regina. Dale articled with MacPherson, Leslie and Tyerman and a few years later became a partner in the law firm Koch, Bertram and Scrivens. Marlene and Dale have one daughter, Laura, and three sons — Mark, John and Paul.

■ 1966 Mildred and Frank Glass were married. Frank retired from his work with the Department of Highways in 1973. In the following spring Mildred retired. Frank is active as a member of the Vestry, a founding member of the Museum and Art Centre here in Rosetown and he spends many happy hours in his dark-room as an amateur photographer. On fine summer mornings you may find both Frank and Mildred with friends on the golf course. For perhaps twenty years Mildred taught Sunday School pupils. For six years she was Provincial Secretary for the Homemakers. Having been president of the Rosetown Red Cross she continues in that line by assisting with the local blood donors clinics. Both she and Frank continue to work with the handicapped at the workshop, organizing special recreation. She wishes there were more time to spend at her potter's wheel and at oil painting.

Over the years Frank and Mildred have travelled to many parts of world; to Hawaii, Fiji, New Zealand, Australia, the British Isles, Europe, five countries, in Middle East, five countries in the Orient, South Africa, Brazil and Cuba. They have toured Canada from coast to coast and each summer they go junketing around Saskatchewan in the camper van. All the while they take slides so they can share their experiences ■ a

small way with school children, church groups and various clubs.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Gollan

by Alice ■. (Gollan) Hill

Thomas Gollan was born in Lucknow, Ontario. Because of reason of health he came West in late 1905.

He took up the dealership of Frost and Wood Machine Company, travelling for this company until he took up farming four miles west of Fielding ■ 1907. He met and married Mary Dietz in 1907 who had previously lived in Manitoba. From this union five children were born. The eldest passed away as a small baby.

Alex, the eldest born on the farm where he lived, helped with farm work at an early age. He was interested in mechanics and carpentry of which he has done quite a lot.

Thomas, the second to be born, on the farm, was interested in all to do with farming, animals, etc. He served in the Second World War overseas for five years. Some years later, after being sent home ■ farmed. Ill health necessitated him being hospitalized ■ the Veterans' Hospital in Saskatoon where he passed away April 4, 1979.

Alice who was born on the farm lived at home until September, 1938. She moved to White Rock, B.C. She took up nursing becoming a Licensed Practical Nurse. She nursed fifteen years on Surgical and Intensive Care Unit. She married in 1939, lived on a dairy farm and raised four children. Two daughters are Registered Nurses. Two sons are Heavy Equipment Operating Engineers. She has five grandchildren and is now semi-retired.

John, born on the farm, was interested in farming and livestock. He is now living in North Battleford, retired because of ill health.

Most of the children were delivered by Doc Scratch, the older ones by ■ doctor in Radisson whose name I can't remember at this time.

Early days were ones of hard work and many set backs for our parents, but in the spirit of true pioneers they kept on looking ahead to better times. Their means of living were mixed farming, grain, livestock, shipping cream, chickens and hogs. Their mode of travel at that time was horse and buggy or wagon. Many years later we acquired ■ Model T Ford which in those times was ■ big thing.

We were all educated at Calais School and had ■ varied amount of teachers.

The friends and neighbours were close-knit, always ready to help one another in any way possible, which I don't think we will ever forget. They were happy days in spite of the hard work; days in which everyone made their own pleasure and all joined in. A spirit in which, in many ways is lost in many parts of the country and I think the world in general.

Dad passed away March 17, 1944 after quite a few years of ill health at the age of seventy-two years. Mother and the boys moved to Marshall, Saskatchewan to take up mixed farming. Mother passed away February 10, 1969 after a long period of ■ health. She was eighty-one years of age.

Memories of Early Days

Lillian (Sherman) Gould

I was born on a farm near Fielding, Sask. in 1916. My father came to the prairies in the early 1900's and my mother came in the spring of 1910. My early recollections are of very cold winters and ■ was always a relief when the warm spring sun came out and the snow disappeared. Later when I was about 11 we moved to ■ new home then we did not mind the cold winters so much.

Most of my school days were spent at Calais School except for two or three months that I went to Beckwith School just before we moved to our new house in 1927. I managed to get through grade 8 and then took three years high school with the help of the Government Correspondence course and ■ very good teacher we had. While growing up we did not have all the advantages of children ■ the later years and sometimes felt quite frustrated because we could not do the things we would have liked ■ learn or do because we did not have the money or the facilities to do them.

I still remember quite well the depression years of the 1930's. I don't need to describe them as anyone my age will remember them. Toward the end of the 30's, (in 1938) about Sept. I came out to Vancouver, B.C. That brought quite a change in my life. Jobs were not easy to get but we managed and we did enjoy the milder climate and the ease of getting around and just seeing something different than the dust and dry prairies. It was quite exciting ■ me and my sisters as well to travel and start ■ new life.

I met my husband ■ 1939 and we were married two years later in 1941. We enjoyed working together building our home in Burnaby and lived in Burnaby for 36 years. We had two children, Kenneth and Sylvia who are both doing quite well on their own now. Kenneth is married and Sylvia is thinking about it. We have no grandchildren as yet.

While we lived ■ Burnaby we were quite active in our church and thus in the community as well. Just this June we moved out to Crescent Beach area of Surrey so have to start over again in meeting new friends and becoming involved in the community. My husband, Eliott took early retirement two years ago and we built this house starting last year. ■ is pretty well finished but there are things to do to keep him from getting bored for another couple of years. We hope to travel more in the next few years, but this will be our home till we can't look after it. We hope our friends will come to visit us here.

William and Rosetta (Paine) Gray Family

by their youngest daughter, Marion (May) Rogers

Bill, as he was known ■ his friends was born in Hamilton, Ontario in 1864, of Scottish parents. His wife, Rosetta, was born in England in 1870 of English parents. Rosetta came to Canada with her parents when she was a small child. They came from England on a sailboat, and the crossing took them six weeks.

In 1891 Rosetta and Bill were married at Uffington, Ontario and made their home for several years near Bracebridge, Ontario. Here seven of their children were born. Dad worked as a lumberman.

In 1906 Dad and Mother came west ■ Saskatchewan and brought the children, Rosetta, Malcolm, Robert, Roy, Jim, Emma and Marion (May). Later another son, George, was born on the homestead here in Saskatchewan.

My dad acquired a homestead located on S.W.¼-23-41-13-W3rd.

The first summer while Dad and the older boys built a shack on the homestead we younger children and Mother lived with a cousin ■ mine. Dad managed ■ break ten acres of prairie sod, with two horses and a walking plow that first summer. In his spare time Dad worked for the neighbors helping to build log houses and in the fall threshing grain.

L. to r. standing — Etta, Bob, Malcolm. Sitting — Dad, Emma on his knee, Roy, Jim, Mother, May on her knee. Taken just before we left for the west from Ont. in spring ■ 1908.

Dad was often called on to help on the Ruddell Ferry when extra help was needed. This ferry was located on the river south and west of Dad's homestead.

Once we were settled ■ the homestead it was necessary for the older children to find work away from home, so there was no more thought of school for them.

As there was no school in our district at that time, we younger children attended Maymont School when weather permitted. We had to walk five and one-half miles, so didn't manage to go very regularly. Dad rented a house one winter in Ruddell and the following winter in Maymont, so the younger children could attend school.

In 1917 Montro School District was formed. This school was located on N.W.¼-35-41-13-W3rd. Montro was a bit closer for us but we still had three and one-half miles to walk. We always had holidays from Christmas to the first of April, so school was open all summer. My dad was one of the first trustees on this school board, and I was one of the first pupils. I believe there were about eighteen pupils the first fall school opened. Some of the teachers I remember that taught at Montro while I attended were Maryadella Giffard, Phyllis Adamson, Hilda Foster, Gertrude Thibeault, Dorothy Chisholm, Mary Reekie, Mary Patterson and Olga Isaac taught just a few weeks as sub.

As the years went by Dad and my brothers acquired more land and in time all five sons married and settled in Maymont District.

My older sister, Etta (as she is known) married Ayton Moffat of Denholm. Ayton had a livery stable in Denholm at that time and later a hardware store. They later moved ■ Saskatoon where Ayton worked for the C.N.R. He retired and moved to Vancouver, B.C. Ayton passed away in 1966 but Etta still resides in Vancouver.

Malcolm, my oldest brother, farmed in the Ruddell District for several years. He married Clara Larson,

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Gray's 60th wedding anniversary — 1951. L. to r. — Malcolm, Jim, Emma, Roy, Etta, Mr. and Mrs. Gray, Bob, May, George, Mr. Myers, Mrs. Myers.

and they had three sons. Malcolm homesteaded S.E.¼-21-41-13-W3rd. On account of his wife's poor health they moved to Ontario, where he found work for a few years, later moving to Calgary, where he worked for C.P.R. Malcolm passed away in 1975. His wife and two sons predeceased him. His youngest son, Lyle, and two daughters live in Calgary, Alberta.

Robert married Vera Frondell, farmed for a number of years, have now retired and make their home in Maymont. Roy married Charlotte Coxsey (Nellie to her friends) and farmed several years. Roy homesteaded N.W.¼-15-14-13-W3rd. Roy and Nellie have two children. Roy was catcher for the Maymont ball team for years and is still an ardent ball and hockey fan. They have retired and also live in the village. Their son Kenneth, teaches school and their daughter, Delsie, is a nurse and now makes her home in Edmonton.

Jim married Wilma Winters, farmed several years and is now retired. They also live here in Maymont. They had one daughter.

Emma married Angus MacDonald. They had three children. Angus passed away in 1929 and Emma remarried to Arthur (Doug) Johnston. They now make their home in Regina. They have one daughter.

Marion (May) married Oliver Rogers in 1929. We farmed for four years in Ruddell District; then bought land northeast of Maymont and lived there until 1962, when we retired and bought a home in Maymont. We had two children. They are both married and farm near Maymont.

George, my younger brother, who married Freda Mikkelborg is still active in farming and lives one mile south of Maymont. Freda and George have a family of six.

Dad and my four older brothers were all members of the Loyal Orange Lodge. The highlight of our summer vacation was the picnic at the Maple Grove at Ruddell on the First of July, and the Orangemen's parade and picnic, on the Twelfth of July. We didn't always get to the Twelfth of July picnic, as it was sometimes held too far away for us to travel with team and wagon.

William and Rosetta Gray retired in 1935, and bought a home in Maymont, where they lived until mother passed away in October, 1953. Dad spent his last four years with his son, George, and wife, Freda, on the farm. Dad passed away in September, 1957.

We did not get to church very often in early years. After Mother and Dad moved into the village they both attended church regularly; and mother was a faithful member of the Ladies' Aid. Her specialty was knitting for the bazaar.

Mother and Dad lived to celebrate sixty-two years of married life, and in spite of many hardships I'm sure my parents must have endured through the early homestead years, they both lived to enjoy good health to a ripe age. Dad passed away at ninety-three years and mother at eighty-three.

Bob Gray History

written by Vera Gray

Bob and Vera were married in 1925. Bob came from Ontario with his parents, the William Grays. Vera came from Morris, Manitoba, in 1918 with her parents, Mary (Gunness) Frondall, who came from Brockville, Ontario, and Herman Frondall. He came from Stockholm, Sweden.

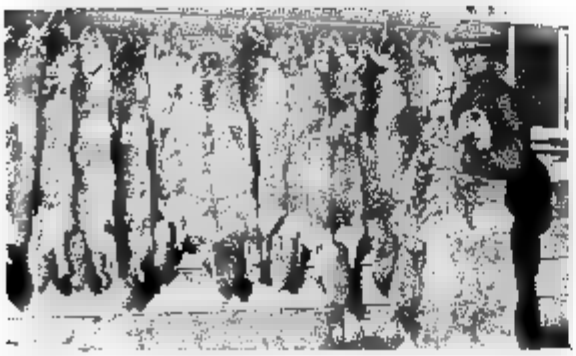
Vera came from Morris to Sonningdale in 1918 and lived there for seven years.

Bob had some interesting experiences crossing the river to visit Vera. He went over one spring for the week-end. The ferry was taken out and he had to drive around by Battleford with the team and buggy. It took him from 9 A.M. to 7 P.M.

They first lived about 4 miles from Maymont in a very large and cold house. It wasn't plastered inside on the upstairs floor. In those days the only insulation was tar paper. In the winter they used three or four rooms and had to keep three stoves going. It was a good thing Bob was a good wood cutter.

They had three children born there, Phyllis, now

Bob and Vera's wedding picture.



The spoils of the hunt!

Mrs. Wilfred Johnston, living three miles north of Maymont; Dorothy married to Craig Stewart in North Battleford; and Murray married Valerie Neill and they are living on the farm about a mile and a half from town.

The mid-wife was Mrs. Duncan McLennan and Mrs. Mansell from Sonningdale. Dr. Scratch was the attending physician.

They lived about a mile from the river and Bob hauled water for the stock from the C.N.R. pumphouse which was run by Joe Davidson.

As they were 4 miles from school the children had to be driven. In the winter they had ■ keep the road open pretty well by themselves, across the fields. ■ the summer the children drove themselves with a two-wheeled cart, drawn by a shetland pony.

Like everyone else they had their hard times in the 1930's. Bob had a new Model T when they were married, but later on there were a few years they could not afford to drive it, so they had a Bennett buggy made by Mr. Fry.

Bob liked trapping ■ the winter, which helped a little. One winter ■ got twenty-two coyotes and got $75 for the hides.

In January 1932 Bob was very sick with pneumonia and typhoid fever. The weather was very cold. They had two nurses, one for forty-two days and the other for twenty-five days when he needed twenty-four hour attention. Dr. Scratch was very wonderful. When ■ decided he would like another Doctor's opinion it was quite a thrill in those days to have Dr. Anderson fly from Saskatoon, by airplane and land in the field near the house. Luckily the snow wasn't too deep to get a clearing made.

In 1943 they moved nearer town ■ the William Melrose farm which they later bought. The house was smaller so they only used two stoves.

Murray and Valerie took over the farm in 1955 and Bob and Vera built a house in Maymont where they still reside. They have eleven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. They celebrated their 50th anniversary in 1975.

The George Gray Family

written by Freda Gray

George, the youngest son of the late Wm. C. Gray, is my husband. I, Freda Gray (Mikkelborg) came to Maymont District as a teacher for Montro School during the dirty thirties. Harry Skinner was the chairman, Roy Gray and Billy Pickford the trustees. I taught for six and a half years before taking over the job of a housewife. For twenty years I remained at home before starting to teach again for nine more years. Five of these were at Ruddell School. During those twenty years six children were born.

George Gray family, Dec., 1978. Back row — Norman, Keith, Tom and Gordon. Front — Maxine, George and Freda, Kathleen.

Gordon, son number one, was born in September, 1939. He has remained on the farm as a partner with his father. He married Donna Munn of Denholm and has three children Karen, Ian and Jason. He has been an active and successful, leader of the 4-H beef club since 1965.

Norman, son number two, was born ■ June, 1941. He became employed with the Sask. Power after getting his Grade XII. He married Lorane Geisbrecht of Ruddell and has three children — Brian, Christopher and Mark. Norman ■ still with the Sask. Power, now being a Gas Fitter in Meadow Lake.

Kathleen and Keith, twins, were born in March, 1943. Keith, like his brother, Norman, worked with the Sask. Power at first. They helped put up those high power towers that ■ through our land, across the river, on to Saskatoon and beyond. Keith married Sharon Bell of Nipawin. They have three children — Ricky, Reggy, and Leann. Keith now works at an Alfalfa Pellet Plant in Tisdale. Kathleen, the other half of that birth, and our first daughter attended a Business College in Saskatoon. After working as a receptionist for Dr. Palmer ■ N. Battleford for

several years she moved to Saskatoon. There she worked as a receptionist for a dentist and later on accepted a job in the University Hospital at the Admitting Office where she worked for five years becoming acquainted with many people and those on the staff. She married Gordon Moore of Speers and has three children — Bobby, Deanna, and Douglas.

Thomas Charles, son number four, was born in September, 1945. He worked for the Bank of Commerce in North Battleford for one year before deciding to continue his education and became a teacher. His first school was in Meadow Lake. He liked teaching very much so decided to get a school in Saskatoon and continue to work for his degrees. He taught eight years there at Albert, Queen Elizabeth and Buena Vista and succeeded in getting his degrees. He is now employed at a Meadow Lake School as Vice Principal. He is still a bachelor.

Maxine, the youngest of our family, was born in April, 1955 and is daughter number two. After attending a Business College in Saskatoon she accepted a job in the City Hall in the Treasurer's Office and has been there since 1975. She married Alen Scott of Fielding who is now working for United Drugs in Saskatoon. Alen excels in all sports.

Raising our family during the forties after the dirty thirties was a hard but rewarding struggle. Those really were the good old times. Our favorite sport in winter was being towed on skiis behind a sleigh or car sometimes.

George has worked hard all these years, clearing the land of bush, removing unbelievable amounts of stone and having flood dams and sloughs drained.

George and Gordon have a large herd of Hereford Cattle sprinkled with some Simmentals. This creates a great deal of extra work all year round. Calving time starting in March requires a twenty-four hour a day vigilance until spring work starts on the land. After the crops are in the cattle are all prepared for pasture. No little job! Then after the summerfallowing, starts the big job of haying. Several methods have been tried to make this easier. The first great improvement was the tall hay sling George made. By the hay fork grabbing into the hay and a team of horses hitched onto a cable on the other end the hay was lifted from the hay rack and swung over onto the stack in three or four good lifts. Next came the square baler and the bale loader. Stacking bales was a back breaker. The harvester was purchased. It travelled up the swaths of hay or straw grinding it up and blowing it back into the truck. But feeding the loose hay in the winter was the next difficult problem to overcome. A round baler has proved to be the answer. A front end loader with two long spikes on it handles the bales both for loading and feeding. A straw bale rolled out for the cattle is like a carpet for them to sleep on.

The work in the fields has also become easier but more expensive. With the purchase of bigger machines and expenses increasing, more land was required. First the Bill Reid farm was bought and later the Clarence Reid farm. George and I have made the latter our permanent home. Gordon and his family have a new home on the old family farm.

George is about ready to retire, I hope. He cuts and polishes stones for a hobby. He is very fond of fishing when he has time. I like painting pictures. Gordon is very handy with the welding machine. He made a smart looking cattle van last winter. He also has wonderful ideas in remodelling his rumpus room and building handy corners. Norman revels in making old discarded furniture into unbelievable articles of beauty. He also has good ideas for remodelling. Keith is somewhat like Gordon and Norman but has't produced anything out standing like they have yet. However, he and Sharon built themselves a lovely home. Kathleen, is the number one mother, housekeeper, and outside worker. Tom's life is his school children. He also is very clever at remodelling rumpus rooms. Maxine has many talents but swimming and water-skiing is her big thing. Animals are her weakness.

Timely Reflections
Wilma and James Gray
Elaine and Ron Nuthbrown

told by Wilma (Winters) Gray

A desire to leave the open prairie for a new area, led me to a rural school west of Maymont, January 30, 1926, into the lovely Saskatchewan River country.

As the train pulled away, I received a set-back to my enthusiasm though. Finding my luggage missing, except for the one small case I carried, my anxiety was eased when the agent, Mr. Fred Porter, was able to locate it by wire in Saskatoon. Mr. and Mrs. Malcom Gray, with whom I was to board, met me and we proceeded to their home. They and their two little boys lived a mile west of Montro School where I would teach.

I was then Wilma Winters, youngest daughter of the late Mr. Wm. George and Catherine Winters, who came from near Napanee, Ontario. In 1910 they had arrived with settlers' effects at their farm home five miles north of Viscount, Saskatchewan. I attended a rural school near our home and High School in the village. My teacher training was obtained in the Saskatoon Normal School.

Montro school, the modern cottage style, in operation seven years, was not too roomy for the twenty-six pupils enrolled. Allowing all across the front for entry and cloak rooms, one large corner for the "Waterbury", (not the real answer but a prayer for heat), the seating was too crowded. During cold or rain, playtime indoors grew quite hectic.

Rural schools, in general, had lack of supplies in every bracket. Montro was two years back on library grant, no playground facilities or craft material provided. Horrible thought today. These inadequacies were appeased by good quality blackboards of ample

Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Gray and Elaine — 1941.

size (a joy to a teacher), also a quite presentable organ (under the grime). After removing the nests of the furry invaders, repairing the pedal straps with binder canvas tape, we were set to sing.

By degrees supplies came and through dint of steady work the pupils began to show improvement. With only one convention per year to hustle up as many new ideas and methods as possible, lack of reference material in the school, the rural teachers needed to possess an abundant initiative and perhaps leaned heavily upon the basics — maybe not such a bad idea.

After the snow was gone and the slough supply was exhausted, water was at a premium. It was ironic that on the school grounds was a well with pump — very dry. A board having being pried loose the previous fall, still allowed the boys to explore the depths, a situation I soon had remedied. Some pupils carried their own drinking water, as the janitor supplied but one pail of water per day for washing and drinking.

Spring was so lovely, apart from slush, wet clothing and colds. The lush green poplars and dainty willows; song birds, many new to me; bush roses; warm sunshine; and at last a few hours to spend by the river. The air was heavy with the scent of wild fruit bloom.

Spring also brought the gophers — CASH to the pupils, for whom a stern law forbade capture of these creatures outside school grounds during school hours. Warm days brought the desire of some to return to their fall habit of dashing the quarter mile to Sam Nutbrown's home where the radio proved an exciting pastime at recess or noon hour — soon to be discontinued.

They were not difficult to discipline, though full of tricks — such as having to climb up to the roof top when the flag rope "oddly" tangled. After the "magic touch" of a neighbour, that rope slid neatly into place.

Mainly the children walked, six of Chas. Wood family drove some miles, while on occasion, four of the Skinner family rode on one horse. Their manner of mounting was unique — a leap, a handful of horse tail, foot on the horse's hock and each in turn, slid onto the horse's back.

Owing [redacted] Mrs. Gray's [redacted] health, in September I went to stay with Roy and Ellen Gray, living south and west of Montro three miles — they kindly provided a horse and buggy for my use. "Joe" was a nice driver, though given at times to shy at a tumble weed, partridge taking wing or a shadow, at which time he either took off like a dart, or made an off-the-road-side jump. One winter morning we had nearly reached the school (Joan McAllister was with me luckily) when a small rabbit startled Joe, who promptly landed in a ditch full of snow. Joan and I plunged in to release the harness, pulled the cutter back, then a snorting Joe, and soon we were off to school. We decided he was too well fed and needed more work, so trusty "Toots" took his place, now one had more time to admire the scenery.

I always enjoyed preparing Christmas programs, as did my pupils. In the case of Montro, it was a district half way between Maymont and Ruddell, as a result little visiting was done. It made me happy, that at the festive season friends and families met at the school. Santa with treats adding to the joy.

Dominion Diamond Jubilee celebrations were the main topic of conversation in 1927, Maymont was a centre of activities. Montro School was to portray "Alberta" in the parade [redacted] school floats.

All school grades entered into a thorough study of people, products, industries, then planned our float. To my joyful surprise an offer to assist us came from Mr. and Mrs. E. Wilmot. I'd heard of their interest and success with young people, so knew our project was away.

Malcolm Gray provided a large rack and drove his grey team. The central feature was the mountain scenery (devised and painted at the Wilmot's), with the large silvery "Prince of Whales Feathers" denoting his Alberta ranch, floating at the forefront.

Flags, certainly, whilst built out at the back, the float boasted an oil derrick.

All pupils, in suitably costumed groups were arranged on either side, a settler's family, lumbermen, gardeners, cowboys, miners with coal, Indians, farmers stacking hay and sheaves of grain, which Mrs. Wilmot and I selected from the stacks at the Roy Gray's and a tall Mountie to keep the peace.

Weather wise Dominion Day was perfect; a very large crowd to view the many entries in the parade, renew friendships, take pictures and enjoy the basket lunches. It was a distinctly exciting surprise when the school floats were lined up, to hear that "Montro for Alberta" was in third place. Each of us realized much honor and credit belonged to a good pioneer couple who had shared their time and talents with us in our endeavor.

From the end of January, 1928, I filled in a half term at a school south of Langham, while waiting to join the Saskatoon Public School staff in September, as a Grade I teacher. After rural school routine it was a pleasant experience — association with other teachers, supplies at hand, numerous advantages — then the depression years crept in. Overcrowded city homes, likewise our classrooms. The primary teacher and I were coping with about 50 pupils each, ill clad, ill fed, relief a pittance, nor work for fathers, sad for us to see learning ability lowered — very heartbreaking for parents.

Certainly it seemed best to [illegible] the country. My co-teacher married in August, 1934, going to live in Manitoba while I left King George School, December, 1934. After James Gray and I were married at Viscount, on a bitterly cold New Year's Day we returned to Maymont and rural living.

Our home for thirty-seven years was formerly that of Jim's parents. Sheltered by a fine tree belt, the house was located at the top of a lovely southern slope, commanding such a view as would have stirred the late Edna Jacques to poetry. Ravines so haunting in winter shadows, gorgeous in autumn foliages; the hills; a sparkling flash of the river; and the puffs of smoke which told us where our Spinney Hill friends lived. Mirages often appeared to bring the Eagle Hills into our neighborhood, even Baljennie, normally seen from our doorstep.

In season, if a good year, wild fruit grew in quantities, so many sealers could be tastily filled and lots to share. The cattle ate the berries, so did our collie dogs — one Laddie found Jim's pail, from which he had a good meal.

Naturally we knew dire times in the "Dust Bowl" era. Others may tell that tale — I have no wish to recall the strain, only to be thankful we survived it, though the scars remain. People were relieved when times became easier in the early 40's, though wages were low, employment scarce.

Happiness for Jim and me along the way had been the care and love for our little daughter Elaine, born in the fall of 1936, in Saskatoon — the event surpassing all others. Time slipped along — in 1942 Elaine was to start school in Maymont (4¼ miles). Thus began a twelve-year series of twice daily trips, except for the two winters she spent living in town, one with Grandma Gray and one at Uncle Roy Gray's. We used the car until too cold, then her Dad drove a team with a closed, heated cutter. It was a full day, yet we each managed some involvements in sport, church or community affairs.

Completing Grade XII in 1954, Elaine went to business college in Saskatoon, was married in December, 1955, to Ron Nutbrown. They live in Saskatoon with teen-age son Allan, and daughter Shelley.

Elaine, after five years of secretarial work, has preferred homemaking as a full time job. The family has found time for church activities and participation in sports, music, and community involvement. Ron is General Manager of Saskatoon Central Linen Supply, operated under the University Hospital.

Sadly, we had parted with Jim's mother in 1953, his father in 1957 after a long illness. My mother, Mrs. Winters, spent her last six years with us, no stranger to the district, she had many friends. She passed away in our home August, 1958, 96 years and 8 months, still an alert person.

We were once more able to help with the church, W.A., community affairs, etc. Work I so loved was as volunteer visitor to the Provincial Hospital, where I assisted with handicraft and music, plus just visiting, until arthritis forced me into a semi-retirement, gladly took it up again for awhile, but eventually found myself unable.

By degrees we had improved our home, insulation and brick siding in 1952; a cistern; then a pressure pump system after the electricity line was extended in 1956. A propane furnace was a 25th wedding anniversary surprise.

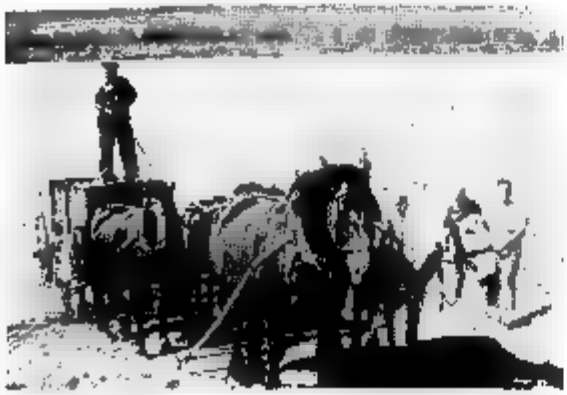
In 1968, Jim felt it necessary to sell the cattle because of labor and feed problems, but since Wayne Acaster, who owned the land west of us, purchased the herd we could still watch them roam and graze the hills.

In the early spring of 1972, Jim's health was not up to par, nor was mine, so when a home in the village was available we purchased it, and sold the farm to Bob Johnston. While having the village house renovated and enlarged during August and September, we lived in Roy and Ellen's home — they were visiting their daughter in New Brunswick.

We are nicely located here but — the view from the windows or door step still lacks the rural beauty — no sound of spring run-off roaring along, ice crunching in river break-up, and so much more. No one need be surprised to find us driving on the river hills, where the sunset is so fantastic, or across the river to gaze back upon our northside hills and dwellings.

Roy and Ellen Gray

William Roy Gray and Charlotte Ellen Coxsey were married on a Wednesday afternoon, January 20, 1926, in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. After a few days in Saskatoon, they came back to take up farming on a homestead and half section of land purchased from Henry Ross. This farm was to be their home for forty-three years. It was located one mile south and four miles west of Maymont. Their worldly possessions consisted of three cows, two calves, six horses, a trunk full of miscellaneous articles that Ellen had made or collected, the above mentioned homestead and a log cabin to live in which had been build about 1910 by Roy's father Bill and Mr. John Reid. With these, their lives began together and with their combined desire to work, laugh, and struggle, their domain began to grow. Life had many hardships and also great rewards.



Roy and Nellie drawing water from the North Sask. River.

The first few years were devoted to breaking sod, growing a garden, preserving fruits, vegetables and meats. The fruits were mostly wild gooseberries, raspberries, saskatoons, pincherries (which often took a whole afternoon to gather a small pailful), chokecherries and cranberries. Pigweeds, in the spring, were often used for greens. [redacted] was a constant challenge to increase the herd of cattle, swine, fowl and horses so as to cope with the increasing land acreage and the desire to have more cream to sell and meat to sell and eat.

Then on September 6, 1928, a son Kenneth was born at their farm home. He was delivered by the well-known Dr. Scratch in addition to Mrs. McLennan a nurse and midwife, who had to be brought up from Saskatoon by train. He was a healthy young lad and continued to be [redacted] until he contracted typhoid fever about the time of his fourth birthday. There was much anxiety over his recovery as he developed a raging fever which lasted many days and nights. Dr. Scratch made several visits to the farm home to see this child and had given up on any hope of recovery; however, Roy and Ellen never gave up hope. Roy would work the fields all day taking off the crop with the horses and binder. In the evenings, he would drive five miles with a horse and buggy to town in order to secure ice from Mr. Tiffen to help combat his son's fever. Ellen sat by his bed night and day sponging him, feeding him water with an eye-dropper, and undoubtedly doing a bit of praying. Finally, one morning [redacted] opened his eyes and whispered, "Mom". His fever and delirium had left him. He was on his way to recovery. The same fall, November, 1932, Roy and Ellen had a daughter, Delcie. She was also delivered in the farm home with Dr. Scratch and midwife, Mrs. Andrews, in attendance.

The following several years rushed by, filled with a lot of hard work and little free time. During the winter months, the cattle and some of the horses were kept inside so there were barns to be cleaned each day, a water hole to chop out each morning in the nearby dam so they were able to get a drink, straw to be hauled into the barn for bedding, hay to be brought in for feed, plus grain to chop for the pigs and chickens. Then as wood was used for heat and cooking, there were dead trees in the ravines to be chopped down with a hand axe, trimmed and piled in order to be hauled up to the farmyard in the spring, all [redacted] sawed again by hand into short lengths to enable them to go into the fire boxes of the stoves. Later on, as the gas engine came into existence, the engine driven saw was used to cut all the wood up in short lengths. This was done in one day by a bee of men (usually brothers and neighbors). During the summer and fall there was the land work to be done which was a slow process when done with horses. When fall came, large threshing crews would go from farm to farm to thresh the grain. This large group of men took many hours of baking and cooking by Ellen to keep them all well fed. She was a great cook and it is possible that they sometimes stayed a little longer than necessary due to the delicious food.

The days work began at five in the morning and did not end till dark. Ellen milked eight cows by hand, mixed her own butter, baked the bread, preserved, set all the old hens in small coops until the eggs hatched (she usually built the coops by herself from old apple boxes), fed pigs and kept a well weeded garden. These chores were accompanied by the preparation of three large meals every day and the weekly wash which was undertaken with a scrub board and washtub. When these tasks were completed there were usually potato bugs that had to be picked off the plants by hand and destroyed. The one time the garden was found in poor condition was in the year the army worms marched through the area, eating all the garden greenery in sight.

One of the highlights of the farm life was Ellen's freshly fried chicken. It was caught, killed, plucked and cleaned in the morning, then fried in cast iron pans at the back of the wood cook stove all afternoon. That was chicken that really tasted like chicken!

An important activity on the farm each week was

drawing water from the North Saskatchewan River. It was to be used for washing and watering some of the livestock. This tank was filled by hand with Roy and Ellen pailing from each side. Then it was drawn up the river hills with two teams of horses.

It was not all work and no play. Ellen took great delight in knitting, crocheting, tatting and sewing. She also enjoyed making great feasts of taffy on snow during the long winter evenings and homemade ice cream on summer Sundays which was often enjoyed with relatives and friends. Roy got his enjoyment out of playing hardball with the Maymont team from 1916 to 1947 during which he was their catcher. He often recalls some excellent pitching done by Mr. Mike Doil, Albert Hickman, Ross Arnold, not to mention some impressive coaching done by Mr. John Blacklock and Nathan Friedman. He also enjoyed playing hockey in the winters of his younger years, eventually turning to curling when he grew a little older.

After World War II in 1945 both rural and urban economy seemed to improve. Mr. James, a neighbor, had a sale in 1944 at which time Roy and Ellen bought their first car, a 1944 Model T Ford. (Gosh, this was a wee bit of heaven). They could now make a few occasional trips to North Battleford to the Exhibition. In addition the trip to Maymont took only fifteen minutes instead of the hour by horse drawn vehicles. Then a new barn, double garage and ice house were built. The ice house was filled with ice blocks cut out of the North Saskatchewan River which were covered with straw and utilized to keep milk, cream, and other perishables cool during the summer months.

About this time (1946-47) Kenneth, their son, completed grade twelve and after a brief ■ of farming with Roy decided to take up teaching as his occupation. Thus, ■ left home for further education in Saskatoon.

■ 1949 a new Fargo truck was purchased. It was a real joy for hauling grain and travelling in on the way to church, picnics, sports days, and other activities, which took place ■ the nearby area. Farm work was also beginning to modernize quite quickly in the 1950's. Roy and Ellen purchased a tractor to replace the horses and a combine to replace most of the threshing machines work.

Their daughter, Delcie, graduated from grade twelve in 1951 and left home to train for a nurse at Saskatoon City Hospital.

They continued to farm until 1969 at which time they owned seven quarters of land, some worthwhile pieces of machinery, and a nice herd of Hereford cattle. They sold and retired in the Village of Maymont in the old Dolden home just west of main street. Since that time, they have enjoyed trips to Ontario and the Maritimes, a■ have celebrated their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary. That occasion took place in 1976.

The Gordon Gray Family

written by Donna Gray

In June, 1964, Gordon William Gray and Donna Marie Munn were married in the Third Avenue United Church ■ North Battleford by Rev. Bruce Wartman.

Our first home was the Frank Schaefer house ■ Ruddell. We rented the house for the summer months while Schaefers moved to the Meota area ■ take up their farming operations. As Gordon worked with his father, George Gray, on the farm, ■ drove back and forth ■ work from Ruddell.

Gordon Gray family Jan., 1979. Karen, Donna, Ian, Gordon, Jason.

In the fall of 1964 we bought the old Drug Store and Pool Room buildings, on the main street in Maymont next door to the DeLong Locker Plant, with intentions of demolition and salvaging lumber for a new farm home. We fixed up the Drug Store part to live in and during the winter commenced taking down the old buildings. ■ the process there were many folks stopping in with stories relating ■ "years back when". Some of the avid pool players would stop ■ to see if we found any of the special coins that must have dropped below the floor boards around where the tables used ■ sit. We were hoping to find some old papers or treasures but came up with very little.

The first addition to our family arrived on June 25, 1965. Karen soon became the center of attention in our family as she was the first grandchild on the Munn side and the only granddaughter on the Gray side.

As the summer passed, we made plans for the site of our future home at the farm. In the fall of 1965, Murray McIvor dug the basement. The cement was poured and the floor was nailed in place. We worked on the basement in all our spare time. After the New Year we decided we would live in the basement and save the expense of driving back and forth.

After we moved out of the Drug Store in 1966, Bob Bell, the ferry operator at the river decided to open a Barber shop and later a Sewing Machine Shop. Later

that fall Ron Milman purchased and moved the building to use it as a grain bin on his farm.

In 1967 we purchased the Bill Reid farm. At that time Gordon's brother, Keith and family, lived there until they moved to Tisdale where Keith is a foreman in an Alfalfa Pellet Plant.

The summer of 1967 was a very wet one as we remember quite clearly. We had some difficulty keeping dry with our flat roof which convinced ■ we better look into a top story. On November 17, 1967 our future home arrived ■ pieces to be put together like a puzzle. In three of the coldest days that winter the shell of the house was put up. For the next four months, with help from Stan Long, we worked like beavers nailing up walls and plastering seams. By March, 1968 we had moved upstairs.

On November 14, 1968 the second addition to our family arrived. Ian quickly grew into a fascinating playmate for Karen. Then April 16, 1971, Jason arrived on the scene. With Karen off to school that fall, Ian became greatly amused by the new baby.

In the spring of 1971 we purchased the Clarence Reid farm and Gordon's folks moved there so that there would be one of us at each end of the work.

Over the years our family has taken part in 4-H activities as Gordon is a leader of the Beef Club, curling, figure skating in which Jason won the McIvor trophy for the Most Improved Skater in 1975, hockey, swimming, and the latest sport — downhill skiing to which all of us take ■ fancy.

Let's only hope that the years ahead will be filled with as many pleasant memories as those in the past.

Richard (Dick and Flora (Bohn) Greenslade

Richard (Dick) and Flora Bohn were married in Maymont Sharon Presbyterian Church on October 15, 1919 by Rev. Schnell. They were the first couple to be married ■ this church. Flora came to the Maymont District at an early age and attended Grey School. She was active ■ the church as a Sunday School Teacher, Mission Band Leader and she belonged to W.M.S.

Dick and Flora lived on Dick's homestead, situated one mile south of Meeting Lake Store. Dick had lived there since 1908, except for the years he was over seas. When their new home was built on his Soldier Settlement Land they moved to it. This land was 5½ miles from Rabbit Lake. They named their farm "Lone Pine Farm".

They had five children, Harold, living at Maymont, Phyllis at North Battleford, Alder, Millet, Alberta, Ivy, Prince George, B.C. Morris died in infancy. Harold, Phyllis and Alder were married ■ Maymont.

In 1942 they sold their farm and lived in Alberta and B.C. In 1945 they bought the Royal Cafe in Maymont. Due ■ ill health they sold it in fall of 1947 and retired in Penticton, B.C. Dick passed away in May, 1965 and Flora moved back to Maymont. She later moved into River Heights Lodge, North Battleford and remained there until her death Oct. 16, 1973. Her funeral was held in Maymont United Church and she was buried in Maymont Cemetery.

Harold and Kay (Andrew) Greenslade

by Harold A. Greenslade

I, Harold Albert Greenslade, the eldest son of Dick and Flora Greenslade was born ■ Maymont at the farm of my aunt and uncle Herb and Teenie Johnston. I was raised and educated at Athelstan School of the Meeting Lake District.

As ■ kid ten years old, I remember different neighbors used to hold house parties consisting of card games in the smaller homes. In larger houses, we used to play cards till 11:00, then would have lunch and pull all the furniture aside for dancing until 2:30-3:00 in the

Greenslade family taken at a reunion, Sept., 1963 at Harold and Kay's home on the farm. L. to r. — Phyllis, Harold, Flora and Dick, Alder, Ivy.

Eva, Kay, Harold, Betty and Clifford, 1979.

morning. All the folks used to bring their children of all ages and after midnight they would put the younger kids on coats or blankets in corners. This took place just during the winter months and only once a month. (There were no telephones and very few radios). The music was supplied free by people attending the evening and consisted of violins, guitars and accordions. There was no liquor.

I left home when I was finished school. I worked on farms in the district and one winter at a saw mill. I also spent time building and repairing roads. When I was older and working on one ■ the farms I drove four horses, walked behind harrows ■ barefeet because I couldn't afford shoes, working from 5:30 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. and only got fifty cents a day.

I came to Maymont to work on many farms making my home with Mr. and Mrs. Jim Gray. Then I went to Edmonton, Alberta working at many jobs. When I left Edmonton I went to work for seven years with the Crescent Shows; homebase at Penticton, B.C. Also worked in Vancouver and New Westminster, B.C.

Came back to Maymont in 1951 where I worked and ran the old skating rink located then where the Senior Citizens low rentals are. Boy! Talk about snow that year. The next year went to North Battleford and worked in the Savoy Cafe for one year.

In June 1956 I started to work for Mr. Vanderhaegan ■ the hardware store. I worked there until 1959.

I married Josephine Kate (Kay) Andrew, the only daughter and the only child of Alfred and Dorothy Andrew, on September 23, 1959 in All Saints Anglican Church. The ceremony was conducted by Reverend Randy Wood of Colonsay. We lived for three and a half months ■ a rented house owned by Mrs. Jimmy Reid, located south of the present skating and curling rink. Kay was born in City Hospital, Saskatoon. She grew up on her parents farm and was educated in Maymont School.

January 15, 1960 I went to Saskatoon Sanitorium for nine months. Kay also moved to Saskatoon and for fifteen months worked at City Hospital.

May 1, 1961 we both moved back to Maymont where we rented Kay's dad's farm. We lived on the farm for two years.

Eva Joyce was born on February 20, 1962 in North Battleford Union Hospital. Kay's dad passed away January 1, 1963. The day of his funeral was a very mild day being ■ the 40's. The flowers didn't freeze over night and next morning they were beautiful with dew drops on them. The next day it turned cold and went ■ 40 degrees below zero and stayed very cold for the next six weeks.

In the fall of 1963 we purchased the Oliver Andrew house in Maymont. After remodelling it we moved in on November first but still farmed until 1969.

Centennial year 1967 our son, Clifford Lee, was born May ■ ■ Borden Hospital. Kay's mom passed away the day before in Borden after a lengthy illness of cancer.

That fall we remodelled and built on mom's house and moved in.

In 1969 the farm was rented to Wilfred Johnston and boys for a three year term. Then in the spring of 1972 Glen Boyd rented the farm. On January 1975 he purchased the farm.

■ March 1969 we purchased the Vanderhaegen Store and opened and operated a poolroom for four and a half years. During the summer we operated a store and cafe at Glenburn Regional Park from 1964-1974.

Betty Lynn was born January 20, 1969 in North Battleford Union Hospital.

For three years Roy Gray and I took over the C.N. Dray Business.

In the spring of 1975 I put a new roof on the old poolroom and July 17, 1975 we officially opened Greenslade's ■ & M Store of groceries, meats and hardware. Wholesaler of I.G.A. at this time of writing we are still in business.

In the spring of 1979 we took on the caretaking of the Memorial Hall which we had had previously from 1967-1969.

Since I have lived at Maymont I have been a member of the Board of Trade, time keeper for the skating rink when it was built ■ 1964, and fire chief for five years.

Kay's been very active all her life with church, community, former 4-H student and leader. Now she ■ a Sunday School teacher in the United Church, member of Rebekah U.C.W. unit and for the past 15 years correspondent for the News Optimist at North Battleford. In May 1979 she took on also reporting the Big Country Voice, a Hafford paper.

Eva ■ taking her Grade Eleven in Maymont Central School but is very active in the church, Sunday School teacher, C.G.I.T., 4-H member and now is the assistant librarian for Maymont Branch of Lakeland Library Region.

Clifford is in Grade Five, active in Sunday School, plays hockey in winter, is a 4-H member in Sportsman, and swims in the summer.

Betty is in Grade Four and ■ also active in Sunday School and Explorers. She figure skates in Maymont and in March 1979 won the Wendy McIvor Trophy for most improved skater 12 years and under.

The Life of Alex Green — From 1909

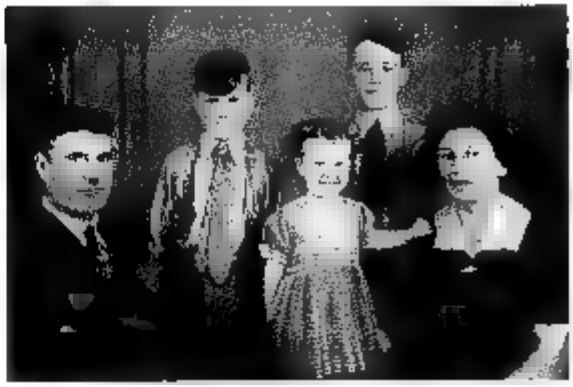
told by Alex Green

I was born ■ Lambton County, Ontario, Feb. 4, 1909. My parents were Joshua and Alice Green who were also born in Ontario. They had answered the cry of the west: "Go west, young man, you make more money."

They came west in 1912 to Fielding by train with a car load of machinery, horses, cattle and household effects. I, Alex, was just three years old, the youngest

Joshua Green with vegetables and cream, to sell in town.

Joshua and Alice Green.



Alex Green family, 1948 — Alex, Charles, Alice, Gordon, and Margaret.

of the family. The first year we lived in a sod house near Fielding. The next year Dad built a lumber house and building on the quarter section of land he bought four and a half miles N.E. of Fielding. Dad and the older boys cut logs all winter with a cross cut saw. Then in the spring they sawed them stove length by hand with the cross cut, and split them with the axe. Then the little boys helped pile it. At this time my oldest brother was over seas in the army, in the first World War. I started school in the town of Fielding in 1915. When I was still going to school I won a 22 rifle for getting the most Gophers in the municipality.

Dr. Scratch from Maymont was our Doctor and my mother helped him for many years as midwife. She also went on her own when necessary in the Fielding district. As far as I can remember I was still going to school early in the 1920's when a fire broke out in Shank's Implement Shop, then the Post Office went, the livery barn, Nelson Hotel. The strong wind from the west took it across the street to Gunn's General Store, then to Dickenson Store, Brickwell garage. All that saved the hall was that it had eave troughs and so the water was caught and reused. It seems to me there was a fire later when the Bank of Nova Scotia and some other buildings burnt. All they had for water was one well on the south end of the street. It was still there when I was in Fielding last.

Besides farming and milking cows Dad was a great gardener. Joshua Green and myself are both life members of Radisson Agricultural Society. Back in the early days in Ontario Dad had a fruit orchard, vegetable and flower garden. I still follow my Dad's foot steps and keep up the garden work but in a small way just for ourselves.

After thirteen years in the west, in the early spring of 1925, Dad passed away, age 64.

In the fall of 1925 Mother and I decided to go to what was later Carrot River. Mother filed on a quarter section of land. It was heavy timber at that time. The C.N.R. Rail did not come till 1930. I was too young ■ homestead so mother filed and held a quarter for me. Then we went back to Fielding. I went working where I could find jobs; in-between I cleared enough land so Mother could prove up. I did ■ with axe and grub hoe. We travelled up to N.E. Sask. with a team and democrat, took a stump puller to clear a spot for ■ tent. We were loaded; oats for the horses, groceries enough for awhile, horses with nose nets, us with netting over the top to try to keep the bulldogs and mosquitoes out a bit.

I got a house built for Mother on her homestead, but ■ 1929 she passed away at the age of 63 years. As I was next of kin I kept clearing my land ■ the summer and worked in the saw mill ■ the winter months. Then I got some machinery and got a little crop for a few years.

In 1935 I married Evelyn Morgan; we had two sons Gordon and Oliver. In Feb., 1945 Evelyn passed away. After two years in Oct., 1946 I married Margaret Bowthorpe. We had one daughter, Alice. We still lived in the same house I built for Mother back in 1928 up until 1953 when we bought a ten-room house and had it moved in. At that time Margaret's parents came up and lived in the little homestead house. It was still in the same yard. They lived there for seventeen years. Her Dad died in 1967 at the age of ■. Her mother still lived in ■ alone for the next three years. The last year we moved her ■ to our house as she needed a little help. It broke her heart to leave her little home although she knew ■ was better for herself and Margaret. She still cared for herself. In Dec., 1970 her Mother passed away at the age of ■.

There has been lots of water gone under the bridge since 1925. We got all the homestead cleared. It was just the last seventeen acres that I was able to get a bulldozer in and clear the stumps out. Then I was able to put the whole quarter in crop in 1947. In 1952 I got another quarter of bush land and started all over again. But this time I got a bulldozer and piler in. We still had to pick and burn the root piles for a few years. By this time the boys were through school and on their own. We still had the girl at home for eight years. She was much younger. By 1960 we had all the land in crop, that meant a half section to farm. Along with this we milked ten cows, kept ■ hundred hives of bees, was Government Apiary inspector for ten years. We had a large garden and fruit trees. This was a lot of work ■ the fall canning along with harvesting. ■ 1966 the girl finished school and went to Saskatoon.

In 1972 we had a sale and in 1974 we sold the farm and bought a new house in Carrot River where we still live. The family are all married and there are four grandchildren.

Now I sit and think of the days gone by when we first came to this part of Sask. ■ 1925, left the old farm at Fielding, headed straight east, crossed the Hepburn ferry onto Rosthern ferry then Melfort, Tisdale cross-country all the way. When we stopped at Rosthern we got the horses shod. They were getting sore feet. We bought some bread baked in a clay oven. It took us over a week to make the trip which was about two hundred and thirty miles.

The Fielding School had a good baseball team and the store keeper, Mr. Gunn, used to take us to all the Sports days at Borden, Radisson, Maymont, and Ruddell. Radisson was the only team that could beat us. We have been back to Fielding a few times. In 1968 we went back and I put covers on my parents, Joshua and Alice Green, and my brother Joshua E's graves. I have two brothers, Alfred and Arthur, a sister Daisy buried ■ Carrot River, a brother Robert in Ridgedale, Sask., sister Mae in B.C.

There ■ one brother, William, left in B.C.

The Gurney Story

by Betty Mohler

I am asked to tell the Gurney story. Where do I begin? It is not much different than that of hundreds of other pioneers. Keep it brief. Make it interesting!

They were both born ■ England; my father, Frank B. Gurney, the eldest of ten, my mother, Rosa Kingsnorth, the third ■ a family of ten. They met when Mother's eldest sister married a man from Daddy's home town about 1907 or '08. They became engaged in 1908 but were not married until January 20, 1914.

Like so many young people ■ that time they read the glowing accounts of life in Canada. "Make your fortune" in the new land. One hundred sixty acres for $10. "There was "no future" in the old land, jobs what were available were "dead end" positions. ■ in 1909 Daddy left for Canada to make his fortune. He worked on a farm ■ Ontario for one year and then came West.

Mr. Arthur Morris, farming near Denholm was ■ friend of my great-uncle in England, and Daddy came

Betty and Pete, the pet horse — about 1926.

to him. Mr. Morris came to Canada with the Barr colonists in 1903 and like many others decided to homestead on his own before they reached Lloydminster.

From Denholm my father looked for a homestead. I do not remember how it was that he settled on one twelve miles north of Ruddell, but that is where he settled. He built his homestead shack and broke the necessary land, working with neighbors as so many did to help one another.

Mother remained in England, waiting for the home to be built; Daddy's English pride would not let him marry until he had proved up the homestead. That is, he had to have a certain number of acres in cultivation, have a house and have lived there for at least six months for each of three years. Mother had a sister living near Strasbourg, Sask. and in 1912 she came to her. There they were married in 1914. They came by train to Ruddell and Mrs. Alice Christie was the first woman Mother met at Ruddell. Now in 1979 she and Mrs. Christie are both residents in the River Heights Lodge in North Battleford.

Mother did not know what to expect when she reached the homestead. Her brother-in-law had told her to expect a dirt floor. To her joy, but not surprise, she found clean boards and a roll of linoleum standing in the corner waiting for a warm spring day to lay it. That particular inlaid linoleum was to be moved several times and serve them for many years.

They had many bachelor neighbors and I think my father was proud to have them for Sunday dinners.

Three years went by before I arrived to "bless their home." Well, isn't that what little ones are supposed to do? I did not make my appearance without creating excitement anyway. Arrangements had been made for Mother to go to Nurse Taylors nursing home in North Battleford about the middle of February. At 4 a.m. February 1 Mother woke Father-to-be with the news that the stork was on it's way. (Remember when the stork brought babies?) The nearest phone was four miles away. A hasty horseback ride to phone for the doctor. The doctor came twenty miles with a livery team, on arrival he sent the team back to the city and decided to go with Mother to Lilac to meet the train. Lilac was a flag stop i.e. you waved the train to a stop. But it was foggy and the train did not see them; it kept on going.

Neighbors got fresh horses, warm stones, footwarmers, etc., and drove the doctor and expectant parents on another four miles to Ruddell. Mr. Tom Patterson was one of those friends and remembers the trip too. The thermometer was around 40 degrees below fahrenheit they tell me. About 24 hours after that horseback rider left home to phone for the doctor the maternity party boarded the train at Ruddell. At 10:30 a.m. Feb. 2 I made my entrance into the world. No wonder I was their only child!

The homestead was ten miles from Richard and twelve from Ruddell. Once every two weeks in the summer Mother drove a single horse on the buggy to one place or the other to trade butter and eggs for groceries. In winter Daddy did the driving.

I cannot leave those days without a word about our driving horse; Pete was a light sorrel with a silver mane and tail. His previous owners had taught him to come for a handful of sugar and he never forgot. Some days he was a perfect horse carefully missing stones and rough spots. He could find his way home anytime but if he should decide he did not want to go he would pretend to be lame or shy at the least little thing. Mother was equal to the occasion, she could and did give him a few well aimed strokes with the buggy whip when needed. If he was lame and she turned toward home he would trot out with ease; that just meant turn again and go to town! He lived a long and useful life that ended suddenly one day as he was running in the pasture playing, his noble heart stopped and Pete fell, a fitting end to a faithful, clever horse. I know he was not the only clever horse, no doubt every family had their favorite but he was the Gurney pet.

In 1923 they had a chance to sell the homestead and they decided to move nearer to town and to school. For four years they rented a farm a mile north of the Maple Grove southwest of Ruddell. I can remember when we lived there we would see sleighs crossing the river on the ice hauling grain to Ruddell from the Baljennie area before the railway, which now is closed, was built.

What a different town Ruddell was then, to now. I hope someone writes that story. Three elevators, a lumber yard, two general stores, a hardware and furniture store (as children we used to go there to listen to the gramaphone), a machine agency, bank, blacksmith shop, hotel (one or two years some millionaires from the United States stayed there for the goose hunting season), pool room and barber shop, telephone office (dear Mrs. Collins, the operator until the early 1940's was a second mother to all the children although she had a large family of her own), railway station, section men, a tennis court, and the church, manse and school. What a difference the years have brought to the small towns as people became more mobile! I am sure the younger people will think I am exaggerating. I forgot the Molsleys' eating house where the men who were hauling grain could get dinner.

In 1928 we bought the McNeil farm four miles west of Ruddell. I attended Harringay school, a typical one room country school. It was built in 1907 by and for the pioneers. Three generations of the Steele family were to attend it before it closed for lack of pupils. In the early 1930's there were 33 children in grades 1 to 10. Today I do not think there is one child in the district. In the 1930's when we had dances at the school we had 20 young people between the ages of 15 and 20. The school has since been torn down, the yard worked in with the rest of the field.

Those one roomed schools; in those I knew the

stove was at the back near the door. The stove pipes ran the length of the room to the chimney at the other end. The oldest boy had the job of lighting the fire, he often boasted of having the pipes red hot for several feet. I do not remember any fear of fire; our guardian angels must have been caring for us. Daddy was a trustee and secretary-treasurer of our school district for many years. First on the homestead, where he was on the school board when Ellastone school was built then at Harringay. Anyone who attended the country schools will remember the Christmas concerts. Near the end of November the teacher gave the parts to be memorized and we started ■ learn Christmas songs, plays, recitations, drills, and always a pageant depicting the Christmas story. The last period of the afternoon was used for practicing. Then a week before the concert a makeshift stage was built and wires strung for curtains, the curtains were often white sheets, sometimes special material. The night of the concert the desks were put outside and benches appeared for the audience. A tree was decorated for Santa's visit; gasoline lamps or lanterns were hung in the school for light. In those days schools did not have electric lights.

They bought the farm in 1928, ■ 1929 the bottom fell out of the economic world including farm prices. Then as the thirties went on drought came to the area and grasshoppers! We spread poisoned sawdust to kill them. We gathered what feed we could for the horses and cattle. Some of the stacks were mostly Russian Thistle and if you have never helped to handle that you do not know what prickles are. But the rains did come and life styles changed for the better.

In 1943 the young men were overseas in the services and teachers were in short supply. Seven years after I had completed my grade eleven by correspondence I went to Normal School in Saskatoon. By September, 1947 I had had the year at Normal, completed my grade twelve, two and a half University classes, taught two years at Grey School and one year at Richard. ■ November Franklin and I were married and I left the classroom for fifteen years. When I returned it was as a substitute teacher at Maymont for a few years.

Back to my parents. When I left home they gave up the cattle and gradually eased out of farming, first hiring some custom work and finally renting the farm. In 1955 they retired to Maymont. Their health was not good and in 1965 Daddy passed on. Mother lived with us for a year until there was a room for her in River Heights Lodge, in North Battleford. Never ■ large woman, never really healthy she never-the-less survived the pioneer years and today ■ 94 she alternately walks behind the wheel chair and rides in it when tired, still writes the occasional poem and generally takes an interest ■ the activities there. Their lives and mine involved the Lilac, Ruddell, and Maymont areas.

As I said, Franklin and I were married in Nov., 1947. We had a quiet ceremony at the United Church manse, Maymont, with the Rev. F. L. Myers officiating and our parents in attendance.

The next years were busy. Franklin took an active role in many organizations. He specialized in registered seed growing on the farm and we met many other farmers from many areas through this work. He was president of the Sask. branch of the Canadian Seed Growers Association for two years and then one of two Saskatchewan directors for the C.S.G.A. This gave us the opportunity to travel. Finally in 1973 we decided to retire to live in Maymont. The farm was sold and we retired but time does not drag.

Again turning the calendar back; Jean was born March 28, 1951. When she graduated from grade ■ ■ Maymont Central School she went to Saskatoon Business College where she took a Secretarial course. From there she went to work in the office of the eye department at the University Hospital.

In 1972 she married Bill Hajt. He had played Junior hockey for the Saskatoon Blades while attending high school and University. He was drafted by the Buffalo Sabres of the National Hockey League and now in 1979 they are living in Williamsville, New York, a suburb of Buffalo, with their two children, Angela and Christopher.

The Prairies

by Rosa Gurney

The prairies are where neighbors stand by,
Where no words are needed. To answer a call
Without hesitation, they come one and all.
A prairie fire, a house burns down,
In a matter of minutes they all gather round,
With ■ helping hand, a cheerful smile
Though some have travelled many mile.
They are there to help no money down
They are there to help without a frown
A case of sickness, perhaps ■ death
Nothing stops them while they have breath.

The Bennett Buggy and Anderson Cart

by Betty Mohler

The "dirty thirties" would be a story in themselves, one that anyone of our age could tell. The bottom dropped out of the economic world with the crash ■ Wall Street in 1929. Prices dropped rapidly; wheat down to twenty-five cents a bushel and even nineteen cents; eggs, five cents a dozen; butter fifteen or twenty cents a pound; a cow sold for ten dollars — the cow — all of it — alive! As if that was not enough, drought spread across Saskatchewan, drought, dust storms, grasshoppers. It hit southern Saskatchewan first and families discouraged by life there, loaded their belongings and trekked north to greener pastures. We saw families in old cars or trucks. We saw them driving wagons with their household goods and family, and leading their milk cow asking "How far to Meadow Lake? Are we nearly there?" How did you say, "Another 150 miles"?

An Anderson Cart, 1937. Horses show result of poor feed due to drought (note lack of tires).

Then the drought, dust, grasshoppers reached us. So little rain the grass turned brown, the leaves fell off the caragana hedge early. What crop there was, was too short to harvest in the usual manner. We cut it by any method we could to salvage it for feed for the livestock. Horses were worked for half a day only then turned into the sparse pasture to graze because the stacked feed would be needed to keep them alive during the winter. In the winter the government shipped in bales of hay and straw and rationed it out to keep the bare minimum of livestock living. The rest had to be sold for whatever you could get or killed. Imagine being able to see a gopher running through a wheat field. Gopher tails were worth one cent each from the Rural Municipality.

Eastern Canada, though suffering from the economic depression, realized that Saskatchewan people were worse off and shipped carloads (freight) of dried salt cod from the Maritimes (few knew how to use it) apples and cheese (both very good) to be given to the needy.

In 1938 in order to give some of the unemployed men a place to live for the winter the government offered a farmer five dollars a month to take the man and gave the man five dollars. Some were lucky and got the farmer's five dollars if the farmer did not have to have it for groceries.

Money was very scarce, unbelievably so! Many farmers, unable to afford to run their cars took the engines out, remodelled the chassis, put a tongue on and hitched on a team of horses for power. Because R. B. Bennett was prime minister at that time he had the dubious honour of having these vehicles called "Bennett Buggies". The others, whose cars had reached a more advanced age cut the car in two and having the seat and two wheels plus a team of horses named them after the premier of Saskatchewan at that time and called them "Anderson carts". It was 1937 that was the worst year for wide spread drought.

Yet we survived, the rains came again, crops and gardens grew and the economic situation improved. Unfortunately, the economic picture changed for the better in the first place when war broke out and no one could be happy about that. Men who had been unemployed because there were no jobs to be had were needed for the war effort and became heroes overnight.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Gustafson and Ruth and Lorne Thomson Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Johnson (Mr. and Mrs. Spence and Edith and Herman)

as told by Ruth Thomson

My parents, Ida and Dan Gustafson came to Canada in 1911 from St. Paul, Minnesota to homestead. They settled at Park Bluff. Money was scarce so Dad went to work for McMillan, owner of the sawmill at White Court, Alberta. Rather than be alone on the homestead my mother answered a "want ad" from Ruddell Hotel. Mother and I came off the morning train from North Battleford to be interviewed by Mrs. Spence, wife of the owner. She kept glancing at this busy year and a half old child and finally said, "I don't know if we can pay you twenty-five dollars a month with that baby." Yet Mrs. Spence showed her a room, told her to get into working clothes and come to the kitchen. Apparently all the doors intrigued me as I was enjoying

Ruth Gustafson, Bill Kennedy.

Left to right — Gordon Blair, Viola Abbott, Larry Collins, Ruth Gustafson, Walter Whitlaw.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Johnson.

myself opening and closing them. Finally Mrs. Spence added in her salty Eastern tone, "Now I'll need to hire someone to keep the doors closed." Many a laugh and jest resulted from these barbed remarks but it didn't deter from a lasting friendship being formed between Mother and Mrs. Spence which lasted through the years; each seemed to be there to help each other in time of need.

After Mr. Spence died Mrs. Spence married Charlie Johnson who had come west with the Spences. Charlie worked with the lumber company in Ruddell but before that I believe he ran the bar at the hotel. A roaring business was carried on in the bar and the dining room. Farmers from Sonningdale and Baljennie hauled their wheat across the frozen Saskatchewan River during winter to Ruddell Elevators. Many times Mother Johnson, my mother, and a waitress by the name of Cora (later married Warren Robinson) would serve as many as a hundred people at noon. I made a nuisance of myself by peeking through the swinging doors leading to the dining room. I was finally locked in my room during the peek hours.

Later when we were in Ruddell during winter months I attended the public school. Miss Duff was my first teacher there. She taught all grades. I thought it was something to see such a tiny person teaching big boys. She later married Mr. E. Reid.

One period that stands out vividly in my mind was the year of the influenza outbreak. I was the one of the first to be ill. I was well looked after but most important to me was the day Mother Johnson brought in a lovely doll for me. I often wondered how she had time to make its lovely clothes. Soon many people were coming down with the flu. The cooking kettle on the big kitchen stove seemed always to be simmering with chicken broth. Mother Johnson carried a pail of it to be served as she tended the sick in the village. At times the hotel was filled with patients whom my mother helped to look after. Dr. Scratch from Maymont was a frequent visitor to the sick in the Ruddell Area.

During these busy times George Negus, a war veteran, also worked at the hotel. George was very deaf. He was always so kind to me that George was not only appreciated by me but by many others. A permanent roomer at the hotel was Bill Kennedy. Bill was a source of information on all subjects — always the same and I don't think I ever heard of him complaining or being cross. He seemed to be caretaker at the C.N. Station and other places.

Hotel business petered out with roads being gravelled, so cars were used by travellers; people started going to larger centres and only a few stopped overnight. This was the beginning of the end of many small towns. I came back to take Grade IX and X at Ruddell High School staying with Mother and Charlie.

This period was our "depression era". A time of dust, drought and despair. A vivid memory of a still peaceful morning till around ten then the "blow" would begin. One could hardly see across the street; around six the wind would die down but a film of dust would cover floors and furniture. We would dust and mop to be repeated the next night. These dust storms usually lasted for three days.

This is a brief note in the Johnsons. Mr. and Mrs. Spence came from the part of the east coast of Nova Scotia called the Spence Settlement. They came west and started in the hotel business at Prince Albert, then moved to Ruddell.

Charlie Johnson who was born in the south of Sweden boarded fishing boats at an early age. He could tell you many tales of his trips around the world. He landed at the east coast and came west with the Spences. In the early days he tended the bar at Ruddell, later ran the Lumber Yard at Ruddell and several other lumber yards when the one closed at Ruddell. He married Bessie Spence a few years after her husband's death.

A few years before his death he was called to go back to Sweden to settle an estate that was his due. He refused his claim so never returned to his homeland.

Mother Johnson came by her name honestly. I can remember the baking that was sent overseas — large jumbo cookies, homemade taffy, knitted wool mitts and socks. Many letters came from soldiers that enjoyed her efforts but were strangers to her. She had two children, Edith and Herman, from the first marriage.

The hotel seemed to be a "drop in" for many people — Not just her contemporaries but also young people who needed someone to "listen to them". Saturday night was farmers' night, to shop, get mail, sell their produce, then visit. Mr. and Mrs. McCann brought

eggs and butter to Mother and Charlie. I believe butter was twenty-five cents a pound and eggs ten to fifteen cents a dozen.

Good Friday, Mother Johnson always made Hot Cross Buns so many came for the afternoon. Names that I remember were Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Ferguson, Mrs. Laurence Robinson, Mrs. Brandt (mother of Marvin Brandt who became a respected doctor at Dauphin) Ivy Turnbull, Mrs. Stally and Mrs. Schaefer, etc. She seemed to know whose footsteps sounded on the dining room floor as she would sit knitting in the evening at the kitchen table.

Charlie's garden was always something to admire for people as they walked along the board walk. Charlie shared many of his vegetables with neighbors.

After finishing school I taught at a school in the Blenheim area. I usually spent every third week at the hotel. In the fifth year I met Lorne Thomson who was the relieving Station Agent. The following August we were married. My husband and I have lived in a number of larger cities in Canada but have now retired to the farm at Prince.

As the years go by we must and will see changes. I do feel very nostalgic about Ruddell as one drives past on the highway. The hotel is gone, even the last lonely elevator had been moved to a farm. I think of it as once a "humming" centre. People were filled with high aspirations and hopes. Let us hope that the future may once more find our small towns a "hub of activity".

The Hill Hamilton Family

by K. E. (Hamilton) Johnston

Hill Hamilton was born in 1885 near Belfast, Ireland. He emigrated to Canada in 1910 and settled in Griffen, Saskatchewan as a student minister of the Presbyterian Church. His wife, May Reid, born near Dublin, Ireland in 1883, followed him to Canada in 1912 and they were married ■ 1912 in Toronto. They had two daughters, Edythe, born in Griffen, and Kathleen, born ■ Perdue, Saskatchewan. Hill was ordained as a minister of the United Church of Canada from the Theological School of the University of Saskatchewan in the mid 1920's, with B.A. B.D., degrees. Other charges included Adanac and Rosthern, Saskatchewan before ■ accepted a call to the church in Maymont, Saskatchewan in 1930-31. During his stay in Maymont he had charges at Maymont, Fielding, and Swathmore. He ran as a C.C.F. candidate in the Federal election in the mid 1930's but was defeated. May was very interested in drama and directed a number of plays with local talent much to the pleasure of all who saw them. They travelled to varibus towns by sleigh to stage these plays and had many exciting experiences to tell. Old-time residents like the Reids, Melroses, Mohlers, etc. would remember those days.

During the depression years the manse was a marked house for all those who "rode the rails" and many free meals were handed out to those on their way to nowhere!

The Hamiltons left Maymont in 1957 to accept a charge in Richlea, Saskatchewan. From there they went to Moose Jaw and thence to Wolseley, Saskatchewan and then left Saskatchewan to accept a charge in Wallacetown, and finally St. Thomas. Rev. Hill Hamilton and his wife May were killed ■ a car accident just outside of St. Thomas in February, 1967.

Edythe went in ■ training as a nurse at the Saskatoon City Hospital just after moving to Maymont, and then worked for Dr. Chas. Biro for several years before meeting her husband-to-be, Henry Fast. She flew to Yellowknife in 1940 to marry Henry who was then a mining engineer with the Negus Gold Mine there. They returned to Saskatoon ■ 1940 at which time Henry accepted a position with the C.N.R. in St. Thomas, Ontario. From there they were transferred to London, Hornepayne, Levis, Quebec and Montreal. Henry accepted a special assignment with the C.N.R. ■ 1970 and they spent the next five years in Kabwe, Zambia, Africa. Leaving there they moved to Vienna, Austria where they are presently residing in semi-retirement. They plan on retiring in Victoria, B.C. in 1981. Edythe and Henry had two children, Karen living in Vienna, and Jerry ■ Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Kathleen took all her high schooling in Maymont, Saskatchewan. Mr. MacDonald is one teacher's name that sticks in her memory — the student's call him "Old Mac".

They were years with many food memories and ones in which many lifelong friends were nurtured. Sports days at Radisson, Ruddell, Richard, Fielding were days to be remembered. Val Buckingham (nee Downing), Helen Spence (nee McCorkle) and Kathleen were inseparable friends and many great holidays were spent at Meeting Lake where Everett Downing (now deceased), Ron Scratch and Norville (Pinky) Scratch used to go roaring in on the weekends in "Old Bertha", Ron's Buick with a rumble seat!

L. to r., standing — Dorothy Kerr, Margeurite Mohler, Jack Donald, Sadie Johnston, Muriel Melrose. Seated — Helen McCorkle, Norval Scratch.

After graduating from high school, working on the telephone switchboard in Maymont and Langham for a short period, Kathleen went to Saskatoon to take a secretarial course at the Saskatoon Technical School and then worked for a chartered accountant's firm, Ronald Griggs & Co. She married Robert Johnston, a serviceman from Fort William, Ontario, in 1941, and they were subsequently transferred to Winnipeg, St. Thomas, Trenton, Ottawa, Montreal, Penhold, Alberta and Clinton, Ontario. Bob retired from the Forces in 1969 after serving over thirty years, and the family decided to take up residence in Victoria, B.C. Bob is presently working with the Canadian Bank of Commerce; Kathleen is semi-retired from secretarial work.

Kathleen and Bob had three children — Richard, born in 1946 in St. Thomas, went into Military College in St. Jean, Quebec in 1963 and graduated from Royal Military College, Kingston, Ontario in 1968. He married Jacyln Griffiths of Montreal in 1968. They have two children — Brent, age seven, and Deane, age four. Richard is presently stationed in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Kathleen, Jr., born in 1951 in Belleville, Ontario, took her high schooling in Clinton, Ontario, and worked in Victoria, B.C. as a secretary until her marriage to Gregory Bush in 1972. They are presently living in Namaimo, B.C. where Greg is a teacher. They have one daughter, Tamara, age two.

Maureen was born in 1952 in Ottawa; took her high schooling in Victoria, B.C. went in to banking and subsequently into clerical work with the Provincial Government where she is still employed. She married Ian Maitland in 1978, who is also working with the Provincial Government in the engineering field.

The following poem was written by Helen Spence (nee McCorkie) as a momento of a holiday at Meeting Lake.

SUNDAY
Downing's house on Sunday morn,
Full it was of luggage worn,
And the jolly lake-going crew,
All were in one grand old stew.
Finally the truck did come,
And we piled in one by one;
Each with our mind on the fun
We'd have at the Lake when we arrived at one.
The truck proceeded without mishap,
Despite eleven riding in the back.
Arrived at the Lake we went for a swim,
And it restored our nearly lost vim;
Followed by dinner, piping hot,
And needless to say we ate a lot!
Then Ronnie took us over to Peters,
And we treated so we wouldn't be cheaters!
Kathie and Val, they played duets,
Then home we went for a much-needed rest.
We met the boys and went for a dip,
Dark it was, but we didn't give a rip!
This ended our first day at the Lake,
And we could hardly wait for morn to break!

MONDAY
Twas nine o'clock on Monday morn,
Before we opened eyes forlorn.
The day was raw and cold;
And we'd wanted fine weather untold!
Bacon and eggs, jam and toast,
This was the breakfast of which we boast!
True stories we read in the kid's tent,
This was the way our morning was spent.
Horseshoes we played in the afternoon
And hoped we'd be better players soon!
Kathie and Val played for the dance,
This being a way their funds to enhance.
The Speers and Halcyonia boys were there,
And only to one did we give the air!
After the dance, home we came,
Ate cookies and talked of Val's new flame!

TUESDAY
Tuesday morning we rose at ten,
And in we went for a swim right then.
A visit to Speers camp then we made,
And for them their gramaphone we played.
Their dinner, it was on the table,
And they ate, as well they were able.
Pie, and coffee made in a pail,
Howard fed us, so we wouldn't wail,
To the meadow we went to watch the ball game,
And we razzed our boys as they gave us a pain!
To the dance at night we all did go,
Blaine Lake Orchestra ran the show!
We danced until our shoes were thin,
And we had used up all our vim.
Ate cookies until the boys were fed,
Then, off they went, and we to bed.

WEDNESDAY
Wednesday morning was nice and sunny,
So we were feeling extra funny.
Suddenly Bertha came raring in,
With Ron, and Ron Gurney, neat as a pin!
To the exhibition we went after dinner,
Eight in Old Bertha, she's a humdinger!
Val played ball with the Halcyonia crew,
They won, as we knew they would, too!
Kathie and I came home with Ronnie,
And dolled up till we looked quite bonny!
Back with us, we took Val's clothes,
Then helped her dress, and powder her nose!
We went to the dance in fine array,
Hoping 'twould last till break of day.
We danced to the music of Battleford Band,
And hoped they'd all be buried in sand!
Home we came when all was over,
Happy as if we'd been in clover.

THURSDAY
Thursday was a cold old day,
And we felt like hitting the hay.
Nevertheless we played catch,
And many a blister we had to patch.
With Halcyonia, Val and I played ball,
And our kids, as rooters, were no good at all!
Bananas we had and gum and pop,
Until finally we had to yell "Stop"!
To the dance we escorted our Ladies fair,
Each one with bonny brown hair.
Finally eleven o'clock drew near,
So we had to part with our loved ones dear,
Which we gracefully did without one tear.

FRIDAY
One P.M. came, breakfast in bed,
Indeed we were quite royally fed.
From home came another camping crew,
And we helped them all their bundles undo.
Went to the meadow to a ball game,
And found two players worthy [illegible] fame;
Curly and Mac, very good to behold—
Who we hope, didn't think us bold!
Off we went to the dance at night,
Glad we did, it was a delight!
After the dance, home we came,
And Val parted with her new flame!

SATURDAY
Saturday dawned bright and fair,
We, each with a wash we'd willingly share,
From Mrs. Andrew we borrowed the tub,
Feeling dismay at the pile to scrub!
From home, soon came our dear old crew,
So, you can guess, we were in a stew.
Down to the meadow to watch the ball,
Arch took us, and minded not at all.
To the dance at night we [illegible] did go,
And of a keen time we can surely blow.
After the dance, home once more,
And us, to our good bed on the floor!

SUNDAY
Sunday was our day to cook,
Which we did without the aid of a book.
Church time came — 'Twould help us lots,
But we were too busy scrubbing pots!
In the pavilion old and queer,
The orchestra played to bring us cheer.
After the concert we met OUR Curly,
Who, if we wished, would play ball early!
So to the meadow we went to watch our bunch,
But had to leave early [illegible] get the lunch.
Nathan saw us, and thought we looked thin,
So bought us marshmallows to fatten our limbs.
Behind the boy's tent we made a bonfire
And toasted marshmallows to our hearts desire!
Muriel, Wes, and Jackie all came,
Ev, and Pink wouldn't, and said we're to blame!
Frenchie sang songs out in a boat,
And for him, ev'ry time we'll vote.
Finally to bed we went,
Feeling our Sunday was well-spent.

MONDAY
Monday it was nice and fair,
So we lay on the beach [illegible] the balmy air;
We read stories most of the morn,
We're sorry to say, our books got torn.
The Hamilton family arrived at noon,
And we hoped they'd not be leaving soon.
They invited Kathie and Val to move in,
And I went to Margaret's, to become one of them.
Val and I took our sweet ladies fair,
To the dance at night — what charming pairs!
The dance, it was free, so of course we stayed,
As long as the Blaine Lake Orchestra played!
Then we parted at the door,
I to my separate home once more.

TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY
Tuesday and Wednesday were very hot,
So swimming, again, was our main thought.
The water, it was lovely and warm,
So you can guess, we went in in swarms!
Our water ball we remembered to take,
But nearly lost it out in the Lake,
I was invited to Hamilton's for tea,
Kathie and Val, were the cooks, you see.
After supper we went to play ball,
Fielding didn't know, so came not at all.
So Wednesday eve we played with them,
And they beat us twelve [illegible] ten!
Dances on both nights we took in;
Which were keen, tho' the crowd was thin!
We dressed again as triplets three,
It being my last night with them to be,
I had to leave Thursday — too bad for me.

THURSDAY
Came Thursday, my last day at the Lake,
Packed my luggage, so it was ready to take.
Went for a swim, my very last swim,
And how I hated to have to go in.
Said goodbye to all my pals,
Friends of mine, Kathie's and Val's.
Ron with Old Bertha soon came by,
Then the Orchestra played to bid us good-bye,
And we left the Lake with a heart-felt sigh,
But hope to [illegible] back again next July.

Helen McCorkle

Hugh Harkness — Village Blacksmith

submitted by Grace Melrose

Hugh Harkness bought the Blacksmith Shop in Maymont [illegible] 1911. The shop was located at about where Mr. and Mrs. Broom live. After a few years [illegible] rented the shop to Mr. McBrettony, and went back to Ireland. However he loved Canada and wished to make his home here.

Previous to 1911 Mr. Harkness was in Canada in 1906 or 1907 and lived at Virden, Manitoba with his wife and small daughter Maria. His son James was born there in 1907, the only one of the family born in Canada. However he had to return to Ireland again as his wife wasn't happy in Canada.

During his many trips to Canada in the early years, he once worked on the Fraser River in B.C. at Tete Jaune Cache.

In October, 1919 Hugh Harkness came to Maymont from Ireland with his family of six children. This was after the first World War and also after his wife had passed away in Ireland. He had quite a responsibility getting his family settled for the winter and everything done in preparation for his work as blacksmith. Our thanks went out to Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Reid and family who were so very kind and generous to all of us. They took us into their home until Dad could get us settled for the winter. We moved into the house which is now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. F. Clayton.

In 1920 Mr. Harkness bought an old church which he moved and converted into a house for us in town. Its location was where Mr. Penny now lives. We lived there for quite a few years, and went to school first in the basement of the United Church. Miss Carter was our first teacher. She is now Mrs. Wilf Langley. One other teacher was Mrs. M. Martin. Some others I can't remember.

Hugh Harkness made an important contribution as blacksmith and woodworker to the farmers in this area in the early days. He shod many horses and sharpened many ploughshares.

Dr. Scratch was our family doctor and served us well. Mr. Hugh Harkness' last years were spent in Saskatoon. He died at the age of eighty-seven years in 1967. He was predeceased by his wife, Margaret, in Ireland and son, James, at Saskatoon in 1929. Another son, John, passed away in B.C. in 1976. Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Bill Reid and Mrs. Norman Melrose who are still living at Maymont, two sons, Hugh and Crawford in B.C. Crawford is a War Veteran from the Second World War. Also surviving are twenty-seven grandchildren, twenty-two great grandchildren and one great great grandchild.

Oswald C. Harper's History of Ruddell

by Marjorie E. McCallum nee Harper

My father, Oswald C. Harper, was born in Therefield, England, in 1880, and emigrated to Canada on the same boat as the Barr Colonists in 1903 with his brother M. E. Harper. They came by train to Saskatoon and then purchased oxen and wagon and a few necessary supplies; eventually locating in the Lilac district where they farmed together until the fall of 1906. There my uncle married Miss R. Reeve. Theirs was the first marriage in the new church at Ruddell.

My father, Oswald C. Harper and Mr. G. O. Robinson were partners in the farm implement business until he left for overseas in the 1914-1918 war. When he returned he married Grace Robinson who was born in Paris, Ont. She was the daughter of Charles and Jessie Robinson and sister of Lawrence Robinson, who married Ruby E. Winkler in 1913. After farming the home farm east of Ruddell, he later had a harness shop. He died in Victoria, B.C., in 1962.

First log house built by M. E. and O. C. Harper in Green Bluff (Lilac) district in spring of 1903 in the North West Territories. M. E. Harper and dog Jacko at doorway. O. C. Harper taking photo. Power for farming, yoke of oxen, Bell and Frank used until 1910. Wheat raised was sold as seed to incoming settlers. The seed grain used for this was bought from M. G. Dow who had rented a farm at Smithville 7 miles west of Saskatoon. Our first crop was flax cut with a sythe and threshed with a flail, but it was frozen. Wheat crop was threshed ox powered outfit owned by J. Swain of Jackfish.

My grandfather, Charles Robinson died in 1927, my grandmother in 1948. After their marriage my Father and Mother lived in Saskatoon where my Father worked for the Soldier's Settlement Board. My sister Ora and I were born there. In 1926 we moved back to Ruddell where my father was again in partnership with Mr. G. O. Robinson. This time in a General Store. My mother died there in 1941. My sister Ora married Orval Gibson in 1945. They were both in the Royal Canadian Air Force.

They have two children, Garry and Gail and one grandchild. Orval and Ora now live in Victoria, B.C.

After my Mother's death my Father and I spent the winters in Victoria, B.C., returning to Ruddell for the summer months. Father died in Victoria in 1966.

I met and married John McCallum in 1970. We are now living in a new home near Sidney, B.C.

Reeve Harper Story

Item from the Ruddell News December 1908

Mr. Madill successfully tied the knot on November 26, for Mr. M. Harper and Miss R. E. Reeve, who had just arrived from England. The ceremony was witnessed by a large number of friends, and all agree that it was a very pretty wedding.

I was born Charles William Reeve Harper February 7, 1908 on Father's homestead, a few miles north of Ruddell. My birth certificate reads Ruddell, Saskatchewan as place of birth, as so often was the case, instead of the homestead legal description. The doctor in attendance was from Maymont, a Dr. Scratch. My father, Montague [redacted]. Harper, and his brother, Oswald, came to Canada from England with the Barr Colony in 1903 and landed in the then tent town of Saskatoon and from there, by oxteam, to Ruddell. It is difficult to recall but I believe Father said this took something over a week. My mother came from England in late October of early November, 1906, staying with the senior Dow family until her marriage.

My brother [redacted]. E. (Ted) Harper was born November 14, 1909. Same doctor in attendance. My brothers, Oswald [redacted]. and Allan C. were born in North Battleford in 1912 and 1914 respectively.

Father moved the family to North Battleford in 1911. Here he worked at various jobs, auctioneering, assisting Dr. Glass, Veterinary Surgeon, etc. During 1914-1915, Mother was taken to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, N.Y. My brother Ted and I were cared for by Uncle Oswald at Ruddell, brother Oswald by the Dow family. Following the second visit to Mayo Clinic in 1915 the family went to Florida, U.S.A. in the spring of 1915 for Mother's health. We returned to Canada in the fall of 1915. The spring of 1916 saw us on Uncle Oswald old homestead where we remained for the duration of World War I. Brother Ted and I attended Ruddell School in the winter and Bathgate School in the spring and summer. Bathgate School was then two or three miles east of Lilac.

Father had [redacted] buy a pony in order that we could attend the school called Bathgate (some five miles from the farm). The school boards in those days did not pay transportation costs as they do now.

Bathgate School closed when winter set in hence the move into Ruddell. I drove the pony, hitched to a two-seat buggy, and picked up some neighbor children the spring and summer of 1916-17-18-19.

I was told by my mother, who incidentally [redacted] alive and currently resident [redacted] Willowhaven Private Hospital, age 98, that I was the first white child to be born in Ruddell vicinity. This was also referred to by Mrs. Edna Gibson (nee Robinson) of Victoria, B.C. [redacted] her Christmas letter last year (1978). This, of course, I cannot substantiate.

My memory of life on the farm and in Ruddell is a very pleasant one really. Ruddell, [redacted] me as a youngster, was a busy active community. Times were tough but we had our pleasures. The time the kids tied an animal to the school bell rope at Hallowe'en and everyone turned out at midnight wondering where the fire was. The time a cow or calf was hoisted to the roof of a barn and the struggle to get it down, the changing of the front wheels of a buggy to the back. The sleigh rides in winter and the picnics in summer which were sandwiched in between the busy life of a farmer. We children, at a dance, were wrapped in blankets and put to sleep in a corner while the older people danced the night through. The dances were not that frequent as I remember but people thoroughly enjoyed themselves when one was put on, usually at the school house.

The Dow family was very important in the lives of our family. To we boys Mr. and Mrs. Dow were Grandpa and Grandma and their daughters Aunties to us their son, Uncle Jack. William Dow fought [redacted] the Riel Rebellion.

A story that was told me — that Uncle Oswald rode horseback to Maymont to fetch the doctor that cold blustery February night that I was born. That must have been some ride, there and back.

In December 1919, just before Christmas, we left the farm and Ruddell for Prince George, B.C. It was that same December, as I recall, that Uncle Oswald married Aunt Grace (Robinson).

Among various other jobs, Father was appointed a Deputy Sherriff for Caribou County and in 1928 was appointed Sherriff of South Kootenay at Nelson, B.C. He occupied this position until his retirement [redacted] 1951 at age seventy-four.

My brothers are living and [redacted] good health. Ted at Solana Beach, California. Oswald [redacted] Vancouver, B.C. and Allen [redacted] Vernon, B.C.

Father passed away in July of 1966, the same year as his brother Oswald.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Owen Hawkins

by Lily (Hawkins) LaRoque

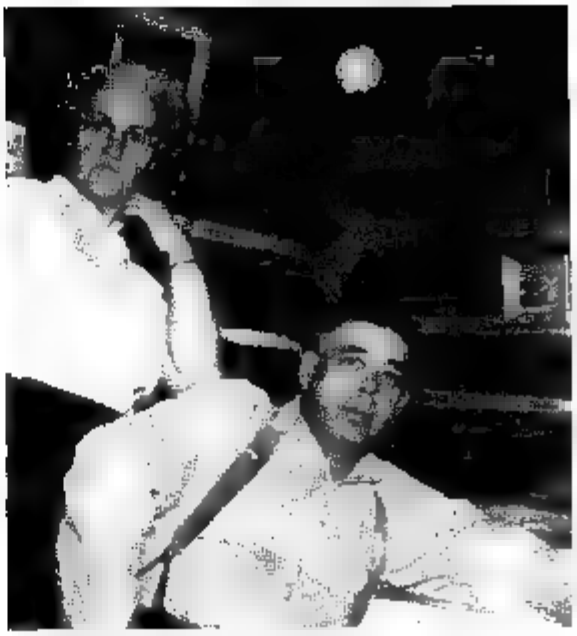
Alfred Hawkins married Annie Andrew in 1905. He was born in England, came to Canada in late 1900. Annie came from Manitoba with her father, William Andrew. They had six sons, two daughters and one stepdaughter, Ilia. The children were called: George, Ernest, Lily, John, Robert, Oswald, Philip, and Barbara.

George married Stenna Samway. They have two sons, Owen and Glenn, and two daughters, Sylvia and Leona. George and Stenna lived at Meadow Lake [redacted] 1932 and moved north of Dorintosh which was then called "Sycup". Their oldest daughter was born [redacted] Meadow Lake, Saskatchewan. Glenn and Leona were born at a lady's house who looked after mothers and babies. They moved west to Pierceland, Saskatchewan and later went to Victoria, B.C. where George passed away in 1978. Leona died a few years ago. Stenna remarried and lives in Victoria; also Glenn, Diane and family. Owen lives with his wife near Vancouver.

Ernie married Frances Dugan. They have no children and live in Wainright, Alberta.

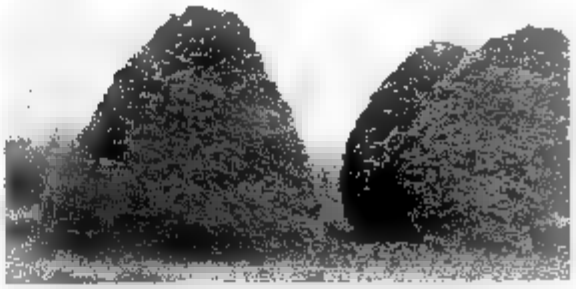
Lily married William Robert LaRoque. They lived in Meadow Lake, and had two sons, Robert and Brian, and one daughter, Betty. Robert married Frances and has one son William Robert, ten years old and in Grade Four in school, and one daughter, Brenda five years

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Hawkins.



Mr. and Mrs. Wm. LaRoque.

George and Sienna Hawkins.



Grain Stacks — Hawkins farm — Maymont.

old. Brian married Alice, has one daughter, Shelley six years old and in kindergarten. Betty married John Murray. They have two daughters, Susan, five years, and Linda four years old. LaRoque farms, raises cattle and works for the Friendship Center in Meadow Lake.

Brian, a mechanic, works for Meadow Lake Car Sales. Betty's husband, John Murray, built their own house on ten acres in the country. He works for Revelstoke, driving a cement truck.

John married Emily Jones. They had five children; one boy died in infancy. The others were named, John, David, Donald, and Nancy. John Sr. died in 1966. Emily still lives in Maymont.

Robert married Mary Ellen Cornet. They have two sons. Alfred and William. Robert was in the army and served overseas. He farmed until a few years ago when he sold his farm ■ a nephew, Robert LaRoque. He is retired now but still lives on the farm twelve miles west of Meadow Lake.

Oswald died young in 1933.

Philip and his second wife live in Saskatoon.

Barbara married Thomas Whiteman who died in 1973. She still lives in Saskatoon with her son, Roger. Her daughter, June, married Herman Friesen; they have one girl and two boys.

Things I Remember

by Lily LaRoque

Brother Ernie was home from school for some reason. He took John, (about three years old) and myself (about five) out to play. He made a fire for us to get warm. He made it at the edge of a straw stack in the field. The boys had dug holes to play in, but we went up on top of the stack to play. Ernie thought he had put the fire out, but it came up the stack and we tumbled down the other side. I ran to the house and told Mother the haystack was on fire which really was the straw stack. Father was away working so mother phoned a neighbour who came to help. Mother always said he was slow. He was a hired man who came with a horse, but he walked and led the horse. They didn't save the straw stack but they kept it from spreading. I can't say what Father said when he got home!!

We moved from Maymont to Lilac in November of 1918. Father had bought a section of land. Our house wasn't finished so we moved to another house a few miles away.

We went to school at Bathgate School.

I remember how our horses used to always be running away. One day Father was going back to Maymont to do some farm work. He had two horses hitched to a wagon load of grain with a horse on each side and two behind hitched to a plow. I held the horses until Dad, Mother, and Barbara got on the load. Then Dad said, "Let them go," and go they did! Out the gate at a run! I was sure someone would be killed. But the bolt came out holding the double trees and the tongue came down. Away went the horses. The tongue ran into the bank at the side of the road, broke the wagon reach and stopped. The railway repairmen saw the horses. A couple of them ran to the road and caught them. The other team ran away with the plow and tipped it over; but no one was hurt.

I remember Father telling about winning a car. I found the clipping in Mother's papers after she was gone.

"It was a Five-Passenger Touring Car. It was for the winner of the Free Press Prairie Farmer Oat Estimating Contest.

Principal J. B. Reynolds of Manitoba Agricultural College announces the number of oats in the jar of Banner Oats to be 34,395.

Alfred O. Hawkins of Maymont, Saskatchewan, estimated the number of kernels to be 34,394. The prize was for the number nearest to estimate of number of kernels contained in 31 lb., 558 oz. of Banner Oats."

I don't know for sure what year this was, but it was in the years of the First World War, if I remember them saying. Father gave part of the money he got instead of the car to the Red Cross and I came across his Life Membership from the Red Cross.

Emily Hawkins, Maymont, Saskatchewan, 1979

In 1941, April 4, I came to Maymont as a young girl (then Emily Jones) from my home town at Rabbit Lake, Saskatchewan. I came to work for an elderly couple, namely Mr. and Mrs. William Cook who lived on the farm where Mr. and Mrs. Colles Brehon now live. Mrs. Cook became ill and died of cancer about a year later. I stayed on and kept house for Mr. Cook until I got married.

Oct. 12, 1963. Back row — John Jr., Emily, John Sr. Front row — Nancy, Donald and David.

On June 28, 1945, I married John William Hawkins. We lived and worked on the farm of my husband's father's homestead, about one mile north of Maymont. John's mother and father moved into the town of Maymont. His father passed away in May, 1951. His name was Alfred Owen Hawkins. We moved into the town of Maymont in 1952. His mother lived with us until the time of her death in 1955.

We had four children, John, David, Donald and Nancy. My husband farmed until 1966 when he became ill and passed away in the University Hospital October 6, 1966 of cancer at an early age of fifty-two years. So I was left a widow with four children between the ages of ten and sixteen.

In 1969 I sold the farm and bought the house where Mrs. Ada Bates lived, and have been living there since. My family have all grown up now. My oldest son, John, worked for different farmers until four years ago when he got some land of his own and got married to the former Deloris Chastney. They live between Maymont and Sonningdale. The other two sons, David and Donald, went out to Mackenzie, B.C. to work in a sawmill as soon as they had finished high school, and have been there ever since. My daughter Nancy works in North Battleford at the present time.

My two sisters Edna and Hazel lived here for about four or five years and both worked for Mr. Cook, and also other people around Maymont. Edna married my husband's brother, Phillip Hawkins. They farmed

south of Maymont. They had no children of their own, so adopted a baby boy who they called Ronald. When he was four years old, my sister passed away with cancer. Philip married again and is now living in Saskatoon. My sister Hazel went back ■ work at Rabbit Lake where she met her husband-to-be, Telford Speerbrecker. He passed away three years ago.

So throughout the years we have had our good times and bad times.

Walter P. Hewer family

by daughter, Shirley

Mr. Hewer was born and raised at Lumsden, Sask. His birthdate was June 21, 1891 and he had 3 brothers and 1 sister. His father had a business in the town of Lumsden.

During World War I, Walter served in the Third Canadian Infantry Battalion from 1914 to 1919 during which time he was a prisoner of war in Germany for 27 months. Upon his discharge from the army, Mr. Hewer was an elevator agent for 14 years at Richard and later Lilac. While at Richard, he married Alma Boskill of Maymont on Nov. 30, 1923 and they had one daughter, Shirley.

Mrs. Hewer was born Nov. 3, 1900 in the Winnipeg area. In 1905, she moved to the Maymont area with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Boskill, 2 brothers and 5 sisters. Alma received her education at Grey school. She stayed at home helping her parents with the farm work until her marriage to Walter Hewer of Richard ■ 1923.

In 1935, Walter, Alma and Shirley moved to the Boskill homestead after the death of Alma's father. This family farm was located three-quarters of a mile south of Wavie Bank school. The land description was W½ 24-42-13-W3rd.

"Alma's brother, Frank Boskill, who farmed north of Richard used to hunt coyotes in the Wavie Bank area with his horse drawn sleigh and 3 wolf hounds".

In 1947, the Hewer family bought a grocery store in N. Battleford. The farm was sold to nearby residents, George and Grace Patterson.

Walter and Alma Hewer.

Shirley Hewer.

Boskill Family (about 1921). Back (l-r) — Maude, Alma, Andy, Frank, Eva (Frank's wife), Bill Nolan (May's husband), May, Olive. Front — Charles F. and Sarah (parents).

Shirley Hewer completed her high school education at the N. Battleford Collegiate. Then she worked at the Saskatchewan Hospital for 7 years, then moved to Saskatoon where she continued doing secretarial work for the next 11 years at the Land Titles Office at Kelsey Institute.

In 1960, Walter and Alma moved to the River Heights Lodge, N. Battleford, upon selling their grocery business. They enjoyed travelling upon their retirement. Mr. Hewer died August 18, 1965 after a brief illness.

Mrs. Hewer then moved to her own home ■ N. Battleford where she lived to the time of her death. She took pleasure in her garden, was adept at sewing and was a crossword puzzle fan. She was a member of the Old Timers Association. Mrs. Hewer died on April 2, 1970.

Shirley was married to Hurley Boldt, formerly of Freemont, Sask. on Aug. 2, 1968. They reside on an acreage 13 miles west of Saskatoon. Hurley is in residential construction during the summer and quite frequently they travel during the winter months.

The Hickman Story

Jack Hickman was born in West Bromwich, Staffordshire, England and his wife, Florence was of Welsh descent.

Hickman family and Irene and Jim Reid.

Before coming to Canada they had two children — Ida Geddie who lives in Sarnia, Ontario and Albert who lives in Lytton, British Columbia.

When they planned to come to Canada, they had a booking on the Titanic — fortunately for them, their booking was changed to the Royal George instead.

Jack Hickman got a job on the railroad, starting in MacDowall, then to Speers and Richard, where Margaret Newbold was born. She now lives in Merrit, British Columbia.

He was the first section foreman when the branch line opened between Prince Albert and North Battleford. He was then transferred to Davidson and in 1925 moved to Maymont. Their younger son Keith was born in Maymont. He now resides in Toronto.

While in Maymont Jack's hobby was Gardening — he took a very active part in Mayfield and Douglas Fair each year. He also put many entries in the Saskatoon Exhibition.

His retirement from the railroad was in North Battleford. His death in 1973 took place in Sarnia, Ontario. His wife predeceased him in 1951, at Borden, Saskatchewan.

The Dick Hiltz Story

as told by Ken Hiltz

Dick Hiltz was born in Nova Scotia in 1880. He homesteaded on SW 22-42-12-W3rd alongside the Jack Nugent farm. He lived with the Nugents until, he married Winnifred Dufinee in 1912. He then moved to the Speers area and farmed there.

They raised a family of three sons, Chester, Kenneth, and Arthur, and three daughters, Belle, Margaret, and May. A son, Ken Hiltz, still owns the land.

Dick Hiltz — gang plow.

William Hill

William Hill came over from Scotland (Glasgow) in 1908. He bought land in Fielding but later sold it to go back and join the army (World War I). He came back on the "S.S. Tunisian" on May 31, 1919 from Liverpool, England, with his bride Jeannette (MacDonald) and baby son, George William, two years old.

In 1913, he applied for a homestead patent on the North West Quarter on Section 4, Township 42, Range 11, West of the Third Meridian, was received by the Commissioner, approved the twenty-first day of April, 1913, patent issued.

Later on they had another son, Hugh John, and a daughter, Mary Elizabeth, but sold the farm and furniture by public auction and moved to Saskatoon, because his wife Jeanette became very ill and needed to be closer to doctors and medication.

She died about two years after of cancer, at the age of thirty-eight. While at Fielding, she was very noteworthy for her activities in the Saskatchewan Homemakers (W.I.) and other women's organizations.

Mr. and Mrs. William Hill and son George on their farm at Fielding.

She also used to play the piano and organ and sang at most functions. She was very well liked and missed by many.

William Hill continued to live and work in Saskatoon alone with the children, but found it quite hard. He was forced to give Mary up for adoption but kept the two boys. George and his wife Betty had three children — two boys and one girl. George lives at Mississaugua, Ontario, Hugh in California, U.S.A. and Mary in Ontario.

The Hinchsliff Family

Father — John Hinchsliff
Mother — Sarah Ann Hinchsliff
Son — Leslie Hinchsliff
Son — Harold Hinchsliff,
Daughter — Muriel Towras Hinchsliff (born in Ruddell)

John was formerly a school teacher, then a coal merchant in Hull, Yorkshire, England. The family of four sailed to Canada on June 11, 1911, and first settled in Montreal. Moving to Ruddell in 1912. John worked at many jobs, including butcher, laborer, on the railway at Maymont, section foreman and station agent at Dacre, Sask. Times and conditions were very hard for providing a living for the family. During this period the family moved around from Ruddell to Maymont, to Dacre and Denholm, and back to Ruddell. Muriel was born in Ruddell during this period.

In 1915, when Leslie was 13 years of age, John and Leslie joined the army, and were sent overseas. John served on the western front, and was wounded in action and hospitalized in England, and sent home in 1918. Leslie was returned home in 1917. The family moved to Regina in 1918, where John served to recieve the returning troops at Wars end.

John now decided that farming was his great desire, and so the whole family moved back to Ruddell to farm land in the Harringay School District. Harold and Muriel attended the Harringay School, and Leslie assisted in the farming operations. Harold attended High School in Ruddell 1924-25. The farm was a nice place to live, and the neighbours were friendly. However for a farmer to start off in a small way the going was difficult, and at times very hard. Crops suffered from drought, hail or snow before harvesting. Horses were used for farming operations, and transportation. Power machines were not used, and it was not until the last year on the farm that the family owned a car, a Ford touring model T.

Therefore in 1925 as a result of the difficulties of the farming operations the family sold the farm, and moved to North Battleford, where John worked as an accountant.

Ted Clark who was an acquaintance of John's in England came to Canada on the same ship, the "Corsican", and farmed nearby in Ruddell, and also sold out and moved to North Battleford.

Dr. Scratch of Maymont was the family Doctor, and on one occasion drove in horse drawn buggy to the Harringay S.D. farm to see Harold who was sick. He was a great man.

John and Leslie were members of the I.O.O.F. lodge in Ruddell. John was also active in community events, organization of the Wheat Pool, telephone board etc.

John passed away in Vancouver in 1957. Sarah Ann passed 1970 in Vancouver.

Leslie married May LaBorde in North Battleford, and they have one daughter Ann, (now Mrs. Robert Jaeger) and four grandchildren, Rick, Dean, Jana, and Gregg, and one great-grandchild.

Harold married Doris Frost of Edmonton, and they have one son Rodney, and three grandchildren Charlene, Nadine and Daryl.

Muriel married Fred Barrass, and they had one daughter Betty. Fred died in Vancouver, and Muriel married Tom Goodman. Betty married to Henry Harris.

Highlight of the social season in the winter were the Whist Drives and Dances held periodically in the Harringay School, which were very enjoyable. Music was supplied by a piano player and one or two violinists. Lunch, especially box lunches were a looked-foward part of the evening. All styles of dances were danced, including waltzes, fox-trots, one steps, quadrilles, etc. Of course all the children came to the dances with their parents, if there was no one at home to stay at home with them.

In summer there were community picnics, usually near the river, with races for the children and cash for the winners, and a big community lunch table.

The big sports events of the summer were the baseball tournaments, with most towns or communities represented by a baseball team. Combined with this event was foot races, and ice cream stands. Quite a gala occasion.

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Hird

by Ann (Sherman) Hird

I was born at Fielding, Saskatchewan in 1918, December 3, one of eight children of Charles and Annie Sherman. I went to Calais School to the age of thirteen and a half. The teachers in the rural schools were not compelled to teach high school and as the depression came along, jobs were scarce and even if a person finished school, it was impossible to find a job. I worked at housework for several neighbors. At age nineteen I came to Vancouver, B.C. with my sister, Emma, and her young daughter, Darlene. Her husband had come out the year previous and was working.

I worked at doing housework, also cafe work, around Vancouver for several years also went to work in a shingle mill cook house on Vancouver Island. I met and married Ted Hird. He had one son, Dennis, from a previous marriage, and we had two daughters,

Patricia and Gloria, and one son, Kenneth. War was declared in 1939. Ted had his call to ■ into the army but failed the medical. He was working in the shipyard in the toolroom.

When our first daughter was one year old I too went to work in the shipyard as we wanted to start buying a home. Even in those days it was hard to get a start on one wage. I worked until we were expecting our second daughter. When the girls were ■ school I worked at the T. Eaton Company on the Auxiliary Staff, working on sale days or busy seasons, which I enjoyed. When Kenneth came along I said I would work no more, but when he was a year old, Ted had a heart attack at the age of forty-one, I was afraid he would never be able to work again so decided to look for work. I was lucky as I got on at the Telephone Company. By this time Pat was a big help in taking care of the baby. She was thirteen and even ten year-old Gloria helped. Ted eventually went back to work and later had an operation on his heart. This seemed to help him for awhile but I beleive other arteries are pretty well plugged and they are not able to do any further surgery on him. He will retire shortly.

I retired from the Telephone Company after twenty-three years of service and lots of good memories. Dennis and Patricia are both teachers and married to teachers. Gloria is a teacher aid, and Kenneth has just graduated and will be teaching in Nanaimo ■ September.

We have done a bit of travelling and hope to do some more. We went to Europe and England twice and ■ Hawaii twice and to California several times. I hope to see a bit of Canada next year, perhaps drive across in our van, along with another couple in their mobile home.

Dennis and wife, Dennise, have two children — a boy and a girl.

Patricia and husband, Kenneth Walach, have three girls — Chemaine, Michelle and Dionne. They are presently in Lahr, Germany for at least two years teaching on the Canadian Army Base.

Gloria and husband, Ian Oke, have three children — Michael, Tammy and Rosyln.

Ken, our youngest, as I mentioned earlier, is a teacher.

The Robert Hodge Family

As a young man our father Robert Hodge lived in Kitchener, Ontario. He came west in the early years of the 1900's. He told tales of having to raft across the river at Borden as no other means of transportation were available.

His first homestead was on Section Four north of Fielding. This was ■ 1904. Later he bought a half section in the Calais School District. This he broke with a steam engine. In 1910 he was married to Grace Morgan from the Carlyle Area. Morgans had come from there to a home across the river. They raised a family of eleven children — all are alive and have homes of their own.

Our father was a competent thresher and many tales could be told of those days. He used steam threshing outfits. He also was an ardent sportsman; baseball and horseracing were among the things he enjoyed. For many years he raised standard bred horses which were entered in races.

Our mother Grace passed away in the spring of 1930.

During the dirty thirties some of the family moved from the Calais District north to Pierceland where our father eventually became a butcher. He passed away in 1953. In 1952 Cecil Hodge came back to the family farm where he farmed until it was sold in 1963.

Mr. and Mrs. John Hope

submitted by Barbara (Hope) Paleshniuk

Around the year 1933 John and Winnie Hope came out from Saskatoon to live in Maymont. John was starting up ■ the druggist in town. They had two daughters, Barbara and Lorraine, and the Hopes lived ■ Maymont until about 1943 when they moved to Prince Albert. John Hope died a few years ago, and Winnie is living in Winnipeg. Also in Winnipeg is Barbara (Mrs. Moe Paleshniuk) and her family. Lorraine (Mrs. ■. Byers) is living in Coquitlam, B.C. with her family.

Winnie Hope fondly remembers going out to Tom Sawyers at Christmas time over the years. A group of friends would go there by sleigh for dinner and entertainment. A highlight of the entertainment was a racing game — even when the Reverend Myers was present!

Some of the Anglican Church ministers remembered are Mr. Cozens, Mr. Saunders, and then Mr. Crowder, who married Muriel Butterfield. Doc Scratch often took Mr. Crowder along for company on long trips. And if Doc had car trouble, Mr. Crowder just laughed at the language Doc came out with! One of Doc's favorite foods was hot bread — ■ couldn't resist ■ — but was often sick after he ate it!

A couple of teachers from long ago were the principal, Earl McDonald and Edith Butterfield.

Iveson Information

by Emily (Iveson) Garnett

My father, G. E. (Bert) Iveson came to the Fielding district ■ 1902 and homesteaded east of town. His father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. ■. T. Iveson came soon afterward and homesteaded on N.E. 28-41-11, 4 miles north-east of the town. Bert found that his homestead was rocky and poor, so in 1903 he moved and lived with his parents. He bought the half section east of theirs. They built a log house, plastering it with soil dug from the cellar. That plaster set like cement and remained on the walls for the fifty years the Ivesons lived in the house.

Mr. and Mrs. George Iveson.

My grandparents lived there until their deaths. He died in September, 1932 and Grandma died in January, 1934. Both were two months short of 86 years old. Both are buried in Fielding Cemetery.

In 1915 my parents were married. Mother was Annie L. Mason, who came to Fielding with her father, L. A. Mason, and brother Walter, in 1906. They settled on the property later owned by Mr. Jack Brant south of Fielding. The Mason's first home was a pioneer sod shack. Eventually they moved to a farm south of Radisson where they were living when Bert and Annie were married.

I do not know just when the railroad went through, but before it came my Dad had to walk to Saskatoon for flour and other supplies. The trip would take several days. He found the Doukabours north-west of Saskatoon most hospitable. He would stay with them over night, and often was given a loaf of bread.

Father was a blacksmith by trade, so helped as such when the railroad came. I think he had the first blacksmith shop in Fielding. He took an active part in community life. He sang in the church choir, taught a Sunday school class, and took part in community plays and operettas. He was secretary of Fielding school district for some time, municipal councillor for Mayfield municipality, and road construction foreman when needed. He attended a course in Regina to learn about telephones, and became the repairman when telephones were installed. About 1915 he received 50¢ per hour for his work. (I learned this from his records.)

Mother too was active in church work, singing in the choir and teaching Sunday school, as well as helping with Ladies Aid and W.M.S.

Their two children were born and raised on the farm at Fielding. Emily became a schoolteacher, married Elgin Garnett and moved to Vancouver Island. Lawrence obtained his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Saskatchewan, worked for Imperial Oil Co. after serving in the Canadian Army. He married Joan Ashdown and died in Edmonton in 1972. In 1953 Bert and Annie Iveson moved to Vancouver, B.C. He died in January, 1970 in his ninetieth year. Mother was almost ninety-seven when she died in Feb. 1978.

* * * * * *

Before the days of refrigerators it was a problem to secure fresh meat in summer so the folk of our area formed a meat ring. I do not know just how many families were in it, but Mrs. Stewart, Ted Neumeyer, Bob Ferris and Bert Iveson were some. Each farmer supplied an animal for slaughter during the summer. Mr. Bodie was the butcher and prepared an animal every two weeks, dividing it so each member received his share, to be the equivalent of his animal at the end of the season. Neighbours took turns going for the meat. It was always a pleasure to be allowed to go with grandfather when he went for meat.

Each spring a pig was killed and the pork cured, using a dry salt cure, or fried and sealed away for summer use.

In winter, fresh killed meat was allowed to freeze after being cut up, and used as needed.

* * * * * *

I started to school in Fielding. Sometimes I walked across the field to Wes Sloan's, to play in with their girls, Doris and Edna. On the way there I crossed a sandy hollowed out spot, which Grandfather explained was a buffalo wallow. We thought the Indians had hunted buffalo there because we found arrow heads in the sand there.

One winter Father or Grandfather took me each school day to Joe Bracht's, one mile west, and I'd go to school in Fielding with their children, or we'd go all the way and take them. Father had to sit up on the seat to drive the horses, so had to face the frosty wind. To prevent frostbite he hung a chamois shield over his face, with tiny slits to peek through.

One day, I suppose it was in the spring, Mr. Bracht took me along with his family up to Mrs. Stewart's to see a stampede. She had riders there riding her animals and putting on a show.

In later years we went to school in winter with the Neumeyer children. Father made a covered van with wooden walls and canvas top, with seats along each side to sit on. Mr. Neumeyer supplied the horses and

Charlie or Jim would drive their sisters, Gilberta, Margaret, Florence and Lillian and the Iveson children to school. We kept our feet from freezing by using a foot warmer, heated by glowing carbon bricks. We were very grateful to the school janitor, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Wooden, who would get the 'warmer' going before school let out, so it kept us warm on the way home.

In summer we drove ourselves (when we got big enough to handle the horse). At first we used a covered buggy, but when it wore out Father made us a Bennett buggy with rubber tires. I'll never forget the first time we took out this new buggy. We had an old mare to drive that was due to foal before too long. It was a lovely Sunday and Lawrence and I were going to Sunday School with our new rig. All went well until the britching broke as we went down the hill near Sloans. This allowed the buggy to roll up on the mares heels, so she took off. The more we pulled in the reins to try to stop her the faster she went. We knew we were pulling the buggy up to her but we were afraid to stop pulling. We raced along, turning the cemetery corner on two wheels. Finally, more than a mile further down the road, I took the reins and Lawrence hung on the back and let himself drag I steered into the ditch and we got stopped. Just then Hilda Garnett and her beau came along. They escorted us home. We were most grateful to them and that no harm came to the mare or her colt.

Jens and Anne Jensen

by Neilane Thomas

Jens and Anne Jensen with their two children, Curtis and Neilane, came to Maymont in 1948. Jens built a John Deere office and shop which is now the Senior Citizens' Complex. The family resided in the Harris house until January, 1951 when Jens began buying grain for the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool and they moved to Mervin, Saskatchewan where Jens and Anne still reside. Curtis now lives in Richmond, B.C.

Mr. and Mrs. Archibald Robert Johnston

by Dorothy (Johnston) Prynallt

My dad, Archibald Robert Johnston came west in 1905 from eastern Ontario. He bought Section 18, Tp 42, Rge 12, W 3rd, in Saskatchewan and proceeded to become a farmer.

The winter of 1910 he returned to Ontario and married my mother, Lucy Fern Presley on February in Ottawa, returning to Saskatchewan in the spring. I, their only child, Dorothy Merrill, was born June 19, 1911.

A few years later my dad bought a farm three and one-half miles northwest of Maymont. He farmed with horses and later on bought a tractor.

In the early years mother helped at harvest time by driving a binder. My dad built a box and attached it

Lucy and baby Dorothy at the homestead.

below the seat of the binder and apparently I had many rides around the field.

As I grew older threshing time was a big deal to me as I got to haul grain, but I sure was a busy time for my mom.

I started to school at Grey which was a mile east of us, from there I attended classes in the United Church basement, and from there to the Maymont School built in 1920. In 1925 a new three-room school was built known as Maymont S.D. No. 1155 and it was there I finished the education I took.

My dad passed away in July 1927 in Fournier, Ontario at the home of his half sister. A couple of years later my mother remarried and in 1930 they sold out and moved to Eugene, Oregon. On November 1, 1930 I married Edmund Prynault of Balcarres, Saskatchewan. We lived in Maymont and raised three children, Leonard, Patricia and Fern. These were depression times and Ed worked at several different jobs. I had taken a hair dressing course in Saskatoon and was able to help out occasionally. Later on Ed got a job trucking for Werb's Livestock Ltd. in North Battleford. Later he went buying cattle for Mr. Werb, and continued until his health gave out in 1949. He had emphesema, a lung condition. In October 1959 he passed away. During this time I clerked in T. C. Saunders' Store.

In 1960 I sold out and moved to Calgary, Alberta; and lived with Fern and Doug for a year. While there I took the ten month nursing course at the nursing Aid School. I nursed in Calgary and Edmonton. I am retired now and still living in Edmonton.

My mother is still living. She is eighty-eight years old and went into a nursing home last summer (1976) in Roseburg, Oregon.

Len and Bev live in Richmond, B.C. They have three children — Valerie married to Greg Aitkin, and they have a son, Sean.

Steven is employed in a music store. Bryan is learning a trade and their father, Len, works for LaFarge Building Supplies in Richmond.

Pat and Sam Campbell live in the town of Luseland, Saskatchewan. Sam is a grain farmer and Pat nurses at Kerrobert. They have three children — Duncan married and living at Buffalo Narrows, Janice going to University, and Dean who was a grade twelve grad this year.

Fern and Doug Riley live in Calgary. They have two adopted children, Alison and John both in school. Doug works for Shell Oil and Fern is a buyer for the "Tall Girl Shop" in Calgary.

Emma Jessie (Gray) MacDonald Johnston

told by Emma

I was born at Bracebridge, Ontario, October 18, 1905 and came west with my parents, William Charles and Rosetta Gray in April, 1908. I attended Maymont and Montro Schools.

In October of 1923 I married Angus MacDonald. There were three children of my first marriage. Mary Elizabeth — September 8, 1924; Donald William Angus — July 23, 1926; and Wilma Georgia — July 27, 1928.

Angus MacDonald passed away December 26, 1929. I spent some time with my parents on their farm southwest of Maymont. When the children came of age to attend school I built a house in the village and moved in with my wee family.

I joined the Ladies Aid and Women's Missionary Society which I served as president for ten years and served in numerous other offices. I also joined the Sharon United Church, was a C.G.I.T. Leader, also served as Baby Band Leader and taught Sunday School.

This was mostly during the 1930's and money was scarce. I made over old clothing into dresses, coats and even footed stockings for the children from my mother's cotton hose. A few yards of cotton print was a luxury. Some of my better off friends gave me used clothing for which I was very grateful. I had to make everything I possibly could as the Mother's Allowance was only fifteen dollars a month. How I managed I will never know, but God was good to us. My parents and brothers helped me as much as they could, but they, too, were finding it hard to carry on.

Mary worked out during the fall to make enough money to buy her books for the new term. She was only twelve years old. I did sewing for some of my neighbors and friends to make a little extra money.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Johnston and Mr. and Mrs. S. F. and Family

told by Jim Johnston

My Grandfather Frank Johnston came West from Rockland, Ontario in the Spring of 1905 to file on a homestead, situated North of the hamlet of Maymont, on the S.E.¼ sec. 22, T43 R12 W3rdM. This he did by walking to Battleford, Sask. the Head Land Office for the Territories, crossing the river by steam ferry.

Farmstead of Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Johnston.

Mr. S. F. Johnston.

Mrs. S. F. Johnston.

Grandfather stayed the summer months, returning home to Ontario to prepare for the departure of his family the following Spring 1906. Dad who was married in December, 1903, worked in the logging camp, gave up his job to come West with his Father and brother Robert by freight train and two cars of settlers effects'. On their arrival a tent and sod house made temporary shelter for the summer months.

Dad bought homestead land from a cousin, the S.E. ¼ sec. 30, 42, 12-W3rd. and the N.E.¼ sec. 19, 42, 12. W3rd. of C.P.R. land. He began building a house on this quarter with the help of cousin George Johnston, neighbours and friends. Additions were added later then stuccoed in brick design as it now stands.

Mother, Grandmother and brother Lorne who was 15 months old came in the summer. Dad's sisters Annie and Margaret (Mrs. Joe Campbell) and family coming later to make our family complete. Mother and baby stayed with Uncle Alex and Aunt Jennie until the house was built.

The men were kept busy building a stable too, breaking land and cutting hay, of which there was plenty on the treeless prairie. There was sufficient water for the animals in the sloughs, but drinking water came from the neighbours, who had come out earlier and had dug wells by hand. It was hauled in milk cans brought with them from Ontario.

Dad tried digging a well in his yard without success. He heard of Mr. Jack Smithe who was digging wells in Fielding area with a horse-drawn boring machine. Mr. Smithe came, dug down 180 ft., the water coming up within [illegible] ft. of the top. This well served [illegible] for many years. A windless was used for a

time, later a pump and windmill. A cistern dug beside the well, a building built over it and a stationary engine ■ it to run a pump-jack attached to the pump. This method was needed to fill the cistern and trough when the wind did not blow.

When I was 19 Uncle Robert's windmill needed greasing. I never was afraid of height, so on this windy day I was up doing this, the windmill began to sway. I finished but got down the 40 ft. in a hurry. The next morning it had fallen to the ground. I never could go up high again.

As Dad's family increased ■ six boys and three girls, one more quarter of land was bought, some rented. More horses were necessary and a larger barn ■ ft./40 ft. was started in 1916. The first 8 ft./2 ft. wall was of stone and cement. Stewart Muir was the stone mason, and with help of cousin Sam, Uncle Robert, Frank and John Conkey, Jack Easterday and friends. The following year the lumber half was built by carpenters Art Martin of Maymont and Wilson Warcup of Sonningdale.

Our school days began at Grey School and ended there too. I often talk about those days, some good, some not so good. Our first teachers were Francis Christfield, Helen Wood, Dorothy Chisholm, Louise Elkerton and Mr. Henderson. Some had ■ hard time to stay and live with the gang that went to school then.

Dad had a herd of Aberdeen Angus Cattle in the later years, so needed more pasture, the school section adjoining his farm was rented for many years. Here loads of hay were cut, some put ■ the loft with slings and some ■ stacks left in the meadow.

Farming was done with machinery brought from Ontario. Ben Wooden came from Fielding district to thresh with his Steam threshing machine. In a few years Dad bought a Sawyer-Massey wooden machine, when we finished school Lorne and I ran the outfit for him. A Case 36/54 was used until Combines became the method of harvesting. Then more modern machinery, trucks and cars became a necessity.

I remember the summer I was eight years old, Grandfather was harrowing in the North field, a lightning storm came up suddenly, struck the three horses and killed them. Grandfather was only partially knocked unconscious but after resting a week he had recovered. During this time we took the opportunity to raid his garden, but we did not go unpunished as he never forgot any mistakes we made.

Sunday was a day of rest and Church services were held in the settlers homes by travelling Ministers. Grandfather and Grandmother always made them welcome at their home as he did of anyone who came there; this tradition followed in Dad and Mother's home, too.

I was eight years old when Grandmother passed away in September, 1916, eleven years when Grandfather passed away ■ January, 1919. Those first years with them were very meaningful to each of us and many fond memories remain.

As each of us were married, we made homes of our own some near some far away. There are 28 Grandchildren and 63 Great Grandchildren.

Lorne and Gladys, a family of four at Duncan, B.C. Dean deceased. Donna (Mrs. Jack Crandon) Chemainus, B.C. Keith of Campbell River, B.C. Kathaleen (Mrs. Robin MacDowell) Duncan B.C. Gladys deceased 1976. Ernie and Ada ■ family of two at Parksville, B.C. Grant and Delbert at Parksville, B.C. Ernie deceased 1971. Cora and Don a family of two at Victoria, B.C. Mark and Ricky Victoria, B.C. Alma and Alec at N. Battleford Sask. Myrtle and Nathan Friedman a family of three at N. Battleford, Sask. Lorraine (Mrs. Marshall Pollick) and Harvey of Toronto, Ontario. Robert of N. Battleford, Sask. Russell and Alice a family of seven at Fort Saskatchewan, Alta. Yvonne (Mrs. Jim Garnet) Margaret (Mrs. Ken Samletzski) Arnold and Wayne of Fort Saskatchewan, Alta. Debbie (Mrs. Nick Plooy) Edmonton, Alta. Betty (Mrs. David Foster) N. Battleford, Sask. Russell deceased. Patricia (Mrs. Ernie Newbauer) Winnipeg, Man. Carl and Edith a family of five at Fort Saskatchewan, Alta. Beverly (Mrs. Don Stannard) Calgary, Alta. Lois (Mrs. Norman Wallace) Dale and Wilfred ■ Fort Saskatchewan, Alta. Dean of Edmonton, Alta. Arthur and Emma a family of one at Regina, Sask. Ruth (Mrs. Ron McLeod) Regina, Sask.

The farm is sold now and no one lives on it.

Mother passed away in September, 1946. Dad moved ■ town in 1952, later residing at Duncan, B.C. and River Heights Lodge at North Battleford, Sask. until 1970, when he passed away.

I, Jim live on my farm East of Dad's.

Our Pioneer Women

From the very beginning women shared the disappointments and the setbacks as well as the rewards that attended life on the Western prairies in the early days. They cheerfully endured the hardships of homesteading, the loneliness and the gruelling hard work. Many of them lived in sod houses or rough log shacks, far from civilization and with none of the amenities of life such ■ Western farm women, for the most part, know today. Even the most gently-natured ones — and there were many of this kind — had to learn to do everything for themselves, pump water, trim lamps, bake bread, milk cows, cook for hungry men, raise children without help and sometimes even do their stint in the fields.

written by Jim Johnston

Arthur Roy Johnston

written by "Doug"

I was born May 3, 1914 at the farm home of my parents Samuel ■. and Julia Johnston. I attended school at Grey School.

I worked on my father's farm in the summers and

worked in logging camps in Northern Ontario and Northern Saskatchewan for two winters.

In 1940 I married Emma MacDonald (nee Gray). Emma was a widow with three children, so I became a step-father. In 1941 we were blessed with a daughter, Ruth Darlene Julia.

I continued to farm until 1969 when I rented for two years and finally sold. I moved to Regina and took a job at the Regina Inn. After one and a half years I moved to the Y.M.C.A. where I am still employed.

While in Maymont I joined the Sharon United Church and served on the Board of Stewards, was a member of the Wheat Pool and served as a director. The last eight years I farmed from town having moved in in 1960.

I attend Zion United Church in Regina. I am a member of Tor-Hill Golf Club, of the Y.M.C.A., and the Health Club.

I have two grandchildren and thirteen step-grandchildren and fifteen great step-grandchildren.

In 1977 I spent a month in Great Britain visiting England, Scotland and Wales. In 1976 I took a tour of California, Mexico and U.S.A. In 1978 I spent two weeks in Jamaica, West Indies.

I lived in an apartment for some time and finally moved in to a small apartment on the ground floor of our daughter's home where I am at present.

I spent one winter in Vancouver with my step-daughter, Wilma and husband. Garry, and have visited Vancouver Island many times. I curl in the winter and golf all summer. I am a Senior Citizen now and plan to get involved in some of their activities.

I am known to many as "Doug" a name I got from school days.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Johnston and Family

told by Laurietta Johnston

I came from Sonningdale, Sask. in August, 1932 as the bride of Jim Johnston, to his farm on S.W. 29, 42, 12, W3rd.

Jim built our house that summer with help of family, neighbours and carpenter Art Martin of Maymont. The basement dug with horses and scraper also much

Jim Johnston family — 1969. L. to r. — Glen, Ilene, Kirk, Laurietta and Jim, Eleanor.

Log barn built in 1933.

done with pick and shovel. The rough spruce lumber hauled with two team of horses and wagon gear from the saw-mill at Rabbit Lake 50 miles North. The round trip taking 2 days. Remaining lumber etc. bought at Fred McCorkle's lumber yard at Maymont.

A straw barn made shelter for a team of horses that first winter. This was made by spacing a double row of 12 ft. long poles every 4 ft. apart upright making a 14/16 ft. size barn. Page wire attached to the outside line and inside line and straw put in between the wire. The roof of small poles and sod.

During that winter Ed Rothney and Jim made several trips with a team and sleigh to the West ferry crossing, to haul logs off the island in the river, to build our barn and sheds. There was a shack near by with an old cook stove in it, where they stayed overnight. It was only a shelter, sleep was impossible, as they were kept busy filling the stove with wood to keep from freezing, and waiting for daylight to come so as to get back haulings logs. Even then their tea-pot on the end of the stove froze and broke. Roy Gray, who lived near there, came in the morning and invited them to stay with them, they gladly accepted the invitation, no need now to endure another cold night.

There were many hours of hard labour those first years, all the farm buildings were made of logs and sod roof. This log barn now 47 years later is still standing 4 miles East of here on Ira Thompson's farm as we knew it then.

In 1951 we bought a lumber barn 36/50 ft. from Sam A. Johnston. It was moved by Bill Perkins of North Battleford with two local tractors and a catapillar tractor of our neighbour Jake Prescesky. Gradually as we could afford it, lumber buildings replaced the logs ones.

After a few years, Jim bought a driving team from Mr. Bradshaw, often driving Doctor Scratch and cattle buyers in the winter throughout the district. Extra money was needed those years of the depression.

Many times in those days of 1934-37 the winds blew every day, so much sand and dust in the air, a lighted lamp was used all day. We saw many people travelling North past our farm coming from Southern

Saskatchewan with just what the wagons could carry, cattle being herded along with them. We had very little straw those years too, we bought straw from a neighbour and hauled ■ from his old straw-stack that had been left a few years previous, for just such an emergency it would seem. We considered ourselves fortunate not having to move away too.

The sawing of the wood was a Spring event for every farm. The neighbours gathered at each other's place, usually it took six men to saw up at least 10 loads of dry and green wood for the year. Most of this wood was hauled from across the river 20 miles away in the winter.

Two bored wells were dug in 1933 by Gordon Downey, one 90 ft. and one 231 ft. both unsuccessful. Jim then hauled water in barrels or tank with horses and wagon or sleigh from the neighbours well for most of 15 years. A dug-out made with horses and scraper in the later Forties became our source of water. Later ■ 1960 a large one near the buildings was dug by Cliff Spence Construction Co. of Speers, Sask.

Everyone attended Church and Sunday School held at the country schools in summer. Rev. Frank Myers of Maymont came to Grey School, Rev. David Cline of Ruddell came to Wavie Bank School. These schools were the center for entertainments too, Christmas concerts, social evenings and dances. Always a school picnic at end of the school year ■ June. Home-made lemon-aid and ice-cream .5¢ a dish. Games and races for everyone of any age. But there was always the cows to milk when you got home.

Power came ■ our yard in 1954, making work easier, no more cleaning of lamp globes and lanterns being blown out on the way to the barn on a windy night. Most noticeable was the refrigerator replacing the ice-well, where cream, milk, meat and any food needed to be kept cold was stored. This was a square hold dug by hand ■ the ground near your house 8 ft. wide 8 ft. deep or larger, filled with blocks of ice cut with an ice-saw at the river. Each layer covered with saw-dust and straw ■ preserve the ice for summer months and ■ small building over it.

Our farming was done with horses for 15 years, a Hart-Parr on steel wheels the first tractor. Another quarter of land was bought, some rented, then modern machinery, trucks and a car became a necessity. We sold our cattle and horses in 1967, but continued farming until 1976 when our land was rented out.

Our family of four went to Eatonia and Wavie Bank country schools and town school in Maymont. Most of their school years they drove a shetland pony and cart ■ summer and a driving horse in winter. Later the school bus being the way of transportation.

The family are married and live at the following places.

Eleanor (Mrs. Bernard Spence) a family of three at Maymont, Sask.

Darrell, Lana, Karen.

Ilene (Mrs. David Zwack) a family of three at Saskatoon, Sask.

Dana, Jamie, Sheila.

Glen and Elva a family of five at Langham, Sask. Glen deceased in 1972.

Michelle, Darren, Desmond, Laurie, Barry.

Michelle (Mrs. Stuart Wurtz) a family of two at Langham, Sask.

Kirk and Lorraine at Lloydminster, Alberta.

Jim ■ now deceased this February, 1979.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam A. Johnston and Daughter Mrs. Bernice Wood

written by Bernice Wood

Sam A. Johnston was born at Plantegenet, Ontario, ■ the year 1886. He came west with a carload of horses and bought land from Walter Sholdice between Maymont and Richard in the Wavie Bank District.

He married Jessie Sutherland (born 1897) in the year 1917. Jessie Sutherland came west in the year 1915 to her sister's place, Mrs. Joseph Kinmond at Speers. She worked at different places — Alex Brehon's and S. F. Johnston's where she met Sam A. Johnston.

One son, Raymond, (Ray) was born July, 1918 and farms the homeland. Ray married Laveta Klassen of Richard. They have one son Lloyd and two grandsons.

A daughter, Berneice, was born January, 1920. She married George Wood in December, 1943. They had a family of three — Kenneth, Dorothy, and Lyle. Kenneth was killed ■ a car accident in 1965. Dorothy, born September 1949 married Robert Bell. They live in Edmonton and Dorothy works in a bank. They have two children, Kenneth and Sandra. Lyle was born August 3rd, 1953. He married Kathryn Dobie in 1975 and they have one daughter, Lindsay. Lyle ■ a postman. He also worked 4 years with the Hudson Bay. Lyle spent one year at Mackenzie, B.C. before he came back to work ■ Saskatoon.

The winter of 1920, Sam A. Johnston went to B.C. to work in the bush. He farmed with horses for many years. They used coal oil lamps ■ see with and they travelled with a horse and buggy. They got their first car ■ 1920. Dr. Scratch was their doctor in those early years.

Sam had his first combine in 1928. He used it one year and then got a threshing machine.

Sam was on the School Board of Wavie Bank School which was built in 1928. Ray and Berneice went to Wavie Bank School driving to school, 2 miles, with a horse and buggy. They had both started school at Bathgate but went to Wavie Bank after it was built, as it was closer. Also by that time Bathgate had been moved to the hamlet of Lilac. Some of their teachers were: Miss Bailey, Ken Doolittle, ■. Broley and Mr. McFarlane.

Sam played the violin for dances in the 30's.

Sam A. was on the Municipal council for a number

of years as well as on the River Heights Lodge board in later years.

Sam and Jessie bought a house in Maymont in 1952. They moved back and forth from the farm until he sold the farm to Ray in 1961. He was on the Maymont Village Council until his health got too bad. He enjoyed curling.

Bernaice makes her home in Maymont. She likes to crochet, knit, make quilts, and garden with flowers around the house.

The Herbert Johnston Family

written by Nellie Johnston

Herbert, son of Alexander Johnston and Janet Shane came west to Maymont with his parents and family of nine children in 1905 from Ontario to take up a homestead. His older brothers Alex, Bob and Will were working in North Dakota. They heard that Saskatchewan was opening up for homesteads so came up with two other lads in 1903. They filed homesteads and wrote back home. Our grandfather's homestead was three miles north of Maymont where Wilfred now

Group of young people at Rob Johnstons.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Johnston.

Herb Johnston family, 1951.

lives. Herbert married Ernestina Bohn, daughter of Frances Bohn and Sarah Parker in 1910. They were a family of twelve children and came west in 1907 from Manitoba. Mother and Dad lived in our grandfathers house and our grandparents moved another 1½ miles further north to the homestead of Fred McCorkle as they farmed the land. Mr. McCorkle did have the first store there hoping the railway would come that far north. When it didn't he built in Maymont and sold his land to our grandparents. Dad and mother had eight children Hazel, Harvey, Nellie, Sadie, Gordon, Wilfred and Grace and Allan who was deceased in 1981. We went to school in Grey School which was built in 1905. We had numerous teachers two or three a year. I'm sure those young teachers were frightened with over thirty pupils and so many grown boys much larger than they.

We children had our chores to do. Some did the milking others looked after the horses. We always had a big garden and had our share of pulling weeds. We had our fun also playing hockey in the winter and baseball in the summer. We had a rink in the backyard in the winter. I have spent hours standing in goal while pucks were fired at me both at home and at school. Hockey sticks were made of poplar wood and the pucks were also pieces of wood. Every child who could hold a bat had a chance to play ball the extra players went out in the field. The students were anxious to play games at recess and noon hour. The year I attended the town school I found it lonesome as so many pupils went home at lunch time and the ones that stayed just wanted to hang around the school. At the country school we frequently had a little program Friday afternoon. We had plays and recitations with every pupil taking part at some time and Christmas Concert night I'm sure no movie star was as important as our student actors. At Valentines day and Hallowe'en our parents and younger brothers and sisters were invited to a party at the school. Our parents enjoyed these as much as we did as it gave them a chance to visit with their neighbors. At Maymont School in the winter we got out to see the Senior hockey games. We got Bob McCorkle with his charm to ask permission from the

principal. We gave up half an hour at noon and our recess so we would be out for the game which cost us a whole dime.

Our father supplemented his farm income by breeding horses and buying and shipping carloads down east to Ontario. We had some merry rides to school when he was breaking in the new ones. Hazel inherited her father's love of horses and wasn't afraid of any of them. She gave us some scarey moments when she would slide down the straw stacks onto the back of any horse and they would stampede into the farm yard. She took Harvey and I on a fast buggy ride before any of us were old enough to go to school. Dad was away with the new buggy but Hazel managed to harness a horse with some old harness and hitch it to the old buggy. She sat me down at the bottom and she and Harvey on the seat. Our mother came up from the cellar as we were going out the gate. She thought we would head for our aunts place so phoned her. I can still see my aunt with her arms outstretched as we drove in the yard. Hazel became a fine horsewoman and in her early teens hauled grain from the threshing machine.

We had interesting neighbors. Tom Sawyer a story book character to us who came from England. One of our cousins was staying at our grandparents place and Mr. Sawyer came to get some water he asked Mr. Sawyer "Whats your name?" He replied "Tom Sawyer, what's yours?" "Huck Finn" came the reply.

The Giffard family came from the United States. They had a flag pole on their front lawn and always flew the American flag on the 4th of July. When we took the lunch out in the field in threshing time, Mr. Giffard would tell his stories of some event in the United States. Mrs. Giffard was a quiet woman and a lovely dressmaker and made us some very pretty dresses. Their youngest daughter Cornetta married Charlie Hall and came back to the farm for awhile and was our neighbor once again. She taught school at Wavie Bank and their daughter Ann was born while they lived there.

Our father loved public life and served on the school board, church board, and was a municipal councillor for many years. On Sunday he took over minding us, made sure our shoes were polished and got us ready for Sunday school. Mother was a home person and kept the home fires burning as some one had to stay home with us all coming and going. She belonged to the Women's Missionary Society and made tea and coffee for church functions for many years. She enjoyed her quiet time and would stay up after all had gone to bed to tend the fires, write letters and do Bible study. She was good at looking after the sick and was often called to help a neighbor lay out the dead at the passing of a loved one in the early years. She acted as mid-wife and helped the local Doctor bring many children into the world. We had an open house to travellers with free food and lodging. During the hard times when men were walking the roads, mother would see that the men would bathe their feet and she would wash and mend their sox or give them a new pair before they went on their way.

When we took a contagious disease all the family were quarantined for 3 weeks. We had many a game of marbles or table tennis on our long dining table as many a time there would only be one sick. Gordon took polio when he was 3 years old. We took turns rocking him in our cradle until he improved. Death struck our family in 1931. Our grandmother, Mother's mother and our grandfather, Dad's father and our youngest brother, Allan died within three weeks. After the death of our grandfather my grandmother spent the winter at our house and went back to her own home in the spring.

As the crops failed, those who could got winter jobs. Gordon went to Fort Frances, Ontario to play hockey for $25.00 a month but could get $40.00 working in the bush so changed to that. Harvey and an uncle also went. Harvey then went to Kirkland Lake and worked in the gold mines. Hazel went to southern Sask. and worked on the Gilchrist ranch. Sadie was training for a nurse at Cranbrook, B.C. I went out with my cousins to B.C. to work. All but Harvey had returned when the war broke out.

The first harvest during the war was a trying one. Gordon had been called to the army. By this time we had a small threshing outfit and Gordon ran the tractor. Wilfred was young but did his best to take over. He spent many late evenings studying the tractor manuals. By the time Gordon's leave came through harvest was nearly over.

Later when Wilfred was married mother and dad moved into a house they bought from the Nathan Friedman's which was built by Fred McCorkle. They lived to celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary and both died in their 80th year two months apart.

Sadie married Lésinae Le Beau and they lived in the Okanagan Valley. Lee worked on the boats on Okanagan Lake and was on the gate at Rogers Pass until his retirement. Sadie still nursed until then. They had two children, Wayne and Karen. Wayne has three children and works for the D.N.R. at Fort St. John. Karen is Mrs. Steve Brown of Calgary and they have 4 children. Sadie and Lee now live in Okanagan Falls, B.C.

Grace is Mrs. Bob McKenzie and they live in Saskatoon. She had two children, Donald Patterson of Edmonton and Diane, Mrs. Gene Matechuk of Calgary. She has three grandchildren, Jim and Rose, and Heather Patterson of Edmonton.

I went to Ontario during the war and worked in an ammunition factory filling shells at Ajax, Ontario for defense Industries Ltd. for three years. After the war I worked at Oshawa, Ontario. There I met my husband James Johnston. After our marriage we went back to Northern Ontario where he used to live. He got a job working in the gold mines. Gold was $30.00 an ounce then, not $300.00 like it is now. After my husbands

death I came back to Maymont with Helena, four, and Ralph, seventeen months old. We lived with Gordon who was farming the Dawson farm. Later we bought it. The children loved the farm. We had lots of water but had a windmill. You would see ■ turning, grab the water pail, and by the time you got there it would stop. We had a windmill at home also but had a cistern so could always get water. I think the highlight of those years was getting electricity. I don't think anyone really dreamed of having power on the farm. I think the day the power was turned on we had every room lighted, it was such a thrill. Percy Parker lived with us in the summer. He worked and had his land farmed also. The children loved him and he always had time ■ fix anything they wanted fixed. It was a sad day when he passed away.

I enjoyed my years on the farm. We had very good neighbors, so willing to pick the children or I up to take us to events. I was glad I came back to Maymont. The church groups, 4-H leaders and choir leaders who had such a great part in helping me bring up my children. We are now living in town. Ralph is with us still. Helena ■ Mrs. Randall Bell and lives in Saskatoon. She has two children Jim, 8 and Roxanne, 5. We had an anxious time when Roxanne was born. She was an undernourished child and weighed 2½ lbs. at birth. To me she looked like one of those Biafra children, was so thin. She responded to loving care and was a real fighter. By her first birthday she could do anything other children her age could do. She starts to kindergarten this year.

The Harvey Johnston Family

Harvey Johnston is a son of Herbert and Ernestina Johnston.

Greg, Alan, Merle and Harvey.

Harvey married Merle McGregor of Kirkland Lake, Ontario, on June 23, 1941. They have two sons — Alan and Gregory, both born in Kirkland Lake, Ontario, now both married and residing in Saskatchewan.

Harvey served in the armed forces in World War II and was Prisoner Of War in Italy, Austria, and Germany. After the Armistice he returned to farming until taking over the Post Office from Clem Coleman in 1958. He retired ■ 1977 and is living in Maymont.

Harvey is a village councillor and a member of the Maymont Library Board and the Maymont Legion.

Margaret Emma Johnston

Margaret Emma (Lough) Johnston was born in Alpen, Michigan, U.S.A. April 24, 1882. She was the elder daughter of a family of five children of William Lough and Elizabeth (nee Somers) Lough. Prior to her marriage she was a professional dressmaker.

■ 1912 she was married to Robert Frank Johnston and moved to Maymont, Saskatchewan where she resided with her husband, farming one and a half miles north of the Village of Maymont. Later upon retirement she moved into Maymont where she resided until 1968 when she moved to Edmonton to be near her family. She had three children, Clifton, Norman, and Leola all born at the farm residence with Dr. J. A. Scratch being in attendance.

Mrs. Johnston passed away in Edmonton in April 1979 with funeral services in the Sharon United Church, Maymont, and interment was made in the family plot in the Maymont Cemetery.

Mrs. Johnston was a member of the Maymont United Church, Women's Missionary Society, Maymont Homemakers since 1922, and the Ladies Aid. She assisted ■ drama in Maymont in the early years, and gave much of her time to this project. She gave demonstrations in both sewing and glove making. She was leader and organizer of the first Homecraft Club held in Maymont. She was an instructor for the Farm Girls Camp and acted on the Board of Camp Leaders in North Battleford. She was a member and one time president of a weaving class brought to Maymont through the Searle Grain Company, this being a six-week course. She was the first lady appointed to the local cemetery board and was active until 1956.

Robert Frank Johnston

Robert Frank Johnston was born at Horseshoe Bay, Quebec on October 10, 1878. He came to Maymont in the year 1906. In the early years he bought horses and shipped them east for sale. Later he took up farming in Maymont one and a half miles north of the town.

In 1912, ■ was married to Margaret Emma Lough in Alpen, Michigan. Then she returned to Maymont and resided with him on the farmstead.

Mr. Johnston was the second eldest of four children of the late Frank Johnston and Margaret (nee Lough) Johnston.

Mr. and Mrs. Rob Johnston raised three children, namely, Clifton, Norman, and Leola all born at the farm ■ Maymont.

Mr. Johnston passed away on May 9, 1960 with funeral services in the Sharon United Church ■ Maymont on May 13, 1960. Reverend Frank Myers officiating, with interment in the Maymont Cemetery.

Mr. Johnston at the time of his death was a member of the Sharon United Church in Maymont and ■ Life Member of the Mayfield and Douglas Agricultural Society.

Muriel and Howard Johnson and Son

Muriel and Howard Johnson came to Maymont in April 1957 — had one son, Bernard. Howard worked for the Rural Municipality of Mayfield for four years. In November of 1961, we moved to North Battleford. We came from Bracken, Saskatchewan where Howard had worked for the Rural Municipality of Lonetree. Bernard attended school in Maymont when Mr. Armstrong was principal.

We enjoyed our time there. We were there for Dr. Scratch Day.

Sven Axel Waldemar Johnsson (1904-1972)

by Muriel Johnsson

Sven Johnsson was born near Linkoping in southern Sweden on April 12, 1904. This area of Sweden is a rich agricultural area, wheat being the main crop. He was one of the younger members of a family of eight, five girls and three boys. At the age of eighteen he entered the army for one year compulsory military service but remained for three years as an instructor in demolitions. He also became an avid cross-country skier, winning races in that sport.

In the spring of 1928 he emigrated to Canada, landing at Halifax and came directly ■ Kitscoty, Alberta where he worked for a farmer named Wayne Randall for two years.

Back (l-r) — Jo-Ella, Charlotte, Lynne. Front: Sven, Erik, Muriel, Nancy — 1963.

In the spring ■ 1930 ■ came to Ruddell, Saskatchewan, where he hoped to obtain work on No. 5 Highway which was then under construction. Work had been halted on the highway but through the help of Bill Kennedy who lived at the Ruddell Hotel he obtained work at the farm of Dave Alexander where Pete Prescesky now lives. Sven planted the trees ■ the windbreak which shelters that yard.

The Alexanders were much impressed by this young Swede and when fall came Mr. Alexander came to my father, the late John Swan, to recommend that he hire him. My father was crippled by arthritis so he had to have year round help on the farm.

So Sven came to work for us on the farm ■ the Lilac Area. He stayed until the spring of 1936, when he went farming on his own on land rented from Mr. O. C. Harper south of Lilac, land which is now owned by Harold Pain. Sven continued to farm for the next four years, returning in the winters to do the chores on my dad's farm.

In the meantime I had grown up and finished high school and these were the depression years.

Sven and I, having been in love for many years were married on December 23, 1940. We continued to live in the farm home; my parents had both died ■ 1940. We raised four girls and one boy, JoElla, Charlotte, Lynne, Nancy and Erik.

Sven raised purebred Hereford cattle, starting with two cows from J. ■. Palmer and Sons of Marsden, Saskatchewan at that time the premier Hereford breeder in Saskatchewan. This was in 1944. We raised Herefords with success until we had a dispersal sale ■ 1959. We showed the grand champion at the North Battleford Bull Sale ■ 1957. Two years later he (the bull) was brought back to the Bull Sale and was Reserve Champion. From 1959 on we had a small feed lot.

Sven died on February 29, 1972, due to a heart attack while on the way to Saskatoon to keep a doctor's appointment.

I continued to live on the farm until the spring of 1978 when the farm was sold to Henry Welford, Bill Welford's oldest son. Since then I have lived in North Battleford.

It was hard to leave the farm where I had lived all my life and where my father had homesteaded.

I have so many pleasant memories especially of a truly wonderful man who came from so far away to be my husband and the father of my children. I have no regrets. It has been and continues to be a good life.

The Jones Family

told by Kenneth Reid

Warren B. Jones and his wife Emma, lived with their four children in Fremont, Nebraska. Mr. Jones was a teacher in Fremont College. The family were comfortable and happy in this beautiful city. However, they too heard the exciting stories of the north west and decided to move to this new land to make their for-

tune. The family arrived in North Battleford in 1911. It was a drastic change in life style and the young people found the adjustment very difficult.

Wilmetta was the oldest daughter. She used to sit and cry and she watched the trains leave North Battleford. As far as she was concerned, they were heading to Fremont, Nebraska. She later returned to Teacher's College in that city. However, upon graduation, she returned and taught school in the Medstead area. Here she became close friends of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Doidge who helped her to survive. She later taught school in the Harringay district where she met her future husband, Grover Reid.

Herschel was the next eldest child. He also returned to school in Nebraska. He then joined the army. After returning from the service, he moved to Buena Park, California where he lived until his death in 1963. He had two daughters, Iris and Betty.

Alta also returned to school in Nebraska. She never returned to Canada to live. She taught school in Nebraska and later married and lived there until her death in 1961. She had two children, Evelyn and Alan.

Alan Jones was the youngest son. He learned to enjoy living in this new land and he decided to remain. Alan married Matilda Johnson and they had one daughter, Maxine, who is now living in Prince Edward Island. Matilda died in April, 1977 and Alan only lived one year later.

W. B. Jones
Lilac

written by Mrs. M. H. Turtle

My name is Maxine Turtle, and I am the only child of Allen and Matilda Jones, who were early settlers in the Lilac district.

My Grandparents, Jones, immigrated from Nebraska to North Battleford in 1912, where my grandfather started a livery stable and taxi service. (Horse-drawn of course). Grandpa was Warren W. Jones, and all his life was referred to by his friends as "W.B." His primary interest was politics. A staunch supporter of the Liberal party, he was always a campaigner, and often a candidate. Since the Liberal party was not too popular in the west in those days, he was never a successful one, although he had been a member of the Legislature in his native Nebraska. He and my grandmother Emma, had both been teachers in Nebraska, but neither of them pursued their profession in Canada.

They had four children, all of whom came to Canada with them. My father and his brother Herschel made the trip in a stock car, taking care of the horses that were being imported, too. The girls, Alta and Wilmetta, travelling in a little more luxury, with their parents in an immigrant car. I believe Alta, the youngest attended school in North Battleford, but they were all sent back to Fremont, Nebraska for their higher education, attending the Normal School there. Both of my aunts later taught school in Canada. My Aunt Alta at the Badger Bluff school, but the boys came home to work with grandpa in his various enterprises, and in 1915 they moved to a farm in the Lilac district.

At one time my grandfather, always a "horse-trader", owned a great deal of land and property in the district, but as happened to many people in the 30's, he was land poor, and lost most of it in the depression years.

The "home place" was on land now owned by Mr. Mike Odishaw. Grandpa moved his house from North Battleford, so it was one of the few houses in the district that was wired for electricity and had a bathroom. Unfortunately neither of these conveniences was very practical, as rural electrification was far in the future.

Both daughters were married from this home, Wilmetta to Mr. Grover Reid, also of the Lilac district, and Alta to Bob Aldrich, a young man she met while attending school in Nebraska. She returned with him to the United States, where she remained until her death in 1965.

My Uncle Herschel returned to the United States when W.W. I broke out, and joined the U.S.E.F. He went overseas with the American Army and on his return home, went to California, married and had two daughters Iris and Betty Ellen. He died in 1968, but his daughters and his widow Ethel still live there.

My father, Allen, joined the Canadian Army, but served only briefly. After their initial training, men who were needed on the farm were granted leave to help with the harvest. By the time he returned from harvest leave, the war was over. He and my mother, Matilda Johnson, were married in March of 1919, and moved to the "English place", where they continued to farm until about 1940. Then they moved to the "home place" where they continued to farm until Dad retired in 1962.

In about 1924 or 25, my grandparents moved to the "Shaw place", where they lived for a few years, selling it to a family named Berryman, sometime in the thirties. The Berryman's were an American family, father, son and their wives. They came from Detroit and had always been urban people until this time I'm sure. I think rural Saskatchewan was quite a shock to them. Mrs. Berryman Jr. was a beautiful pianist, and they all had good singing voices. They busily organized choral groups, a dramatic society, a mixed quartet and kept us all so busy that I'm sure they helped us all endure the grim years of the depression. Eventually they gave up and returned to Detroit. Experienced farmers were having a rough time making things "go" in those years. I wonder if anyone still hears from them. They were a nice family.

Grandpa and Grandma then moved to a house about two miles from Lilac, that had been owned by a Mr. Henry Barnett. They lived there until they retired to North Battleford in 1939.

Grandpa wasn't a very successful retiree; he started a stock yard and ran that for several years, in addition to selling cars for Gladwell Motors. He and Grandma had been married for 64 years at the time of his death, in 1958. Grandma died a year later.

My mother's people were also early settlers in the district. My grandfather Johnson (John) was born in Oslo, Norway. He was a carpenter and cabinet maker. He originally emigrated to North Dakota where he and my grandmother, another Emma, met and were married. Mother, her sister Anna and brother Hjalmer were all born in North Dakota. Grandpa came to Saskatchewan ahead of his family and built their home and much of their furniture himself. The original was a log cabin, later enlarged one room at a time, as the family needs and finances allowed. Grandpa Johnson homesteaded on a farm about equidistance from Lilac and Denholm, but Denholm was their post-office and home village. My aunt Anna had completed her education and was sent to Secretarial School in Saskatoon. There she met and married Mr. Allan Patterson and they went to live in Arcola, Sask. They had two children, Audrey and Carol.

My mother attended Nutana Collegiate ■ Saskatoon and then went on to train as a nurse at ■. Paul's Hospital there. She graduated with the class of 1915 and at the time of her death, was very proud that she was the oldest graduate of her training school. In the early years, after she and Dad were married, she delivered, either alone or with Dr. Scratch of Maymont, a good many of the babies ■ our district. I remember many mornings as a child, waking up to Dad getting breakfast because mother was away "having ■ baby".

My Uncle Hjalmer attended the Badger Bluff school and later, the school in Denholm. Then he stayed on the farm, which on the death of my grandfather, became his own. He married Margaret Curtis and they had three daughters, Thelma, Lenore and Jean, and two sons, Roy and Earl. He will be best remembered ■ an ardent sportsman — baseball, hockey, softball, curling, hunting, fishing, — he did them all, and well. He was always a great hero of mine.

I grew up in the cottage on the "English place". Mr. Bill Parent's were our closest neighbors. They were a big family and since they lived only half a mile away, I didn't have time to be an "only" child. We shared rides ■ school — horse and buggy in summer, the old closed-in "jumper" — sometimes with a heater installed in winter. It was a long three miles to the Barleston school in the winter. My first teacher was Mary Hopkins, who later married Herb Mabey and for many years they ran the general store at Lilac. On Friday nights we all, young and old, went ■ whatever school or hall was having the weekly dance. Remember you took a quarter and your lunch and we all danced from eight o'clock until three in the morning. Any local people who could play made up the band — sometimes Mr. Parent and his violin, or Herb Mabey and his sax — Mrs. Berryman on the piano — sometimes the Wade family. We went as far afield as Baljennie and sometimes to Ruddell or Maymont where they sometimes had a real band. Remember the Tiffen boys and Miss Reid on the piano and Garnett May and his violin?

We all took our higher education by correspondence, with a lot of help from the already overworked public school teacher, then wrote provincial exams just to prove we had really done it. I took my last two years of high school in Ruddell and then on to U. of S. for a year, before going into City Hospital for nurses training. After graduation, I worked at the Provincial San in Saskatoon until I married Len Turtle in 1942. Len was a pilot in the R.C.A.F. whose parents were pioneers in the Marshall district. We were stationed in Souris, Man. when our daughter Eloise was born. The war was over when Len was killed in an air crash in Estevan ■ 1946.

After Len's death, I worked at the D.V.A. hospital ■ Saskatoon until 1950, when I married Len's brother, Bob.

Bob was also a pilot in the air-force, so we were posted to many different parts of Canada — Edmonton, Alta.; Goose Bay, Labrador; Trenton, Ont.; and finally to Summerside, P.E.I., where Bob retired. Bob also spent a year with the U.N. forces in Egypt and we had ■ tour with the U.S.A.F. in Smyrna, Tenn.

Our son Garth was born in Edmonton, attended Acadia University in Wolfeville, N.S. where he graduated with B. Sc. and his B. ■. He now teaches Physical Education in the Summerside Secondary School. He ■ married to Lynn McKinnon of Summerside.

Our youngest daughter, Jennifer, is married to Irving Doucraft of Lowell, Mass., and they have one son, Daren. They are both graduates of St. Francis Xavier University, Jennifer with her B. Sc. in Nursing.

Our elder daughter, Eloise graduated from the Kingston General Hospital School of Nursing and is now married with two children, daughter Lee and son Mark. Her husband is Jack Caverson, a major in the Canadian Forces, presently serving in Kingston, Ont.

Since retirement, Bob and I have been operating a motel and cottages on P.E.I Gives ■ a very busy summer and a long winter vacation.

My mother died ■ 1977 and my father in 1978. They had been living in North Battleford since dad retired, though dad retired like his father, to selling cars and worked for Victory Motors for several years. He also had done some inspecting on a part-time basis for the P.F.R.A.

My parents had been married for ■ years at the time of my mother's death, and had lived in Saskatchewan from the days of sod shanties and ox-carts to the days of jet-liners and air-conditioned tractors. I hope I may see as much and enjoy as much as they did.

Louis and Catherine Karpan

told by Louis Karpan

With the surge of immigration to Canada, my grandfather left Poland and settled in southern Manitoba, where my mother was born. Later the family moved to Krydor, Saskatchewan area just east of Redberry Lake. My father left Poland early in 1905, worked for Canadian National in the vicinity of Saskatoon where he met my mother, then employed ■ the city of Saskatoon. They moved to a homestead west of Krydor. My father passed away in early 1916 due to illness, leaving mother with three young boys. It was two years later that my mother remarried and in 1927 the family moved to Borden and I left to attend Nutana Collegiate in Saskatoon, and on graduating attended Regina Teachers College graduating in 1930 at the age of eighteen years.

Garage built in 1947, Lots 10 and 11, Block 4, Main Street, Maymont.

My first school was just north of Hafford, then called Canada School, later I obtained ■ teaching position at Sand Lake School near present Petrofka bridge. There were forty-eight pupils with eleven grades. This was a very friendly district the pupils were eager for learning and the parents were cooperative and helpful.

The Barchuk family emigrated from Poland and settled in the Krydor northwest area. It was here that Catherine with three sisters and one brother were born, moving to Krydor-Blaine Lake area in 1927. They all attended Krydor public and high school, graduating Catherine attended Regina Teachers College, graduating with a teachers certificate. Her first school was Lost Lake east from Hafford at thirty dollars per month and she had ■ pay for her board and lodging.

Due ■ low teachers salaries, early in 1934 I decided to try my hand at farming. Catherine finished the balance of my term and in July of 1934 joining me for better or for worse. Farming was most interesting and challenging, plenty of work with small returns. ■ was 1940 that daughter Lucy Elaine came to share our lives. She was a healthy baby, and with a terrier named Patsy for company she was no problem but a bundle of joy.

War broke out in 1939, my brother Peter joined up and left for the front lines of Italy and Sicily with the Transport Division of Saskatoon Light Infantry. Catherine and I were faced with more land, more work and due to enlistment help was impossible to get. The load was getting too heavy so we decided to leave the farm and try a business venture. ■ the fall of 1943 we purchased Molan General Store at Speers from Louis Senum. Speers was ■ progressive community full of new ideas of cooperative movement, and spring of 1944 Speers Cooperative Association was organized and approached us ■ purchase of our business. It was end of January of 1945 that the final agreement was just about completed when on Saturday afternoon a customer using the office phone dropped a cigarette into a box of excelsior, and in about two hours the building and contents were burned to the ground; unfortunately no insurance was carried. The fire seemed to end what looked like an interesting venture, but with the fine support and cooperation of the residents of Speers and surrounding community we were able to re-establish the business and build a new building, the present Coop Store. It was spring of 1945 that Speers Cooperative Association took over the business and I was hired as manager. I liked my work very much, the authority all came from Federated in Saskatoon.

Our desire was to own a business of our own, so we looked into the possibilities of locating in the immediate area. Consulting some credit rating executives Maymont was recommended to us as a good location. We began to investigate these possibilities. Driving from the north down Main Street, there were two old original stores, one on each corner ■ the business block on west side of Main Street with a hardware, poolroom and drugstore in between. On the east side was a telephone exchange, bank, light plant, cafe, hotel and service station. The C.N.R. depot was located on the north side of C.N.R. tracks with three grain elevators located on the south side of C.N. siding. Across from the C.N.R. depot was the post office and Esso service station.

A Chinese gentleman by name of Sam Williams was operating a restaurant, in the hotel owned by Bill Sowden. This seemed like the best place to obtain the necessary information, regarding business, people, church, school and community ■ general. On the South West corner of main block was a general store owned by Allan Bean, this was one of the oldest buildings in town built in 1905 by Allan's father Edgar W. Bean. This was ■ flourishing business operated by Allan and Lydia Bean. On the northwest corner of the same block was another old building built by John Reid and his brother James in 1906. This business had changed hands several times, but was now owned by Nathan Friedman, who had just returned from Armed Forces and was wishing to dispose of this business to undertake livestock business.

Just north of Bean's store was a hardware store built in 1908 by Steplar and Carveth and in 1918 J. D. Blacklock purchased this building and opened a hard-

ware store with I.H.C. Implement Agency. This place was purchased in 1945 by M. P. VanderHaegen.

Listening to Sam Williams, watching the buzz of the customers, I felt that in a friendly town where you could see a few Model T's, a few horses at the tie rack, a friendly gambling joint back of the old restaurant, that this could be a real challenge ■ move in with a family and try to make ■ living.

I approached Nathan Friedman about purchasing his business, we made a deal and our next move was to obtain permission from Wartime Prices ■ Trade Board to sell and to buy. Mr. Symmonds was in charge of Battleford Wartime Prices control board, and Nathan assured me that he knew Mr. Symmonds quite well so we should have no difficulty in obtaining necessary permission. We arrived at the Prices Control Board office, set down and Mr. Symmonds said, "What can I do for you gentlemen." "I have sold my store business," said Nathan. "Oh I do not know if you have, you have not got my permission to sell." "Oh, that ■ why we are here," I interjected. "Nathan wishes to obtain permission ■ sell and I wish to get your permission to buy." "That's different," said Mr. Symmonds, "we will see what we can do for you." Filling a few forms, answering a few questions, we obtained our permits, concluded the deal and on November ■, 1945, we took stock and took over the business.

There were no homes available to rent or buy, my family remained at Speers where we had built a new home in spring of 1945, while I moved into the Imperial Hotel. The hotel had ten bedrooms, a sitting room and one pot-belly heater in the living room that heated all ten rooms. If you desired heat, you kept your door open, since there was no central heating system.

New Year's Eve was a galla event, everybody came out to celebrate. I never realized that a ten-room hotel could hold so many people in one night, so happy, carefree and gay. I got caught in this galla event, since I was lodging there, with two young ladies sitting on my bed covers, trying to convince me that this was New Year's Eve and that this particular one will never come again. It was some time before I was able to convince the two young ladies that I am in no hurry, I shall see many more New Years' Eves. When they left I turned the central heating off and fell asleep.

Our family did not move into town until January 28, 1946. Mrs. Holmes was kind to rent us her home for the winter months, the house next to Sharon United Church. Spring of 1946 I began to look for a location to build a home. When I inquired at the Village office, I was surprised when the secretary told me there were not any lots for sale. It seemed odd so I began to inquire for a location from other residents, who seemed to own more lots than they needed. On inquiring I was also surprised that they did not own all the lots. We were able to buy three and build a home, presently owned by N. R. Bates.

Those who remember the old store building will recall the building was divided by ■ partition and the back half was used as storage for hides, frozen fish and meat. We proceeded to enlarge the building by removing the centre partition. When we arrived in the following morning we found that all fruit and vegetables were frozen solid. We proceeded to insulate and reline the inside walls to keep out the weather and cold.

The spring of 1946, Ted Saunders had arrived from Canadian Armed Forces and since he was the employee in the store before enlistment, he expected to be re-instated so he took the position from Donald McDonald who was temporarily employed. Ted worked as an employee, but had a desire to start a business of his own. With a little coaching from the Canadian Legion Ted went into butcher business in the south wing of the general store. This venture did not prove too prosperous and Ted returned to the old store as manager and finally purchased the business in 1950.

Spring of 1947 we could see that there was need of a garage outlet in the town, so we purchased the old metal building which housed the town light plant, demolished the building and put up new garage building. We were able to obtain contracts with General Motors to sell Pontiac-Buick cars and G.M.C. Trucks also an implement contract to sell J. I. Case machinery. Rae Walton, Jack Cash and Lloyd Parker were hired as mechanics. The community owes these three gentlemen many thanks for kind services that they faithfully performed.

1951 was an eventful year, daughter Gladys Linda joined her sister Lucy Elaine, which made our family complete.

In 1953 the Provincial Highway bypassed the town quarter of a mile to the north. We could see possibilities of highway service. We approached Mr. J. M. Martin, who was executor of Whitehouse Estate SW 32-41-12-3rd and were able to purchase the property on which we built the present Esso Service Station, which was opened for business in the spring of 1954 with Walter Starosta as manager and the family operated the lunch counter. The following year two duplex bungalows and a bathhouse were added just east of the service station. This proved to be ■ profitable addition to the enterprise, but help was difficult to get so after two years the cottages were closed and sold. In 1958 we sold the whole operation to Imperial Oil, with Gordon Leach as operator.

After selling the service station we decided to build a new home on SW 32-41-12-3rd about 1500 yds. east of the service station. This was a landmark, the little red house our family home. Our family resided here until 1975 when it was sold to Bob and Marg Johnston. At present we reside in the Village of Maymont.

In 1948 the residents of the Village of Maymont petitioned the village council to adopt Daylight Saving Time. The council passed a bylaw adopting Daylight Saving Time, apparently this did not please all the residents and another petition was presented to revert

to Standard time, this annoyed the council and the whole council resigned, leaving the village without any administration. Some of us did not like this situation, so M. P. VanderHaegen, Fred Porter and myself decided to ask the Department of Municipal Affairs to set up machinery to elect a new village council. Mr. John Brocklebank, the minister of Municipal Affairs appointed James Rogers as returning officer and a new council, M. P. VanderHaegen, Fred Porter and myself were elected.

Maymont community sports were under the direction of Sports Committee headed by J. D. Blacklock. This organization was disbanded in 1947 and replaced by an active Board of Trade, which looked after sports day, skating arena, planting of trees and general advisory to the village comcil. I had the privilege of serving the village as overseer from 1948 to 1957 at which time I took a challenge from the municipal reeve, contested the municipal elections and chaired the municipal council for the next six years.

With the fifties came the end to minor municipal problems, herd law enforcement, weed inspections, grasshopper control and relief vouchers, and councils were faced with more serious and progressive programs. The Provincial Government embarked on a Grid Road Assistance Programs, whereby municipalities could get assistance to provide a better class of engineered roads. The ratepayers were enthused and demanded that better roads be provided. In the spring of 1958 the municipality started on the grid road south of Maymont to the Saskatchewan river. The following year Schmidt's Construction contracted to build five miles of grid north of Maymont.

The sixties brought more changes, farms were being mechanized, the provincial highways were better, people were equipped with better class of transportation, and demanded still better roads. The provincial government developed a Farm Access Road Program, to assist municipalities to build more and better class of roads and assist to provide rural residents with urban living.

Seventies brought in the Main Street Improvement and highway connection program, under direction of Minister of Highway and Transportation, Eiling Kramer. This linked small communities with black top and provincial highway system. The demand for winter road and better summer roads forced the municipalities to invest in bigger and better equipment. Also gravel more roads making them all weather as much as possible.

Our family was growing up, daughters Lucy Elaine graduated from University of Saskatchewan with a degree in Education and specializing in primary work, while Gladys Linda being more adventurous joined the Canadian Navy and left for the East coast. We continued in our business venture until the spring of 1965, when we sold the business to Lloyd Parker and continued with grain and hog farming enterprise.

In my spare time I attended classes in Law and Administration at the University of Saskatchewan and took a course in municipal accounting from Regina College. In completing my studies I received my certificates of standing and the family left on a summer holiday. In September of the same year Mr. Ivor Westerberg took ill and was forced to retire. I was engaged as secretary-treasurer of the R.M. of Mayfield No. 406 in 1967.

My previous association with the municipality made my work interesting and challenging for the next eleven years. The reeve of the municipality was Richard Voegeli, with foresight and progressive achievement. Throughout his term of office the municipality took advantage of winter works programs and built a new residence, office and a heated shed for winter storage of road clearing equipment. The municipality also built many better class of Farm Access Roads. He was followed by Victor Prescesky as reeve who had visions of even a better class of Farm Access Roads engineered to grid road specifications. It was during this period that Fire Fighting Equipment was purchased in partnership with Villages of Maymont and Ruddell.

Throughout the years our family was busy trying to make a living, that it was not until 1951 that we took our first holiday with a trip to the west coast. We were overwhelmed by the beauty of the rockies and the Pacific West Coast. We took in all points of interest from the Boulder Dam to Buchart Gardens in Victoria. We visited Stanley Park, the Acquarium and took pictures of the whales of the Pacific Ocean and the black bears of inner British Columbia.

In 1967 Catherine, myself, Lucy and family made a trip to Eastern Canada, visiting along the route legislative assemblies, museums, parks and some industrial points. We spent a week at Expo, toured city of Quebec, visited one of the first churches in the province, also visited the slum areas and industrial developments. Visited Halifax, where daughter Gladys, Ron and granddaughter Kathy were making their home, crossed some of their wooden bridges, toured New Brunswick, the legislative building, some fisheries and watched the fisherman bring in their oyster catch. Visited Prince Edward Island, the House of Anne of Green Gables, tried our hand at digging for clams. We were taken with the red soil on the island which seemed to ■ quite productive.

In 1970, Catherine and I took a trip ■ the Orient, visiting Japan, Hong Kong and Taiwan, visiting the border of China proper. In Tokyo we visited parks, palace grounds, the golden palace, rice paddies, fishing villages, tea plantations, botanical gardens, industrial manufacturing plants and pearl culture beds. Japan ■ beautiful with their cherry blossoms. We also visited their beautiful cherry blossom dances. While in Japan we took in the Expo, visited with many students

and school children. Hong Kong was a very interesting place to visit, with its financial sky scrapers on one hand and crowded poverty overcrowded apartments and cave dwellers. We took in the parks and many commercial developments.

In 1971 we took a trip to the British Isle, visited the rural areas across to the Irish sea and north to Scotland, the city of Edinburgh and the castle. We also visited historical buildings, botanical gardens, Buckingham Palace, watched changing of the guard. Spent a day at London Museum, shopped in Piccadilly Square and used the underground trains to get around in. Leaving London by train and boat we landed in Belgium from where we toured Holland, with beautiful fields of tulips with an occasional windmill. Denmark was a country of dykes and dairy farms. Sweden with beautiful tivoli gardens. Norway reminded one of our British Columbia, with mountains, fjords and ferries. The scenery was beautiful.

In 1971 we took a trip to the British Isles, visited Switzerland, Austria, Italy, Isle of Capri, Monaco and France. We found Switzerland very interesting, went through Italy where the Canadian troops were making their stand against the Hitler armies. Visited the Isle of Capri, a beautiful resort, a real treat for the western tourist. We also visited Monaco, a beautiful principality ruled by Prince Renier, and Princess Grace. This was the only place in Europe that we saw large American automobiles.

In 1979 Catherine and I together with my brother Walter and his pretty wife Olga took a trip to Fiji, the garden of Eden, beautiful island with warm climate and happy carefree people. Here seems to be an abundance of wild fruit and coconuts. They seem to live simple happy lives. From Fiji we went to Australia, a nice kangaroo country, good warm climate and moderate amount of rainfall. The hilly terrain is covered with sixty million sheep and many herds of range cattle. Here we visited many parks, resorts, botanical gardens, wineries and canneries. We visited and toured a few orchards, many were looking for help to pick their fruit. In the area of Tamworth we visited an irrigation farm, they grew a huge crop of sorghum and wheat. Leaving Australia we visited New Zealand also a beautiful country, with climate much the same as Australia and here again their chief occupation was sheep and cattle ranching. They grow grass all year around so we did not see anyone putting up any forage. Most farms we visited had no farm equipment other than garden tractor and lawn mower with a four-wheel jeep for supervision of pasture land. We also visited a stud farm where they raise race horses. They had a beautiful two million dollar sire. They raise two-year-olds and sell them to Great Britain and Australia at thirty to forty thousand dollars each.

On our way home we stopped at Hawaii, a beautiful group of islands, very scenic, beautiful beaches, highly commercialized with one of the finest harbors in the world. We toured Pearl Harbour, saw the spoils and memorials of Japanese invasion in 1941. We visited the ocean shores and watched water surfers being hurled out at terrific speeds and in general we loved the islands very much. This a home away from home.

Leo Keefer

I am Leo Keefer. My father Philip Keefer came from Pleasant Valley, Michigan, to Fielding in 1906. My mother, Anne Johnston was the daughter of Frank and Margaret Johnston who lived five miles north of Maymont. My parents were married in 1907 by Reverend Madill and they lived in Fielding where my dad operated the livery barn. In 1908 we moved to the farm on the S.W. 6-41-11, where we lived on the north side of the quarter.

I have two sisters living and I lost my younger brother in Lake Athabaska in 1936. In 1927 I moved from north of the river to south of the river where I started farming, on the NE 10-40-12, where I still live and farm.

This story started in the winter of 1907 some six months before I was born, and told to me by my mother.

It seems she developed a very painful toothache, so she asked my father to get Doc Scratch to come and pull the offending tooth out. I believe Doc was still in the hotel in Fielding and my folks were either in Fielding or out on a farm some three miles southeast of town at that time. My father went into Fielding to see Doc, but Doc would not come out. He gave my dad his forceps and told him to keep them, as he had lost a little girl in his arms when he had tried to remove her tooth and because of this he would never pull another tooth. This part of the story is only hearsay and those of us who knew Doc Scratch are certain that he was in no way responsible for the death of this child. Now my dad was a veterinarian, so Doc told him to go home and pull mother's tooth saying, 'You can pull horses teeth so her tooth should be no problem.' According to my mother he came home and asked which tooth hurt, she opened her mouth to show him and in a very short time the tooth was out on the table. She told me that it was the easiest tooth that she ever lost.

Sixty-five years later I lost my father in the Yellowstone River in Montana. After his funeral, before I left to come home, I asked if these forceps were still in his little black bag that he kept his veterinary supplies in. My relations knew of the forceps but he had given them to a neighbor some ten years before. My nephew didn't give up and tracked them until he found them in Nebraska and sent them to me. I still have them, a very valued part of early family history.

Now to complete this story of the forceps I wanted to know who the little girl was. I asked different older people around Maymont, if they knew, some had heard the story but didn't know who she was. One day in Sonningdale I asked Tom Niven if he knew anything about this as the Niven family came to the

Spinney Hill District in 1903. To my surprise ■ said, "Yes, I know, she was a relation of mine and I could take you to the land they lived on in the Maymont District." She was ■ niece of Mrs. Tom Young who used to live at Spinney Hill and of Mrs. Bert Langley who lived north and east of Maymont. She is buried in the northwest corner of the Maymont Cemetery under a maple tree. I was told years ago that the original tree could have lived this long but I can believe that the trees there now are seeds from the original.

This story happened in the fall of 1906 in Fielding, and was told to me by my father.

Dr. Scratch at that time practiced his profession from a room or rooms in the three story hotel in Fielding. My father had a livery barn on the street parallel to the railway just west of the hotel. Both these buildings were lost in the big fire in Fielding in the summer of 1922.

As the story goes, word came into Fielding that some Indians who were camped out north by Redberry Lake, near Hafford, were sick and starving. The good storekeepers of Fielding got four sides of beef together in some way and my dad and Doc were to take this beef out to the Indians. Now Dad had a pair of bronco ponies that had never been broken and he thought this would be a good time to educate them. With the help of other Fielding men they hitched the broncos to a democrat, inside the barn. With the beef in the back, Doc's satchel full of equipment and medicines that he might need, and a ten-pound sack of Epsom salts, they were ready. Doc and my dad climbed up on the seat, they threw open the front door and away they went at a high rate of speed, east across the tracks and away north. According to my father they got about five miles north before the horses commenced to slow up a bit and he had a little more control over them. When they looked back the beef was gone. The question was would they turn around and go back and find the meat which could be anywhere back on the road or would they ■ on without it as this was a very long trip to make ■ one day with a pair of green ponies. They decided to go ahead and get the beef out there on another day as Doc still had his satchel and the Epsom salts and he said that was all he needed to treat sick Indians.

The year 1906 tells us that they were both quite young men at that time. They went ahead and found the Indians. Doc went from tent to tent to care for the sick. Dad found some dry wood and a bucksaw and spent the time sawing up some wood as ■ was afraid to ■ inside as they didn't know what contagious disease these people had, but not Doc. He went wherever the sick were, regardless. They returned to Fielding with a much quieter team of horses. The meat was found and sent out later.

This story is a part of the history of Grey School, now retired at the museum in North Battleford.

In the winter of 1918 there must have been about thirty or so children attending Grey School. The school trustees had a discipline problem at that time, caused by some of the bigger boys who worked at home all summer driving outfits of horses ■ the fields and came to school ■ the winter maybe to bring the smaller ones and so they were not much interested ■ learning English history. A couple of teachers, one a man, had given up and left.

One morning, when we came to school there was a lady who was not too big and certainly not very old, up at the teacher's desk. We wondered just how long she would last, but we had underestimated the calibre of this lady. At the beginning she gave us a little talk saying that if we all behaved, attended to our lessons and caused no trouble she would have a pot of candy cooking on the stove for the last recess on Friday, and that everyone of us would go home with ■ generous portion of taffy. But if any single one of us stepped out of line and caused any trouble there would be no candy.

Well that first week you wouldn't know it was the same school. After school was over on Friday the big boys carried the big pot of taffy outside and spread ■ out on the clean snow. The bigger girls with buttered hands doled us all out a generous portion of taffy. If I remember correctly it was the late Roberta Walton who gave me my first candy.

But this was all too good ■ last and in the next week one boy stirred up a little trouble and on the last recess — no candy went on the stove. After school somebody asked why not and the lady said she believed in keeping her word and named the boy who was responsible. Here was one lad who had no friends, all at once. This teacher must have learned something from the Boy Scout Movement, where there are no better disciplinarians than boys themselves. But needless to say we never went home without taffy for the rest of the winter.

This lady's name was Helen Woods and she came to Maymont from either New Brunswick or Nova Scotia with two other girls who taught at the Maymont School. One of them married Wilfred Langley and I believe still lives ■ North Battleford.

This story happened, as near as I can remember, ■ the summer of 1915. The three Johnston boys, Lorne, Ernie and Jim, and myself were walking home from Grey School, all barefooted and carrying our dinner pails. We were on the grade near George Tebay's house when we heard a noise behind us like we had never heard before. Well, we all dived into a willow bush that grew close to the road. That sound could be compared to the sound of the first jet aeroplane which was heard in later years. Well what it was — was Emile Richard and his son Conrad ■ their Model T Ford which had a brass radiator and a brass horn on the side which was activated by a rubber bulb and Conrad had squeezed the bulb. They stopped and called us to come out and have a ride home the next mile. We piled ■ the back seat and had the ride of our lives all of fifteen or twenty miles per hour. Something to remember!

The Kieper Story

On March 28th, 1914, the Kieper family arrived in Fielding by train . . . Charles Kieper, formerly of Russell, Manitoba, his pretty young wife, Maud, and four small lively children, Roy, Edna, Ethel and Florence. Their hired man had come ahead with eight horses, a fox terrier Tippy, and the furniture and household goods. The previous year Charlie had traded his flourishing livery business in Hawarden, Sask., for Phil Keefer's farm at Fielding, which he had already visited and looked over. The farm he had leased for three years to Mr. J. Campbell who farmed at Maymont, before returning to Russell to live. When he was not satisfied with the way the farm was being managed he terminated the lease and brought his family to live on the farm south west of Fielding.

During that first busy year the young couple built a 24' x 26' barn with a loft designed to hold 5 loads of hay, and bought a good milk cow from R. W. Ferris. They grew a crop, which was threshed by Les Sloan, and also broke ■ acres. A second son, Earl Charles, was born at the Fielding farm, and the older children started to school, driving a quiet school pony Victor. The family got acquainted with their new neighbors and became part of the community.

Before long misfortune came to the Kieper family when Maud became ill and had difficulty looking after her family. However they began making plans ■ build a new home and barn, and chose a building site half a mile south of their present home. In the fall a Saskatoon doctor diagnosed Maud's illness as tuberculosis, at that time a very difficult disease to cure. By winter she was no better, and fresh air was prescribed, so she was brought home from the hospital, put ■ a nurse's care, and established in ■ tent where she stayed for the coming year. Here she could see the children come and go, and be near her husband. During this time the new house was built. In November, 1916, they carried Maud ■ see the outside and the inside of her new home before they put her to bed, where she stayed until her death ■ February, 1917. This left Charlie Kieper with a farm to work, a home to care for, sometimes with the help of a housekeeper, and five small children to look after. He nursed the youngsters through the usual ailments, including the time Edna and Florence had diptheria. He increased the family farm by buying a quarter to the west at $20.00 an acre, and he dug a deep well and bought a windmill for it.

Charles Kieper Family. Back row, L. to R. — Ethel (Mrs. Tom Roberts), Earl, Edna (Mrs. Morley Wager), Roy, Florence (Mrs. Doug Groff). Front row — Mrs. C. Kieper, Ruth (Mrs. E. W. Martin), Mr.Charles Kieper.

Horse racing was popular at both Fielding and Radisson at that time, and Roy was a proud boy when he raced his school pony Victor and won second money at both towns. Even little Earl got into the act, and rode Victor in one of the races.

That summer Mr. Kieper bought his first car, a new Model T Ford. Though he had never driven before, the dealer at Fielding put two gallons of gas in it, showed him how to start it, and he started for home, sometimes hitting ■ high of 15 miles per hour! He didn't make it all the way home that time, but soon learned to manage a new mode of transportation.

It was November, 1921, that Charlie Kieper married Miss Mary Pfrimmer of Stanley, Wisconsin. She was a good mother to the growing children, and made a real contribution to the community. She took part in many plays, concerts, choirs, and became well known in the whole area for her monologues. They had a little daughter, Ruth Marie, a sister for the others ■ care for, love, and tease.

The years brought changes to the family, of course. Edna was the first to leave home when she became the bride of Morley Wager, an elevator agent. They had two children, Warren and Beverley. Years later Edna came back to make her home in Fielding. Roy got married to Kathleen McKinnon who had taught Neepawa School for two years. They settled on the former McClintoch farm and stayed there until they retired in 1978. They had two daughters, Phyllis and Marjorie. Ethel married Tom Roberts, and they had one daughter Dorothy. Ethel died in 1977, after a long painful struggle with arthritis. Florence married Douglas Groff ■ Winnipeg, and they are the proud parents of four daughters. Earl took a course in agriculture at the university, and later married Elaine Walz of Moose Jaw. During the drought period in the south Elaine's brother Con had left the dry south and come to Fielding where he worked the Frank Summers farm for four years. Elaine and brother Don had attended High School at Fielding. Earl and Elaine had one son, Dale, who farms with his father, and three daughters, Cheryll, Wendy and Melanie. These girls were very interested in sports, and played on the Fielding Ladies Softball team for many years, as their mother had before them. Ruth, the youngest Kieper

girl, married Bill Martin, and lives in Winnipeg. They have one daughter Maralie and one son Bob.

Charlie and Mary Kieper retired when Earl got married and was ready to take over the family farm. They lived in Radisson, and became active in that community until Mr. Kieper died in 1967. Some three years later Mrs. Kieper moved to Oliver Lodge in Saskatoon, where she still lives.

During the dry years of the 1930s crops were poor and money was very scarce. Farm produce brought very little return . . . a can of cream brought little over $2.00, eggs sold for 5¢ a dozen a real highlight for Roy's small girls at this time was a visit to Aunt Ethels when she gave them Real eggs to use in their mud pies. There were plagues of grasshoppers and army worms, dust storms and hot dry months, but all survived. Gardens usually were reasonably good, and each farm had milk, butter, eggs, chickens and beef, so there was an abundance of good food. And there were plenty of good times too, with the Fielding Community Club, Sunday School and School picnics and concerts, and the plays and concerts put on for special occasions. There was good community spirit. In fact going through the depression and the anxieties of the war years brought people together and made them more sympathetic and helpful.

The Kiepers have remained a close knit family who enjoy and help one another, and are proud of the younger generations growing up. Earl and Elaine still live in the house that Charlie Kieper built in 1916, Edna has a home in Fielding, and Tom Roberts still runs a gas station and small store there. Roy and Kathleen live in near-by Radisson. All have enjoyed, and still do, being a part of the Fielding community, where people are the most important asset.

Harry Alfred King-Turner
George Burnaby Adams
Mary Ruth Adams
Margaret Irene Adams

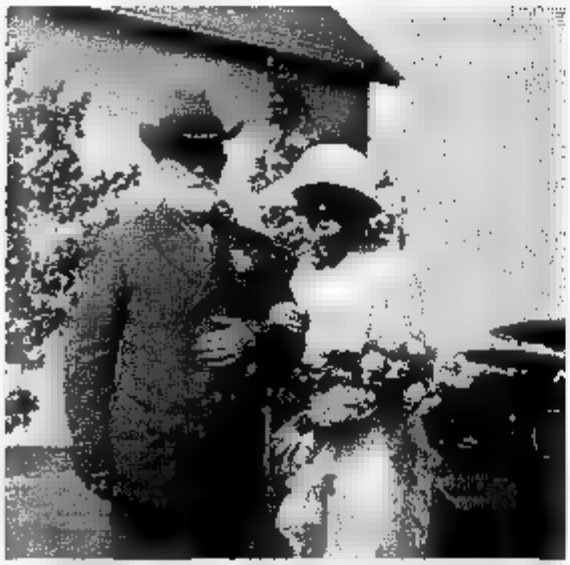
by Mary Ruth (Adams) Moore

George (Jim) Burnaby Adams and Harry Alfred King-Turner left England March 2, 1910. They arrived at Ruddell, March 17, 1910. The land was being worked. Jim worked for Alfred Tyson. Harry worked for Mrs. Evans and her son, John Evans. That winter, 1910, Jim and Harry kept house for Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Welford who went to England. In 1911 Jim and Harry bought the old Tyson farm. Their first crop was hailed out.

In April of the year 1913, Mary Ruth Adams, a sister of Jim Adams came to Canada. In 1914 Harry enlisted in the Medical Corps. Ruth had intended to train for a nurse at St. Paul's Hospital in Saskatoon but instead stayed with Jim. Harry returned in 1918. The following March, my sister, Margaret Irene Adams came out and she and Harry were married March 11, 1919 by the Reverend J. B. Bunting.

Harry King-Turner, Jim and Ruth Adams.

Margaret Adams, Harry King-Turner.



Dad Dow and Ruth (Adams) Moore.

Roy and Ruth Moore.

During the year 1919, we all moved to the Tom Snowdon Farm (Belerle Farm) and on June 4, 1919, Ruth married Samuel Leroy Moore of Speers. On September 19, 1924 Jim married Iris Mae Hill who came from England. Two years later Jim passed on, October 26, 1926.

Harry was always most helpful in sickness and accidents having taken almost full exams to be a doctor. He was also very musical.

In 1936 Harry and Margaret returned to England to stay. Harry died on April 1, 1960 and Margaret March 6, 1977.

Four of the Adams family were married by Reverent J. ■. Bunting — three in Canada and a brother in England.

Roy and Ruth Moore had two sons — Thomas Wendell and John Leroy, Thomas after my father and Leroy after his dad.

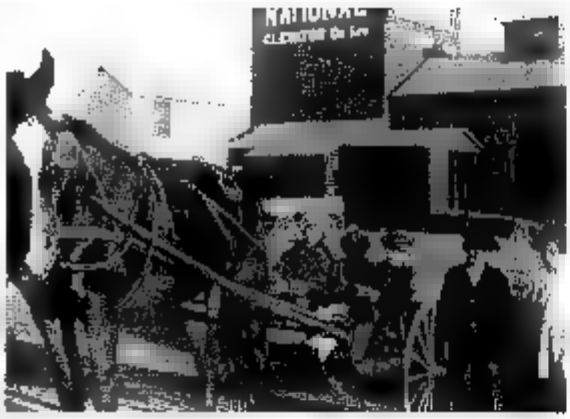
Samuel Leroy (Roy) Moore died at Hafford May 17, and was buried May 21 in the Memorial Gardens, North Battleford.

History of D. A. Klassen and family — Lilac

I, Weir, the son of Dave Klassen, my mother, the former Agatha Wiebe and my sister, Eunice, arrived in Lilac from Langham, Sask. in 1920. Dad arrived to take over the job as agent of the National Elevator.

Our first residence was the farm house north of Lilac (now occupied by Wes and Charlotte Gillatt). In the fall of 1920 we moved to the Church Manse and whilst there, Mother took over the position of postmistress. In the spring of 1921 we moved into the newly completed National Elevator house.

Eunice and Weir Klassen — Lilac — Pool Elevator construction in background (about 1921).



Preparing to go to school about 1924. (l-r) Florence Nystrom, Julie Patrick, Weir Klassen, Jimmie Patrick, Eunice Klassen.

In about 1921 the construction of "our opposition", the Pool Elevator, was commenced. In 1923, the annex to the National was erected which again placed "our" Elevator in a position of superiority over that other one.

Eunice and I commenced school in 1922 at a location approximately 2½ miles east of Lilac.

The school later was moved to Lilac, circa, 1924-25. There were some disagreements as to the desireability of this proposed relocation. Mr. Welford headed up the group anxious to leave the school where it was and Mr. Jones was the leader in support of the move. The final meeting, of all interested, was held in the National Elevator when the decision was taken for relocation. This move, of course, contributed a great deal to the economic and sociological welfare of Lilac.

The depression years with the drought, created lasting impressions on all who lived through this period. Our family was luckier than most in the district since Dad received 40.00 to 50.00 dollars a month. This total income was greater than the majority of farmers, many who had to rely on relief cheques. It was a period of sharing and helping each other and without this wonderful philosophy, many more families would have had to leave the prairies just to survive. Dad was interested in fixing machines and as a result the yard around the elevator was always filled with implements and cars. One winter our house was was filled with clocks of every description. Dad also provided barbering services and during the period when ladies were having their hair bobbed, I recall Mrs. Grover Reid coming to have her hair cut. Mrs. Reid's hair had never been cut and the luxuriant growth was long enough for her to sit on. As soon as Dad took hold of the scissor, Mrs. Reid commenced to cry and without her insistance, through many tears, Dad would not have proceeded.

Eunice married Jack Wright, whose family farmed west and north of Lilac, in 1933. Their son, David, was born in 1938. Dad died from a heart attack on March 29, 1935 at the age of 55 and was buried in the Ruddell cemetery. At Dad's death, Jack Wright took over the agent's job and Mother stayed on as Post-mistress. I had finished high school in Ruddell in 1935 and during the next few years worked at the Lilac store, owned and operated by Herb and Mary Mabey, and various farms in the district. In 1940 I joined the R.C.A.F. and from that time onwards, my associations with the Lilac people were restricted to annual visits to the districts.

Jack Wright also joined the R.C.A.F., in 1943, and Eunice and David moved into North Battleford. Mother stayed on as Postmistress and moved into a small house between the store and the elevator house. In 1946 Mother relinquished this position, and moved into North Battleford to live with Eunice.

In summary, the first Klassen arrived in Lilac in 1920 and the last left in 1946, a period of 26 years.

As a postscript, Mother died in Abbotsford, B.C. in 1967. Jack Wright was killed overseas and Eunice is now Mrs. Peter Hornby, living in Victoria, B.C. I married Margaret Woodfin of North Battleford in 1946 and we spent the following years in various locations in Canada during my service with the R.C.A.F. We have four sons. In 1966 I joined the Federal Public Service in Ottawa and retired from this service in December, 1978. Curently, we are living in Ottawa.

T. Russ and Mildred Knight

by Mildred Knight

My husband and I with our two children, Horace and Bea, came to Maymont in 1930. He was a barber and the children went through school there. Our youngest daughter, Shirlee, was born in 1933. We were both members of the United Church and I belonged to the W.M.S. and U.C.W., also the Homemakers and Legion Auxiliary. Russ was a member of the Legion and was fond of curling and golf. The children skated, played hockey and ball.

We had many friends in and around Maymont but Mrs. Bean, Reverend and Mrs. Myers are the only ones I correspond with now.

Horace was in the anti-airforce and died of wounds in 1944. He is buried in France. Russ died in 1951 of a heart attack. Bea and I live in an apartment. Shirlee is married and lives in Anaheim, California. She has five children.

We left Maymont in 1940 having spent happy years there in spite of the depression.

A good many friends have visited us in Winnipeg. Mrs. Cozens and Walter different times.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kormish

Dick Kormish, the younger son of Mr. and Mrs. Nick Kormish of Mayfair, was born Sept. 7, 1919. He had one brother, Mike, and two sisters, Olga (Mrs. Walter Kalyn) and Annie (Mrs. Henry Kulpa). He

attended Eldorado School. His parents had come to Canada from the Ukraine.

■ 1948, Dick bought E½-1-43-13-W3rd, from Bill Carnahan and moved then to the Lilac district.

On October 25, 1949, Dick married Doris Pushee. Doris was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Hamilton Pushee. Doris had two brothers, George and Hamilton, and two sisters, Norma (Mrs. Walter Bulmer) and Dorothy (Mrs. Louis Lavallee). Her dad, William Pushee, had come from Antigonish, Nova Scotia, and was one of the first settlers in the Lorenzo area. Mrs. Pushee had come from Sifton, Man.

During the first years ■ the Lilac area, Dick did a lot of custom baling and swathing for his neighbours.

Dick and Doris lived in a little, old house that had neither power or phone. For many years they kept 6 milk cows, chickens and pigs as well as raised beef cattle.

In the spring of 1955, the spring run-off flooded their yard and all their buildings. That same year they built a new home, 22' × 30' and moved into it. ■ 1957 they had the house wired and the power turned on. In 1974 a 10' addition was built on to the east end of their house.

In 1969, once again in the spring the farmyard was flooded and a lot of water came into the basement.

Dick and Doris raised two sons. David was born Aug. 27, 1957, and George on April 11, 1959. Both boys attended Lilac School and later Maymont Central. David graduated in 1975 and moved ■ North Battleford to work.

On January 13, 1978, David married Gail Keyko of North Battleford. They have two sons, Lee and Daniel.

Dick passed away in May, 1979 after a lengthy illness. George went on farming and ■ and his mother still reside on the farm.

The Russell Frederick Krake Family

by Doreen (Krake) Griffith

My father was born in Cavalier, North Dakota, U.S.A. in 1910, one of a family of five children. In 1912 the family moved to Elrose, Saskatchewan where they had the dray business. Later they moved to Turtleford, Saskatchewan where they farmed.

In 1933 my dad married Margaret Andrew of the Drummond Creek District, south of Battleford, and they worked on the farm for D. W. Phelps for one year and then moved to a farm at Fielding. Here they farmed for four years before moving ■ a farm one mile west and two and one-half miles north of Ruddell.

We were a family of six children, three girls and three boys, myself the eldest, Russell Jr., Eugene, Mary Rose, Roy and Margaret.

Dad and mother, like everyone else, went through the depression years, no modern machinery, drought and grasshoppers. We always had a good garden which certainly helped with the food problem. I can remember one year when the grasshoppers were so bad, my dad tethered a hen in the garden to eat the grasshoppers and scare them away and in this way we saved a lot of our garden produce.

■ 1954, I married Keith Griffith and we are presently living in Meadow Lake. We have three daughters — two of them married — Karen living at Lloydminster with their two little girls, Valerie living in Meadow Lake, and Penny still at home.

Russell Jr. married Aldean Ramsay and they live in Calgary with their four children, three boys and a girl.

Eugene married Goldie Gualag of Norway and they are living at Oyama, B.C. with their three little girls.

Mary Rose married George Scotton and they are in Paradise Hill with their one son and one daughter.

Roy married Arlene Pederson of Mount Nebo and are living ■ Saskatoon with their two little girls and one boy.

My mother passed away in July 1960 and sister Margaret passed away in February 1975.

Dad stayed on at the farm till 1968 when he sold to Charlie White of Ruddell. He then retired to live in North Battleford. In 1969 he married Nora Andrew of Turner Valley, Alberta and they now reside at Battleford, Saskatchewan.

We have fond memories of our growing years. All of us attended school at Ruddell and Maymont and drove to school with the horse and buggy ■ the summertime. Dad drove us in the winter time until the boys were able to take over this task. Russell, Eugene and Roy furthered their education by attending University in Saskatoon — Russell and Roy as chartered accountants and Eugene as a school teacher. Mary also attained her C.N.A. in Saskatoon.

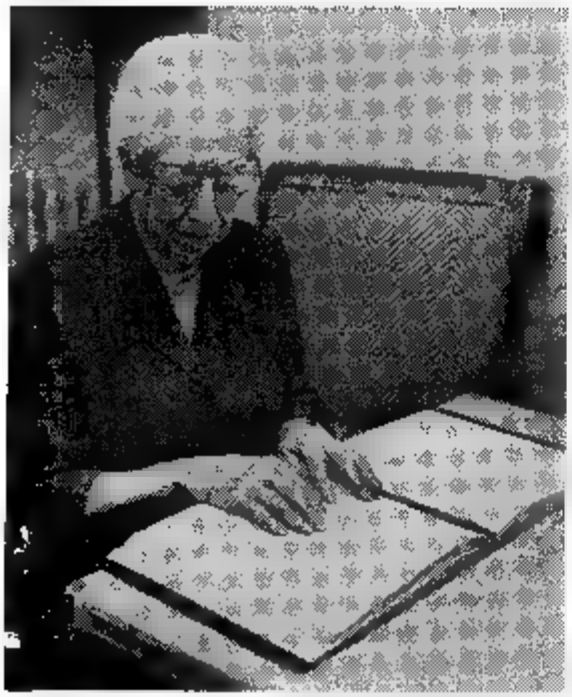
My dad has enjoyed his retirement and still keeps very active — playing horseshoes, fishing and gardening in the summertime and curling and doing woodworking in the winter time.

Alice C. Langley

(The eldest ■ the family recalled some of her experiences.)

"In 1893, the city of Saskatoon was a small village of about one hundred people. As we crossed the river and pulled into the station we saw a huge heap of buffalo bones on one side of the track and a tame deer trotting up and down the platform. The Indians and Metis collected the bones and sold them to a firm ■ Eastern Canada — which used them to make charcoal for refining sugar."

She had attended a girls' school in England until she was fifteen. After settling on the farm at Osler she went to the village of Duck Lake where she boarded with the postmaster and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Grundy. In exchange for her board she gave music lessons to the Grundy children and assisted in the post office. When Mr. Grundy was killed by a renegade cattle rustler "Almighty Voice", she became Mrs. Grundy's assistant in the post office.



Alice Langley.

The rest of the family had now moved to the homestead at Maymont and she joined them there.

In the early days, with no telephones to summon help in case of emergencies the family used an SOS signal adopted by many pioneer families. They hoisted a flag up a pole in their front yard to notify their neighbors when they needed help.

Feeling a desire to get out on her own, she went to Prince Albert to take business training. Her first position was with A. P. McNab at the Saskatoon Milling and Elevator Company in 1907. The next year Mr. McNab was elected to the provincial legislature and appointed Minister of Municipal Affairs. She went to Regina as his secretary. When her father was named Minister of Municipal Affairs in 1912 she became his secretary and worked with him until he retired from politics in 1921.

Following this she embarked on a new career. She studied household science at Guelph, Ont., when she was forty-four, then went on to Columbia University for courses in dietary and institutional management.

During the next few years she worked at a number of hospitals in Western Canada and became travelling dietician for Saskatchewan. "I would go to little hospitals and stay with them until the kitchens were on a good running basis. I also trained nurses in invalid cookery at the smaller hospital schools. After three years of this I grew tired of living out of a suitcase."

In 1931, she was appointed Dietary Matron of the Provincial School for the Deaf in Saskatoon. She remained there till 1930, when she retired to care for her Mother who, since the father's passing in 1933, had lived at the family farm.

At the age of ■ she undertook to receive lessons in reading Braille. Her eyesight had failed and after three years of concentrated and tireless effort she became proficient. She also learned to use the typewriter so she could correspond with her sighted friends.

At the age of ■ she was quoted as saying, "people who become blind in later life should keep themselves busy. Find things to occupy their hands and their minds. Be interested in their friends, both young and old. Make the effort to attend a variety of social functions so that they can meet and talk to people."

Our Early Years in Canada

by John V. Langley
submitted by Margaret (Langley) Strautman

On the evening of March 23rd, 1893, George Langley and family embarked from Euston Station, London, England. The following morning we were in Liverpool, and it was not long till we were aboard the Allan lines; "Parisian". It was thus that the Langleys were to become Canadian citizens.

The voyage was vastly different to that of the immigrants of today. The steerage passage, a low cost form of ocean transportation, was such as to ensure that the passengers would arrive at their destinations, at least alive.

Our Dad and we four boys seemed to take the rugged existence very much as a rough sport, but for our mother and sister it was a gruelling hardship.

Our family consisted of seven; our parents, sister Alice, sixteen, our eldest brother Bert, fourteen, Frank, twelve, myself, Jack, ten, and Wilf eight.

We disembarked at Halifax and started on the long journey by rail, to Regina. No cushioned seats in the tourist railway cars in those days, instead they were hardwood slats about two inches wide, and spaced about an inch apart. A stove at one end of the passenger car provided the means of heating water and the four-day trip was a succession of meals out of a picnic basket; but I well recall that as those four days passed, the cold meals, hard seats, and stuffy car soon became far from a picnic.

We arrived in Regina on the sixth of April. The winter had been an unusually severe one, with more than an average depth of snow as well. Our destination was to be Saskatoon. However, when we reached Regina, it was to find that the railway from Regina to Saskatoon had been blocked with snow for more than two weeks. The twice a week train from Prince Albert had become stalled where the track climbed the side hill out of the Lumsden valley, and the blizzard was then still pouring snow over the hill, and onto the track behind the stalled train. Eventually it was hopelessly hemmed in. A relief train and plow was sent out from Regina which met with the same fate of having more

snow than it could plow through, and having no plow at the back of it, the continuing blizzard blocked the second engine, too. There must have been a lot more grief on the railway besides all this, because it was almost the end of April before rail service on the branch line was again in business.

In the meantime all of us billeted in the Immigration Hall in Regina, which could not be classed as anything more than a shelter from the weather. There was a table and seats, and a stove. All of our beds were on the floor. And here again, we boys took the whole thing as a great adventure, but for Mother and Alice it must have been an endurance of courage.

As soon as rail service was resumed, our Dad, along with another immigrant, Mr. Hibbard, who had just arrived from England, took the train for Saskatoon. It was Mr. Hibbard's son, Arthur, who had come to Saskatoon three years previously, who was really the pivot point of making Saskatoon our destination. They met up with Arthur Hibbard, and also Seager Wheeler, then a young chap of twenty-three, who later became prominent by winning the highest award for producing the highest quality spring wheat to be grown on the North American continent.

It was Seager Wheeler who was instrumental in assisting our Dad in locating on a piece of land where we were to make our first attempt at farming.

It was on the sixth of May that we finally left Regina. Our Dad had purchased two quite good oxen and harness, a milk cow, a used wagon, a walking plow and three sections of diamond harrows; also some lumber to make a table and some seats, and wooden bedsteads.

On his former trip he had contacted a Thomas Malloy who had homesteaded and obtained title to a quarter of land, on which he had built a small log story and a half house, and also a small log stable. The roof of the house was in poor repair, and so cedar shingles were also brought from Regina to re-roof the house.

In due course our luggage and settlers' effects had arrived in Regina, and with all the items I have mentioned and very little more, they were loaded into one of the regular cars. Dad had entrusted Bert and Frank to ride alone in the car along with the animals and other things, while the other five of us rode in the passenger car of the mixed train.

Osler station, about eighteen miles north of Saskatoon was to be our final destination. Word had been mailed ahead of our date of arrival, and we were met by Mr. John Caswell, who with his team and buckboard, drove mother and Alice in our prairie location. Seager Wheeler was also there to assist our Dad in building up a ramp of railroad ties to unload the oxen and cow. The freight car was unloaded of the rest of our belongings, and after assembling the wagon and loading a part of our world's belongings on it, the oxen were hitched to it and we were away.

That was seventy-five years ago, and I can see myself and Wilf perched up on the load behind the yoke of oxen just as clearly as if it were a day ago. We had come out of London where horse transportation was seen everywhere, but these oxen were like something out of a zoo.

The snow was about all gone, but there was water everywhere. There was a trail that had enough traffic on it to barely be able to follow it, and of course these temporary patches of water would have the trail covered, some up to the oxen's knees, some up to their bellies.

Dad being no expert in ox driving, took the safe and easy course of leading them, which meant that he was wet well past his knees. This was not much after the snow had finished thawing and the water must have been extremely cold.

Prior to everything else, the first task was the shingling of the roof of the house. A snapshot of that shingling job would today be a real museum piece. Dad had been told of the general rudiments of nailing on shingles, that you started at the lower edge of the roof, and finished at the top, and to be sure not to expose more than four and a half inches to the weather, and an explanation of what all that meant, but none of the advisors had mentioned anything about using a straight edge tacked to the roof to butt the shingles to, and regulate the amount of lap, and so, each shingle was pencil marked four and a half inches from the thick end. There must have been some real artistic waves in the rows of those shingles by the time that it got to the top tier. I can still see the boys pencilling and carrying the shingles up the ladder to where Dad, with a rope around his middle and the other end thrown up over the roof, and anchored to the wagon on the other side of the house for added safety, was placing and nailing the shingles.

On the Malloy land, besides the house and small stable, there were about fifty acres of cultivation. Plowing and harrowing twenty acres and hand broadcasting with wheat and oats, was our first commencement at farming. The cultivation included what had been previously used for a garden quite close to the house, and with everyone eager to help, such as leading the oxen, breaking up the lumps with a rake and hoe, and sowing seeds, I remember it as being quite a respectable attempt at a garden, and, of course there was a potato patch as well.

The coming of spring in 1893 had been a late one. Even though it was the end of the first week in May, the few scattered settlers were still waiting for the land to dry enough to start spring work, and so even though it was getting on to the end of May before our small crop was in the ground, we were pretty well on schedule with the rest of our neighbors.

What must have been of great concern to our Dad and Mother was that there was no school closer than Saskatoon, and for the three years that we lived at this first location, there were no facilities for school of any form, which for the two youngest of us at least, was something for parents to well be concerned about.

With the seeding over, Dad shallow broke ten acres of prairie, and summerfallowed the remaining part of the broken land, thirty or forty acres. Later, he 'backset' the breaking which was to re-plow it, and turn up two inches of subsoil from below, the first plowed furrows. As our first haying time approached, Dad had commenced to mow the slough hay with a scythe, but later was fortunate in having Percy Wheeler come with their mower, with Dad tramping along over the cut swath and leading the oxen, while Percy rode and controlled the mower over stones and humps. The raking was done with homemade wooden rakes. Then there was the making of a hayrack to put on the wagon. This Dad made with poles from the river. Dad harvested the small crop entirely with a scythe, with we boys raking together the swath and tying it into sheaves. The straw was so short that we pulled the wheat up by the roots to get enough length to make straw bands.

A horse power threshing machine that had come from Saskatoon to thresh our neighbors' crops, threshed ours as well.

Our first attempt at building was to construct a sod chicken house. Probably a snapshot of that sod house would also be a museum treasure!

Our location was on a tractless prairie, although we were only a mile from the river. The river here was only a little more than a large ditch through the open prairie, with a very sparse growth of trees.

The time was fast approaching to when provision would have to be made for winter fuel. Dad knew the winters could be long ones, though we had yet to learn about how severe they could be, and it was by good fortune that the telegraph line patrol man, by the name of Sam Hamilton, left the trail which bordered the wire line, and drove in with his horse and buckboard to see who was living in the house that had long been empty.

As the conversation drifted along, our Dad mentioned the problem of the winter fuel supply, and Sam Hamilton told him that as he followed along the telegraph line with his work, he thought he could see in the distance dead trees showing above the second growth, which could be worthwhile investigating.

It was, the next day, Dad, Frank and Bert started off with the oxen and wagon, following the telegraph line to the spot that Hamilton had described.

It was good firewood, though difficult to get. The trees had been killed by a prairie fire, and second growth had grown up among them, but it solved the fuel question for the three winters that we were there. It was about twenty miles in a northwest direction from where Dalmeny now is situated. Twenty miles might not sound like much of a trip these days, but you had to keep those oxen gently slapped with a stick to maintain a pace of two and a half miles an hour.

Naturally, we did not call Dalmeny in those days, never went by any other name than Timbuctoo.

One of the trips stand out in my mind. It was when the tire on one of the hind wheels of the wagon came off. It was after dark, and the tire fell to the ground unheard. It only took a few revolutions of the wheel without the tire to start going pieces. We had about ten miles to walk, part time Frank and I rode the oxen, but I think it is easier to walk than to ride ox-back.

Fishing, that is dear to the hearts of both boys and men, was one of our earliest sports. It was the Wheelers who showed us about the general idea of baiting and setting night lines in the river, the outlay for lines and hooks was quite small and there were periods during the summer when our catch was a big help to our diet which was practically meatless.

It was Percy Wheeler, too, who showed us the method of curing and smoking fish.

There was the thrill of finding the nest of a pair of Canada Geese, only a week or two after our arrival, which we brought home and incubated under a broody hen, and successfully raised them to maturity. Also worthy of mention is the fact that the pair of geese returned to the nest for two successive springs and on each occasion laid seven eggs at the same spot as their former nest had been and these also we hatched and raised successfully.

Our first serious setback occurred in the autumn, when our cow died as the result of swallowing a small turnip and choking to death, all the more disastrous because there was not enough money to buy another one.

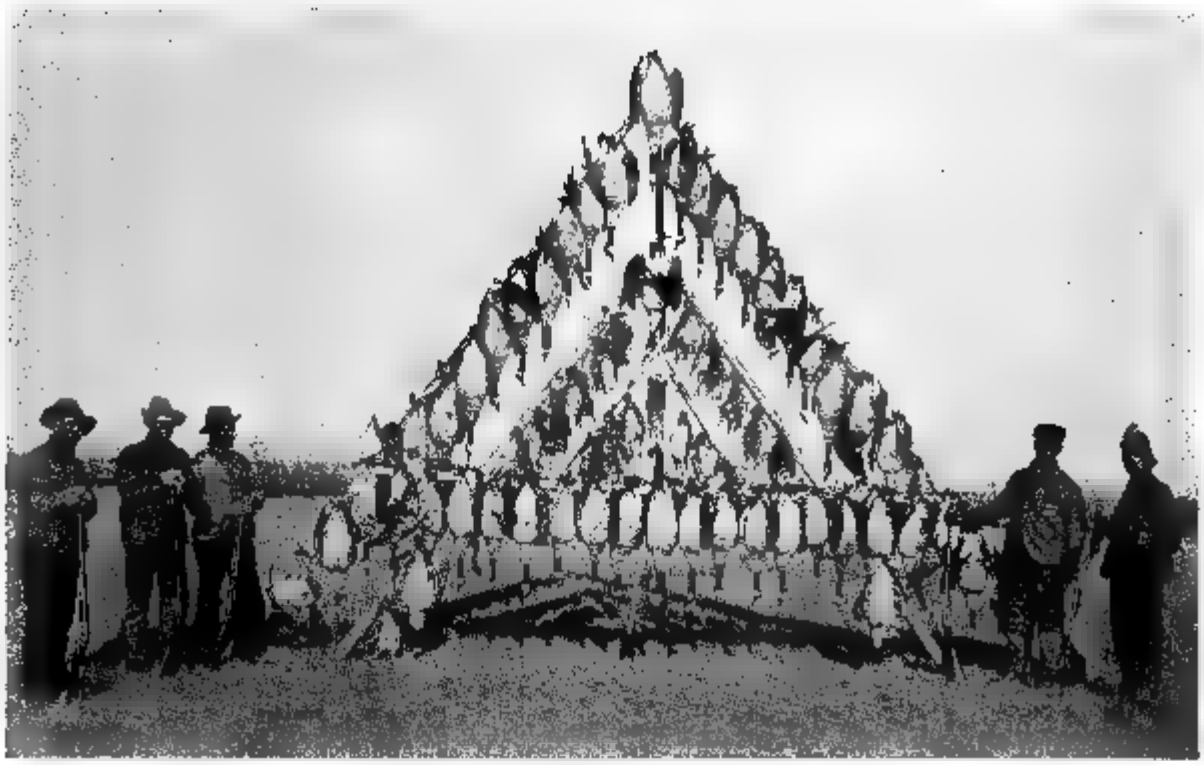
It was not many days later that Providence entered the picture. A stray cow, within a few days of having her calf, came wandering into the yard, and what I suppose was a most natural thing to do we tied her up in the stable. In due course the calf arrived, and it was not long until the milk and butter requirements were again back to where they were before the loss of our cow.

Those were the days before there was any Official Gazette to advertise about lost or found animals, and two decades before the rural telepones, so it was spring before the owner of the cow, who thought she must have perished, came and claimed her.

It was Seager Wheeler who showed us the first arts of trapping. Christmas was fast approaching, and although we young people had already realized that the Christmas presents which we had always enjoyed, were completely out, it was the prospect of not having the rich Christmas plum pudding, which we had always regarded as being the real 'emblem' of Christmas, was threatened also.

Even with our lack of know-how in the art of trapping, we caught a few foxes. It was with their furs that Dad walked to Saskatoon, seventeen miles, and with part of their value, which was the barest few dollars, brought back the ingredients for the Christmas pudding.

The story of our first winter on the bald and open prairie would have to include what could easily have been a tragedy. Our Dad had ordered from Regina one



L. to r. — Frank Langley, Will Barrett, Wilf Langley, Jack Langley, Bert Langley.

hundred sacks of what in those days was called Strong Baker's flour. Word had been recieved of it's arrival. Not having a good set of bob-sleighs, Dad hitched the best of the two oxen to the homemade stoneboat and went to Osler station for it. All went well until, with the gathering darkness it commenced to snow and blow, and it was not long until all traces of the track he was following was completely obliterated, and he found himself with nothing to guide him excepting the direction of the wind, which unknown to him was changing direction. Finally with the snow piling up in front ■ the sleigh, and greatly increasing the load, the ox tired out. There remained no apparent alternative except to put in the night and wait for daylight, because by this time Dad realized he was hopelessly lost.

It was ■ degrees below zero, and snow and wind continued all of the night.

Dad related that with the ox tied ■ the sleigh, he had tramped out a circle around it, and walked briskly around and around, sitting on the load of flour only long enough for a short rest and then again continuing the walking. That night must have been like an eternity.

We had a dog, and I don't think there ever was a more useless dog than that one was. However, she had followed Dad and the ox that day, and was still with him throughout that long night. Dad was wearing only heavy English boots, and he always gave what we had called 'useless old Sport' full credit for keeping his feet from freezing, by always lying on his feet during the spells that he would be resting.

Daylight finally came, and by the time the sun rose, the wind had dropped and there was enough visibility for Dad to get his bearings. The poor ox, although probably half perished, was at any rate, well rested for pulling the heavy load and about two hours later saw them at last safely home.

Dad had always grown a moustache before leaving England, and since coming ■ Canada had also allowed his beard to grow. I so well recall the state he was in when he came into the house. His moustache and beard had completely frozen together from his breath, and only nostril breathing was possible. It was not until ■ had stood over the hot stove and thawed the ice seal from his mouth that ■ was able to tell us of what had happened.

As the winter wore on we ran into a water problem. The shallow well went dry. Dad, Bert and Frank commenced digging a deeper well, but when they got about thirty feet down, came to a large stone which almost covered the bottom of the well, and I suppose that it was with the thought that the same thing could happen all over again, that the attempt was not made again, and so for the rest of the winter we melted snow for the two oxen and the cow. It is only when you start to melt snow over a small four lid top wood burning stove, that you get to know how much three grown cattle can drink. How well I remember how the steam

from those boiling pots and kettles that we poured on the barrel of snow in the kitchen formed ice on the windows, well over an inch thick, and of course, shut out most of the light too. The following winters we drove the stock to the river a mile and a quarter away.

Winter entertainment was naturally all of our own making. Night lighting was in the form of a wick coal oil lamp in the middle of the table, and a small carrying lamp that was used to carry from one part of the house to the other which also included the small upstairs which was not much more than a roof, very cold in winter and very hot in summer. As I remember it was cards, checkers and tiddley-winks though all of us were ardent readers.

Dad was first class at reading to us. It was at about the same year that we came to Canada, 1893, that the Aberdeen's were Canada's Governer General and it was Lady Aberdeen and her daughter who organized a worthy movement of collecting used magazines around Ottawa and parceling them into nice sized parcels, and mailing them to the few scattered settlers on the prairies, postpaid. Those receiving them would pass them around among themselves. I am sure that those early day settlers will have always remembered the pleasure and information that we got from the "Aberdeen Parcels".

An account of our first prairie fire must not be passed over without some comment. It started at the railway, from hot cinders from the stack of a locomotive. It was late fall, and we had been enjoying a fine spell of Indian Summer, which our neighbors had told us was always a regular thing on the prairies.

Night frosts and warm weather had reduced the prairie grass to a state of dryness, so that once started, in even a light wind, it would soon spread out of control.

On that day there was a stiff wind. The railway was five miles away, and those who first noticed it said that it spread at a rate of a mile every five minutes, and with what we learned later about prairie fires, I can well believe it.

With thick, heavy grass growth the smoke tends to slow up the progress of a prairie fire, but this had been a dry summer, and the grass being both short and thin, it was more as though it was just singeing over the ground with a minimum of smoke, and that, of course, would account for it's speed of travel.

It was fortunate that the ten acres Dad had broken that summer lay in the path of the approaching fire, so that at no time were our buildings or haystack in any danger, but without that strip of black land things could have been a lot different.

Bert and Frank, along with a young neighbor chap, had been away to the river with the oxen and wagon, and it was not until they were up onto the prairies after coming up the river bank that they saw the fire bearing down on them. To Bert and Frank this was a new experience, and their first urge was to head the oxen and wagon back to the protection of the river, and wade in the water if necessary, but Malcolm Copeland, a veteran of the ways of the country, and fortunately having some matches with him, started a fire in the grass which quickly spread, leaving burned off ground, where they drove the oxen and wagon, and none too soon, as the fire was soon all around them.

With the clearing away of the smoke, they lost all thought of their own danger, and were elated to see our buildings in the distance, unharmed.

Our first winter 1893-94, was a tough one. Long severe cold spells, which, although we did not have a thermometer of our own, we were told reached forty below for days at a time. Prince Albert had a record of 72 degrees below. Blizzards had a longer duration then than they seemed to have in later years. A three day storm was an almost household expression.

So the long first winter finally ended, and the spring of 1894 came. Dad had produced enough seed for the ten acres of breaking and thirty-five acres of summer-fallow. The oxen had wintered well on the slough hay and a little oat straw, although no grain feed whatever. Dad had broadcast the seed on the forty five acres, while Bert and Frank took turn about leading the oxen to draw the three sections of harrows, raising them occasionally when they plugged, and tapping the oxen along with a light whip. Later some more breaking was done, but this was with some difficulty, because after the moisture of the spring thaw had gone, we entered into a hot dry summer.

Misfortune struck again, when a smudge, which everyone used to protect their cattle from mosquitoes, fanned into flames and crept through the grass, which resulted in burning up the log stable. Following that, a second cow Dad had bought, sickened and died.

It was now that I changed from a carefree boy of twelve, to a wage earner, to help pay for another cow.

The deal that Dad made for the new cow was that I would herd Mr. Caswell's cattle from May until November, for which he would allow twenty dollars off the price of the cow. In my memory that was a heart tearing summer. If ever there was a homesick boy, that was surely me. Mr. Caswell was located at Rosthern, over thirty miles away, and it was only the distance that kept me from running home.

It was not long before the miles that I was covering on foot, made it necessary for me to have a new pair of boots, which in those days, providing that you did not want anything fancy, cost about a dollar seventy cents. My employer got me the boots, and some few days later he drew me off to one side and quietly told me that if I was a good boy, and kept the cattle out of the hay sloughs and crops, he would give me something all my own.

I sure was in good training for the Marathon at the end of that summer, because I had fully made up my mind that at the end of the summer, I would be leading home one of the Caswell calves. My legs served me well, and I did everything Mr. Caswell requested me to do.

The long summer came to an end, and time for me to go home. It was then to have Mr. Caswell tell me that I had been such a good boy, and that he would not be charging me for the boots, which needless to say, were by this time worn out, too. We hear that it is the hard knocks in early life that makes big men, if so I should have grown into a giant.

By this time Dad was becoming unsettled, and rightly so. The nearest water was the river, a mile away, the supply of wood had been found by others and was fast running out. The Caswell's had already moved north to Rosthern, and the two Wheelers, Seager and Percy, had both made trips there. The attraction was that water and wood were more available, and also that the rainfall was better too. And furthermore, with more settlement, there would be no difficulty in organizing a school.

A litter of pigs had been raised that summer and we fared quite well that winter. Game was particularly scarce out there on the open prairie but at the river, there was the odd spot with enough bush to harbor some bush rabbits. Dad had bought a second-hand ten gauge, muzzle-loading double-barrel shot gun before leaving England, and when the weather was not over severe, with a supply of black powder and shot, caps, and a pocketful of paper for wadding, away we would hit it off on foot, just as enthused as any nabob riding to hounds.

In the fall of 1894, a flour mill was put into operation at Prince Albert. It was there that Dad and Frank started out with enough wheat to be gristed into flour for a year's supply. Prince Albert was over one hundred miles away, and with oxen travelling much less than three miles an hour, (really two and a half would be a safer estimate), so when I say they were away ten days, it is quite plain that they were on the road all of those ten days.

In the fall of 1895, it was arranged to again make the trip to Prince Albert and it was myself who was to go on the exciting expedition this time. But the snow came early that year, and not having any bobsled, we started out with the wagon wheels grinding through several inches of snow. It was far from the pleasure trip Frank had had the year before, which was all nice Indian summer days. With the days very cold, and the snow getting deeper as we got further along, Dad wisely decided to have the gristing done at Duck Lake.

The Duck Lake flour mill turned out a good wholesome flour, but it did not separate as much of the bran and shorts with the result that the bread was much darker in color and did not rise quite as well, either.

With the homeward journey the cold became much more intense, and those metal tires made a monotonous grind which I think in an imaginary way I can still hear. The oxen were becoming tired and even more slow, and time and time again I used to run back over the road in order to catch up at a pace to warm me up. Then there were times when, with the wind in our face, I would walk partly sideways beside one of the oxen with my nose pressed against his ribs for a little warmth.

With an extra load or two of wood from 'Timbuctoo', which Dad always insisted on to be on the safe side, our house was always livable during the day, but a wood burning cookstove has to be constantly stoked, and there is no means of banking it at night as is possible with a coal stove, and so the fire would [illegible] out soon after we retired. Fortunately we had brought an ample supply of bed material from England, and we kept warm during the night, but it was no unusual thing in the cold spells, in the morning to see quite a collection of white frost on the bed covers around your face.

A supply of shavings, which we boys made with our pocket knives, and fine split kindling was always ready to get a quick fire going in the morning.

Another thing never to [illegible] overlooked as a last chore was to be sure never to leave the dipper in the water pail, as it would be sure to [illegible] frozen in the morning. Covering the potatoes in the earth cellar well was of the utmost importance, too.

We had no musical instruments of any kind, but the Wheelers were both musicians. Seager had his concertina and Percy his banjo, and they would quite often spend an evening with [illegible]. On the nights of their coming, down the trail we would see the flicker of a lantern which they always carried. If the night was rough they would have a fox pelt to protect their face and neck. All of the early settlers wore the customary fur caps and buckskin moccasins.

The financial aspect was now becoming increasingly acute. The wheat that was harvested amounted [illegible] little more than enough for the next year's seed requirements and what was needed for grinding into flour.

Fortunately, through it all we had all enjoyed exceedingly good health. Even better still, our Mother's health was better than it had been for some years before coming to Canada.

With the coming of the third summer, 1895, the three eldest of us were away earning a few dollars that were needed to keep the home together. The farm income [illegible] total was that of the grist of flour, and while the Good Book probably had it's own meaning about us not living on bread alone, we had our own version of it, and knew it [illegible] be all too true. Over the whole area where we were, including Saskatoon and miles beyond, everybody was a homesteader, and we were all experiencing the same bad effects of the continuing dry summer. It was only the barest few of them who had the means [illegible] employ anybody at all, and the wages were such, that were they compared with the wages of today, what we received for a month was even less than is now earned in a single day. And so it was that the three of us together earned less than twenty dollars a month, and they were long months too, because we worked longer days.

By now a modern Exodus was under way, and a

year later the whole area was a deserted camp. Right to this day, I cannot think otherwise than that our Dad had suffered a quirk of Fate that had him settled on what I think was about the most unproductive piece of the prairie to be found anywhere.

In the spring of 1895 Dad sowed the crop, but did no further breaking, as it was his intention to move to Rosthern. He had abandoned the quarter he had filed on at Osler, which gave him the right to homestead again.

Had Dad gone west from the railway he could have got better land, but there was no other settlement there other than the Mennonite folk. The land around us had been picked over, and the quarter that Dad filed on was light and sandy, and with the still continuation of the dry summers that were there during the next three years, our efforts were not crowned with much success.

It was not long after we were there that Dad first met T. O. Davis, then Federal M.P. for the constituency of Prince Albert.

T. O. Davis was a Liberal, and as Dad's politics before leaving England had always had a Radical leaning, and although not having much knowledge of Canadian politics, it was not long until T. O. Davis had him recruited as one of his campaign assistants, which was to become the first stepping stone of our Dad's political life in the future Province of Saskatchewan. Progress was slow because that was a good number of years before Saskatchewan was granted her autonomy.

Those three years at Rosthern were mostly of a subsistance sort of life. Dad had previously bought an extra ox, and more recently three medium sized horses. All of us had been out working and even at the still existing very low wages, in some way they were paid for.

By now we boys had become quite competent trappers, and the Rosthern country, being more in the park belt, with considerable scrub and bush, coyotes and foxes were quite plentiful, and although we received very low prices for the furs, they were at least an addition to our income.

I can't recall that we ever produced a crop that could even be classed as fair.

In the meantime a Federal election had come around, I think it was either 1899 or 1900, and Dad had been away a lot with T. O. Davis, who was re-elected in the election.

With some addition to our horse power, and arrangements underway to add still more to it, Dad had entered into an arrangement with the owner of a section of land four and a half miles north west of Rosthern, wherein we were to break up the most of it, and fence the rest, and also to erect some buildings with the owner of the land supplying the building materials. In return for our work we were to receive all that the land produced during the four years that we were there. It seemed a good deal, but unforeseen bad fortune lay ahead. The seasons of limited rainfall still persisted, and the light land that we had been farming tended to make things still worse, so when we had the opportunity to move to heavier land we regarded it as a streak of good luck.

We had added, by means of optimistic financing, another three teams of horses to our working force, and the first summer saw us with over two hundred acres of breaking disced, and all ready for the drill, and the crop went in satisfactorily the next spring. But it was now that we had come to the end of the dry cycle, and that summer we had some good rains, and also long spells of cloudy days followed them, and also it was to find that a lot of the land was inclined to be low-lying. To make a long story short, our two hundred acres of wheat on the low heavy land was as green as a leek at the coming of the first severe frost, and every bushel of it graded 'feed'.

It was at this time that the farmers around Sintaluta and Indian Head had commenced to give vent to their grievances, and had organized the Grain Grower's Association. Rosthern was not far behind in organizing their own local of the same movement as well.

Then began the Grain Growers Association yearly conventions, which alternated between Regina and Saskatoon. We were still in the Territorial days, and the population was still quite sparse, but these conventions drew big gatherings of delegates, each delegate representing every ten members of the organized locals. Motherwell, Partridge and his brother-in-law, Ralston, had previously tangled with the Winnipeg Grain Exchange, which had grown into the line of thinking that it was the farmer's job to grow the wheat, but after that it was their God-given right at the exchange to manipulate every device, honest or otherwise, to secure the farmer's wheat at the lowest possible price, by "Bearing" down on the market, then dispose of it by "Bulling" the market up. It was some years later that Dad had been chosen as spokesman for the farmer in a further controversy between the Grain Exchange and the Grain Growers, in which Dad declared before the Judge of the Court and a lawyer for the Exchange, Isaac Pitblado, quote "no highwayman who held a gun to his victim's head demanding his money, was any more guilty of theft, than were the manipulations of the Grain Exchange in their dealings with the producers of the grain."

This statement was not followed by any demand for apology, or any threat of libel proceedings either, because they knew full well what he said was perfectly true.

All of this was in Winnipeg the seat of the Grain Exchange, but there were still more grievances which were to become more and more acute with the growing numbers that were coming to the prairies to seek a livelihood at farming. And thus in 1901, the first delegation of western farmers moved on Ottawa. Their grievances were many. To mention the main

ones, freight rates, revision of the Grain Act, lowering of duty on imported farm machinery, reciprocity with the United States to allow freer trade, lower interest rates, etc.

Dad was the appointed spokesman for that first delegation that moved on Ottawa from western Canada, and I don't doubt that he proved himself as a diplomat, because in later years he was appointed spokesman on a number of occasions.

Our years at Rosthern were drawing to an end, and plans were being made to move to unsettled territory where we could locate homesteads. I suppose it was partly due to Dad's association with T. O. Davis, M.P., that he was offered the job of operating a sub-land office where the Barr Colonists had pitched their tents on the spot that was later to become Lloydminster. His office was just another tent where he recorded the survey number of each of the Colonists, and these he sent in batches to the Land Office in North Battleford. This was a service set up to save the necessity of each of the colonists travelling the ninety miles himself to file on the piece of land he had chosen.

Dad travelled to Lloydminster with a team of ponies and a buckboard, following the old Carlton-Battleford trail as far as Battleford, and he later wrote us that he was impressed with the country that the trail wended through that started fifteen or twenty miles west of Redberry Lake, and suggested that we should drive out and look it over.

Bert had a good job at Lloydminster with the Massey-Harris Company, setting up farm machinery that was being bought by the Colonists. This was being freighted from Saskatoon mostly in the crates, and it was Bert's job to set them up in working order.

With Wilf staying at the Rosthern home with Mother and Alice, Frank and I outfitted ourselves for the land seeking expedition. Our outfit consisted of a team and wagon, and behind this we led a third horse hitched to a buckboard; this was to be able to travel light while looking the country over in the search for suitable land.

On the wagon we loaded a walking breaking plow, a few hundred feet of scantlings and shiplap for a shack, a quantity of feed oats, camping equipment and some grub. A cable ferry had been installed over the North Saskatchewan river at Petrofka, where we made our crossing. We picked up the old Carlton trail that snaked it's course around the north of Redberry Lake.

Arriving in the area that Dad had previously described, we pitched our tent and being careful to securely tie up the team to the wagon, we commenced scouring around the country with the third horse hitched to the buckboard. We were practically 'lord of all we surveyed'. Not a furrow had been plowed, and apart from the old trail, there was no other road that led to anywhere.

Frank and I covered a lot of country. We were as far west as where Lliac stood, and south to where today are Maymont and Ruddell. There was a land surveying party that were camped nearby where the Keystone School was later built, and from them we got a lot of information concerning the lay of the better land. In the course of all there was the spot where we had first pitched our tent, and though we had fanned out for a good many miles in every direction, it was the tent site that held our greatest attention.

I have told of us having received suggestions from the foreman of the survey camp. It was in the later part of our search in the area north of where Fielding now is that we again called in at the survey camp. We were met by the foreman, an elderly man who said he supposed we had got some good land, and Frank and I replied that we had not yet made up our minds, to which the sage old fellow replied "Well, either the kind of land you want is not here, or else you do not know what you do want."

I would not go so far as to say that it was that which snapped us out of our indecision, but it was not much later that we were reading the Roman Numerals that were chiselled into the iron stakes that were driven into the ground in the centre of the four pits that the surveyors had dug, and we soon had the section, township and range of some of the better quarter sections recorded. Being only recently surveyed, it was not until the following December that the surveyor records had been registered and we were able to file our application to homestead but our earlier application had given us assurance of first homesteading rights. Without any further delay we lined up strike out stakes, and with the three horses on the fourteen inch breaking plow, we proceeded to plow a few acres of the full half mile on each of the quarter sections.

It would not do to omit the erection of the first shack. I think it was ten by twelve, only a shell, not even a floor. It was already apparent to us that we were in an area that seemed more subject to high winds. Our first building was only a bare few days old when a black cloud that gave promise of rain that would help our breaking job, proved to be only a hurricane of wind, and noticing as we were sitting in its shelter that the inside walls were creeping over the grass, we thought it better to be getting outside; and none too soon either, as moments later it went rolling over, not to stop until it came to a small low place on the adjoining quarter section. The few acres of breaking I have written of was intended to be evidence that application for filing had been made.

The winter of 1903-04 was one of more than average snowfall and seeding every where was late in commencing. We did not want to work with a great deal of optimism except to get it done and make preparations for the move to the new location. It was early in June by the time that everything was set to go. There was a haul of seventy miles, counting the detours and winding trails. There were no improved roads of any description, or bridges either. I think we considered it

fortunate that there was the recently installed ferry at Petrofka, otherwise the only other alternative would be to go to the Carlton ferry an extra fifteen miles north and then back south again. Even the essentials made up into four heavy loads for our wagons. I suppose it was due to the experience that Frank and I had the summer before when we had travelled comparatively light and had not had any trouble whatever in getting through even the worst spots, that we were not more cautious. As it was found water across the road where there had not been any before, and the creeks were deeper and wider, too. We were fortunate not to have had any serious mishaps, and with the month of June speeding along, we immediately had every horse hitched to breaking plows. These consisted of what was then known as a twelve inch low lift gang plow with two furrows, no seat, but instead a pair of handles to help steer it when turning at the end of the field. The other two were wood beam walking plows, one twelve and the other fourteen inch. We had got about two hundred acres broken when the weather became so dry and hot that we could not keep the breakers in the ground. However, we built the stable, 24 by 24, added an addition to the little shack, 12 by 16, dug a well, and put up the winter hay.

The steel was laid as far as Radisson that fall.

Although we had been having quite dry conditions on the new land, there had been more than enough rain at the Rosthern farm, and black or stem rust had damaged the wheat more than it had ever previously done.

Bert, Frank and Wilf went back there to look after the harvest.

I rarely saw anyone during that time excepting the Potter's who had come in that summer. Mrs. Potter baked my bread. And also the George Walton's; George used to keep my plow shares pounded out for me, at twenty-five cents each. Mrs. Potter baked my bread on the basis of receiving as much flour for her own use as she used to make my bread.

It was a glad day for me when the boys arrived back; they had brought the cattle, and we proceeded to get things in shape for the winter.

As I write this and think of those early winters, I think that we must have been a fairly hardy lot. At that time there was not so much as a twig to hold back the snow from drifting right up to the door, and over the tops of the feed stacks and low buildings. We were right on the open prairie and our small farms in the making, in the distance across the snow, were like a group of spots on the landscape.

There was a job for all of us that winter. Wilf stayed at the Rosthern farm, Bert and I were on the road every day making trips back and forth, bringing loads of feed, seed grain, machinery-binders drills, etc. to the new farm. Frank stayed on the new farm, caring for the stock and extra horses, and also busy every day making or repairing something for future use, as was characteristic with him all of his life.

1905 started as an unusual kind of year. There had not been much snow that winter and mild winds in the first week of March had it all melted. On the tenth of March, Frank and I started harrowing down the backsetting with two outfits, but it was a short lived spring, because in only a few days it again turned cold, and with more snow falling, we did not do anything more until well on into April. The land did not need much further preparation and seeding was soon finished, and we got a lot of breaking done that summer. The crop was no better than medium in yield, but the quality was excellent, grading No. 1 Northern.

This was 1905, and Saskatchewan had been proclaimed a province, with powers to legislate and govern itself, though of course with limitations similar to those of the other seven provinces which were already in Confederation.

The date for the first Provincial election had been set and held in late October. Dad had been moving in among the then quite sparse settlement that was in a general way in the Redberry constituency. His conveyance was a single horse and buckboard.

The Liberal nominating convention was to be held in Radisson and Dad had arranged for a Mr. McShean to nominate him, and I so well remember Dad's account of it.

Mr. McShean had come to the district from the U.S.A. As to whether he had ever taken part in a Presidential nomination was not known, but the eloquence that went into that nominating address should be preserved in the Provincial Archives.

Dad was not without a contender, Mr. Emil Richard, whose cattle and horse ranch was six miles from us, had aspirations also. Mr. Richard was known for miles around. He has sold good numbers of unbroken horses and steers to the homesteaders, many of them without money were given credit, and there would seem every good reason that this would render him some support, which doubtlessly did, too, because while he had quite a strong appeal in private conversation, had very little ability when speaking in an open meeting. It was when addressing a large gathering that Dad was at his best. It was a close vote, the closest possible. In his first appeal for public political support Dad had won by a majority of one!

The Liberals won the election and the Redberry Constituency elected Dad also.

George Langley was elected Liberal representative for the Constituency of Redberry and was a member at the first sitting of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Saskatchewan in 1905. In 1912 became a member of the government and was given the post of Minister of Municipal Affairs in the cabinet of the Honorable Walter Scott. In 1913 he also held the portfolio of Minister in charge of the Bureau of Public Health. He held this portfolio until his retirement in 1921. Always prominent in farm activities and organizations, he was most active in the formation of the Saskatchewan Co-Operative Elevator Company in

Though the land they chose as homestead NE½ 35-42-12 was not rocky, there would be occasional large boulders that required ingenuity, sweat and brawn on the part of the young men.

1911. He retained a remarkable hold upon the imagination of all those with whom he came into contact. He possessed a great sense of humor and a magnetic platform presence.

The story of the Langley family homesteading in the Maymont district now continues.

Submitted by Mrs. Margaret (Langley) Strautman.

As the mother and sister were ■ join them from Rosthern a house had to be built. Frank designed and built the two-storey building as it stands today. There was an earth basement, cistern and coal bin and a new coal and wood furnace. Trees had to be planted by hand and numbered well over two thousand. Spruce were brought from Meeting Lake to complete the grove. The cement posts that surround the yard were individually poured into molds, wire threaded through for the later attachment of a wire fence. The home became the centre of gatherings for church and some dances or other such social occasions. Alice played the organ and Wilf kept toes tapping with his violin. It is known that many times he was across the river playing at a dance and most reluctant to get up for work the next morning.

Bert as eldest and more studious looked after the financing and records. Frank was the organizer, builder and repairman. Jack had the drive and was a very hard worker. Wilf often was delegated as the cook. On one occasion he went down ■ the hillside sod chicken house to collect the eggs to find the door shut and a growl coming from within. As ■ pushed open the door a furry body flew through the window, down the hill and across the prairies — a lynx. The floor was strewn with dead chickens. Wilf checked them carefully and could not see how they had been killed. He took one and prepared it for dinner but no one could bring themselves to eat it. There were fortunately a few chickens left but their supply of fresh eggs and poultry was severely limited.

A carload of lumber was ordered in 1916 from Fred McCorkle of Maymont, for the construction of a large barn. They were now going into the breeding of the Belgian horse with a purebred stud "Barney". The well was a considerable distance from the construction sight so an underground pipe was laid well below the frost line, to fill a cistern dug beneath the south end of the barn. The water was raised by hand pump to an indoor water trough. The floor was cement in the main barn, but the leanto had the foaling stalls with dirt floors — and just a cement walkway. In the winter the main barn would be partitioned off at the harness rooms, to retain heat for the few head of horses kept in for driving during the winter months. The cow barn was a smaller area with drainage ditches and stanchions for each individual animal. The large loft provided shelter for the stock of feed. Two chop bins in the north corners would be filled with either oats or chop. Sheaves were elevated by a system of pulleys and slings. The slings would be laid on a rack and piled high with bundles. At the barn from the peak a very heavy rope ran along an overhead track and out the side of the barn, through a system of pulleys a team of horses were able to raise the load up from the rack to the track that ran across the entire roof. As the load came into position the smaller rope would be activated, the sheaves dropped when the slings opened and the slings would be pulled back and out by the operator. The ropes mentioned were made from twine and woven by their own "rope maker". In the playtime memories we can recall the adventures of the younger people who would ride those slings and drop off into the piles of hay below.

The farm site was on the crest of a hill, overlooking a valley and across ten miles to Maymont. Hailstorms had a pathway that often followed the crest of the hill along this valley. Many windows had been broken at the barn and Frank had finally replaced them all. August, 1944 would stay in the memory for during a sudden thunderstorm the barn was struck by lightning. The whole loft interior must have been on fire for the

In 1926 the Senior Langleys celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. The members left to right are: Wilf, Mother Ellen, Jack, Alice, Frank, Father George, Bert.

JOHN LANGLEY — In 1798 came from Ireland (Ulster Rebellion) to Staffroo Waldon, England.

JAMES m: Mary Barker
JOHN
WILLIAM

WILLIAM
JAMES
JOHN
GEORGE b: 1852-1933 ■ 1876 m: Ellen Hales

ALICE 1877-1973

HERBERT m: Sarah Stephen 1879-1952
Helen
Bill
Ian
Jean

FRANK m: Kate Smales 1880-1964
Margaret

JOHN m: Margaret Turnbull 1883-1973
George
Jim
Stuart
Arthur
Con
Edna

WILFRED m: Mary Carter 1885-
Alice
Victor
Fred
Howard

roof was burning from end to end. It burned quickly and completely as ■ stood, never collapsing. Neighbors soon arrived to help prevent further destruction of other buildings by flying debris. The few pigs that were in the barn escaped injury. The wheat stored inside smoldered on the surface but the grain underneath was saved and a special permit had to be obtained to ship this smoke damaged feed.

The four brothers and their wives taken about 1950. Jack and Madge, Wilf and Mary, Bert and Sally, Frank and Kate.

The years have passed and the original brothers are no longer here to tell their tales. Many descendants still live in the immediate area and in Saskatchewan. Some have moved to warmer areas in Vancouver while one great-granddaughter now resides in Holland.

Mrs. William Leask

submitted by Helen Sophie (Langham) Leask

In my teaching days after you had finished Normal School training, the only position available was to teach in a rural school. I never could understand the reasoning behind this. Surely it would have been much better ■ put the inexperienced teacher in the city schools with only one grade to teach! And, also, there would ■ some supervision.

However, after teaching several years ■ rural areas. I decided it would be much too monotonous to teach one grade.

On August 15, 1926, I stepped off the evening train at Maymont. A gentleman stepped forward, took my arm and said, "This way Miss - - - - -." I said, "I'm sorry I am not Miss - - - - -, I am Miss Langham." Mr. A. Brehon came forward and joked with Dr. Scratch for trying to take off with his school teacher. Apparently Dr. Scratch had been expecting a nurse. As I was the only lady getting off the train I should have been his nurse.

I taught in Keystone until December, 1928. Believe, me, it was never monotonous! There were sixteen to twenty-six pupils from grades one to ten. Two boys in grade nine were taking, their lessons by correspondence. I was supposed to correct their work and help with any problems. The boys had decided they wanted to take French as their second language. The principal where I had taken my high school had majored in Latin. Problem number one! I had to do each French lesson and send it away to ■ corrected. At least, I learned a smattering of French.

The first day I entered Keystone School I noticed there were "spitballs" all over the ceiling but I didn't say anything about them. ■ takes time to get faces organized with grades. So far there hadn't been any spitballs flying but it was a problem to deal with before it got going. One day I decided "where ignorance is bliss 'tis folly to be wise". I innocently

asked, "What are all those things on the ceiling?" Of course the answer came back "Spitballs". "What are spitballs?" I asked. They proceeded to show me "Who put them up there?" Many hands went up. "Well," I said, "You put them up there. You will have to find a way ■ get them down."

The next morning the two boys in grade nine came armed with trestles, planks and corn brooms. Much to my surprise they got the spitballs off.

I usually played with the pupils during the noon hour — ball, tag, knife, whatever the season dictated. One day I had some work to correct and didn't go out. All of a sudden everything was still — not a sound to be heard. There was one girl in the room. She had just come in so I said, "Where ■ everyone?" She said, "They are all down in the bush and each boy has a girl on his knee." I rang the bell. They all came running and stood in two lines. The older pupils were all looking a bit "sheepish". Suddenly it just seemed so funny that I burst out laughing. I never said a word about it! What could one say after laughing!

I taught ■ quite a number of rural school but I enjoyed my teaching days at Keystone most of all. So to all my students of those days I say "Thank You."

Doris Evelda (Sherman) Loftsgaard

I am the fifth daughter (seventh child) of Charles and Anna Sherman. I was born on June 13, 1926.

My recollection of life on the farm near Fielding, Saskatchewan is very sketchy, but certain things in my young life do stand out such as walking to school, rain or shine, or perhaps I should say snow or shine, spending hours trapping, snaring or drowning gophers from their holes for the precious one penny bounty. I now shudder to think that at one time I was very good at it, I thought. Besides the gophers that were a constant bane to a farmer's existence I also distinctly recall the hoards of grasshoppers that my father and brothers tried to destroy by mixing poison with grain and scattering it from a wagon around the perimeter of the fields.

What wheat stands they were able to salvage were harvested in the fall, and I remember trying to stook the bundles of wheat and somehow I never could make them look so neat as the grown men. I wish young people today could see the memory I have of fields with neat rows of stooked wheat waiting for the threshing machine to come in and complete the harvest.

As a young girl on the farm so many years ago I was not spared the drudgery of herding cattle, milking cows, feeding pigs and chickens, carrying drinking water from the well to the house, chopping wood, butchering chickens, churning butter in a rotating barrel churn, and scrubbing clothes on a wash board, all before I turned thirteen years of age. But these times were interspersed with such goodies as — building playhouses in the trees, dividing the rooms with binder twine and hearing how angry my brothers got when they would get caught up in twine while chasing animals through the bushes; and happy times running and hopping and singing out through the fields with all that freedom from care; and the dances and the Christmas concerts at Calais School; and oh, what a great joy to get to go to town with the horse and buggy.

Winter was different. I remember freezing my fingers and ears walking to school in a blizzard. The alert teacher saw me coming toward the school with cap covered ear distended, and knew enough to put snow on my ear before letting me near the pot-bellied stove in the classroom. But along with blizzards came snow drifts, and though they made it difficult to work or travel ■ they were fun to play in, and made great mountains to sled on.

Going to school ■ one room with other students up to the eighth grade was not as disruptive as one might think. I believe getting a glimpse of your next grade gave us a bit of incentive. However, two of the most terrifying things ■ my early school life were the visits to our school by the District Superintendent of Schools, and the doctor. I remember Dr. Scratch came periodically to vaccinate and inoculate all of us. The fear of these incidents was passed on by others and was worse than the actual happening. One of the fun things I remember was the inter-school track meets we used to have. Although it was so very frightening to me to have to meet and compete with strange people. We were not very worldly ■ those days.

Those were a few of my recollections of life up to 1938 when we moved to Vancouver.

March 4, 1949 I married Bennett A. Loftsgaard, a school teacher from Klamath Falls, Oregon. After six years we moved to Sacramento, California and raised our three children, Evelda, born January 15, 1950, living in Southern California now; Catherine, born July 18, 1951, now married and living in Minneapolis, Minn. with her husband and tiny daughter; and Bennett, born October 4, 1952, now living in Sacramento.

My husband and I now publish a daily report on planned Construction in our area. It still keeps us tied to Sacramento, but hope one day to visit my home town. I am a licensed private pilot, so we do have an opportunity to cover a lot of territory ■ a short period of time.

The Donald Long Family

Donald Long was born on the Fred Long homestead, south of Maymont. He attended school in Maymont — often walking both ways. During the winter months, the family lived in Maymont and returned to the farm in the summer. Mr. Fred Long worked for the C.N.R. for many years. In 1926 the family moved to the Calais School District — southeast of Maymont.

In 1932, I, Margaret McGaffin, of Sonningdale was hired as teacher for the Calais School. I taught there

Don Long family. Back row, L. to R. — Jim, Margaret, Donald, and Bob. Front row — Linda, Beth and Donna.

until June 1935. Money was scarce and times were tough; but the families and the school had a wonderful relationship. Each pupil pulled his weight and we all learned how to work as a unit. We had many happy times at field days, Christmas trees and picnics. Calais always did well at Area Field Days.

In 1935, Donald Long and Margaret McGaffin were married. We farmed near Fielding. In March, 1937 our son, Bob, was born. Beth was born in July 1939 and Donna arrived in January 1945.

In 1946, the Ivor Longs and the Donald Longs moved to farms, south of Lloydminister. We bought adjoining farms and farmed together for a few years.

Our Linda arrived in July of 1947 and Jim came along in November 1951. Times got better and we have had a good life. We now have a few oil wells on our land.

Beth and Bob attended Calais School with Jean Downey as teacher.

The three girls went through Teachers' College in Saskatoon and taught for a number of years. Beth is now Mrs. Charlie May of Lloydminster, Sask. They have four boys — Eddie, Greg, Gerry, and Mark. Donna married Zbyg Staszczak, a teacher. They live in Creston, B.C. and have two girls — Deanna and Sharla. Linda married Don Holt, a teacher, and lives in Cranbrook, B.C. They have a girl, Gina and a boy, Geoffery.

Bob had two children, Murray and Marlyss, when his wife passed away. He remarried and now Bob has five children — Pam is sixteen; Murray and Kevin are fourteen; Marlyss is twelve and Deirdra is eleven. Bob was elected M.L.A. for Cutknife-Lloydminster, for the N.D.P. in the fall of 1978. He still farms with Jim.

Bob showed early that he would be a politician. During the war, we lived on the Cameron farm, near Fielding. The airforce were training at North Battleford and came down the river valley and up our coulee. One day they flew so low that the dishes in the cupboard rattled; and we saw the wing extending over the south window. Bob was in Grade II and had to take a news item to school. He told of the airplane rattling the dishes and showing over the roof — but — he added, "I got up and ran around the house and there was the wing showing on the north side too". Miss Downey wondered about that one!

Jim attended U. of S. taking Sociology. He works as a Youth Counselor during the winter and farms with Bob during the summer.

Don and I are semi-retired and still living on the farm south of Lloydminster, Saskatchewan.

The Ivor Long Story

told by Ivor Long

My parents, Fred and Florence Long, and my older brother and three sisters, came from England in 1908. After working on farms to gain experience, my father filed on a homestead on the north bank of the Saskatchewan River, about five miles south of Maymont. I was born in 1910, being the first of family born in Canada. As the school at Maymont, where I received all my education, was some distance away, my father purchased a house in Maymont in 1918 from a Mr. Andrew Kerr. We lived there during the winter months, moving back to the farm in the spring, for the summer. My father was employed by the C.N.R. working on section. Then in spring of 1926 he purchased a farm four miles west of Fielding, which my younger brother Philip is still farming today.

As for myself, I received all my education in the original two-roomed school at Maymont which at that time was located on the west side of the road. My school days ended in June, 1923 when I completed my grade eight. As my father was still employed with the C.N.R., I was kept at home to help with the farm work. My first job at threshing time, was hauling straw for a large steam outfit owned by Jack Spies and Wes Rolfe. As I had to be there when the fireman was getting up steam in the morning, it would often be a fourteen hour day. After about twenty-five days of this kind of work, I began to realize that going to school had been a pretty soft life. I continued to work at home and for farmers until I was able to rent land and make a start at farming myself.

In December of 1938, I married Bethene Nutbrown and we lived on a rented farm owned by Alan Patterson, where our only son, Leonard, was born. In spring of 1940 we moved to a better farm, formerly owned by Robert Hodge, where we lived for six years. Our only

daughter, Evelyn, was born here. We purchased and moved to the farm ten miles south of Lloydminster in 1946 where we are still living.

Our son Leonard was married to Eveleen Mann, from north of Lloydminster and they have three children. He purchased a farm about two and one half miles away but chose to build and live on the home farm. Our daughter Evelyn is teaching in North Battleford.

Fred and Florence Long

Mr. and Mrs. Long arrived in Maymont from London, England in the spring of 1908. Mrs. Long was born in Gloucestershire, England; After leaving school, she went to London where she worked as a nursemaid. There she met Fred Long and was married in 1900. Fred worked as a bus conductor in London. At that time they were using horses, but later switched to motor driven buses.

When they arrived in Maymont they had four children. They stayed for awhile with Mr. Long's sister, Mrs. Percy Knowles, in Maymont and then moved out to a log house with a sod roof on Mr. Knowles' homestead, where they spent two winters. Their closest neighbours at that time were Mr. and Mrs. Wilmot, who were homesteading on a quarter about half a mile east of them. Harvey Denomy owns the land at the present time.

The Long Family. L. to R. — Stanley, Marjorie, Peggy, Molly, Ivor, and Don. In front — Phillip, Mother, Miriam, Father and Gwen.

After moving around for some years, as Mr. Long worked on farm and road work, he also did some carpenter work and helped to build the United Church; he finally took up a homestead down by the river. He broke up the land with oxen. He managed to break up twenty-three acres and the following spring worked with Mr. Holmes and helped him to put the seed in. Mr. and Mrs. Holmes lived at that time where Glenburn Park is now situated.

There was a very good crop that year and Mr. T. Turner thrashed it with the big steam outfit. Fred bought some CPR land next to the homestead. He sold the oxen and bought some horses and broke more land. They farmed then for some time. In 1926 they sold that land and bought land in the Fielding District so as to be close to a school, that was Calais School. Phil Long is now farming the land.

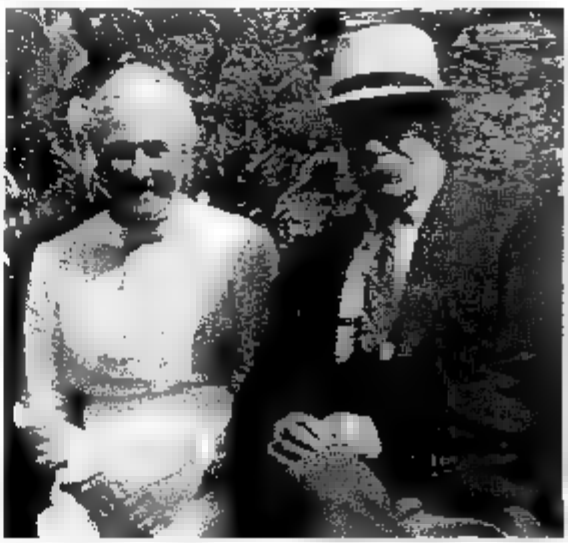
Fred Long passed away in March 1935 and Florence carried on with the farm for some time and then built a house in Fielding where she lived for several years. She passed away at the age of 84, April 3, 1956.

They had a family of nine children, five girls and four boys. They are: Stanley Long, Muriel (Mrs. [redacted] Larson), Marjorie (Mrs. Frank Clayton) and Phillip Long of Maymont; Ivor and Donald Long, Gwendolyn (Mrs. Reese Holden) of Lloydminster and Miriam (Mrs. Ken Barber) of Vancouver, British Columbia and Alice who is predeceased.

The George Mabey Family

told by Mary (Hopkins) Mabey

In March, 1905, George Mabey homesteaded five miles northwest of Ruddell. Mr. and Mrs. Mabey and small son Walter emigrated to Canada from England in 1901, and worked for a farmer at Carmen, Manitoba. Their son Herbert was born in 1902. Mrs. Mabey remained in Souris until after Frank was born in April of 1905, and at the end of May joined her husband, travelling from Saskatoon on the construction train. Mr. Mabey had bought oxen and wagon and supplies at Saskatoon, and travelled across country to the homestead with his brother-in-law, Herbert Dagnall, who was a carpenter. They built the first frame house in the district — a little grey home in the West — with two rooms, and a log lean-to kitchen and bedroom. During the first winter their main source of meat was



Mr. and Mrs. George Mabey on their 50th wedding anniversary.

jackrabbits. With plenty of water in the sloughs, there were many ducks, and also prairie chickens and partridge to shoot. Periodically an R.C.M.P. officer rode through the district to check on the welfare of the settlers, but no charges were ever laid when he was served meat out of season. Visitors were always welcome, and always invited to remain for meals or a place to sleep.

At first Mrs. Mabey was the only woman for several miles radius, as most of the homesteaders were bachelors. She baked bread for several of these during the summer months while they were doing the necessary improvements on their land. ■ the winters they would return east to earn money for the next year. The nearest town was Ruddell, and as soon as a school was built, Walter and Herb walked five miles each way to attend. When Frank was six, they bought a buckskin pony and buggy for transportation. Till then, they used a wagon and yoke of oxen.

With no fences, a light was always kept burning in a window during blizzards in the winter in case anyone was lost. Myrtle was born during a three day blizzard in 1911, with Dr. Scratch of Maymont in attendance. During the summer, prairie fire was a potential hazard until most of the land was cultivated. The last one was in 1914 to the west of the farm. Mr. Mabey and neighbours hurriedly plowed fire guards, and backfired to save the buildings. Walking over the burnt prairie later was an unforgettable experience.

Mr. Mabey and Herbert Dagnall, with other neighbours, built the Anglican church at Lilac, St. Mary's, which is now a part of the Pioneer Museum in North Battleford. Mr. Mabey was a Warden for many years, and Mrs. Mabey played the organ for services until they sold the farm and retired to North Vancouver ■ 1945. Mr. Mabey died in 1950 and Mrs. Mabey went to live ■ Toronto, where she died in 1954.

When more families settled in the district, people would gather in different homes for an evening of fun and entertainment. Both Mr. and Mrs. Mabey were good singers, and Mr. Mabey could stepdance and also recited amusing poems. Each summer a community picnic was held ■ the Maple Grove on July 1st, with races and games for all ages. This event is still continued today.

Wood for building was scarce, as the bluffs were of small willow and poplar. The men would go several miles south to the Saskatchewan river valley to cut logs and bring them back on sleighs, or about the same distance north to the Whitewood hills. Keeping a fire going during cold winter nights was a problem until coal was shipped in from Alberta.

Herbert was the only son to remain in the home district. After completing a mechanics course in Saskatoon, he opened a garage and implement repair business ■ Ruddell. In 1933 he and his wife Mary bought the general store in Lilac. He also operated a garage and oil business there, and they became an integral part of the community. Herb was very musical, and played the violin and saxophone. With Harry Turner on piano and Bill Buttrey on drums, the trio played for the dances in Ruddell hall and the area schools. Herb and Mary became avid curlers and played ■ many bonspiels. They sold the business ■ 1965 and retired to the West Coast.

Walter Mabey joined the Royal Canadian Airforce in 1918 in Toronto, and lived and worked there till his death in 1968. Frank became an accountant, and lived in Saskatoon, Winnipeg and Vancouver. He died in a drowning accident in 1950. Herb lived in White Rock, B.C. until his death in 1977. Myrtle married Adalor Glover, and lives ■ Toronto.

Pioneer Days as Remembered by Mrs. George Mabey

written in 1954

We took up our homestead ■ 1904, and my husband and a friend came to Saskatoon with our settlers' effects in March, 1905. The bridge at Nutana was out, so they built a shack and unloaded the car, storing their belongings until they could return later. They took a few necessities loaded in a wagon drawn by two oxen, Buck and Bill, and travelled on to Borden. There they crossed the Saskatchewan River by ferry and continued west. There were no roads and very few places to inquire the way. Eventually, they came to what ■ now Ruddell district and called in at a shack there and found they were five miles south of their destination. They set up a tent and looked over a section of land which was virgin prairie. There was lots of water in the sloughs, for the oxen, but no drinking water, so they boiled the slough water to make tea and coffee. They returned to Saskatoon, which was 84 miles, and loaded another freight car with the stored goods. The rails at that time were laid as far as Radisson. The towns were just called sidings until the rails were laid to North Battleford.

In June, 1905, I came from Souris, Manitoba with my three sons the youngest 9 weeks old. My husband, met us in Saskatoon, which was a very small place then. We came on as far as the Diamond which is now Warman, and where they were building a hotel. We had to stay there for a day and night to wait for the construction train which took us to the 37th siding. It was the roughest trip I ever had, for the rails were not solid and we wobbled from side ■ side. We finally arrived and our friend loaned us his horse and buggy to drive the five miles to the homestead. So we arrived on our land the SW¼ 36-42-14-W3rd. The house was of lumber brought from Nutana and used previously there to store our belongings and it was 14' x 24'. The winters were very severe. 40 and 50 degrees below zero and my husband banked the house with sods to the roof for warmth. We had only wood for fuel, as there was no coal for 2 or 3 years.

In 1905 my husband broke the soil and planted potatoes and other garden, but the gophers cleaned out

everything. The boys trapped hundreds and in later years we poisoned them. Good drinking water was a necessity and after several dry wells our boys discovered goose grass, a sign of water. My husband dug and I emptied the pails of sand and we had a good well. Many people came there for water for themselves and their oxen. There were no horses used at that time.

The many bachelor homesteaders stayed in their shacks during the winter months doing their homestead duties and in the summer worked out and had some neighbour with oxen break up the land. Spring came late and we never started seeding till May, often having snow then. We treated the wheat with bluestone and cleaned it in a small hand mill. There was only Red Fife and later Marquis varieties and year after year it would be frozen, as the heavy rains in June kept it growing tall. Red and Black rust would strike and the resulting grain harvested was only feed grade.

A kitchen and bedroom were added to the house upon removal of the sods and the outside covered with drop siding. Our home was the rendezvous of all the nearby bachelors and later the many student ministers. We had several prairie fires which were terrifying. They burned out all the grass and left the prairie black, showing up all the stones which had to be cleared from the land. The last prairie fire I remember was in 1914. The small bluffs of poplar and willow had to be cleared with ax and mattock before much land could be cleared. Most of the breaking was done with 4 oxen.

There were no schools until 1907 when a one-room school was built in Ruddell. Our two oldest boys Walter and Herb walked the five miles to school each day from spring till Christmas. Later on when Frank was old enough to go to school, we bought a buckskin pony named Nancy and the children drove in a buggy. In 1906 the men began to build the Presbyterian Church in Ruddell. Previously the visiting ministers held services wherever they could in home and stores. Some homes were just sod shacks and dugouts. Sending and receiving mail was quite a problem. It came to North Battleford by train and was taken to Richard. The men took turns to walk to Richard for the mail and on Sunday we all gathered for a church service and to get our mail. Later it went to Baljennie and an old-timer crossed the river on Saturday afternoon to take and bring mail back. The settlers gathered and played football until Mr. Kennedy returned with it. The Mounted Police came around frequently to see how we were getting along and what news there was and if anyone was in want. They would stay for a meal and water and feed their fine horses. We enjoyed happy social times and dances in some of the homes, the music being played on a mouth organ and violin.

Ruddell at that time was a very busy town. Two grain elevators were built and farmers hauled grain during the winter from 20 miles north and from across the river. There were several stores and a hotel. Mr. Turnbull who farmed just south of town used the first tractor. Threshing outfits were horse drawn. Mr. Fanset owned the first Ford car and I think Herb Mabey owned and sold the first radios.

I remember one of the homesteaders nearby went to Prince Albert to work for the winter and came back in the spring pushing a wheel barrow loaded with flour and other necessities all the way. Some of the men cut logs at the river during the winter and hauled them home for building purposes and fuel. About Christmas time in 1906 two neighbours shot a bear at the river, so everyone had some bear meat, which was tender and good. There were also deer and red foxes, but they disappeared as the country was settled. There were lots of jack rabbits, which we called "jumping beef" as we had to use them for meat. At one time we had thirty-six rabbits hanging up frozen in a pole teepee. Some years there were lots of Saskatoon berries at the river, so we used to hitch up the oxen and take some neighbours and come home with pails of berries to preserve. On July 1st we had an annual picnic at the Maple Grove near the river and that is still held each year.

At the beginning we had a sod barn for the oxen. After nine years we bought horses and raised colts and built a log barn with a hay loft. We built a log barn for the cattle and a hen house of lumber. These had a roof of poles covered with a heavy layer of flax straw and on top of that sod. This was dry and warm. I made butter and traded it and eggs at the stores in Ruddell for groceries. I used to bake bread six days a week for our bachelor neighbours and our own family.

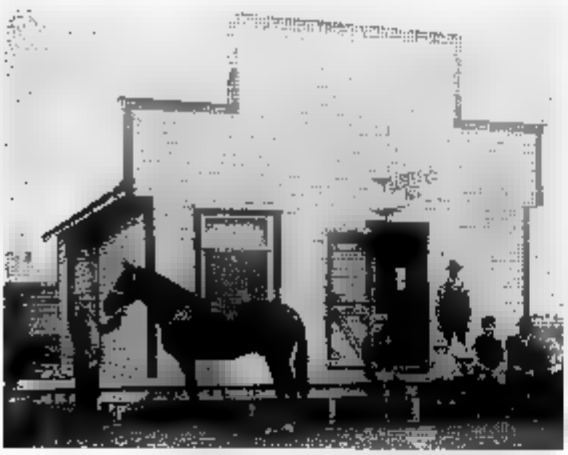
In 1906 fifty young Catechists came from England to Prince Albert, as there was no University then in Saskatoon. In the early summer they were sent to all the little towns to build and establish the Anglican churches. Mr. Good came to what is now Lilac (it was Ruddell District then). Mr. Davis gave half an acre of land on which to build the church. All the churches built were of the same pattern and just one ply of lumber. Later on when the money was available, the men lined and finished the inside of the building and a good heater was installed. My eldest son made the alter table and the Women's Auxiliary supplied the linens and bought and made the matting. A new organ was bought and consecrated in the church. At the beginning there was also a sod stable, later replaced by a frame building. Later there was a manse built for a resident minister.

We had a different student minister each year from May to September, when they would return to college. Then we had resident deacons and later on ordained men. The church was named ST. MARY'S. Mr. Harry Welford acted as the minister's warden through the years and Mr. George Mabey as the people's warden. In the early years the people were mostly Anglicans and there was a good congregation. I played the organ for 32 years at all the services.

Mallows, Albert, Dorothy, and June

Albert Mallows came from Comberton, Cambridgeshire, England, to Canada in 1906. He worked on a farm in Stratford, Ontario, until heading West in 1910. He worked on the farm of the Charles Robinson family in Ruddell.

During the 1914-18 war, Albert joined the Canadian Forces and served Overseas. He acquired the name 'Shorty' because of his stature. His brothers were very tall, so no doubt many comments were made re his height. 'Shorty' remained with him through the years as did his barbering, which he took up during the First World War, of which he loved to recall many stories.



Albert Mallows holding the horse in front of his pool room and barber shop, Ruddell.

In Ruddell, he operated a Pool Room and Barber Shop on Main Street. The upstairs portion of the building was rented to various lodges for their meetings. The morning of November 11th every year, that big room hummed with the sound of the Legionaires making their delicious ham sandwiches for their annual Remembrance Services and social evening, in the Village Hall.

During the World War 1, Albert met Dorothy Lawson, and she came out to Canada in 1921 to marry Albert. The Ruddell folk gave Dorothy a Bridal Shower, complete with some Canadian recipes. She used these and became very Canadianized in every way.

Together, Albert and Dorothy Mallows operated the Ruddell Post Office for many years. At first in a small building, next door to the house they rented, opposite the Cenotaph. Later, in a building which remains at this date, on the Main Street, he had the Post Office in one half, and the Barber Shop in the other.

Albert used to meet the trains, morning and evening to pick up the mail. In the stormy, wintery weather it sometimes meant waiting up all night. More than once, the evening train would come in from 7-8 a.m. While Dorothy sorted that mail and operated the Post Office, Albert would be at the Railway Station to meet the regularly scheduled morning train heading East. He was always well acquainted with the Railway Station agent, as they sat around the big heater, exchanging stories. In the early years the Mallows handled mail for Baljennie area. In winter drivers would cross the ice on the Saskatchewan River to transport their mail to and from the district.

Before retiring from the Post Office, Albert and Dorothy bought May White's house, where they resided until their passing in 1970 and 1978, respectively. In 1971 Dorothy married Jack Humphreys, a lifelong friend of Albert's.

Jack and Albert, both from Comberton came to Canada together in 1906. Jack went back to England and joined the English Forces during World War 1. He and his wife Ada, (also from Comberton) operated their farm in Eston, until Ada's passing in 1965.

Jack still lives in the house in Ruddell. He enjoys visits from his family and neighbours. Dorothy and Albert Mallows only daughter June, with her family, also visits Jack.

June is Mrs. Milton Bingham, and married Mrs. Beth Easterbrook's son. They reside in Comox, British Columbia, where Milton retired after thirty-three years, in the Canadian Armed Forces. Their eldest, Milton works in a Bank in Vancouver, while the youngest, Beverly is attending the University of British Columbia there. Daughter, Dorothy, is Mrs. Earl Kelly and they reside in Mackenzie, B.C., where they both are employed at B.C. Forest Products.

The Martin-Barrett-Roy Rogers Story

written by Irene (Barrett) Rogers

When Benjamin Martin of Leicester, England was advised by his doctor to 'go abroad' for health reasons he chose Canada. He owned a Musical Instrument Store and manufactured reed organs. He brought an organ and the parts for several other organs with him when he, his wife, Hannah, and two sons, Benjamin Bennifer and Gerald Harry, arrived in Canada in 1904. He took up a homestead on Section 12, Township 42, Range 12, W 3rd in Saskatchewan northeast of where Maymont now stands.

Here they put up a 14' by 16' frame building where they spent the first year. With their possessions were many fine linens which had to be stored in trunks and with no place to keep them from getting wet they mildewed and were lost. Hannah was very homesick and lonesome; as a result her health failed and her two daughters, Maud Mary and Lillian Agnes, made plans to come to Canada to be with their mother but she passed away three weeks before they sailed. They arrived in April 1906. As she lay sick and dying her husband and two sons had to go and fight a prairie fire

even though this was in February. Benjamin made the casket and she was buried on the homestead. Later when the cemetery was established in Maymont, the body was moved there. This was the first death in the area.

Keystone School opened in May 1905 and Benjamin was on the first school board.

He made one of the organs and played it for the church services held in the school. This organ stayed in Maud's family for fifty years. About 1955 it was shipped to Lethbridge to one of Benjamin's great-grandchildren. I, Maud's daughter, remember as a child playing, in the late 1920's with the rest of the organ parts that were still stored in boxes outside, never made up. We didn't have toys in those days.

Benjamin stayed for only two or three years and went back to England leaving his four children in Canada. A fifth child, May Ruth, had always remained in England.

In 1907, the second son, Gerald Harry Martin,

Mr. and Mrs. Seager Wheeler in beautiful Victoria, soon after retiring.

became the manager of a store in Maymont when Edgar Bean, Maymont's first storekeeper, was thrown from a buggy and killed. Harry continued in this position until 1925. During this time he started up the first furniture store in Maymont and his brother, Ben, worked with him. Harry then bought the Harness Shop from Henry Christfield and in 1913 Ransom Rogers went to work for him. Harry also started up the first undertaking business in Maymont.

Harry bought one of the first cars around Maymont, a Rambler.

Ben was called to war but by the time he got to England the war was over so when he came back he went to Lethbridge, Alberta and started an undertaking business there. By 1925 Mrs. Bean's son was old enough to manage the store so Harry left to join Ben, selling his business here. They had a very successful undertaking business in Lethbridge which their sons still manage. Ben who had three sons and Harry who had one son, have both passed away.

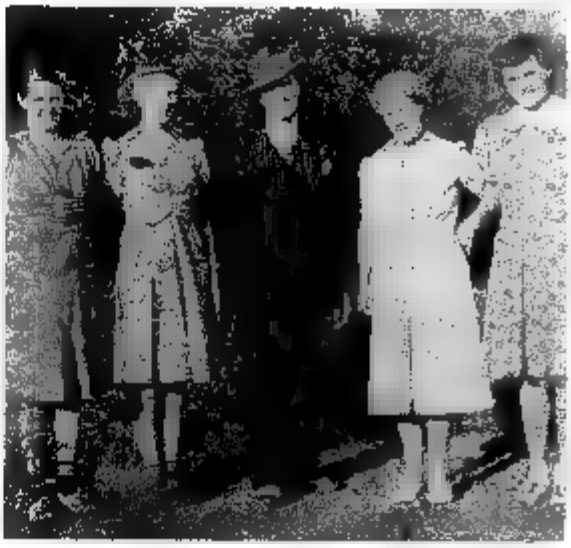
Seager Wheeler came to Canada from the Isle of White at age seventeen, in May, 1885. He lived in Moose Jaw for awhile and then took up a homestead at Rosthern. In December 1908 he married Lillian Agnes Martin, Benjamin's youngest daughter, the first wedding in the Anglican Church in Maymont. The inside of the church still wasn't finished. He continued to farm at Rosthern, becoming very famous with his wheat, potatoes and fruit trees. He won the World Wheat Championship five times. Upon retirement they moved to Victoria, B.C. They have both passed away and are buried in the Bergthal Cemetery at Rosthern.

They had four daughters. Two are living in Saskatoon; one in Edmonton; the other one in Rosthern, and her son farms the original farm.

George Barrett came to Canada from the Isle of Wight in 1884. His wife, Sarah, a sister of Seager Wheeler's mother, and three sons Fred, Percy and Will, came two years later. Will, the youngest, was six at the time. They lived in the Moose Jaw area where a cousin lived, then moved to Rosthern. Will came to the Maymont area around 1913 and took up a homestead on Section N.W. 28, Township 42, Range 12, W 3rd. His parents, George and Sarah, came to live with him. Percy came to Maymont and started the first photography shop. Many of the early pictures of Maymont were taken by him. Fred was killed at the age of eighteen, when thrown from a horse.

Will married Annie Wetton in 1913, Verna was born in 1914 just before Will's father, George died. His mother died in 1917 and they are both buried in Maymont Cemetery. A second daughter, Estella, was born and in 1918 Will left the farm to manage a grain elevator. A third daughter, Ethelwyn, was born after this. They lived many years in Denholm, Saskatchewan then moved to Lloydminster where he retired. Will passed away about 1963 and his wife still lives in Surrey, B.C. with Verna, now a widow. Estella

Will Barretts' wedding picture.



The Barrett family — 1942. L. to r. — Ruth, Ethel, Stanley, Mrs. Barrett and Irene.

Percy Barrett and Stanley — about 1912.

passed away at an early age with multiple sclerosis. Ethelwyn has two daughters, married and all living in the Coquitlam area in B.C.

Percy married Maud Martin in 1907 and lived in Maymont for a few years. Stanley Frederick was born in 1908 and Lillian Ruth May in 1909. They then moved to the Martin homestead. Irene Maude was born in 1918 and Alice Ethel in 1924.

While Percy was breaking land with a walking plough the plough shear hit a stone causing the handles to strike him in the chest. From this he developed tuberculosis and after spending several months in the Saskatoon Sanatorium passed away in August 1925.

Stanley then took over the farming. A neighbor on the adjoining farm, Howard Chambers, gave up farming and Stanley rented his farm, too. He later married and lived on this farm but this was the era of no crops and low prices so he gave up farming and went to Vancouver. Stanley took the only job he could find at the time, washing dishes in a restaurant. He stayed with the restaurant until he became Head Chef. He didn't like being inside so much so got a job on a tugboat handling logs and kept with that until he was Captain of a tugboat. He also built and owned two apartment blocks in Vancouver. He died in 1962 at the age of fifty-three and is buried in Vancouver.

Ruth married Roy Schmidt of Sonningdale, Saskatchewan in 1930 and he farmed the land Stanley had farmed.

Irene and Ethel took all their schooling at Keystone School. We lived seven miles from Maymont and the only transportation was with horses and wagon. Later it was with a version of the Bennett wagon, a car chassis with rubber-tired wheels. Lucky were the ones

who owned a pony to ride. Usually it was the work horses we rode and they couldn't be ridden when they had to be worked in the fields.

We used to catch a ride to school with the neighbors but that meant sitting by the window from anywhere up to an hour watching for them. We had no phone.

Before Stanley left the farm he bought one of the first battery operated radios, a large black box about twelve inches square and two and a half feet long with numerous large dials and knobs which all seemed to need turning at once. We would walk half a mile to his place in the evening to sit with our ear close to the machine to hear screeches, squeals and faint far-off music. . . Very exciting at that time!

The highlight of the school year was the Christmas concerts when I'm sure we practised for a month ahead of time. At the school there was a big evergreen tree but at home we always had a poplar tree which we trimmed with homemade decorations for Christmas.

Then there were the school picnics with lots of lemonade (from real lemons) and ice cream.

The school dances were great fun with one squeaky violin and someone chording on the organ. Then every second piece was "Red Wing"?

The babies or smaller children were put to sleep on top of the coats piled on the desks all around the room.

The stove was burning at first until it got too warm in the school, then it was picked up and carried out by three or four strong men, which meant more room to dance too. Everyone brought some lunch and it was pooled and passed around. Coffee was made in a wash boiler. A pound of coffee was sewn into a white cheesecloth bag and it was thrown into a boiler full of water which was then brought to a boil. This was often made in a nearby house and carried to the school at lunch time. Card parties later became popular. Usually two a year; one to raise funds for Christmas presents and one to raise funds for Red Cross.

In 1939 Irene married Roy Rogers, youngest son of Ransom Rogers, who lived on N.W. quarter, 4-42-12-W3rd. In 1945 Ethel married Jimmy Steele. Our mother spent her summers on the farm and winters with daughters or her sister, Mrs. Seager Wheeler, at Rosthern, later at Victoria. She passed away in 1950 and is buried in Maymont.

Roy and Irene continued to farm. Ransom still had the harness shop and undertaking business with which Roy still helped him. He worked under Cotton Funeral Home, North Battleford. A casket in those days was thirty-five dollars. Many of the people who couldn't afford that much had a municipal funeral. Ransom and Laurie Curry made the caskets out of cedar and spruce, covered the outside with grey flannelette and Mrs. Rogers lined the inside with white satin. Handles were purchased and put on. These caskets cost fifteen dollars.

There were five children born to Roy and Irene; Elaine Ada in 1940; Christine Ethel in 1942; Carol Marie in 1944; Louise Marilyn in 1950 and Brian Edward in 1956. The three oldest went to Grey School until Elaine finished her Grade VIII and then they went to Maymont. Grey School was closed shortly after and is now in the Western Development Museum in North Battleford.

Roy Rogers family. Back row — Wayne, Christine, Ron, Elaine, Brian, Carol. Front — Tammy with Darryl, Irene, Jeff, Roy, Louise with Michael.

Crops were poor the first ten or eleven years we were married, ranging from five to ten bushels to the acre. We always had several cows to milk. Feed was very scarce at times. One year Russian thistle was cut green and put up for hay.

Once farming with tractors became common better farming methods were practiced and crops have been good.

Elaine married Ron Bohn and moved to Campbell River, B.C. in 1960. Ron has worked in a Pulp Mill ever since. Both being farmers at heart they bought fifty acres fifteen miles south of Campbell River along the Island highway and kept a few chickens, cows and pigs for awhile. They have three children — Connie Arlene, born in 1956, was married in 1975 to Henry Nickel and is living at Black Creek, B.C. Dale was born in 1959 and works for Pacific Playgrounds; Laurie Roger born in 1962 is still at home.

Christine took a secretarial course in North Battleford and has worked in North Battleford, Saskatoon and Calgary. She is presently working in Saskatoon.

Carol married Wayne Bright in 1962. Wayne taught school in Hudson Bay, Saskatchewan for one year and then in Plenty, Saskatchewan where he still is teaching. They have two children; Tammy Anne born in 1963 and Jeffrey Lee born in 1964. Carol works in the Royal Bank.

Louise finished her high school in Plenty where she babysat for Carol. She is the town secretary for Plenty and is married to John Doering who is a carpenter. They have two boys; Darryl Brent born in 1972 and Michael Kurt born in 1973.

Brian after finishing school worked for a while with an oil company at Longview, Alberta, then with Alberta Power at Grand Cache, Alberta. He now works for Redi-Mix in Saskatoon.

Roy and Irene still live on the farm but rent the land to a nephew, David Rogers.

Roy runs a tractor during busy season for another nephew, Harold Meena.

Jean and J. Morris Martin and Daughters

J. Morris Martin, his wife Jean and baby daughter, Lillian, arrived in Maymont from Sioux Falls, South Dakota, July 20, 1920. They are still living in the district.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin's 60th wedding anniversary, Dec. 28th, 1978.

Morris, familiarly known as "Moe", and his partner, H. Christfield bought the Maymont livery and feed barn from F. Gillatt in 1920. Moe did most of the driving so soon became acquainted with much of the country and many people. A car was used for summer driving. Horses were usually used for winter driving. During the winter months Moe was often called at any hour of the day or night to drive the doctor on his calls. The trips were often long, the weather bitterly cold and the winter roads, at times, almost impassable. It was not uncommon to make a forty mile trip with horses. Moe and the doctor made a long remembered trip in the winter of 1923. The doctor was called to a home several miles beyond the North Saskatchewan River. The day was cold, the time was 4:00 P.M. and the Model T car that they were driving was old. They had just crossed the river on the return trip when the car hit a snowbank and died. The only way to get to help was to get to a telephone in the empty ferry house. They were both tired and numb with cold when they reached the house only to find the door locked. They found a way to get in. Dr. Scratch went straight to the telephone. About 2:30 A.M. the phone rang in the home of William Gray, a farmer who lived about a mile from the river. His son, Roy, answered the phone. The call was from the doctor who said, "Moe and I are at the ferry. We are both terribly cold. The car is in a snowbank and we need help." Roy rushed to the ferry with a team of horses hitched to a sleigh, ordered the two men to get into the car and they were soon on their way up the long river hill. About 4 A.M. two cold hungry men reached the Martin home where they found the house warm and the tea kettle boiling.

J. M. Martin sold his business in 1927. Shortly thereafter he started to buy grain for the Searle Grain Company and continued for more than twenty years.

In 1933 the Martin family made their home on land near the village that had been purchased from the C.P.R. in 1924 — S½, 31, 41, 12, W3. It was convenient for Moe to enjoy life on the farm and also to be close to the elevator. After retiring from the Searle Company he took up farming in earnest until 1976 when he moved to the village.

In 1920 when Mrs. Martin first came to Maymont she taught the junior grades in the basement of the Presbyterian Church. Later she taught for over eleven years at the Maymont School, most of the time in the primary room. She also taught in Grey School three miles north and one mile east of Maymont; in the Asgard School near Sonningdale and in the Gunness School south of the North Saskatchewan River.

Mrs. Martin found that the North Saskatchewan River was a barrier between her home and the rural schools of Asgard and Gunness. There were times, especially in the spring, when she was not too happy about crossing the river. One Monday morning she arrived at the river expecting to cross on the ice. The river was filled with great chunks of ice slowly floating down stream. Mr. C. Coleman, the ferryman, was standing near a heavily laden rowboat. He motioned to Mrs. Martin to get into the boat and warned her to keep very still if she didn't wish to sit in the bottom of the river. Then he casually seated himself in the boat, picked up the oars and skillfully found his way through a channel in the ice.

Mrs. Martin made her first trip to the Gunness School when the ice on the river was unsafe to cross and the roads were unfit for wheels or sleighs. She was driven to the river in a wagon; was obliged to climb a high tower to reach a box hung from a cable that crossed the river; pulled into the box by the ferrymen and enjoyed a swift ride across the river. Mr. Ira Price, a school trustee, was waiting with a horse and buggy to drive her to the school house. The children were waiting and ready for the day's work when she arrived at her destination.

Jean Martin's mother was nine years old when she left Scotland, her native land with her twenty-one year old brother to make her home with the family of an older brother who lived in the Niagara Peninsula near Ingersol, Ontario. Jean's father was born in the same area.

When Jean's parents married they decided to 'go West' to Manitoba where land could be had for ten

dollars and other land for about two dollars per acre. They filed on a homestead and built a log house for their first home. It was situated a few miles north of Fort Ellice, a fort that was built near the meeting place of the Qu'appelle and Assiniboine Rivers. Her parents could often hear the squealing of the Red River carts as they passed along the "Old Fort Ellice Trail."

Jean Martin was born near Binscarth. She was educated in Binscarth and Winnipeg. She taught school in Marquette and Russell, Manitoba. Morris Martin, was born in Minnedosa, Manitoba. The family moved to a farm near Binscarth when Morris was nine years old. He attended the Crescent Ridge School near the farm home.

Morris and Jean Martin were married in Winnipeg, December 28, 1918. Their first home was in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Their older daughter, Lillian, was born in Sioux Falls. Their younger daughter, Jean, was born in Maymont, Saskatchewan. Lillian was educated in Maymont and Saskatoon. She attended the University of Saskatchewan and received her B. [redacted]. Degree. For the past sixteen years she has been teaching in the Luseland High School.

R. R. Kembel and Lillian were married December 20, 1947. There are three children. Raymond has his degree in education and taught school three years before moving with his wife to Lloydminster, Saskatchewan.

Leslie attended school in Luseland and continued her education in Lloydminster. At present she is in Red Deer, Alberta.

Joy attended school in Luseland, trained for a nurse at the Foot Hills Hospital, Calgary and is now an R.N. in the Royal Alex Hospital, Edmonton.

Mrs. Martin who joined the Homemakers Club in 1936 is a life member of the organization.

In March, 1976 she received the Merit Award from the Saskatchewan Women's Institute in recognition of service.

Mr. and Mrs. J. [redacted]. Martin celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary December 28, 1978.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Martynes

From Russia, Martynes with brothers, sisters, father and cousins, eight in all, arrived at Ruddell train station on February 14, 1930. The temperature was a cold thirty degrees below. They were met by Bill Kennedy who notified brother Gerald Martynes who had arrived earlier. Gerald picked them up at the station. The Martynes made their first home in Jake Prescesky's house. They found jobs on farms in the district.

The following winter the Martynes group rented the Anderson house, spending the winter there. In the spring they rented the old homestead.

Peter married Agnes Epp, December 16, 1931. This

The Anderson Place present home of Mr. and Mrs. P. Martynes.

is when the relatives left to make their own homes. Grandpa Martynes passed away March 22, 1931.

A happy occasion on October 6, 1932 when Arthur Hugo was born.

It was a difficult life for the family as there were continual crop failures. Farming finally improved in 1939. During the depression there was always enough to eat in spite of all the problems.

In 1940 the Martynes moved back to the Anderson house which is their present home.

Peter under went major surgery in Saskatoon while Agnes carried on with all the tasks that were waiting on the farm.

Their farming methods improved when a tractor was bought. Money was very scarce so a friend, John McKenzie, helped them out in order to be able to make this purchase. [redacted] 1940 a threshing machine was bought and they did custom threshing.

The crops improved in 1942 when they really started to farm.

Arthur attended school at Ruddell and attended Rosthern Junior College where he graduated.

Lots of hard work and long hours was the life of the Martynes. They enjoyed it!

Arthur began to take over the farm at about the year he married Ida Hamm from Norquay. Three children were born in this family. Konrad born November 21, 1968 — a very exciting time for both

First homestead, of Mr. and Mrs. P. Martynes, and Arthur's birthplace.

parents and grandparents; Markus born April 4, 1970 — a little brother for Konrad. At present Konrad is in Grade V; Markus in Grade III.

Konrad and Markus were always hoping for a sister. They would mention this in their evening prayers now and then. September 19, 1976 Natasha joined the family — a very happy occasion. The Martynes are still farming. The days aren't quite as long and the work isn't as hard. They still find farming an enjoyable and rewarding life.

Maxwell (George and Hazel)

George and Hazel Maxwell retired to Maymont in February of 1957 where they could be close to their daughter, Anna. They took up residence in the former Anglican parsonage on the north side of the village.

George Maxwell and Hazel (Dankert) Maxwell were married in November, 1922, at Chatsworth, in Grey County, Ontario. They farmed for several years in the Chatsworth area.

George's father, Leonard Maxwell, was born in Dublin, Ireland, and came to Canada as a young boy with his family who settled in Ontario. George was the second son of a farm couple, Leonard and Hannah Maxwell, who had a family of four girls and four boys which included twin boys.

Hazel was the youngest of a family of eight children of John and Susannah Dankert who lived in Hepworth, in Bruce County, where John was a machinist in a furniture factory and Susannah operated a bake shop. Later, the family moved to Chesley where John was a carpenter and his wife continued the bake shop business. John's father had come to Canada from Germany.

Four generations, April 10th, 1977. Great-Grandma — Hazel Maxwell; Grandma — Anna Brehon; Mother — Janet (Brehon) Eckel; Baby — Pamela Lee Eckel.

In 1929, George and Hazel, with their two small daughters Ruby, and Anna an infant, moved to Saskatchewan settling in the Mount Hope School District, 16 miles north and east of North Battleford. A small lumber house was built over an earth cellar for the family, and a log barn provided shelter for the horses and cows. There they managed to struggle through the dirty thirties on a quarter section working hard for long hours with very little returns.

In 1926, their second daughter died a few hours after birth and, in 1933, at the age of nine, their eldest daughter, Ruby, died from a ruptured appendix. Anna was the only child from then until 1936 when son Robert was born.

By 1944 they decided to look for a bigger farm and late that fall moved to the Baljennie district where they farmed a half section for several years until George's failing health forced them to give up farming and they moved to Maymont.

Daughter, Anna, married Colles Brehon in 1950, and they farm just a short distance east of Maymont. Son, Robert, quit school after Grade VIII and went into the R.C.M.P. when he was eighteen. After completing his training at Rockcliffe, Ontario, he was posted to Two Hills, Alberta. A few years later he left the R.C.M.P. and moved to Edmonton where he began working in the Social Services Department and today is the Director of the Regional Offices for Alberta. Bob married Elaine Tymchuk of Two Hills, and they have two sons, Glenn and Grant. Elaine has become an assistant for a podiatrist in Edmonton. Glenn now has his commercial pilot's license and is taking further pilot's training. He shares his father's interest in flying, his father having built his own aircraft, a two— passenger Jodel. Grant is working towards his Bachelor of Music degree at the University of Alberta.

George Maxwell died at the age of eighty-four, and Hazel carried on alone for a few years till ill health forced her to move to River Heights Lodge in North Battleford where she receives the necessary care.

Memories include the days in the fall when Hazel would take the mattress ticking, made from flour sacks, and fill it with freshly threshed straw for the bed. The first few nights you slept quite high off the floor but gradually as the straw packed you eventually got down to a normal mattress thickness.

Living so far from town meant one didn't go to town very often, especially in the winter. It took four hours to go to North Battleford in the sleigh with a load of wheat, wood, or sometimes a cow. The horses were left to feed and rest in a lot reserved for that purpose or put in the livery barn. Late in the afternoon when

the shopping had been done one would start the long drive home again. George had a big fur coat he always wore and walked behind the sleigh for a short while to keep warm when the weather was extra cold. Anna accompanied her Dad on several occasions and remembers making a trip alone at the age of eleven with a wagon load of stove wood, her folks having met her at the out-skirts of the city to go with her to deliver the wood, and on the trip home they kept stopping and waiting to make sure Anna was coming along all right. Her dad rode the last five miles home with her as it had gotten dark by then.

The family would go down into the cellar during the big wind storms as it was feared the small house would be blown away but it withstood many storms.

Donald William Angus MacDonald

by Emma Johnston

Donald William Angus MacDonald was born July 23, 1926. His parents were Angus and Emma MacDonald. He attended Maymont, Montro and Wavie Bank Schools. He worked on the farms of his uncle's for a few years; was also employed by Friedman and Karpan in the store for awhile. Finally in 1946, Donald went to Kinistino where he was employed by Harold Dodds as a butcher. He met the former Doreen Ramage who was teaching school in Kinistino and on October 10, 1948 they were married at her home in Star City, Saskatchewan.

They lived at Quill Lake where Donald was working in an auto body shop. Their first child was born at Quill Lake in 1949 — Sharon Diane.

Later Donald moved to Watson and was employed at the butcher shop until he took over the Auto Body Shop. His family increased. The six children born in Watson are: Maxine — May 4, 1950; Earl Lawrence — June 13, 1952; Beverley Dawn — October 28, 1956; Dale Arthur — November 17, 1958; Dennis Boyd — October 7, 1962 and Donald Bruce — February 7, 1967. Donald is known to his friends as "Duffy".

The three girls are married and have children of their own, so we boast five grandchildren. Two of the girls are school teachers.

Donald has always been a great sportsman. He has been very active in hockey, both playing and coaching, and baseball where he played the position of pitcher for many years.

He is a member of the Lion's Club and has served on the Fire Brigade for twenty-eight years, the last thirteen as Fire Chief.

The last two years has found him busy building a lovely ranch house on his six-acre country lot just south of Watson. He spends all his spare time among his trees, lawns, flowers and gardens, barbecuing and entertaining friends and neighbors. He is proprietor of Watson Auto Body Shop which he and his eldest two sons still operate.

In November, 1940, I married Arthur Roy Johnston and moved out to the Samuel Johnston farm, where Arthur (Doug) worked with his dad and brother James. Donald and Wilma were with us, Mary stayed in town with her grandparents to finish high school. In August, 1941 we were blessed with a daughter, Ruth Darlene Julia. We remained on the farm until Ruth was married in 1960 when we moved back into our house in town.

We continued to farm from town during the summers but closed our house up during the winter for a few winters. One winter we spent in Watson, Saskatchewan near our son Donald; one winter we lived with our daughter and son-in-law at Vonda, and another in Saskatoon, and one in Wadena, Saskatchewan.

In 1969 we came to Regina. We had rented our farm and Arthur got a job and we decided to stay. We lived in an apartment for five years and finally Ruth and Ron built a new home and kindly asked us to share it with them; so they built us a lovely suite on the lower floor.

We are both Senior Citizens now and sure appreciate being near our family. I lived at Maymont for sixty-two years. I have made many good friends in Regina. We attend Zion United Church. I quilt with the ladies in the church basement every Tuesday, and go five-pin bowling every Monday. I have gone to Bible class for a year and a half and really enjoy it; also belong to the Senior Citizens' Drop-In Centre and New Horizon Group.

We are happy in our little home. We are close enough to Donald and Mary that we can visit them on week ends.

I have thirteen grandchildren and fifteen great grandchildren. In 1977 I spent a month in Great Britain with some members of my family. We visited England, Scotland and Wales. In 1976 I had a tour of California, Mexico and other U.S. states. August, 1978 spent two weeks in Jamaica, West Indies. I have made two trips back to Ontario and visited by birthplace and saw where my grandparents were laid to rest. We still have some relatives there which we visited. I have made several trips to the West Coast where we also have relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. D. J. U. MacLennan

Mr. and Mrs. MacLennan came to Maymont about 1908. Duncan was a carpenter and Margaret a school teacher from Tatamagouche, Nova Scotia. Mrs. MacLennan, a kind friend and neighbor, was a practical nurse and assisted Dr. Scratch and looked after many women during childbirth. Both she and her husband were active in church, school and community activities. They left Maymont in 1929 and lived in Montreal. Both Mr. and Mrs. MacLennan passed away in Montreal, also Kay, a nurse. Their son, Donald, was killed in active service in World War II. Three

daughters survive. Maurine was a nurse in New York and married a West Point graduate, R. H. Davey III. She and her husband were stationed at Honolulu at the time of the bombing of Pearl Harbor. They have two children and several grandchildren, and reside in Texas. Louise lives in the Eastern Townships, Quebec. She has a son and was predeceased by her husband and a son. Mr. and Mrs. Don Oulton (Anne) are retiring in 1979 to Tatamagouche, N.S. They have two children.

William MacLeod

William MacLeod was an early pioneer settler of the Fielding district Sask., born in the year 1882 at Lucknow, Ontario of Scottish ancestry. In early manhood he participated in the Caledonian Games held annually by the Clans of the area. In 1907 he came west and took up a homestead six and one-half miles southwest of the village of Fielding, Sask; and farmed there until 1942.

Several years later he met and married Lettice Harlow Woodin, daughter of the late O. T. Woodin, also an early pioneer. Woodin operated one of the largest and first straw burning steam driven threshing outfits in that area in the 1900's.

In the 1920's when rail and elevator facilities were not yet available to farmers of the Sonningdale area, grain so harvested had to ■ hauled by them north across the Saskatchewan River, after freeze-up, ■ Fielding, Sask; this was the nearest rail and elevator point to them, necessitating a round trip ranging between ■ and 28 miles. Often the weather was bitterly cold with poor road conditions and deep snow. This caused much discomfort and hardship to these hardy pioneers. The rural road used by the Sonningdale farmers ran parallel to the MacLeod farm, situated 2½ miles north of the river. On many an occasion, either due to a storm or exhaustion of horses and teamster, someone would stop ■ the MacLeod farm. There they were provided with food, shelter and rest. If found necessary to remain overnight at this small farm home, accommodation even though somewhat cramped, was soon comfortably provided. These grain haulers were always considerate of the hospitality and assistance provided, however meagre. It was customary in that era when either due to sickness, misfortune or unusual circumstances that neighbors were always ready and willing ■ lend a helping hand. The true pioneer spirit really existed in those days.

The depression years were grim, however these pioneers survived by hard work and great determination. All made many sacrifices. One cannot forget the relief shipments from the east coast or dry salt cod fish, which was doled out to aid families through the winter.

William MacLeod is survived by his wife, one son Kenneth and two daughters Evelyn and Ileene. A daughter Jean died in infancy. The children attended Beckwith Rural School No. 526 and later a High School at Fielding, Sask. The family belonged to the Fielding United Church and despite the long distance they resided from the church, attended faithfully via the medium of horse and buggy for many years.

Beckwith School was usually the center of Social and Sunday School activities in the early days and also during the depression. Many competent and faithful teachers served the district during that period, namely a Mr. Ford, Miss White, Violet Laidlaw (Mrs. Wm. Fast), Miss Edna Hainstock, Miss Ann Tobertson. It is sad to note, this and many such rural schools have since been disposed of or demolished, with little thought given or effort made to preserve such a landmark.

In 1942 William MacLeod and his wife rented their farm and moved to Saskatoon, Sask. At this point he took up employment with the Field Husbandry Dept. at the University of Saskatchewan, under Dr. Patterson until retiring in 1952.

William MacLeod passed away in his seventieth year. His wife is a resident of Central Haven Personal Care Home ■ Saskatoon, Sask. Both married daughters also reside ■ that City. The son Kenneth retired from the RCMP and also served ■ the Navy in World War II, combining a total service of twenty-nine years ■ uniform. He is presently residing at White Rock, B.C. and has a married son living nearby, practicing in Dental Surgery.

Boyhood Memories of George E. McAdams in Ruddell, Sask.

Born in Ruddell, Sask., June 27, 1907

At the time of my birth we lived in a small cottage about one block to the rear of the store.

Later we lived in rooms on the second floor above the store and I have clear memories of seeing muskrat pelts tied in bundles and stacked like cordwood on the landing of the stairs. Obviously my father traded with the Indians. I also have memories of seeing Indian women and children sitting on large rugs and blankets spread on the floor around the large wood stove which was used to heat the store. Most of the Indians were from the Sweet Grass Reserve and were very civilized and of a high character. When I was about five years old I was allowed to spend a day on the Sweet Grass Reserve with an Indian boy who had become my friend. I think I met him at the Ruddell school.

I also have memories of the busy excitement around the store in October. I can remember several large horse-drawn wagons loading up with great quantities of flour, sugar, coal oil, tea, etc. This was the homesteaders of the region laying in their winter supplies before the first snowstorm.

I also have some very keen memories of a great amount of excitement and horseplay on Hallowe'en night. The year would be about 1911 or 1912. Looking from our front window in the suite above the store I

George D. and Ada [illegible]. McAdams, baby is [illegible]. McAdams.

saw men shooting rockets into the door of the pool hall across the street. Some boys had set fire to a straw stack near the railway track and while our one policeman was checking on that problem the older boys determined to attack the poolroom. A small fire started but the local volunteer brigade soon had [illegible] all under control.

My father owned a fairly fancy democrat (four-wheeled buggy) and it was a great joke next morning to find that the "gay young blades" of Ruddell had perched it up on the roof of the local church.

We learned later that this was done with great care and much work as they had removed the wheels in order to get the buggy up there and then carefully replaced them when on the roof.

It shows the moral character of the men of that time as the next day the policeman brought in a note to say that it was all in fun and if my father would lay no charges the beautiful buggy would [illegible] brought down and re-assembled. This was done and Dad said he couldn't find a scratch on it.

I also have some clear memories of my first day at the Ruddell School. It must have been a trial affair (kindergarten style) as I was only five years old and spent most of the day playing with crayons. I think it was a one-room school with about twenty children.

I also remember my Dad buying a team of fancy coach horses called Hackneys. These were used with the four-wheel buggy mentioned above. One of the great items made by the Indian women was the famous "rabbit robes". These were made of tanned rabbit hides with the fur left on. The fur was cut into strips about an inch wide, then plaited into a blanket then Mother covered the whole thing with thick flannelette bag coverings. This was the greatest thing for a bed cover or a riding sleigh during the deep zero weather of winter. These rabbit robes were often traded in our store and fetched quite a price as they were much sought after by the people of "down East" Toronto and Montreal.

Like all children of that time I was much impressed by the spectacular thunderstorms of the Prairie summers. They were usually followed by a hailstorm and displays of static electricity. I can clearly remember seeing a flash of static fire dance off Mother's needle during one of these storms. Can also remember seeing a wagon with a hayrack racing across the prairie as the wind drove it along.

Close friends of my parents at this time were Mr. and Mrs. Spence, proprietors of the Ruddell Hotel.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred T. McCorkle

Submitted by Helen Spence (McCorkle)

Fred McCorkle came to Maymont in 1905 from Welsford, N.B. He homesteaded a quarter section north of Maymont, and ran a store. His fiancee, Agnes MacDonald, Welsford, joined him, after their marriage in Winnipeg, in 1907. As Fred saw the local need for lumber, he opened a lumberyard, and later also operated a garage on Main Street and hired a number of mechanics over the years. He passed away at Maymont in 1942 at 69 and Agnes in Ottawa in 1952 at 72.

The McCorkles whole-heartedly endeavoured to make Maymont a town to be proud of and a good place to bring up children. They had four children; Margaret (Mrs. Trevor Parry), Ottawa. Margaret taught school at Keystone, Speers and Beechy. The Parrys have a daughter and two grandchildren.

Helen (Mrs. Alex Spence), Fielding. They farm at Fielding and have three children and three grandchildren. Don (mentioned elsewhere) farms at Maymont. Brian, is in the audio-visual field, and Marjorie is a nurse. Marj is spending 1979 touring New Zealand and Australia. Bob and Irene McCorkle live in Ottawa. Bob was an instructor-pilot in World War II in Britain. A chartered accountant, he has worked in the Department of National Revenue since the war. They have three children and seven grandchildren. Donald McCorkle with the R.C.A.F. air crew in W.W. II, was shot down over France and is buried at Evreux, France.

There were several school fairs at Maymont in the early years. The Mayfield-Douglas Agricultural Fair replaced the local fairs.

Sunday School picnics were a highlight. The clouds were watched carefully and prayerfully ■ hope the picnics wouldn't be rained out.

The McCorkles had a few of the early cars. One which comes to mind, an E.M.F. which was jokingly called "Every Morning Fix". The old touring cars with the side curtains to put on when it rained were perhaps more lovingly remembered than some later cars. Roads were rough and speed was slow.

One event stands out — two of the children were ill with scarlet fever ■ October when the barn/garage went on fire. What ■ time! Friends and neighbors hurried to help and managed to push out the McLaughlin Buick car with the canvas top on fire and holes burning ■ the upholstery. Friends sprayed the house with extinguishers. A new top and patched upholstery repaired the car. We were in quarantine until after Christmas with scarlet fever without our father being allowed to stay at home. Our mother became exhausted and we had a nurse, Miss Whiteman of Saskatoon, for the four-year-old who was critically ill with complications, but fortunately recovered. Friends and neighbors were very kind.

Dr. Scratch delivered most of the babies at Maymont in the early years. He was a warm, kind family doctor who was available at any hour to see a sick child. He worked day and night during the 'flu epidemic and only lost one patient. He was a good diagnostician and if in doubt sent his patients ■ Saskatoon for more expert advice. I recollect begging the doctor to bring us another baby so we would have five, the same as our neighbors.

In the depression many young men riding the rails came for a meal. A few were angry, all were young, and most were full of optimism and glad ■ have a chance to see some of Canada before settling down or going back to school.

In the "dirty thirties" a Mr. and Mrs. Love, with an infant daughter stopped at Maymont, walking the railway track from Ontario to make their home in British Columbia. They were given a meal and some necessities for their journey.

A "corn roast" at Ball Rock Farm, north of Maymont, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Giffard was an event for the district each fall. The Giffards provided tubs of steaming corn cobs with pounds of butter to rub the corn on. The Giffards came from the States and had a family of five girls, Ethel, Lucille, Maryadelle, Hazel and Cometta. Giffards always had a wonderful garden including a fine bed of asparagus. They had progressive ideas. Mrs. Giffard, in all weather, drove her girls the three miles by team and buggy or cutter to and from school at Maymont.

A trip to Saskatoon by car was an event, with a ferry crossing at Borden and roads dependent on the weather. One such outing stands out — a trip to see a wonderful six-ring circus. Roads were good and the circus spectacular. Bob, a pre-schooler, became lost in the crowd, and was at last found feeding the elephants. He was the only one not alarmed. Another time we spent a night in Langham due to muddy roads, only to find next morning that the roads from the ferry to Maymont were dry.

Eliza, Alice and Ida McCorkle

Eliza, Alice and Ida McCorkle, all nurses, came from Welsford, N.B. in 1906 and spent some time with their brother, Fred McCorkle. Eliza nursed at Swift Current where she passed away in a typhoid epidemic. Alice later nursed in Boston, Maine, and Ida, Mrs. W. J. McKim, nursed at Medicine Hat, before moving to Nelson, B.C.

The McCready's

The McCreadys, Bill and Eleanor, are uniquely resident in the Maymont village where so many families have been firmly rooted for generations. We came not ■ pioneers nor even to retire but initially to find temporary storage for our belongings from the Richard teacherage.

However, Maymont had churches, a bank, a store, a restaurant, and friendly people (many of whom we already knew). It was on the Yellowhead Route close to North Battleford and Saskatoon. So here we decided to stay. We bought from Bill Langley the old elevator house on Second Avenue. Bill did a renovating job during a rainy muddy August and the following year we installed water and sewer and a furnace. Water and sewer lines ■ later years have occupied much of Bill's time as councillor and later as Mayor of the Village.

Bill helped to organize the New Horizon Group and along with other civic-minded oldsters spent much time and labor "fixing" the building which became the Senior Citizen Centre.

Bill has enjoyed fellowship there and at Coffee Row and in the Municipal Office. He helped to renovate the Locker Plant and make suites in the old Bank of Commerce building. He is well acquainted with various culverts and drainage ditches as well as the water pumps and sewer lift and even with the lagoon (which ■ definitely not of the drowsy blue variety)!

All this he has enjoyed. For a few years ■ became an eager golfer but had to give up that sport ■ well as the curling game.

I have enjoyed my contacts with friends and neighbors and with the Women's Institute and the U.C.W. groups of ladies but I do miss the school connection. For a few years I was still able ■ do some substitute teaching and to spend many hours with my garden and flowers. Nature recently decided to take over the house planters by surrounding the house with trees.

Speaking of trees, our roots started ■ the British

Isles. Bill, was, in fact, born in Ireland and came to the Rabbit Lake area with his parents and two small sisters in 1910. They homesteaded there and his father also taught school. He taught in the Waldheim District and other places before coming to Bresaylor in 1915. There Bill finished his schooling and started farming at an early age.

My grandfather, Dolan, also came from Ireland as did great-grandfather Sloan. They lived in and near Ottawa which was then Bytown. My parents reared a family of seven on a farm at Aylwin along the scenic and historic Gatineau. We were happy there, attending a small school which still stands with its neighboring town "Hall" on the bank of the river. Although living in Quebec we were not bi-lingual and the school and teachers had a separate and English curriculum.

When we came west to the prairie country in 1919 it was quite a transition. For one thing the teacher had an over-crowded classroom but no Grade Eight. Since she did not relish having my sister alone in that grade she demoted me and my brother also. Our parents should have objected but I enjoyed the novelty of having seven others in my grade. The work was easy as we had a good grounding and could have handled our respective grades. But there was a wealth of extra-curricular to learn, including baseball. At Aylwin we had played with a flat bat and a rubber ball (which often had to be fielded out of the river). Each home run cancelled an out so one side could spend all day at bat!

Many years and events between the bald prairie and the beautiful park country where I met Bill, I came by the teaching route. On my first day as a teacher I turned the tables on a big boy who was chasing his older sister with a large snake.

After having spent ten years in prairie country I was enchanted with Arbor Hill between Bresaylor and Paynton. Incidentally, it was there that I met Mrs. Petty who is known by all Homemakers and most teachers; but more to the point of this story I met my husband-to-be. He was well used to the idiosyncracies of teachers in general. His father had just retired from teaching and his sister, Edith, was at a school in the Medstead-Glenbush area.

When I moved from Arbor Hill it was to the Glenbush area where I had many, many pupils. This was the "dirty thirties" era and very often tired horses pulled their loads of family and flitted by the school. Unfortunately for Miss Teacher, some had relatives of friends with whom to enjoy a visit and my bulging classroom really bulged. I was not lacking in compassion and honestly tried to teach my transient scholars. Fortunately discipline was not a problem in Avery School.

One thing I well remember is the north-bound scholars waiting after school to accompany teacher. They played the little game of "Touch-last" and as I was the most popular target I was usually happy to be touched by the last trio and slowly slump home. There I was quickly refreshed by the warm welcome I usually received from the baby of the house.

While at Avery I was the owner of a 1926 Chevrolet sedan. Why I did not drive to school I do not remember unless it was that I saved gas for the weekends. At that time a car was a mixed blessing as there were dips and dives and hills and dales between there and Bresaylor as well as a shortcut which involved a scary stunt with the ferry at Delmas. Depending on the current crossing, one sometimes had to drive off the ferry and into the river before eventually reaching a steep bank which sometimes held onlookers who bet on your "making it!"

Driving on the by-roads in the thirties was often a problem. One Saturday Edith and I became firmly entrenched in mud. Inspiration prompted us to literally dig our way out. We fell to with our hands and flung mud balls in every direction. A very muddy pair arrived in North Battleford a few hours later.

In July, 1934, Bill and I were married by a minister in a manse. During the brief ceremony my six-year old niece cried copiously but my sister and the older niece were more cheerful.

These same little nieces accompanied us on our honeymoon. They sat on the edge of the back seat and issued instructions and comments. Highway Five being then on the square, we drove through Maymont and had a picnic lunch by the roadside. On the return trip (sans girls) a live wedding gift of twenty "Barred Rocks' cackled from their crate in the back.

That wedding gift from my young brother played an important part of our rented farm after we had convinced the biddies that the car was not their home away from home.

Although they were supposed to have been culls to provide eggs and companions. For them the sun rose and set on their newly-married mistress and one afternoon I came home at six o'clock to find that all twenty had retired to roost.

But I must get away from the hens and the pet pigs and cows and run-away horses as I am still miles from the Maymont connection. In the fall of 1935 we returned to the Bresaylor side of the river where Bill continued farming while we lived with the senior McCreadys. To the community then I became "Mrs. Willie". I loved my mother-in-law dearly and we were happy on a busy water-less farm. I was more or less queen in the kitchen and yard area as I washed and scrubbed and cooked. I also gardened and continued my association with the hens and chickens as well as with the cows and the calves.

Then came the saga of the RIVER. During this period we were truly pioneers. I accepted a position of teaching a school about four miles distant but on the other side of the North Saskatchewan. For a short time I lived in a small unfinished, privately-owned teacherage. The field mice held summer games of the nocturnal order and my first night I rose at two a.m. and carried my cot out to sleep under the stars! The

next week a cat prevented some of the cross-torso events but made so much noise jumping from floors to rafters and windows that I still could not sleep.

During that semi-drowsy period I had the honor of becoming one of the newly-appointed inspector's first teachers. Bill Brennan remained a good friend throughout the years. Soon I was rendered mouseless by becoming houseless! And after spending a few nights ■ the school we came up with the idea of becoming boat people. This was not truly depression days on the farm and it meant getting up at four a.m. ■ order to ■ sitting in that row boat before 7:00 a.m. I waited to see Bill back to his waiting horses before I began my alpine walk ■ the school. Always I was drenched with dew and sometimes soaked by showers. The late afternoon trip left hours for farm and housework before retiring at midnight. Canning and churning could always be done by lamplight.

■ was a foolhardy venture for neither of us could swim. When we beached on a sandbar Bill had to man the oars while I hopped out and dislodged the boat. Later on, when ice was forming I was the hatchet man who chipped our way in to the bank. For a period ■ a week or so I stayed with the Larke family until it was fairly safe to cross on the ice. Then I could do at least a mile of jogging on the river (usually being followed by three coyotes). The really stormy days Bill drove me all the way, but he still had his farm work to do at home. Fortunately, he was able to take home with him barrels of water or loads of ice or logs. Breaking up the flood times I shall try to forget but I still wake on windy nights thinking, "How can we cross that river?"

We had still another over the river job but the Battle River was not formidable and it had a bridge. I went there to substitute but the ratepayers or trustees had me return as full-time teacher several times and years. Our daughter was born in one of the intervals. We went home only on week-ends and holidays and I had ■ written understanding that I could quit any time I wished.

Another term at Arbor Hill School where I got ■ school by various means and returned on the three o'clock Greyhound in the afternoons.

Meanwhile Bill had sold his farm and had torn down and re-built the house for his parents in the village of Bresaylor. We farmed out our milking cows to a neighbor and went to Girvin for the summer months. We were persuaded to come back to Arbor Hill again in the fall and this time rented a house and barn about one mile distant. In the spring we again farmed out the cows and Bill went to farm with my family. However, Rheumatic fever cut short that term and I spent several months in Davidson Hospital.

However Sheila was now five years of age so she came along to Girvin School with me in September.

Incidentally, there had been some good farming years at Girvin but not '47, '48 or '49.

■ the fall of '49 we went to a school with ■ teacherage. Fitzgerald proved to be our happy home for seven years before we moved ■ North Battleford where Sheila could attend N.B.C.I. I taught at Connaught and Bill did carpentry work.

When we left there in 1958 it was to live in the Maymont area of Keystone School. It was a small teacherage so Bill enlarged it while we lived out of boxes and suitcases. Bill was working at Biggar at that time and my Connaught pupils decided I should not live alone. Anne Marie's parents agreed that I should have her live with me. She was an active and interesting as well as a devoted pupil who fitted in well with the three girls at Keystone. Her happiness was complete when she was able to take so many "parts" in our Christmas concert. She even did a ballet number (in which her costume assumed a rosy nude look from the improvised foot-lights!)

Since we are now in the Maymont country I shall say we became acquainted with some of the villagers as well as the teachers of the Denholm-Ruddell-Maymont Local. At one of our meetings which was held at our teacherage and co-hosted by Trudy Sloan we played a joke on Mr. Foulds. He had prophesied that since we lived in the "sticks" we would probably serve moose meat for lunch. Accordingly Mrs. Sloan made a huge bun and Bill visited our friends at Fitzgerald for mooseburger. The meat was really delicious and we later learned that Mr. Armstrong would have relished it, too.

In May, 1959, a movement was on to transport the school and its pupils to Maymont. This decision was pending for weeks and my bedding plants remained in the back ■ our car. Finally, on the last possible day Mr. McKinnon told me that the Unit and the Richard trustees would be happy to have me teach in the Richard School.

That move I have certainly never regretted. While we were ■ the process of planting flowers and redecorating the teacherage a very unfriendly big dog did his best ■ dissuade us from our activities. He seemed to appear from no-where so we concluded he was just the town bum. And that is what he had become since he refused to move to the farm with the former owner.

Now Teddy could come home, and he did. He accompanied me to school around seven, and later escorted the grain buyers to wind up later with Mr. Boutilier or the little neighbor girl.

Life was very busy and very pleasant at Richard. Bill worked at various places and also did much building and helping locally.

At Richard I became known as "Mrs. 'Cready" and I loved my large family. I received co-operation and helped from all quarters and never lacked rides for our field and festival activities. I must pay tribute to Lavita Johnston for her invaluable help with the concert and festival music. She ■ a superb accompanist.

And when the time came that I was forced to retire for physical reasons I was given a wonderful retirement party by the Home and School, parents and

pupils, teachers and friends who invited pupils and friends from former schools to share the evening. I realize now that I did not perhaps properly show my gratitude. How could I? One ■ my very important teachers was there as well as one of my very first pupils. These two have now passed away but I shall never forget them.

Now that I have ■ up to 1968, the year of our transition to Maymont I have not much more to say. I did enjoy some substitute teaching at first and enjoyed having the Hallowe'en goblins say. "But Mrs. Cready, you should know us, You teached us." I can still remember a velvety kiss on my cheek when one child met me in the corridor and said, "Mrs. Cready, bend down for a minute. And I can also laugh when I recall that one morning after a prolonged term in Mrs. Robinson's room it was reported to me that , having seen me through the window, said "Cready Creep ■ here again"!

So Maymont I salute you and those friends who have passed away or gone to live elsewhere! I regret that I am not always at home and that sometimes when I am here people do not know it. I hope that our family of two will continue ■ be part of the community for many years and that we can continue to visit our daughter and small son, Jamie, and husband, Ed, in Winnipeg. Bill's father, "Grandpa Cready" was part of our life ■ Richard before he died just before his hundredth birthday. His sister, Edith, lives in Edmonton and Bessie near Winnipeg, while his younger brother, Doug, is teaching in St. Louis.

My sister, Ruth, and brothers, Henry and John, live in Saskatoon with two other sisters in California. We all keep in touch. Ask Sask-Tel.

In reminiscing Bill likes ■ remind me that he is one of the few people now living who can remember being on the deck of the Titanic shortly after its launching.

Meanwhile Bill has certainly enjoyed being a friend ■ need and a dedicated promoter of Maymont. This summer a four-year old who refers to Bill as "my mayor" gave his definition of that honorable office as: A mayor is a man who always helps everybody.

Mrs. Mabel (Merrell) McIntosh History

I was born Mabel Mildred Merrell in Gilbert Plains, Manitoba where I started school. My father then moved to Roblin, Manitoba, where he was principal of the public school for many years. After graduating from high school, I attended Normal School in Dauphin, Manitoba then taught in that province for six months.

My brother, H. C. (Bob) Merrell, graduated from the University of Saskatchewan in Pharmacy, and he and his wife, Ella, bought Mr. Mawhinney's Drug Store in Maymont, Saskatchewan in 1920, I believe. In August, 1921, I started teaching ■ the intermediate room at Maymont, and remained there until the end of

Mabel Mildred Merrell, Lydia Margaret Ballsrud, at the Turner farm.

Up and Doing class ■ Maymont.

June, 1926, except for another term at Normal School in Saskatoon.

I taught Sunday School, and my class of girls called themselves, "Up and Doing". They bought rings with the insignia U.A.D., also Indian Clubs, and I taught them all I knew about club swinging. I often meet former pupils, but they are grandmothers and grandfathers now. It's wonderful to see them.

On January 8, 1930, I married Robert Gordon McIntosh (Gordon) from Winnipeg, at the home of Ella and Bob, in Edmonton. Our first home was at Lloydminster, then North Battleford, and in Saskatoon since January, 1935. Our son, Gordon, his wife Norma, and their three children, Bob, Marcie, and Patti, live in Edmonton. Our other son, Kenneth, his wife Joyce, and their children, Cathy and Phil, live ■ Ottawa. The three families get together once a year, if possible, in the East one year, and in the West the following year.

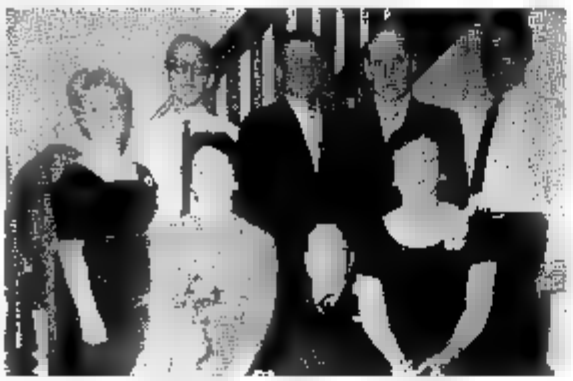
Lydia Ballsrud and I attended Normal together, and we boarded at the same place. When Neepawa School District needed a teacher, I asked her to apply, and she was accepted. The night she arrived in Maymont, there was a corn roast out at Giffards. We have been very close friends ever since.

George Hilton McIvor

George Hilton McIvor was born in Kearny, Ontario November 14, 1896. He had one brother and three sisters.

At age eight, "Mac" as he came to be known, moved with his parents to Neepawa, Manitoba. In the spring of 1906 his father was accidentally killed when his gun went off while he was crawling through a fence to shoot a coyote.

Later his mother remarried but Mac and his brother didn't get along with their stepfather so they left home. Mac was twelve years old when he went to work for Leonard McMahon at Kinley, Sask. He got along so well, he stayed there for eight years until he had enough money to start farming on his own at Aberdeen, Sask.



George and Freda McIvor's 25th Wedding anniversary. Standing — Doreen, Ron, Clair, Lyle, Murray. Seated — Mona Gail, Mr. and Mrs. McIvor.

Memorial race at Edmonton, Sept., 1975, in honor of George McIvor.

Those were exciting winters for him as he used to take his horses to Big River where he worked for the sawmill. However, he wasn't allowed to use his own horses while there as his job was to bring provisions from Big River to the Camp. There was no transportation for workers. They walked to and from work which was more than a total of twenty miles. Mac drove good skid horses while there which was tricky because of the icy roads. His horses wintered well and he always came out in the spring with enough money to carry him through, if the crops were not too good.

In 1916 George had to go into the army but never left Winnipeg as the war ended. When he came back in 1921 he sold the farm at Aberdeen and bought the livery barn in Fielding. He enjoyed that very much and made many long cold trips with Dr. Scratch. He had round the clock service and had good horses but the depression brought that to an end too.

George married Winnifred Thompson in 1928. Of that union they had two children: Clair William and Lyle Raymond.

When the depression hit and he couldn't make it in the livery barn, he moved his house from Fielding to the homestead which he had taken four miles north of Fielding in 1931.

In October, 1937 his wife, Winnifred, died and he tried to carry on with housekeepers but that didn't work too well.

In the spring of 1938, Freda with her son, Ronald who was 1½ years old, came from Lampman, Sask. to keep house. George and Freda were married March 8, 1939. Of this union there were three children: Murray Hilton, Mona Gail, and Doreen Ethel.

Clair, Lyle and Ron all attended Keystone, about five miles west of Fielding, for Public School and attended high school in Maymont. Because Keystone was closed, the other children went to Maymont for all of their schooling.

Clair graduated from the School of Agriculture in Saskatoon and Ron apprenticed for his C.A. in Saskatoon.

Clair married Anita Lesko of Speers on July 2, 1951. They had four children: Donald, Karen, Lorraine and Glen. Anita died in 1970 and Clair remarried in 1973 to Elsie Beierle of Lilac.

Lyle married Shirley Parker of Maymont in June, 1956. They had two children: Wendy Ann who unfortunately was born with kidney disease and despite all efforts she died July, 1969. Dwight, a son is working in Alberta.

Ron married Eunice Smith, a nurse from Saskatoon City Hospital who graduated in 1965. Ron is a chartered accountant and lives in North Battleford. They have two children: Ross and Shannon.

Murray married Dorothy MacArthur of Vancouver in 1972. They have two children: Donald and Sarah. They live at Lander, B.C. where Murray is employed by B.C. Hydro and carried on with his father's sport of horse racing as a sideline.

Mona Gail married David Miner of Speers in 1961. They have six children: Kelly, Shelley, Sharon, Mark, Christopher and Gina. They have a farm at Speers but live in Regina where David is Vice-Chairman of Sask. Land Bank.

Doreen married Carl Schmidt formerly of Maymont and Keystone district. They have one son, Dale, and live in Surrey, British Columbia. Carl is a foreman for Weldwood Canada (lumber company).

Freda now lives at Cloverdale, B.C. since she retired from Harness Racing in 1977. George and Freda started racing in 1963 on a full time basis after George suffered a stroke in 1962. It seemed the one and only thing for him and he pursued the sport with great

enthusiasm until his death in 1975. George and Freda travelled across Canada with their horses. They raced their horses from the West Coast to Windsor, Ontario as well as, at Bay Meadows in San Francisco, California. They spent the winter of 1972-73 at Orlando, Florida. Freda raced at Sacramento, California in 1975 and the next two years in Edmonton, Calgary, and Cloverdale, B.C. She still visits the farm at Maymont where her two sons, Clair and Lyle, do the farming.

It might be of interest that George was a councillor for Mayfield Municipality for ten years. The old house on the farm has been replaced by two nice homes with modern conveniences but I guess the happiest part of our lives was when our children were young. Sure it was depression times but we were all in the same boat and had wonderful times with our neighbors. The fun times were the Christmas concerts, picnics and whist drives at the different schools. The wood sawing in the spring as you always had to have a years supply of stove wood ahead. Children in those times were never bored. They were too busy and they all learned to work. They took lunch to school and never once complained about the lunch. Clothes were washed on the wash board at our house until we got a power washer in 1944. Had lots of water for the stock and drinking but too hard for washing. The first detergent "Drift" was a great help. We baked all our bread and kept our children well clothed in hand me downs and make overs. We never had too much sickness but having Doctor Scratch handy was such a relief and he always came when called or went for. It seemed so fitting that George had the last years to devote entirely to horses as horses had always been part of his life. He always had a good driving team and the work horses were no slouches either. Its been a good life and we are glad we were there to make our contribution to the Maymont and Fielding communities.

The Clair McIvor Family

written by Elsie McIvor

Clair McIvor is the son of George and Winnifred McIvor and was born in Fielding on April 23, 1928. He went to school at Keystone and Maymont and graduated from School of Agriculture in 1951.

In 1953 Clair married Anita Lesko of Speers. Anita was a teacher and taught at Hillsborough school after they were married and was also a substitute teacher at Maymont for several years. Anita died in 1972 of cancer.

Clair and Anita had four children. Don was born on April 4, 1954. He married Adelle Copelle in 1977 and lives in Saskatoon and works as a backhoe operator. He graduated from Maymont Central School in 1972. Karen was born on June 12, 1956 and graduated from Maymont Central School in 1974. She took two years of Journalism at Ryersons in Toronto. She is presently in Burnaby, B.C. Lorraine was born on October 17, 1957 and graduated from Maymont Central School in 1974. She took Radio and T.V. Arts at N.A.I.T. in Edmonton and is presently employed at the radio station in Red Deer, Alberta. Glen was born in June 25, 1962 and is a

Clair and Anita, Karen, Don, Glen and Lorraine.

Clair and Elsie McIvor — their wedding day June 30, 1973 with their families (missing — Alan Beierle).

Grade Eleven student at Maymont Central School. He is very interested in the cattle business.

On June 30, 1973 Clair married Elsie Beierle of Lilac and operates the farm along with his brother, Lyle.

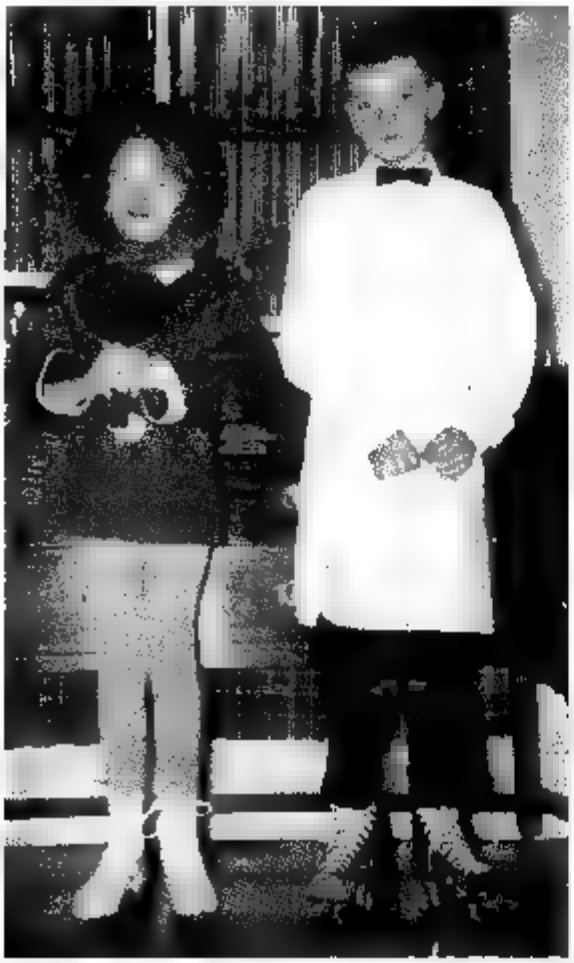
The Lyle McIvor Family

by Shirley (Parker) McIvor

I was born in the old farm house in the Grey School District on 16-42-12-W3. I was the eighth child born but two weeks after my birth we lost a brother, leaving me to be the seventh child. Two years later a little sister, Reta, came along. I lived on the farm and attended Grey School until Grade Ten.

We never went much further than the functions that

The four Parker boys with sister Shirley. Sleigh was being pulled by the Billy goat.



Wendy and Dwight in Figure Skating Carnival costumes — 1967.

took place at Grey School, like the whist drives, Christmas concerts and the annual year-end picnics. We sometimes went to town Saturday afternoons with our mother in the horse and buggy and had an ice-cream cone which was five cents and a great treat for my little sister, Reta, and myself. Life on the old farmstead was far from dull. Being a big family we had no trouble entertaining ourselves, and ■ we found life boring the Billy goat, gobbler or a cranky rooster gave us something to lift us. Our Billy goat was like a guard dog around the farm and made it clear to any newcomers, and us kids, that he was boss. Reta and I could be minding our own business very nicely when, all of a sudden, we found ourselves being chased (as fast as our little fat legs could carry us, up the steps and into the granary) by the goat. He wasn't satisfied at just putting us in there, ■ stood right there making sure we stayed in the granary. Finally someone, usually one of our brothers would come to our rescue and get us out of there. I remember an old turkey gobbler that didn't like Gladys hanging the clothes on the line and he made it pretty rough for her, flying at her until one day someone (I can't remember which one it was) laid him out cold with ■ club. (I can't remember whether they killed him at that time or not. We always had ■ pass the chicken house to go to school. Very innocently we'd be running to get to school when all of a sudden a mean old rooster would fly up at us and the screaming and running that took place! Everyone ran out of the house because they thought for sure we were getting killed. It gave me a scare for life, as right today I'm petrified of poultry. I raise chickens but Lyle gets the majority of the work when it comes to touching them.

As the years passed the kids started leaving home, until it was just Dad, Reta and I at home. Dad, being a farmer and working out, wasn't home too much of the time, so we looked after ourselves (well if you can call hiding under the bed looking after ourselves). We had thunderstorms then, worse than we have now, at least it seemed ■ us they were worse. The lightning sent sparks from the telephone and made it ring. We were sure it was out to get us. Finding Reta in ■ storm wasn't hard to do because she was under the bed and I was on top of the bed with my head covered up. I was safe as long as my head was hidden.

Lighting gas lamps gave us a lot of trouble. I never liked those gas lamps and could never pump enough air into them, so rather than fighting with the lamp we stayed in the dark until Dad came home to light them for us.

I remember one time when I should have had the paddling of my life, but I didn't get one. ■ was one Christmas when the family were all home and all the relatives were there for Christmas. There was also a couple of air force men in uniform, friends of my cousin. When everyone was preparing to leave for home they offered to take my sister, Gladys, back to Maymont where she was working. I decided ■adys

wasn't going with anybody in uniform and the stink I kicked up was unreal. I bawled and screamed, and the air force men tried to give me candy, gum and you name it, but I was having no part of their bribes. They weren't having my sister and that was that. I don't remember who calmed me down or maybe Gladys just walked out the door and left me howling, because she went to town with them anyway.

We attended church services at Grey School through the summer months with Reverend Crowder being the first minister I remember and later Reverend Myers. After a few years when we got a car we attended church in Maymont with our Dad. At the age of fifteen I attended Maymont School and boarded at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Herb Johnston. The next year my Dad, Reta and I moved to Maymont and lived in the George Walton house now owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Bohn. After three years we moved into the old cafe on Main Street then converted into living quarters. I attended Teachers' College in Saskatoon for one year, obtaining my Interim Standard Certificate. In June of 1956 I married Lyle McIvor and went back to the life I enjoyed the most, that of farming. We live on the McIvor farm northeast of Maymont on Section 17-42-11-W3. Our first home was a little house fourteen feet by twenty feet with a kitchen and a bedroom. We had a coal and wood stove that heated the entire house, summer and winter. We had power so I had no problem with gas lamps. We didn't have television for a while so our big outing was going to town on Saturday night to Mr. and Mrs. McIvors and watching the wrestling on T.V. There was always lots of work to be done and one of the big jobs was getting up a big wood pile so it would do for the winter and the next summer. Haying was a big job and all the bales were hauled by manual labor on trucks and trailers and stacked by hand. Today we get them hauled in by a self-propelled bale wagon and everything is done by machine, right to making the stack.

Our first baby was born December 22, 1956 and to us she was the most precious baby ever born, a sweet little girl named Wendy Ann. We were as proud parents as ever there was. After all the baby sitting I had done, since the time I was twelve years old, I finally had my own baby to look after. When she was two and a half months old we found out she wasn't well. We took her to a doctor in Saskatoon and had to leave her in the hospital for two weeks. When we went to bring her home she was smiling and happy and such a different baby, until she was eleven months old, when back to Saskatoon to the doctor again and we found she had kidney trouble. The bottom fell out of our world then, but we carried on and did everything possible for her.

In May, 1958 our son was born and I was so grateful to hear the nurse say he was strong and healthy. A few years were good, happy years with our son and daughter, and they gave us a great deal of pleasure. In Wendy's few short years with us she took part in United Church Sunday School and belonged to Baby Band until the age of six years, then into Messengers until nine years of age and joined Explorers. She graduated from Explorers to C.G.I.T. in June of 1969 and passed away July 29, 1969.

She took figure skating from the time it started in Maymont in 1964 through 1967. In 1968 she became very ill and could no longer take part in activities she enjoyed. In November of 1968 the doctor told us her kidneys had failed and there was no alternative, but to put her on the kidney machine at St. Paul's Hospital, Saskatoon, for dialysis, and await hopefully a kidney transplant. She got out of hospital in December and we had to take her to Saskatoon every Tuesday and Friday so she could go on the kidney machine. It was a tough struggle but the only way left for her, so regardless of weather or roads, she had to be there at a certain time on the given days. Thanks to our friends and neighbors for being so thoughtful and helpful to us we never missed getting her there on time. Ray Jordan, at the Esso Service Station, kept our car in tip top shape and the Voegeli Bros. had their snowplow always ready in case the roads were blocked. We were never snowed in, fortunately, but many days were very cold. There was one time the forecast was for a blizzard so we left home on Monday and were welcomed at the Gordon Leach home in Saskatoon to spend the night and take her to the hospital the next day. When she had to have long stops in hospital I was always welcomed and made feel at home at Auntie Eva and Uncle Norman Cheal's in Saskatoon. For a few years I think I spent more time with them than I did at home, paying regular visits to the hospital to spend as much time as I could with Wendy.

All this time Dwight was growing up and trying to take part in the things he enjoyed and being left at Grandpa McIvors, George Brehons, or Les Parkers. He wasn't too sure where home was either.

Our kids attended Maymont Central School traveling by bus through all their school years. Dwight with his sister attended Maymont Sunday School, was enrolled in Baby Band, then into Messengers, and from there joined the Tyro group for boys from nine to twelve years.

When the Sports Centre opened we spent seven days a week at the rink, three days hockey practice, three days figure skating and Sunday was public skating. Dwight is a very ardent sportsman and gives everything his best whether it be fastball, hockey or any other sport. Dwight was in hockey starting in the WeePee age group under ten years and progressing on up through PeeWee, Bantam, Midget, and now a Senior. In his first years in WeePee he was the goalie, then moved to a forward. When in PeeWee hockey he played in the North Star Tournament in Saskatoon held in April, so away we went to Saskatoon to take him to the tournament. The next year in PeeWee he played with the Asquith team in the North Star Tournament in Saskatoon. Getting ready for the tournament meant

taking him to Delisle, Asquith, and Rosetown for exhibition games then into Saskatoon for the week-end tournament. All this was a great experience for him. We felt it was just as good for him and taught him more than having his nose in a book of ancient history that would never mean anything to him or to of any help either. He played hockey on several provincial teams throughout the years and got to travel the greater part of Saskatchewan. In 1975-76 he went to Notre Dame College at Wilcox and played on the Junior team, travelling by bus throughout Saskatchewan for their league games. In the winter of 1979 he was one chosen from the Maymont Senior Team to play in the All Star game of the 5-40 Hockey League when the South played the North. The South made up of players from Maymont, Borden and Radisson defeated the North made up of players from Hafford, Leask and Blaine Lake. He was chosen most valuable player of the game, bringing home his first trophy.

He is very active in fastball and started out playing fourteen and under ball, playing first base and doing some pitching. At the age of fifteen he joined the Maymont Marauders. He was also part of the Maymont 747's provincial team. His first year with the team in 1976 they won the provincial championship played in Rosthern and from there went by plane to New Castle, New Brunswick for the Canadian Finals. When they arrived in New Brunswick the team was struck by a flu bug so could not play their best ball, but the experience they gained and the new country they saw was a great experience for them.

When he was eleven and twelve years old he spent his summer holidays travelling with Grandpa and Grandma McIvor and Murray in the harness racing circuit and helping them with the race horses. At that time he obtained his groom's license in the racing business. One time he went from Regina to Calgary in a box car with the horses and fed and watered them for two days until they were unloaded in Calgary. At present he is employed with Unicon Pipeline and works most of the time in Alberta.

Perhaps Dwight's love of sports and ability comes from his Dad. Lyle has taken a great interst in his family and always took time to drive them wherever and whenever the need arose. He's been a coach, goal judge and when he was being called everything from a "bald-headed old so and so to skin" by fans and players alike, guess what he was doing, yes, he was refereeing. Well refereeing is the professional name for it but people call referees almost anything. Lyle loves hockey and has given Dwight every chance in it because when he was young he never had the chance. They lived ten miles from town and there were no cars or trucks to get them around and no winter roads for vehicles. The snow got so deep on the roads they quite often got stuck with the horses and sleigh and made roads through fields and got out that way.

Lyle was born in the old farm house on the McIvor farm on section 17-42-11-W3 in 1932. That is the same yard as we live in today. The old house was torn down in 1973. At the age of four he lost his mother, so they had housekeepers until Mrs. McIvor came to work for them and married his Dad.

He attended Keystone School until 1942 when the family moved to the Alfred Andrew farm northeast of Maymont. He then attended Maymont School and drove his brothers and sisters in horse and democrat in the summer and a cutter in the winter. When attending Keystone School they walked the mile across the field to school.

He belonged to the Mayfield Calf Club for a few years when Mr. Blacklock was the leader. He attended Maymont Sunday School when Mr. Andrew Melrose was the teacher. They moved back to the present farm in 1948 with his family and still lives on the same farm.

After our marriage and as the kids got older and more involved in community activities I also got involved. He coached Minor Hockey from the time Dwight was in WeePee, in 1964, on up through Midget moving along with Dwight. It worked out well as only one trip to town had to be made. He coached the Radisson Senior Hockey Team for three years from 1974-76. While coaching at Radisson they came from a last place team in the 5-40 League to a first place team and made the finals in playoffs. He then coached the Maymont Senior Team in 1977 to a first place team in league play, and they came second best in playoffs. He again coached Maymont Seniors in 1978 and came out second in playoff action. He was assistant coach for the Maymont Marauders for a few years. Lyle served as a councillor in Division Three in the R.M. of Mayfield for nine years and attended the R.M. Conventions in Regina and Saskatoon.

At present time he is concentrating on building his herd of Limousin cattle and in 1978 took a steer to Regina Agribition placing third in its class. Being flagman for Walter Paul's aerial spraying, looking after his cattle, and all other farm jobs keeps him presently very well occupied.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave McKay

by Bessie (Cooke) McKay

My mother and father (Mr. and Mrs. Cooke) were both born in England. My father worked as a gamekeeper and my mother worked as a midwife. I was one of three girls but no boys. I went out to work on a farm two or three miles from home when I was ten years old. I went to school every afternoon for half a day. I stayed home in the mornings as I had to help do the chores. I milked three cows, tended to the calves and pigs, but I was happy. The schoolhouse was two or three miles from where I was working, I had to walk to school and back again. The school was right on the side of the road, a side road. We had to play on the road when we were let out of school, no playground. No one in my time ever got hurt on the road when we were out

Mr. and Mrs. David McKay and baby Stanley — 1917.

to play. The Westly Chapel was in the top floor of the schoolhouse. They held church services in there every Sunday.

When I left school I worked out up until I came to Canada in 1913. I was twenty-three years old then. I came in May all by myself to my cousins on a boat called the "Royal Edward". The boat was sunk not too long after that about the time of the First World War. I took the boat as far as Quebec. By boat was a good trip, fine weather. Then from Quebec I took the train to Maymont station. My cousin was there to meet me in a broken old buggy. The horse's harness was all tied up with binder twine. I thought it would break down before we got to his house. He came to Canada to live. He got a homestead, a nice farm. The Maymont Cemetery is one corner of it close by the road.

Now I left my cousin's after a day or two of rest. I went to work on a farm. While I was working in the Maymont Hotel which at that time was owned by Sowden and Pernala, a livery barn beside the hotel owned by Joe Vessey burned down. I was in my bedroom at the time and I put my hand on the wall. It was so hot I could not keep my hand on it. I was single then.

I got married in 1916 to a farmer whose name was David McKay. He came from Wingham, Ontario, about 1903 to take up a homestead. He used to go to Saskatoon for repairs and some groceries by team and wagon. Later he went to Langham to get lumber and also went to Radisson to get the wheat ground into flour. Dave built a long house on his farm, the first part being log with lumber additions on either end, which he lived in until his death in 1949.

We were married at the neighbours who had come to Canada to get a homestead around the same time as Dave McKay came. They had built a sod house and I was married in that sod house on the farm. The preacher that married us was a single young man who preached in the English Church in Maymont. He left Maymont a few years later.

We had a very nice meal the day we were married. We had it at the neighbour's because I had asked a number of the neighbours around to my wedding. Two days after we were married we gave a dance at the schoolhouse and a lunch which everyone enjoyed. It was in Neepawa, that schoolhouse which burned down, and they built a new one on the side of the main highway on the south. Now they have taken it away to Maymont.

My neighbour was a midwife so when my children were born she attended me. I had four children, two boys and two girls. I went to England in 1920 to visit my mother. I took my two boys, one was in arms, the other could walk. I went alone. When I came back my husband met me. The two children did not know him. I went home on the boat and came back by boat to Quebec, then by train. A short while after I was back home again, my youngest boy died.

My husband and myself always worked together. I would help him outside at harvest time and he would help me in the house to make butter, wash dishes, scrub floors. When I came in from helping in the fields, stooking the grain, cutting brush, picking rocks off the fields I was so tired he would get the meals for me but I used to be too tired to eat, just drink tea. We were always happy.

I went to England again later by plane, by myself, and back again. My mother died before I went so I did not see her. My father died before I came to Canada. I had two sisters but they are dead now so I am all alone of that family.

My son lives in Edmonton, Alberta. My two daughters, one is not married; the other lost her husband. She is alone now. I live with her. She has two girls and one boy, now all are away and married.

Dr. Scratch was our doctor at Maymont. We lived five miles from town, three miles from the school. My children had to walk to school and home again. In winter, Dave, would drive them. In summer he would drive a horse and buggy to town or the neighbours would take us if they were going. Mr. Hawkins was an old-timer. He was out there for years before me.

My youngest son was buried in Maymont Cemetery, and Dave was buried beside him. I am to be buried next to him when my time comes. I will be ninety

years old on the third of December, 1979. I have not been sick since 1952. I feel fine now only have arthritis which makes me walk lame.

The Fry and McLaren Families

submitted by Mrs. Gertrude (McLaren) Wilkson

I was born in Maymont, Saskatchewan July 9, 1908. Dr. Scratch attended my mother. My mother was Beulah Fry who came to Maymont with her sister, Margaret Fry, and their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Fry. Isaac Fry was a dentist and a lay preacher. They homesteaded about two miles out of Maymont. Both are buried in the Maymont Cemetery.

My father Ernest McLaren came West with his brother Robert McLaren. He came as far as Edmonton and barbered for some time in what was then Strathcona, then returned to Maymont. The brothers subsequently met and married the Fry sisters, Ernest married Beulah Fry and Margaret Fry married Robert McLaren.

My father had barbered in Maymont and then took up a homestead. They lived there until 1912 and then moved to Ontario for about five years where my sister Beatrice was born. The West called again and they moved to Ponoka, Alberta where they made their home on a farm northeast of Ponoka. There a son Ernest Jr. was born.

Both my parents passed away in Ponoka, Dad in 1958 and Mother in 1964.

John McLaren

(submitted by Catherine McLaren)

John McLaren is the eldest son of Robert McLaren. Born at Maymont in December 1909, he was delivered by Dr. Scratch. He married Catherine Johnson in 1933 at Ponoka, Alberta. Ever since that time he has farmed east of Ponoka raising grain and cattle.

There are seven children living, one died in infancy.

Sheila a R.N. married Ted Harper, a farmer, at Ponoka. They have one daughter married and nursing in Ponoka.

Gordon married Frances Borasi of Winnipeg. They have three boys and one girl. Gordon has a trucking business in Sherwood Park, Alberta.

Gail married Reverend Bill Ruggles. They have pastored twenty-four years in Saskatchewan and B.C. They have a boy and two girls. One girl and one boy are married.

Alan married Judy Gallager of Edmonton. They have a girl and a boy. Alan has a trucking business hauling oil well equipment.

Arthur married Diane Fiest of Ponoka. They have one boy and three girls. Arthur is an oil well consultant. Brian married Darlene Stewart of Ponoka. They have four girls and two boys. They farm near John at Ponoka.

Stanley married Evun Weins of Bashaw, Alberta. He farms with his dad. They have three little boys.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert McLaren

told by Robert

I, Robert Fry McLaren, was born to Robert and Margaret McLaren in Maymont Apr. 5, 1914. Living there with my parents, and John, Ramona and Margaret until about 1918. We lived in several places, until about 1924. Since then we have lived in the Ponoka District.

Thelma Courser and I were married on October 27, 1937 at Ponoka. From this union was born four children — Wayne, Robert, Sharen and Daniel.

Wayne married Eileen Eby and they have two children, Scott and Linda. Wayne is minister of Cameron Memorial Baptist Church in Regina, Sask.

Robert married Patty Tustian and they have four children, Brenda, Robie, Ian, and Caroline. Robert is the minister of First Baptist Church in Cranbrook, B.C.

Sharen is married to Garry Schaber and is living in Camrose, Alberta. They have three children, Giesel, by Sharen's former marriage, and Shari and Wanda by Garry's former marriage. Garry is a field supervisor for Sherrit-Gordon Fertilizer Company.

Daniel married Bonna Lee McLeod. They have four children, Archie and Leann, both adopted, and Lori and Todd. Dan is a building contractor and lives on an acreage on the home farm. We live six miles east of Ponoka.

Robert McLaren

Robert McLaren was born in Villa Nova, Ontario on January 27, 1879. There were 13 children in the family. He died June 19, 1964. He was greatly loved by his family and friends. His grandchildren never tired of his stories of his experiences in the early days. The following (in his own words) is an excerpt from a short story of his life.

"In 1900 I came out to Indian Head where I worked for Cameron Downing for a year. Then I went to Grenfell and worked for my cousin Tom Wright for 3 years. In 1904 I started a small grocery in Grenfell. On the recommendation of a Traveller I made a trip to a new country that was being opened up by the C.N.R. west of Saskatoon. The country looked good to me and I returned to Grenfell, packed and shipped my goods to a siding called 15th siding west of Humboldt, afterward named Maymont. I arrived the 22nd of May, 1905 and on May 24 hoisted the Union Jack at the front of my store (the first building on the townsite.) After operating the store for 3 years I sold out to Jim and John Reid.

I was the first postmaster at Maymont and held that office until 1918.

In the spring of 1906 Margaret Fry arrived with her parents Isaac M. Fry and Ellen Fry, who took up a homestead about a mile west of the town. That winter

we became engaged and were married at her parents home on May 15, 1907. We moved into our first home across the railroad tracks and our first 2 children, Ramona and John were born there. In 1912 I sold that house to an elevator Co. and built a house beside the Post Office across from the railway station where we lived until the spring of 1918. Bob and Margaret were born in this house. About 1912 I took a homestead near the Saskatchewan River where I grew alfalfa. I broke this land with oxen."

After leaving Maymont the Robert McLaren family lived on Vancouver Island, in Alberta, Ontario, Colorado and finally back to Alberta in 1925, where they bought land from the Hudson Bay Co. He grew alfalfa for seed developing, some which he got from Siberia. We sold his seed all over the west and got the title "Alfalfa Bob." Their 3rd daughter Eloise was born in Ontario and Donald in Alberta. In 1936 [redacted] became a Farming Instructor on the Montana and Sampson Reserves at Hobbema. After 8 years there, they moved to Ponoka where he spent his last years. Margaret died in 1970 at the age of 86.

Five of the children live in or near Ponoka and Eloise Fink lives at Nelson, B.C.

H. B. McLeish Family

Mr. and Mrs. H. [redacted]. McLeish (Mac and Grace) came to Maymont in 1924. Mr. McLeish came to manage the Imperial Bank of Commerce.

Mr. McLeish was born in Blairgowell, Scotland, and moved to Toronto in 1913, at the age of 19, and began work with the bank. He served in the First World War as a medical orderly, and returned to the bank after the war.

Mrs. McLeish, (nee Wigmore), came from London, England, to Port Arthur in 1920.

The McLeish's had two children born in Maymont, Jim and Doreen.

During the tough years of the thirties, Mr. McLeish was very sympathetic to the financial difficulties [redacted] the people [redacted] the district and I'm sure will be fondly remembered by many.

Mrs. McLeish was well known for her wit and humor and was active in the Ladies Aid, Homemakers and the Maymont Curling Club.

The McLeish's moved from Maymont to Brandon in 1941. Jim was married in Brandon to Vivian Jackson. They had three children, Wendy, Penny, and Ron. Wendy died at the age of four months. Jim was stricken with polio [redacted] 1951, and was paralyzed from the neck down. He was forced to live in an iron lung, until with much fortitude, he learned to frog breath. This freed him from the lung during his waking hours. With the help of an electric wheelchair, he spends a very active and useful life [redacted] the King George Hospital [redacted] Winnipeg.

Doreen was married in Winnipeg to Jack Miller and they had three children, Cathy, Carol and John. They moved to Saskatoon in 1962 and Jack Miller died there in 1973 at the age of 42. Doreen re-married in 1975 to Cy Rouse and they still live in Saskatoon.

Mrs. McLeish died [redacted] 1948, Mr. McLeish died in 1977.

Mr. and Mrs. Don McLeod

June 1st, 1978 the Don McLeod family moved to Maymont. Don, Cathie and their seven month son moved into the Rural Municipal house. That June, Don started his job as Rural Municipal secretary of the Rural Municipality of Mayfield No. 406.

Don was formerly from Swift Current, Sask. and Cathie from Hodgeville, Sask.

Don, Cathie and Kevin McLeod.

Their son Kevin was born in Herbert, Sask. where Don was Town Administrator before their move to Maymont.

The McLeod family were made to feel at home right away by all the friendly people of Maymont and community.

Mrs. Ruth (Johnston) McLeod

told by Ruth

Ruth's parents Arthur and Emma Johnston, were living at the farm home five miles north of Maymont when Ruth was born on August 12, 1941. She attended school at Wavie Bank, Grey and Maymont Schools. She graduated from Grade Twelve in June, 1959.

Ruth attended Teachers' College in Saskatoon in 1959-60. She was married [redacted] Ronald Arthur McLeod on June 11, 1960. From 1960-62 she lived and taught school in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan.

In June, 1962 Ruth and her husband, Ron, were

transferred to Wadena, Saskatchewan where Ron became an accountant.

On November 24, 1962, Darla Joan McLeod was born at Wadena Hospital. She was attended by Dr. Almond.

In 1963-64 Ruth taught Grades V and VI at Rose Valley, Saskatchewan.

In June, 1964 the McLeods were transferred to Vonda, Saskatchewan where Ron became the manager of the Canadian-Imperial Bank of Commerce.

On September 15, 1965, D'Arcy Robert Arthur McLeod was born at University Hospital, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

July 1, 1966, the McLeods moved to Saskatoon, where Ron attended the University of Saskatchewan and Ruth taught at Greystone Heights and Haultain Schools.

In 1969 the McLeods moved to Regina where Ron accepted a job with the Saskatchewan Power Corporation.

Ruth resumed her teaching duties teaching at Argyle School in 1969, Haultain School in 1970 and M. J. Coldwell School from 1971-1976.

From September, 1976 to July, 1977, Ruth attended the University of Regina having been granted sabbatical leave by the Regina Public School Board. May 25, 1978 Ruth received her Bachelor of Education Degree. September, 1977, Ruth returned to teach at M. J. Coldwell School.

Ruth was an active member of the Baby Band, Explorers and C.G.I.T. groups while living in Maymont. She was organist of Sharon United Church from 1955-59 and also sang in the choir. She was also a member of the 4-H Club.

Ruth has also filled the role of church organist while living in Wadena and she was organist for a number of years at St. Michael's Anglican Church, Regina. She is a member of the Regina Highland Dancing Association having served as president and also on several committees. She has been a representative and is Past President of the Highland Dancing Association.

Mr. and Mrs. John Malcolm McNaughton

John Malcolm McNaughton will be remembered as one of Fieldings community leaders and business men. He was born in 1868 in Guelph, Ontario and came to Saskatchewan in the early 1900's. After attending Teachers College he taught school for a short while near Hafford, took up a homestead near Keatley but moved onto Fielding where he decided to make his home. During this early period he was a grain buyer for the British American Grain Co., as well as a hail adjuster with the North-West Hail Adjusting Co.

In February, 1917 he married the former Florence Harris, who with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Percy Harris came originally from Nova Scotia. In her early married life Mrs. McNaughton was an ardent tennis player. She was an active member of the Fielding Ladies Aid and after taking up residence in Saskatoon, an active member of the Legion Auxiliary. She passed away in Saskatoon in 1971.

Mrs. McNaughtons father, Mr. Percy Harris, before coming to Fielding, had spent a number of years as a sailor and a cook on a sailing vessel which plied the eastern sea board. He took out a homestead north of Fielding, and later acquired land south of Fielding where he built his home. During his years of farming he played an active part as a councillor of the Mayfield Municipality.

Shortly after his marriage, Mr. McNaughton answered the call and went overseas with the Canadian Army. A crack shot, he was soon detailed as a sniper against the enemy force. After his return from the war he continued to buy grain for awhile and then he purchased a farm which he operated for many years in partnership with his brother William (Bill) McNaughton also a World War I veteran. Mr. Bill McNaughton was married to the former Patty Smith of Guelph, Ontario. He passed away in 1937.

In 1922 Mr. McNaughton became an automobile dealer. We feel that it is of interest to note that he sold his first car, a Model T Ford to Mr. Alex Garnett one of Fieldings earliest pioneers and we believe he has the honor of being Fieldings oldest living pioneer. Mr. Garnett now resides in Vancouver, B.C. In 1923 Mr. McNaughton obtained a franchise from the Ford Motor Co. as well as the International Harvester Co. to sell their products. In 1927 he built the Ford Garage, a Fielding landmark for many years. These dealerships were later moved to Radisson under the name of the Great Bend Farm Equipment Co. which he operated until his death in 1963.

During his business lifetime at Fielding he was the recipient of three gold watches commemorating years of valued service with each of the following: The Ford Motor Co., The International Harvester Co., The McCall Frontenac (later called Texaco) Oil Company.

Mr. McNaughton was an enthusiastic hunter, fisherman and card player. He enjoyed a friendly partnership in cattlebuying and hogbuying with his long-time friend Alex Gunn. Mr. Gunn was also a farmer and storekeeper in Fielding for many years, and had emigrated from Scotland.

Mr. McNaughton took a keen interest in all community affairs and had given dedicated service as a member of many years on the local school board, as overseer of the village, and as a member of the board of the United Church. He was a distant cousin of the late General A. G. L. McNaughton, commander of the Canadian Forces during World War II.

Mr. and Mrs. McNaughton had 4 children: Malcolm, Jean, Ross and Chester who died in infancy. Malcolm, Jean and Ross grew up in Fielding and Malcolm has spent 40 years there in the business of farming. He still does some farming and makes his home in Saskatoon. Malcolm married the former Kathleen Robertson. They raised a family of three

boys. Brian a graduate in Agricultural Engineering and now operating the family farm at Fielding; Darryl a medical doctor and specialist in pathology in U.S.A. and Canada, now practising at Kamloops, B.C. and Ross Jr., a member of the R.C.M.P. Drug Squad stationed in Vancouver, B.C. Brian is married to the former Olga Skrumida of Sundown, Manitoba. Olga and Brian have one son, Robert, born in 1968. Darryl married the former Freda Torrance of Elrose. Freda and Darryl have two children: Marla Ann born 1972 and Andrew born 1976.

Jean McNaughton married Vaughan Lafoy and they are presently residing in Ft. Frances, Ontario. Jean and Vaughan have 2 daughters, Marnie, a registered nurse, married to Robert Beninger and residing ■ Emerson, Man. and Bonnie, a graduate of the Ontario Police College and now stationed with the O.P.P. at Thunder Bay, Ontario.

Ross McNaughton served his country in the Signal Corps of the Royal Canadian Navy in World War II. After the war ■ worked for many years with the Civil Service in Ottawa. He married the former Marguerite Pelrier. They are now retired and living ■ Victoria, B.C.

The McNeils

My father and mother Randy and Agnes McNeil (nee McVicar) — both of Scottish origin arrived in Ruddell from Alvinston, Ontario ■ October, 1906 — my father Randy made a scouting trip to the west in 1905. In the spring of 1906 ■ again came west — purchasing a team of horses and a democrat in Saskatoon he spent several months locating a homestead which was the SE ¼ 20-42-13 W3rd.

At this time he gave a contract to build a two story building in which he operated a hardware store from 1906 to 1923. My mother and myself, Russell, came in October, 1906.

In 1923 he turned ■ farming — although he and my mother always resided in the village.

Randy McNeil's car. Left to right — Bess (Turnbull), Murison, Grace (Robinson) Harper, Peggy (Granger) Johnson.

June, 1927 at Bessie McNeil's shower for Louise Thrower. Back row — Mrs. L. Steele, Clara Robinson, with Frances, Mrs. Turnbull, Hanna Robinson, Mrs. McNeil and Betty, Jessie Arnold, Joanna McMillian, Florence Steele. Front row — Mrs. J. Geddie, Mrs. White, Mrs. Ferguson, Grace Harper, Bess Murison, Eleanor Robinson, Mary Thrower, Mrs. Stally, Mrs. Arnold, Maxine McNeil, Bryneice Stally, Jean Murison, Louise Thrower, Phyllis Molsley.

■ 1915 a young cousin Peggy Grainger came to live with us. She received her education in Ruddell and Battleford and taught school in Alberta, Calais and Ruddell. She married a high school sweetheart Dave Johnson of Maidstone and resides in Portland, Oregon.

My father Randy died in 1936 — after his death my mother moved to Calgary where she died in 1954. Both are buried ■ the little cemetery at Ruddell. Randy 1866-1935 — Agnes 1870-1954.

For myself Russell, I attended the one room school in Ruddell. In 1919 I married little Bess Turnbull. In 1928 we moved to Calgary. We have two daughters Maxine and Betty both born in North Battleford. We have four grandchildren and three great-grandsons.

Meena Family History

written by Mrs. E. Meena

Thomas and Mary came to Saskatchewan from Ontario to settle ■ the Keystone district. They bought land from a Real Estate Agent, Mr. R. J. Scott in Speers. They came by train, which also brought their settlers' effects.

Thomas' sister, Jennie, accompanied them to help care for the small children, Ruby, Everett, Jean, John and Adella. Thomas was a bricklayer and plasterer by trade, so went ■ work at his trade, while Mary took care of the farm. This meant the older children had to take their places at an early age, and many hardships went with growing up, as Thomas went as far away as Manitoba and was away for weeks at a time.

At the opening of the first school, classes were only

Their first car, 1922. John, Thomas Sr., Everett, Dell, Mary, Thomas Jr.

The Everett Meena family ready for school, 1942.

held in the summer months, so Jean and John went to stay with their Aunt Jennie and Uncle Richard Wilcox, (who had recently been married) and walked ■ school.

In 1910, Thomas Earl was born. Their Dad had left instructions with Everett (who was ■ years old) that there was to be a new baby and showed him how to harness and hitch the driving horse to the buggy. When his Mother told him he was to go to the neighbors for help, Everett went to Mr. Alex Brehon's, who went for Dr. Scratch and Everett went to get Mrs. Smith, another neighbor, who was the mid-wife at that time. All turned out well.

Thomas put in the crop the following spring, but went away to work again.

A new binder was bought to harvest the crop. Everett, John and their Mother did the harvesting, while the girls tended the baby and the household chores. A step-sister, Melinda Meena, came to stay with them and teach school at Keystone about the time Thomas Earl started school. Later, she retired to Leader, Sask. where she passed away.

When dances were held in the school, Thomas played the violin. He was a keen gardener and Mary took great pride in her flowers inside and out.

Thomas returned home to take over the farming. Ruby went to work in the telephone office in Maymont. Jean worked for a time ■ A. E. Beans' store, but with more work being involved in the farm, she returned home to work there. John worked at home and Everett hired out with his Uncle Dick and George Holler when he could be spared at home.

Most of the grain was hauled in the winter time a distance of nine miles, so much walking was done behind the sleighs to keep from freezing. A load of wheat would be taken to the mill in Radisson and exchanged for flour and bran.

A herd of Holstein cattle was bought and the family started milking a number of cows by hand. The cream was taken, first by horse and buggy or sleigh and later by car, to Fielding and shipped by train to Saskatoon.

Prices and crops were poor and the work hard. As the family had married and taken their own homes, Thomas and Mary decided to move to St. Walburg to a semi-retirement. The land in Ontario was sold and a small farm bought and new buildings set up.

Thomas passed away from a heart attack in August, 1942. Mary made her home among the family and passed away while staying with Dell and Jim in Meadow Lake in December, 1944. Thomas Earl took over the farm.

Ruby Meena married Frank Conkey in 1918. They had a family of three boys and two girls. Harland, married, with a son, Kenneth and a daughter, Debra, farms at Rocky Mountain House.

Mervyn, who served in the 2nd World War as a dental technician is married, now retired, living in Calgary, but still works repairing dental machines.

Everett John, when five years old, was run over by a team and wagon and spent many weeks ■ the Notre Dame Hospital, under the care of Dr. Nunn and nurse Ella Biddle. With careful nursing and care, he was nursed back to good health. He is married and has two step-daughters and lives at Sylvan Lake, Alberta.

Connie is married to Elmer Buck, has a girl, Linda . (married), a son, Lyle (married) and a girl, Margo, at home ■ Lacombe, Alberta.

Zona went to work in Calgary as a young girl and married William David, has two girls, Sandra and Marilyn, and a boy, William.

Everett Meena started in farming for himself in the Grey School district. In 1932, he married Gladys Rogers and they rented a farm at Lilac. With poor crops and prices, after two years, they filed on a homestead at Goodsoil, where several people from the southern dust bowl were going. Land was rented at St. Walburg. With another two years of work without pay, they came back to Maymont by team and wagon for harvesting and the following spring brought their equipment back and rented land at Baljennie, but times had not improved. Dry years meant doing with

whatever you had and hoping the next year would be better. The Russian Thistle was the only crop that did well, ■ put up ■ the early stages, did make feed.

In the fall of 1936, land was rented south west of Ruddell, where there were kind and helpful neighbors. By 1940, times were improving and better prices were realized.

With the closing of Harringay School, a farm was bought west of Ruddell. A tractor and larger machinery was bought and the horses sold. A small dairy herd was started and a milk contract was taken, shipping milk by train from Ruddell to North Battleford. Later, it was taken by truck.

When bulk tanks had to be installed and a bulk tank truck was to deliver the milk, the dairy cattle were sold and replaced by beef cattle.

Poor health forced Everett to retire and the boys took over the farming, buying more land.

Everett and Gladys bought a house in North Battleford, where Gladys resides in the winter (on the farm in summer). Everett passed away in March, 1974 leaving a family of four boys and a girl.

Ronald married Laurienne Dore ■ 1956, having a family of two boys, Everett (married) and Grant, two girls, Lois and Marilyn. He is an engineer at the Saskatchewan Hospital and has acreage where Everett lives, having horses and cattle.

Ken, married Shirley Acaster in 1956, has a family of Colleen Caldwell, Sharon, Murray (married) and Lyle. He bought the former George Mohler Seed Farm and other land at Maymont.

Harold, married to Treva Miller in 1961, with a family of Gwen, Carla and Kurt, farms the land at Ruddell. Also bought the original homesteads of William and Alfred Andrew at Maymont.

Eileen, married Vernon Curry, a carpenter, ■ 1960, has a son, Terry and a daughter, Sheila. She is employed as Deputy Sheriff at the Court House ■ Battleford.

Glen, married to Barbara Sjoberg, with a girl, Shawna and a boy, Kelly, ■ a chartered accountant, a partner ■ Gasgoine, Swanson and Company. He also has farm land where he lives west of Battleford and farm land at Ruddell.

Jean Meena married Elmer Rogers in 1928 and they farmed north east of Maymont where they built a new home. With the depression years, land prices were too high to compare with the operating costs and payments, so like many others, they sold and moved north to take up a homestead at Goodsoil. They moved with covered wagons taking what possessions they could, Jean driving one team. They had one small daughter, Maxine, at this time. Times were very hard here and the work hard, as the land had to be cleared and broken with horses. After clearing the homestead, they sold it and moved back to Meadow Lake, where Elmer went trucking. This kept him away from home much of the time and Jean took over a store at Blue Bell for a time.

Three more girls were born into the family. Later, they retired in Calgary, where they still live.

Maxine is a stenographer, married to Ken Neilsen and works in Calgary.

Marlene, married to Harold Scott, has a family of three girls, Debra, Shirley and Lynn and a son, Darcy. They are in a hog enterprise at Bashaw, Alberta.

Myrna, before marrying Gil Barton, worked as a stenographer, now lives in Coquitlam, B.C., with a family of two girls, Lou and Deanna.

Merle, a daughter, died in infancy.

John Meena married Ella Biddle and started farming in the Keystone district in 1929, but with the depression years moved to take a homestead at Goodsoil and to farm at Makwa and the Horse Head River district where they worked hard milking cows, etc., but gave up when times did not improve. They moved back to North Battleford in 1944 where he started working for Massey Harris, then turned to carpenter work with Miners Construction, building on the Capitol Theatre for 50 cents an hour.

Ella went back to nursing at the Notre Dame Hospital, as well as caring for the home and family of three girls, twins, Elaine and Evelyn and Ellajean.

With the closing of Miners Construction in North Battleford, John took work with the City Parks, where he worked until his death in September, 1960.

Ella is retired and living in North Battleford.

Elaine taught school before marrying David Charbin in 1954. She is living on a farm in the Prince area. They have a family of five boys, David, Douglas, Donald, Darryl, and Craig.

Evelyn worked at secretarial work before marrying Gordon Thompson, a teacher, ■ 1958. They have a family of Robert, Brian, Cathy and Sherry and live ■ Edmonton.

Ellajean married John Roman in 1955, who is employed in Burns Packing Plant in Calgary. Their family is a son, John and two girls, Debra and Dianne.

Adella Meena married James Spence ■ 1934. They first farmed at Bright Sand district. Times were hard, but with hardships, there were also some good times with good neighbors and social gatherings.

Selling their land here, they moved into Meadow Lake where Jim went into the water business, but when the sewer and water was installed, he sold out and bought land at Sincere Lake, north east of Meadow Lake. Times were better here, but with Dell's failing health, they sold the farm and retired to Taber, Alberta where Dell passed away in October, 1976. Jim is still there.

Thomas J., their son, married Isabelle Armstrong. He lives in Calgary, took a plumbers trade, worked as a pipefitter for the schools in Calgary and now inspects and orders repairs needed for same. They have a family of two sons, Ross and Guy and a daughter, Lynne, all at home.

Ruby, married to Gail Fitch, worked as a secretary in Calgary. With Gail receiving the dealership for

Canadian Tire, they moved to Taber where he has a tire and work shop. Two boys, Gary and Grant, are both in school.

Thomas E. Meena married Annie Spence in 1934, first farmed on the family farm, later moved to St. Walburg working with his Dad but with land getting harder to rent he sold the land they had, to run the livery barn and draying business in town.

For a time they had a pool room and barber shop in Maidstone but again left this to move to a small orchard in Salmon Arm, B.C., while here he was repairing a roof when a shower of rain came up, he slipped off and injured his back, so sold this and went into the taxi business. After selling this they managed the Eisenhower Motel in Calgary until ill health of both brought an early retirement where they still live. Their family consisted of three boys, Earl, Armand and Wayne.

Earl married, had one daughter Cindy. He worked at different jobs. Mostly as a salesman, and passed away in 1974.

Armand worked for a short time with his Uncle Clarence Reid at Maymont, from here he went to work in Calgary and married Della in 1959, worked with sheet metal and roofing then as a roof inspector, lives in Edmonton with a family of three girls, Judy, Carol, and Karen all at home.

Wayne married to Bonnie MacIsaac in 1970, worked at different jobs but always kept busy, now works with building of Mobile Homes in Calgary. Has a son Gerald in school and a daughter Candy at home.

Although this story all appears gloomy we all had some good times too. Every one made good times the best we could, had berrypicking and other picnics, having basket lunches and games for all. School dances and house parties were held. All who could sing or play an instrument of any kind were always welcome.

Blankets were laid on the floor or the school desks and the small youngsters slept till the party was over sometimes at daybreak.

Baseball, football and basketball teams were made up in the school districts and competitions held. School Fairs also make a chance for each child to show their ability in all sorts of handicraft etc. 4-H clubs were formed and many exhibits and cattle were shown, by young folks, going to the Agricultural Fairs at Saskatoon and Regina, winning watches, trophies and scholarships.

The Andrew Melrose Family

submitted by Norman Melrose

The Andrew Melroses moved from Leeds Village, Quebec to Maymont in the spring of 1907. My father took a homestead north of town, where we lived while Dad was in the livery barn business. My brother Allan was a baby, and I went to Etonia School, and my first teacher was Mrs. Alec Brehon or (Miss Arkley). After the homestead duties were over, my dad bought land south of town. He built a small house, for us to live in, and carried on farming until 1918, when he decided to build a larger house a little farther north. Allan and I kept going to school. I stopped school to help farm when the First World War was on. My brother went on for more education, and had a job with the Grain Exchange in Winnipeg for years. Allan served in the Second World War. When he came back from the War, he married in Winnipeg and they had one child. Some years later Allan passed away, in 1968.

My father enjoyed mixed farming, and especially horses. Both my father and mother were active in the community, and in church work.

I married Grace Harkness in 1936, and I bought the farm, and farmed until 1972 when we sold to Murray Gray and moved to town.

We had three children. They are married now, and have children of their own. We are grandparents of nine children. Dr. Scratch was our family doctor for years.

Mr. and Mrs. Archie Melrose

Margaret Macdonald, a nurse from Welsford, New Brunswick, came west about 1909 and was one of the first nurses at City Hospital, Saskatoon. When her sister, Agnes, and brother-in-law, Fred McCorkle, were hospitalized with typhoid fever she looked after their home in Maymont. She married Archie Melrose in 1913 and they resided at Maymont for several years. Archie owned some valuable horses which he hired out, also did driving for the doctor and others. When the livery barn burned, he lost his horses, and as the livery trade was declining, tried to buy land at Maymont. None was available. He purchased a farm at Cheviot where they farmed until retirement to Saskatoon, about 1945. Archie passed away in 1955, at 76, and Margaret in 1975, at 92.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Melrose

submitted by Winnifred (Melrose) Dunn

William Norman Melrose was born in 1884 at Les Mesurier, Quebec. He married Annie Elizabeth Gray, born in 1888 in Portsmouth, England. The Melrose family were born of Irish parents, the father being in the Irish Army.

The family came from the east to Maymont in 1905. Andrew Melrose, Will Melrose and Andrew Reid had a livery barn known as Melrose Bros. and Reid. Will homesteaded west of town, sold it and bought the farm where Murray Gray now lives.

Nan Gray came from Binscarth, Manitoba, in approximately 1910. For a time she worked in Bean's Store. She married Will Melrose in 1912. There family were: Alice Eileen Jean born June 1913 died 1924; Muriel Gertrude born Sept. 1914; Winnifred Mary born Sept. 1916; Keith Gray born Oct. 20, 1920 died 1924; Velma Jean born Nov. 1925.; Doris Isabel born Feb. 1927; William James born May 1928.

We have fond memories of Ed Buhr, engineer for Turner's steam threshing outfit (later known as the big four Turner, A. Reid, A. Melrose, W. Melrose) chasing us around stooks, greasing our necks and ears. Every Saturday night we would ■ to get chocolate puff cookies from him.

The old gray mare, known to the community as "Fan" was our mode of transportation summer and winter with the jingling bells ■ winter. She was called by Mom her "Gray Dort".

Bell, our Shetland Pony, educated us all with a little four-wheeled buggy.

Dad died of polio in 1937, leaving Mother with five children. The funeral was held outside at our home, as we were all in quarantine and no one was allowed ■ visit.

Mom rented the land and moved into town (the old Kerr house) and started a maternity nursing home. She moved into North Battleford ■ 1946, took an apartment, nursed in the maternity ward of Notre Dame Hospital.

The Bob Merrell Family

My husband and I arrived in Maymont about November 1, 1920 shortly after our wedding in Winnipeg. We lived in Saskatoon about three months, where Mr. Merrell had gone to University and worked part-time for Pinders Drugs. In the fall we heard of the Mawhinney Drug Store in Maymont and in November we became residents of Maymont and owners of the drugstore. At first we occupied two rooms in the hotel owned by Bill Sowden. Then Mr. and Mrs. Taylor decided to go to their farm and we were lucky enough to rent their house, next to the post office and opposite the station. We enjoyed our years ■ Maymont. The people were nice and friendly and sport-minded so we danced and skated and had baseball and hockey teams. The orchestra had Hazel Patterson or Ethelwyn Bean on the piano, Bruce Kerr and Ernie Sykes on violin and Bob Merrell on the banjo. We also had a tennis court one year and many of the mothers had a game in the afternoon while the babies slept in their buggies nearby.

There were three active churches in Maymont while we lived there, Anglican, United and Roman Catholic. Of course, each church had a Ladies Aid which worked to raise money for their church by way of handwork and cooking sales and suppers. Prairie towns are always busier than they look from the highway or passing train. They are good fun and a dandy place to live.

We started our family while in Maymont. Mary Louise arrived August 2, 1921 and William Lorne on April 11, 1923.

Dr. Scratch was the doctor in Maymont then and ■ and my husband got on well together; and Doc drove many miles, summer and winter, to look after sick people. We couldn't have wished for a better doctor than he.

My husband's sister came to Maymont to start her teaching career, and lived with us for the few years she taught in Maymont. She was Mabel Merrell and eventually left to go to Normal School. We enjoyed having her and she liked Maymont and the other teachers who taught there.

At this time my mother died in Winnipeg so my young brother, Lewis Jackson, came and spent a couple of years with us before going back to Winnipeg when fourteen years old to be with his dad and brother.

About this time we moved ■ Prince Albert and Bob worked in Mitchells Drug Store. They had a music department in their store at that time and Bob became interested in that. When ■ had a chance to go to Mason and Rische Piano Company in Edmonton in 1928 he took it and we have been here ever since. While in Prince Albert, our younger son, Bruce, was born on January 25, 1928.

When the war came, Bob enlisted in the R.C.A.F. as ■ pharmacist ■ the R.C.A.F. Hospital ■ Calgary. Lorne became a pilot in the R.C.A.F. in Eastern Canada and England.

During the war Mary married Harry Cochrane a navy lieutenant, went East for a time, then returned to Edmonton with their baby daughter, Bonnie. After Lorne came home he decided to go to B.C. and settled in Powell River where he married and had a family of two girls and a boy. He died suddenly ■ January, 1976. His family still live in Powell River.

My son Bruce, now lives in Etobicoke, Ontario with wife and son and the rest of his family ■ in B.C. and Alberta.

Bob came back from Calgary and began a drugstore which he operated for nineteen years before getting bone cancer from which he died in 1967.

Mary and Harry still live in Edmonton and at present, I live with them. Their family ■ scattered too — three in Edmonton with four children; one ■ Ottawa with two children; and one in Brandon, Manitoba with two children.

Mr. Merrell's family came originally from England and France via U.S.A. to Canada, where their large family have scattered. My parents originally came from Ireland and England, to the Ottawa Valley from where they live in Eastern and Western Canada. We both have a fair record of the family.

The Jack Miller Story

Jack Miller was born February 13, 1893, in Lucknow, Ontario. His father was a road builder, gravel contractor and farmer. They lived ■ few miles from Lucknow. There were five boys and two girls in the family — one of these boys was Samuel Miller — a long time resident of Maymont and Fielding District.

Jack grew up an average teenager, working piling wood for fifty-cents a day, while still going ■ school. There were always lots of chores — cows to be milked on the farm. He enjoyed playing ball with his friends.

Jack Miller.

Mrs. Jack Miller (Florence).

Their farm team was strong enough ■ beat the Lucknow High School boys which pleased them very much.

Sam had already gone west and established his home in Maymont area. He went home to see his family and urged Jack to come west to homestead; this was in 1911. The homestead Jack came to was about twenty-six miles north of Maymont. It meant ■ long haul for wheat, so many farmers travelled together; it took all day. They put their horses in the livery stable to rest and travelled back the next day. What a change from 1979's modern trucks!

Jack proved up that homestead, then traded it for one nearer Maymont, the SW2-42-12-W3. He worked for brother, Sam, and stayed winters up North, so it worked out better for him to be closer; also he had become interested in getting married, which he did, to Miss Florence Northcott; her father was a blacksmith, George Northcott. This event took place on March 19, 1914.

Their first son was born on April 5, 1916. His name was Allan. Another child, a wee daughter, was born during 1918 and she passed away with the 'flu epidemic'. Jack has nothing but praise for "Old Doc Scratch" who gave so much of his time to everyone during those trying days.

Jack remembers there were many trips over the river in the winter for wood; prairie fires had been hard on small bluffs.

Another son, Robert, was born on November 26, 1919. Laura was born September 13, 1921 and Margaret, November 26, 1926.

Jack never worked with oxen but used two five-horse outfits for several years. Ernie Andrew always threshed for them with a steam outfit, though at one time he owned a small gas tractor, and Hummingbird Separator.

The children all went to Keystone School, it being north of their farm. Allan remembers going to school with a horse pulling a small stone boat with a box nailed on for him ■ sit on. He stayed with his grandparents to go to school at Neepawa as Keystone was too far away in winter time.

Jack was Master of the Orange Lodge for some five years. At one time there were ninety members in the Lodge. July 12 was Orange Day. There were many good Sports Days on Orange Day. They had their own Band, also.

Jack had the dubious honor of being president of the Maymont Telephone Company during the "dirty thirties; he remembers threatening phones to be cut off, if back taxes were not paid. People started working on setting in poles, etc., until their bills were paid.

Son, Bob, joined the army in the spring of 1941, then after a few months he switched ■ the airforce, being in it until the end of the War. He came home to farm; he married Mary Garnett of Fielding; they have three daughters and one son. They now live in Saskatoon.

Laura trained as a nurse in City Hospital nursing for several years. Then she went to Toronto to take training as a Public Health Nurse. She is now Mrs. Lloyd Sheppard of Barrie, Ontario. They also live in Grenada during the winter months. They have no family.

Margaret trained as a teacher. She taught in Bromley School and several others. She ■ now Mrs. Bill Hallet of Holden, Alberta, — a farmer's wife. They have three boys and one girl.

Allan is still at home with Jack.

Mrs. Miller passed away ■ April 1958; Jack remembers the children's growing up years to be the happiest times. They had good times together.

Allan and Jack live now in a suite of rooms uptown in Maymont. Jack celebrated his eighty-sixth birthday at a Come and Go Tea in his honour in the Senior Citizens' Centre.

History of the Sam Miller Family

S. R. Miller came from Bruce County, Ontario in 1903, with ten dollars in his pocket. He still had the ten dollars homestead filing fee and he and four others walked the seventy miles from Saskatoon to his homestead.

He married Edith Fitzell, who was also from Lucknow, Ontario. In 1917, they built their brick house, which is still standing and a landmark. When the No. 5 Highway went by the door, it was a stopping place for many motorists travelling from North Battleford to Saskatoon.

They raised a family of three boys and two girls. All remained ■ the communites of Fielding and Maymont and were engaged ■ farming.

Sam Miller's Harry B wins first heat — Maymont, June 21st, 1912.

Chester and Shirley Miller family. l. to r. — Gary and Marlene Swain with Craig and Kelli, Shirley and Chester, Glenda and Eugene Pidwerbesky, Fay, Dennis and Dean Hofer.

The oldest boy, Frank, ■ now living in Creston, B.C. and ■ married to Cozy Holler of Maymont.

The oldest daughter, Reta, is married to Bill Brown and is now residing ■ Radisson.

The second son, Walter, who was married to Olive Thompson, passed away suddenly ■ 1962.

The other daughter, May, who was married to Francis Ducharme passed away in 1977.

Chester, the youngest, ran the family farm, taking over in 1950 from his dad. He moved to Maymont ■ 1977; but still actively farms with his son-in-law and daughter, Garry and Marlene Swain.

Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Miller retired to Maymont in 1950, where Mr. Miller passed away in 1954 and Mrs. Miller in 1957.

During their life time they were active in many community projects, mostly all connected with the agriculture aspect and their church. Sam served for twenty years as reeve of the Rural Municipality of Mayfield. His hobby was horses and at one time he owned race horses and did a lot of racing in many parts of the province. Enclosed is a picture of races being run in Maymont in 1912.

Edith O. Mills

A Brief History of my Life in Canada

To begin with 1936 seemed to be a turning point ■ history.

The Duke of Windsor abdicated the British Throne in 1936.

The blueprints were drawn up for World War II ■ 1936, and I came to Canada in the spring of 1936.

There was much talk of war in 1934 and 1935. Hitler was blaming the Jews and saying they were in all the good positions and were wearing the silk shirts while the Germans were wearing the cotton. Many Jews were getting out of Germany and coming into the city of Manchester, England and some going to the U.S.A.

On the boat "Antonia". On my way to a new life and land. Where I thought nursing could ■ done and some was.

At that time I was a nurse attached to a nursing home in the city going out on call to the sick. With talk of ■ much trouble ahead, I decided I could nurse ■ Canada. I must say coming to Canada from a big commercial city felt like dropping down into the wilderness.

Well, I got married to Ernest Newton Anderson and inherited two young stepdaughters. Both did well in school and married happily.

I liked the farm for I was brought up on one. Mr. Anderson passed away in 1954.

I remarried in July 1956 to A. D. Mills and have been a widow now for many years.

My nephew, Marshall, came out to farm, also his mother.

The Milman's

submitted by Joan (Milman) Lanegraff

Grandpa Milman and three sons, Charles, Arthur and Harold came to Canada in 1903-04 from Thorne, Yorkshire, England. They landed at Montreal, and came by train to Saskatoon. It took approximately twenty-one days to come across on the boat, and a week to come to Saskatoon by train from Montreal.

A small house was built in Maymont in the area near where Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Thurlow had their houses. It was a low two or three room house.

Later Grandpa homesteaded the quarter section where Mr. and Mrs. John Thurlow lived. This land is approximately eight miles north and east of Maymont. Lionel Milman is farming this land now.

Our Dad, Charlie, did considerable land breaking for various people, including some for Melrose and Reid. All land breaking was done by oxen in those days. Dad was eighteen years old at the time. He took any job he could get to work at. Finally he was able to file on a homestead, Sec. 33, T 42, W 3rd nine miles north and east of Maymont. Uncle Arthur and Uncle Harold were able ■ obtain their homesteads northwest of Richard.

Grandpa Milman died at Maymont about 1934.

Dad, Uncle Arthur and Uncle Harold, harvested together for many years, using an old separator and a large Fairbanks-Morse engine.

Our Mom and one of Dad's sisters, Aunt Emily (Mrs. Williams), came over, leaving Liverpool in August or September the same year. Mom and Dad were married at Barlow Anglican Church in March, 1916. Mom sang a solo at her own wedding reception.

Dad's sailing ticket was a 'return' and that called for him to return to Canada shortly after the wedding. This was during the first World War when passage and tickets for civilians were at a premium.

Our Mom played the piano and the violin.

Dad liked farming, and farmed as many others did, with horses. Four or six horse outfits were used on most of the machinery. A John Deere tractor, an A R, which gradually took the place of the horses, is still at the farm and used occasionally by Ron or Dick.

Our Dad served as school Trustee on the Etonia School Board for some 22 or 23 years. He was also an original member of the Sask. Wheat Pool, hauling most of his grain to Richard, five miles away.

Seven children were born to Charles and Henrietta Milman. The oldest son, Dick, and the youngest son Ronald, still live on the original homestead.

Five of those children still survive. Stanley, the second boy of the family, died ■ Oct. 1976.

Dad was born Oct. 21st, 1885 and died March 3rd, 1975. Mom was born June 26th, 1894, and died Jan. 4th, 1974.

The Milman Story

Mr. Charles Senior came to Canada from Selby, Yorkshire England in 1901 with his two daughters Nellie and Connie and two sons Arthur and Harold and settled on a farm about eight miles north of Maymont, Sask.

Charlie Milman Junior, at that time a Bank Teller, attracted by the films shown by the Canadian Pacific

Railway about the many opportunities in Canada, decided he would come to Canada in 1903. He stopped off ■ Ontario where ■ was told there was lots of work. The job he got was hauling logs with a sleigh and team of horses. Working conditions were hard and the weather was very cold. Living conditions were much worse and food consisted of mainly potatoes. He

Charles J. Milman and Henrietta Mary Milman's passport pictures — March 22nd, 1916, one week after their wedding.

Dick Milman's 29½ pound fish caught at Meeting Lake.

walked thirty miles to get flour to make bannock. Not being accustomed ■ the cold and poor living conditions he became ill.

When he had recovered he went west and located on a farm near his father. He built a small house and worked his land with his first team, a team of oxen. He had a garden and grew enough vegetables ■ last the winter. He walked to Radisson for his mail and supplies.

In December 1915 he went to England to visit his sisters and a friend who was Postmistress at Barlow, Yorkshire. In March 1916 Henrietta Mary Wilson and Charlie decided to get married and go to Canada to live. He returned to Canada and his wife and sister Emily came over on the next boat. Charlie and Hettie had five children — Winnie Hawkes of Abbotsford, B.C., Dick farming near Maymont, Mary Brahs of New Berlin, New York, U.S.A., Stanley — deceased October 1978, Joan Lanegraffe of North Battleford, and Ronald ■ Maymont. Dr. Scratch was the only doctor in that area, and he spent many long cold nights and days travelling by cutter ■ the winter to care for his many patients scattered around the country. He was a very wonderful person, always willing to help and often never sent any bill for his services.

Nellie stayed with Mr. Milman Senior until she married Donald Schofield, who was Rector of All Saints, Maymont. He left the ministry a short time later to join the staff of the Technical School in Moose Jaw, Sask. Mr. Milman was unable to look after the farm on account of his age so moved into a small house in Maymont. He passed away in the spring of 1932.

Connie left to go teaching at Bellevue, Alberta. She later met and married John Thurlow. They returned to take over the farm formerly owned by Mr. Milman Senior. They lived there until John's death, then Connie moved to Maymont. She passed away in 1970.

Emily married Dick Williams. They lived near Fielding where he farmed and raised purebred Clydesdale horses. Dick was very fond of music, had a good singing voice and played the violin so was very popular ■ various ways around Fielding. They had a son Owen of Campbell River, B.C. and a daughter Ruth deceased March 1979. Emily passed away in May of 1966.

Arthur and Harold married and both farmed north of Richard, Sask. Arthur and Jennie had four sons Dean and Bob of Kamloops B.C., Arnold of Calgary, Alberta and Lionel farming near Richard, Harold and Pearl (McDonald) had a son Lloyd farming north of Richard and a daughter Marguerite of Calgary, Alber-■.

Ronald Milman ■ farming north of Maymont. He met and married Bonnie Jeane Beach of Vancouver, B.C. They have three children Glen, Denise and Neil.

Dick is farming the Charles Milman Jr. homestead.

Hettie Milman was an active member of the A.C.W. of All Saints Anglican Church and played the organ for the Sunday Service for quite some time. She passed away January 4, 1974 and Charlie March 1975. They will both be dearly loved and remembered for the important part they played in the home, school and community. They suffered many hardships as did so many other immigrants but you only heard of the good times from them.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Moffat

Joe Moffat was born on the farm of the late Mr. and Mrs. William Cook of Maymont and moved with his parents in 1916 to a quarter section in the Bromley district north of Richard. Here he attended public school. At age 15 he had to take over the management of the farm as his dad had a serious illness. Active in both Boy Scouts and Farm Boys' Camp (as both leader and participant) — he gained much useful information from both. In 1941 he married Mary Welford of the Lilac district and they lived on the Bromley farm until 1949. A short experiment with Co-op farming left them at loose ends until they moved their new house, barn and other buildings to the former J. B. Bulmer homestead one-half mile east of Lilac (SE 4-43-13), in 1951. Here their two daughters — Marion and Jean — went to school until Grade 8 and then boarded in North Battleford to complete their Grade XII at N.B.C.I. Marion graduated from University of Saskatchewan with her Bachelor of Education in 1964 with great distinction and was the top student in the graduating class. She married Bill Doidge of North Battleford in 1965 and they live ■ Swift Current with two young sons. Jean took two years of the degree course in Nursing at the University of Saskatchewan before marrying Jim Harren of Penzance ■ 1964. They have a boy and a girl and currently live in Calgary.

Joe and Mary Moffat have taken their part in community affairs. Joe was a former councillor of the R.M. of Douglas, a trustee of Bromley School, a director of the Mayfield and Douglas Agricultural Society, on the United Church Board at Bromley and later at Ruddell, on Saskatchewan Wheat Pool Committee, being Secretary for over ■ years, a director on the Speers Co-op, and on the North Battleford Co-op Board for 21 years — all of them as president. Being a real handy man, Joe is "Mr. Fixit" for many neighbors in his well equipped shop and has been of assistance in minor veterinary cases.

Mary taught school at Redfield and Ruddell prior to her marriage and at Hoffnungsfeld (Borden) and Lilac during the teacher shortage. She has been a member ■ the Lilac Ladies' Guild since coming to the district and a member of Lilac's U.C.W. during its brief history. Now a life Member of the Richard Women's Institute she has served as Secretary at local, district, and provincial levels. She is currently (1979) 1st Vice-President of the Battlefords' District W.I.

Now strictly grain farmers, this couple have travelled extensively during the winter months and have shared their experiences on six continents through slide presentations.

Joe and Mary Moffat — 1979.

The Mohler Story

by Franklin and Betty Mohler

In February 1871 ■ young wife in Saxony, Germany, died giving birth to a son, the first and only child, George Moritz Mohler. His father was a Captain in the German army occupying Paris, during the Franco-Prussian War, at the time, but soon after he emigrated to the United States to get away from army life. The young wife's parents looked after the young child. He went to school from 7 a.m. to noon and worked in a garment factory in the afternoon. While his grandparents were good to him they prepared him to be as independent as possible and to develop initiative. There was a well equipped gym and a swimming pool at the school, and unless a doctor gave a certificate prohibiting it both were compulsory. This helped develop strong bodies and self-confidence. He was blessed with an excellent memory, and in later years often amazed his family with the information ■ remembered from the reading he had done ■ the excellent school library. In his later years at school ■ was assistant librarian and learned about the movements of people from Biblical days on, as well as geography. He was intensely interested in History. He read German translations of literature that he later re-read in England.

His father repeatedly asked for his son to come to the United States but the grandparents would not let him go until they felt he could look after himself. In 1883 his father lost hope of him coming and sold his farm in Nebraska and moved into the town of Hebron; he also re-married.

In the spring of 1885 his grandparents finally decided to let George go. He came over in a ship that was sail as well as steam. It was a very rough passage and a late spring ■ the U.S.A. The young boy landed in New York with bare trees and snow here and there. This dampened the spirits of the newcomer and there was less enthusiasm for the Statue of Liberty. The weather continued cool on the long train ride to Nebraska. It was very discouraging because he had

left an area where spring had come. His father's move may have been fortunate for the young immigrant as it gave him more time at school than ■ might have had if they had been on a farm with chores to do. Years later he was to find himself farming close to that teacher's brother for she was Miss Fry and her parents are in the Maymont cemetery. "It's a small world."

The new home life did not work out for young George and six months later ■ left home forever. He started working on farms mostly in a Scottish settlement. These people gathered frequently for sing songs and his love for good music was increased. There were also Irish and German settlements there and he noticed some of the prejudices that grew in some of the communities that were predominately of one nationality and ■ decided that he would settle in a district where there was a multinational population. This we believe he found at Maymont, an area where people of many different origins are all "CANADIANS".

In 1891 he bought a razor and an Elgin watch for $36. Wages were $15 a month. The watch still keeps perfect time.

In 1893 he went to the World's Fair in Chicago. He saw the famous Annie Oakley shoot down balloons from different positions including backwards and using a mirror. He shook hands with Buffalo Bill after seeing his show. He rode on the original ferris wheel which many said could never work. Its axle was over six feet in diameter and was hollow.

1898 George Mohler and three friends went to the fair at St. Louis. There was a large midway with many booths. One was a fortune teller. The friends decided to have their fortunes told and persuaded George to have his told, too. Reluctantly he agreed. The woman told him that his grandfather was dead, that she saw his spiritual body beside George. George protested, saying he had just had a letter a week before saying Grandfather was in good health. She then named the day that he had suddenly passed away. She also told him some other things that later came true. In due course George received a letter telling of his grandfather's death on the day she told him. So the Mohler family have a confirmed belief in the spiritual body.

■ 1888-89, on the recommendation of the local bank manager, ■ was hired as manager of a large feedlot. The stockman bought 500 Texas longhorn steers and 1000 weanling pigs. In the spring as one steer was feeding at the bunk another upset it and broke its neck. George was there and bled it immediately so it made good meat. Otherwise all the livestock came through fat and healthy. On the evening of July 4, 1889 the railroad spotted enough cars to hold the 499 steers and 1000 hogs.They were hauled into town with the help of many neighbors. They all graded well and the stockman made a good deal of money. It was surprising that it was very many years before there were large feedlots in Saskatchewan.

About this time a friend of his was interested in a nice looking young lady. It was mutually agreed that ■ would come to her home on a certain day to meet the family. Much to the girl's embarrassment ■ arrived the day before and found her busy helping her mother prepare for the next day. He was very pleased. He then knew that she was industrious as well as beautiful!!

Dad then went to work in a mine near Denver, Colorado for the next four years. When he started mining there were many men from the Maritimes in Canada, who were working to pay off mortages, etc. Surprisingly many could not read and write Dad helped by writing letters for them. At the end of his four years ■ and another man were the only miners that were not Welshmen.

While at the mine there were some incidents that seem worth recording. For some period of time a Mexican made the dynamite used for blasting at their particular mine. He made it close by, in a large kettle, heating the mixture which had to be constantly stirred by a helper using a wooden spoon. The Mexican sensed that the helper was becoming scared, so he warned him to continue stirring vigorously and not to try to run away for if it boiled over the blast would kill him before he could get far enough away. "He stirred" but when ■ cooled down he left for good. This liquid was then mixed with sawdust and wrapped in waxed paper forming sticks. Since it freezes at 8 degrees Centigrade many of the miners would warm the sticks up by the heat of a candle. Often one could see the liquid in the paper cyclinder as you moved ■ back and forth. The mine was not far from Denver so over the years Dad got acquainted with many different people. One was a private money lender. One time when visiting him, it was pay day for Railroad men. The man suggested that he pretend reading the paper and listen. First the Conductor came in, repaid the loan, then borrowed it back again. Then the Trainman came in and did the same. Then a third man paid and borrowed same again. After they had gone the lender remarked, "None of them really needed to do this, but instead of waiting are trying to keep up with the Joneses. If they are willing to pay me the interest, I will continue to lend it to them". It appears that millions of people are and have been doing the same thing and in increasing numbers. When and how will it end?

Another acquaintance was the Warden of the Penitentiary. He invited Dad to make the rounds with him and taking a good look at the prisoners. When they got back to the office he asked for his comment. "They are all young good looking fellows". "Yes, they are. Their only fault was that they were not as smart as they thought they were!"

Early in the spring of 1904 Dad and five others came up to Canada. Township 42-12-W3 had been surveyed in 1903 and opened for homesteads. Dad, Frank Hutchison, Bill Schmidt, Oscar Brumbaugh and Henry

Christfield scouted around the area ■ a wagon with a team of horses. One horse was owned by Henry Christfield, the other by Wm. Holmes. Dad decided to apply for N.E. 6; Oscar Brumbaugh the S.W. 6; and Bill Schmidt the N.W. 6; Oscar Brumbaugh the S.W. 6. When evening came they were somewhere near where Richard is now. They made camp under the stars. Some said they should hobble the horses at least for the night but Henry Christfield was sure his horse would not leave him. In the morning no horse was in sight. Wm. Holmes and Dad started walking straight east thinking that as they were bought in Rosthern they would likely head for home. They walked south of Redberry Lake until they reached the North Saskatchewan River at Petrofka Ferry and then south to the Elbow Crossing, and Lovell's ferry, but no sign of the horses. It was night by this time so they slept on the river bank. ■ the morning they heard a rooster crow across the river. They crossed the river and found some Doukabors living there who gave them breakfast. They posted a notice at the ferry offering a $12 reward for the horses and began the long walk ■ Battleford to file on their homesteads. Three weeks later a man named John Swain found the horses and got the reward.

On the way to Battleford Frank Hutchison developed blisters on both heels. Despite the pain when they broke, the men continued their journey. They crossed the river on a steam driven ferry. They were able to file on the homesteads of their choice as Battleford was the main Land Titles office and had not received entrees from other offices on that land. They were pleased that their great effort had paid off.

While in the United States, those many years, they had gone along with some of the traits we associate with the Americans, even today. They show a love for their flag; like bands and the stirring music they play; like fireworks and lots of noise ■ general. Canadians on the whole, do not appear as emotional, though their feelings may be just as strong. For example July 4, 1904 dawned clear and calm. Suddenly a loud shotgun blast came from one homestead on Section 6, then another, then two more. Then faintly they heard "God Save the King", by Alfred Hawkins, whose homestead was the N.W. of 32, where the present cemetery is.

The soil was good with plenty of moisture, but only 25 to 30 acres of each 160 acres was clear of brush and trees and those acres were hills where most of the stones were. Dad bought a one-furrow walking plow, with a breaker bottom which turned the virgin soil over flat, keeping the share and mouldboard smooth and shiny, especially so, in later years when plowing the fields for crops. Some areas, such as Rosetown area that was heavy clay, were bypassed till the disc plows were brought in because ordinary plows would not clean.

While the horses were eating and resting Dad would go out and dig brush and small trees with a grub hoe ■ well as stones with a crow-bar, to add a few more furrows to the field. Some of the stones were too large and had to be left to be dug out later. Many too large to be rolled had to be chained off, some with a scraper turned backwards, others with a stoneboat.

Until wells were dug they used water from the many sloughs. For household use this water had to be strained through a gunny-sack or cloth to get out "the wigglers" — second stage of the many mosquitoes that were present a good deal of the time to bother both man and beast. There were houses to build as well as stables. Most were built of logs, but many with sod. Frank Hutchison built his of sods, including the roof laid carefully over poles with some clay spread over top to help run off rain and melting snow. "The Soddies", were usually quite warm but darker because of the thick walls and generally leaked during heavy rains. Frank's house stood on the hill until the late 20's when we tore it down and farmed over the site.

In 1967 I was seeding summerfallow with a press drill. Coming to the end of the field west of the big slough I looked over the drag chains and disks to see if I had picked up some staples, which stopped the disks turning resulting in poor seeding. I found ■ bent spoon in one of the chains and threw it into the tractor tool box. Within two weeks, George Hutchison, who was named after my Dad, (I was named after his father) came to visit from Pennsylvania, U.S.A. While we were visiting I remembered the spoon. I got it and they recognized it ■ part of their mother's silver, which their sister, Mary, now owned. It was a strange coincidence that the site had been farmed over for ■ years but the spoon turned up two weeks before their first and only visit.

■ the winter of 1904-05 there was very little snow and Dad hauled gravel and stones on the wagon for the first grain elevator in Maymont, "The Western". He picked some of the stones from fields that had been broken in 1904. One morning when he stopped to ask permission to pick stones the man invited him in for a cup of tea; ■ was only just up and the kettle was frozen on the stove. It took awhile for the wood fire to produce enough heat to boil the kettle.

Dad and my Uncle Henry hauled freight between Saskatoon, Battleford, Lloydminster and Edmonton. They travelled west ■ Saskatoon on the south side of the North Saskatchewan; the same route that the Barr colonists took. There was one very bad hazard — the steep banks of the Battle River — that necessitated rough-locking the hind wheels going down the bank, then in the river, getting down ■ take the chains off before climbing the other side. They did not have hip waders, just dried off as they continued.

■ December, 1905 Dad married Anna Malmgren. J. C. Madill, the Presbyterian minister at Maymont officiated. In the spring of 1906-07 after sowing the crop ■ left his young bride on the homestead while he went with his father-in-law to build railroad grade.

That fall, 1906, their first child was born, a son,

Franklin, in the log homestead house. Our Faithful Dr. Scratch assisted, as he did for hundreds more in his lifetime service to the large area from Maymont, including many across the river. In summer by ferry or in-between by basket on the ferry cable or over the ice when it got thick enough. None of his babies and others can say how much we appreciated his ability, knowledge and readiness to come to people's aid when needed. From the '18 flu, he only lost one patient, Rev. Garlick.

By 1911 Dad had the most acres to date ready to harvest. He was going ■ start cutting on Monday. Sunday night there was a terrific hail storm. There was terrible thunder and lightning besides the pounding hail. I can still remember it. We were glad to be alive! All the crop was a total loss. Dad tried to make some of it into feed but it wouldn't dry up enough so it all spoiled. As it was the first hail storm he hadn't any hail insurance. It was a terrible shock to lose such a promising crop. He did find some good friends who helped him get seed and feed. He borrowed money for other needs. I also saw my first coyote by one of Dad's spoiled stacks; it was likely catching mice.

I would also like to record one of our neighbor's experience ■ that storm. He was S. F. Johnston, familiarly known as "Sam on the Corner". He saw the awesome cloud approaching so went upstairs and on his knees prayed that the hail would not fall on his crop. The hail did lift over his fields then dropped causing further damage.

Since Dad's new home quarter was the S.W. of 6 and Bill Schmidt's the N.W. of 6 they had the west half transferred to Maymont S.D. from the Grey S.D. since Maymont was closer. Our parents took turns taking us to school till we were old enough to drive ourselves. Schmidt's school horse was "Old Bill" and ours "Major". We had many a race along the trail across the C.P.R., Section 31, that we hoped our parents didn't hear about.

During the latter part of the First World War able men were scarce. The Government gave bronze medals to boys old enough to help on the farms and leave school, calling them "Soldiers of the Soil". Those I remember were Frank Butterfield, Lyman Reid, Ed Schmidt, and Henry Wilmot. None went back to school, but Lyman Reid went to U. of S. to get his "Steam Papers" which he used to run steam engines boilers at oil well sites and buildings.

The original pattern of settlement in the Maymont District was small farms. To the East and West were larger farms ■ general. With more families we had a larger school population which continued for quite awhile making it possible to teach Grade 12. Later as the rural population dwindled, coupled with the location between Radisson and North Battleford, smaller schools closed and started coming to Maymont for High School. Then all grades came. With better all-season roads school buses started. Many small snow plough clubs were formed until eventually it (that is, snow plowing with a wing grader) was done by the R.M. majoring on the school bus routes, then other roads.

There was ■ transition from the one-furrow walking plow to a walking gang. One day when Dad and our neighbor, Bill Schmidt, were fall plowing, they met at the line fence. Dad asked him if he didn't get cold riding the plow with an iron seat. He replied, "I'd rather shiver like a dog than walk!" Before long Dad bought riding gangs too. After the switch from horse to tractor power there were 3-and 4-furrow plows. The make of the first walking gang was a "Paris". The first riding gangs were "Oliver and Great West". The next were two 14-inch "John Deeres". The first tractor was a 15-30 McCormick-Deering and International Harvestor three-furrow plow and packer. I drove that steel-wheel, single-plate clutch for 20 years before the first J.D.A. on rubber. We also found out the first day that the rubber-tired tractor would not pull the same implement through wet ground as the steel-lugged 22-36 Mc-D would.

In 1936 we bought our first I.H.C. One-Way which was used instead of plows. It did hundreds of acres of working the soil and seeding and fertilizing in one operation. Then came the discer which did thousands of acres well. Then preparing the soil with cultivator and rodweeder, then a double disc press drill in two sections that deposited the seed and phosphate fertilizer together for the greatest benefit. We sowed a half bushel ■ acre and reaped a forty bushel crop of Manitou this way.

The trees in this Parkland country presented quite a problem in the earlier years. Dad and Mr. Alfred Hawkins bought a grub machine. They anchored it to two or three stumps. They unrolled a cable with hook on the end, then after fastening around tree or trees, hitched a horse to ■ sweep on the drum winding away till the trees were where they piled them by hand to be burned later. While this method was hard work the roots usually came clean, compared ■ bulldozing when quite a bit of earth went into the piles with the roots, but it took less physical labor. Then we cut many acres of brushland with the axe after freeze-up or snow got too deep. After the brush piles were burned we plowed it with our first "Brush Plow with Wood Beam". We used twelve horses hitched six and six. Dad drove the lead six and I the rear besides putting the plow in the ground and taking it out with a lever. We plowed about fifty acres that way, before tractor use. Then we rented a pull brush cutter, which also required about six or seven men to move the brush out of the way before the next round. We exchanged quite a bit of this work with neighbors.

Then we bought a steel beam high-clearance plow and push brush cutter. Harold Curry, an excellent welder and mechanic, built ■ push brush piler which saved a lot of manpower. Then we had the trees and brush bulldozed into windrows and I then used the brush plow.

Frank Butterfield and I bought Ford Model T axles then cut them in half, sharpening one end. We made an A-frame of 6x6 fir timbers placing the axles about sixteen inches apart. We used it for over twenty years to work the roots out of the brush while plowing and levelling the soil. We picked all the roots by hand putting them in piles to burn or hauling them off on a hayrack. We saw in the Peace River Area where they were clearing thousands of acres of solid brushland with a root digger with points on a drum driven by tractor power take-off through a three-ton truck rear end to reduce the speed thus adding power to shake dirt off the roots and windrow them. There have also been many successful stone pickers built and used to clear land. They reduced time, expense and physical labor.

Dad was also a Maymont School Trustee from the 18's to the 30's. By that time a hall and second room had been added to the original school. Each was heated with a jacketed Waterbury coal-fed stove. An 18-inch square grill and pipe brought cool air into jacket cracks and spaces between the stones in the four-foot foundation wall. This kept cold air under the floor in winter, so we kept our feet off it, as much as possible, when sitting at double desks which we had in those earlier years. The outdoor toilets were back along the west fence. The snow built up in huge drifts from the open field west of the school yard and also often inside those old toilet buildings. Many young children became ill from not going there. Dad suggested a better, heated building should be provided for health and comfort sake. One trustee said, "All we had back East was a pole in the bush". Anyway a new school was built grudgingly. When a third room was needed the basement of the then Presbyterian Church was used in 1925 when the two old rooms were moved to near the present school site. A third room was added over a full basement and a large furnace to heat it all. There were pail-a-day toilets put in the basement, too, which was a great change for the better. Also with the addition of a chemistry room Grade Twelve has been taught ever since.

We were proud of our "Reach for the Top" team which consisted of Leslie Brehon, Audrey Ferris, Brian Spence and Linda Voegeli. Although they were in grades ten, eleven and twelve they competed against teams of grade twelves and made a commendable showing in both knowledge and sportsmanship. When they reached the finals against Aden-Bowman Collegiate which were televised in the new Auditorium in Saskatoon many of us from Maymont were there to support them in spirit.

Dad was Rural Municipal Councillor for Division Four in the 20's and 30's. The latter years were very trying times for everyone. It was much worse on the prairies in the south of the province. Finally many left taking just what they could get on a hayrack or box. When they got to the parkland areas in the North they had no experience or equipment to deal with clearing this brushland. Some soil was the gray-wooded variety and needed fertilizer that they didn't have money to pay for. There were also some urban people transported there who had no idea what to do. Also in those early days practically every farmer had some chickens, pigs and cattle. This also meant they had to have a lot of fences. Some were not looked after very well so cattle often got out into neighbors' crops, which was unfortunate all around. Strangely looking back most of the bluffs were cleared to the fence lines, but not on the roadside. The snow naturally drifted off the clear fields and piled onto the roads through the fringe. Finally in co-operation with councillor S.A. Johnston for Division Four we took down our fence on the north and south side of our road running west a half mile. The R.M. Catdozer pushed the brush and trees back about fifty feet. Then I plowed and worked it down and seeded it. This was under the main long distance line, as well as a local pair of lines. We found it was considerably better than before but the brush was not pushed back quite far enough. Then we got together and planted four ½ miles of caraganas back in the fields along what was later to become a grid road running north from the Maymont Cemetery. It has proved to be of great value in keeping the snow off that road. There had been further plantings further north and along other roads. Also in areas, such as Conquest, hundreds of miles of hedges running north and south opposite our prevailing east and west winds. It keeps the wind off the ground, thus preserving enough moisture to produce profitable second crops, and stops soil drifting which was very serious before and still is on some land without the field hedges. Later it has been found that if the road grade is gradually sloped into a broad shallow ditch and also, very important, the ditch to the field is gradually sloped, the wind that usually blows during a snow storm will keep the road fairly clear for free, Hurrah!

In the earlier years, and they lasted a long time for some housewives, there were few aids to keeping food for any length of time. One exception was meat that was salted heavily, or smoked or canned in sealers (some call it bottling) generally done under pressure.

Then we had a "Beef Ring" that lasted over forty years. We all took turns taking a good steer to the Beef Ring butcher on Thursday so it would be starved till Friday evening when it was killed and hung till Saturday morning. Then it was cut up in whole or half shares in a planned manner so each got a different piece each Saturday. For most of the years the butcher was Tom Sawyer who lived four miles north of town. Sometimes when I went to pick up our meat I rode horseback and tied the meat in the nice clean sack onto the horn of the saddle. One time on the way home I stopped at Giffard's farm, which was the section just north of our land (now owned by Walter Sadowsky). They had a large slough south-west of their buildings and a short flat-bottomed boat in it. Commeta and I went for a boat ride and somehow upset the boat.

Maryadelle was very patient with us. She lent me some of her husbands clothes for me to ride home with. To keep the meat and other things cool, we put up ice from the North Saskatchewan River for 37 years, hauling it up the 500 foot slope that faced south and often required carrying snow to put on the winding road to the top where there was usually plenty of snow still. Only one year, 1922, was it hauled on wagons. The last three years we hauled it from new dugouts. The last time it was only a few yards from our home dugout to the ice house. Then since we had 110-220 Saskatchewan Power we bought a refrigerator. On June 7, I took the ice saw and tongs to the "Western Development Museum at North Battleford. I also took Dad's three-horse slip that he used to help build railroad grades and move earth around the farm and in the present Maymont Cemetery sometime in the early years.

This was the male side of the story; in the meantime:

On November 30, 1883 in North Loupe, Nebraska, Anna Amanda Malmgren was born. Her parents had emigrated from Sweden earlier. She was the first of a family of six children to be born to them. School days came and went and she taught school until her parents decided to move the family to Canada. Her father Frederick O. Malmgren filed on a homestead east of Richard (It was later part of Watt Smith's farm). In September, 1903 the family arrived. Anna drove a team of horses on a democrat from Wyoming. They forded rivers when necessary.

Through the years she talked very little about these early years.

While the family lived on the homestead at Richard she often rode or drove a horse to Great Bend post office north of Radisson. During the summers of 1904 and '05 she stayed with her youngest sister and brother on the homestead while her mother went with her husband to cook for the crew. Mr. Malmgren was a contractor and built railroad grade in different places. Those known to us are Mansville, Alberta; near Manitou Lake (south of Marsden); Bruderheim and Asquith. The work was done with horse teams moving the earth. Quite often the route was through fairly level, wet low-lying areas which held up the work. One idea he developed was to cut a mower cutting-bar to three feet in length and mow the brush off to allow the ground to dry. One year as the crew was moving home Grandma Malmgren strapped boards to her feet to walk across the thin ice of the river south of Maymont and then walked the fourteen miles north to get home to the family while the men went to the railroad bridge at CeePee to cross.

Their first home was built of sod.

The story was told that one day after Geo. Mohler arrived in the Richard area he saw a young girl in a boat on a large slough and said to his friend, "There's the girl I'm going to marry." She later saw him standing on the wharf and to punish him for his audacity she pushed him into the water. Apparently the ducking didn't discourage him as they were married in December, 1905 and lived on his homestead N.E. 6-42-W3 where their first two children were born.

In 1909 the Brumbaughs decided to move back to the States (they later returned to Saskatchewan) and the Mohlers bought their homestead and moved to the S.W. 6. There Mildred and Marguerite were born and there they lived for almost forty years.

They built up the farm and landscaped the yard. Mother did most of the work in the yard as well as beautifying the house herself, for the men were busy with the farm work. If she wanted a cupboard she built it, if a wall needed paint or paper she did it. The yard became a beauty spot with well-trimmed lawn, shade trees, ornamental shrubs, perennials and of course a large vegetable garden all fenced to keep out the chickens.

An amusing incident when one of the babies was born; as was usual then, the new mother stayed in bed for quite a few days after delivery. This meant that help was needed for some time. On one occasion Bessie Cook (later to become Mrs. David McKay) was helping. One day she played a trick on Harold Coombs. She baked a wonderful looking pie — filled with potato peelings and handed it to him when he was ready for dessert. He had the last laugh. He took a piece and ate it without a word or change of expression, much to Bessie's surprise.

All of Anna Mohler's time was not spent in the home. She was a charter member of the Maymont Homemakers Club (now the Women's Institute), was its first secretary, and went to many district and provincial conventions. In later years she was given a life membership and a few years ago an award of merit. She helped with Homecraft and Farm Girls' Camp, taught young girls how to sew as well as sewing for her own family. She belonged to the W.M.S. and Ladies' Aid and was made charter life member of the U.C.W. in recognition of her work in them. She was an ardent member of the quilters group and worked with the ladies' committee of the Memorial Hall for many years. When a group of ladies took a class in weaving in the 30's she was among them and created beautiful work on her loom. Until she was in her 90's she enjoyed doing embroidery work. While she could knit and crochet, she did not enjoy it like embroidery work. So all of these activities were of interest to her in her retirement.

In March, 1941 they were given a cruel blow when their farm home burned. Thanks to the quick response of friends and neighbors to a fire alarm via a general ring by Mrs. Cassidy many men were soon there in spite of the cold northeast wind. They saved most of the furniture from the downstairs but all their clothes and bedroom furniture were gone. It must have been a devastating experience for they were not "young" and many treasures were lost. Living in a granary and

cooking for carpenters as well as family would tax the strength of most people to the limit but she carried on.

In 1947 when Franklin married they built a bungalow in Maymont to retire there but George never retired. His heart was on the farm and for the next few years ■ spent most of his time helping there during spring, summer and fall. When the snow came he was content to stay in town. At age ■ he would walk the one and a half miles to the farm, if he was not fetched "early enough" in the morning. "I can't do a day's work if you don't fetch me until 9 o'clock," so trying to cut his hours by fetching him late didn't work.

Then ■ February, 1955 ■ suffered a massive stroke. The family came home and were with him for five days when he quietly slipped away. He had always said when ■ heard of someone going quickly, "That is the way to go," and as the years went by we agreed. We were thankful Dr. Scratch was there to care for him.

His wife continued to live in their home until she was well into her eightieth year. In Maymont as on the farm she had made the yard a beauty spot with trees, lawn and flowers and she cared for them until her daughters persuaded her to move to the Centennial Lodge, Rosetown in 1971. ■ was hard to leave her home but she was happy to be near her two oldest daughters and for six years made herself a good life there. In December, 1977 failing health made it necessary for her ■ have more care than the Centennial Lodge could give so she moved to River Heights Lodge, North Battleford where she has lived since and celebrated her ninety-fifth birthday there in 1978. The pioneers had to be hardy to survive the hardships they faced and they continue to take each day as it comes.

What of the family?

Alice, Mildred and Marguerite all trained to be teachers. They have sent their stories ■ this project.

Franklin carried on the farming until retiring in 1973.

With the exception of (a) a short course at the University in farm mechanics in 1926 (b) a brief period at Dundurn with the Battleford and Prince Albert volunteers (c) a winter at an Abitibi pulp camp in Ontario in 1941 (d) a winter at Britannia Beach copper mine in 1942, ■ was farming. He was, ■ and I suppose will continue to be, active in many organizations.

Franklin says he is grateful to his parents and family for making it possible for him to join various organizations where he has been able to meet so many interesting people. From the local and district organizations ■ went on ■ wider fields. The late J. D. Blacklock and N. W. Symonds both encouraged him to join the Agriculture Society and through it attend Farm Week at the University. There he got interested in the Field Husbandry Association. As a registered seed grower ■ went to the Saskatchewan branch meeting of that organization. So through the years he was a director then president of, first the Field Husbandry and then the Saskatchewan Branch of the Canadian Seed Growers Association. From there he became one of two Saskatchewan directors of the C.S.G.A. and through the Saskatchewan and Canadian Seed Growers he was enabled to visit most provinces in Canada and met many people.

Locally he was actively involved in the work of the United Church for forty-five years. He is still on the manse committee and represents the Presbytery on the Chaplaincy committee. He is a loyal member of the Masonic Lodge, as well as being involved with other organizations. A year ago he enrolled in an oil painting class through the Community College and has enjoyed trying his hand at that.

In November, 1947 ■ married Betty Gurney of Ruddell, and they lived on the farm. See the Gurney story for their daughter's story.

In 1973 they sold the farm to Ken and Shirley Meena and retired to live in a mobile home in Maymont.

Retirement does not mean lack of activity. The days pass quickly in a maze of activities. The pace, of necessity, ■ slower and the days do not start as early as in former years, but there are still many things of interest waiting to be done.

Registered Seed Production

written by Betty Mohler

1930 was the first year the Mohlers grew registered seed. Because of the drop in prices ■ was not a paying project but they continued to grow registered seed from then on.

Growing registered seed and cleaning it for market is a painstaking business. Anyone who has not been involved with it does not know the extra work that is needed. One must ■ a perfectionist by nature and derive satisfaction from a job well done.

First the fields must be weed-free. The machinery must be free of all other kinds of grain. If a few kernels of wheat are in the drill when you start to sow barley, for instance, you will find yourself walking through that field pulling wheat out of it in the summer.

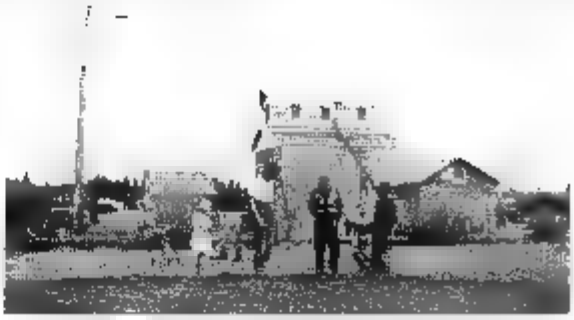
Before harvest an inspector from the Plant Products Division, Department of Agriculture, inspects each field of seed being offered for registration or certification. There must be isolation from other fields; there must be few, ■ any, weeds or other grain; there must NOT be any other variety of the same grain. When it has passed inspection the department issues a crop certificate.

At harvest time care has to be taken not to carry grain of one kind into another field on the swather or combine. Every nook and cranny of the combine and bins was cleaned, using the vacuum cleaner. As the grain was combined a handful was taken from each load and put in a pail to have a representative sample of grain from each field. A sample of this went to Plant

Jean Mohler and stack of sacks of sealed grain, 1958.

Products for germination test. Seed must grow well, not just sprout, but produce healthy plants.

In 1956 Franklin built a seed cleaning plant on the farm, with elevated bins, dust-free electric motors, augers and two and sometimes three cleaners. Compared to the way they had cleaned seed for the years before it was a speedy process; compared to many of the big seed growers it was small. The seed was sacked for a great number of years. An inspector came from Plant Products, this time probing each sack to get a sample which [redacted] looked over very carefully. When it reached the required standard he printed a tag which went on each sack with a seal. So long as this seal [redacted] not broken the customer knows the grain meets the required standard. In later years bulk certified seed was permitted, enabling the customer to get it in his truck without sacks. It could not be re-registered as the sealed could. A seed grower would buy the sealed grain.



Cleaning plant in Mohler yard.

To start the cycle the seed grower has a small quantity of seed from a plant breeder. This is sown in rows in one to one and a half acre plots. It is carefully rogued (i.e. you weed it and walk through it looking for any heads that are not true to type). These plants must be pulled. It took many hours to tend this small plot.

Franklin and his father grew wheat, oats and barley for seed, keeping up with the changes in varieties over the forty-three years.

In 1949 George Mohler was given the "Robertson Associate" by the C.S.G.A. This is an award given to only a few growers in Canada each year in recognition that they "Have fulfilled with conspicious fidelity and success his obligations as a member of this Association". In 1969 Franklin received the same honour and he wears his button with pride.

This is an example of how much work may be involved. In 1969 we saw barley in a wheat field. After four people had walked the field for some time we realized that the barley plants we were pulling were in clusters in paths running to an opening in the trees. We decided that deer had been feeding in barley swaths on the north side of the road during the winter (that was the year the rains came in the fall and much crop was out over winter). Heads of barley must have stuck in their hooves and fallen off as they crossed the field to shelter.

Franklin and has father never seemed to mind the extra time they spent on cleaning the machinery and bins. They derived satisfaction from knowing that good, clean seed means better crops; uniform variety means better quality grain; and the more good quality grain the country produces for export the better Canada's reputation in the world markets. I am sure this must be the philosophy of seed growers everywhere; certainly there is not enough difference financially to pay for all the work.

Personally, I am far from being a perfectionist and my patience would have been short lived.

The Sidney Moore Family

submitted by Vi (Moore) McIntyre

My Dad, Major Sidney Moore, arrived in Canada from Ponty Pride, South Wales, in 1912, just after the

Titanic went down. He went to work for a farmer in the Eagle Hills district. My Mother, Bessie Moore and I arrived in Sept. 1912. They moved to the John Parkinson farm for awhile. My sister, Ivy, was born in Beljennie in April, 1915. They then moved to the Ruddell district and farmed for George Robinson until Dad joined the army in 1916 and left for overseas.

My mother, Ivy and I followed soon after and arrived at my grandmother's home in South Wales.

My Dad was wounded in the war and as soon as he was well enough they came back to Canada. They farmed in the Ruddell district until 1939, then moved to a house in Ruddell. The crops were never very good while they farmed.

In 1940, during the second World War, he joined the Reserve Army and moved to Prince Albert for a time. He then moved to North Battleford where he worked in the Unemployment Office until 1953, when he had to retire because of a bad heart condition. He loved golf, and made two holes in one the year before he passed away, in 1954.

My Mother is ninety years old and lives in the River Heights Lodge in North Battleford.

Mr. and Mrs. John Morgan
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Davidson

by Irene (Davidson) Galloway

When the John Morgan family came out from England to settle in the Spinney Hill District, it was to a very different life!

Joe had been a police detective working with Scotland Yard and was inexperienced at farming. But many were the same way — with a lot of study, with help from neighbours and a lot of ingenuity they stuck with it; With his wife, Angie, sons, Walter and John and daughters, Margaret (Daisy) and Gwen, John started out in a sod shack at least for the first year. That spring when they looked in on Gwen (four months old on arrival) they found a garter snake curled up on her neck — a nice warm spot!

Joe and Daisy Davidson.

Later they built a log cabin and they made tools and utensils. Having little money for toys they would use string from groceries to crotchet dolls' clothes whittle small animals and use twigs and string for the "fences". There was often logs and boards floating down the river which were well utilized.

It was a lovely spot for their homestead, tucked in at the foot of hills in the fork between where the creek ran into the river, and surrounded by trees, shrubs and wild flowers. Not too far away were the Saskatoons, pincherries, chokecherries, hi-bush cranberries and wild raspberries — for jam and jelly — and wild fowl to grace the table.

It was not an easy life, but along with the hardships were sing-songs around the piano with Angie playing (as she occasionally played at the church) and Johnnie on the violin. There were picnics — and a telegraph along the fence wire that the boys had fixed up. There was photography with the snaps developed at home — and artistically arranged in paper cut out frames.

When Daisy was in her twenties a jaunty young bachelor moved into the house across the river; where the new C.N.R. pumphouse was built — and that was it! Joseph Roy Davidson had come from Ontario. He was born at Oilsprings, Ontario. He had a sister, Annie, in Bothwell and his dad stayed in Oilsprings. Joe left home very young and had been on merchant boats out of Vancouver. He had travelled with cargoes as far as the Orient. But now it was time to settle down. So Joe and Daisy married in 1924.

It was a busy life for both with cows, chickens, huge garden (watered by water from pipelines) and a C.P.R. farm.

Even then the piped water was brought into the house — hot and cold running water. Later a windjammer gave electricity for lights — This in the Thirties.

That thick cream from Jenny, the Jersey, and Susie, the Holstein, was a real treat with the strawberries and raspberries.

But it was quite a distance from town and even neighbors were one and a half miles away — a far distance to walk — all uphill. At times in the long winter, Daisy didn't leave for four to four and one-half months. There was nothing easy about that.

At that time in summer there were visitors — friends and neighbours. Some to get fresh water — some to share berries — grown and wild — most right in the yard.

Eventually a daughter, Irene, arrived — delivered at home by Dr. Scratch and Mrs McLeman in the middle of winter!!!

Almost all of these years until he retired, Joe supplied Maymont with their drinking water. No one ever thanked Joe really but perhaps they didn't even know. Mr. Fred Porter, the station agent, would phone down and say, "Getting low, Joe", and these times between filling the C.N.R. water tower, he would start

the engine for a half to one hour and fill the pipes up and Maymont would have water. Most people were not even aware where their good water came from. When asked one person said, "Well, a well of course." But there were problems with well water — so behind the scenes was a real asset. It really did keep the town.

I remember my dad getting typhoid fever and Mrs. Elsie Young coming over to nurse him.

After that a chlorine gas machine was installed in the pumphouse. One time it sprung a leak. There were men there with gas masks to fix it and two kittens died from the poisoning — so it was pretty dangerous.

I also remember during the war having guards pacing on top of the pumphouse all night, as it was an essential service to keep trains running.

Then I remember some kids at school saying my dad sure drove fast over the Melrose Hill!!! It was 40 M.P.H. but he did always get a real pleasure out of his car.

And I remember catching fish — Goldeye by fishing rod, and Pike or Pickerel by night-line — one was thirty some inches long and weighed six and one-quarter pounds. They did taste good — with a desert of homemade icecream!

And I remember when the C.N.R. automated the pumphouse to an electric pump. The old engine lay in pieces on the side of the hill and it nearly broke my dad's heart. He dearly loved that engine. Anyone who relieved him for holidays had no easy time keeping it going as it was (I believe) the second largest semi-diesel pump in Canada.

Then the folks retired to Maymont and set about with composting and plain old elbow grease to make a most lovely yard. Mostly the yard and the plants were my mom's love. They also joined into the community activities. My dad enjoyed people, Mom was busy with Homemakers (W.I.), Anglican Ladies and Hall and Quilting.

So many people in this area contributed so much. When I was young Mrs. Mabler, and Mrs. Johnston, Mrs. Butterfield, helped teach sewing and embroidery so Jean Steele, Dorothy Gray, and I got Grand Aggregate at the North Battleford Fair (Homecraft) and Jean and Dorothy the top marks.

So many people influence us, in good ways, Doc. Scratch, the Myers, the Armstrongs, in the teens — and even Jack Whittacker, Jack Wong and Ed Buhr who just liked us as kids. How important that was!

My folks had an awful lot of friends — the fallout has come back to me in so many ways.

Since the pumphouse was so far from town I had to board "uptown" to go to school. In grade I staying with the Knights and later with Uncle Mike and Aunt Molly Burns — How lucky we were!

I also remember the Christmas concerts — the excitement and the fear!

The tragedies — Mom's brother, John Morgan, would swim across the river and pull his boat. But one Sunday at a picnic he was drowned. It was meant to be as he did love the river.

My dad particularly enjoyed people and my mom especially understood nature. Between them they didn't have too much formal education but they had a lot of knowledge and down to earth sense.

And me — Irene — went on as so many did then to train at City Hospital — married a druggist and lived in Rockglen and Central Butte. Joe and Daisy had two grandsons, Scott, now a pharmacist in Thunder Bay and Keith, working in Calgary with plans to go to SAIT (Southern Alberta Institute of Technology) in Calgary taking electronics.

Irene lives in Saskatoon now and is at present working part-time in a Health Food Store, things come full circle — as I learned from my mom about natural foods.

It was a good district to grow up in and I especially appreciate those lovely river hills.

Memories of Bill Pickford and Mike Hutt

by Irene Galloway

There are a couple of bachelor neighbors that I would like to mention. Bill Pickford lived just up the road from where Bob and Vera Gray lived. I was quite small but I remember I was impressed with the neatness of the yard. He always used to tell us he was related to Mary Pickford, the actress. He was probably 'pulling my leg', but a wee portion of my mind still says — I wonder if he might have been?

I also remember Mike Hutt — such a nice, nice gentleman, rather quiet and shy a round face with a gentle smile—.

He lived on top of the river hills, half way between the pumphouse and the south (Johnston) ferry. He would walk over the hills and come to our place for supper and a visit every so often — Usually when the moon was full so the walking was easier. Dad would say, on a bright eve, 'I bet Mike will be over tonight! I would sit on his knee and admire an opal stick-pin he wore. He even gave it to me, and the special thing about it was the gold it was set in. He had got it by panning for it himself in the gold rush. (Klondyke, I'm assuming).

When we went to visit him, he had a real cuckoo clock that seemed pretty special to him. I suppose now it may have come from the old country. He told my mom where to find the wild cacti growing on the hills. He had a relation or two that were contacted after his death but I believe he was pretty much alone.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Mylrea Family History

I am Ivy Mylrea Elting, daughter of Edward and Jessie Mylrea. My dad and mother had thirteen children. They lost two girls when they were infants. They raised eleven, six girls and five boys. I made the even dozen. I had a brother Fred born two years after

me. We were all born in London, England. My father and his father before him were organ builders. My dad had charge of the Westminster Abbey for thirty-five years and worked on all the Royal pianos and organs. I think the first abbey organ was built in the thirteenth century. Dad put ■ two manuals and two or three new pipes. I understand they are still using the pipes but have a new console. Mother kept a maid at this time. My parents thought that London was no place ■ raise children, so they moved to Canada, about 1904. We travelled to Canada by ship. That took thirteen days because we were held up by fog. We sailed into Halifax, from there to Manitoba, near Winnipeg. There my older brothers and sisters got jobs on different farms ■ learn everything they could about life on a farm.

Mrs. Myirea — 1917.

Frank Basil Myirea, 1884-1942.

My parents stayed in Manitoba for about one year. They left Ed, Reg, Phil, Ruby (now called Mona) and Elsie in Manitoba, to be sent for later. Dad, Mother, Bass, Doris, Corrie, Fred and I went to Saskatoon. There Dad and Bass left us to go file on ■ homestead. We lived in a house near the river. All I can remember are the coyotes howling and the thunder storms. It seemed that Dad and Bass were gone so long. Finally Bass came and said they had found a farm. Dad had stayed there to dig a well, etc. Bass soon put all things right. He bought a cow, chickens and other farm needs. We started out in a covered wagon with the cow tied behind and some chickens in a coop. I don't remember how long it took us to go the one hundred fifty miles, but I do remember ■ late afternoon Bass would tell us to listen for frogs and this meant water, where we would spend the night. Bass would put hobbles on the horses so they wouldn't go too far. We'd start out early the next morning. Finally we got to where Dad was living in a tent. He had dug the well, but it was so full of alkali that we couldn't use it. There was a ravine with a nice little stream and also a spring on the quarter section they had filed for Phil. They had a quarter section for Dad and a quarter for Ed. Reg and Bass got ■ quarter section each somewhere north of our place. I remember going down to the stream for water and always expecting some wild animal to get us.

We soon started to build the sod house ■ NE 10-42-14. When they had the walls up and started on the roof (just the poles) Mother moved us younger ones into the sod house. That night there was a big thunder storm and rain. We got soaking wet. Dad and Bass were staying ■ the tent and came after us. Dad carried me and was very near the well. Luckily for us there was a flash of lightning and we were saved from falling in the well. The next morning was a beautiful sunshiny day. We had clothes hanging everywhere to dry. Mr. Dillen, a bachelor, came over to see if we were alright.

They had just put the Indians on the reservation. I remember there were many old bones of wild animals all around. We were twenty-five miles from North Battleford and as Bass and Dad were anxious to get to work on the fields, they would only go to the store when we were out of everything, as it took two days to go. Mother would cook wheat for us and we had the cow. Mrs. Haggas lived near us. She lived with her son, Purcie. Her daughter married Mr. Hill.

One day we saw a lot of men working, they were

building the railroad. They started a post office about three miles from us. I don't remember the man's name, but we all liked him. He had candy and things ■ barrels, and would give us some.

Dad sent for Phil, Reg and Elsie. Ed and Mona stayed in Manitoba a while longer. They came by train and brought a pedigree Collie named Lady Louise. We were so proud and happy with her. It seemed like no time at all before people started to move into town and around us. They soon had stores and a hotel and a school. Dad and our closer neighbors started a school about two miles from us. They named the school Harringay after a street in England. We also named our farm High Gate after the street our home was on in England. We went to school with the neighbor children, I don't remember all their names. There was Mary Reikie, Herb Mabey and his brother. The school was near Dillens house and during our lunch hour we used to go and visit him. We felt bad when he moved away. He left a fine collection of butterflies which he spent most of his time collecting. One day as he was out after butterflies down the big ravine near our house, he saw something big and brown. Thinking it was an old rusty stove he went over to investigate and found it was a live bear. He came to our house out of breath.

My sisters Doris and Corrie went with my brothers to the river to get wood. Doris and Corrie got tired of waiting so they started home. On the way they saw ■ big animal and two small ones. They thought at first that they were large gophers, but as they got nearer they found out it was a mother bear and her cubs. One day Doris came into the house and said there was a cat with wings in the ravine. It turned out to be an owl. Dad saw ■ little black animal with a white stripe and thought it would make a fine fur piece for Mother, but the skunk got him first.

They used to take a load of wheat to Battleford to be ground into flour. One day we went to the river to pick berries. We saw bear tracks, but went on picking berries. The horse started to make a big fuss so Doris thought it best to go home. We told the men about it. They went out and shot the bear. The Reid Brothers were good hunters and good carpenters. We all had a piece of bear meat. Another day Corrie and Mother went ■ pick berries and when they got down to the river Dusty Brown stopped them. His wife was having a baby. His wife couldn't be left alone so mother stayed with her while he went for help. He went into Maymont for Dr. Scratch. Corrie went for Mrs. Steele. When they all got back Mother had the baby all dressed with the help of their small daughter who told her where to find the things she needed. Dr. Scratch wanted mother to help him with other patients but she said she had all the work she could do.

After awhile they built a big granary. When ■ was finished Mother moved ■ into it saying her family was more important than the wheat. I remember Phil would go hunting, and come home with rabbits, prairie chickens strung on his shoulders, back and around his waist. When we would run out of money Dad would go away to tune pianos. I remember him going to Moose Jaw, Swift Current, Lethbridge and other towns.

Dad bought a threshing machine and steam engine. It had a wide belt that would often break. We had a cook car and a caboose. My mother and sisters did the cooking. They would thresh our neighbors grain and then move anywhere there was wheat. They would start about September and finish about December. It was always so cold when they came home.

Mr. and Mrs. Kitchen had a store in Ruddell. They had a piano. Mr. Kitchen died and Mrs. Kitchen later married Ed Ewing. Ed ran the ferry across the river. Dad traded some cattle for their piano. As we had the only piano around every time there was a dance or any entertainment we would load the piano and all go. Reg, Phil and Ed played it. Ed also played the violin. Mona, Ed and I would sing, sometimes the whole family would sing together. Dad was so amused with the way they would call the square dances that he would feed the pigs by banging on the pail and singing "alemand left with the grand right and left all swing". The pigs would come running from everywhere.

There were many bachelors who after working in the field all day would be too tired to make bread. Mother would often give them a loaf. They would make a biscuit dough and put the whole thing ■ a pan and call it Bannock. The bachelors came ■ our house a lot because there was always something going on. We would have as many as fifty people for Sunday dinner. Mother had very good luck with turkeys and my sisters were all good cooks. We had lots of music and they would play baseball, tennis and croquet. One year they decided ■ have a parade in Ruddell and came to our place to practice. As they were practicing a stranger came around the bluff. Frank Murphy met the man and told him he wasn't crazy ■ was only the keeper!!

We would ■ to Maple Grove July 1 for a big picnic.

Bass bought the store from Mrs. Kitchen and put in a brick oven where he would bake lots of good things. Bass also put in a telephone. Both the telephone and the oven were the first in Ruddell and in that part of the country. Elsie ran the switch board, Reg ran the poolroom over the store.

The Indian chief's son died and they wanted to take him to the old Indian Burial ground. They came to Ruddell. ■ was late afternoon. There were women and small children but the hotel wouldn't let them in. ■ looked for awhile like they would all have to sleep outside and it was very cold. Bass and Reg let them stay in the poolroom. After that the old chief wouldn't let the braves buy from anyone but Bass. Bass never had to buy any more wood. The Indians would bring him big loads of wood.

Mr. Best and his daughter moved to Ruddell. She started a millinery store. When Bass and Grace Best married, Reg moved his poolroom to another building. Phil and Art Ewing bought the hardware store. Ed

moved to Vegreville and became freight manager. Reg later joined the North West Mounties.

It was a dark and stormy night
When Phil woke with an awful fright,
"Go! Go!" it was his cry
To get mother, doctor and a nurse
And hire the best horses in Mike's barn.
Phil dressed himself in record time
And from High Gate Farm made a beeline
Ewing ran to Maymoont town
And brought out Scratch in his night gown
The doctor nearly swore a swear
When from his warm cot he had to tear
Into the damp and midnight air
To Ruddell town.
He arrived at Bass' bakery shop
Through the pickles, tarts and pots
And up the little winding stair
And flopped down on the great arm chair
To regain his breath
The doctor soon put all things right
The twins arrived with great delight
They called them Margaret Jessie, Bassel Jimmy Best
They would have given them more names
But forgot the rest.

Every May 24, Queen Victoria's Birthday, they planted the potatoes in the morning and then would go to Ruddell for a picnic and a baseball game. We had a fine team. We used to root the boys on by singing a little song to the tune of "There's a Happy Land". Here is the song.

There is a little town not far away,
Where the Ruddell boys play baseball every day.
Oh you should see Maymont run,
When they see Ruddell boys come,
Three scores to Maymont's none,
Three times a day.

When the boys would clear the fields of stones they would bring the best in the yard. Later we had a stone mason put in the foundation and cellar for our real home. It was going to be a very nice one. One Sunday night everything was ready to start cutting the wheat and the carpenters to start the house. The lumber was to come out first thing Monday morning. That night we had a great thunder and hail storm. It took down all the wheat, everyone was so heartsick. As the boys had all moved away from the farm, Dad just rented it and moved into town. He bought the big livery barn. At first we lived in the station house. Mr. Smith was a bachelor and lived with us. They transferred him and sent a married man so we moved to the section house. There mother boarded all the men that worked on the railroad. Dad bought a house in town where we lived until we moved to Calgary about 1914. Dad took care of the organs and pianos in Calgary.

While in Ruddell Corrie, Fred and I went to school. They would put on Christmas programs in the church. All the children would practice for weeks and Dad would play Santa Claus.

Dad took the mail across the river once a week when the river would freeze and the ferry couldn't run. They had a hard time trying to get the mail over until the river was frozen so the horses could cross. The same thing in the spring.

They made Dad Justice of the Peace and we held the first election on the farm.

Ed Mylrea married Margret Britian in Vegreville. They had one son and two daughters — Edward, Peggy and Laurine. From there they moved to Mountain View and his family still live there.

Bass married Grace Best and had four children. Jim and Margret are twins, William, and Dorothy. Bass died of heart trouble, Grace died also.

Reg married Violet Douage in Victoria. They had two boys and one girl, Jack, Frank and Vi. Jack was lost in a plane over France. Frank is in Vancouver and Vi is in Southern California. Reg died in Los Angeles of cancer.

Phil married Margret who worked in the Ruddell Hotel. They had three boys and one girl. Reg was captain on a ship and is now in Victoria teaching college. Douglas is retired in Victoria. Russell was last seen during World War II. Phyllis is living in Victoria.

Ruby Mona was married to Dr. Dewalt a veterinary doctor. Doc died of cancer. Mona came to California where she is now living at the age of eighty-seven. She lives in Terrance, is in good health and has no children.

May married Herb Hornbrook and they had three children, Jim, Bob, Doris. The boys own their own tool and die shop in Michigan. Doris took care of her mother in Long Beach until she died in 1978. Doris is still living there.

Elsie married Carl McFarlane and had five children, three boys and two girls. Elsie died in 1977. The children are all living in Southern California.

Jessie died of cancer. Cliff and Ronald are both roofers. Ruth works for the government.

Doris married Thorp Sweetman and had seven children, four girls and three boys. Edward is living in Trail, B.C. and is a furrier. Rae was wounded in World War II and passed away in 1976. Vi is living in North Battleford. Geraldine and Marian in Victoria, Doreen in Saskatoon and Ken in Ontario.

Doris passed away in 1930.

Corrie married Karl Hudson. They had no children. Corrie died in 1971.

Ivy married Wade Elting and had two children, June and Walter. June is in real estate. Walter works for Air Research.

Fred married Grace Bass and they had two children, Mona and John. Fred died in 1977. Mona works in an office.

Dad, Mother, Corrie, Fred and I moved to San Francisco in 1918 where we lived while Dad rebuilt the Civic Auditorium, Fred helped him. Now John and

Fred's sons live in Los Angeles and take care of many of the organs in and around Southern California.

Dad died at the age of seventy-two and Mother died when she was one hundred and two.

Mona and I are the only ones still living.

The Myers Family

by Ruby and Frank Myers

(Recollection and changes we have experienced during thirty-eight years as minister and his wife on the Maymont Pastoral Charge of the United Church of Canada — 1937 to 1975).

Reverend Frank L. Myers arrived with his bride, the former Ruby Imrie, on the morning train from Edmonton, the first Saturday in December, 1937. December the fourth to be exact. They had been married at the farm home of the bride at Adanac, Saskatchewan on November 30. Ruby was a registered nurse having graduated in 1932 from Saskatoon City Hospital and the following five years nursed at Unity Union Hospital.

It was —50F, the morning we arrived in Maymont.

Rev. Dr. F. L. Myers and Mrs. Myers, taken in the Holy Land — July, 1966.

United Church float in 1967 Centennial Parade. Rev. F. Myers, minister, the organ at the front of the float is the first organ used in the United Church.

According to tradition, this particular Saturday was the United Church Bean Supper and Bazaar, so this was the bride's first event to attend in Maymont. The Ladies Aid had worked hard all year, doing fancy work, pillow cases, table cloths, dresser scarves, aprons and knitting socks and mitts. They were all beautifully arranged in decorated booths in the church basement, with the Christmas theme and colors predominating. Supper of baked beans, brown bread, pickles and pie was served for twenty-five cents in those days. We received a warm welcome and made many new acquaintances, even though Frank had been in Maymont since July first.

Thinking he was going to be a bachelor for awhile, he had arranged for Bill Love, the Pool Elevator man to live with him — Bill's family having gone to the Maritimes for the winter. Bill was with us until his family returned in the spring. At that time we lived in the old manse, presently owned by Bill Reid. It wasn't very warm, as a pipeless furnace with one register between the livingroom and diningroom was not adequate to heat the upstairs bedrooms too well. The coal and wood stove in the kitchen as well as the furnace, made it necessary to chop a lot of wood, carry coal from the coal bin in the basement and carry out a lot of ashes. As the kitchen was built on, later than the original frame house, it was very cold in winter and even when fires were well built up at night, the kettle would be froze on the stove in the morning on coldest days. The walls were covered with felt paper over lath before being papered with wall paper. It looked nice but did not keep out much cold. Also a lot of cold came in around the windows, even with storm windows on. With the help of some ladies of the congregation it was always quite a chore to re-paper the front rooms as cracks in paper had to be first closed with strips of cotton. The kitchen had V-Joint up four feet, then a plastered wall which was calsomined to your color preference. However it was a lovely homey house with a bright bay window to the south. It wasn't long before the decision was made to put wall board on the two rooms and they were painted. Also the kitchen was lined with wallboard. Several other improvements were made such as cupboards instead of the kitchen cabinet and a small bathroom off the kitchen and windows changed, which all made for more comfort and convenience which we always found the congregations ready to supply. We were fortunate to have a galvanized water tank in the basement to supply soft water with summer rains, and a pump on the sink to pump it up, however, the supply ran out quickly so melting snow in winter and having a barrel beside the kitchen stove supplied our winter water supply except we had to carry drinking water from the town pump.

We had an outside biffy in summer but we did have an inside chemical toilet in the basement for the winter.

This life style was very typical of all family homes in the community, even better than some, so we felt

very much at home in these surroundings and enjoyed it. We had a lovely yard with natural trees at the back and a good garden spot, and there is nothing today that compares with the good old clothes line outside.

Our two children were born while we were in Maymont. Donna Marlene was born on February 17, 1944 in Saskatoon City Hospital. The ladies of the community had surprised me with a lovely baby shower which included a pram and high chair as well as many useful items babies need. I think this was the first baby born to a minister's bride.

Ted was born on June 5, 1946, coming a month ahead of time so we did not get to hospital. Dr. Scratch was in attendance and Mrs. Herb Johnston generously gave of her time to come and assist. We were looked after later by my mother and sister, Jennie.

Ted and Donna both took their schooling in Maymont. Both took up to Grade Ten music, sang in the choir and played the organ for church, funerals, and some weddings as well as taking part each year in the Battleford Music Festivals and in the younger group organizations in the church, which we were very fortunate to have and we thank those who gave leadership over the years in this great service to the young people.

Donna pursued a career in nursing, graduating from Saskatoon City Hospital in 1965. She then went to Burns Lake Hospital in Northern B.C., which was then a United Church Hospital. She met Montie Harrison there, and they were married in May, 1968. They have two children, Scott Edward born [redacted] May, 1971 and April Marie born in April, 1973. Montie is an electrician and comes from a pioneer family whose history goes back many years in the Burns Lake area — a very pretty part of B.C. with many lakes and trees, so lumbering and mining and tourists in summer are the main industries — although some areas are more open for ranching land. Montie and Donna live ten miles south of Burns Lake on one of the lakes, on a paved road to a ferry that is on Francois Lake opening up the area to the south and Tweedsmuir Park Area. Many people live along the lakes and commute to businesses in the town. Donna still continues her nursing career part-time at the Hospital as well as being very active in church and community.

Ted took his B.A. at University of Saskatchewan, followed by a year of Arts and one year Theology. His summer work during university was at the Provincial Hospital at North Battleford and Psychiatric Centre in Prince Albert. In 1971 he graduated from the University of Manitoba, with a Masters in Social Work. The next four years he worked with Psychiatric Social Services in North Battleford. He was very active in the United Church Choir while there. In 1975 he went to the University [redacted] British Columbia graduating in 1978 with a Master of Science Degree in Health Services Planning. His thesis being on the non-medical use of drugs and special research into alcohol as it affects industry. In the fall of 1977 he prepared a paper which [redacted] presented at the International World Health Organization in Puerto Rico. He received a Fellowship in the fall of 1978 from U.B.C. and is presently at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital of Psychiatry, in Edinburgh, Scotland doing research on alcohol studies as it affects violence, family violence and criminology. After a short holiday with us he attended Convocation at U.B.C. and is now back in Scotland as of June 2, where [redacted] will be involved with non-violent and violent inmates of the prisons and follow up with families. This could mean another two years in Scotland.

While retirement made it necessary for us to leave Maymont, it is still home to us and our family. On going to Scotland and feeling the cold so much, Ted wrote home saying it took him back a few years to when he was a country boy, and could understand going to bed cold and getting up in the cold to practice his music lessons.

Of course this all changed when we moved into the beautiful new manse provided for us and which we enjoyed for fifteen years. Maymont will always be part of us as we look back on the many fond memories and happy experiences during the thirty-eight years we were privileged to be on the Maymont Pastoral Charge.

Now Frank's Story:

I was born in Yorkshire, England. We came to Rouleau, Saskatchewan in 1912, where my father operated a butcher shop. He waited until they had eight children, and then decided to go into the ministry. My father's last year in St. Andrew's College, Saskatoon, was my first year and we roomed together. During my college years I served on many summer mission fields — mostly in the North. My first student field was in the Loon Lake Area and my second around Meadow Lake. There I covered the whole countryside on horseback, visiting families and holding services any night of the week in different homes. It was the "Dirty Thirties" and hundreds of people had moved north to escape the drought. Homes were of log construction and small. I ate wherever I landed at meal time and slept wherever I landed at night. People were desperately poor but hospitality and friendliness were not in short supply. One of my summer fields was Sonningdale, Struan and Arlee. There I travelled by bike. Having been at Sonningdale, coming to Maymont in July, 1937 was like coming back home. I arrived in Maymont by bus after hitchhiking from my first ordained charge at Pierceland to Loon Lake. The Pool Elevator man, Bill Love saw me get off the bus. I heard years after that he went running over to Mrs. Knight's (the barber wife) and said, "The new preacher has arrived." Mrs. Knight said, "What does he look like?" Bill replied, "If you took a shot gun looking for fellows that looked like preachers [redacted] would be the last one you would shoot." I kept the story to myself and used it at a farewell we had later for the same "Bill Love". Incidentally Bill Love lived with us, so for a short time there was Love in the manse.

Coming to Maymont in 1937 and retiring in 1975, I saw a lot of changes. I consider myself highly privileged to have shared in so many peoples joys and sorrows. To start with — 1937 was about an all time low as far as crops were concerned. Drought, Wind, and Drought, only the Russian Thistle flourished and some of ■ was put up for feed. In August, 1937 I bought my first car, a 1929 Chevrolet. I called it "Shasta" and when asked why that name, I replied, "She hasta" have oil, "She hasta" have gas, etc. Travelling in 1937 and for a few years after was so different than today. There were hardly any gravelled roads. The term "all-weather-road" was unheard of — so "Shasta" and I had some tough trips. In the winter, all roads were blocked, so I borrowed a team and sleigh to ■ to Fielding, in the winter, or sometimes the section foreman, Mr. Squires, took me on the Jigger. Getting to Sonningdale, Spinney Hill and Baljennie in the winter months represented a real challenge. Even summer travel was adventuresome at times. Once I was going to a funeral at Spinney Hill in summer and the ferry got stuck on a sandbar in the middle of the river. Since the ferry always had a rowboat, Rube Johnston rowed me to the south shore and Mrs. Johnston drove me to the funeral, just five minutes late. Sometimes travel to that area meant driving by the Borden Bridge, a long way compared to the fifteen minute drive today by Maymont Bridge. I have gone to funerals in Sonningdale in winter when the road was drifting in behind me and the only safe way ■ try to get home was to follow the undertaker back to Saskatoon. It was all a part of the game and I loved it, especially since I had such a good example in our late beloved Dr. Scratch.

One of the biggest changes ■ transportation was the abolishment of the passenger train. It was a daily ritual for people to meet the train when ■ came ■ around 8 p.m. The platform was loaded with people. The young people spoke to the passengers. I know this because when I was a young student riding on the train on the way to mission fields I had the window open and a young teenage girl came up to me and said, "Hi, Honey," When I returned to Maymont in 1937 I would have given anything if I could have remembered her face. The train moved on and we all followed Clem Coleman to the Post Office where we waited noisily for Clem to sort the mail.

I must not forget crossing the river at times in the Aerial Basket. I never did like heights and this experience never deepened my love for such heights

The church was another area of change. Services were held in Grey School, Keystone School, and Anglicans had a service at Calais School. One of the big boosts to the Maymont Congregation came when the Grey and Keystone people started to come to church in town. In the winter months, because of roads, few people were able to make it any distance to town for services. At our service ■ town ■ the winter we used to open the service and then the Sunday School classes would go to the basement, and I led the whole congregation in Bible Study. This was followed by the regular worship service.

In my early years there we always had a senior choir. Later we developed a Junior Choir. There are many who look back on their years in the Junior Choir as really happy times. We usually took the choir to Sonningdale for a Christmas Service. The young people looked forward to that trip and many of them hoped we would get stuck in the river hill — that spelled fun for them. Sonningdale always provided a lunch after church and the young people ate heartily. You can tell by looking at some of them today, that they still eat heartily.

The area that I served was large. Sometimes I felt like John Wesley who said, "The World is my parish." There were many years when I was the only ordained United Church minister between North Battleford and Saskatoon — north as far as Rabbit Lake, south to Baljennie, Spinney Hill, Struan and Arlee. My first field included Maymont, Fielding and Eastbourne. Eastbourne was a "Little Church in the Wildwood", north and east of Fielding. Later the field was changed to take in Ruddell, and Eastbourne was closed. Presbytery in consultation with the area formed the present day Maymont Larger Parish, with a minister in Maymont and one at Speers.

So as I sit ■ my easy chair and reminisce I think of the hundreds of funerals and the families that I was enabled to serve. The many hundreds of weddings where I was privileged to share in the happiness of two young people. I think of the trainloads of turkey and other goodies that we ate in fellowship on these occasions. So many ■ fact where we ate turkey and I proposed the "toast to the bride", that when my wife served turkey at home, I automatically got up and proposed a toast to the bride. Ruby must have liked it, because she served cold turkey the next day.

I think of the number of sermons I was privileged to preach to faithful, loyal and devoted people. I think of the many times people came and said, "we need you". I think of the many times in different ways the people showed their heartfelt thanks and appreciation. So living among you I saw the meaning of the word community at its best.

I seem to be getting a little serious so I better tell you about the time I drove a local fellow home at two o'clock in the morning. Arriving at his home he was bound that I go in. I asked why? He replied with thick tongue, "I want the wife ■ see who I have been out with". I am almost persuaded that he must have been out with worse.

Rev. Frank Myers D.D.

Citation given ■ Dr. Frank Meyers on his retirement at Saskatchewan Conference ■ 1975

Frank was born in England, and at an early age came out to Canada with his family. He attended

school at various places throughout Saskatchewan, as his father was a lay preacher. In 1930, he entered the University of Saskatchewan. His father's last year of college was Frank's first, so they roomed together for that year. In 1934, he received his B.A.

He took his theology at St. Andrew's College, graduating in 1936. He was ordained at Moose Jaw the same year. (39 summers ago)

From July, 1936 to July, 1937, Frank served at Pierceland, and in 1937, came to Maymont where he has been ever since — until his retirement in June, 1975.

He was chairman of Presbytery three times, has been Home Missions Convenor and held various other offices. At the Conference level, he had been President of Conference, secretary of Settlement Committee, convenor of Home Missions. Four times he was a commissioner to General Council. He served on the executive of General Council and on several special commissions. He spent seven years on the Board of Governors of St. Andrew's College. Frank received the doctorate degree in 1962 from St. Andrew's.

He married Ruby Imrie of Adanac in 1937. Ruby was a nurse. Their two children are Ted (with the psychiatric social services in North Battleford), and Donna, also a nurse (Mrs. M. Harrison of Burns Lake, B.C.). In 1969 Frank was chosen as citizen of the year for North Battleford.

Rodney, Joyce, Corilyn and Stephen Munn.

The Munn Family

by Mrs. R. (Joyce) Munn

On September 28th, 1968, Rodney and I were married in Zion Lutheran Church in North Battleford. Rodney is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Munn of rural North Battleford, I am the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wakelin of North Battleford. We resided in Regina where we were both employed when we were first married. We lived in an apartment in a new building — we were the first ones to move into that new building.

Rodney worked for the Crown Lumber Co. and I was employed at McNiell's Drug Store Co. Rodney worked at Crown for a year, then went to work for Revelstoke Lumber Co. I worked at the drug store for a year and a half, then I went to the "Bay". I enjoyed working at the "Bay", where I was clerking. One day I was hauled up on the red carpet, so to speak, and offered a job in the ordering office. I took that position and really enjoyed ordering stock for my department. We moved into a house for the remaining two years we were there. There we were able to have a garden and a yard.

We moved to Maymont in October of 1971, to work for George and Gordon Gray. We lived at the Bill Reid farm. While we were there we had a hive of tame bees move in on us. We had quite a time trying to get rid of our little pets.

We spent a year there, and then Ted Saunders' store came up for sale. We did a lot of serious thinking about it, and in November of 1972 we moved into Jack Thrower's house, next door to Bill McCready's, and Rodney worked with Ted Saunders until the end of 1972. In January, 1973, we bought the store and went into business. That spring we moved to the R.M. house and did some remodeling on the store.

On June 19th, our daughter Corilyn was born. With all the moving and remodeling that had been done we were glad when Corilyn arrived a healthy baby.

Corilyn grew up fast, she started skating when she was three years old. She has taken figure skating lessons for the past three years, she has also taken swimming lessons at Glenburn Park pool for three years. She attends Sunday School at Maymont United Church where we are members.

We try to take an active part in the community. I was president of the Women's Auxiliary to the Sports' Centre for two years. Since I resigned, I still try to do my part in the Sports Centre and in other community activities.

Rodney is also very active in the community. He is on two or three committees in the Sports Centre, and on the school board, the Church Board and a volunteer fire fighter.

The summer of 1976 we built our first home. It was

a very busy summer, but we had lots of help from relatives and people in the community, which was greatly appreciated. We lived in my brother's fifth wheel trailer for two months while our house was being built. Rod said, "it was our holiday", the only thing was we weren't parked by the lake. While we were in the middle of building, Rodney took sick and ended up having surgery, but it wasn't too long before [redacted] was back pounding nails. We moved into the house the beginning of November, it was nice to be in at last. We spent most of the next year finishing the house and working in the yard.

On June 15th, 1978, we were blessed with a son which made us all very happy. Steven made quite a change in our household.

In the fall of '78, Corilyn started [redacted] Kindergarten, going every other day. She was very excited about it and enjoyed it so much she wished she could go every day. This year she got her wish, she's in Grade one and goes every day.

We have enjoyed our six years in the store business. Rodney found this poem and hung it in the store. It has brought a lot of comments and laughs:

TO ALL OLD GROCERS

A man knocked at the Heavenly Gate,
His face was scarred and old
He stood before the man of fate
For admission to the fold.
"What have you done," St. Peter asked,
"[redacted] gain admission here?"
"I have been a grocer, sir,
For many and many a year"
The Pearly gates swung open wide,
St. Peter touched the bell.
"Come in and choose your harp", he said
"You've had your share of Hell."

C. W. Murison, 1876-1955

[redacted] June 1902 a big Scotch lad, tired of firing on the railroad in Scotland left his home at Peterhead — north of Aberdeen to walk down the gangplank onto the "S. S. Sardinian". It brought him to Canada, Australia was the other alternative country at that time for immigrants. The boat docked at Montreal, his train fare brought him as far as Deloraine, Manitoba, where he got work and after three years joined with the ones there who had the homesteading fever and followed the newly laid C.N.R. further west. Their destination was Ruddell. Charlie in July 1908 walked to Battleford Land Title Office to file on a homestead five miles west of Ruddell on NE ¼ 22-42-14 W3rd. The settlers made much merriment amongst themselves as well as hard work clearing and breaking the land, which was covered with brush and plenty of stones to be moved. A team of oxen were bought. One Sunday the congregation at church was very small and the reason was, 'one of Murison's ox had fallen into a well' and all hands were helping get it out. Working with neighbors Gld.

Early snow Sept. 9, 1921. Chas. Murison, and Milker is Kenny Kemp.

Blair, the Arnold boys Bill, Jack, and Dave, logs were cut at the river and skidded up for their buildings. One time when Ernie Whitlaw was with them they met up with a black bear which was killed and bear steaks supplemented the winter's meat.

Charlie smoked a pipe and was never too particular about what all was in his pockets, while standing visiting with friends, a loud bang followed the lighting of the pipe, the bowl was blown off by a misplaced bullet leaving Charlie with only the stem in his mouth and a grin on his face.

Charlie, Bess Murison and Jean, 1921.

In 1918 he married Bess Turnbull in Glen Morris, Ontario. They continued to farm till their retirement into Ruddell in 1945. During the years Charlie enjoyed helping in community affairs. Ruddell Telephone, Wheatpool, church and giving his neighbours a hand at wood cutting and butchering bees. When they returned his help the pigs and beef on butchering day were done up in jig time and the cards were got out and a rousing games of "500" finished off the day.

For 25 years the same thresherman Charles Pethick made his rounds of the Arnold, Blair and Murison farms. Until the day Charlie left the farm he continued to use horses and the log barn that had stood the years.

Neighbors of Murisons

To the south of NE 22-42-14 W3rd over the railroad tracks were Harry and Mrs. Ryan with a family of Carl, Morley, Bert and Dorothy. Mrs. Ryan and her sister Gertie who married Alex Brown were daughters of one of the first settlers in 1903, Mr. McLellan.

Further south were the Irish boys McCallden brothers: Billy Ellison, with a Scotchman Bob Gordon.

To the southwest was Bob Peoples, his father and brother Frank came up from N. Dakota. The boys stayed on — Bob at present is a resident of River Heights Lodge in North Battleford.

West was George and Mrs. Anderson with a large family.

One of Charlie Murisons homesteading buddies was Bill Arnold — the eldest of the brothers, he met with an accident injuring his leg. Dr. Scratch was called and with help and on the kitchen table Bill's leg was amputated and buried on his land.

Elizabeth (Bess) Turnbull, 1880-1969

She was the youngest of a family of six. Along with her mother and brothers Graham, and George, they came west from Brantford, Ontario in 1905. They brought in a large outfit, amongst the horses were a pair of standard bred Clyde mares which had taken prizes at the Toronto Royal Fair. The Turnbulls continued to show and win prizes at the local fairs with their horses.

The Turnbull house was a stopping place. Sundays saw the furniture pushed around in order to get seats in for church service. They helped get the church built, Presbyterian at first, then when Union came in 1927 it became Ruddell Cavin United Church.

Bess helped the brothers farm and often was called on to drive supplies with "Old Dick" and the buggy to the cook on the second threshing outfit. Dances were held above Lowreys store to the tune of Jack Whites fiddle.

Bess and Charlie were married in February 1918. One daughter Jean Elizabeth was born, who now is Mrs. Frank Kingwell farming near Herschel, Sask. with a family of two boys and 3 grandchildren.

Both Charlie and Bess are buried in the Ruddell cemetery.

Peter Naklicki

Peter Naklicki immigrated to Canada from a small village in Poland. He journeyed and worked his way across the country, spending much time working in bush and railroad camps in British Columbia. He worked on crews that built tunnels near Revelstoke, B.C. The time spent in the mountains was an interesting part of his early life.

He was in later years employed on farms in the Speers area. He later lived on his own farm in Aberdeen, Sask. for many years. In the early 1940's purchased land near Keystone School. S.E. 13-42-12 W3rd, the former Tom Meena farm. He retired later from farming but for many years enjoyed his life on that farm, close to nature, tending his little garden and strawberry patch. He was happy to have his son Eugene and family come to Canada from Poland in 1962. There are two daughters and their families still living in Poland.

After spending two years in Kelowna with his son Eugene, Peter passed away in October 1978 at the age of 90. He was predeceased by his wife the same year. His brother John and family lived at one time on a farm at Speers and later at Fielding. A niece, Mrs. Wilbur Peden (Wanda) lives on a farm at Maymont.

John Naklicki

John and Annie Naklicki moved to the Hillsborough School district in 1947 from the Tillotson School district north-west of Speers. The land they moved to was owned by Mrs. Stewart. They had a family of three. The eldest, a daughter Wanda, was at that time employed at Speers. She is now Mrs. Wilbur Peden, residing on a farm near Maymont. They have three children, Pat, Tom and Randy. Joe and his wife Marilyn and two children, Denise and Sheldon live in Calgary. Joe and Marilyn are employed with the Alberta Educational System. He attended Hillsborough Public School and High School in Maymont. Jean also attended Hillsborough School. She and her husband, Clark Tryhorn live in Kelowna with their two children, David and Linda. Jean is employed with the city.

After farming, raising cattle and shipping cream for nearly 9 years, John became ill, so it was necessary for them to retire from farming. They had a farm sale and made the big move to Kelowna, B.C. It was hard to leave the farm and friends and neighbors, but the move was good. For a number of years Annie enjoyed working in the Sun-Ripe factory until she was told she was too old to work there, much to her dismay, as she never felt younger or more capable, as this work was a pleasure compared to milking cows,

fighting black flies in the summer and snow drifts in the winter.

John passed away in Kelowna in March of 1968 after a lengthy illness. Annie still resides in Kelowna keeping busy with her vegetable garden, fruit trees and grapes. She enjoys city life and the mild Okanagan winters. But like all prairie people that have moved to B.C. she never tires from visiting with people from Saskatchewan.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Neill

We were both born in N. Ireland, Bob at Downpatuck, Co Down and myself at Ennes Killen, Co Fermanagh. He served on the Police Force for 5 years and when the police were disbanded in 1925 we got married and emigrated to Canada and landed at Quebec City on July 6, 1926.

Travelling was not too good around that time, as we spent one week on the boat and another week before we reached Saskatoon. It was a very long, boring trip, especially the train trip, as it travelled at a snail's pace all the way. Most of the immigrants at that time had to work on the farm. We decided to come to Maymont and started work on the Scott-Dudley farm where we stayed for seven months. Then on to Mr. and Mrs. Bill Cooks, Jim Reids, and finally Percy Bouskill's.

We had enough of farm life by this time, so moved into Maymont where Bob worked on the C.N.R. for 2 years and was town policeman for about 5 years.

By this time the depression years were upon us, and we went through some real hard times. When I look back on it all we were all in the same boat, so we just took it in our stride and made the best of what we had. We held card parties in our homes, put on 3 act plays and concerts, etc. for entertainment. Today most of these forms of entertainment just don't exist and are sadly missed by oldtimers. The Chatauqua was a yearly event which we all enjoyed. Church work kept us all busy as well, and we had quite a struggle to raise enough money for the minister's salary. We did have some real good times along with all the other disappointments, but I don't think I want to go back to cleaning stove-pipes, banking houses, coal and wood stoves, and ironing with flat-irons on a hot summer day, as well as having to chop wood for the fire and carrying water for washing.

Our children were all born at home with Dr. Scratch in attendance. The mid-wives at this time were Mrs. McClelland, Mrs. Holmes, and Mrs. Dawson. Iris (Mrs. Eldon Wiebe) was born at Percy Bouskill's on December 19th, 1928; Cyril was born in Maymont on October 27th, 1931 (married Norrie Crawley) and Valerie (Mrs. Murray Gray) in Maymont on June 25th, 1935. All attended Maymont School and graduated from here. As of now Iris lives in Edmonton, Cyril in Rocky Mountain House, and Valerie on the farm south of Maymont.

Bob joined the army on September 3rd, 1939 and served overseas for 7 years in the last war. He also served for 5 years in the First World War. When he returned home in 1945 he started work at the Mental Hospital in North Battleford, and worked there for 15 years. He retired in 1963 and died in April 1964.

Our mode of transportation during my earlier years was by horse and cutter or wagon box. In 1950 we purchased our first car. It was second hand at that, but served the purpose. The homes we rented left a lot to be desired, no insulation, frost on the nailheads on the floor, frozen water pails, etc. We purchased our first home in Maymont in 1948 and I lived there until 1977. I sold my home and moved into one of the Senior Citizens Units where I now reside.

Fifty-three years is a long time to spend in one district, but we have made a lot of good friends here and I will probably spend the rest of my days in my adopted home town. I do miss all my relatives in Ireland. I did visit them in 1966, but one visit in 11 years isn't a very good average. I am both proud and delighted to have 9 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren all residing in Canada.

Edwin Joseph Neumeyer Family

Edwin Joseph Neumeyer, a young musician with the Brandon, Manitoba City Band and Margaret Mary Englisbee, a nurse from Longford, Ireland were married in Brandon on July 10, 1906 and moved directly to Fielding, Saskatchewan.

They settled just north of the railroad tracks on an improved homestead. There they remained until 1917 when they moved to their newly built home about 5 miles north east of Fielding.

In addition to being a hard working farmer, Edwin formed a small orchestra and always found time to play for the entertainment of the young people, both local and the surrounding communities.

As their family grew, so did the activity at the Neumeyer farm — community picnics, horseback riding, tennis, skating on the lake, skiing — but always music for dancing and fun — a treasured memory to all who shared! Each of their eight children received their basic education at the Fielding school.

Their eldest, Marcella Marie travelled to Tacoma, Washington to attend Nurses Training school, met and married Leo A. McGavick, a local attorney. They raised three children. Marcella passed away in 1979.

Joseph married and has one daughter in British Columbia. He spent his last years in Ontario, Canada where he passed away in 1979.

Charles remained on the farm for some years, married and raised five children. Now retired and living in Indio, California where he operated White's Steel & Welding for five years. Charles keeps himself very busy keeping everything in good repair for everybody — 'he can fix anything', but he and Helen

take time for many community activities and oil painting.

James graduated from the University of Saskatchewan Law School, migrated to Los Angeles, California where he entered the insurance business. He married and raised eleven children.

Maureen joined Marcella in Tacoma to finish her high school and then continued ■ ■ Seattle University. She met and married Doctor Harvey Samuel Johnson, a young naval officer, raised six children. They are now enjoying retirement in Lee, New Hampshire.

Margaret chose Vancouver, British Columbia, where she met and married Charles Edward Sanderson and raised eleven children. They are now retired and living in Los Angeles, keep busy travelling the world visiting their children.

Florida joined James in Los Angeles, married Doctor Leo J. Adelstein, neurosurgeon, and raised Doctor's two children. She has kept active in the medical-surgical field and is at present administrator of the Neuro Sciences Institute and serving as an officer in the Women's Auxiliary to the International College of Surgeons. After Doctor Adelstein's death, Florida married Charles Albert White, pioneer of Indio and since his death manages their ranch and business in Indio. Lillian also moved to Los Angeles, married Lawrence Ford, an engineer and raised four children. She entered the banking field and at present is serving as an officer with the California Federal Savings and Loan in Los Angeles.

Edwin and Margaret Neumeyer spent their last years in California near their children who will always treasure and be grateful ■ the memory of life on the farm in Fielding; but most of all Edwin's music and the joy he gave to all who knew him.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Nimilowich

told by Elsie

Ruddell's present postmistress is Elsie Nimilowich. She had a University education and was trained for the post office right here in Ruddell by the former postmaster, Bill Buttrey, who still resides in this fair, quiet village. It is still possible to mail a letter in Ruddell without driving 8 ■ 10 miles to the nearest town to mail one letter. The elderly find it convenient to get their mail in town because some don't have their own vehicle ■ go out just to pick up their mail.

In the spring before coming to Ruddell she married Alex Nimilowich of Mullingar and they both make their home ■ Ruddell. They have one small girl to complete their family.

In 1977, Mrs. Nimilowich's mother, Mrs. McMillan and her son Alvin, moved ■ Ruddell from Saskatoon. Mrs. McMillan lives in the remodelled Mrs. Murison's house. Alvin attends Maymont Central School.

Elsie, Alex and Ann Nimilowich.

Guy Niven

told by Evelyn Bates

Guy Niven was born in Baljennie, lived in Spinney Hill until the family moved to Saskatoon ■ 1947. He attended school there until they moved to Maymont on May 1, 1959. He finished his Grade XII ■ Maymont and worked ■ T.C. Saunders' Store. Then he worked for Power, Potash and finally moved to the Yukon for six years, working for Cassian Asbestos at Clinton Creek, Yukon Territory. While in Maymont he played hockey on the Senior Team after the new rink was built; also played fastball.

A Partial Biography of Allan Nutbrown's Grandparents

by Marjorie Nutbrown

We shall begin with Allan's great-grandparents, Thomas Nutbrown, and his wife, Anne Cotton, who came to Canada ■ the year 1830 from England with their nine children — eight boys and two girls, the youngest girl being born in Canada but she did not live very long. The family arrived in Quebec City and proceeded overland to the sparsely settled areas of St. Sylvestre and Leeds, Magentic County, Quebec.

The children's names were Thomas, John, George,

William, Robert, Elizabeth, Septimus, Henry, Octavuis and little Frances was the one born in Canada and died. They were all born between the years of 1813 and 1830.

Henry who was born in 1823 became Allan's grandfather years later. In the year of 1846 on December 8 he married a girl by the name of Elizabeth Beattie. They lived on a farm on Craig's Road, Province of Quebec. They in turn had six children — John, Henry, Octavuis, William, Elizabeth and Ann, also Thomas George who became Allan's father.

Thomas George was born November 17, 1855 and on May 31, 1892 Olive Agnes Nugent became his wife. They had four sons by this marriage — Charles, Henry, called Harry, Samuel and Allan, all four born between 1893 and 1903.

Allan's father passed away in October of 1931 at the age of seventy-seven years with a heart condition. He had been a hard-working man and was still milking cows and doing chores around the farm yard up to a month before his death. I believe it was in 1954 that Allan's mother passed away. She was in her eighties. Both are buried in Maymont Cemetery. Allan's three brothers have also passed on as have all his first cousins in the Ross family, their mother having been Allan's father's sister Ann.

Allan's father and mother lived on Craig's Road, after they were married, for sixteen years. During that time Allan's father's parents died, then Allan's parents with their four young sons moved to another farm in Lemesurie still in Quebec.

The farms were small, about one hundred acres. On this they made their living by milking cows. They had around sixteen all milked by hand. The milk would be taken every day to the cheese factory a mile away.

They did not grow any grain crops for sale except for a little wheat which they took to the mill for flour. It was soft wheat and made dark bread, the flour was put in bags which had to be kept near the kitchen stove and turned often as it dried. They also bought what they called white flour as well.

They would also keep twenty some sheep. Every spring these were sheared and the wool put in bags until later on when a man would come around either to buy the wool or take it in trade for cloth of different weights whatever the farmer wanted. This man also sold overalls.

Lots of turnips and potatoes were grown. Turnips would be fed to the cows in the winter time after the morning milking was finished. They had good gardens — pumpkins, marrows and cucumbers excelled in size. They also had and grew their own apples and hazel nuts. The nuts too would have to be dried in bags before eating. Having maple trees there was no shortage of maple syrup from which they made their maple sugar. In season there were lots of large wild strawberries, raspberries, pin and choke cherries.

The lady folks made their own soap, butter, bread, and raised some chickens.

They had some beef but mostly pork so had lots of home-made lard for cooking and soap making. Washing was all done with the scrub board in a tub. A lot of sewing was done by hand. Allan's mother was the eldest of a family of twelve children and she learned dressmaking. The Senior Nutbrowns had bought a Williams treadle sewing machine which we still have and which I used the first years I was married. It still sews very well, for all its one hundred and some years old.

The country in which the Nutbrowns lived in Quebec was very rough, rocky, lots of hills and ravines, little brooks, much swamp, and bush, a natural place for lots of birds, some deer, lots of bush rabbits and fox and many rats but not any coyotes. There were some very lengthy and bad thunder storms at times, but they spoke of dry years too with poor hay crops — crops which they depended so much on for the cattle's winter feed. They kept some horses. Plowing was done with a walking plow and still is in many parts which Allan and Alvin saw when they were down East a few years back.

In 1912 the Nutbrowns had a farm sale and sold everything in the East excepting six horses, a sleigh and a buggy which came out on the railroad. Charlie rode on the car with the horses as they had to be attended. Very little from the home in the East was brought West, just an organ, parlor set of three pieces two chairs made without any nails, some beds and quilts and family pictures. Mr. Nutbrown had his violin having played for dances when he was younger. Some dishes came too with the iron cooking pots.

Prior to 1912 Allan's father had come to Maymont where the Reids and the Melroses were already established having come from the same parts in which the Nutbrowns lived in the East, only they came a few years earlier. I expect Allan's dad wanted to see the country for himself. The next year Charlie and Uncle Bill Ross came out. A section of land on 9, Township 41, Range 12, west of the Third Meridian was purchased from Alex McClean which was five and a half miles southeast of Maymont town. Two hundred acres of land had been broken. Allan's Uncle Bill Ross bought land on the south side of the river.

The Nutbrowns arrived in their new country on March 11, 1912. There had been built a small house on the land, with a log barn and log granary, which was made to do until some years later they had a very large house built, also a large barn, a well drilled 224 feet from which they had all the water required. This was pumped up into a cistern by a wind-driven mill and from there hand pumped into a trough for the animals to drink out of and in pails for the house to be used for cooking and drinking. It was nice water but very hard.

The first spring in 1912 they bought a twenty-run Massey Harris seed drill and some oats and wheat seed to sow on their two-hundred acres. They bought a plough, broke up more land, cleared out bush and

trees, picked stones, bought a binder and Mr. Turner did the threshing. . . As the years went on for them as for all other farmers more land was cleared and bought, more and better equipment to farm with, more horses raised, cattle bought and increased, also pigs . . . Harry and Sam were started on farms on their own in the 1920's when they decided ■ get married. Allan and Charlie carried on with their dad on the home farm. This is as much as I know from what Allan had been able to tell me.

Our Married Life In Part

by Marjorie Nuthrown

When Allan and I were married on January 28, 1926 Allan continued living with his parents. Charlie was married ■ year later and had a nice new home to live in. Allan felt he had to stay home ■ do the work for his parents, so he bought himself a quarter of land making three quarters to work on. After six years the big house was divided and I was happy to be able ■ cook and do for ourselves, with our two little sons, Nelson and Ronald.

I planted a nice size garden every year and for all we were then in the drought stricken years of the thirties, the garden growth was always good being protected on one side by bush, and with good soil, not too heavy.

My Dad gave me our first start in chickens, a nice young broody Black Giant hen, with her came thirteen eggs, and three weeks later there were thirteen little chicks. Most of them were pullets and proved good layers and a nice size for eating. In those days many people advertised their roosters for sale or trade in the winter time for breeding purposes. From that time on my chickens increased with the years.

By setting hens I eventually raised over two hundred chicks every spring. We were never without eggs or meat and traded eggs for groceries.

Surprisingly there would be considerable wild fruit in season — saskatoons, raspberries, just a few strawberries, chokecherries and high bush cranberries. We grew our own strawberries, raspberries and small fruit and lots of rhubarb. Preserving time was a busy time, for many years I did up seven hundred quarts in all consisting of bought, and garden fruit, which were made into jams and jellies and preserved whole. These quarts included pickles of many varieties, tomatoes, chicken, beef and fish. Pork would ■ put in brine for a few weeks depending what part, then taken out and dried off, wrapped and stored in the grain to be used when needed. Whitefish and trout were bought from Big River Fisheries and kept frozen outside. What would be left by spring were put in sealers. Vinegar was put in the sealers with the fish to soften the bones.

Before the Radisson Flour Mill burned down Allan and those before him took ■ wagon load of wheat to the mill where it was ground and made into flour. You could buy shorts and bran, too, to feed the pigs. Mixed with milk they had the best of feed. That was what my father fed his few pigs. Nuthrowns had a grain chopper for grinding the different grains for the pigs and the cattle. It was called chop after being ground up.

By 1947 we had seven children, six boys and a girl, including twin boys. Most mothers did not go to the hospital when their children were born. I never did. Dr. Scratch was still the attending doctor and with good midwives we managed. My only other doctor at the time Marilyn was born was Dr. Merrifield. He substituted for Dr. Scratch while he had a well-earned holiday.

Our children all attended Calais School until they were ready for High School. When that time came they went to Maymont School. That was quite a long drive in the winter because it was five and one-half miles over some pretty rough roads, in some very bad weather. There were no car roads in those days in the country. Several of the school teachers boarded at our home which was very nice for us too as they brought new interests. There was a Miss Jean Downey, Miss Heather, Miss Plunket, Miss Prentice, Mrs. Brady, Marvin Hodgins, a Mr. Belick, Miss Saunders, Miss McGaffin, Miss Brownell, Miss Matthies and Miss Leask.

Our family are grown up now and married with homes of their own. I will put in ■ few lines hoping some of them will be able to carry on from there, but being young men now it is not very likely they will write up something for themselves. They may leave it to their wives as their dad has done. It would be nice if the men would write their part. How can we know what they might have to contribute — more than we can say.

As you know we haven't Nelson our eldest son any more as he lost his life at the age of forty-seven years in a dreadful cave-in accident on a farm in the Unwin District near Marsden, Saskatchewan on September 10, 1973. Nelson was a Backhoe Contractor, a member of the Lonach Lodge No. 182 at Marsden where they lived. He was also a member of the Neilburg Flying Club and owned his own plane. Sometimes he went out on mercy flights.

When he left the farm at Maymont he was nineteen years of age and went out to Vancouver where his friend Paul Reinhardt lived. He had work in the shingle mills out there for awhile, but it was pretty rough so he went into the watch repair business. While out there he married his girl friend, Helen Sherman, on December 4, 1947. Nelson still had farm life ■ his blood which brought them back to Maymont where he bought the Sowden farm just east of Maymont. Some years later they moved to Marsden after selling the farm where he continued the backhoe work which he began on the farm. They had three children Cambell, Richard and Deborah.

Ronald came next on October 27, 1929. Ron and Elaine Gray were married on December 28, 1955. Ron

has worked in and for the University Hospital in Saskatoon since the hospital's beginning twenty-five years ago. He is now manager of the laundry for the University Hospital. Ron and Elaine have a son and daughter, Allan and Shelley. I will leave them to write anything further.

Brenton our third son was born August 18, 1932. He was married to Ruby Mitchell on April 5, 1956. She was a girl from Fort St. John. They met in the Air Force. Brenton was in the Air Force for many years. After he left there they moved to Dawson Creek and from there to Whitehorse in the Yukon to continue his work as Trailer Maintenance man until he had the misfortune to freeze both his feet which necessitated amputation of both feet, followed shortly by both legs just below the knees. He has had considerable difficulties with the artificial limbs but given time his walking will become easier for him. Only two years have gone by since this tragedy happened. They have three children — Maureen, Cheryl and Tom.

Marilyn, our daughter, whose husband is James Reid celebrate their wedding year of July 26, 1955. They have three daughters: Cindy, Zayne and Tess, also a son, Steven. I shall leave the rest for her to write.

The twins, Alvin and Earl, were born on May 8, 1940. Earl and Velda Cochrin were married in March, 1963. Alvin married her sister, Irene, in May, 1964. Alvin's marriage came to a sad end with a divorce in 1972, however, he remarried this time to Megan Foster in 1977. Alvin and Irene had two little girls, Roxanne and Dawn. Earl and Velda have four children: Wanda, Gerry, Linda and Timothy. Earl lives in Neilburg where he does plumbing, etc. Alvin and Garry live in Marsden where they carry on the backhoe work since Nelson's death.

Garry our last child was born on his brother Nelson's birthday twenty-one years later to the hour on November 18, 1947. He and Mary Jones from Marsden were married in November, 1971. They have three children — daughter, Jackie, and sons, Christopher and Michael.

We must go back in memory to the days of our early childhood and to those of our children, but first I must say that I still have the baby cradle that my dad traded his English night shirts for to a farmer by the name of Mr. Knowles. A Mr. Wilmot had made it from wood and willows gathered from the river banks. This little cradle was 36" long, 20" wide and 10" deep. It stands on legs with rockers underneath. The top and bottom ends are hooped. There were no springs just a nice feather tick and feather pillow, with flannelette blankets and a feather comforter, it made a very cozy little bed for we children and our own years later.

When old enough to sit up and play in the carriage or whatever, their play toys in our home were such things as clothes pegs, saucepan lids or pie plates, rattles and a ball. Later for the little girls dolls and dishes, picture books, crayons. The coloring book were often Eaton's catalogues. The little boys had farms with sticks and bricks and little toy animals. In the summertime their farming was done in the bush. Some old iron would be dragged around to make their roads, etc. Machinery was made in the only way they knew how, but they had fun.

Outside in the summertime the little girls had play houses in the trees with mud and water and berries. Saskatoons and rose hips made their mud pies. Cakes had red sand for icing sugar. Tin cans were their dishes with the odd cracked dish from Mom's kitchen. Their dolls would be the children in their family.

As they grew older there were the farm chores to help with, bringing in milk cows, pumping water, helping to milk and run the hand-turned cream separator, feed the calves, and pigs, help some in the garden. The pre-schoolers could always help with the picking up sticks for Mom to light the fire with in the morning and to store for the same in winter, as well as haul over small toy wagon loads of wood for the inside wood box. There was always something that each could do. When radios came on the scene they all enjoyed listening to the children's programs.

We had some ministers come to Calais School Sunday afternoons — Reverend Saunders and Reverend Cousins. Our children all had Sunday School lessons by mail, and evening prayers at bedtime. We also attended the United Church in Maymont for a number of years. Reverend Myers took the services at that time.

Dear me, as I sit and type these pages it almost seems those times never were and yet one almost feels the people mentioned were living it over again. We are now living in such vastly advance time with almost every comfort. Even so we were happy then with what we had. We knew no different, and never expeced we ever would have the city conveniences with electric lights and running water.

I do remember my sister Dorothy and I visiting our grandparents in Saskatoon when the waterman came around once a week with horses on a large water tank. He would fill a large barrel in the kitchen which was used for everything, drinking as well. The grocery man drove around taking grocery orders to be delivered later. The butcher, the baker, the milkman, and farm women called too with their eggs and poultry to sell.

No inside toilets then in the city, just little houses at the bottom of each lot. No holes underneath, they had a board floor and once a week very early in the morning a man would drive around and lift a trap door and clean these places out. In the country a hole would be dug underneath and when filled up, another hole would be dug and the outhouse moved over. The earth from it covering the first one, quite sanitary. A nice private place any other time than winter time. Then it would be too cold to stay and read the old papers or look at the catalogue.

In the early days of our marriage, and before, the

men worked the land with horses, some with oxen. When we were married they had two or three outfits of horses. Allan had two outfits, after Charlie left, to work with so he had hired men until Nelson was old enough and by that time Allan bought his first tractor, a Massey Harris. I was very thankful to see that tractor come into the yard as I always felt so sorry for the horses and the men. Long days were put in sitting on those hard iron seats of the different implements, and many weary miles the horses went over.

Going back to the years in the thirties, the field crops were very poor everywhere. From one year to the next the farmer's hopes never died and with each spring with renewed hope the land was prepared and the seed sown. With almost every new day the winds never seemed to go down until sunset. The dust would be so thick in the air that often it obscured the sun. I have had to light the lamps sometimes in the afternoons and often during the day little piles of dirt heaped up under the doors and windows. Our houses simply dried out. There were many bush fires too. When we didn't have dust it was smoke so thick at times that the sun or moon just looked like a red ball. We do not see this anymore, thanks be.

Feed for the cattle became less and less. The pastures dried up as did the water in the sloughs. Prices for livestock became practically nothing. The Nutbrowns had theirs pastured out in the north country where there was supposed to be more and better feed. After leasing them out for those years there was very little left to go back for. What there were, were very poor and skinny. Allan had kept a few milk cows back for our own use. Feed being so scarce they would go over the other side of the river and bring back loads of Russian thistle. At least it kept the cows alive and we had our milk, cream and butter and sold some cream to the creamery in Lloydminster at that time.

Allan had many nice cattle in later years after the rains came. He also had many losses as the years went on. Some were taken from the pasture with their calves which he tried in vain to trace. Others met their fate in the dugout and the river. Another time seven heifers went into a muddy ravine in the pasture and died because they couldn't get out. That was a sad sight. Lightning also took its toll. That was the way it was. Finally Allan gave up and sold them all except one that was to be our milk cow. A few days after the rest had gone, this young cow was found dying with froth and blood coming from her mouth. We wondered what happened but never found out. Really one must never give up hoping.

With the coming of the sixties more rains came. Farmers had many successful years with better crops, better prices, and were able to renovate and paint their buildings, and buy more and better equipment making farming easier.

This also meant more conveniences in the home with running water and electric appliances. Allan's health began to break down in 1970 but he never gave up until 1973 when we had a farm sale and sold the farm to Dick Clayton. Marilyn thought it better that we move to Mannville, Alberta. She was nursing in the hospital there and there were two doctors and a pharmacy. For us it seemed the sensible move to make and which has been greatly to her dad's benefit. We have a very comfortable home here, good friends and neighbors, good garden, grounds and lawn. The town's population is seven hundred. There are stores to supply every need, five churches, large Agriplex, very large school, five elevators in a good farming district. It lies one hundred miles slightly southeast of Edmonton, fifty miles northwest of Lloydminster and fourteen miles west of Vermilion. The hospital is new and the doctors are good. So far so good.

Nelson Nutbrown Story

told by Helen Nutbrown

On the farm South of Maymont, Saskatchewan, on November 18, 1926, Nelson Herbert Nutbrown was born. He was the eldest of Allan and Marjorie Nutbrown's seven children.

I was born in June, 1929 on a farm south west of

Nelson and Helen Nutbrown, Deborah, Cam, Rick and Shannon.

Nelson Nutbrown getting ready to fly.

Fielding, Saskatchewan. Annie and Charles Sherman had eight children of whom I was the youngest.

We received our early schooling in a one room school. One teacher taught all the subjects to all the grades. The "Social High Light" of the year was the Christmas Concert. All the children worked very hard ■ memorize their part for a play, a recitation and of course, Christmas carols. The Christmas carol singing would be no easier for Nelson than it was for me because neither one of us could "carry a tune in a basket." The desperate teacher must have had a hard time getting enough pupils capable of doing all the items that she wanted on her program because on two different occasions she had Nelson and me singing duets. I think the names of them were "Sunbonnet Sally and Overall Jim" and "My Sailor Boy". I only remember one part of the song where My Sailor Boy says, "What is your fortune, my Pretty Maid?" She answers, "My face is my fortune, my sailor boy." His reply is "Then I can't marry you, my Pretty Maid." The Pretty Maid becomes very indignant, stamps her foot with all her might and says, "Nobody asked you to, My Sailor Boy." It was about ten years later on December fourth, 1948 that we were married in Vancouver, B.C.

Classes were not the only activity that went on in the one room school ■ the 1930's. When the weather and roads permitted, a preacher held church on the Sundays. Several Saturday nights in the winter saw the school jumping with dancing. Nelson had the honor of having his Uncle Harry Nutbrown teach him to dance while he was still a young boy. Nelson always told it this way, — "He lifted me up off the floor and hitched me over the top of his big huge stomach and away we went. My feet didn't touch the floor again till the dance was over." That would be some dance lesson. What fun it must have been to be riding so high while Nelson was so small.

Nelson moved from his parents' farm in the fall of 1945 to Vancouver. My mother, Mrs. Annie Sherman, had already moved some of her family to Vancouver in 1939 after she had been widowed in 1935. As we had been neighbours of Nelson's family in Saskatchewan, he looked us up when he arrived in Vancouver. Nelson became an apprentice watchmaker while in Vancouver.

Living in a large city was not the sort of life style Nelson wanted, so in the spring of 1949 ■ tried to persuade me to try our luck at farming. I had been only ten years old when I left the farm. I had actually grown up in the city and had become very fond of it. I had learned my housekeeping skills with running water, sewer, and electricity at my fingertips. Could anyone go ■ a farm and make a home without these things when they had been used to them? I knew that Nelson liked the friendly prairie people so I felt I should move for his sake.

It was at Easter time that Nelson and I gave up our small city apartment and drove by car to Saskatchewan. My brother, Rudolph, and his wife and their two young sons were returning to their farm at that time, so we were able to ride with them.

I had forgotten how cold the prairie wind could ■ in the spring. I did remember that the "dry thirties" had killed some of the trees and bushes, but all the trees seemed ■ be dead. I looked and looked for some that had life to them but I just didn't see any leaves on any of them. I remarked to Muriel that it was such a pity that all the trees had been killed in the dry years. She kindly explained ■ me that they were not dead, they were still not green yet after the long winter months. We had left the green of the evergreens and the blue of the mountains, sky and ocean for the grey of the prairies. My nephews, being the good travelling companions that they were, tried to cheer me with their jokes and stories.

After some time we were able to locate rentable farm land near Nelson's family home.

Our first child, Deborah Anne was born on September twenty-eighth, 1949. When she was twenty months old we discovered she was a diabetic. For this reason we felt we should be closer to an all weather highway so we would have easier access to the hospital. We were able to buy a farm beside the town of Maymont. This farm had a comfortable home that had the ultimate of all luxuries, electric lights. After being without power for so many months I was truly happy to have it once again.

Nelson had always been a friendly, outgoing person, so once again he could enjoy the company of his relations and friends. He was also able to make new friends as we were so close to town.

The crops near Maymont in the fifties were not as good as they should have been. The year of the "rust" we had three bushels of wheat to the acre. Some people had less and were plowing their crops under. We were fortunate that Nelson had a diesel tractor so he could harvest the crop more economically. However, after we made our land and machinery payments, we didn't have anything left for our growing family. It was certainly not an ideal situation for someone who was just starting to farm. It was even hard on people who had been farming for some time or those who had taken over the family farm.

■ the meantime, Nelson became interested in trenching and the installation of water and sewer lines. He had a friend who was interested in this work also. They decided to buy a backhoe and other equipment needed for construction work. They were fortunate to get the government contract to install water and sewer lines for farmers in the Lashburn area. This sometimes took Nelson into the Marsden area as well.

Nelson became more and more interested ■ the people and the beautiful country around Marsden. The people were kind and friendly and this appealed to Nelson's amiable nature.

The first few summers the children and I stayed in Maymont. Nelson and his men went ■ Lashburn after

seeding was done in the spring. The rest of the farming operations were coinciding with his construction work. Nelson realized that a decision had to be made between farming and his business. It was not really a difficult decision for him to make as he was happy with the work he was doing and he enjoyed being with people. The farm never did pay as it should have so he wanted to leave it. I decided his decision was the right one when we were driving through the picturesque Marsden country. Nelson told me that this was the part of the country he loved and he wanted me to like it too. The trees and rolling hills were very beautiful so I couldn't help but like it. I was content that Nelson had found his place and work in life.

It was after the beginning of June 1962 that we made our decision to move immediately rather than wait till the next year. Nelson and his partner divided the equipment between them and each one went his own way.

As we were unable to find a house in Marsden we had to take one in Neilburg for a few months. While we lived in Neilburg we bought a house and moved it into Marsden. I went to the house everyday that I could and painted, papered and put down floor coverings. On December fourth, 1962, our fourteenth Wedding Anniversary, we moved to our home in Marsden. The children changed schools at Christmas time.

We didn't have to wait long for the water and sewer lines to come to Marsden. I think everyone felt the same thrill that I did when we were able to turn on our taps. It was years since I was able to do that so I was indeed pleased.

The installation of water and sewer lines on the farms was one of the things that revolutionized the farms for all the people on them. Nelson felt his job was a rewarding one because everyone was so pleased to have running water. His customers became his friends and he always enjoyed himself with them.

Ever since Nelson was a small boy he wanted to fly. When the Neilburg-Marsden area started a flying club and offered flying lessons, Nelson was one of the first to sign up for them. He finished his lessons, passed his medical with "flying colors" and received his pilot's license. This inspired our son Cam and he started flying with his father when he was of age. Rick, our youngest son, thought it might be a good idea to learn to fly so he could get home quickly from his hockey and ball games.

Nelson also liked books and records that had a lot of human interest to them. He liked to let others enjoy them too. In the hot summer he liked to sit in a cool downstairs room and listen to his records. If his friends came to see him, they had the pleasure of joining him in his downstairs retreat.

In the spring of 1973, I decided for the family that the outside of the house needed painting. It became a family project with everyone spending all the spare time they could on it. When September came and we still weren't finished with the painting of the house, Nelson felt we must rush the job in order to be finished before the first snowfall.

Nelson was on the truck box reaching as high as he could with his brush, with paint from his full pail running down the front of his clothes. The boys, their friends and I being very helpful, stood around and laughed at him. When people we knew drove by, they saw us at work and came into our yard to give us words of encouragement or advice. I had such a hard time trying to get anyone to take over my paint brush. However, one friend became brave enough to try after I put on my "Tom Sawyer" act. We had had many such "fun days" in the past, but this was the last we were to have with Nelson.

The next day on September tenth, 1973, Cam and Nelson had moved the digger to a new job. Nelson had several things he wished to see to, so he left Cam capably digging while he came to town. He stopped at home to let me know what he was going to do. I reminded Nelson of his Mason meeting in the evening and told him that I would have an early supper ready when he wanted it. Nelson went to several business places and talked with many of his friends. He also went to Neilburg and then arrived back at the job in time to install the new material. Cam had just finished the new trench which joined an old trench and was about to help his dad by getting material from the truck. Cam heard a rumble and turned to see that the old trench had caved in on top of his father. He quickly started the digger and dug beside where he knew his dad was. When he got close to him, Cam was wise enough to dig with his hands. Cam's quick thinking and fast work had Nelson out of the trench in moments but it was too late. The nurse who lived on the farm and the ambulance attendants were unable to help Nelson. The coroner told me that the boulder-like material of the old trench was very damaging and did its work too quickly. He also said the old trench had been weakened by rain that we had had several days before.

When I was told what happened I was like many other people I talked to, I found it very hard to believe. Nelson had always been so careful with his machines and trenches. He understood the soil well enough to know what would cave in and what wouldn't. We all knew that if Nelson thought the first trench was weak he never would have gone near it and neither would his son. Nelson loved family, friends and life as they loved him but God had something better for him to do.

The children and I stayed in Marsden for over a year, but I found I had to sell our digger and make my own living. We moved to Saskatoon in November, 1974, where I turned my home into a children's day care centre. This was not an ideal situation but I was able to stay home with our youngest daugher, Shannon. After she experienced the loss of her father I felt this was important.

After I had been a widow for a year and a half, I was able to gain control of my life.

I met my present husband in Saskatoon and he

helped me accept life without Nelson. We were married on August 17, 1975 in the presence of our families and a few close friends. The older children were working away from home so Shannon was the only one left with me to move to Bev's home in Kindersley. My husband, Beverley Murdoch is a farmer in this area.

Our daughter Deborah is married and living in Lloydminster, Alberta. She has two lovely children, a boy Dean and a girl Crystal.

Campbell Nelson is working in Lloydminster and living in Marsden. His interests are still flying and hiking.

Richard Allan also works in Lloydminster after taking a Water Science course in Saskatoon. He lives in Marsden and plays hockey and ball with his friends.

Shannon Michele Ruby still goes to school here in Kindersley. She has many interests.

Although Nelson Nutbrown is no longer with us and we have started a new life, his infuence and memory remains with each of us.

Charles and Mary Nutbrown

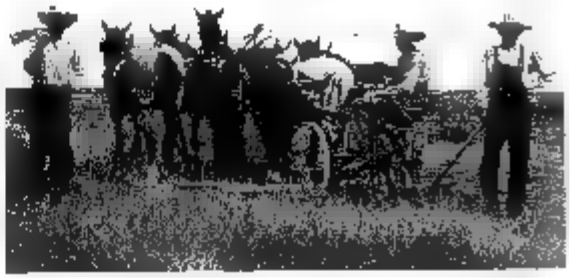
Charles Nutbrown grew up on a farm near Leeds Village in the Eastern township in the province of Quebec.

In the spring of 1911, as a young man he came west to Maymont where friends and an uncle lived. He worked on a farm during the year and liked what he saw. He found land for sale, Section 9-41-12 W3rd. He went back to Quebec and in the early spring of 1912 the Thomas George Nutbrown family had a sale to dispose of those items not required in the west and which could not be shipped with the car load of settler's effects. Charlie rode in that car to care for the animals and I know if he were living, would have interesting stories to relate. His father Thomas, mother Agnes and three brothers Harry, Sam and Allan arrived about the same time by train.

Early in March, 1925 Mary Miller arrived in the district to teach Calais School No. 3554. Trustees were T. G. Nutbrown, George Sloan, W. Hill, chairman of the board and Frank Collins — secretary. It was a small rural one room school with double desks and a pot belly stove for heat. There were twenty-seven pupils and grades one to seven inclusive. Their teacher was born at Centre Point, Indiana, U.S.A. and emigrated with her parents to Saskatchewan, Canada arriving on March 8, 1911. Her father homesteaded sixteen miles east of Hanley. In 1912 she and a brother drove with horse and buggy seven miles to school for 2 months. In 1913 their new school was built and opened for two months. Completing public school she continued her education at the Hanley High School; the Saskatoon Nutana Collegiate and the Saskatoon Normal School.

February, 1927 Charles Nutbrown and Mary Miller were married in Kenaston, Sask. and took up residence four miles from Maymont on the NW ¼ section 9-41-12 W3rd. In the fall of 1926 Charles had drilled a well nearly 200 feet deep and was rewarded with an ample supply of good drinking water. He built a house and barn that same year. He built up a herd of good Shorthorn cattle, fed his cattle well and enjoyed seeing them well finished. The dry years came and in 1932 some cattle were let out on shares to a farmer at Spruce Lake. At this time the Quaker Oats Co. was selling "Nim" feed. This was ground oat hulls with a percentage of oat shorts and middlings which come off the product when they are milling rolled oats. Russian thistle grew when nothing else would and that was used for feed. Grain and hay were shipped in and sold to farmers.

Charles and Mary Nutbrown — 1953.



The Nutbrowns breaking sod with a sulky plow, 1912. Sam on plow seat, Charlie standing beside him, Tom Nutbrown Sr. standing with the grub hoe.

In the spring of 1940 we received through the P.F.R.A. 1,375 trees to be planted for a shelter belt. It was still quite dry and they had to be watered. Some did not survive, but many did.

Two daughters — Lillian and Muriel; and a son Murvel were born in our home on the farm with Dr. Scratch in attendance.

Dugouts were being dug to store surface water on the farm and ours became a reality in the fall of 1945. The power line was built through Maymont and by 1952

we had electricity. Water and sewer were installed in 1967.

Charlie has served on the telephone committee, the Calais School Board and was keenly interested in the Sask. Wheat Pool — he served on that committee many years. We were members of the Anglican Church.

Mary served on the Calais School Board and became a life member of S.W.I. We enjoyed company and neighbors. Entertainment during the years were Chautauqua, concerts, dances and picnics.

Charlie loved the soil and spent the ■ years he was resident in the district on the farm. He passed away in January, 1972. Mary now resides in an apartment in Saskatoon. She enjoys travelling, concerts, S.W.I. church, and visiting with family and friends.

The Sam Nutbrown Story

by Bethene Long

My father, Sam Nutbrown, came to the Maymont District ■ 1912, from near Sherbrooke, Quebec, with his father and mother and three brothers. They had purchased a section of land the year before, located three miles south and one mile east of Maymont. My mother came with her parents and family about the same time, coming from Hebron, Nebraska. They farmed three miles south and two miles east of Maymont, for a time, then moved west of Maymont three miles. My parents married in 1915 and Dad had his farm three miles west of Maymont. There were nine of us in the family.

Bethene (myself), Dora, Kenneth, Norma, Eddie, Della, Helen, Don and Larry. The five older members of the family started school at Montro and the younger members at Calais and Fielding. My father served in the Air Force Transport Division from 1943-1945 spending this time at Macdonald, Manitoba. During this time the family lived at Fielding.

After the war Dad and Mother and Larry moved ■ Marshall and took up a farm under the V.L.A. The others in the family by this time were working in other areas. In 1959 they sold this farm to Jack Gollan and retired ■ the Coast at Burnaby near my brothers there. My mother passed away in March of 1965 and my father fourteen years later ■ March, 1979.

The family are very scattered now and live — myself (Mrs. Ivor Long) at Lloydminster, Sask. I have two children. Dora (Mrs. Donald Shelton) at Victoria, B.C. She has four children. Kenneth (married to Cervia Bragg) at Burnaby, B.C. He has five children. He passed away in August 1972 at age 51. Norma (Mrs. Roger Gee) at The Pas, Manitoba has three children. Eddie now living at Surrey, B.C. has two children. Della (Mrs. Tom Scott) at Flin Flon, Manitoba has six children. Helen (Mrs. Joe Noyes) at Taber, Alberta has four children. Don, living at Richmond, B.C. has three children and Larry living at Lloydminster, Saskatchewan has five children.

The Pains

Harold Pain, oldest grandson of William G. Dow took over the Dow farm in 1939.

A brief history of Harold, born at Vonda, Saskatchewan ■ February, 1912, the oldest son of Thomas and Marion Pain. He took his public and high school at Vonda, then went to McGill university at Montreal in 1929, hoping to become a civil engineer. Due to the great depression, could not continue so returned to the farm ■ 1931.

In 1929 his dad purchased a half section of school land, raw prairie, paid 20% down and turned it over to Harold and his brother Gerrie, who broke ninety acres that same year. 1930 was a very dry year, resulting ■ only six hundred bushels of wheat being taken off. They continued farming the land until 1933 and then gave ■ up. There was no crop in 1932 so they sold what wheat there was for nineteen cents a bushel.

In the fall of 1933, Harold arrived at Lilac and worked for Bill Agar with a wage of ten dollars a month, a far cry from the present wage. He also worked for John Swan and David Alexander over the years.

In 1937, Harold's father died in an accident and he returned to Vonda to help his brother and mother. The first crop in that year was one hundred ninety acres of wheat, threshed sixty-two bushels.

In 1939, Harold moved back to Lilac and took over the Dow farm. The only building on the farm was the house. The first thing to do was to build a barn for the horses.

Harold remained a bachelor until October 21, 1945 when he married Mary Prescesky. They raised a family of three children. Tom born ■ 1948, Harvey in 1950 and Dianne ■ 1955. They attended school in Lilac and high school in Maymont.

Harold and Mary and their family were active in the community. Harold was a warden for St. Mary's Anglican Church, school trustee for seventeen years, worked at the curling rink, a director on the Rural Ruddell Telephone Company for twenty years and on the Lilac Wheat Pool Committee for thirty years. Mary was also a member of the Lilac Ladies Guild for many years and also a member of the Ruddell Homemakers when they organized in 1946. Tom, Harvey and Dianne were very active in 4-H with the beef club being the main project.

Tom, Cheryl and son Stephen live in Battleford. Patrick, Dianne and daughter Stacey Becotte in North Battleford.

In the fall of 1978, the Pains moved to their new home in North Battleford. Harvey and his wife Beverely and son Adam moved on the farm. Harvey is the fourth generation of the descendants of the Dows to live in the same house on the farm. Maybe Adam could be the fifth.

Mr. and Mrs. William Parent

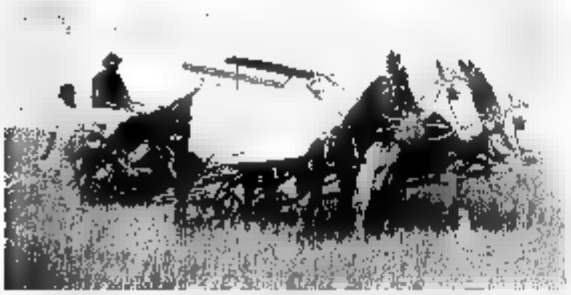
by Edna (Parent) Rowley

William (Bill) Parent was born in Range, Wisconsin, June 2, 1881. His wife, Jennie (Sauvie) Parent was born in Quebec, Canada, February 18, 1882. They were married in Conway, North Dakota, 1902.

Three children were born in North Dakota: Walter Leo, William Eugene, and Edna Catherine.

They moved to their homestead at Medicine Lake, Montana, where they broke land and farmed. During this time there were many hardships, such as using cow chips in stoves for heating and cooking. Coal was hauled for winter fuel from the mines, twenty-five miles away. Drinking water was hauled from pot holes and boiled for use. There were few neighbours but they helped one another.

Jennie and William Parent.



Bill Parent and Frank Fricholtz — Medicine Lake, Montana, 1910.

Five children were born in Medicine Lake from 1908 to 1917: Mabel Anna, Guy Arthur, Marie Agnes, Lucille Martha and Vivianne Margaret. Jennie, being a trained seamstress, did all the sewing for the family, using (dyed) sugar and flour bags for much of the material. There were good times as well as bad. Neighbours got together for house parties, with music and dancing. William played the violin and Jennie the organ.

The family were always afraid of cyclones, which came up unexpectedly. They took shelter in the cellar.

William and Jennie and family of eight immigrated to Saskatchewan, Canada, in February, 1918, arriving in Denholm, Saskatchewan, where there was no hotel. A kind family in Denholm put them up for the night. Next day, they travelled to Richard, Saskatchewan, by train staying in the hotel there for a week while waiting for their cattle, horses, machinery and household effects to arrive.

All nieces and nephews of Bill Parent.

William Parent family. (l-r) Back — Eugene, Edna, Mabel, Guy, Marie, Lucille, Vivianne. Front — Bertrand, Jennie (mother), William (father), Yvette, Harvey (missing — Walter Parent).

They moved to the W. J. Davis farm, one and a quarter miles north of Lilac Village. Here was born Harvey Lawrence. The children walked three and one-half miles to school in summer and drove by team and bob sled in winter. They sold the farm there and moved to the Sam Semple Ranch (near Goose Lake) where they stayed till 1926. Barney was the school pony, having faithfully served three families in this way. He was terrified of cars, rearing up and breaking shafts often.

They stayed until 1926, moving then to Vermilion, Alberta for one year and back to the Semple Ranch were Bertrand Lloyd (died in infancy) Yvette Marguerete, Bertrand Joseph, and Edith Rose (died in infancy) were born. They moved to J. Sharpe farm, (N½ 16-43-13-W3rd) four miles north of Lilac, where a home was built and they farmed there till 1946. They retired to North Battleford.

In 1956, a niece of Bill Parent celebrated her Silver Jubilee as a religious nun. Her name was Sister Fabiole. At her Jubilee were ten priests and eighteen other Sisters all of whom were nephews and nieces of Bill Parent and cousins to the Parent children. All of the twenty-nine were serving in Canada or the United States.

William Parent passed away in 1948. Jennie Parent, now ninety-seven years of age (1979) resides in River Heights Lodge, North Battleford, since 1970.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. William Parent:

Walter Parent, eldest of the family, passed away in February, 1979. He was married to Frieda Holmes. They had two sons.

William Eugene, married to Leona Burgerion; 7 children.

Edna Catherine, married to Les Rowley, Battleford; 3 children.

Mabel Anna Clifford, a widow in North Battleford; 2 children.

Guy Arthur, married Kay Nanson, North Battleford; 4 children.

Marie Agnes, married Wert Reid, North Battleford; 4 children.

Lucille Martha, married Bob Wright, then Glen Nelson; 8 children.

Vivianne Margaret, married Gordon Ranger, North Battleford; 4 children.

Harvey Lawrence, married Jean Degenstein, Stettler, Alta.; 3 children.

Bertrand Lloyd, died in infancy.

Yvette Marguerete, married Jim Barbour, Winnipeg, Manitoba; 4 children.

Edith Rose, died in infancy.

Bertrand Joseph, married Jean Radchuk, North Battleford; 2 children.

William and Jennie Parent: 13 children (2 died in infancy), 41 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren, 2 great-great-grandchildren.

The William G. Parker Family

In 1904 a covered wagon arrived bringing a family to their homestead on the Southwest quarter of Section 18, Township 42, Range 12 in what was the North West Territories.

William Parker family — early 1900's. Standing — Olive, Percy, Eva. Seated — William Parker, Laura, Elizabeth Parker.

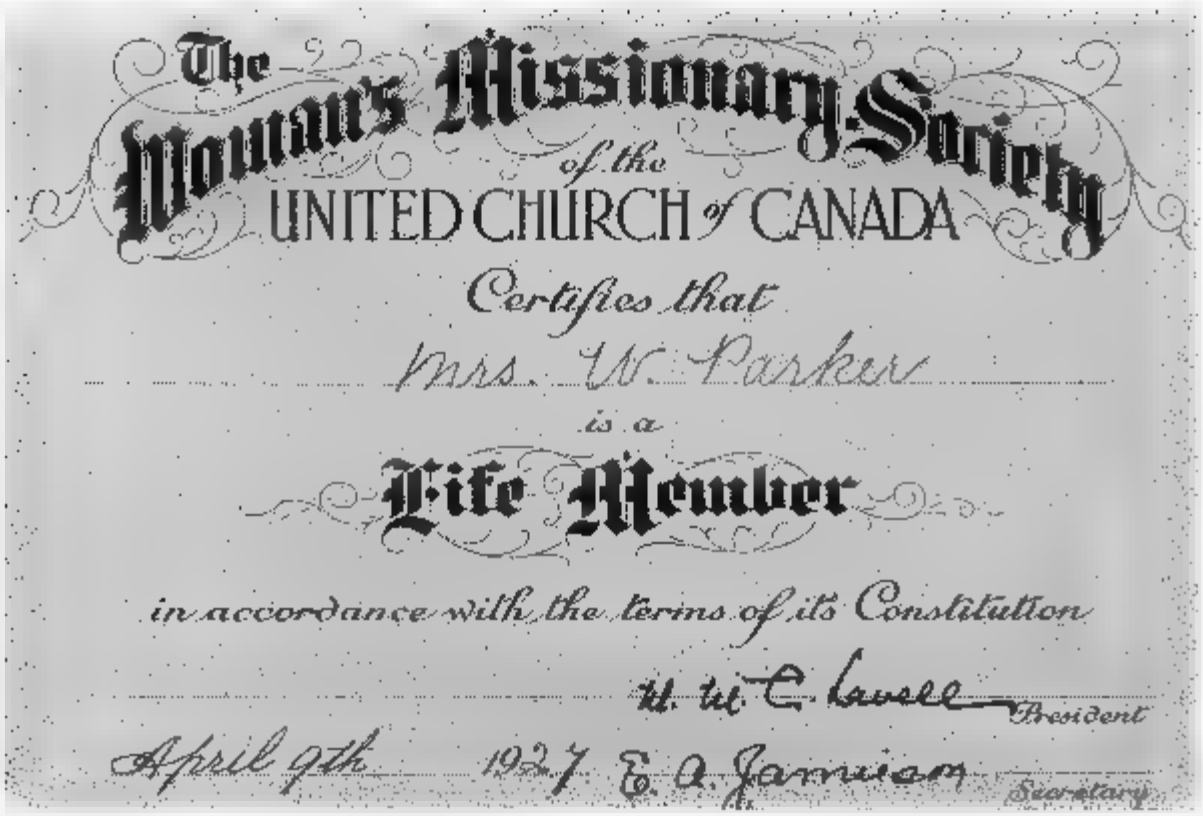
This was the family of William Gibson Parker, born in Durham County, England in February, 1871, and his wife Elizabeth Duncan (Hird) Parker, born in Arbroath, Scotland in February, 1861, and their four children, ten year old Percy Valentine, eight year old Mary Olive, Millicent Francis Eva six years old, and Laura Elizabeth four years.

Bill and Lizzie Parker came first to Manitoba from the old country. Here their four children were born, Percy in Winnipeg and girls at Rosendale. Bill's brother Jack Parker had come out in 1902 and at that time one could obtain a homestead by proxy, so Jack filed for a homestead for Bill and in 1904 it was to this 160 acres of virgin soil the family came. They came as far as Saskatoon by rail, but since the railroad had not come any further as yet they made the rest of the trip by horse and wagon.

There was no home of any kind for them to come to so they stayed in a little sod shack owned by Mr. Billie Dawson who's homestead was kitty-corner to theirs. Billie Dawson had been away fighting in the Boer War and was then working on the railroad to get himself established. This was their home until Bill Parker built a small log house. A frame addition was later added making a more comfortable home.

Some of the people here when the Parker family first came were Mr. William Andrew, Sr., Mr. Madill who was a Presbyterian minister, and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Williams.

In 1905 three important events took place which


The Woman's Missionary Society
of the
UNITED CHURCH of CANADA
Certifies that
Mrs. W. Parker
is a
Life Member
in accordance with the terms of its Constitution
W. W. C. Lawrie President
April 9th 1927 E. A. Jamieson Secretary

Life Membership in W.M.S.

were to shape the future of these brave people. First, the railroad went through the area, and their daughter Eva many years later, recalled how people came for miles just to see the first train go through! What a wonderful link to the outside world for these early pioneers. Secondly, the Provinces of Saskatchewan came into being and thirdly, a school district was formed. There was a growing population in the area and the people decided they should have a school, so in 1905 the Grey School District No. 1356 was founded. Bill Parker donated two acres of this homestead quarter to the district for a school and schoolyard. On November 1st, of that year Grey School opened with Miss Annie Arkley (Mrs. A. C. Brehon) as teacher. Laura Parker started school when she was five years old as to make up enough pupils enrolled ■ open the school. The first school board consisted of Mr. Bill Parker, who was also Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. William Andrew, and Mr. J. R. Rogers.

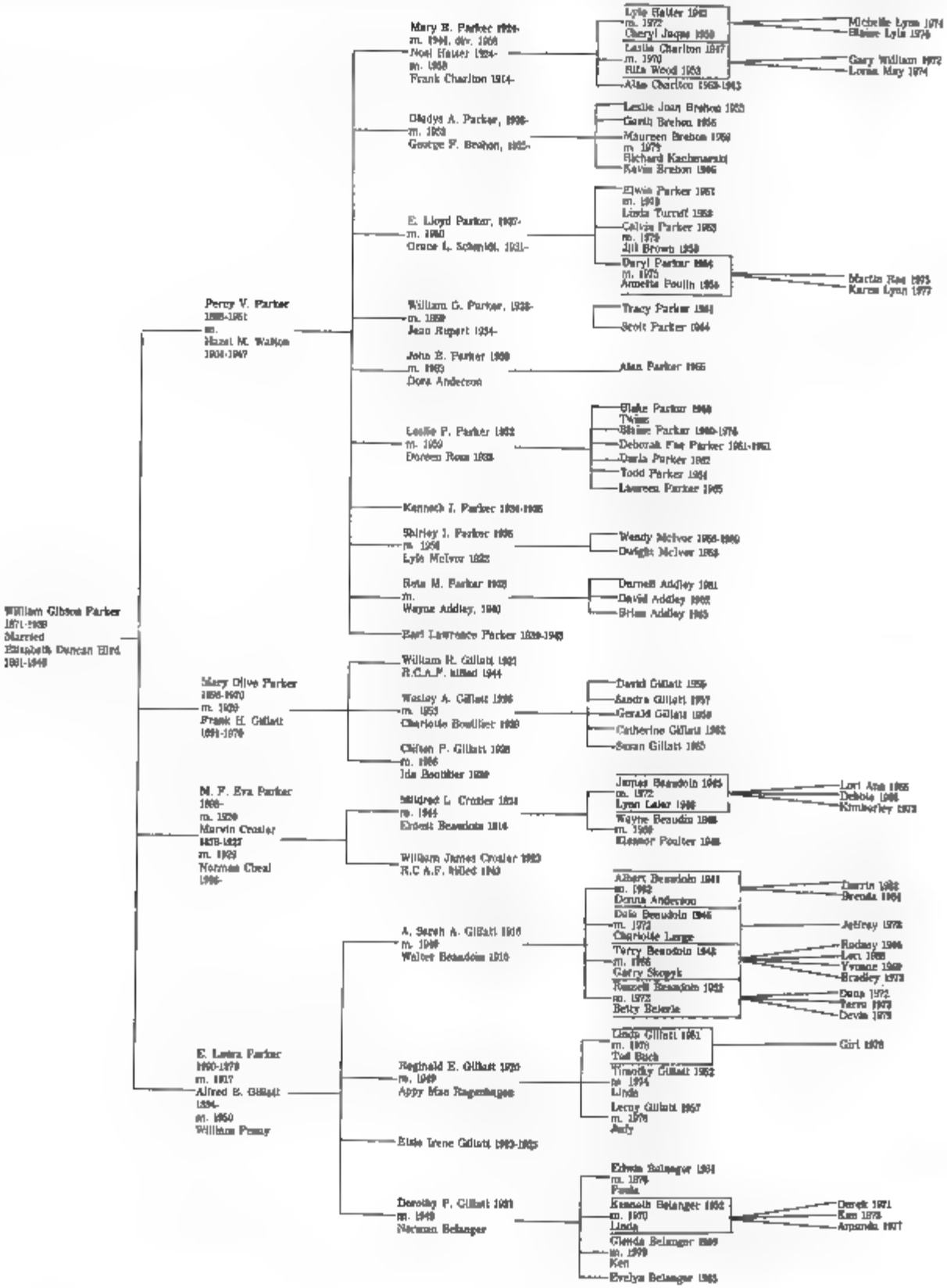
Building roads with wheel scrapers in the early 1900's.

The four children took their early schooling there. Later Percy, Olive and Eva went to the Collegiate and Normal School in North Battleford and graduated as teachers. It was shortly after this the Normal School was moved to Saskatoon.

The Honorable George Langley who was M.L.A. ■ that time asked Bill Parker if he would take the job as supervisor of road construction, so for several years he worked "on the road". Under his supervision roads were built north of Richard, in the Radisson area, down at the Saskatchewan River where the Borden bridge now stands, and also further south.

■ was while he was away working on the road and the older children were in school in North Battleford, that their house burned down. Everything was lost including a lovely piano. This was a terrible blow to the family.

Bill Parker was one of the settlers who assisted in building the first Presbyterian Church. It stood on the lot east of what is now the Memorial Hall. ■ 1908 Bill Parker was "elected, ordained and inducted as an Elder in the Church."


William Gibson Parker
1871-1938
Married
Elizabeth Duncan Bird
1881-1948
Perry V. Parker
1885-1951
m.
Hazel M. Walton
1894-1947
Mary E. Parker 1906-
m. 1941, div. 1966
Noel Hauer 1924-
m. 1958
Frank Charlton 1914-
Gladys A. Parker, 1908-
m. 1933
George F. Brehon, 1905-
E. Lloyd Parker, 1907-
m. 1940
Grace L. Schmidt, 1911-
William G. Parker, 1938-
m. 1959
Jean Rupert 1934-
John E. Parker 1940
m. 1963
Dora Anderson
Leslie F. Parker 1912
m. 1939
Doreen Ross 1918
Kenneth I. Parker 1914-1935
Shirley I. Parker 1916
m. 1936
Lyle McIver 1912
Reta M. Parker 1923
m.
Wayne Addley, 1940
Earl Lawrence Parker 1920-1943
Mary Olive Parker
1896-1970
m. 1920
Frank H. Gillett
1891-1970
William R. Gillett 1921
R.C.A.F. killed 1944
Wesley A. Gillett 1926
m. 1953
Charlotte Boutilier 1930
Clifton P. Gillett 1928
m. 1956
Ida Boutilier 1930
M. F. Eva Parker
1898-
m. 1920
Marvin Crosier
1878-1927
m. 1929
Norman Cheal
1896-
Bridget L. Crosier 1924
m. 1944
Ernest Beaudoin 1914
William James Crosier 1920
R.C.A.F. killed 1943
E. Leora Parker
1900-1979
m. 1917
Alfred E. Gillett
1894-
m. 1950
William Penny
A. Sarah A. Gillett 1916
m. 1940
Walter Beaudoin 1916
Reginald E. Gillett 1920
m. 1949
Appy Mae Hagenhagen
Elsie Irene Gillett 1923-1925
Dorothy P. Gillett 1921
m. 1949
Norman Belanger
Lyle Helder 1943
m. 1972
Cheryl Jaque 1950
Leslie Charlton 1947
m. 1970
Rita Wood 1953
Alan Charlton 1968-1943
Michelle Lynn 1974
Elaine Lyle 1976
Gary William 1972
Lorna May 1974
Leslie Joan Brehon 1933
Garth Brehon 1936
Maureen Brehon 1950
m. 1979
Richard Kachenarski
Kevin Brehon 1946
Elwin Parker 1937
m. 1960
Linda Turcott 1938
Calvin Parker 1953
m. 1976
Jill Brown 1950
Daryl Parker 1954
m. 1975
Annetta Poulin 1954
Martin Ray 1975
Karen Lynn 1977
Tracy Parker 1961
Scott Parker 1964
Allan Parker 1965
Blake Parker 1960
Twins
Blaine Parker 1960-1976
Deborah Fae Parker 1961-1961
Darla Parker 1962
Todd Parker 1964
Laureen Parker 1965
Wendy McIvor 1956-1980
Dwight McIver 1958
Darnell Addley 1961
David Addley 1962
Brian Addley 1965
David Gillett 1956
Sandra Gillett 1957
Gerald Gillett 1958
Catherine Gillett 1962
Susan Gillett 1965
James Beaudoin 1945
m. 1972
Lynn Lalor 1946
Wayne Beaudoin 1948
m. 1969
Eleanor Poulter 1948
Lori Ann 1965
Debbie 1966
Kimberley 1973
Albert Beaudoin 1941
m. 1962
Donna Anderson
Dale Beaudoin 1946
m. 1972
Charlotte Lange
Terry Beaudoin 1948
m. 1968
Gerry Skopyk
Russell Beaudoin 1951
m. 1972
Betty Belerle
Darrin 1962
Brenda 1964
Jeffrey 1972
Rodney 1966
Lori 1968
Yvonne 1969
Bradley 1973
Dana 1972
Terra 1973
Devin 1975
Linda Gillett 1951
m. 1970
Ted Esch
Timothy Gillett 1952
m. 1974
Linda
Leroy Gillett 1957
m. 1976
Judy
Girl 1978
Edwin Belanger 1931
m. 1954
Paula
Kenneth Belanger 1932
m. 1970
Linda
Glenda Belanger 1939
m. 1959
Ken
Evelyn Belanger 1935
Derek 1971
Ken 1973
Amanda 1977

He was on the Grey School board for many years. He helped organize and was a Charter Member and County Master of the Maymont Orange Lodge, an organization which was very active at that time. In 1914 owing to a lack of suitable meeting places the Orangemen built a hall which was used extensively for many years. Lizzie Parker was an active member of the Women's Missionary Society for many years and was presented with a life membership in the organization in 1927.

During the flu epidemic of 1918, Dr. Scratch often called on Lizzie Parker for help. He would call her to a home where the whole family was ill and she would go wherever she was needed. For some miraculous reason she did not catch the flu herself.

She was a great cook and her Scotch Shortbread was famous. She would never use butter with salt, when she churned she always set aside some butter unsalted for Shortbread. The dough was carefully worked, and cooked in large round patties. When served she cut them in pieshaped wedges.

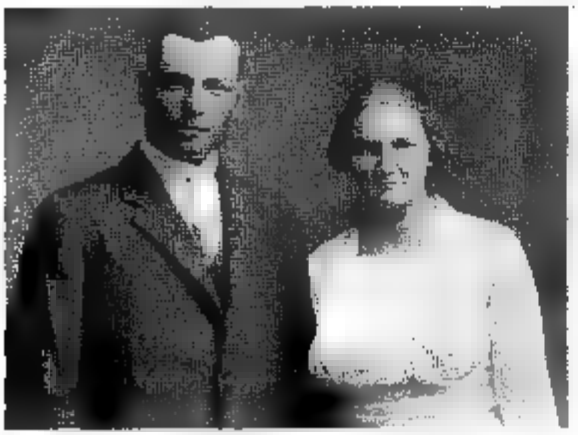
Some of their close friends were Mr. and Mrs. Irvine, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Pickett of Richard, and Mr. and Mrs. F. Butterfield.

Bill Parker died in May, 1939 at the age of 68 years. Lizzie continued to live on the farm with her son Percy and died November, 1946 in her 85th year.

Percy Parker Family

Percy Parker was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba on December 24, 1893. He came to the North West Territories in 1904 with his parents and sisters. From Saskatoon they travelled with the George Walton family who were also coming to their homestead. During the long ride from Saskatoon he helped to amuse the youngest member of the Walton family at that time, a baby girl called Hazel. That little girl several years later became his wife and he often teased her after they were married of how [redacted] had held her on his knee and helped take care of her during the journey.

Percy attended Grey School, North Battleford Collegiate and Normal School and became a teacher. In 1918 he taught at Bluebird School which was East of the Village of Mayfair. He boarded with the Lafreniere family. A terrible diphtheria epidemic swept through the area and several children died. One German resident of the district lost a child and when a neighbour sympathized he said, "Well, we are sorry, but it was one less mouth to feed!" Times were very hard then, no money, no conveniences and people worked very, very hard to keep food on the table and clothing on their backs.



Percy and Hazel Parker — married July 3rd, 1923.

In 1923 he married Hazel Maud Walton who was born in Manitoba on February 27, 1904. They lived on the farm 3 miles North and 1 mile East of Maymont with his parents. Ten children were born to them, Mary, Gladys, Lloyd, Bill, John, Leslie, Kenneth, Shirley, Reta and Earl. Kenneth and Earl died in infancy.

Kenneth died in 1936 with spinal meningitis. At that time the disease was thought to be very contagious so the whole family was quarantined. Dr. Scratch would not allow the funeral to be held indoors so it was held in the farmyard. This must have been a terrible time for the family as Hazel was still in bed recovering from the birth of a little daughter. The cost of that funeral was $25.00. Earl died when he was four years old in 1943.

Percy was a member of the Orange Lodge along with his father. The Orangemen held picnics on the 12th of July. The fun would begin with Orangemen parading down the street to the picnic grounds. The ladies would have packed huge lunches of sandwiches, cakes and lots of other goodies and everyone had a picnic supper. These were big events in the community and large crowds attended.

Percy and Hazel were both students at Grey School and all their family went to school there. At one time or another Percy was a student, teacher, trustee and caretaker of the school. He was always willing to lend a hand with anything that had to be done at the school. He always helped put the stage up and the trestles in for seating for the Christmas Concerts. Hazel was a quiet home-loving person and took great pleasure in her children. She went out very little but always enjoyed visits from neighbours and friends. She especially enjoyed meeting each new teacher as they came to Grey School and was always happy to make a cup of tea and have a visit with them. She made coffee at her home for years for various entertainment at the school as there were no facilities there. If one of the children from the school forgot to bring their lunch they simply came over to Parkers and had their dinner there.

The depression years were very hard on everyone. They worked long hours under difficult circumstances with no reward whatsoever. Percy and Hazel seldom got to Church until later years when Mr. Myers began holding service in Grey School, then they both attended regularly. Percy later became a member of the Maymont United Church Board and was also an Elder.

Lloyd and Grace Parker ■mily. L. to r. — Cal, Elwin and Linda, Grace and Lloyd, Annette and Darryl — 1978.

Hazel died ■ the age of 43 years in 1947. Percy shortly after left the farm and retired in Maymont. He enjoyed his family and visited them often. He died following a heart attack on September 13, 1961 at ■ years of age.

The Lloyd Parker Story

■ told by Lloyd Parker

I will endeavor to tell some of the story of ELWIN LLOYD PARKER, born the third child and first son of Mrs. Hazel Maud Parker (nee Walton) and Mr. Percy Valentine Parker, of then Maymont, Saskatchewan.

I was born on June 24th, 1927 in Maymont. In the years ■ follow I lived at home with three other brothers and four sisters whom are all living and all are married with growing-up families.

In my childhood days, things were much different than they are today. Money was something some people had, but our family were always short of, although our family was rich with love, and admiration of our elders.

There was no elaborate social life, no travelling, no drinking and lots of respect. We had a battery-operated radio, no T.V. — they weren't invented yet. We had kerosene lamps, and a wood stove. But we did have our own ball diamond; we used to go horseback riding, sleigh riding, etc. We trapped gophers in the summer and snared Jack rabbits ■ the winter. Our only swimming pool was a slough that filled with water in the spring when the snow melted. It went dry in July.

In the winter we went to school, helped with work around the farm and played 'Shinney'. Shinney was a game like hockey played on hard-packed snow, a small field approx. 40 X ■ ft. We used wooden pucks and curved sticks cut from willow trees with an axe and hewed to your own fancy. We played this game nearly every night (for two or three years) and usually had a game Saturday or Sunday also. Everyone played, I, my three brothers, some sisters, my Dad and Bill Penny. Every night we would be playing Shinney, it would get near 6 o'clock and Auntie Laura would phone up, "Tell that Bill Penny to get home for supper!". Walter Beaudoin was a wicked Shinney player. He spent some of the game riding on Dad's back. Dad always played goal (and on his knees).

Now I lived there on the old farm until 1950 when I married Grace Lillian Schmidt, eldest daughter of Mrs. Ruth Schmidt (nee Ruth Barrett) and Mr. Roy Schmidt of Maymont, Saskatchewan.

After being married July 19, 1950 we lived for a short time at the Roy Schmidt farm, then moved to live in a rented house in the Village of Maymont. This was ■ the fall of 1950, we rented a house from Arthur Millman for part of a year. Then we lived in several other houses in Maymont.

I began working in a General Motors Garage in January, 1951 where I stayed and worked for 7½ years. During this time we had the pleasure of having three sons of whom we are especially proud.

Our first son, Elwin Keith was born January 14, 1951; our second son Calvin Lynn was born April 13, 1953; and our third son Daryl was born July 2, 1954.

At this time, while the boys were going to school, and playing hockey and growing up, we had bought and were running a Service Station in Maymont. (The Tom Woods Service Station and Bulk fuel dealership.) ■ was called "Lloyd's North Star Service". Grace and I worked and run our business from 1959 to 1969, ■ years in business and many long hours, as the business had to be looked after as well as three sons to raise and a home to keep together.

While running the Service Station and with all the long hours and the poor economy in our area in 1969, we had to give up our business, as we were finally forced out. We closed up our business in April, 1969 and the changes that took place following were enormous, adventurous, and heart breaking. Grace and I had many exciting moments in Maymont, while the boys were playing hockey, of which they were all good skaters, also good ball players and all other activities. Each of the boys sang in the choir as they got old enough. Both Grace and I were members of Sharon United Church in Maymont of which I was an usher for sometime. I was a member of the Board of Trade, a village council man for some time and for a period of time I was Village Overseer. I was also the Fire Chief as well as being Secretary for the Maymont and Community Sports Centre.

Now all the Joys and Tribulations of living in Maymont, Saskatchewan came to an end on June 28, 1969 as Grace and I and sons left there and moved to Surrey, British Columbia.

One of the hardest things in our married life was to leave the place where we were all born; Grace and I, Elwin, Calvin and Daryl — we were all born, right there at Maymont or North Battleford. The agony of leaving the old home and searching for a new one, was the toughest thing we had ever undertaken in our lives up to that time.

On July 9, 1969, I got a job in a General Motors Garage in New Westminster, B.C. called Westminster

Chev-Olds Ltd. We lived for one month with Mr. and Mrs. Roy Schmidt, then bought a house in the Municipality of Surrey, B.C.

After the first three years it took the boys to finish school, we also became climatized, then soon, one by one, our sons began to get work and soon everyone became self-supporting, taking some of the load off Grace and I.

When we first moved to B.C., Cal and Daryl came, but Elwin remained in Maymont for a few years but then later joined us in B.C.

We now have three sons, three daughters-in-law, and to date, two grandchildren. Elwin married Linda Turriff, Calvin married Jill Brown, and Daryl married Annette Poulin. Daryl and Annette have two children, Martin Rae Parker, four years old in April of 1979 and Karen Lynn will be two years old in October, 1979.

We are very proud of our sons and daughter-in-laws and especially proud of our two grandchildren, Marty and Karen.

I am also especially proud of my wife, Grace, as we have shared many happy hours together, also our share of trouble and hardships and this July 19th we will mark our 29th wedding anniversary.

It is a nice springtime (May 16, 1979). We have our garden all planted and have many flowers in the yard. The winter is much shorter in B.C. especially here at the coast. We have very little snow, lots of fog and rain in the winter time. The climate is not extreme, like in Saskatchewan. There is a lot of rain, but the ground seems like a seive and the water just disappears (quite fast).

Now everyone is in fairly good health and all are working, so as of May 16, 1979.

Thomas Patterson (Ruddell 1979)

by Elizabeth (Patterson) Wood

Tom Patterson came from Belfast, Ireland some sixty years ago with Sam Semple, Dave Alexander, and Tommy Caldwell, all three now deceased. He stayed with the Semples for some time, then started working for William John Davis and Harry Welford. Shortly after he started farming on his own in the Lilac District.

In 1923 he married Dora Bulmer of Lilac who came out with her family as a small girl with the Barr Colonists from England. They raised a family of three: George of Lilac, Elizabeth (Mrs. Rollie Wood) of Ruddell, and Robert of Maymont. To date they have seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. In 1960 they retired from Lilac and moved into Ruddell where they still reside.

In the early days Tom was a community veterinarian. He was sometimes called during the night to attend a sick animal.

He had many hardships during his farming days, what with the depression in the early thirties and losing cattle and horses. One time he lost five horses in the spring when the horses lifted the lid of the seeder box and ate treated wheat. Thanks were given to his kind neighbors who lent him their horses so he could get his crop in.

He was a true member of the Masonic Lodge and this year (1979) he received his sixty-year pin for being a loyal member.

Now at ninety-four years of age he still likes to get out and work around his garden. He enjoyed his days as a farmer and can see many changes in the way farming is done today from when he first started, but with all the changes he still says back then, those were the "Good Old Days."

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Patterson of Ruddell.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Patterson's first home at Lilac or "Uncle Tom's Cabin".

Robert and Thelma Patterson

told by Thelma (Rogers) Patterson

I, Thelma Irene (Rogers) Patterson am the eldest child of Oliver and May Rogers. I have one brother, Dean Oliver Rogers, who is 3½ years younger than myself. We attended Grey School for our elementary grades. The school was a walking distance of our farm. All our school mates were relatives and the school days at Grey School are looked back upon with fond memories. Dean and myself attended school in Maymont for several years. With our trusty pony, Ginger, we managed to travel to school by buggy and cutter. Dean and I decided to discontinue our education and help on the farm.

It was our job to bring in the cows for milking and

Thelma and Robert's 25th wedding anniversary, June 10, 1978. L. to r. — Heather, Brenda, Marion, Patricia, Thomas, Thelma and Robert.

to gather the eggs, a job which neither of us enjoyed. Every Saturday the family went to town with the eggs and butter which Mom had churned. Allan and Bally Bean bought our eggs and butter which helped to buy the other groceries we needed.

After keeping company with a handsome young farmer from Lilac for 6½ years, I became the bride of Robert Patterson on June 10, 1953. Our wedding was held on a Wednesday afternoon in Sharon United Church with Rev. Frank Myers officiating. The reception was held at my parents farm and a dance followed in the Ruddell Hall. We made our first home on a farm called "Sunshine Hill" three miles east of Lilac. We had a three roomed honeymoon cottage which lacked plumbing, electricity and a telephone. We had poultry, cattle and pigs along with our grain which kept us busy.

Our first baby, Marion Dora, arrived in May 1954. She was followed by two sisters, Heather Irene, in November 1957 and Brenda Lee in September 1959. In January of 1961 our only son, Thomas Roger was born. Many times the happy memories of our children — now that most of them have left home — fill our quiet evenings.

We farmed at Lilac for nine years and then moved to my parents farm. The farewell party that our Lilac neighbors gave us is a happy memory to us yet. With Marion in grade three and Heather about to start school we were anxious to have our children attend the larger school in Maymont. At that time there was no bus route so when my parents decided to retire Robert and I bought their farm. In July 1962 we moved back to my childhood home with our four small children.

In May 1967 our youngest child, Patricia Lynne, was born. She is the only girl at home and she keeps us young taking her to her music lessons and church group meetings. Marion graduated from high school and then went on to take a Food Service Management Technology course at Kelsey Institute in Saskatoon. After completing her course Marion became the manageress of the cafeteria in Regina. Marion has a wedding date set for June 30, 1979 when she will become the bride of William Smith of Ogema. Heather graduated from high school in 1975 and became a cashier in the OK Economy Store in North Battleford. On November 15, 1975 Heather married Dennis Prescesky. They live eight miles west of us on their farm. In February 1979 their first child, Leon Dennis, was born. Brenda graduated from high school in 1977. She married a farmer, Charles Horrell of the Mount Hope District, and lives 14 miles north of Denholm. Brenda worked for Bill Pihach Food Services and for OK Economy in North Battleford. In November 1978, our first grandchild, Beverly Dawn was born to Brenda and Charles.

Tom is still at home but is employed at Kindersley Transport in North Battleford. He plans to take up farming at a later date but thought it best to try the working world for a while.

Since the children have left home, I have taken up several new hobbies including ceramics and Ukrainian embroidery. Robert and I have always lived a quiet life and enjoy entertaining family and friends. Our door is always open for those who care to pop in for a friendly chat and a cup of tea.

Mrs. Earl Pattison nee Muriel Brehon

Muriel Margaret Brehon, elder daughter of Alec and Annie Brehon, was born at the farm home. Jack Langley often told her how her father came to tell them about this daughter after having two sons. He said she was always going to be dressed in blue, his favorite color.

One day Muriel decided to go to her Dad who was ploughing on the homestead. Unfortunately she picked out another farmer on the northeast quarter. When she was missed, her mother ran through the trees, around the yard looking for her. The pins were pulled from her long hair and great bunches left hanging on the branches. Then Mrs. Brehon decided to go to her husband. Just as she got nearly there, she remembered the big water trough so turned around and ran home to search it. Alec had seen her, so took the plough out of the ground and trotted the team home. They found the small tracks to the north east and found Muriel in a slough, with reeds and grass over her head, waiting to be rescued.

Muriel took grades 1-10 at Keystone and 11 and 12 at Maymont. Muriel loved the outdoors and sports. She helped get points for the two small trophies that Keystone school won at Field Days. Many were the good games of ball that used to ensue at school and on Sundays. Hide and go seek was another favorite with everyone taking part. When the game moved inside in winter, it did so to the detriment of their mother's usually clean house. Conversation still remembers the time at Roy Schmidt's when her mother hid Bernice in a big milk pail and hung it up on the kitchen wall. That hiding place had everyone fooled for some time. Our

mother spent ■ lot of time with us playing games and doing exercises. She was able to bend over and put her hands flat on the floor when the rest of us couldn't even touch the floor with our fingertips. Our parents encouraged us to read which helped pass the long winter nights on the farm.

When growing up we got 1¢ an egg for crow's eggs so after school Colles, Dick and I would be off to hunt them down. Because I was the lightest, I had to climb the slender poplars. In the process, my dress was often torn and always covered with the white off the trees. My brothers made sure they let me off at the house first to get the scolding from our mother while they put the horse away. One time when playing football, unfortunately Muriel got there first. A boy, who wore boots with steel toes, kicked her foot. When she complained at home her Dad said "If you weren't such a tomboy you wouldn't get hurt". Gone were her Dad's illusions of ■ daughter who was a lady!

Muriel went on to become a teacher. She taught at Harringay, near Ruddell and at Grey School where her mother had been the first teacher. Here she taught children of those whom her mother had taught. Unfortunately her career was rather checkered because, like her Dad, she developed tuberculosis and had three sessions ■ the Saskatoon Santorium. In 1954 she married Rev. Earl Pattison. They have a family of two — Sheila, Mrs. John Nixon of Battleford and Don, also of Battleford. Earl and Muriel are moving to Kinistino on July 1, 1979 after seventeen years ■ the Battleford charge.

Walter on homemade stilts.

The Pauls

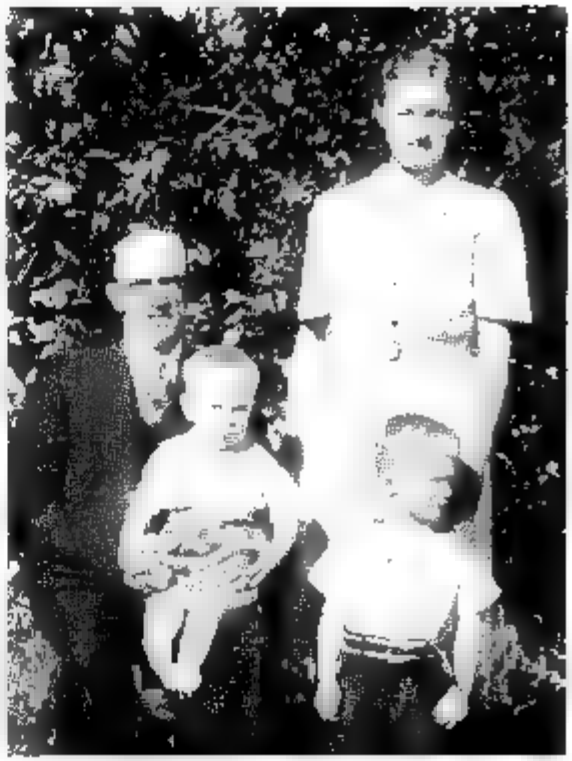
written by Jessie Pauls

We came from two different places. Henry immigrated from Russia into Canada in 1926, and I was never out of Canada. I was born in the southern part of Saskatchewan, north of Rush Lake, on my father's homestead.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Pauls were married at Lucky Lake, Saskatchewan on January 5, 1941. We lived our first years of married life in the irrigation country of Alberta for awhile. Then came to Maymont in the fall of 1942. We lived that winter in the house that Dave Penners lived in for years.

In the spring we moved into the house Pete Nakilcki later bought. Mr. Penner had this land rented and we lived there 1943-1944-1945. In the spring of 1946 we moved to the Malcolm McNaughton farm. Henry worked for Mr. McNaughton that year. We lived on McNaughtons 1946 summer and 1947 winter. In the spring of 1947 we moved to Speers and lived on the Epp farm one summer and winter 1947-48. That was a long winter and lots of snow and spring came late in April 1948.

■ the spring of 1948 we again moved back to the McNaughton farm. We had bought the N.E. quarter of 1-42-12-W3. We bought one quarter and Dave Penner



Henry and Jessie Pauls, Fred and John — 1943 or ■■.

bought the quarter west of ours which Dave Penner sold later to Jesse Wood. We built our house on our quarter in 1948 and in 1949 we moved in. We moved on a beautiful sunny, spring day in March.

By this time we already had 5 children. At last our moving days were over! But we moved one more time to the Charlie Neumeyer farm, but that was a mistake.

Our children mostly went to Keystone School, a short while in Fielding School. Esther, our youngest daughter went by school bus to Maymont. Some of the teachers were Lilah Brehon, Mrs. Morez, Mr. Draegher, Mr. Brown, Mrs. McCready, Elizabeth LeGallais; and some of the teachers in the Maymont School were Miss Waters, Mrs. Howes, Mr. Moen.

We raised seven children. Four of our children were born in a hospital. The three that were not in hospital were one born on a farm just south and west of Maymont, with a Mrs. Melrose who took in ladies and their new babies and Dr. Scratch attending; the second one was born in Pete Naklicki farm home with a Doctor from Borden attending; the third one in Fielding at Mrs. Garnett's home and Dr. Scratch attending. The time at Mrs. Melroses at Maymont, Doctor Scratch had just left her place for town. She had to phone him and tell him to come right back with his little black bag.

Our closest hospitals were North Battleford, Hafford, or Borden. In many cases Borden was without a Doctor.

We did not belong to any organizations, or clubs. We mainly visited our neighbours. Church do's in our homes, Whist Drives at the country school and Christmas concerts at the school, and some very good concerts were put on by the few pupils the country schools had. My children had no baby-sitters; I looked after my own.

In the summertime, Henry worked out and I cared for my children and home chores. When we lived on the Pete Naklicki farm we had a chimney fire. Henry was away working; I took my children out of the house, lucky it was summer time. The baby was only a few months old in a blanket. I laid him down away from the house. The other one already walking, I took him up the road a short distance and told him to stay there. I ran as fast as I could to Penners, told him of the fire, then ran back to my children. The fire was put out and nothing burned down.

We always thought it could not hail at our little farm, all around us people got hail now and then, never us. One Sunday we went to church. As we were coming home we saw the white cloud. One mile from home we noticed it had hailed. The hail stones were the size of a quarter, sharp and rough. This was early August in 1974. My tomatoes were mostly spoiled that year. Some people got drenched that day as they went motorcycle riding and were caught in the storm. One of them ran in the bush under cover of the hailstones. But all three were wet; I gave them dry clothes to go home with.

We still have Christmas at the farm just about every year just like old times.

In 1976 we really retired. We gave our little farm to our son, Walter, the "flyer", who owns it now. If I had not been able to get spouses allowance, with just one old age pension, we could not have gone to live in low rentals in Radisson.

Joseph Henry Peden

Joseph Henry Peden was born in Listowel, Ontario on September 7, 1875. In 1878 he moved with his parents to Balmoral, Manitoba. Here he spent his childhood and teen-age years with a short time spent working in northern Manioba at various jobs including surveying and logging. After a short stint at farming near his father's farm at Balmoral, he decided to head west to greener pastures.

The area that caught his eye was a piece of land with gently rolling hills and sloughs surrounded by willows after filing for his homestead, N.W. 22-41-12 W3rd in 1903, he returned to Balmoral to collect his settler's effects.

In 1904, he arrived in Saskatoon by rail from Winnipeg, then loaded his belongings on a wagon and finished the last sixty miles by wagon train.

The first sign of life on the homestead, other than the gophers, was the erection of a sod barn for his horses. The initial homestead year was busily spent

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Peden, July 20th, 1910.

getting things in order — this included many long trips to Saskatoon for additional supplies.

The scenery changed a little in 1905 with the arrival of the railway. As well as homesteading chores, Mr. Peden worked on the railway grade that ran across the northern part of his land. The town of Maymont was established at this time.

Now all was in readiness and [redacted] decided the farm needed a lady's touch. In Balmoral, Manitoba on July 20, 1910 he married Ellen Irvine Scott, whom he had known all his life. The same year they returned to the Maymont homestead.

On May 15, 1911, their first child Edwin was born — now of Wetaskiwin, Alberta. A second son, Elwood died in infancy.

Wilbur was born August 2, 1915 and is presently farming on the original homestead.

Irvine, now in Calgary, was born June 15, 1917.

So there were many changes on the homestead over the years. Mrs. Peden was a member of the Ladies Aid and enjoyed sewing in her spare time. She passed away June 2, 1950.

Mr. Peden was a member of the Wheat Pool and director of the local Telephone Co. After retiring from farming, he kept busy as [redacted] was an avid gardener. Following a lengthy illness, he passed away on May 3, 1964 this ending 60 years of history in the Maymont area.

Wilbur Peden

Wilbur Peden continues to farm on the land that his father, Joseph Henry Peden settled in 1908, 2½ miles south east from the town of Maymont.

On August 2, 1951, [redacted] married Wanda Naklicki of Speers. They have a family of three children, a daughter, Patricia Ann born August 2, 1952. Pat is a Registered Nurse and has been employed in various parts of British Columbia. Thomas Elwood was born on January 25, 1954. Tom [redacted] presently employed with Mr. Wayne Acaster of Ruddell, and Randy William was born on June 27, 1961. Randy will [redacted] graduating from High school this year, 1979.

The family are members [redacted] Sharon United Church, having attended church and taken part in its many activities. They also took an active part in 4-H for many years and also sports.

The family have enjoyed living on this farm, at this location, as there were never quiet or dull moments. The reason [redacted] the close proximity to the Canadian National Railway and what used to be the old gravel No. 5 highway that ran on the "square". [redacted] the mid 1950's [redacted] was reconstructed [redacted] run along the railway tracks and was paved. At present [redacted] is called the "Yellow Head Route", Highway No. 16, again it is being reconstructed and widened to accomodate today's heavy traffic. Also gone are the days when the family would run out [redacted] watch the huge steam locomotives with their great billows of smoke puffing skywards on

Wilbur and Wanda Peden — wedding day, Aug. 2nd, 1951.

Randy, Pat and Tom Peden — 1975.

a cold winter's day or watch the passenger train in the evening with its shrill whistle.

Be it the old steam engine or today's modern diesel, it's still nice to hear the engineer whistle or toot to say a friendly "Hello" as they go by.

Edwin Peden Family

I, Edwin John Peden, was born May 15, 1911, eldest child of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph H. Peden. Dr. J. A. Scratch attended at the birth, which took place on the couple's homestead. I was baptized in the Presbyterian Church by Rev. J. M. Fisher. My first school teacher was Miss Mary Carter, now Mrs. Wilfred Langley. In my first years at school classes were held in different locations — the old school consisted of two rooms — classes were held in the basement of the church — and the new three roomed school was opened ■ 1925. My grandparents Mr. and Mrs. John Scott lived in Maymont at this time and I stayed with them while attending school.

I had completed Grade X in 1928 and at this time my father purchased a new 15-30 McCormick Deering tractor, Three furrow plough, a packer and five barrels of gasoline for $1,565 and I was given the job to farm with this outfit.

I spent the winters of the 1930's in logging camps at Prairie River, Sask. and at National Mills in Manitoba. Our neighbor, Joe Peno, went with me for several winters. When there was little crop to harvest at home I would go to Alberta to work. I started farming for myself in 1933 on S.E. of 28-41-12.

Ed Peden family — l. to r. — Grant, Ronald, Mary, Kathleen, Edwin.

On November 15, 1940 I married Mary Steele. We were married on the John Rolfe farm, where her parents lived, by Rev. Frank Myers.

We had a family of three. Grant born January 20, 1942 ■ the home of Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Andrew, Ronald on August 25, 1944 at the home of Mrs. Nan Melrose and Kathleen on July 13, 1948 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alex Garnett, Fielding. Dr. J. A. Scratch attended at all three births, Kathleen being one of his last maternity cases.

All three received their education at Maymont school, they all had Miss Audrey Page and Mr. J. N. Armstrong for teachers. They were among the last children to drive a horse and buggy to school.

Times were hard in our early years of marriage, but it was a busy and rewarding life. One incident which caused considerable interest was in 1951 when an oil well was drilled on our farm, people came for miles to see it. I served on the municipal council, rural telephone Co., Chairman of the school board, during which time the present school was built, member of Home and School, assistant leader of 4-H Grain Club. Mary helped with Mission Band, was a member of the W.M.S. and U.C.W.

Our children were all baptized and confirmed by Rev. Frank Myers. All were members of United Church choir under the leadership of Mr. J. Armstrong. Grant and Ronald were members of the Mayfield 4-H Grain Club and attended Farm Boys Camp at North Battleford, Saskatoon and Regina Exhibitions. Kathleen was a member of C.G.I.T., 4-H club and the Figure Skating Club.

I became agent of the Searle Grain Co. in 1959. We moved into the Searle house ■ town and still farmed until Ronald finished grade XII. We then rented the farm ■ Dennis Van Der Hagen later selling it to John Becton.

When Grant completed Grade XII ■ went to Alberta to the Innisfail area where he and his wife Marilyn now live. At present ■ is a heavy duty mechanic with Peter Kiewit & Sons Construction.

Ronald and his wife Leona live in Burns Lake, B.C. where he is employed by Pacific Western Gas Co. as a welder. They have three children Rhonda, Lesley and Richard James.

Tragedy struck our home August 29, 1965 when we lost Kathleen in a highway accident.

We moved to Wetaskwin July 1, 1966 where I was employed by a machinery and auto Co., Mary worked in a Variety Store until we retired, June 1, 1976. We are enjoying our retirement — keeping active. I am a member of Session of First United and A.O.T.S. Club, a member of Masonic Lodge. Mary ■ a member of Wetaskiwin Horticultural Society and U.C.W. of First United.

We are most thankful ■ have had the privilege of living and raising our family in the Maymont area, the memories ■ those years are the most precious of our lives.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Penner

told by Dave

I, Dave Penner, came from Russia to Canada in May of 1930. I came to the Mayfield Municipality and stayed with Katies' uncle, Corny Hiebert, for three weeks; after that I got a job with George Holler working on his farm. I worked for twenty-five dollars a month in the summer and in the winter I got five dollars a month.

In the spring of 1932 I met Katie Redikopp. Her parents migrated from Russia in the year of 1925 and farmed in the Keystone School district where Katie went to school. She had to walk two and one half miles to school every day. Miss Louis was her teacher at that time. In the harvest time Katie and her brother got five cents an acre for stooking. In November of 1932 Katie and I got married. The first year we stayed with her mom and dad and helped on the farm.

After that I worked for Jack McNaughton at Fielding on the farm for one year. I rented old Tommy Meena's farm for a few years. In 1943 we bought Johnny Meena's farm where we stayed until 1974.

We have two daughters and one son. Erica, Hilda, and Henry who all attended Keystone School. Our family doctor was the familiar Doctor Scratch.

In 1954 Erica married Joe St. Denis. They had a son, David, and one daughter, Cathy. Erica's husband was a painter. One day in late July of 1959 while painting he fell off a roof and shortly after he died in the hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Penner and family.

In 1963 she married Les Bakos who is a purchasing agent for a Chemical Plant in Saskatoon. They have one daughter, Cindy.

Hilda, our other daughter, married Erwin Hamp from Radisson where they are farming. They have three sons Lyndon, Darren, Jason and are presently attending school in Radisson.

Our son Henry married Patricia Antonuk from Saskatoon. They now live in Medicine Hat, Alberta where Henry is a superintendent at a Fertilizer Plant. They have two sons and two daughters; Cory, Julie, Christopher and Karen. They all attend school at Medicine Hat.

Katie and I sold the farm in 1974 and are retired. We bought a house here in Saskatoon where we live now.

The photograph included was taken at our forty-fifth wedding anniversary.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Petty (Nee Vera Cooper)

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Petty live at Paynton, Saskatchewan. What is so special about that, is that Mrs. Petty is the former Vera Cooper, who was Calais School's first teacher in 1916. 'A lot of water had gone under the bridge' for Mrs. Petty since then.

Mr. Petty came to Paynton in 1905 with his parents, Mr. and Mrs.Edward Petty and had resided in this and the Bresaylor Area ever since.

Vera Cooper came to Paynton to teach in 1918. She stayed two years then returned to Saskatoon to further her education, returning to Paynton as a bride after she married Hugh Petty at Delisle on June 22, 1929.

The couple have two daughters Barbara, Mrs. Jim Hausen, of Unity and Margaret, Mrs. Dick Wilkins of Edmonton. They lived on the Petty farm for twelve years then moved to Bresaylor where they owned and operated Petty's General Store for about eighteen years, this also included the telephone switch board lunch counter and garage. Vera also taught school whenever her services were needed.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Petty have been active members of Christ Church Anglican at Paynton for many years. Vera has been organist, choir leader and continues to be deeply involved in all levels of Women's Institute work. She especially loves singing and organizes others to sing at W.I. Conferences. She has travelled to Australia, Scotland, Norway and throughout Canada in her various offices within W.I. work. Vera also has become a member of Saskatchewan's Embroidery Guild in a branch of the guild near North Battleford.

Mr. Petty, not to be outdone by his energetic wife had the honor of being the oldest practicing electrician in the province, this before he retired.

Mr. and Mrs. Petty celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary in June this year, 1979. They are well and enjoying their eight grandchildren and their retirement.

My First School

Submitted by Vera (Cooper) Petty — First Calais School Teacher)

The first week in July, 1916, sixty-three years ago I started out on my teaching career at Calais School about three miles west of Fielding. I boarded at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Collins about one-quarter of a mile south of the school. They had two pre-school children, Freddy and Edith, if I remember correctly.

My enrolment was small and because of it the children had individual attention and so were able to progress quickly. We had a happy time together.

I used to love to play ball with them. The day the Inspector (Superintendent in modern language) came, he walked over to where we were playing and said, "Where will I find the teacher?" Imagine his surprise when a little girl (I was smaller then than I am now) with her hair falling down (I had a terrible time keeping hair pins in it) said, "I'm the teacher". I do remember he gave me a very good report.

I wonder if any of the children that were at the school remember the Red Cross Hospital we built, complete with tiny dolls for wounded soldiers, little beds we made, etc. Then how a dog was left in the school one Friday night and completely ruined the whole project. When we arrived on Monday morning and saw the devastation everyone cried — even the teacher.

When I think of the months of training given now to a person before she even has control of a classroom I wonder how we and the pupils survived. I guess it is quite true that "Experience is a good teacher". My love for children and teaching is still with me and gives me many happy memories.

Mr. and Mrs. George Plews

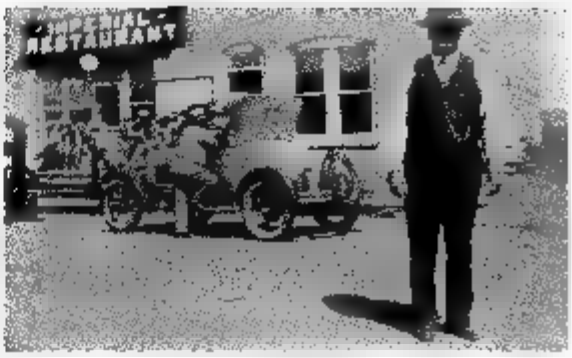
told by Evelyn Bates

Mr. and Mrs. George Plews came from England, with their baby daughter, Laura, in 1906 to Ontario for three years, before homesteading in Baljennie in 1909. A son, George, was born in Hamilton, Ontario, in 1907; also a daughter, Evelyn, in Baljennie in 1909; also Jack in 1911, and Winnie in 1913. Their first little girl, Laura, died in 1914. Mr. Plews went overseas for three years during World War I and Mrs. Plews ran the farm herself. She was such a good manager, that she was able to devote her time to church, Homemakers, school caretaker, and mid-wife. She helped Doc. Scratch bring many babies into the world. Mr. Plews joined the service during World War II and was stationed at Sardis, B.C. Mrs. Plews ran the store and Post Office at Spinney Hill, until after the war and they bought property and settled in Sardis, Mr. Plews died in 1957, so Mrs. Plews batched until the fall of 1968. She took sick while visiting her daughter and family in Maymont. Her first pacemaker was inserted on January 7, 1969 and she has had five more since. She is ninety-two years old and has spent the last two years in River Heights Lodge in North Battleford. She is still cheerful, interested in her church, family, world affairs and fellow guests.

The Porter Story

submitted by Dolly (Porter) Marfleet

My mother and father came to Maymont in October, 1918, where my father served as C.N.R. agent



Mr. Fred Porter on Main Street, Maymont.

Mrs. Fred Porter.

for thirty years. Their family at that time consisted of Finley, Sheridan (Bud), Josephine (Jo), and Freddy. Teddy and I were born out west.

Life in the station was never dull. With the coming and going of friends and railway passengers, we seemed to be enjoying a cup of coffee or lunch at any time of the day and, of course, many nights at all hours.

We also had celebrities in for meals. The T. Eaton family from the east would come to visit their brother and his wife who lived at Richard. Mrs. Eaton always reminded me of a beautiful Dresden doll. After the visitors got off the train, Mother would give them breakfast of homemade bread toast, coffee and lovely thick cream, bacon and eggs. Dad then drove them to Richard and returned to pick them up again in the evening. Mother would have another big lunch ready for them and they would board the train and return to the east again. We thought Toronto must be a million miles away until Mother and Dad started taking us on train trips. The passes on the train certainly gave us trips that we never could afford then.

Mother also felt she had to feed all the poor men who travelled the open box cars and flat cars during the lean years. She always tried to give them some homemade bread and a tin of milk. The men put a big white cross marked with heavy chalk on the end of the station to show others they could always get something to eat there. My Dad never took it off the time the workers passed by Maymont in the lean "thirties".

We also had gypsies, but we weren't allowed to leave the yard or talk to them when they came to the door for milk.

My Dad had a hobby, as well as his station work. He loved to fix and build radios. After work finished at five, he would travel around the country fixing radios, as far away as Radisson, Richard and as far south as Sonningdale. He was also Overseer of Maymont for twenty-five years, so he was active at all times.

Our neighbors in the early years were Mr. and Mrs. Jim Taylor, Mr. McLaren was in the Post Office followed by the Philpott family, but the Coleman's were the ones we knew best. Our family doctor over the years was Dr. Scratch, who was also friend and advisor.

Our teachers were the best, all through school, as far back as Miss Merrell, Miss Mary Martin and on to Miss Mohler, Mr. McDonald and many more fine people.

My Mother read teacups and I always felt it put a nice finishing touch to an afternoon or evening social. I don't know if any of her predictions ever came true but she did it for pleasure until one day a gentleman gave her a very bad scare. It wasn't funny at the time but she tells it now and can laugh about it all. We had C.N.R. building crews on the sidings a lot when we were small. One boss of the crew used to come over to the station a lot and one day Mother read his teacup. She told him some stocks [illegible] had invested in were going to drop. He laughed and said he had nothing but solid stock, and all was forgotten until a week later when the passenger train stopped one Monday, the station door banged open and the gentleman came running into the house yelling Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Poter, come quick". Poor Mother nearly fainted as all she could think of was poor Dad lying on the track somewhere, so she ran to the office to be grabbed by the crew boss telling her [illegible] had sold his stocks and they fell a short time later. He could never thank her enough. He kept coming back to have his tea leaves read but Mother had gone out of business so to speak and never did do any reading again for outsiders, but would if the family really coaxed her.

We also had a good friend who lived across the highway from us — Ed Buhr. Ed knew more about engines than anyone we ever knew. He could tell the type of engine just by hearing it go by. He also used to chase us and try to put cotter pins in our ears — he never disappointed us as he always had a cotter pin in his pocket whenever we came near him.

We had good times and sad times in Maymont, but like everyone else we are remembering the good times.

My family are all living in British Columbia. My Mother and Teddy live in Chilliwack, my brother Bud at Sardis and Jo in Hope. I am living in Maidstone, Sask. but at Porter get-to-gethers we remember the Downings, Kerrs, Reids, Melroses, Johnstons, Turners, Beaudoins, Andrews and the MacLennans, all dear friends, and, of course Ed Buhr and cotter pins and 'things'. There are so many, and I am grateful for the Maymont book as it will somehow bring us closer together.

Joseph Prechtl (91)

tribute from a newspaper clipping.

Joseph Prechtl was one of Fielding's earliest and most enthusiastic pioneers, who had worked for a living since the age of 12, emigrating from Germany to the United States and from there to Saskatchewan to work on the construction of the Saskatoon-Edmonton C.N.R. line. He pioneered in bringing his parkland homestead into a fine farm, in testing hardy fruit trees, flowering shrubs, hybrid poplars, evergreens, new varieties of field crop seeds, new methods of cultivation recommended by Seager Wheeler and other agricultural experts and in using up-to-date farm machinery which included silage equipment for filling his cement-lined silo. The slogan "Good machinery makes a good farmer better" he often quoted and consistently put into practice. For years he headed his herd with good Hereford bulls. He followed good farming practices until [illegible] had a farm, buildings and home grounds [illegible] be proud of.

He acquired a fine grasp of the English language and thereby became able to satisfy his desire to read deeply mind-stimulating books. He also thoroughly enjoyed classical orchestral music.

Three times during his long life he visited his relatives in Germany.

He served on the Beckwith school board, the rural telephone company, the local farmer's union and Wheat Pool Committee.

After retirement to Radisson he wrote his life story in German, and kept [illegible] up to the time he was 87 by walking the nine miles [illegible] the home farm operated by his son Richard.

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Prescesky

submitted by Laura Prescesky

Stephen Prescesky's father, Stefan, and a son, Peter, immigrated from the Ukraine to Montreal in 1908. His wife and sons Leon, Stephen, John, Paul, Mike, and Ephraim followed in 1910. A daughter, Mary, joined them in 1912. The family moved west to Ruddell-Lilac area where they purchased two quarters of land (50 acres broken on each quarter). They settled on the NE Sec. 15-42-13 [illegible] a one-roomed shack. The only transportation was horseback and the coyotes howling broke the vast prairie silence. In 1916 a large lumber house was built. It was finished in natural color stucco with the lumber being purchased from the Ruddell lumberyard. Mr. and Mrs. Stefan Prescesky lived here until 1924 when they moved to Saskatoon and are now deceased.

The farm then became the home of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Prescesky. In 1931 a misfortune struck; the house that was built in 1916 burnt down in February due to overheating and chimney fire. There was only time to grab the quilts off the bed, wrap the children in them and toss them out. Nothing was saved except the potatoes which had been stored in a pit below the cellar. A cook car which held seed for spring planting was then emptied and became their home until a new house was built. This house with an addition and some renovations is now the modern farm home of their son, Henry.

They raised a family of five sons: Peter, Paul, Edward, Henry, William and two daughters, Mary, (Mrs. Harold Pain) and Nellie (Mrs. Bill Welford).

They took an active part in community affairs and still enjoy coming out to meet old friends and neighbours. They retired from the farm in 1953 and now reside in North Battleford.

Mr. and Mrs.Peter Prescesky

Peter and Laura M. (Ponkin) Prescesky were married on June 12, 1948 and settled on the Dave Alexander farmstead of S½ 28-42-13-W3. The Alexanders who came from Ireland returned to their native homeland in 1945 taking with them all their assets. For this reason they were unable to return to Canada despite the longing to. Ireland had undergone a vast change during the War years and the Alexanders were not prepared for such a change.

Peter and Laura raised a family of five children and it is in their children they take their greatest pride. Sonja works as a Comptroller for a Saskatoon firm; James an office manager for a North Battleford implement dealer; Kenneth a parts manager and work supervisor for a North Battleford Sports Centre. Linda and Elaine are attending Maymont Central School.

The Paul Prescesky Family

Paul was born on April 4, 1929 to Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Prescesky of Ruddell, Saskatchewan. Dr. Scratch (Sr.) was there to give him his first spanking.

Paul has five brothers and two sisters. He attended Wavie Bank School and helped his dad on the farm, later started farming for himself. In 1954 he met and married Dorothy Hampton on December third. It was lucky for Paul that he could cook, because the only thing Dorothy could cook was potato soup and potato soup served twice a day for a week or so gets tiresome. So Paul with the help of his brothers, Henry and William, undertook the task of teaching his new bride how to cook. Soon Dorothy had even mastered the art of baking bread. (I won't bother telling about the first batch.)

Dorothy was born on October 1, 1937, the daughter of Dan and Nora Hampton. On October 1st, 1955, (Dorothy's birthday) Paulette Judy Lee was born. She

Dorothy and Paul Prescesky — 25th anniversary — July, 1979, Polly and Stephen Prescesky.

is now married to Michael (Tim) Wayne Dwinnell who is in part ownership of Wy-Lee Trailers. Tim and Judy have one little daughter, Amy Dawn. They live in Battleford.

Danny Paul, Dorothy and Paul's first son, was born on September 30, 1958. Danny lives in Maymont and farms with his dad.

On September 6, 1961, Donny Rodney Perry was born, Perry now resides in Lloydminster and works for Husky Oil.

On August 26, 1966, Brenda Joyce came to make her home with Paul and Dorothy. She then became their chosen daughter in 1971 — a sister for Judy. Brenda attended Maymont School where she met Michael Clifford Yakiwchuck. Brenda and Michael were married July 27, 1974. They farm at Speers and have one little son, Leon Ronald.

Paul and Dorothy have many interests. Paul has been on the Wheat Pool Committee for many years. He was on the Wavie Bank School board until it closed in-1968. And he has been a councillor in Mayfield Division Six for five years.

Paul and Dorothy are Fire Arm Safety Instructors, and Paul is a 4-H Junior Sportsman Leader. Dorothy is an ardent gardener and has won many first prizes for her garden. She is a coin collector and loves sewing at which she is quite active.

Through fostering children Dorothy was chosen out of eighty foster parents to work for the Department of

Social Services on the planning committee for children under sixteen years. Dorothy and Paul over the years have helped raise twenty-six foster children and are always glad to see them again.

Paul and Dorothy like to fish. They also like to curl for which Paul has won many trophies. Paul enjoys a good game ■ golf and even tries a little pool. While Paul is doing this Dorothy is usually swimming or just relaxing in the sun at their cottage at Aquadeo Beach on weekends.

December 3, 1979 will be their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Prescesky

Henry, second youngest son of Stephen and Polly Prescesky was born Sept. 23, 1934 on the farm homestead N.E. 15-42-13-W3rd. He took all his schooling at Wavie Bank School. He married Irene Phillips ■ Richard on Nov. 3, 1956. They lived in Nanaimo, B.C. until the end of December, 1956. They returned to the farm homestead and have lived there for the past twenty-two years.

They raised a family of three; Douglas Wayne, born Sept. 16, 1959; Jo Ann Marlene born Nov. 1, 1961; Kevin Henry born Oct. 25, 1964.

Douglas married Colleen Kristine Bulmer on Feb. 3, 1979. They are making their home on N.W. 10-42-13-W3rd.

Jo Ann married Trent Lee Jordan on Aug. 16, 1979 and they are residing in North Battleford.

Kevin is presently at home and is attending Maymont Central School.

The William John Prescesky Family

William John Prescesky was born July 3, 1936, the youngest son of Stephen and Polly Prescesky and lived in the Wavie Bank School District. William received his schooling in the Wavie Bank School. In 1955 he married Elizabeth Mary May Phillips who was born June 6, 1937, daughter of Percy and Janet Phillips of the Bromley School District and Richard District. Elizabeth came to live in the Village of Ruddell in Aug., 1953, attended the Ruddell School taking Grades 10 and 11; she lived with Jack and Marjorie Thrower who operated the Ruddell Telephone Exchange.

William and Elizabeth were married in the Anglican Church in Richard on Oct. 26, 1955 with Dr. Frank Myers of Maymont United Church officiating. They rented the farm land and home from Stephen, William's father, along with brother Henry, and they later bought the family farm.

In 1959, born to William and Elizabeth was a daughter, named Brenda May, who attended Wavie Bank School from 1965 to 1969; then was bused to Maymont Central, graduated from Grade 12 in 1976. From there she went to Kelsey Institute, Saskatoon and graduated as a Registered Nurse in June, 1978, and started to work at Borden Hospital ■ July of 1978.

A second daughter, Barbara Ann, was born Oct. 17, 1962, who started to Maymont Central School in 1968 and as of June 15, 1979, received a recommend in Grade 11. In 1979 Barbara received a bronze medal as an award having competed in a Math Contest which covered Canada.

In the spring of 1964, William and family moved into their newly built home which was built just a few yards south of the family yard; prior to this they had lived in the basement suite of the family home.

Born on May 26, 1966 was their son, named Myron William, who now attends Maymont Central School and is finishing Grade 7.

William took over coaching of Ruddell Ball Team in 1966 and is still coaching the team. Prior to 1966, the team was coached by Edward Prescesky. Three original players, who started with the team and are still playing, are Hal Robinson, Ron McIntyre and Tom Pain.

Leonard E. Prynallt

told by Leonard

I was born September 9, 1931 in Hafford Hospital to Dorothy and Edmund Prynallt.

I began grade one at Maymont School in 1937 with Miss Butterfield as teacher, and carried on through school with Miss Page and Mr. Armstrong.

I left school and Maymont ■ September 1949 to begin a three year stint with the Royal Canadian Signals as a cryptographer.

On October 4, 1952 I took my discharge ■ Vancouver and started a job as purser with Union Steamships which serviced the British Columbia and Alaska coast with mail and supplies. One month before leaving the ships I met Beverley Luck, who later became my wife.

On March 22, 1957 I started a new job with a building supply firm which later became part of Canada Cement Lafarge. For the past ten years I have been Steel Division Superintendent.

Bev and I have a twenty-one year old daughter and two sons twenty and eighteen years old.

As I look back on my youthful days in Maymont, I recall a community active in sports and community events and populated by some very fine people.

The Colin Ramsay Story

In 1907 an adventurous young lad of 17 left the home of his clergyman father in Wyfordby, in Leicestershire, England to seek his fortune in the promising land of Canada. This lad was Colin Ramsay. No doubt his decision to come to Canada was influenced somewhat by the fact that his older brother Ernest had emigrated to Canada four years earlier. The first year or so in Canada was spent at St. Mary's,

Ontario. Then in 1909 Colin came west. He took a homestead on the south edge of what was called the Belgian Flats in the Wanganui District.

Then came World War I in 1914 and once again Colin found himself on European soil. He was wounded in the right arm and while convalescing he contracted mumps. Like many other soldiers, the effect of that war remained with him a long time.

After returning to Canada Colin sold his homestead and bought a half-section four miles north of 40 Highway between Speers and Richard. In 1923 he married Margaret Day. They raised a family of five girls and two boys. One daughter Phyllis passed away in 1957 at the age of 28 years.

In 1949, the Colin Ramsay Family moved to the Ernie Ramsay farm at Maymont, Colin having purchased the half-section N½-16-42 formerly belonging to his brother. The three older girls Ellen, Isobel and Phyllis were away from home by this time. Stuart, the oldest boy farmed there until 1955 when he moved to Vancouver. He worked in the Yukon for sometime before moving to the United States where he became manager and owner of Reno Bus Lines in Reno, Nevada. He now resides on a small ranch at Snohomish near Seattle, Washington. Pat who took most of her schooling in Maymont now lives in the Langley area of British Columbia. Sybil the youngest in the family is the wife of Norman Walker, a minister from Valemount, British Columbia. Dennis, the youngest son in the family took his high schooling in Maymont by riding to and from school on his pony, Lily. He has lots of tales to tell about these days but I believe his favourite is the one invloving Mrs. Neil and her power. It seems Dennis had given Valerie a ride home and as he was leaving the house noticed the main power switch. Being of a mischevious nature, he pulled the lever and headed for home. The Neils spent most of the evening in the dark believing the power to be off until Valerie went to the church and found the power was on. A few days later Mrs. Neil saw the culprit in the cafe and greeted him with "There's that young Ramsay who shut me power off. Let me sit in the dark half the night." They still laugh over that one when they get together. Dennis now lives in North Battleford.

In later life, Colin Ramsay, by his own admission was a drunkard though a clergyman's son. He had never found any reality in religion. When he got to the place where he had to quit drinking or die, he one day stumbled into the Foursquare Church and was drunkenly playing hymns on the old organ. With the instruction and prayers of Paster Floyd Sloan he became a staunch supporter of the Foursquare Gospel Church and a total abstainer.

The family moved to North Battleford in 1956 where Colin remained until his death in 1971. Mrs. Ramsey died in New Westminster in 1977.

The Dennis and Trudy Ramsay Story

A Sunday evening in the spring of '38 saw Dr. Ronnie Scratch delivering a baby in an old farmhouse north of Maymont. The home was that of the midwife Katie Holmes and I was that baby — the first child in the family of Ted and Evelyn Sloan. (They named me Trudy.)

As a small child, some of my earliest recollections of Maymont include Bean's Store, the drug store where I got my first book and the livery barn and the tie post. Since we were farm folk, a trip to town was always a highlight. I remember Bean's Store as a fascinating place with many things to see and many people coming in and stopping to chat. I vividly remember the day Ed Buhr came into the store. Taking special notice of me, he declared he would make dill pickles out of my ears. I ran for cover behind my dad much to Ed's amusement. Later on we purchased my school supplies in Bean's Store and I started to school in the town of Maymont where I learned to read about Jerry and Jane under the teaching of Miss Jantzen.

Alot of new experiences were waiting for me the fall I entered the third grade in a one room country school called Keystone the same school my mother had attended years before. Starting to practise for the Christmas concert in October was hard to understand but it was more fun than arithmetic. It was also fun to listen to the higher grades reading lessons. It was different to have everyone regardless of age play the game which usually was softball. The reason we usually played ball was that every school year ended with a picnic and some very keen competition amongst the students of Keystone, Grey and Eatonia schools so we practised like crazy every recess and noon hour. In fact it was at one of these picnics that I first saw the

Dennis and Trudy Ramsay and family.

man I would someday marry. I wasn't too impressed with him that day. I was 11 and he 15. The Colin Ramsay family had just moved into the Grey School District. Dennis was catcher for the Grey School team and Les Parker was pitcher. They really didn't need any other players as they mostly took care ■ us little Keystone kids right at the plate but we tried hard even if it was ■ vain. Five years later I found this curly red-head made a better friend than an opponent. Our friendship blossomed and grew during my last two years of high school. (Nel Curry could verify this — as I boarded at her place!) After graduation it seemed logical to join Dennis ■ Bible College in British Columbia so that we could prepare for ■ future life together. The rash of weddings amongst our friends seemed to have an unsettling effect ■ us so it was that year we decided ■ go our separate ways. I returned to Saskatchewan to take up teacher training and Dennis continued his studies in British Columbia.

After graduating from Teacher's College, I found myself back in a one-room school called Hopewell in the Radisson area with 17 pupils in nine different grades. ■ spite of keeping busy, I did find it a bit lonely in my teacherage so the next year found me teaching Grade Two's in Lawrence School in North Battleford. After two years of teaching in the city, my feet again began to get itchy so I resigned ■ further my education. I got one class at summer school completed and suddenly that curly red-head appeared in my life once more. With his appearance on the scene, education didn't seem so important after all so we decided to make up for lost time and planned a wedding for the fall. I was very glad to ■ a Maymont girl at this point in my life as I believe the Maymont bridal showers are second to none. There is more than household gifts given at these. The worth of community spirit and a sense of belonging cannot be measured.

Most of our married years have found us close enough to be regular visitors in the Maymont area. Dennis and I spent nine years in Wilkie where Dennis was minister of the local Foursquare Gospel Church. Another three years of pastoring in Delta, British Columbia followed. During this time we became involved in Successful Living of Canada an interdenominational organization that promotes good wholesome reading as an alternate to today's pornography. We feel we are making a positive contribution to our community in this way. Dennis is a journey-man painter by trade and helps to brighten up the world that way too.

It is said that you take the boy out of the prairie but you can't take the prairie out of the boy and it seems like it must be true. Here we are back on the prairie only thirty miles from where we began and we're happy to be here. It is a good place to raise our family of four, Denise, Marlow, Colleen, and Vance. We are close ■ the place where many of our fondest memories lie — a place that will always ■ home.

The Ernest Ramsay Story

Ernest Wulfila Ramsay was born ■ Castle Douglas, Scotland in 1882. His family moved to the village of Wyfordby in Leicestershire, England from whence he emigrated to Canada in 1903. He homesteaded 4½ miles north east of Maymont. When the railroad came to Maymont he found employment building the road bed. He married Mary Green, an English woman. They had only one child, ■ boy who died at or near birth. Ernie went ■ the First World War and was wounded twice — once ■ the leg and once in the head. Ernie and Mary Ramsay were well-known for their good short horn cattle which at the time were some of the best in the area.

They were plagued by all the usual problems that beset Saskatchewan farmers in the early days. There was an intense shortage of water which was overcome by hauling a tankload of water from the village of Maymont very early every morning. Ernie's usual time for rising in the summertime was 3 or 3:30 a.m.

Mary Ramsay was secretary of Grey School for many years. She was noted for being extremely careful with the finances especially during the thirties. Because they were only a half mile from the school, it was an ideal boarding place for the teachers. So even if they did not have children of their own, they were still able to keep abreast of the happening of the school.

Mary Ramsay.

Mr. Ramsay was a person able to laugh at himself

Ernest Wulfila Ramsey and Mary Ramsey.

Spring — 1905. E. W. Ramsey on his homestead — NW 16, 42, 12, west of the 3rd.

which was fortunate considering there were times when there was little enough to laugh at.

His accent was a source of amusement in the community. He was raised in the home of an Anglican clergyman however his mother being part French hired French nannies. Thus the children learned to speak French before they learned English. While they lost the ability in later life to carry on a good French conversation, Ernest especially retained a French accent.

When it came time for them to retire, they found it a rather wrenching procedure. Ernie said to his brother Colin who later purchased the farm, "It seems that I know every fence post on the place and its hard to leave but I can't do the work." Mary said "It seems that we have only just now gotten the place fit to live in and we have to leave it." They moved to North Battleford and the farm was rented for sometime by Jack Holden. Later his brother Colin Ramsay bought the half section with the buildings.

Their happily married state came to an end when Auntie Mary passed away July 27, 1957 at the age of 81 years. Several years later Ernie remarried. He found the Biblical admonition "It is better to dwell in the wilderness, than with a contentious and an angry woman" (Proverbs 21:19) to be true. When he could no longer take the abuse he departed. He said to his nephew "All I want is some peace".

One day the doctor told him that he should have surgery to correct a certain condition. When Ernie was reluctant the doctor said "You will have to eventually". Uncle Ernie showed his sense of humour when he said to me "I don't know that he is right, I can die wizout getting it fixed can't I?". With his accent it was very funny.

He took more than one European tour which included a stop at the Vatican and a visit with his sisters in England. He said "I had a feeling that I could not die in Europe but had to return to Saskatchewan". He passed away in North Battleford at the age of 87 at which time it was discovered he had made all his funeral arrangements and so it was according to his wishes that he was buried next to his first wife Mary.

Mr. and Mrs. William Ralph

Mr. and Mrs. William Ralph were married in 1915 the same year that Ethel had come west. They lived on Section 12-43-14-W 3rd. in the Battleford municipality. At that time many of the roads were just prairie trails. They raised a family of four; Howard, Manly, Bill and Elaine. The children attended Barleston School. In World War II, Howard served in the Canadian Army and Bill in the R.C.A.F. Mrs. Ethel Ralph was one of the early members of St. Mary's Anglican Ladies Guild. When Mr. Ralph's health failed, Mrs. Ralph moved to North Battleford where she had a house and took in boarders. When Davidson Manor opened, Mrs. Ralph moved in there. She enjoys visitors and one can always be assured of a friendly cup of tea.

Margaret Reed (Nee McLaren)

I was born in Maymont, Saskatchewan in July, 1916 to Robert and Margaret McLaren. I moved with my parents from Maymont in 1918 and after living in several provinces we settled near Ponoka, Alberta in 1925.

I was united in marriage to Philip Reed in 1934. We have four children. They are Mrs. Sylvia Hardy of Abbotsford, B.C.; Mrs. Carol James of Ponoka, Alberta; Ronald of Leduc, Alberta; and Graham of Ponoka, Alberta. We have seventeen grandchildren.

We farmed east of Ponoka until 1975 when we moved into the town of Ponoka, where we now reside.

Archie Reid and Family

I was born of Andrew and Elizabeth C. Reid at Maymont on April 2, 1912, and delivered by Dr. J. A. Scratch.

I left Maymont in June, 1933, but have been back very often.

In November, 1946, I married Nellie Imrie of Adanac, sister of Mrs. Ruby Myers. We have two daughters, Linda, born November, 1947 and Sally born November, 1950. Sally was married in June, 1977, to Rick White, and they have a son Seth Daniel White — our grandson.

I have a few fond recollections of the old days and will touch on the sports angle.

My earliest recollections of Sports Days are when they were held inside the race track, now part of the school grounds and part of the old Blacklock farm.

I can remember the horse races and Sam Miller and George McIvor were two of the horse owners.

The baseball diamond was just inside the north part of the track. Players in that period were Bob McPherson, Cy Davis, Dr. Scratch, Walter Mawhinney, Jim

Brady, Jackie Campbell, Edgar Reid, Cass and Frank Lehner. The main opposition in those days was the Denholm team, who had several paid players.

I will never forget the three-day celebration of fifty years of Confederation. I was fifteen years old and J. ■. Blacklock, team manager, told me to go ■ and play second base for Frank Lehner who had to play in the band.

Other players in that era were Alan Bean, Norman Melrose, Noel Crawley, Bill Kerr, Roy Gray, Jimmy Gray, Stacey Smith.

During the depression years, some players besides myself were Ron and Norvel Scratch, Jim and Roy Gray, Norman Melrose, Alan Bean, Jack Bates, Harvey Johnston, Albert Hickman and sometimes Lefty Arnold of Ruddell. J. ■. Blacklock was still manager.

I also have fond memories of two swimming holes. One was Andrew Melrose's dam and the other by the C.N.R. tracks about opposite the Foster home. Many were the 'skinny dips' at school lunch break.

Mr. and Mrs. James J. Reid

told by Wendell (Derby) Reid

Mr. and Mrs. James J. Reid came to Maymont in 1906 from Leeds, Quebec.

His homestead was on a quarter section 1 mile south and ½ mile east of Maymont, which they lived on ■ summer and moved into town in winter. Their first house ■ Maymont was just south of the Pool Elevator.

Derby Reid family — Derby and Binky, Derby Jr., Maxine, Susan and Leah.

Later he bought ¾ section of land on S½ of Section 30-41-12-W3rd and S.E. of 25-41-13-W3rd.

They had 4 daughters, Stella (deceased), Elsie of Salmon Arm, Bernice of Penticton B.C., Irene of Lytton, B.C. Three sons, Edgar (deceased), Lyman (deceased), and W. Derby of Maymont.

Dad ran the Butcher shop in Maymont for some time. He had a contract with a firm in Winnipeg for Beef and sent many carloads of meat in winter.

Wendell (Derby) took over the farm from his Dad and farmed until his retirement in Maymont in the lots formerly owned by the late Dr. J. A. Scratch.

Derby married Edith (Binky) Saunders in July of 1942. They had 1 son Derby Allan now in Colonsay. He is a teacher and was married to Elaine Harris (deceased in 1979) and have 2 children, Norrie and Brennan. Derby and Binky also have three daughters — Maxine now of Saskatoon; Susan — married to Alvin Rothenburger of Radisson — 2 children Cari and Chad; Leah of Saskatoon — married to Allan Nichol of Broderick in 1979.

Binky and I had a beautiful life down on the farm on outskirts of Maymont. We love the people and our church and community which fill our lives so much, and are proud of our part in it.

I would like to relate a story of my Dad and his first Model T car. He got the car started from home and went up town and when he got there he didn't know how to stop it, so he drove around and around, hollering for someone to show him how to stop it!! Finally some kind soul jumped on the running board and obliged. Needless to say he still preferred the old horse and buggy.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Reid

by Bernelce (Reid) Strudwick

Jim Reid, my father, and Dianna Reid, my mother, were born in Quebec. They decided ■ move West and start ■ new life so they moved to Saskatchewan with four children — Stella, Elsie, Edgar and Lyman Reid. My dad had a store business for awhile and a farm one-half mile west and south of Maymont where he farmed and raised cattle. I was born in 1908 on the old homestead in a log cabin. Irene, my sister, was born later and then Wendell or Derby was born on the farm.

Butchering day on Jim Reid farm.

So there were seven of us — four girls and three boys. We attended school in Maymont and were active there in sports and church and other organizations.

Stella who was the oldest girl and worked in the store and post office later married Gordon Auckland. He ran Galvin Lumber Yards in Speers, Saskatchewan.

Edgar attended high school in Regina, was a great hockey player and later took a Pharmacy Course.

Elsie taught school and then went in training for a nurse at Toronto General Hospital. Later she married Ralph Sparkes of Saskatoon.

Lyman Reid farmed and worked on Steam Engines and later married Evelyn Foreman.

Irene Reid taught school and later married a fellow by the name of Al Hickman.

Wendell (Derby) Reid worked on the farm with his parents and married Binky Saunders, an Anglican minister's daughter.

I attended Business College in Saskatoon and later worked for the T. Eaton Co., Ltd. I met Henry Strudwick, teller of the Imperial Bank at Maymont and we were married in 1930. We lived in Maymont and Henry worked in Friedman's Store. Our daughter, Janice, was born and Doc Scratch brought her into the world. Mrs. Downey and Mrs. Kerr were the midwives. We moved to Rabbit Lake and Henry clerked in a big store, post office and general store and undertaking business. He worked for Art Donais. Jerry was born there. Dr. Story was the doctor.

We moved back to Maymont and then to Manville, Alberta — managing a Co-op Store — Ruth was born in the Manville Hospital. Then we moved to Edmonton and Henry worked as bookkeeper for the Social Credit Government. We bought an acreage and raised chickens and a big garden. My dad helped us finance it. Ron or "Butch" as he is often called, was born there. The four children attended school. I worked in Eatons part-time. We bought a second-hand car.

Janice is married now to Rene Chamberland. They live in Naramata on an acreage, nine miles from Penticton. They have a son, Marc, and a daughter, Lee, Marc has a son, little Rene.

Ruth lives in Penticton on an acreage and is married to Marcel Gagne but they have parted recently. Ruth has three sons — two working and one going to school — and a daughter, Cindy, going to school. They have a beautiful home and apple orchard.

Jerry Strudwick is married and living in Edmonton. He is with the Parks Department of the Provincial Government and has a good job. He is married to Doreen and they have three girls — Debbie, Bonnie and Cindy — and a son, Wayne. Bonnie married recently.

Ron (Butch) is married to Gail, a Japanese Girl and he is a traveller and First Aid Man. Gail is a lovely girl — no family yet.

Henry retired and is living in Edmonton. We are separated but not divorced. He has a girl friend. I moved to Penticton and stay at Haven Hill Rest Home where I'm very happy. I'm diabetic and in good health otherwise but a bit overweight. I have nine grandchildren and one great-grandson and am very happy. Penticton is a nice place to live. I go on holidays every year to Edmonton and Salmon Arm.

The W. H. Reid Family

In 1907 William (Bill) Reid came to Maymont from his birthplace of Leeds, Quebec with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Reid and their five children. His brother and sisters were Marjorie, Mary, Ellen, and Ann. Four children were later born to the family in Maymont. (See Mary Rogers' story.)

Bill went to school in Maymont and worked with his father on the farm until he married Maria Harkness in 1927. Maria had come to Canada from County Antrim (Northern Ireland) in 1919. Her mother having passed away in 1918, her father, Hugh Harkness, brought with him to Maymont a family of four sons and two daughters. They were Jim and John (both deceased), Hugh Crawford, Maria, and Grace (Mrs. Norman Melrose at Maymont).

Agnes and William Reid.

Bill and Maria were married in 1927 at the St. Thomas Wesley Manse in Saskatoon and came back to live in their little log house across the yard from the Andrew Reid house. Here they lived for nine years and were very happy with their growing family of five children.

In 1937 Bill bought the Jack Speiss farm, two and one half miles south west of Maymont. They lived on the farm until 1958 when they turned it over to their second son Jim and moved to Maymont where they purchased the former United Church Manse. The manse had only recently been vacated by the Rev. Frank Myer's family. Bill and Maria are still at home to everyone at this residence.

For more than 10 years Bill was caretaker of the Maymont Village School where Maria often assisted

him with his work. He enjoyed this position very much and they both enjoyed the contact with the students and teachers.

In the meantime their family had grown up and left Maymont to continue their education and vocations elsewhere.

John (the eldest) and his wife Jewel (Kernen) and family, Douglas, Rodney, and Kenneth live in Saskatoon where John is assistant city treasurer and Jewel who is a registered nurse works part time at City Hospital.

Jim and his wife Marilyn now live in Mannville, Alberta having sold the home farm in 1986 to George Gray. Marilyn is the only daughter of Alan Nutbrown, formerly of Maymont and is a graduate nurse from the Saskatchewan Hospital in North Battleford. Their family consists of Cindy, now Mrs. Warren McLaughlin and the mother of two, Zane, now Mrs. James Harnes of Viking, and Tess and Steven, still at home. The farm in Mannville has now been sold and Jim is working for an Oil Company.

Norman and his wife Maxine (Bottema) and children Jeff, Calla, and Patrick live in Kelowna where Norman is in business as a Chartered Accountant and Maxine is in Real Estate.

Hugh and his wife Delores (DeLong) presently live in Spruce Grove with their family of Mark, Heather, and Alison. Delores is the daughter of Ken DeLong who operated Maymont Locker Plant for several years, and she also served as church organist during her school years in Maymont. Hugh formerly a teacher is presently with the Dept. of Indian Affairs in Edmonton and Delores in selling Real Estate.

Margaret the youngest of the Reid children and the only daughter is now Mrs. J. W. Kyllo of Saskatoon. She has been employed by the Bank of Commerce for many years in several different positions, including being the first woman Bank Manager in Saskatoon. Wally is a graduate of the College of Law, U. of S. and is now retired. He served in the second World War as a paratrouper.

Bill and Maria have kept in close touch with their family which has expanded to include thirteen grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. They are still active in community activities and are members of the United Church at Maymont.

The Lyman Reid Family

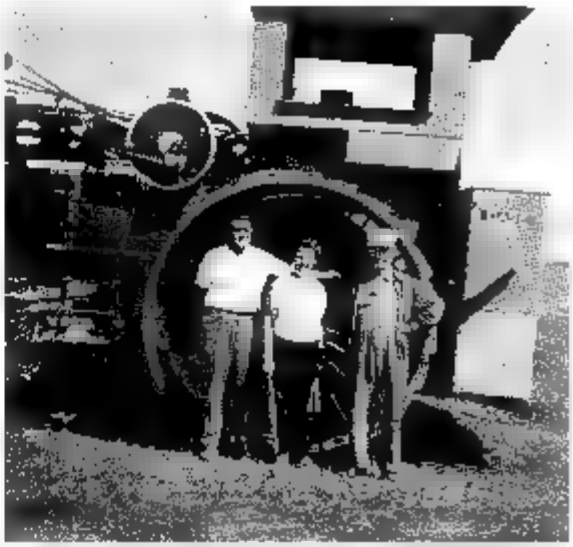
submitted by Evelyn Reid

In 1903 two special people were born, Lyman Reid in Leeds Village, Quebec, and Evelyn Foreman in South Shields, England.

In 1905, I (Evelyn) came to Sommingdale, Sask. with my parents and one sister. In 1906, Lyman came to Maymont, Sask. with his parents, one brother, and two sisters. Both families took homesteads and began farming with oxen, later changing to horses.

In November, 1920 when after walking across the river ice, following a wagon load of wheat, the ice bending under the weight of the load, I was to spend the winter with my sister, Hilda. I met Lyman at a skating party at the river.

Reid 50th anniversary — 1974. Eric, Cathie, Evelyn and Lyman, Art, Cal.



Eric, Evelyn and Lyman Reid — early 70's.

The next few years I worked at the phone office, farms, and post office. Lyman worked with his father, herding cattle in his school days.

Always interested in tractors, cars and steam engines, he became one of the first mechanics in the district.

We were married in March, 1924, this time crossing the river in a buggy through a stream of water two feet deep and sixty feet wide, on top of the ice. (Now we have the bridge.)

We tried farming about nine years, steadily heading into the depression of the Dirty Thirties. Then we went to Mullingar, Sask. where Lyman served as a grain buyer for the Searle Grain Company for eight years. He began at $90.00 per month but very soon wages dropped to $50.00 per month. Rent and insurance took

$11.00, so we didn't have too much for food and clothing for three boys and ourselves, but we even managed to run a car occasionally.

The best buys I can remember were a twenty pound turkey hen, oven-ready for eighty cents, and a hind quarter of beef for three cents a pound.

Then came World War II and Lyman joined the Air Force at $1.10 per day.

As a child I began dressmaking and haircutting, later adding ladies' hairdressing which I continued until recently. More women remained at home housekeeping and raising their families in those days.

Near the end of the war two girls came along to complete the family we have always been proud of.

After the war we returned to Maymont to farm, which still was not too profitable, so Lyman worked away from home every winter, with oil drilling companies in Alberta, Saskatchewan, and North West Territories. As I got older he was janitor at the Federal Building, North Battleford, and finally night attendant at Sallows and McDonald Funeral Home, North Battleford.

We celebrated our fiftieth wedding anniversary in 1974.

As Lyman's health began to fail he was at home in Maymont the last two years. He still kept up his great interest in steamers at Pioneer, Saskatoon, and the Museum, North Battleford until he was confined to bed at Eric's in Saskatoon and called home to Glory, September, 1978.

Our children live at Saskatoon, Sask.; Slave Lake, Alberta; Penticton, B.C.; Delta, B.C. and Victoria, B.C.

The Temple Reid Family

Temple Reid, a rancher from Lincoln, Nebraska, moved north to the Lilac district in 1904. He chose a location north of Goose Lake or about six miles north of Lilac. A Metis named Nolin lived on the east side of the lake at that time and was the closest neighbor.

The family of nine spent the first winter in a sod house. Deer shot in the Whitewood Lake area and a few vegetables were the families diet. The younger members had no chance for an education, of course.

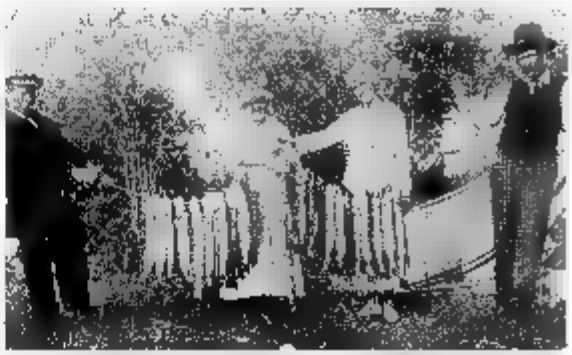
The first crops sown were broadcast by hand and the seed covered by dragging a green tree over the planted area.

Ephriam Reid was detailed one summer to keep the heavy gopher population down by snaring them and drowning them. His brothers, by necessity, all became great hunters.

They spent a few years in the Hafford area, but returned to the Lilac district where the father passed away with cancer.

Russell, the older brother, took over. They bought mules from the south for farm work purposes.

Mrs. Temple Reid.



Meeting Lake; Grover, Wilmetta, Mrs. Eph. (Jessie) and Wilbur Reid.

They operated steam threshing outfits in the early years.

The five brothers Russell, Grover, Wilbur, Ephriam and Wert all settled and farmed in the Lilac area and were lifetime farmers there.

Russell farmed the original Reid homestead. His son, Clarence, carried on after his death. Cliff Gillatt presently operates and lives on the farm. Wert Reid is the only family member left and is retired in North Battleford. His wife Marie Parent, was the daughter of a long time Lilac resident.

Two of the girls, Laura and Bess, married and live in the U.S.A. Frances married and lived in Saskatoon. Gertrude married the former Bill Reisinger of the Lilac district.

The early years for the Reid brothers, as for other

settlers, would be rather uneventful by our standards. They however, enjoyed hunting deer and ducks and trapping muskrats.

Family gatherings and house parties were common. Ephriam and Wert were old time fiddlers at these affairs.

Grover Reid married the former Wilmetta Jones and missed very few early school house dances.

The Reid Family

told by Kenneth Reid

Temple and Fanny Reid with their nine children farmed in Shelby, Nebraska. They lived on a small farm bordering the Blue River. The parents had been concerned for many years about the future of their children. Certainly their small farm could not be divided nine different ways! When the stories were heard about homesteads and a golden future in the north west, Grandpa and Grandma Reid decided to take a chance on this land of fortune. In 1904, part of the family arrived in Saskatoon, later going to their homestead in what is now known as the Lilac area.

Grandpa and Grandma Reid and the younger children arrived in 1905. There were nine siblings — Russell, Laura, Bess, Grover, Gertrude, Eph, Wilbur, Frances and Wert. Laura stayed in Fremont, Nebraska where she married Frank Custer. Bess also stayed in Nebraska where she attended Teacher's College.

It was many years of hard work. However, the Reid boys were never sorry for having made the decision to come to Canada. They looked back on those early days as exciting and adventuresome. The Reid Brothers were very proud of their steam engine which they operated; doing their own work as well as custom work for their neighbours and friends. Perhaps the girls were disappointed at times and certainly Grandma Reid had her blue days when she would have liked to have returned to the little home in Nebraska. Grandpa and Grandma Reid later bought a ranch in the Hafford area. It was on the ranch in Hafford that Temple Reid died of cancer in 1918.

The family married one by one. Russell married Lyda Showeldice and they had 2 children Hazel (deceased) and Clarence, presently living in North Battleford.

Bess married Jim Ryan and they had three children — Fanny (deceased), Thelma and Donald both living in Wyoming.

Grover married Wilmetta Jones and they had 2 children, Kenneth and Audrey, both married and living in Saskatoon.

Gertrude married Bill Reisinger of the Lilac district. Gertrude died at a very young age leaving a little daughter, Gertrude who lived with Grandpa and Grandma Reid.

Eph married Jessie Duff and they had three children, Grant who farms in the Lilac district, Helen who lives in Vancouver, B.C. and Marjorie who lives in Quesnel, B.C.

Wilbur married Nellie Loveless and they had one son, Clifford. Nellie died at an early age and Wilbur then lived the majority of his life as a trapper in the Glaslyn area.

Frances became a school teacher and later married Hugh Spring. The couple had no children. They lived most of their life in the city of Saskatoon.

Wert married Marie Parent and they are still living in North Battleford. They had four children, Iris living in Edmonton, Myrna living in Rocky Mountain House, Lois living in Edmonton and Edwin living in Calgary.

The only surviving members of this original pioneer family are Wert and his wife.

Wilmetta married Grover Reid and they remained in the area the rest of their lives. Both of them loved Canada and after their marriage, had no desire to ever return to the United States. They would take a quick look at the American flag on July 4th (which Grover always kept in his trunk) but their hearts were always loyal to this land. They had two children, Kenneth and Audrey, both married and living in Saskatoon. Grover died in 1955 and Wilmetta died in 1966.

During their lifetime, W. B. Jones was very active in community life and particularly in politics. He was an ardent Liberal and spent all his life working for this party. He was often out campaigning with his pals, Harry Sharp and Wilf Langley when he could have been on the land. W. B. Jones was idolized by the members of his family and will always remain in the hearts of the descendants who had the priviledge of knowing this wonderful gentleman.

The Reikie Story

by Mary Grasby

James Reikie homesteaded the S.W.¼ 24,42,14,W3rd, in the year of 1903. John Kitchen homesteaded the N.W.¼ 24,42,14,W3rd, a year or so later. He died in 1906, willing his homestead to his sister Lucy (Mrs. Jim Reikie).

My father James Reikie was born in Bruce County, Ont. His Grandfather, who came from Scotland, had received a grant of 100 acres of Ont. forest land, after serving in the Boer War in Africa.

As a young man James moved to Michigan, where he worked in the lumbering trade as a "scaler". This was the trade of measuring the board feet a log would yield.

In 1903 he married Lucy Kitchen and came to Saskatoon, N.W.T. There he got work at his trade in a lumber yard. Saskatoon was then the end of the railway. My parents saw the arrival of the Barr Colonists, and like them travelled to the homestead by horse and wagon in 1904. By that time they had their 6 month old daughter, Mary. Three years later the family was increased by the birth of a son, James Peter.

I can remember when the area around Ruddell was

mostly prairie. There were few trees or bluffs. This was due to the prairie fires. As the land became broken fires were not so common. I can remember two big fires going by our home.

A problem for homesteaders was water. Often a well could not be found where a house had been built so water had to be hauled. The "stone boat" with barrels of water on ■ could be seen in many yards. A pail of fresh cool water was a real luxury.

My father died in 1915. We remained on the farm, which was rented to Charlie Murison, until my brother James was old enough to farm it. James lived there until his health failed. He rented the farm out and moved to Saskatoon, where he lived until his death in 1978. He had sold the farm in 1961. James had no children of his own. He had one step-daughter, Sylvia (Mrs. Charles Kawliek) of Saskatoon.

I have three sons, Jim, Harland, and Arthur. Two of the boys live in Saskatoon, and one in Asquith. I have a daughter Marian, who lives in Winnipeg.

My father, James Reikie was the first person to be buried in the present Ruddell Cemetery. My mother and her aunt are also buried there.

John Kitchen was buried in the first Ruddell cemetery, two miles south of Ruddell overlooking the river. John had one step-son Norman Buckley. Norman went under the name of Kitchen until ■ married. He lived around Baljennie.

Pearl S. Reiley Family

by Arthur H. Reiley

Pearl S. Reiley (my father) second son of Arthur and Eunice Reiley was born on January 6, 1883 at Grant, Michigan, U.S.A.

Dad's early years were spent working in the logging camps in Michigan, both in the upper and lower peninsulas. Most of the time he was working ■ the cook's shanty and as a cook. He also attended school when possible attaining the grade of three or four.

Dad entered the Michigan College of Chiropractic at Grand Rapids early in 1912 and graduated as a Doctor of Chiropractic on June 4; later that year he set up his practice in Cleveland, Ohio.

During the summer of 1913 the family decided to come to Canada so Dad closed up shop, and he and his brother, Fern, headed, for Saskatchewan on a harvest excursion. They arrived in North Battleford by train on August 2, 1913 and they both agreed that the best looking country they had seen around was just north of Fielding. The following morning Fern and Dad returned ■ Fielding and were able to get work harvesting — stooking for Frank Summers.

After freeze-up they went into the bush between Big River and The Pas, Manitoba and worked for the Pas Lumber Company the winter of 1913-14.

In the spring they returned to Fielding ■ await the arrival of their dad and brother, Emmett, with their three carloads of settlers' effects.

Pearl and Sadie Reiley on their 45th anniversary — 1968.

Eleanor, Arthur and Stuart Reiley — 1944.

With the arrival of Grandad the search for land began and they subsequently purchased the south half of 32, 42, 11, W 3rd, nine miles straight north of Fielding in the newly formed Speers District. During that summer they were joined by Grandmother and the two children, Elton and Thelma.

It was at Fielding while Grandad and all the "boys" were unloading their household effects that one of the natives was heard to remark, "They must be a lazy family, they have five rocking chairs."

Aunt Thelma attended school in North Battleford boarding with Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong in 1919. At the age of nineteen she contracted the flu and passed away that summer. (I beleive she had the dubious honor of being the first person to ride in a motorized hearse in Battleford). Dad took her body back to Michigan for burial.

Uncle Elton returned to the U.S.A. after a few years and joined the Marines, eventually retiring in California.

During the summer of 1915 Aunt Lou and her husband, Alfred Bouschard, and daughters, Pauline and Eunice, arrived in the district.

In the early 1920's Aunt Lizzy, a widow with three small children, joined the rest of the family.

In 1922 Grandad and Grandma returned to Michigan to stay. Aunt Lizzie kept house for Dad.

On December 12, 1923 Dad married Sarah Agnes (Sadie) Cunningham of Saskatoon. Later that evening they boarded the train for the U.S.A. on their honeymoon and to join Dad's family for Christmas. They returned to the farm at Speers for the spring of 1924. During the next four or five years Uncle Emmett, Uncle Fern and Aunt Lizzie all returned to make their homes in Michigan. Aunt Lou and Uncle Alf had purchased a farm near Mullingar, so Dad and his family were the only ones of the Reileys left in the Speers District.

Mom and Dad had three children, Eleanor, born on December 3, 1924, Arthur, born December 24, 1929; and Stuart, born September 21, 1931.

In 1943 Eleanor attended Normal School (teachers' college) in Saskatoon and after six weeks of training accepted a teaching position near Mullingar at Ringelton Firs. In 1950 she married Kelly Vawter of Allan, Saskatchewan and they made their home at Flin Flon, Manitoba where Kelly was employed; two years years later he was killed in a mine accident. In 1952 Eleanor returned to the teaching profession and in 1959 married Bill Thomas. They are presently making their home at Hodgson, Manitoba with their four children: Margaret, Robert, Jason and Susan.

In 1945 Dad sold the farm at Speers and we moved to the Lilac District, purchasing the farm from William Agar. Stuart and I continued our education at Lilac and Richard Schools. Stuart went to Regina to make his living. In 1956 he married Jeanne Rook of Lintlaw; they have a son, Michael, and a daughter, Jackie. Later he attended University, getting his degree in Education; he has been teaching in the Regina School System.

I have continued to live on the family farm at Lilac. In 1960 Ruth Golden of the Keatley District and I were married in the United Church at Speers, Saskatchewan. We have three children: Neil, who at the time of this writing is finishing his Grade Twelve, Marlene is in Grade Eleven and Brian is in Grade Nine.

Dad passed away May 2, 1971 and was laid to rest in the New Ottawa Cemetery, in the school yard where his children and some of his nephews had attended school . . .

Mom still lives in her own home on the farm and will be celebrating her eighty-seventh birthday on June 5, 1979.

Arthur H. Rein

Principal, Ruddell School, 1945-46

Prior to enlisting in the RCAF I was Principal of Denholm School.

While going though the process of getting my discharge I was offered the Principalship at Ruddell. The cottage that went with the position had a direct bearing on my acceptance.

Lois, baby Judy and I moved in during the month of August, 1945.

During the school year I was informed by the Department of Veterans Affairs that I would have to take my gratuities in cash or use them for furthering my education. The fact that I had fourteen years of teaching service was the deciding factor in my return to the University of Saskatchewan the following year. My room-mate at St. Andrew's College was Allan Wrenshall.

Our son, Scott, was born in North Battleford in February, 1946, the worst winter on record; and me without a car. Mr. and Mrs. Grover Reid lived next door. One day I mentioned my concern to Grover. He said, "Don't worry about a thing. When the time comes my car will be ready." His preparations commenced shortly after the New Year. Everyone in Ruddell knew that Grover's car was plugged in each night, his mitts, overshoes, and warm clothes within a moment's reach. Needless to say Lois and I didn't have a care in the world.

I might add here, that a few years later the Reids' son, Ken, married one of my Grade twelve students, Joyce Jones. I was given the honor of proposing the toast to the bride. I must have done an excellent job because twenty-five years later I was given the honor of proposing the toast at their 25th Wedding anniversary party.

During the University break, 1946, I entered a rink in the Ruddell bonspiel. Ken Reid 3rd, Alan Wrenshall 2nd, Joyce Jones, lead, and I skip — (all university students). After several days of curling we found

ourselves in the play off. We had last rock and the game in the bag. However, spectator pressure caused me to throw my last rock poorly. When the smoke cleared we were one down. Second prize was 24 quarts of Esso No. ■ oil. Not one of us owned a car.

Mr. and Mrs. John White lived across the lane. Mrs. White and I were very competitive each Monday morning — "Whose washing would be on the line first". Before going to school I would help Lois with laundry. All we could afford at that time was a tub and plunger. I did the plunging and the hanging out. Darn cold job during the winter months.

In 1947 I moved Lois, Judy and Scott to Laird, Sask. to operate the hotel which my father owned and operated. Since Mother was quite ill at that time, she and father moved ■ Saskatoon.

I also took on the principalship of the four room school. We sold the hotel in 1948 and moved to Saskatoon. Daughter Shirley arrived that year.

I returned to University and completed my B. of A. and B. of Ed. degrees. While working on my Master's degree in Education I did some subbing at the Technical Collegiate and joined that staff in 1951. After 24 years in the High School System both as teacher and administrator, I retired Jan. 31, 1975 During my 1972-73 sabbatical leave, Lois and I enjoyed a trip to New Zealand and Australia where I made a study of their High School system based on the British curriculum.

Judy and her husband Les Hofer live in Edmonton with their son and daughter.

Scott and wife Arlene live in Thompson, Manitoba. They have one daughter.

Shirley married Ron Stewart. They live in Saskatoon and have two sons.

After the family left, we sold our home and moved into an apartment. For the past few years we have spent the winter in Mesa, Arizona. During the summer we enjoy our cottage at Manitou Beach, Watrous.

Lois and I still visit our Ruddell freinds. Charlie and Margaret White.

Mrs. Helen (nee Harbor) Remmen

written by Helen Remmen

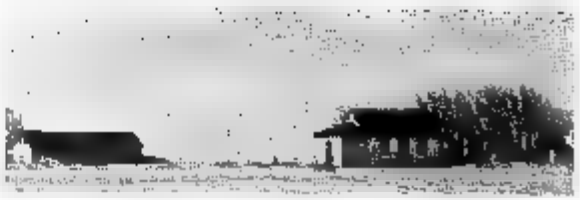
I arrived to teach at Keystone School No. 1144 in January 1944 and remained until June 1955. I sincerely enjoyed my teaching time there.

I especially remember "Arbor Days" with the grass fires; the ball games with Grey School that we never won because the Parker boys were so good, and my appreciation of the fire, janitor, Mr. Dave Penner, had going when we arrived in the winter time.

I also remember fondly the Christmas Concert which was such a memorable part of a country school.

I spent June 1944 living by myself in a granary because of scarlet fever in my boarding place, the Cornelius Epp home.

It was while I was at Keystone that we celebrated



The ad in the Saskatoon Star which Helen Harbor answered: Keystone School District No. 1114 requires a teacher. Duties to commence January 17. Salary $850 per annum. 12 enrolled. C. A. Brehon, Sec.-Treas., Maymont, Sask.

Grades one and two, Keystone School, 1944. Hilda Penner, Berniece Schmidt, Norman Voegeli, Danny Andrew.

with such relief V.E. Day. A special program with all schools participating was held in Maymont.

In 1954 after teaching in various places in Saskatchewan, Rolf Remmen and I were married. We have six children, two still at home. We live on a farm fourteen miles from town in summer and in Hanley in the winter.

We have especially enjoyed having Lilah Brehon and mother, prior to her death, as our near neighbours in Hanley.

The Tom Richardson Family

by Jessie Ferris

My father and mother, along with brother Tommy, sister Nancy and myself, came out from Scotland to

Saskatoon. After a few years sister Ella was born. Dad served in the First World War but due to a heart condition was sent back to Saskatoon. Having been in the grocery business for years Dad bought the R. B. Harris General Store in Fielding.

We all enjoyed the life of a small town where adults and children alike had to make their own fun.

A few highlights, for me at least is all I can remember. Like the first time at school when BERT and NOAH Summers were the welcoming committee amid a bunch of giggling boys at the gate. Bert tried to kiss me and Noah, Nancy. But a hard slap across the face to Bert stopped him and Nancy was left bawling her head off. Bert never came too near me after that.

Another highlight for me was on Hallowe'en night. After having exhausted all the homes and business places we came to the forbidden place — the pool hall. A few brave ones with me in the lead and "I'm going to tell Dad" ringing in my ears, we entered. In those days you had to perform to get a treat. Everyone shrunk back but me and for my singing effort got fifty cents. It was like a million dollars but on reaching home not only did I get a reprimand but my new earned wealth was taken away from me.

We lived in Fielding the last two years of the war 1917-1918 when things were tough all over. I can remember at the back of the store there would be cars, cows or pigs at any given time in payment for groceries.

We lived upstairs and it was there when I was seven that the Santa Claus myth was shattered. I saw my father bring in Ella's little rocking chair and put it beside the bed and later said it was from Santa.

It was in the same bedroom that Dad woke us girls up to say we had a new Baby brother. Dr. Scratch had delivered brother Jimmie on the kitchen table.

When we lived in Saskatoon my father belonged to a Pipe Band where he played the big drum. It was only natural that he led any parade that Fielding had those days. When the men came back from the war he always organized the reception.

He also played the roll of a gallant husband when he reached over and squeezed the life out of a mouse that had crawled up inside my mother's long skirt. This happened in church and everyone kept right on singing and never knew it happened but my poor mother nearly fainted.

When the men started coming home from the war and the train didn't get in till after dark a number of us school children were handed long poles with sacks on the end dipped in gasoline. We then formed two lines so the soldier and his wife or relatives could proceed down the middle. One incident that happened was an over enthusiastic female grabbing one soldier with such zeal, they overturned and rolled down the embankment.

We only lived in Fielding about three years before moving back to Saskatoon. But brother Tommy and I spent the best part of our summer holidays going back to Fielding, either to the R. W. Ferris or R. B. Harris farms. The family then all moved to B.C. to find our niche in life. Tommy joined the navy and Jimmie the army in later years.

Now as I write this in 1979 my father passed away when he was age sixty-seven and Mother was ninety-one. Both my brothers are now deceased. Sisters Nancy lives in Kelowna and Ella in Powell River. I came back to Saskatchewan and married one of my Fielding schoolmates, T. L. Ferris. We live on a farm at Borden.

My parents had six grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

We visit Fielding quite often and although it is now but a mini-village, the spirit of the descendants of those hardy pioneers is still alive and the people are down to earth and wonderful. Fielding brings back to me three years of childhood memories which I will always cherish.

Tom Roberts

In 1913, Dave and Charlie Roberts left Dundee, Scotland to immigrate to Canada, the land of promise and hope. They worked in the Radisson District before returning to Europe for the war of 1914-18. Dave was killed during the war and Charlie returned to the Fielding District to farm. In 1920, their father, Alexander (Sandy) and sister Mary came to Charlie's. Mary was married to William Pennycook of Perdue the same year. The rest of the family joined them in 1921 coming by boat-train. The family lived on the McClintock farm (later Roy Kiepers) Meg and Bill attended school at Fielding and Beckwith. Later Tom purchased his farm two and one-half miles west of Fielding. During this time Tom ran a steamer on a threshing outfit and one fall when crops were poor he went to Lloydminster in harvest where crops were better.

Dorothy Flath and parents Ethel and Tom Roberts.

On November 6, 1935 Tom married Ethel Maud Kieper, second daughter of Charlie Kieper. In February, 1936, mother Jane Milne Roberts passed away. For several years Tom's father lived on the farm until his passing in 1940. On March 14, 1937, daughter Dorothy Noreen was born. She attended school from 1943-45 at Calais. The teacher was Jean Downie of Fielding who lived with Roberts and drove Dorothy to school. Dorothy's classmate was Bob Long. In 1945 Dorothy began attending Fielding School with teacher Betty Darling (Mrs. Cecil Ferris). Farming activities ranged from a laying flock of one hundred leghorns, later to purebred Shorthorn cattle and always grain. Custom combining in the 1940's with Cockshutt's first combine was a real challenge. Later Tom left the combining on the farm for Joe Hunchak to do with his larger outfits. In 1949, Tom purchased thirty acres of land north of the townsite of Fielding and moved his buildings to this location bringing the cattle to winter here. A later purchase was the poolroom from Alex Garnett which was converted to a cafe and run by Edna and Morley Wager for a time, later by Sid Johnson and Ches and Gertie Marshall.

With construction of the new highway through his thirty acres, the cafe building was moved north of the highway and run as a cafe and gas service. With the closing of Fielding's only grocery store, Tom converted the cafe portion into a grocery-confectionary, travelling each week to Saskatoon to purchase supplies.

Ethel was a constant helper in these adventures. Their location gradually became a lovely garden of trees and flowers, a tribute to the many hours spent in gardening. The service station was known far and wide as a stopping spot where service was available at any time and many a stranded motorist was aided.

Ethel was active in church activities, being a member of the Women's Missionary Society and president for a number of years. She served as leader of the Canadian Girls-in-Training for the last twelve years of that organization in Fielding, holding the meetings in her home.

Dorothy was a member of the C.G.I.T. when leaders were Ruby Martens and Florence Phillips, local teachers, also Audrey Delong. Who recalls the Fielding Fun Frolicers (3 F's) led by Florence Phillips when local teenagers met for fun? — ballroom dancing, three-act plays and such. And then the day you were twelve and could join Mr. Bill Brown's church choir which met every Thursday with organist Mrs. Annie Roberts, later Edith Brown and Dorothy Roberts.

Dorothy and cousin, John Roberts, Iona Baker and Edith Brown were the first students transported to Maymont School with Mr. Ryan, school janitor, as driver.

Following graduation, Dorothy attended Teachers' College, teaching in Loon Lake and North Battleford before her marriage in 1960 to Rudolph Flath of Radisson. They moved to their farm in the Stoughton Area and have a family of five.

For many years Ethel suffered from rheumatoid arthritis and required medical aid as she coped with the disease. She managed to keep up most of her activities until her passing in 1977. Tom has continued to operate his service station.

A Tribute to a Great Lady (Ethel Roberts)

from a newspaper clipping

With the passing of Ethel Roberts, Fielding lost a faithful recorder of all U.C.W. and C.G.I.T. meetings, a work that was dear to her heart. Her hand crippled with arthritis, she faithfully wrote detailed accounts of the meetings and work of these organizations so that their achievements could be an inspiration to other branches in other districts. Her leadership in C.G.I.T. inspired the girls to lead useful and Christian lives.

She loved and shared her garden and flowering shrubs with everyone — was very artistic making lovely creations from dried moss, weeds and other dried flowers.

History of the Charles M. Roberts' Family

Charles M. Roberts came from Dundee, Scotland, where he worked on the "Shield Hill" farm. He came to Canada on the advice of a man from Saskatoon, who was back home to Scotland on business. He gave Charlie and his brother, Dave, a letter of introduction to his father-in-law in Saskatoon. The two young Scots left Dundee for Saskatoon early in March, 1913, arriving in 40 degrees below Fahrenheit weather. The letter of introduction was the means of them going to Fielding to Mr. Bill Keyes' home which later became Charlie's own farm. But that's another story.

In a short time Dave was hired by a farmer, Martin McGrath, north of town and Charlie was hired by Al Nutting, a farmer near Radisson. Mrs. Nutting told how she fed Charlie apples when he was in the house to keep him from talking and asking questions — (it was so difficult for her to understand his broad Scottish accent).

That winter, Charlie, a bit lonely for his 'ain folk' went back to Dundee but with the understanding he would return to the Nuttings in the spring, which he did. The next summer war broke out and in 1916 Chester Nutting and Charlie enlisted. Charlie did his training in Radisson and Prince Albert. Eventually he got to England and Europe. He spent eleven months in the front line and was wounded at Passchendael in 1918.

Charlie returned to Radisson after the war was ended and through the D.V.A. bought the farm N.E. quarter 32-40-11-W 3rd. previously farmed by Mr. Keyes. In August, 1920 his father Alex (Sandy) Roberts and his sister, Mary came from Dundee, the latter to

marry Bill Pennycook of Perdue who was also from Dundee. In 1921 Charlie's mother, three brothers Alex, Tom and Bill and a sister, Margaret (Meg) arrived in Fielding and for a time lived with him. Later his dad, mother and family moved to what was then known as the McClintock farm.

In the fall of 1921, I (Annie Blakeley of Sintaluta, Sask.) came on the scene as the teacher in the second room of the Fielding two-room school. Ruth Feeley of Grandora, Sask. was engaged the same term as junior teacher. R. B. Harris, C. E. Kieper and G. E. Iveson were the trustees with Mr. Iveson as secretary. In those days the Christmas concert was the highlight of the school year and the program, which was presented in the Fielding Community Hall, involved each pupil in some item. The next year another teacher, Mary Carmody of Sonningdale, Sask. was added to the staff. For lack of space the senior students Grades VIII-IX and I were moved to what was then the Presbyterian Church, now the United. It was fitted with blackboards and desks. No laboratory, no library, etc. — a far cry from the beautifully furnished and well equipped classrooms of today. The pupils were adjusted to study and the co-operation I got was wonderful. There was a feeling of respect and understanding. I can recall no serious discipline problem. These students have made a mark in the world (I take no credit for this) as teachers, nurses, optometrists and farmers. One boy paid the supreme sacrifice in World War II.

In the winter of 1927 Charlie and his brothers under the supervision of carpenter W. H. Evans built a two-storey house on this farm. Plans were in the making. I was teaching in Westmount School in Saskatoon. Many trips were made from Fielding over the old CeePee Ferry. Finally on Christmas Day 1928 we were married at Sintaluta. A week later we moved into our new home where we spent the next thirty-four happy years, retiring from the farm in 1962 to Saskatoon. Though we were happy on the farm and had wonderful neighbors and friends, life was not all 'pie in the sky'. All will remember the "Hungry Thirties". We never went hungry but certainly made very little money. We always had a good garden, for which we thanked God. No electricity on the farms meant much canning of vegetables, meat and chicken, and jars or crocks of fried pork packed in fat.

For wedding gifts we received a cow, five wee pigs, six hens and a rooster from friends and neighbors. These stood us in good stead and were the start of our livestock population. We named our cow Alexina in honor of the donor, Alex Gunn.

In summer we did much walking — yes, even in winter we often walked to town. Gasoline was rationed as also was sugar. At that time Highway No. Five went by our door. It was a common occurrence to have 'hitch hikers' stop in for a lunch or a meal. I always hoped they would 'go easy' on the sugar. It took a bit of planning and saving to have enough of that rationed staple to do a bit of canning and to make a rhubarb or saskatoon pie for a treat.

There were some bright spots in those hard years too. Most important to us was the birth of our first child, John Charles, born January 25, 1937 and our second son, David Alexander, July 21, 1939. Dr. John Scratch and Nurse Patricia McGrath were attendants at both births.

John trained as a teacher but after a year at Grey School, Maymont he decided to switch to X-ray work and entered St. Paul's Hospital as a student. At present he is Chief X-ray Technician in that hospital. He married Marlene Dosch of Coranach, a Lab Technician at City Hospital. They have two sons and a daughter — Cameron, Darin and Janna. David chose farming as his occupation and took over his father's farm. He married a teacher, Myrna Harris, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Harris of Fielding. They have three sons and a daughter — Kent, Bradley, Craig and Carla.

About five years ago David and Myrna decided to go ranching. They built a beautiful home in a picturesque setting on NE 32-41-11- W3. They sold the farm at 32-40-11 to Brian McNaughton. At present they have a large herd of cattle on "Shield Hill" stock farm. Their interests are also in Quarter horses and all the family are riders.

During their years at Fielding, Charlie and Annie were active members of the Fielding United Church and were community-minded folk. Charlie was active in the local telephone company, Wheat Pool (being an original member) Radisson Co-op, the Fielding Hall Co., the curling rink, the Radisson Masonic Lodge and the Fielding Legion. When he retired to Saskatoon he became an avid horse shoe player and carpet bowler. They became active members in the Mayfair United Church and its various organizations.

Charlie died in July, 1975. He was predeceased by his parents Mr. and Mrs. Alex (Sandy) Roberts, his brother, Dave, who was killed in the First World War, his brother Alex of Vancouver, and his sister Mary Pennycook, Medicine Hat. His sister Margaret (Meg) McMillan of Saskatoon died March, 1978. Tom, who operates the Northside Service Station at Fielding, lost his wife (the former Ethel Kieper) in 1977. Bill, a veteran of World War II lives with his wife (the former Luella Thompson) at Cloverdale, B.C.

Mr. and Mrs. James William Robertson

James William Robertson was born in 1876 and grew up in Barrie, Ontario. As a young man he travelled west to Winnipeg where he spent a time working for the J. H. Ashdown Hardware Co. It was the lure of the West that brought him and his brothers Archie, to Rosthern, Sask. where they operated a store. During that period they received contracts to supply goods to the N.W.M.P. post at Battleford. They freighted those goods by horse-drawn vehicles cross-

country to Battleford. Later in the fall of 1903, they moved on to Fielding and took up homesteads and engaged in farming.

In 1909 J. W. Robertson married Mabel Bishop who came west in 1907 from Greenwich, N.S. to teach school, first at Saltcoats, Sask. and then at Fielding where she was one of the first teachers at Fielding school.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Robertson were active in community affairs. Mr. Robertson was a member of the Board of Session of the United Church when the Methodist and Presbyterian congregations united in 1918. Mrs. Robertson was an energetic member of the Ladies Aid of the Methodist Church before union and of the United Church after union. In 1919 they left Fielding to reside at Chilliwack, B.C. and a few years later to Nova Scotia. Always a westerner at heart Mr. Robertson brought his family back to Saskatoon in 1926 and resided in Saskatchewan till his death in 1947, after spending some years buying grain in St. Walburg and a short while at Tisdale.

Mrs. Robertson passed away in Saskatoon in 1972.

Mr. and Mrs. Robertson had 3 children: Ann, Mrs. George Burgess of Victoria, B.C., Kathleen, Mrs. Malcolm McNaughton of Saskatoon, and James Lovett a lawyer practising in Saskatoon. Mrs. Robertson's two daughters both succeeded her as teachers in the Fielding school.

The Bern Robinson Family

George O. (Bern) Robinson was born in Ontario, raised in Michigan, then returned to Ontario when about 18 years of age. He kept moving westward, to Manitoba, then to Saskatchewan. In 1903, he and his uncle, Charles Robinson, drove by horse and buggy from Waskada, Manitoba to Ruddell, Sask., where he bought N.E. 1-42-14-W.3rd from the C.P.R. on July 16, 1903. He hauled lumber from Saskatoon in 1905 and built a house. Here he brought his bride, Hannah McMahon, in the spring of 1906. He filed on S.E. 2-42-14-3rd for a homestead and by 1906 had broken 140 acres. Not content with farming only, he went into the business of selling Cockshutt and Deering machinery and Grey buggies in the village of Ruddell. Later, when Ford cars were available, he became a Ford dealer, and sold many of the first Fords in the area. In 1910 they moved into their newly built house in Ruddell and there raised their family.

After the implement business was sold to the Grain Growers, he dealt in insurance and Delco products, and later operated the general store with Oswald Harper as partner. He retired from business in 1928 but remained active and managed his land till his death in 1950. His wife had a smaller house built across the street from their former home and lived there till the age of 97, when she moved into North Battleford. She died in January 1979, just two months before her 103rd birthday.

There were four children in the family. Fern and Ruth attended school in Ruddell, North Battleford and Saskatoon, and became teachers, making Ruddell their home until they married. Fern now lives in Vancouver, B.C. with husband Bob Orchard and family, and Ruth in Portland, Oregon, with husband Bill Wilson and family. Merle died at two years of age. Lance received his education in Ruddell and also graduated from U. of S. with his Bachelor of Agriculture degree. He then served in the Armed Forces from 1943 to 1946. He and his wife, Betty Rogers of Maymont, and their family, made Ruddell their home and farmed from town from 1946 to 1973, when they moved into North Battleford. Lance died in 1974 and Betty in 1976, but three of their family,

Oct., 1950. The G. O. (Bern) Robinson family. Left to right — Ruth Wilson, Hannah, Bern holding Colleen (his Granddaughter), Fern Orchard, and Lance.

Oswald Harper on left, George (Bern) Robinson (by tree).

Archie, Hal and Colleen and their families are still in North Battleford. Brenda and her family live in Calgary, Alberta.

The Robinson house is still in Ruddell. Two generations of Robinsons grew up in it, but there is no one now in the district with the Robinson name.

George C. and Emily J. Robinson

by Edna K. Gibson

My father, George Croft Robinson, and my mother, Emily Jane Warnie, were born in Ontario — my father ■ 1849 and my mother in 1865. They were married in 1887 ■ Oakland, Ontario and went over to Michigan where they lived until 1906. My brother, Warne, was born there in 1893 and I in 1896. My father was a blacksmith in Michigan. In 1905 ■ came to the Ruddell District. His homestead was the farm now owned by Herman Soule who is the third generation ■ farm there. During that first year my father started to build our house which was completed the following spring. The mail came to Baljennie from Saskatoon ■ 1905 and my father often rowed across the river to get it and told of the good dinners ■ would have at the Megaffin home. My father spent the winter of 1905 and 1906 in Michigan and made arrangements for my mother, Warne and I to move West which we did in May, 1906. I can remember the prairie was yellow with wild pea blossoms. A remarkable coincidence occurred, when by chance I happened ■ be ■ the washroom on the train and met Mrs. James Lowrey who was also going to Ruddell. Her husband had gone out to join his brother, Edward, who had the Post Office and General store. Mrs. Lowrey could not adjust to the hardships of pioneer life so they did not stay long. My father had a blacksmith shop on Main Street for several years. He sold it to the McKenzie Brothers and bought Mr. Lowrey's Store.

My brother, Warne, had the Post Office until he left for Officer's Training during the First World War. He married Cora Robey first and then Isma Mitchell. They had three children. Their two daughters are still living but their son died in 1965 at the age of thirty-four. Warne died ■ Vernon, B.C. in 1964. Isma now lives in Oliver, B.C.

My father died ■ Ruddell in 1918 and was taken back to Oakland, Ontario for burial.

■ 1928 I married Hugh W. Gibson and came to Victoria, Hugh had farmed in the Lilac District from 1908 to 1918. In December, 1928 my mother came ■ Victoria to make her home with ■ and died here in 1943. My husband, Hugh, died in 1964.

At one time there were six Mrs. Robinsons living in Ruddell.

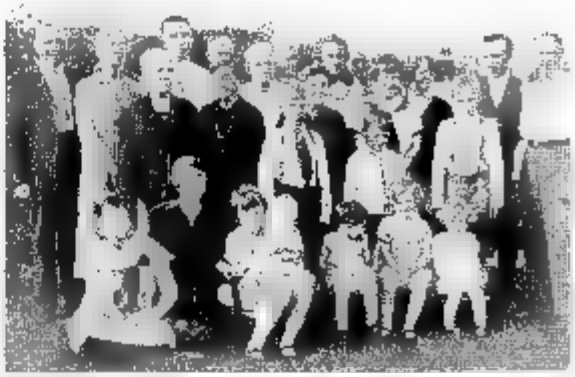
W. O. Robinson and Jack Robinson

In 1913, our father, Arthur William Robinson, arrived in Ruddell, having come via Tisdale, where ■ had homesteaded, and Radisson, where he had farmed for a time. He rented a farm two miles west and a mile south of Ruddell, which was later known as the "Wallace place" and still later as the "Scott place".

In 1915, he returned from a trip to Berlin, Ontario with a bride, Clara May Asmussen. Their first son, John, was born in 1916 and William ■ 1917. Dr. Scratch attended William's birth in the log farm house. Dr. Scratch, having stepped on a nail the previous day,

Mrs. Art Robinson and sons in a Hup down near the river about 1918.

The Art Robinson farm overlooking the dam about 1938.



Robinson family gathering about 1927 or 1928.

Bill Robinson (1938) driving the first rubber-tired tractor in the Ruddell district. This photo was for advertising the Cockshutt Plough.

arrived shod in one bedroom slipper and one rubber boot. Mrs. Asmussen (our maternal grandmother), recently arrived from the east, and, accustomed to doctors clad in morning coat and top hat, was most reluctantly persuaded to allow the doctor's admittance.

A year after William's birth, they moved a mile west to the north half of section three where the following year their first daughter, May, (Mrs. W. T. Buttrey) was born and where their last child, Frances (Mrs. J. A. Bates) was born in 1926.

In 1920, the south east quarter of section 10, having become available, ■ sent for his wife's parents, Agnes and John Asmussen, who came out and bought it. He also acquired the south half of section 11, and a quarter section of pasture land west of the Maple Grove picnic site.

Grandfather Asmussen, a skilled bricklayer and stone mason, built himself a brick house next door to our's. In the following years he used his craft to good advantage. He built a large stone-walled barn, a stone-walled implement shed and gravel driveways edged with split rock, connecting the houses, the road and the barnyard, as well as many improvements and additions to our house. Dad contributed a 32-volt light plant which serviced the houses and the barn. ■ contrast to this, we still had two old "soddies", one of which was used for a chicken house.

Dad was a good farmer, who enlisted his family on evening walks for the purpose of rock picking, which served to protect his equipment while providing ■ family outing. Those rocks too large to handle manually, were hand-drilled by Grandfather, charged with black powder and blown into manageable chunks. These were then piled in long rows which are now blown-over with the dust of the 30's.

I sometimes wonder, if, ■ the distant future, some archeologist may dig into those long mounds thinking he has found an ancient burial ground. If hopes and dreams need a final resting place, he may ■ right. For the drought and wind and grasshoppers took the soil and the crops from the land Dad called "Long Acres" and for which ■ had, on three successive years in the early 30's, won the title of "Best Farm" in the North Battleford Agricultural District; and eventually, when he could no longer buy feed, his prized herd of Aberdeen Angus which he had increased to eighty head — at the worst possible time! I remember him coming home from the Saskatoon Exhibition with the first prize ribbons for a pen of baby beef calves for which he got four and a half cents a pound.

By 1942, the family had scattered. Dad, Mother, Grandfather, and Grandmother went to Victoria where Jack had been since 1940. May and her airforce husband, Bill Buttrey, were in Nanticoke, Ontario. Bill remained in Ruddell on the farm until 1946, when he too went to Vancouver Island. On returning from the war Bill and May Buttrey purchased the home place N½, 3, 42, 14 and lived there until 1959 when they took over the post office at Ruddell.

The years 1944, 1945 and 1946 saw the deaths of Grandfather, Grandmother and Dad, ■ that order. In 1947, Jack and Bill bought adjoining pieces of land on the Oyster River in Black Creek near Courtenay. Mother, now alone, sold her Victoria home and built her new home on a piece of Bill's property. Frances and her husband came to the area in 1951.

Mother died in 1969, and Frances in 1977. May is in Ruddell while Bill and Jack are in Black Creek where Bill has built a man-made lake that bears the family name.

My earliest memories are of a bustling country town, the main street lined with hitching rails, and another long line of hitching rails beyond the high lumber fence where the horses got protection in the winter. In the winter, when farmers south of the river hauled their grain to the elevators, a youngster could "hook ■ ride" on a toboggan attached behind their sleighs going out of town, or behind the dray with which Donald Campbell delivered freight using ■ team of Turnbulls beautiful Clydesdales; or he could stand in the door of the blacksmith's shop and watch the sparks fly as the MacKenzie brothers shod a horse or forged a tool.

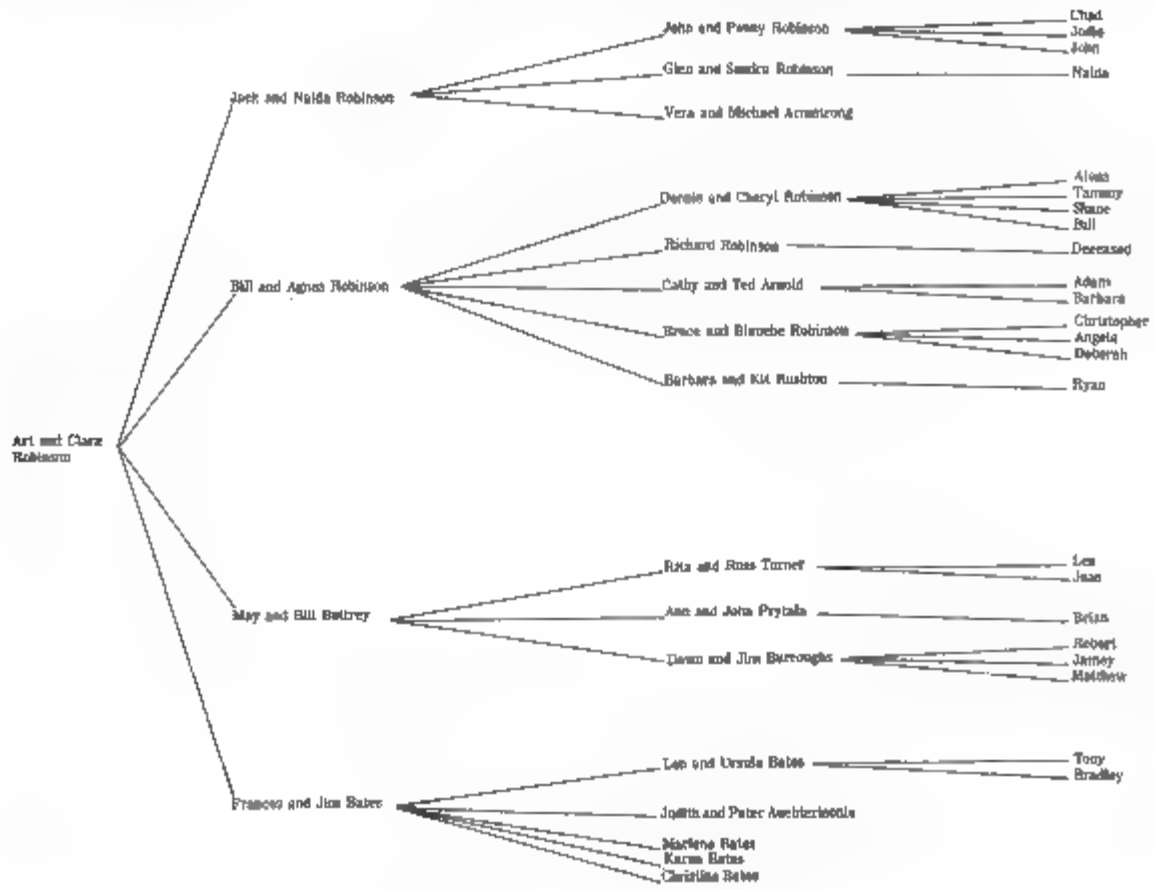
In our early days the local "Hot Stove League" was located in Lawrence Robinson's harness shop on the corner of the street but as horses became passe the harness shop closed and the League moved to Mah Lee's grocery store. One of the regulars was a short, rotund man, named Bill Kennedy. He lived in Charlie Johnson's Hotel and morning and night helped Shorty Mallows with the mail. He also helped the ladies carry groceries to their buggies, or later, cars. And that was his daily work. The rest of the time he spent listening to the local chitchat, but saying very little.

Our home when we were young was open house for young people who came for skiing parties on the river hills, Young People's Meetings, and just plain get-togethers. Our farm truck was always available, but as no one had much money, the group would "chip in" for gas and take in a show at Battleford or, with tents and supplies spend a week at Aulmack's Resort on

Meeting Lake. In the winter, there were concerts, card parties, and dances, at the town hall. Entertainment, food and dancing were provided for a 10 cent admission. Music was supplied free, or very nearly so, by local young people. ■ these days of high costs, it is hard to credit that we got so much for so little.

My personal memories are many. I remember the crisp moonlit winter night when I was walking home from play practice and a snowy owl swooping silently snatched the toque off my head, nearly scaring me out of my wits. I remember the night of the school Christmas concert to which Bill and I decided to take Mother and the girls, wrapped in blankets in the bottom of the sleigh box, through a raging blizzard. Dad wasn't fool enough to go, but it must have been an agonizing four hours for him before we made it — due, mainly, to the courage of our horses, rather than our good sense. And I remember the hands that were there to rub our frost bitten faces with snow and take our tired horses to the barn and care for them. I remember the picnics at the Maple Grove all through the years, and which are still continuing. I was there last year to see many of the old timers, which now includes me, and was saddened to see only a few of those old timers of my boyhood. I remember the spirit of young and old, the ability to enjoy life in adversity; and the thoughtfulness. I remember Bill While, later Professor Bill White of U of S, taking a group of us youngsters, eleven to thirteen years old, on a trek, with a horse and democrat loaded with tents and food, ■ explore the old Hudson Bay Northwest Company Trading Posts (still visible at that time), up the north side of the river to the RNWMP barracks, then abandoned, now restored, and back down the south side of the river. I remember a station master, whose name I have forgotten, who developed a group of farm boys into a very fine choir. I remember the great threshing crews ■ the late 20's and early 30's, their teams hauling in the loads of sheaves, the four-horse grain wagons, and the big steamers, or JI cases or Rumleys racing along the road between farms at 4 miles per hour. And I remember ■ the late 30's the freight trains moving east and west, their tops loaded with men for whom there was no work, nor money for food or shelter. And I remember with some sadness that when the war came, there was money to feed and clothe them and send them to do a job that no man wants — destroying other men.

■ was not, perhaps, the best time, but the place was wonderful to grow up in.



Roche Family of Ruddell

Michael J. Roche with his wife Gertrude and family, Mamie, Ivy, Lee, Waldren (Pat) emmigrated to Canada from North Dakota in 1916. They settled in Ruddell, Saskatchewan, where he was section foreman on the Canadian National Railway from 1916 till his death in 1932. Woodrow (Mike) was born in July 1918 in Ruddell.

Left, Norman Martinson; right, Waldron Roche.

Following Michael Roche's death, his wife stayed in and around Ruddell until 1941, when she moved to Saskatoon. She passed away in 1952 at the home of her daughter Ivy. Mamie, married Gordon Patterson of Maymont in 1922 and passed away in Chicago in 1935.

Ivy, married W. S. (Bill) Turnbull in 1924 and died in 1976 in Saskatoon.

Lee, attended Ruddell Public School and on finishing started working with his father in 1924. He was married to Marj Parkinson of Baljennie in 1930, retired in 1974, after fifty years continous service with CNR. He passed away in 1976 in Chilliwack, B.C. He is survived by son Kenneth, born in Russell in 1931, and two daughters Sharon, in Swift Current and Judy in B.C. and his widow lives in Chilliwack, B.C.

Waldren (Pat), attended Ruddell Public School and be too went to work on the CNR in 1928, retiring in 1971 and passed away in 1973.

Woodrow (Mike), born in Ruddell in 1918 attended Ruddell Public School, left Ruddell in 1940 and lived in Saskatoon until 1954, now residing in Vancouver, B.C.

Michael J. Roche's oldest daughter Agnes, while never immigrating to Canada, lived in and around Ruddell with her husband for several years, finally moving to California in 1923 where she died in 1971.

Muriel (Nutbrown) and Roy D. Rodgers

Muriel was born and grew up on the farm at Maymont. She attended Calais School and High School at Maymont.

She worked at the Provincial Hospital and the Royal Bank of Canada in North Battleford. It was at the bank that she met Roy Rodgers whom she married in 1958. Roy grew up at Quill Lake, Sask. Roy and Muriel have lived in several locations — North Battleford and Regina, Sask; Toronto and Sudbury, Ontario; Montreal, Quebec and are currently living at Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. Roy is in charge of Systems for the Atlantic Provinces (Royal Bank of Canada).

They have four children; Carol and Wesley — both attending University; Brian and Jeff who are in High School.

Muriel and Roy enjoy bridge, travelling and entertaining their many friends and relatives from across Canada.

Mrs. Jimmy Rogers

written by Mrs. Jimmy Rogers

My parents were born in Quebec. They were married in 1900 and went to live on a farm near Leeds Village.

The new province of Saskatchewan was formed in 1905 and like many of their neighbors the Reids thought it would be a good idea to "go west" and try pioneering in the new province. In 1907 they made the move. The family included the parents, five children, Marjorie, Mary, Bill, Ellen, Anne and the Grandma and Grandpa Reid arrived in Maymont in June of that year.

Our first home was on the homestead southwest of Maymont. Clarence was born while we lived there. Our next move was to Maymont where the Melrose Brothers and Andrew Reid went into business. They ran a livery, dray and feed business for a number of years. Archie, Dorothy and Wilfred were born in Maymont.

The family moved to the farm south of Maymont in March, 1917. They lived there until 1945 when my father passed away and my brother Clarence took over the farm.

Ellen passed away in 1955. My mother in July, 1956. Anne and Clarence passed away in 1973.

In 1921 a pumping station was put in at Morgan's Crossing, Saskatchewan River. It was used to supply the CNR trains with water. Jimmy Rogers was the stationary engineer on the job.

In 1924 Jimmy and I were married. He was employed with [redacted] so we spent the next four years travelling from place to place wherever his work took him. During that time three children, Betty, Mary and

Mary and Jimmy Rogers.

Dick were born. We decided it was time to settle down permanently. We returned to Maymont, bought a house from Syd Fricker and four children, Alice, Inez, Ellen and Murray joined the family. We raised and educated seven children while living in that house.

Jim took over the Imperial Oil Filling Station in Maymont and operated it for over thirty years, until his death in 1970.

The children have all married and have their own children. Betty married Lance Robinson of Ruddell. She had four children, Archie, Hal, Colleen and Brenda. Betty passed away in January, 1976. Lance died in November, 1974.

Mary married Bill Pistell of Victoria. She had two daughters, Lynne and Lee.

Dick married Olwyn Stocks and they have three children Garth, Brenda and Lanis.

Alice married Jack Robinson. They live in Calgary, Alberta and have four children, Courtney, Bradley, Patti and James.

Inez married John Carrier, Saskatoon. They have four children, Richard, Sharon, Marlene and Roger.

Ellen married Charlie Thibadeau. They have three children, Faye, Allan, and Ryan.

Murray married Rose Wass. They live in Calgary, Alberta and have three children, Norine, Karen, and Lance.

There are twenty-three grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren to date.

Oliver and Marion (May) Rogers

by Marion (May) Rogers

Oliver Rogers came to Saskatchewan with his parents, Ransom and Rachel Rogers from Stonewall, Manitoba in 1904.

I (Marion) came to Saskatchewan with my parents, William and Rosetta Gray, from Bracebridge, Ontario in 1908.

Oliver and I were married in North Battleford, Saskatchewan April 11, 1929 by Reverend P. Fisher.

We lived in Ruddell District the first four years of our marriage. Then in 1933 we bought land near Maymont, and made our home on N.E. ¼ of Section 9-42-12-W3rd. This land is in what was then known as the Grey School District.

We had two children, Thelma and Dean, who attended Grey School until Thelma had to start high school and they were sent to Maymont. Grey School

Oliver and May Rogers — April 11, 1929.

has been closed for a number of years now and was moved to the North Battleford Museum.

The depression years came in the early 1930's. With it came dry weather, dust storms and grasshoppers. But we always managed to have faith in next year.

Our two children are now married. Our daughter, Thelma, married Robert Patterson, and they now live on our old farm. Dean, our son, married June Clayton and they also farm near Maymont.

Oliver and I retired in 1962 and bought a home in Maymont. Oliver passed away April, 1977, and I still live here in the village. I have eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

I enjoy needlework and gardening, belong to quilting club, Senior Citizen's Club and the United Church.

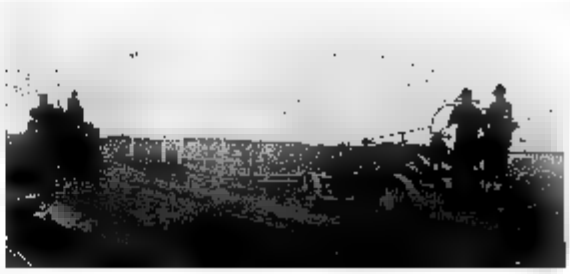
In Memory of the Pioneers

by Mrs. Marion Rogers

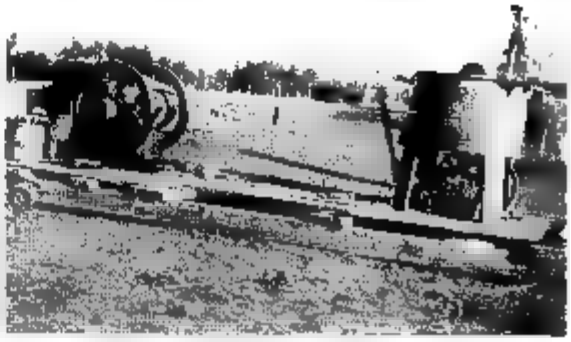
In memory of the old pioneers who spent their last days in Maymont District. In the early years of the district there were many good old couples who had immigrated here. They were unlike the younger settlers who came; they did not come to make money, neither did they come to build up a great home. They came to get settled with their families around them. Many of them left better homes in the east and south than they ever hoped to have here. They were the pioneers who accomplished their purpose. They won the race and finished their work. That is why so many of our old pioneers had that satisfied smile. They are the people who had built their own monuments, grander monuments than can be built with granite or marble. They were built with kindness, sympathy and loyalty to their neighbors and any strangers who came their way, and by a never tiring help and devotion to their families. Those were the people who laid the foundation for our own families and for our own districts; let us all try and live up to the standard they set.

J. Ransom and F. Rachel Rogers History

On March 3, 1904 Ransom and Rachel Rogers arrived by Immigration Car in Saskatoon, the end of the railway, having left their home at Balmoral, Manitoba to go west and make a new life for themselves and family. They had four small children; Oliver, Elmer, Esther and Emerson (a baby six months old). They came on to Maymont by horses and sleigh, spending the first night at Cee Pee, then at Walkers, Great Bend. Also coming at this time were the Andrew Family, Grandma Andrew being Ransom's mother. Grandpa Andrew had filed on the East half of Section 4 in 1903 and Ransom settled on the North-East quarter of Section 4, Range 12, Township ■. Their house was built of logs, hauled by horses, from an island in the North Saskatchewan River five miles south of Maymont. The house roof was made of poles covered by sod with the grass side down. Rachel covered the ceiling with cheese cloth and then whitewashed it. The first windows, were large picture frames they brought with them.



Roadmaking.



Washing clothes at Ransom Rogers — summer, 1924.

Ransom Rogers in front of his shop on Main Street, Maymont.

Ransom's first job was at Emil Richard's ranch where the town of Richard now stands. His job was breaking horses, breaking land with oxen teams. While working there and coming home to see the family on a weekend he walked nine miles, he carried enough small potatoes to plant for the coming year. Uncle Bob Williams had broken a garden patch on the Homestead, which Rachel worked up by hoe and planted potatoes and a garden, which proved to be a good crop.

Ray Rogers hauling water in a wooden tank for the steam engine, 1926. Rogers home in the background.

The first winter the family spent at the Richard Ranch, returning to the Homestead in the spring of 1905, where Rachel put in the Homestead Duties with the children. In October a new baby, Howard, was born. Mrs. Kirk from Great Bend was the midwife, there was no doctor available.

The first Church services were held at Grandpa Andrews home.

At this time the trail ran past our homestead, many new settlers stopped in to enquire the way, asking for water for themselves and livestock. The sandflies and mosquitoes were so plentiful the men had to wear kerchiefs, etc. on their necks to ward them off.

In 1905 Grey School was built by a Mr. Chambers. The first teacher being Miss Annie Arkley, who lived at home and walked five miles to teach every day, Oliver and Elmer being two of the first pupils, walking two and one-half miles to school across the prairie. One foggy morning they got lost, and arrived at Madill's farm, then walked from there to school arriving late for classes. Mr. Parker ploughed a furrow across from the school to the prairie trail, so the boys would not get lost again. Ransom Rogers was one of the first trustees.

In 1906 Ransom worked for Rev. J. C. Madill on the farm N.W. quarter of 4-42-12, and also ran a well drilling machine, digging wells in the surrounding area. Some of these wells could not be finished, as there was too much gas underground, these were tested by lowering a lantern in the hole, if the flame went out, no further digging was done.

In 1907 he worked in the harness shop owned by Rev. Madill. Leather was bought by the side and then cut to desired length for harness traces, etc., hand stitched, with hand made wax thread. Also recovering horse collars, mending and re-soling shoes, this being his trade. August 14th, Greta was born, being the first baby born in Maymont under Dr. Scratch's care.

After Grey School was closed, to save costs, the family moved to Maymont so Oliver, Elmer and Esther could attend Maymont school. In winter Ransom worked in the harness shop and took on the job of hauling water for the town by horse and sleigh. When spring came, he went out breaking land while Oliver and Elmer took over water delivery by horse and democrat, as well as attending school. One lady who was very particular made them scrub the barrel out with a broom before they delivered her water.

In May, 1909 Ray was born, Mrs. F. Long being the mid-wife assisting Dr. Scratch.

Ransom buying and trading horses carried on farm work with very small wages.

In these times help was hard to find and Rachel being in poor health, the family laundry was sent out to a farm neighbor lady, Mrs. Bohn, who had a family of hard working girls and boys. Stanley still lives in Maymont.

In 1910 Gladys was born with Mrs. H. Jess and Dr. Scratch attending.

The family moved back to the homestead that spring. Ransom, Oliver and Elmer worked building roads in the district. The road work at that time was done with horses, scrapers and fresnos. Furrows were ploughed with a walking plow, the sod was loaded on the scrapers and hauled up onto the grade. This work continued for the next few years, to raise money to carry on. In 1913 Ransom and Oliver continued road work under the Government plan and supervised by William Parker. Ransom running the grader machine, and Elmer did the farm work at home. Roy was born in August of that year.

In 1914 the First World War broke out closing down a lot of work. Oliver returned home and worked with Dobkins threshing outfit that fall. Ransom returned to work in the harness shop taken over by Harry Martin.

In January, 1916 Ada was born and in March the family rented the former Rev. Madill farm and moved to live there. The crops looked good but frost and rust lowered the grades so there was a shortage of feed and money. Much of the children's clothing was hand me downs, and made over from adult dresses, coats, etc.

1917 was not much better with dry weather, short crops and high prices for seed, it was hard to compare the operating expenses with higher price and in 1918 hard times prevailing, and an outbreak of the Flu epidemic, many lives were lost.

A very near crop failure prevailed in 1919. October came with a blast freezing potatoes in the ground and a hard winter followed.

In 1920 with poor crops, oats had to be bought at $1.20 a bushel to be used for seeding. Farmers formed a beef ring of 20 families each had 1 share of 20 lbs. Each family supplied a steer and Tom Sawyer did the butchering. It was planned each share got one roast a week, and other cuts divided equally. Some families arranged a half-share. This project carried on for twenty weeks in the summer. As there were no deep freezes in that time, the meat would be hung in a pail in the well or some had an ice house, which was packed full of ice blocks taken from the river in winter and packed in saw dust, under ground.

A ploughing match was held on the farm of Tom Sawyer, that summer, by the Agriculture Society. Elmer won a Silver Cup for the Championship of ploughing. This cup was donated by the Canadian Bank of Commerce. The ploughing was done with a tandem team of horses and a gang plow.

Ransom worked at custom threshing for Sam Miller at $20 a day running the separator and the boys doing team work.

In 1921 they bought their first threshing outfit, a Waterloo Boy engine, and did some custom work.

By 1924 had bought Section 4 and Section 9 and Section 3 which needed cleared and broken and produced good crops so in 1925 they bought a steam threshing outfit, with cook car and sleeping car. By now the family were ready to help so the girls helped Rachel with the cooking which meant long hours of hot work preparing meals and washing dishes for as many as 12 to 18 men. The cook car was moved from farm to farm and the farmers supplied the potatoes and milk. The sleeping car had bunk beds with straw filled ticks for the men to sleep in and also followed the machine.

Depression Years

1926, 1927, 1928 took 9 lbs. twine per acre, and only received 45 cents per bushel for wheat. 1929 was a dried out year, poor crops. 1930 wheat sold for 30 cents a bushel. Cost 4 cents a bushel to thresh oats, and sold some for 8 cents a bushel. 7 cents a pound for butterfat (or cream) $6.50 for a dressed hog. 8 to 10 cents for a dozen eggs. Some of these years there was a Relief Board, who shipped in vegetables and apples from Ontario by train.

Oliver — married Marion (May) Gray in Battleford in 1929. First farmed in Ruddell-Maymont area. Later moving to Maymont where he lived till 1962 then retired in Maymont. Oliver died April 22, 1977 in Union Hospital, North Battleford.

Thelma — their daughter married Robert Patterson at the farm home in June, 1953. They first farmed at Lilac then on her Dad's farm at Maymont. They had four daughters and one son.

Marion — a Food Service Manageress working in Regina. Married Bill Smith on June 30, 1979.

Heather — married to Dennis Prescesky in November, 1975 and have one son **Leon Dennis** born in February, 1979. Farming in Richard district.

Brenda — married Charles Horrell in October, 1977, a daughter **Beverley Dawn** was born in November, 1978. Farming in North Battleford district.

Thomas and **Patricia** are still living at home.

Dean — their son married June Clayton January 30, 1954 at Maymont, and farms the former Ernest Ramsay land with other land in the district. They have two daughters and one son.

Margaret — married Raymond Thompson in Maymont April 7, 1973. Now living in Maymont where Raymond has a trenching service. They have two small daughters **Raeanne** born 1976 and **Cheri** born 1978.

Yvonne — married Scott Gray in Maymont October 25, 1975. Now lives in Battleford, works at secretarial work and Scott with Sask. Power.

David — lives at home farming with his Dad and has purebred Hereford cattle.

Elmer — married Jean Meena in Saskatoon April 3, 1928, started farming in Grey School District, with hard times coming moved to Goodsoil, homesteaded then after proving up on it, sold it to move to Meadow Lake and went trucking, later moving to Calgary, Alberta where they still live. Their family consisted of four girls.

Maxine — a stenographer works in Calgary. Was married to Ken Neilsen in February, 1957.

Marlene — married Harold Scott in Meadow Lake October, 1955. Their family is three daughters and one son. Live at Bashaw, Alberta and own a Hog Enterprise.

Deborah — married Morley James at Calgary, May, 1977 where they still live.

Shirley — married to William Werenka at Calgary, July, 1977 where they still live.

Darcy — is living at home and has an interest in the Hog Enterprise.

Lynne — still at home going to school.

Myrna — married Gilbert Barton in Calgary August, 1959. Lives at Coquitlam, B.C. where Gil is a chartered accountant. They have two girls **Laurel** and **Deanna** both still in School.

Merle Fay — died in infancy at Meadow Lake.

Esther — "Betty" married to Edward Minette at the farm home, Maymont in July, 1924. Ed had a farm at Maymont which he rented out and worked at the Saskatchewan Hospital from 1920 till he retired in 1956 to live in North Battleford. Passed away in Union Hospital July, 1969. Betty still resides in North Battleford.

Allan — after leaving school in Battleford joined the army in Spring of 1944, and went overseas from Regina. He served in England, Korea, Germany and Cypros, and won the Queen's commendation in Korea, for bravery in 1953. He was married to Evelyn Stahl in North Battleford November, 1952 and lived in Calgary, Alberta. From Calgary to Germany in fall of 1965. Evelyn and their two children Debbie and Marc went too, and stayed for three years, and returned to make their home in Calgary, and is now retired after 33 years service.

Deborah — a graduate from University of Calgary (B.Sc.) married Tony Lumsden at Calgary, January, 1977. They moved to Richmond, B.C. where they both work.

Marc — worked in Calgary after finishing school then moved to Richmond. Works for Hudson Bay Store.

Leola — their daughter trained in City Hospital in Saskatoon and received her R.N. degree. Married

Douglas MacDonald in November, 1950 at North Battleford, who was an R.P.N. working at the Saskatchewan Hospital later transferring to the Battlefords Regional Care Centre. Douglas retired in April, 1979. Leola is still nursing at the Union Hospital, North Battleford. Their family is 3 boys and two girls.

Diane — married Wayne Allen at North Battleford in June, 1973, who is office manager for S.E.P.T.E.R. and living in Surrey, B.C. They have two girls Kimberley and Nicole both under school age.

James — and Cheryl Yeo were married in July, 1972. and have three little girls Carey starting school and twins Kristin and Karen. Jim works in the Co-op Lumber Yard and lives in Battleford.

Hugh — after finishing school studied for a Recreational Director and works at Melfort, Saskatchewan.

Douglas — is going to University in Regina.

Joanne — is studying for a Veterinarian Assistant at Vermilion, Alberta.

Emerson — married Maybelle Chatten, June, 1927 in Saskatoon. First had a harness repair shop in Richard, then Singer Sewing Machine agent, Watkins agent, farmed at Mildred, Sask. Sold out and went to Flin Flon, Manitoba, to work in the mine. This was hard and dangerous work but he liked it and remained there until he was stricken with a heart attack and died in July, 1957. They had a family of two girls and one boy. Maybelle married George Zimmer in October, 1959 who was a trapper and a guide. He died in September, 1973, and she is now retired and living at Cranberry Portage, Manitoba.

George — and Patricia Brettle were married at Mildred, August, 1952. Works in the mine at Flin Flon, have a family of three sons and one daughter.

Donald — married to Heather Souter November, 1974 at Flin Flon. Have a small daughter Tamara Lynne (Tammy) born January, 1977.

Brian — married in July, 1976 to Kathleen McCormick at Flin Flon.

Kevin — and Shauna are at home.

Frances — married to Gordon Brown at The Pas, Manitoba, January, 1960. Gordon works for Manitoba Telephones and they are living at Carmen. They have a girl Joni born 1960 and a boy Kenneth born 1962 and a girl Kimberley born 1967.

Jean and Jack Howard married in Flin Flon July, 1956. Jack works in the mine. They have a family of two boys Greg and Brent and a daughter Candyce.

Howard — first rented the Ed Minette farm at Maymont, when the Second World War broke out he joined the Canadian Army and went overseas in 1941. He served with the army in Italy, Holland, etc. While there he married a Dutch girl Alice Konin in December, 1945. He returned home after the armistice was signed and she followed later with other war brides. The ladies of Maymont gave her a welcome party in the form of a shower and she was the first bride to receive a quilt from the "Quilters". Alice was killed in a car accident in October, 1963, leaving two small boys and a girl.

Allan — lives and farms with his Dad who has bought more land in the district.

Harvey — finished school then attended University in Saskatoon taking a course in Physiology, later working in archaeology. Married Shelly Burgess in Edmonton August, 1977 and now lives in Calgary.

Fay — attended University in Saskatoon where she met and married Terry Anderson at Maymont August, 1975. They are now living at Kindersley and farming. They have one small son Christopher.

Greta — married Jim Loughrey in May, 1932. He was employed at the Saskatchewan Hospital and later as a ward director at the Irrigation Farm. After a short illness he passed away in December, 1948. Greta then moved into North Battleford and was employed for a number of years by Craig's Dry Goods then made her home with her nephew Ronald Meena, his wife and family, where she took care of the children and Laurienne, R.P.N. returned to nursing at Saskatchewan Hospital and then at Battlefords Regional Care Centre.

Ray — worked at farm work with neighbors till he passed away from a heart attack in March, 1979. Leaving a family of four girls.

Darlene — became Mrs. William Cummins in May, 1962 living in Edmonton, having a son Darin and a daughter Karen.

Donna — married Walter Lewchuk at St. Walburg June, 1962 now living in Calgary with a daughter Shelley and a son Kenneth.

Diane — now Mrs. Gordon Sterling lives in Calgary, has a son Gordon and a daughter Audra both under school age.

Winnifred "Joy" — married James Watt June, 1973 at Saskatoon is living in Vernon, B.C., having a girl Tammy and a boy Steven.

Gladys — married Everett Meena in Saskatoon April, 1932, first farmed at Lilac, then St. Walburg, Baljennie and Ruddell. This was in depression years with lots of hardships. Everett retired with ill health and the sons took over the farming and he passed away in the Union Hospital in March, 1974. A family of four boys and a girl.

Ronald — married Laurienne Dore at North Battleford in April, 1956, is an engineer with Saskatchewan Hospital and Laurienne an R.P.N. at Battlefords Regional Care Centre. They have 2 boys and 2 girls.

Everett — married to Heather Wensley at Borden January, 1977. Have one son, Justin, live on an acreage in rural North Battleford.

Lois — finished school and taking further studies at Kelsey Institute, Saskatoon

Grant — studied Auto Body work at Kelsey Institute, Saskatoon.

Marilyn — taking Grade twelve at Comprehensive High School, North Battleford, 1979.

Kenneth — and Shirley Acaster married at Ruddell August, 1956. First farmed at Ruddell then moved to Maymont district to farm. Have 2 boys and 2 girls.

Colleen — married to Ronald Caldwell at Maymont in November, 1974. Are farming in the Maymont district. They have two sons **Gregory** and **Gary** both under school age.

Sharon — taking a two year course in nursing at the Kelsey Institute in Saskatoon.

Murray — married to Donna Prescesky at North Battleford September, 1978, where they are living Murray working for Crown Mart Lumber. They have a small daughter **Michele.**

Lyle — is still in high school in Maymont school.

Harold — and Treva Miller were married at Fielding July, 1961. They are farming at Ruddell with other land at Maymont. They have a family of two girls **Gwen** and **Carla** and a son **Kurt** all at home.

Eileen — was married to Vernon Curry at Ruddell August, 1960. Eileen is employed at the Court House in Battleford as a Deputy Local Clerk-Deputy Sheriff and Vernon as a carpenter at the Saskatchewan Hospital, and live in Battleford. They have a boy **Terry** and a daughter **Sheila** both in school.

Roy — married Irene Barrett at North Battleford in October, 1939. They live on the home farm which was the original Rev. Madill farm, and Irene has many hobbies to work with. They have a family of 4 girls and 1 son.

Elaine — married Ronald Bohn at Maymont August, 1956. Ron works in a paper mill at Campbell, River, B.C. Doing the repairing of the mill machinery. Their family is a daughter **Connie** who was married to Henry Nicel in August, 1975, who is a mechanic. Living at Black Creek, B.C.

Dale — a son works with a Marina near Courtney.

Lawrence — still attending high school.

Christine — married to David Gamble November, 1973. Lives in Saskatoon and works as a secretary with S.E.D.

Carol — married Wayne Bright September, 1962 who is teaching at Plenty, Sask. Has a daughter **Tammy** and son **Jeffrey** both in school.

Louise — married John Doering July, 1971. John does carpenter work in and around Plenty where they live with two boys **Darryl** and **Micheal** in school. Louise does secretarial work for the town.

Brian — was employed by a ready mix cement company driving a truck in Saskatoon and is now working in the office.

Ada — and Tom Bates were married in April, 1937 at the farm home of her parents. They farmed north of Grey School, later moving the house to Maymont where the children would be closer to school. There was a daughter **Beverley** and a son **Barry.** Thomas passed away suddenly in October, 1966.

Beverley — married Clifford Roberts in October, 1960. They farmed in the Battleford district. Their family was four girls and two boys.

Patricia — just finished school **Valerie** and **Nancy** still in school. **Joan** died July, 1964 (3 months) **Clarence** in school and **Christopher** still at home.

Barry — married Peggy Daoust November, 1942. Is a mechanic and works in a garage in North Battleford but lives in Battleford where Peggy works. They have two girls still in school **Judy** and **Maureen.**

Ada married Ralph Owen in March, 1972. He had farmed in the Eagle Hills district but was retired. He passed away in Union Hospital, North Battleford from cancer in April, 1977.

The Dean Rogers Family

written by June Rogers

Dean Oliver Rogers, son of Oliver and Marion Rogers and June Clayton, daughter of Frank and Marjorie Clayton were married on the cold winter day of Jan. 30, 1954. We lived with Dean's parents for a while. In August 1954, a daughter, Margaret June was born. During November 1954 we moved into a small house in Dean's parents yard. This we called home until the late fall of 1956 when we moved to the former Ernie Ramsey farm having bought this ½ section in the spring of that year. Also in May 1956, another daughter Yvonne Marie was born. In June 1958, the last of our family a son, David Dean arrived on the scene.

Eventful years followed, raising a family and struggling to get ahead. The children all attended Maymont Central School, being transported there by

Dean and June Rogers — Jan. 30th, 1954.

school bus. When Margaret started in fall 1960 the old school was still there, but when she started grade two, it was ■ a new school which is presently there.

Margaret graduated from high school in June 1972, Yvonne in June 1974 and David ■ June of 1976.

Margaret married Raymond Joseph Thompson on April 7, 1973. They now reside ■ Maymont and are the parents of two little girls. Raeanne Margaret age 3 and Cheri Lynn — 19 months.

Yvonne married Kenneth Scott Gray on October 25, 1975. They lived in Prince Albert for a while where Scott was employed by Sask.-Power as a "trouble shooter". Yvonne who had taken a secretarial course after graduation worked at Sask.-Tel, doing secretarial duties. They moved from Prince Albert to North Battleford when Scott obtained a transfer with Sask.-Power to become a "meter man". He is presently doing this. Yvonne is employed at Mistikwa Community College doing secretarial duties. They are now residing in a house in Battleford.

David decided he was going to stay on the farm. He has now been through school for three years. He is school bus driver for this district with his mother and father acting as spare drivers. David purchased a ½ section in spring 1978 from Gordon and Nell Johnston, so along with raising registered polled-hereford cattle he manages to keep busy. At present David resides with his mother and dad.

Last January (1979) Dean and I celebrated our twenty-fifth anniversary. Twenty-five eventful years that have gone by so fast. So many changes. Makes one wonder what the next twenty-five will bring.

Wes Rolfe Story

Mr. and Mrs. Wes Rolfe came from Codell, Kansas by train, together with his brother John Rolfe, John's wife Fanny, and his tiny daughter Chloe. They arrived ■ Maymont on March 28th, 1913. The two families lived together while John's house was being built. In 1918, Mr. and Mrs. Wes Rolfe had a daughter Vioda Dess, who died as an infant. They farmed their land west of Maymont until 1930, when they moved to Saskatoon.

In 1942 they returned to Maymont but not to the farm. They ran a cafe for a few years and after their retirement, they resided in Maymont until their deaths. Wesley died in 1965 and Celia ■ 1967. They were reported to be great neighbors especially ■ time of trouble. They were very community minded and Mrs. Rolfe was one of the first Quilters.

The Rolfes had an adopted daughter Terry, Mrs. Len Doroshenko. They live in Roxbora, Quebec, a suburb of Montreal. Terry's family are grown and two are married. Lennice and her husband live in Edmonton, Michael and his wife live in Kitchener, Ont. Laurie is still ■ home.

The Rolfe Family
John and Fanny Rolfe

by Chloe (Rolfe) Purdy

Two brothers and their wives, Wess and Celia Rolfe and John and Fannie Rolfe left Kansas, U.S.A., to come to Maymont to work on the railroad, but it was finished when they arrived in March, 1913. They brought their horses, mules and household goods in a freight car. They bought land from Mr. Melrose, west of town. John had a girl, Chloe, seven years old, and Zaidee was born the year they came to the Maymont area. They lived in town until spring to be close to school, then bought a farm south of town.

As time went on times became better so they bought more land. Getting to school was the problem. Chloe walked the first year and rode a horse after that. During the winter months she lived with Andrew Kerrs for one year, Andrew Reids and the Brumbaughs other years. She drove a horse when Zaidee started school.

John was very good with horses. He did doctoring and dental work and shoeing them as well as traded horses.

Fanny worked outside some in haying time but mostly did odd jobs and chores. She was a very hard worker and she was a good mixer. Their home was usually a meeting place on Sundays. ■ the winter friends came to skate on the pond or play 'Five Hundred'.

Zaidee married Lloyd Taylor. They lived with her parents for a year, then they both left and left their baby, Leona, there.

Fannie worked as a cook (a very good one she was, too,) on their threshing crew. The girls did the chores. There were a dozen milk cows at that time.

The Rolfes took a trip to California down the west coast and back by Kansas ■ 1935. In the fall of 1936 they had a large sale and moved to Oregon. They stayed there for three years. Fannie passed away while visiting in Maymont. Chloe had married two months earlier and gone to live ■ Vancouver.

John sold out ■ Oregon and went back to Maymont to live until his death in 1959. Zaidee had moved to Vancouver and married again. Chloe took Leona after she was married and raised her.

Leona is now married for the second time as her first husband was killed. She has a girl twenty-six years old and a boy of twenty-two. She lives in Cloverdale, B.C. They have a large broiler farm.

Chloe lost her husband ■ 1969. She lives on their small acreage in Surrey, B.C.

Wess and Celia Rolfe

Wess and Celia Rolfe traded their farm for some property in Saskatoon. While in Saskatoon they adopted a daughter, Terry. They moved from Saskatoon to Biggar. They later moved back to Maymont and took over a restaurant, the former White Cafe.

They bought a house and retired in Maymont after the cafe work became too heavy for them. They lived there until their deaths.

Terry married Len Doroshenko. They have two girls and a boy. They moved from Saskatoon to Winnipeg and on to Montreal, where they now live.

Their oldest daughter is married and lives in Edmonton. The other girl lives at home and their son is married and lives in Ontario.

There was a brother Ralph Rolfe who came up and lived with Wess at Biggar. He spent one year at Maymont and then moved back to Kansas.

A brother Bill came with them but only stayed one year.

A brother Al came in 1927 and lived with John awhile and then went to Biggar where he lived until his death around 1957.

Marguerite (Mohler) Ross

written by Marguerite

I, Marguerite was born in Maymont, too. The first three years I attended school in the basement of the (then) Presbyterian Church. I remember on dull days how hard it was to see the writing on the blackboard (No electrification then). My teachers were Miss Price and Miss Bean.

Most of the children from the country either rode horseback or drove a horse and buggy. "Major" was our school horse, taking all four of us to school. By the time I was driving by myself, he had slowed down considerably. As we had to drive through town to get home, I didn't always drive down the main street. If some boy would holler, "Whoa, he dutifully stopped and was hard to get started again. Needless to say I was embarrassed by this and often drove around north from the Post Office which was located at Coleman's. Major was very gentle and was never known to kick anyone — even when we children climbed on his back and slid down over his tail.

Grade Five was taken in the "new" school. The intermediate room seemed so light and airy after our basement room. Miss Paterson was our teacher. For grades Six and Seven it was Miss Ballsrud (later to become Mrs. Allan Bean.)

By the time I reached high school, Grade Twelve was taught in Maymont. Mr. E. W. McDonald was our teacher. Some considered him strict but we got along fine.

Four of us from Maymont attended "Normal School" as it was called in those days. We roomed a few blocks away. Lillian Martin was my roommate and Muriel Butterfield and Genevieve Bates were next door. All too soon the term sped by.

My first school was north of Mullingar, called "Misterton". I boarded with Hansfords and walked to school with Aimée. There were all the grades so I was kept busy. Mr. Hansford played the cello and we had many pleasant times playing together on Sundays. Other schools followed but none were quite as interesting as my first year teaching.

Thomas Read Ross and I were married on June 28, 1947 by Reverend Frank Myers in the United Church. So I went to Stony Beach where we farmed. My husband is also an electrician. It was a busy time when the power came to our district in 1954. He certainly got to know people's houses in the surrounding districts — from basement to attic. One time as he was climbing into an attic, he moved the lid and down crashed a sad iron, hitting his shoulder and big toe. That poor toenail turned white and remained so for twenty years or more.

We sold the farm in 1972 and retired to Creston that October. The roses were still blooming when we arrived — which really appealed to me. There are many retired prairie people here so we felt quite at home from the beginning. Through church and O.E.S., and Masons, we have met many new friends. We belong to New Horizons where we enjoy dancing, oil painting, carpet bowling and cards. We both play the piano on Tuesdays for dance days. Read plays the trumpet also. We are also organist at O.E.S. and Masons. We attend Round Dance classes from October to May.

We think Kootenay Lake is as beautiful as any lake we have seen and are happy to live near it. However, we still have a soft spot for the "Prairies" and enjoy our visits there from time to time.

Mrs. Gwen Ross

It will be fifteen years on the 7th of November since I came to Maymont. There have been lots of changes in that time. There were sixteen of us, all close relatives when I came here, now there is only me. I rented, then bought my house from Mr. R. Smith. I have been fixing it up ever since. There are lots of improvements I could make yet, but us old folks cannot pay the big wages so things will just have to sit. I used to grow a lot of bedding plants, raspberries, strawberries and flowers — I still do but on a smaller scale.

I came with my folks from England in April, 1905. I was six months old. I don't know how we got to Saskatoon, but we stayed there long enough to buy a tent and provisions to continue on our way. We hired a man with a team of oxen and a wagon, and with what we had brought with us, there was only room for one person to ride and hold me — the rest had to walk. We got as far as Ruddell and the oxen played out, so we came back to Maymont. I guess the Maymont people didn't like the looks of us green English folks, so put us over the river in a boat, bag and baggage! We set up a tent and there we stayed. Dad homesteaded that same quarter — N.E. 2-41-13. Mother always said we took root and stuck through thick and thin. We kids grew up in a very secluded place, and not having any school to go to we had to amuse ourselves. We didn't really

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Ross, Lorna and Doreen, 1938.

Strawberry grown by Gwen Ross — 7½ inches in diameter.

belong to Maymont but did all our business there. We hauled our grain there until Baljennie got elevators.

Dad was a Police Inspector and carpenter. Mother was the daughter of an Anglican minister and was organist in the big cathedrals. She also taught Sunday School and music and being Welsh she was a good singer.

Well, we borrowed oxen and a walking plough and broke up sod for a sod house. By November 2nd, we had moved in. Did it ever leak! We had pans all over to catch the drips!

The men cut wood with axe and bucksaw for our tin camp stove. One of our neighbors had a box stove with a door in the front. He was so lazy, instead of cutting his wood, he would just poke in the end of a long pole and when it burned far would poke it in a little further.

Every year we would build another room on our house, we got more land, a team of oxen, a pony called "Kid", a milk cow and hens. Dad, being a good carpenter, built our table, cupboards and beds. We used to sew flour bags together, fill them with oat chaff from the threshing machine. They sure made swell beds. Guess there was no Russian Thistle in those days! We ground wheat in the coffee grinder for porridge. The good Lord provided us with lots of wild game, wild fruit and fish from the river, and dishpans full of mushrooms.

We had lovely lace curtains on sod walls. Good silver cutlery with tin mugs and plates. I asked my folks one day what a chair was. The next sale they went to they bought four. In 1905 butter was .25¢ per pound, beef was pounds for 1.40¢, flour was $3.20¢ per 100 pounds — some difference now!

We got a boat and from then on our place was known as Morgan's Crossing. My brothers put folks over the river morning noon and night — groceries and mail, too. Mother and us girls spent all our time cooking and washing dishes. The men would sometimes get 5¢ or 25¢, if they were lucky. We would feed the horses or oxen whichever it would be for days. Were we ever glad when the west ferry went in!

We got more land and built a six room house of logs from the river. We got a dandy bunch of planks in one flood — a lot of us got some. Later men came and collected for every foot of . We put a rubberoid roof on our house. When winter came frosted up so bad we had to put a second one on, then it was o.k. In 1916 we used horses place of oxen. The men fixed up a telegraph to the neighbors about three miles away. It was run on the wire fence. We all learned to tap out the Morse Code, then the Continental (another code). We then changed it to a phone by using big jars of bluestone, copper and zinc and water for batteries. When the other phones came in ours had to go. Our home was saddened when our boys joined up the first World War. John joined up with the 179th Cameron Highlanders. They fought to save our country. Do we give them enough credit in this day and age? Dad left us three months later with a heart attack. The doctors in England gave him six months to live — he lived eleven years. The change of climate had done him some good.

Mother had many sleepless nights when we heard John was wounded. We used pack so many boxes for the lads overseas — fruitcake, puddings, gum, candy, cigarettes. Mother put on social entertainments in the school to raise money for the Red Cross.

John came home and took over the farm. Walter married Mabel Edenborough Daisy married Joe

Davidson, I married David Ross, second youngest son of Bill and Ann Ross, in 1932. We had tough going with hail rust and drought. Our milk cows and hens kept us going.

We had three of a family — Lorna, Doreen and Murray. When David was not to work owing to heart trouble, the girls took over the field work. When they got married Murray was old enough ■ take over. Three years after David left us, Murray was killed in a car accident. My girls were such a help then, they would come week about until I put on a sale. I stayed on my farm until the harvest was finished, then I came to Maymont.

Lorna married a farmer, Phil Bater, from Baljennie. They have two sons, Dwayne and Gregory. Doreen married Leslie Parker of the Maymont district, now in the Esso business in Radisson. They have two sons Blake and Todd and two daughters Darla and Laureen. A son Blaine and a daughter Deborah, who we think of so often are not with us anymore.

Our Spinney Hill neighbors were really a great help when we needed them. When David was not with us anymore, everyone brought loads of wood. We had a bigger pile then than we had ever had, we could hardly get out the door. When our bin burned down with over 100 chickens and 25 turkey's in it, all the women brought two chickens each — big ones small ones, all colors. Were they ever cute! When Murray was in the car accident the men did all my summerfallow. Those are things we will never forget. I have good neighbors here, too. I guess I am just plain lucky.

I will ring off with a wee poem:

Here's to miss Gwen
As she was but then,
A child in her dear mother's arms.
In those frontier days
With their funny ways
As the emigrants looked for farms.

Her eyes were as blue as the ocean,
Her voice like the little wood wren,
When you listen to the song
Of that sacred bird
You listen to the voice of Gwen.

Composed by a neighbor, J. C. Stephens

The Ross Family

Mr. and Mrs. W. Ross with sons John, Henry, Octavius, David, Charles, Lyman, and Tom came from Quebec to the Spinney Hill area in 1912. They were relatives of the Nutbrown family of Maymont, Allan, Harry, Charlie and Sam.

The Ross's all farmed near each other in the Spinney Hill area. There were some Ross homesteads in the Maymont area in the early days also. George Brehon now farms a "Ross" quarter.

Tom and his wife Sarah, raised three children — Alvin, Beatrice and Louise. After Tom died, Sarah came to live in Maymont. She loved a game of cards and was always delighted to have company. She lived in Maymont until her death.

The Ross boys and their wives. L. to r. — Dave and Gwen; Charles and Alice; Henry and Margaret; Tom and Sarah; Tivvy and Beulah; Lyman and Ethel.

Henry married a widow, Margaret Fraser. They had a family of three also — Edwin, Enid, and Irene. Henry and Margaret farmed and upon retiring took up residence in Maymont for several years.

Tivvy Ross and Beulah Rose were married in 1922. They farmed and also lived at and ran the Spinney Hill store for thirteen years. They had eight children — Lloyd, Audrey, Grant, Dean, Beverly, Steele, Gordon and Glennis. Beulah still lives on the home farm during the summer and in Saskatoon visiting sons and daughters in the winter. Tivvy lived in Maymont for several years until his death.

Charles Ross married Alice Johnston. He farmed near his brothers and also ran the Spinney Hill ferry. After Charlie died Alice moved to Maymont and lived there for several years before moving to North Battleford.

David married Gwen Morgan. They farmed two miles west of the store. David was very handy with animals and would go day or night to doctor an animal that was sick or in distress.

David and Gwen also raised a family of three — Lorna (Mrs. Phil Bater) of Baljennie; Doreen (Mrs. Leslie Parker) of Radisson and a son Murray, who died accidentally in his early twenties. After Dave died, Gwen sold her farm and now resides in Maymont.

Walter and Jean Sadowsky

Jean and I became residents of Maymont in 1949. I was born and raised in the Turberville School District, north of Richard, my parents having settled there in 1919.

Jean, the former Jean Prescesky, was born and

Sadowsky family — 1973. Standing — Eugene, Nadine, Wally. Seated — Walter and Jean.

raised in the Ruddell district her parents having settled there in 1915.

We were married in 1948, and in 1949, bought the farm known as the Giffard place, previously farmed by James and Ethel Steele.

In April, 1949, we moved to our new location, into the large, old house built by the late Mr. Giffard, and since then have farmed in the Maymont district.

We have two sons, Wally, born in 1951 and Eugene, born in 1959. Both boys attended Maymont Central School, with Wally later attending the University of Saskatchewan, convocating with a Bachelor of Education Degree.

We continued to farm and live in the old house until 1957, when we moved into a new house that we had built in Maymont, and tried farming for a time from town. This didn't prove too satisfactory, so in 1959, we tore down the old house on the farm, and started to build a new one on the same spot.

The house in town we sold to Jack and Helen Armstrong and in July, 1959, moved back to the farm into a partially completed house.

Through the years we continued to improve the farm by clearing up the willow and poplar brush growing there and replacing the old buildings with new ones.

We also purchased some pasture land north of Richard, and built up a herd of Hereford cattle.

Some of the years in the 1950's and the early 1960's, were dry years with the crops being very short and fodder for cattle hard to obtain. Since 1965 the district has experienced good years and the crops have been excellent.

For many years we enjoyed Jim and Henry Bohn as neighbors across the road from us. Since Jim passed away and Henry moved away, we have missed their coming and going, and their house light in the evenings.

We also recall Jim and Henry driving, for a time, their old 1918 Model T Ford car, with no rooftop and its lantern type lights.

We have enjoyed our life in the district, as well as having made many friends.

At present, Wally, Nadine and family reside in Pierceland, Sask., where Wally teaches school. Eugene is employed by Sedco Developments at Lloydminster, Sask.

Mr. and Mrs. Basil Saunders
Mr. and Mrs. Ted Saunders
Mr. and Mrs. Derby Reid

written by Binky Reid

My Dad and Mother, Rev. and Mrs. Basil Saunders, came to Maymont from Lashburn, Sask. in 1938.

They served in the Anglican Church here for three years.

Probably, since Isabel and I were the youngest, and

Rev. Basil Saunders.

spent most of the three years here, we have more to remember, about those years.

Dad and Mom enjoyed the people of Maymont. They were kind and good to them.

Mrs. A. E. Bean lived where the Bill Fast's are at present, and Mom and Mrs. Bean were good friends.

Dad took services at Fielding, over the river and of course at Maymont.

We lived in the parsonage, now owned by Merle Conkey.

As a young girl, I have memories of Jack Foster delivering milk, of Mr. Alf Andrew on many very cold winter mornings, picking Izzie and I up in a "covered in" sleigh, to take us to school, as he and Kay passed by, of Mr. Bob Neill being the town policeman, of the good school and town dances in the Orange hall, of my courtship with Derby Reid.

Dr. Myers and my father were friends and always respected each other.

I have a sister in Bonnyville, Alta. who has two children, Betty Matinell, and Ken Vesper. Ken stayed with us in Maymont. The late Earl Currie was a friend of Ken's.

My brother Ted operated Saunder's Store for at least twenty years. He married Jean Martin of Maymont and they had two children, Judith, Mrs. Merv. Cross of Saskatoon and Sandra, Mrs. Eric Salt, of Saskatoon.

Ted loved the people and his work in Maymont, but ill health at an early age forced him into retirement. He died at age ■ in 1978.

My sister Gwen taught school at Calais and Montro country schools.

She walked to Calais school some very cold winter mornings, meeting Andrew Melrose often. Mrs. Tom Turner and Mrs. Allen Nutbrown were very kind to Gwen.

Don McCorkle and his family were also good friends. Gwen married Bill Friest ■ Windsor, Ontario in Newfoundland and they have three girls, Pat, Glenna and Cathy. Pat married Dave Anderson of Swift Currrent, Glenna and Cathie are in Saskatoon, Sask.

My brother Jerry was never ■ Maymont for any length of time. He taught school at Speers, Sask. for a short while, had a stint in the armed forces, then graduated from the Saskatoon University with an Accountants Degree.

He married Rose Gidluck of Biggar, and they had two girls Marsha, Mrs. Allen Early of Nelson B.C., and Gay of Calgary, Alta.

Jerry and Rose live at present in Calgary, Alberta.

My sister, Isabel took 3 years of High School here. Her and Joyce Coleman were good friends. Though handicapped with infantile paralysis from the age of two years, she always enjoyed Maymont.

Usually she and I walked the distance from the parsonage to the school, winter and summer. Her spirit of determination was as great then, as it is now, and she is an inspiration for all the family.

Iz married Larry De la Ronde of Mount Nebo ■ the early 1940's and had one son Greg now of Saskatoon. Larry died ■ 1953.

It was at Maymont that I, Edith Saunders, now Reid, better known as Binky, met my husband Derby Reid, and were married in Wilkie, Sask. by my Father in 1942. Derb and I had four children, Derby Allen, Maxine Edith, Susan Mynn Rothenburger and Leah Nichol.

Derb had a Model A car (coupe), when we were courting, and sometimes when it started up ■ made a real cackle.

Dr. Myers used to kid us, saying he couldn't sleep a wink, until he heard that Model A start up and ■ through town.

Some thirty years later, we moved across from him in the village, and ■ had just as much concern over our youngest daughter, Leah.

I would like ■ thank all the people of Maymont for the kindness shown ■ the Saunders family — and our own family, the W. D. Reid's. They helped us to bring up and nurture a family we are proud of. I hope our family will always remember Maymont.

T. C. Saunders

Ted Saunders joined the army in February, 1943. Quite soon after his marriage to Jean Martin in January, 1944, ■ embarked for England. He received his discharge from the army November 16, 1945. Ted and Jean decided that they would like to make their permanent home in the village of Maymont. Ted was able to buy the general store from Mr. L. Karpan and he became our storekeeper for more than twenty years. He was always very busy in the store but never too busy to serve in any way in the community. For recreation he enjoyed sports, fishing, gardening, and many other things. He sold his store when it became necessary for him to lead a less strenuous life.

Ted had several hobbies. A favorite one was ceramics. He finished many objects of beauty that will always be prized by his family and friends. Ted Saunders died suddenly May 20, 1978.

Judith and Sandra, daughters of Ted and Jean were both educated in Maymont. They had a childhood similar to that of other children in the district. They attended the local school; studied music with a competent music teacher; belonged to the youth organizations; took part ■ all activities suitable for children and usually spent part of their holidays traveling with their parents.

The girls have always been interested ■ music. Sandra was organist and Judith a member of the United Church Choir for a number of years before they completed their education in Maymont.

Judith and Sandra completed their education in Saskatoon. They both got secretarial work at the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon where Judith is still employed.

Ted and Jean Saunders — 1944.

On the left — Judith, Mrs. Merv Cross. On the right — Sandra, Mrs. Eric Salt.

Sandra worked at the University for three years. She decided it was time for a change ■ she went to Ottawa and found employment with the Olympic Sports Organization. Two years later she returned to Maymont and was married to Eric Salt on August 14, 1976. They lived in Ottawa for one year. In 1977 they decided to make their permanent home in Saskatoon.

Merv. Cross and Judith Saunders were married in Saskatoon on August 10, 1976. They reside in Saskatoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Schaefer

written by Mrs. William Schaefer

Frank Schaefer was born 1896 in North Dakota, U.S.A. and came to Canada in 1904. He farmed in the Cavalier District before joining the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool as Agent in 1928. He bought grain at Ruddell from 1933-1953.

Beatrice Adamson Schaefer was born 1900 in England and homesteaded with her family in the Denholm District in 1906. She lived in North Battleford and Cavalier before coming to live in Ruddell.

The Schaefers were married in 1929 and had one son, William, who is now residing in Saskatoon. He attended public and high school ■ Ruddell from 1940-1951. He married Jeanine Parkinson of Baljennie. She attended high school in Ruddell and resided with Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Thrower at the Telephone Office 1950-1951.

Mrs. Schaefer was secretary of the Village of Ruddell for many years. She taught Sunday School and was involved with Red Cross Work during the war.

Mrs. Schaefer passed away in 1965 and Mr. Schaefer in 1975.

The Schmidt Story

William Schmidt was born in Ontario ■ 1871. Kate Orth was born ■ Ontario in 1879. They were married Dec. 6, 1900 in Hebron Nebraska.

They came to Canada by immigrant train in the spring of 1904. Travel was very slow as on the way the train got stuck in snowdrifts. They finally arrived in Rosthern and spent the night. The next day they drove 20 miles by team and sleigh in forty below weather to Bill's brother John's homestead. Bill rented land at Laird and seeded his crop.

Bill, Oscar Brumbaugh, Bill Holmes, George Mohler, Frank Hutchison and Henry Christfield set out from Laird in June of 1904. They got as far as W. Smith's farm where they spent the night. One of the horses they were driving was blind so they staked him out and let the other one loose. The next morning the horses were both gone as during the night a bunch of wild horses came up and had taken their horses with them. They were a long way from home and the only way to travel was on foot. So off they went. They met Ransom Rogers who at that time was working for Mr. Richard. He told them where they could get some

Bill Schmidt's Homestead.

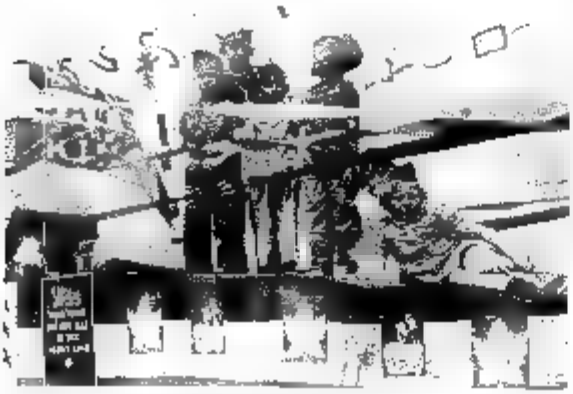
Bill and Kate Schmidt, December 6, 1900.

maps to tell them which was homestead land and which land belonged to the railroad. They spent the night at Mr. Andrews place. The next day he drove them around and each man picked a homestead. The following day they walked back to their wagon. The next day they set out on foot for North Battleford to file on their homestead. Bill filed on N.W. 6-42-12 W. 3rd. Oscar ■. on S.W. 6. After they returned to their wagon they set off again on foot for Laird.

Bill, Oscar and Mary Brumbaugh and their family

Grandpa and Grandma Schmidt and Grandchildren. Back row, left to right — Ron Schmidt, Norman Curry, Earl Curry, Cliff Schmidt, Bill Schmidt. 2nd row — Vernon Curry, Don Schmidt, Doreen Schmidt, Ken Zaleschuk, Wes Schmidt. 3rd row — Grandpa holding Garry Schmidt, Merv Zaleschuk, Grandpa holding Lynn Zaleschuk.

Kate and Bill Schmidt on their 60th wedding anniversary.

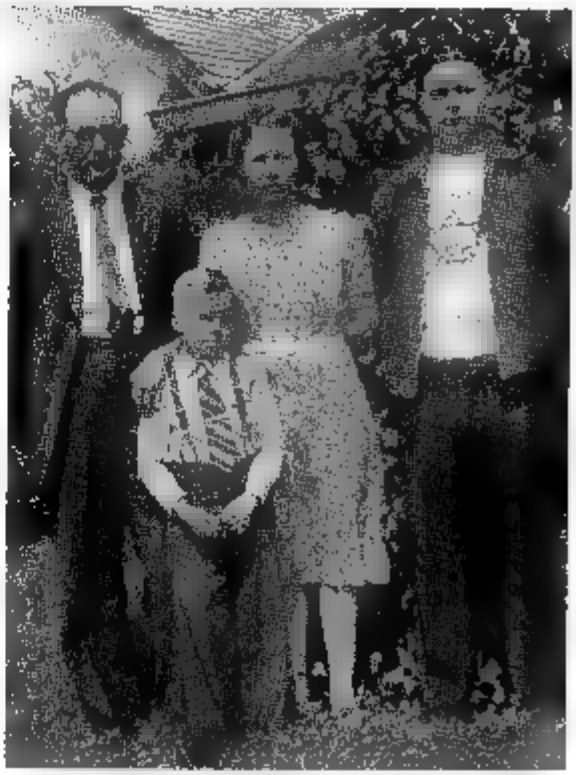


Wes Schmidt, Bill Bean (behind) Don Schmidt, Vernon Curry, (Unknown), Doreen McLeish. Parade in Maymont about 1940.

Harvesting on Schmidt farm, 1978.

came back to Maymont at the end of June. They all lived in a tent until Bill built his barn and did some breaking. Brumbaughs then moved into his barn until they had their log house built. Bill then returned to Laird to take off his crop there.

Edwin was born in April, 1905. Later in the spring Bill returned to Maymont bringing his family with



Lawrence and Clara Curry, Vernon and Earl.

him. They lived with Brumbaughs until they had built a one room frame house of lumber which Bill hauled from Radisson. They built a hen house of sod and a log granary. Their machinery consisted of a fourteen inch walking plow and three horses. They didn't have any crop in 1905 just some potatoes and garden. Bill broke all the land on his homestead with the walking plow.

Three more children were born Vern, Ethel (who died as an infant) and Hazel.

Clara, Nellie and Ed started school at Grey School. Vern and Hazel started school in Maymont. On the first day of school Vern along with five others were sent home because they were not yet seven years of age.

Kate drove the children to and from school with horse and buggy. She often carried a 22 rifle with her. She was a crack shot and many a supper of rabbit or prairie chicken came from her precise aim.

Kate was a great helpmate. She sold butter and eggs to the railroad crew when they were building the grade in 1905. She also helped on the farm where ever she was needed. It didn't matter whether [redacted] was feeding cattle or pigs or doing field work. Kate loved to garden but her greatest love was [redacted] drive her car. Most people will remember how she used to blow her horn when she went around corners. [redacted] was her way of saying "Look out here I come!" Kate drove her car until she was [redacted] years of age.

Ed and Vern helped on the farm and more land was accumulated. In 1928 they had a record crop of 50 bus. to the acre on new breaking. At that time wheat was priced at 85¢ per bus.

The children grew and married and had children of their own. Ed moved to Toronto but the rest stayed close to home. Clara passed away in 1943.

Bill and Kate celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 1950 and then their 60th anniversary in 1960. At this time they were still living on their homestead. They had 13 grandchildren and [redacted] great grandchildren.

Bill passed away in 1961 at the age of 89. Kate joined him in 1970 at the age of 91. They are buried in the family plot [redacted] Maymont cemetery.

CLARA married Lawrence Curry in 1925. They farmed in the Maymont area. They had two children Earl and Vernon. After Clara's death in 1943, Laurie turned his hand to carpenter work. Earl married Marjorie Reid and had four children Rea, Laurie, Brian and Helen. Earl passed away in June, 1979. Vernon married Eileen Meena and they have two children Terry and Sheila.

NELLIE married Harold Curry in 1925. Harold was an excellent machinst, electrican and welder. He also built the first motor driven winding cable for the Maymont ferry. Many people of the Ruddell, Maymont, Fielding area will remember him for his fine work. Harold passed away in 1955. Harold and Nellie had one son Norman. Norman took his schooling in Maymont and Ruddell. He retired after 25 years of service in the Air Force. He passed away in 1978.

ED married Leona E. Anger in 1928. He farmed for a few years. He joined the army during the war years. He then went to Toronto and went into the garage business. Ed and Leona had two children, Cliff and Doreen. Cliff and Dorothy have two girls, Mary Ann and Janet they reside in Toronto. Doreen married Don Brown. They have two children Gary and Debbie. Doreen passed away in 1975. Ed passed away in 1976.

Back row, left to right — Bill, Ida and Vern, Ron. Front row, left to right — Wes, Garry, Don. Taken day of Ida and Vern's 50th wedding anniversary.

Lee, Bill, David, Karen, Della, Mandy 3½ yrs. and Wade 6½ months.

VERN farmed with his father for a number of years. He married Ida Beaudoin in 1929. They built a small house on S.E.¼ 1-42-43 W3rd. They have a family of five sons, Bill, Ron, Wes, Don, and Garry. In 1942 they bought the Turnbull farm and moved to the Ruddell district. As the boys grew old enough they each in turn started farming with their Dad. In 1954 Vern, Bill and Ron branched out into earth moving equipment. Vern can still spend a full days work on the cat at the age of [redacted]. His love for machinery takes him quite often to the museum in North Battleford to work on the antique machinery there.

Vern and Ida celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in Feb., 1979. They still have time to give love, attention, and advice to their 15 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

BILL — I am the first son of Vern and Ida Schmidt. They named me William Ernest after my two Grandfathers. My first memories were when I was about 4 years old, we lived south of Grandma and Grandpa's. I was sick and Grandma fed me sulphur and molasses. This smartened me up quickly. I can remember going to our neighbors and staying until dark and then I was afraid to go home, so Art or Alex Wolhberg would carry me on their shoulders. I was afraid of the old turkey gobbler and that was the reason that I always waited so long to venture home.

It was about 1934 that we moved our house into Grandpa's yard, it was loaded on a couple of old wagons, Ron and I walked behind, not being a very long distance, about a quarter of a mile.

I started school in the fall of 1935 and stayed with Aunt Nell, Uncle Harold and Norman Curry in Maymont for about three years. When my brother Ron

started going, to school, we stayed at both Aunt Clara's and Aunt Nell's. I made a lot of friends in town and learned to skate. ■ the fall when Mr. Sykes, who ran the livery stable had oat sheaves stacked for the winter all of the kids would play hide and seek in them, we were to be home by 8 o'clock, which to us seemed too early.

When more of my brothers were of school age, we no longer stayed ■ town, we acquired "Old Fred" a horse, and drove to school in the buggy. Being the oldest, I was the driver, which made me feel very grown up. I still have many fond memories of those old days.

Debra, Dwight, Darlene, Ron and Thelma Schmidt.

Wes, Doreen, Rick and Shelley.

In the fall of 1942, we moved to Ruddell, where I finished school. Then I took a short course in Mechanics at Saskatoon Technical Collegiate.

■ 1945 I met Della Beausoleil who had come to school ■ Ruddell, we had a good and long friendship and courtship (5 yrs.) with our old model A. Ford car, we were married ■ 1950. I worked on the farm here with my dad, later I rented some land from him for a couple of years. In 1953 we started the construction business with ■ nice new T D 18 A tractor and scraper and dug water reservoirs for the P.F.R.A. One thing led to another and we are still ■ this business, but today we have three generations of Schmidts as operators on our machines.

Della and I have two sons, Lee, born in 1952 and David born in 1956. In 1973 Lee married the former Karen Clark and they have two lovely children, Mandy and Wade. David lives at home with us, both sons work with Dad and I in the earth moving and land clearing business.

Already it ■ 1979, ■ lot of water has rolled under the bridge since my old Grandfather walked here from

Leona and Ed Schmidt married Dec., 1928.

Laird, his homestead is still in the family, their big house is still standing, Aunt Hazel, Uncle Met and part of their family lived there. Farming has been good to our family, a lot of tough years, a few good ones, these are the ones we remember.

I have a few hobbies, but don't have much time to spend with any of them. I like to work with old machinery, as well as the new, fix old cars and play around with airplanes once in a while. I'm proud to say that there are four generations of us here at home, three working at farming and construction and little Wade looking on.

In concluding, I express my deepest gratitude for my heritage. I'm proud to have known my Grandparents, who braved the frontier and had a part in settling this community. I'm grateful for the help, love, and guidance received from my parents and Grandparents to whom I'll be forever grateful.

Ron — These were depression years for the family at Maymont where I was born in 1931. I started school in Maymont. In 1942 we moved West to Ruddell. These were the war years. You would think that at the age of 10, this would not affect your life but lying on your back in a hayfield watching the English pilots train out of North Battleford must have had its effect as 4 out of 5 of we boys have our pilots license.

At Ruddell I finished my school years. Being interested in Agriculture I attended University for 2 years studying Agriculture. I then returned home to live and farm with the rest of the family and working to own my own land.

In 1952 I met a farm girl from Fielding. Her name was Thelma Maria Ann Spence. She was the youngest of a family of 4 from the marriage of William Spence and Hellen McGrath. She was born at Fielding in 1934. At the time we met she was a telephone operator in North Battleford. We married in Notre Dame De Lourdes Catholic Church in North Battleford.

Met and Hazel Zaleschuk's 40th wedding anniversary.

On March 5, 1957 our first child was born, a girl named Darlene Ann. Two years later Debra Lynn was born. Finally on Oct. 31, 1960 a boy named Dwight Ronald.

The kids got their education at Ruddell and Maymont. At this time of writing August, 1979 we are fortunate to have all our children living close to us. Darlene married Bill Melrose a Maymont boy in 1975. They have two children Lori born in 1976 and Mark born in 1978. Darlene is Post Mistress in Maymont and Bill is farming with us. Debra married a Maymont boy as well, Greg de Strake and is living in North Battleford. They have 1 son, Eldon Allen. Debra is a dental assistant and Greg is a heavy duty Mechanic. Dwight is at home farming with me.

Up to this time my life has been devoted to farming with close family ties. All my brothers are still farming together; other than Bill who has sold his land and has gone into the construction business.

Our field of achievements may not be that great, since we have not moved very far from the place of our birth, but we feel that we have had a very rewarding family life.

WES — I am the number three son of Vern and Ida Schmidt. I started school in Maymont in 1940. The first year of school I spent most of my time in the hall. The older boys would match me up against other boys and I was always game to fight. Of course this got me in trouble with the teacher and earned me the name of the "Fighting German".

We moved to Ruddell in 1942. I finished my schooling there. There are many fond memories of school days. One school day Buck Meena and I decided to hitch hike to North Battleford. Who should stop and pick us up but Pete Martynes a member of the school board. There was really trouble for me when Dad found out about that. I continued my education with one year at the school of agriculture in Saskatoon.

I started farming the year of the rust 1954. I farmed with my brothers Ron, Don, and Garry. We each own our own land but jointly own the machinery.

In 1955 I married Doreen Evonne Webb who had been teaching at Grey school. We built our house at Schmidtville in 1959. We have two children. Rick was born in 1956. He took his schooling in Ruddell and Maymont. After graduating he spent five years with the Dept of Highways and is now farming with me. Shelley was born in 1961 and spent her school days at Ruddell and Maymont. Shelleys future is undecided. Both kids live at home with us.

I have a few hobbies, but don't have much time to spend with any of them. I like to go out and find arrowheads and sometimes even go out and look for old coins, rings, etc. with my metal detector. Of course this can not be done in the winter on the cold winter days so I spend my time with rock cutting and polishing.

Ken, Marion, Stewart, Sandra, and Lorne Zaleschuk.

Don came with his parents and brothers to Ruddell in 1942 from their home at Maymont.

He started school in Ruddell but was not allowed to continue because he was too small. He went back the next year and continued his schooling until a few days into Gr. XI when he decided that wasn't for him and went farming instead.

Don and Carole (Ranger) were married Aug. 10, 1957 and lived in a small house they moved into his father's yard where his brothers Bill, Ron and Wes had their homes.

Their oldest son Reid was born Aug. 7, 1958. In the spring of 1960 they moved to the farm that Carole's grandfather, Russell Reid, had homesteaded on. They were renting from her uncle, Clarence Reid.

The spring of 1960 when they moved was very nice, as the yard was all dry by the 1st. of April, but that's the way it stayed the rest of the year — nice and dry! Don had established a small herd of cattle and had lots of feed to see him through the winter and as always when farming, spending the winter planning for "next year" and hoping things would improve.

1961 was hot and dry just like the previous year and hot dry winds in May took their toll of the caraganas and they were bare of leaves the rest of the summer. A good part of the crop was cut for feed.

Mark was born June 15, 1961.

That winter Don decided he'd had enough of that kind of farming, sold his cattle and feed and by the end of March they were on their way to Calgary. It had been ■ degrees for several days before they left so heading to the City of Chinooks was a pleasant change.

He got a job with a lumber yard and used his own truck to deliver lumber through-out the city. He remembers one occassion when a delivery took him to a hilly area of the city and the load slid out of the truck and traffic having to stop while he reloaded.

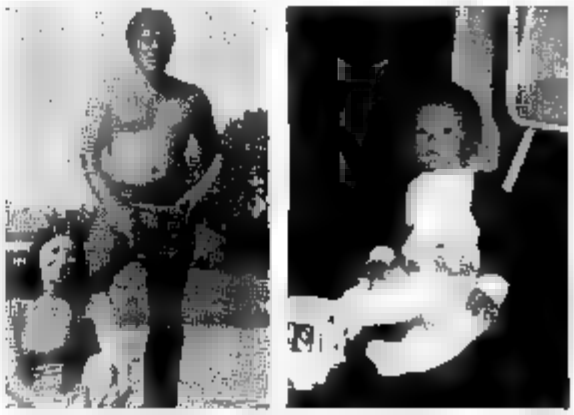
Every week-end they travelled the countryside with an eye on farm land.

Sept., 1962 they were back in Ruddell as the urge to farm was still there and it was harvest time!

The next spring, they built a house south of Ruddell and are still farming.

Their 3rd son, Lyndon, was born Nov. 30, 1963 and 4th son, Aaron, was born Feb. 2, 1968.

Mervin and Carole Zaleschuk, Darren 12 and Carmen (5).



Lynn and Judy Zaleschuk, Krishin Zaleschuk (1 yr. old July 18).

Reid attended school at Ruddell for Gr's I-V, VI-XII in Maymont, took Radio, T.V. and Communications course at S.T.I. in Moose Jaw, and is presently employed as a Gen. Tech. with C.N. Telecommunications in Thompson, Man.

Mark took Gr's I-IV in Ruddell, and as the school closed, took Gr's V-XII in Maymont and Gr. XII at *N.B.C.H.S. in North Battleford. He is employed in North Battleford.

Lyndon attended Ruddell School for Gr's I and II and then to Maymont where he is now taking his Gr. X.

Aaron started in Maymont and is now in Gr. VI.

*North Battleford Comprehensive High School

GARRY — I was born February, 1944 at Ruddell in my house, I was brought into this world by Doctor Scratch and Mrs. Martynes and my two grandmothers. I went to school in Ruddell and got my grade 9.

When I was 17 I decided to go to the navy and travel around the world on a ship. I stayed in the navy for three years, then I began working for my brother Bill.

I married Carolyn Elliot from the Sonningdale district. My first child was born September 19, 1964 we called her Sherry. Two years later my second daughter arrived on February 19, 1966 who we named Catharine Ida Ann. She was named after her great-grandmother Schmidt and her two grandmothers.

I then began farming with my 3 brothers. But I didn't think that was for me so I took my family and moved to YellowKnife in 1969. I worked at numerous jobs in YellowKnife for three years. My son Robbie was born in YellowKnife in April, 1971. I decided I would rather go back to farming. We moved back home. In 1972 my last child was born a girl on July 25, 1972 we called her Kelly.

Today I am still farming with my brothers and I do off and on construction work for my other brother Bill. I am the president of the Legion in Maymont. And my hobbies are Hockey, baseball, and I also like to play pool and go ski-dooing in the winter time.

HAZEL — Hazel married Dmytro Zaleschuk in 1935. They live on Kate and Bills homestead. They have three sons Ken, Mervin and Lynn. The boys took their schooling in Maymont.

Ken married Marion Poor and have three children, Stewart, Sandra and Loren. They live in their home on their grandparents homestead.

Mervin married Carol Custer. They have two children Darren and Carmen. They live in Saskatoon where Mervin works for Sask. Power.

Lynn married Judith Zimmer and have one son Kristen. They live in Saskatoon where Lynn has his own trenching business.

Roy Schmidt Family

Ruth Barrett and Roy George Schmidt were married in 1930 and lived on the Martin homestead for approximately 5 years. The first two children were born there, Grace Lillian in 1931 and Bernice May in 1935.

Roy Schmidt family — Eddy Wutke, Berniece (Schmidt) Wutke, Ruth and Roy, Harold. In front — Carl, Dennis, Wayne.

After Stanley moved to Vancouver, they moved on to the Chambers homestead where they farmed until 1952. Four more children were born, Harold George 1939, Carl Percy 1942, Wayne LeRoy in 1948 and Dennis in 1951. The children took their schooling at Keystone School while they lived here, usually walking in the summer and driving with tobaggan or cutter in winter.

Farming was done with horses and the only transportation to Maymont, a distance of seven miles was with horses and wagon the first years of their marriage. The main income was cream cheques, they milked cows and raised a few pigs.

Grace was married to Lloyd Parker in 1950.

The crops were poor and in 1952 they decided to sell out and to Vancouver. Stanley had a house picked out for them in Burnaby when they arrived by train.

Roy started working on tug boats with Stanley and had various other jobs, the last one before retiring was with the City Works Department.

The boys had paper routes while finishing their education.

Bernice married Ed Wutke and they have three children and four grandchildren. Bernice has taken a cake decorating course and decorates cakes in a bakery. Eddy works in a plywood mill, their home is in Surrey.

Harold took training in Electronic Engineering and

is presently selling mobile homes. He was married in 1964 to Thelma Gillatly and they have 3 children, 2 boys and 1 girl all very sports minded.

Carl works in a plywood mill and lives in Surrey.

Wayne was married in 1963 to Theresa Challe and they have 1 boys. He is a foreman in a lumber camp at Williams Lake.

Dennis lives at home with his mother and is a sales man for Steed.

Roy passed away in November, 1975.

Gordon Scott Family

Gordon Scott and his wife, Nellie, came from Paris, Ontario. He left in March, 1919 with a carload of settler's effects, including four horses. He arrived in Ruddell intact, having made up a bed in a horse manger in one of the box cars. Mrs. Scott was a second cousin to G. O. (Bern) Robinson. Gordon rented a quarter section down near Maple Grove picnic grounds where he farmed for three or four years. He then moved up to a farm near town which was on the winter sleigh road for the wheat haul from Baljennie. There was no rail to Baljennie and Ruddell was the focal point for sale of wheat from Baljennie and also Lilac. The nearest neighbors were Ross and Lottie Stally, the Soules family and also E. Whitlaw.

They had two children, Ruth, born in 1919 and George, in 1921, both having gone to Ruddell School for twelve years. Ruth was a great athlete and runner and Bern Robinson took five dollars off Mr. Blacklock at a Maymont Field Day as Bern had bet on Ruth in the race.

George went from Ruddell School into the Airforce and overseas where he was married. He returned in 1946 with his war bride and attended the University of Saskatchewan for two years and completed his university at U.B.C. in Vancouver. George and Bon have two children, Christine and Ray. They reside in Vancouver. George now lives in Toronto and visits Saskatchewan regularly.

Ruth married Phil Dacust from Gravelbourg and they have three children — Peggy, Annette and Eugene, all living in Ruddell and Battleford. Peggy has two girls, Judy and Maureen.

Gordon Scott was Secretary and Trustee of the School Board for many years and he and Ross Stally engaged in filling the candy bags for the school concert on many occasions and always needed some spirit-like assistance for such a tedious task.

Gordon and Nellie moved to Alberta "Westward Ho" in 1946.

Mr. and Mrs. John Henry Scott

parents of Mrs. J. H. Peden

John Henry Scott born Dec. 11, 1844 and Elisa Ann Mitchell, born Jan. 22, 1852 spent their early years near Listowel, Ontario.

They were married June 30, 1875. They moved to Balmoral, Manitoba where they farmed. Here their three children; Peter Graham, Ellen Irvine and Andrew Wall were born.

Later they sold their farm to their youngest son and moved to Maymont, living on the property where Glen Boyd now resides.

Mr. and Mrs. Scott were great gardeners. Their grandchildren were able to stay with them in their early years while attending Maymont school.

When Mr. Scott passed away Mrs. Scott went to Radisson to live with her son Graham (bachelor).

She spent her last few years with her daughter, Ellen and family. Both Mr. and Mrs. Scott were laid to rest in the Maymont cemetery.

Dr. Scratch

No pioneer settler rendered greater service to the community than did the country doctor. And no doctor was ever more worthy of the love and admiration of his people than Maymont's own Doctor Scratch, familiarly known as 'Doc'.

Dr. Scratch was born January 25, 1882, in Amherstburg, Ontario. He attended public school there and high school in Toronto. He graduated in medicine from Toronto University in the year 1905.

After graduation Dr. Scratch was offered a position as doctor on an ocean liner or a pass to Vienna to continue his studies but in Sept., 1905, he decided to come west and on Sept. 23rd he left Windsor, Ont., by harvest excursion train. He intended to spend only three weeks in the west but either through lack of funds or love of the west, or both, he stayed eleven years before returning east, and then not to stay.

He looked around the west and was advised by Mr. Kirty of Winnipeg, who was in charge of C.N.R. townsites, that Fielding should be a good point for a practice. He looked it over but did not stay then, instead took up a position as doctor for the C.N.R. construction; and was stationed at the bridge west of North

Dr. Scratch.

Battleford. While working there he also had a private practice at North Battleford. He had plenty of typhoid fever cases that were taken to a very primitive hospital in North Battleford. After completing work with the C.N.R. construction, Dr. Scratch settled in Fielding in 1906. He stayed there for that year and in the winter of 1907 he moved to Maymont which seemed to be more central for his practice. Dr. Scratch had operated a drug store while in Fielding. When he moved to Maymont he had his office and drug store in a poolroom. He resided in the hotel and private homes until he purchased a site for his home, located on Lot ■ Block 5 on the north side of Second Avenue where he erected a small house which also served as an office. He sold his drug business to Mr. Mawhinney, who lived with Dr. Scratch until such time as he had his own dwelling. In 1908 Dr. Scratch erected a house which stood until 1973 when the lots were purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Derby Reid who moved a modern mobile home onto the site.

Dr. Scratch's practice was large, extending to Richard, Speers, Lilac, Alticane, Mayfair, as far north as there was settlement and south to Sonningdale, Spinney Hill and bordering the Perdue country. To cover such territory with horses in the early days meant untold hardship, discomfort and self-sacrifice as long drives were taken in foul weather and fair and at any hour of the day or night. In order to care for patients south of the North Saskatchewan River it was often necessary to cross the river in the 'Basket' when the ferry was not operating, during the spring break-up and the fall low water level. This meant climbing a sixty foot tower, pulling himself across a fifteen hundred foot expanse of river, being met by someone on the other side, and driven to his patient. One time when the ice was breaking up in the spring it was only by sheer good luck that Dr. Scratch arrived back safely. The ice was rising about a foot an hour and struck the 'Basket' about twenty feet from shore. Sometimes Dr. Scratch had to walk across the ice. For safety he and one of the ferrymen carried a plank to hold them should they go through the ice. They were followed by a man with a rope in case of accident. ■ one instance Dr. Scratch did get a ducking but this did not deter him. He borrowed a pair of trousers and continued ■ the home of the patient where he dried his underear in the oven.

Distant calls meant absence from home for two or three days at a time with little opportunity for sleep or rest. He snatched a wink of sleep where he could on a floor, on a table, in a chair or as he travelled along the road. The fact that he had access to any home and cookie jar in the district helped to ease the strain of his arduous task. On one occasion while attending a patient about forty miles north of Maymont he left his horses tethered. The mosquitoes, which very plentiful, bothered the horses until they broke loose and disappeared. It was about two weeks before he recovered them when they wandered up to the gate of a farm yard. The farmer's wife saw the team, found them very friendly, put them ■ the stable and advertised the find in the Ranchman's Gazette. During the 'flu epidemic of 1918 Dr. Scratch gave himself untiringly and was rewarded for his efforts by the recovery of almost every patient. ■ the early days and also during the depression money was hard to come by and the services of the doctor were paid with horses, hay, wood, meat and even weasel skins. In the odd case the doctor had to lend money to pay for the medicine he prescribed. Though there were many hardships, life had it's humorous side also. Dr. Scratch enjoyed his professional work and never regretted his decision to come west. Now and again ■ amusing incident ■ recalled by those who knew the doctor best.

When not yet very well known in the district Dr. Scratch was called on an urgent case. Upon arrival he handed the reins to his companion and went to the door. He was met by the gentleman of the house who said "Boy, you go and hold the team and tell the doctor to come in right away".

In another instance ■ was called to see a young lady at the home of her employer. He examined her but could find nothing wrong. When left alone with him she said "There isn't anything wrong with me, Doctor. They won't pay me and I'm going to stay here until they do, to which he replied, "Cripes, move over and let me in too".

In August, 1932, the people ■ Maymont, to show appreciation of the faithful service rendered by Dr. Scratch for twenty-five years, planned a picnic in his honor. People from every corner of his large practice, contributed and gathered to see him presented with a new eight cylinder coupe, a cheque and a buffalo coat. Doctors from Saskatoon, North Battleford and other towns were in attendance. Dr. Alexander of Saskatoon spoke on behalf of the medical profession in tribute to Dr. Scratch. The doctors' mother and sister came from Amherstburg, Ont. to be present at the celebration. The Honorable George Langley was the main speaker of the day and Mr. Emil Richard made the presentation.

On November 1st, 1935, the people of Spinney Hill showed their appreciation to Dr. Scratch when at a gathering in his honor they presented him with a bag and a Siwash sweater, accompanied by a scroll bearing the names of ninety-nine babies ■ attended at birth. It was inscribed "To our beloved Physician, Dr. John A. Scratch, from his children whom he has lovingly attended during their short lives". The feelings of those present were summed up in the words of a poem selected and framed for the occasion, entitled:

THE COUNTRY DOCTOR

Day in, day out, for thirty years or more
Up the river hills and down he went,
His black square case upon the buggy floor.
I've seen him give the weary team the reins
And wornout, sleep and while they ambled home

His eyes were set in crinkled lines of mirth,
Cheer was prescribed with bitter calomel
He was the arbiter of death and birth
The go-between of heaven and hell
Tender as woman, steadfast as a rock
Small wonder that we country folk all love —
"Our Doc".

On August 14, 1957, these communities again gathered to honor Dr. Scratch for his 50 years of service to the area. Again they came to pay their respects to the little fellow with the ready smile. They presented a suitably inscribed watch to Dr. Scratch, and ■ his honor established a $1,000 scholarship to a graduating high school student in the area to be applied on further studies. Two popular platform guests present for the occasion were the doctors sons, Dr. Ron Scratch from Cutknife, and Dr. Norvel Scratch of Stratford, Ontario. The presentation was made by Mrs. Tom Young who assisted Dr. Scratch in his work ■ earlier days.

On January 25th, 1962 our pioneer doctor celebrated his 80th birthday. To help him mark the occasion, his friends met on 'Coffee Row' in the local cafe in the morning, and 'Doc' had ■ real surprise party! Mrs. Lekstrom, of the cafe management at that time, had baked a birthday cake, which the guest of honor cut and shared with all present. In the afternoon ■ was a guest of the Friendship Unit of the U.C.W. at the home of Mrs. G. McIvor and was served tea and refreshments.

Dr. Scratch died November, 1969, at the age of 87 years. His burial service was conducted by Rev. Dr. F. Myers from the United Church and he was laid to rest in the Maymont Cemetery.

So wait for him Lord, as he nears the gates
Be gentle, give him rest
Bless him, oh Lord! he has earned his reward
He was truly one of the best.

(from a poem written in memory of Dr. Scratch by W. G. Brown of Fielding, Sask.)

Alice Mohler Scrivens

After Grade Twelve at Bedford Road Collegiate in Saskatoon Alice attended university for a year, then spent a year visiting relatives in California and Montana before attending Teachers' College.

After five years teaching she was married ■ Ted Scrivens, and they lived in their new bungalow on the farm at Rosetown. Five years later Kathleen arrived. She attended Camberley School until Ted and his brother built the duplex in Rosetown. After graduation Kathleen took Nurses Training at City Hospital. When attending a university class she met Ken Stangland, a young Engineering student. In 1962 they both graduated. After their marriage they made their home ■ Ontario and later in Regina where Ken worked for Saskatchewan Power and Kathleen nursed at Regina General Hospital. Joel was born in 1965, and Cameron in 1969, after they had moved to the farm. They were in partnership with Ted from 1966 till 1973 when Ted and Alice retired.

Ted was a R.M. councillor for twenty years, and served on the Rosetown Hospital Board and Board of Stewards of Rosetown United Church. Both were Library Board members. Alice is ■ Session Member with hobbies of oil painting and golfing.

They have enjoyed trips ■ California, Florida, Europe, Hawaii, Australia, the Caribbean Islands, Spain and the Bahamas.

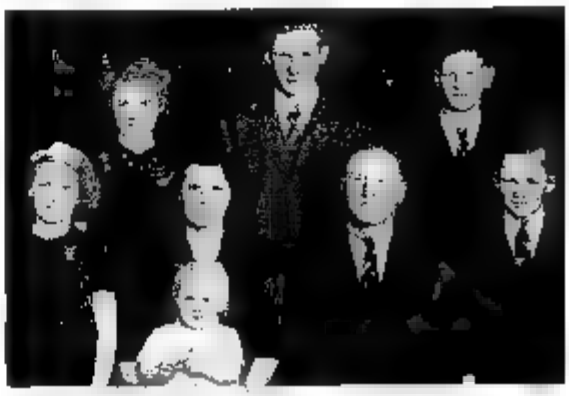
John Seib History

John and Erma (Schultz) Seib, along with their children, Art (10), Elmer (8), Lillian (6), and twins Eleanor and Raymond (3), moved into the Wavie Bank district on May 9, 1937. It took two days to move from the North Battleford area, bringing all their belongings in a car, wagon and hayrack. The hens were penned up on the hayrack and Mom managed ■ salvage a few eggs for breakfast.

They camped for the night by Webbs. There was a slough on both sides of the road; the cattle drank their fill and bedded down for the night. The family slept under the stars and a tarp. In the morning the mist was so thick the blankets were all wet. Mom boiled a syrup can of water with the lid on tightly for tea. The can boiled dry and went boom, scaring everyone half to death.

The twins (age 3) rode on the rack from time to time, and played tricks on Mom as usual. They set the alarm clock then placed ■ in a tin dish, the alarm went off, and Duke, one of the team horses Mom was driving, pranced smartly.

Arrival on the place, the house was four walls and no roof. Dad used two walls for gable ends, the other walls were made of logs. He mixed straw and mud ■ plaster it, using old Shang ■ walk back and forth ■ mix the paste. The house had a lumber roof and with log walls and mud plaster it was very warm. The



John Seib Family — 1944. (l-r) Back — Lillian, Art, Elmer. Front — Eleanor, Erma (mom), John (dad), Raymond, baby Vivian.

cellar was dug with fresno and pick, the ground was very hard.

A disastrous loss, hams that were stored in a barrel were stollen, the meat was very hard to come by in the summer as there was no refrigeration known and everything had to be cured. This was their summer stock of meat.

The dugout was built by Dad and Mom working the fresno (4 horse slip), Mom got thrown a number of times.

The land had many stones, many long hours for Mom and Dad, and family, 70 acres were broken up when the folks moved on. Dad had 7 acres brushed by Thompson's, also breaking another 30 acres himself.

Children, Art and Elmer started school at Wavie Bank. Lil started in the fall. It was a real treat having only one mile to walk instead of four miles. Their first teacher was A. D. Smith. The school yell: Chickalanko, Chickalanka, chow, chow, chow, Boomeranka, Boomeranka, bow, wow, wow, Who-a-who-a, who are we? Wavie Bank, Wavie Bank Yes Siree!

The winter of 1937-38, Dad had to return ■ North Battleford to get the horses, which had decided to go back home.

The first tractor they bought was a John Deere Model D, Dad traded one team of horses for it.

The relief years were bad, the snowshoe fish which Mom had ■ soak for three days before cooking. Potatoes and apples never reached us and turnips and beets were like straw and were very bitter.

About 1941 the horses went down with sleeping sickness. Two were so sick that they had to be hand fed and the pail lifted to water them, as the horses could not lower their heads down to drink.

Dad had a threshing crew in 1943. There were six teams. Elmer hauled the grain. Art, Tommy and Bill Caldwell, Jack Taylor, Jack Thompson and Len Taylor hauled the sheaves. Mom did most of the cooking, when threshing for the bachelors. This was a gigantic undertaking feeding eight to ten hungry men three meals a day plus lunches. She also milked nine cows and slopped the pigs, besides doing all the driving to get the food to the hungry threshers while it was still hot.

Dad and Art played the accordion and violin but Ray was the one whose talents led him further afield. He started playing the button accordion at dances with Vic Prescesky in 1946. He got his first piano accordion in 1947. Although ■ no longer plays for dances he still plays for pleasure.

In 1949 the family was blessed with another holy terror. Vivian was born in barley cutting time.

Our farm yard seemed to ■ the neighborhood gathering place of young people. In the summertime our field was the scene of the baseball team, later some of these players became known as the Wavie Bank Klippers. In the winter time our big dug out was the scene of as hard fought a hockey tournament as any N.H.L. game ■ nowadays.

Mom did a lot of baking when the neighbors were over. She would bake a cake and ice it, place it on the roof of the porch to cool. Along would come some of the boys and eat it. Then they would try to tell her she forgot ■ ice it in the first place.

Dances were held at Wavie Bank School, everyone came young, old, big and small (even babies). These dances were for everyone. What a get together, many a youngster learned to dance there — there was no age barrier. Coffee was cooked in a wash boiler in the basement, everyone brought some sandwiches, cake or cookies. Lunch was pooled and everyone had a wonderful time. Door charge 25 cents.

The Christmas concerts were a high-light of many long hours spent on perfecting lines, acting as we never had before, doing things guaranteed to bring tears to your eyes one minute and "split your sides with laughter the next."

Oh the glorious memories of growing up on the farm in the Wavie Bank district. Even the time when mumps and measles hit the school so hard that actors were hard to come by and boys played girls' parts.

Sandy, our dog, was as much a member of the ball team as any person, he could jump up and catch a ball with the best.

Come milking time we would head for the barn rattling the pails. Sandy would go and get the cows, bringing them in at a nice slow walk. He was almost human.

In 1948 Lillian married Tom Caldwell; they raised six children.

Art bought the Abbot place, farmed ■ until he sold it to Elmer. He moved into North Battleford where he ■ now working for highways, operating ■ road maintainer, and driving taxi.

Elmer bought a half section at Denholm in 1951. In 1953 Elmer married Thelma Wood and they raised one son, Richard. Elmer bought the home place from Dad in 1957 and another ½ section in 1962.

John and Erma moved into North Battleford in 1952, what with Wavie Bank school closing Vivian would have had to be driven to Ruddell for school. No roads in wintertime.

Ray started work at the Saskatchewan hospital at North Battleford in 1952, where he graduated ■ a Psychiatric Nurse ■ 1957. He married Vicki Karloff in 1956 they raised one son Dale. Ray is now working out of Saskatchewan hospital as a District Psychiatric Nurse.

Eleanor married Alfred Wappel a Prince district farmer. They raised three boys, Lenoard, Garry and Lyle.

■ 1961 Vivian married Dan Seib of Edmonton where they lived for a couple of years, moving back to North Battleford in 1964. They have two children Brenda and Darryl. Vivian works as a nurse's aide at the

Battlefords Regional Care Center. Dan works as a mechanic for Boyd's.

John and Erma Seib quit farming in 1966. John found more time was needed to devote to his houses in town. They finally retired in 1977. They are both in reasonably good health and are still living in their own home. Hobbies are looking after their fairly large garden and dad does wood working.

In 1975 they celebrated their golden anniversary; all the family came home.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Sherlock

by Wendy Sherlock

The Canadian-Imperial Bank of Commerce transferred Bill Sherlock from Saskatoon July 5, 1973 to manage its Maymont branch. Bill commuted from Saskatoon while repair work was being done on the bank's residence. The Sherlock family of Bill, wife Wendy, and daughter, Vicky, became Maymont residents on September 24, 1973.

Bill and Wendy had been raised in communities similiar to Maymont. With their move here, Bill was able to pursue his interests in hunting and fishing he'd largely given up while living in the city. He joined the Ruddell Hunting Club and through its membership developed an interest in trap shooting. Bill reloaded his own hunting shells and now did hundreds of trap loads for himself and others.

Wendy, who had been employed as a registered nurse in Saskatoon became a full time housewife with the move to Maymont. She was able to increase her interest in horticulture and especially that of growing gladioli. The Sherlocks also raise exhibition fancy pigeons and rabbits. From July '76-June '79 Wendy served on the local community college committee and was the local co-ordinator. Other community work was in 4-H.

In August of 1974 the Sherlocks purchased the thirty foot lot south of the Legion Hall. Once the lot was levelled and filled, Bill and Wendy constructed a two-car garage there and used the remaining space for additional garden.

Kenny Sherlock was born July 20, 1974 completing the family. Vicky had started school in September, 1974 with only a few introductory hours of kindergarten available at that time. Kenny will attend Kindergarten over a ten-month period starting in the fall of 1979.

The bank's business continued to show a steady increase since Bill's transfer. Phyllis Johnston was the only other staff member besides the manager until March, 1975. At this time Bill hired Jan Sanders as full time ledgerkeeper/clerk.

On December, 2, 1976 the bank moved into new rented premises in the R.M. Building. The old bank was purchased by the village and renovated into a town office and a rental suite.

The bank authorized part time help in March '79 at which time Bill hired Lorraine Stenerson from the Sonningdale area.

Wendy went back to work as a full time R.N. at the Borden Union Hospital in April, 1977. With her employment the hospital now had employees from all areas of its service region from Langham to Maymont.

Charles Sherman Family

Charles Sherman was born on January 4, 1877 at Ulrichstein Hessan in Germany, he came to Eastern Canada as a young man, there were members of his family living in Ontario.

He wrote to these relatives from Winnipeg in 1903 where ■ was working at a Paint and Glass Company — it was already 27 degrees below and ■ said "In the spring I am going out west to look up a homestead" — On talking to people in Winnipeg they told him the best land would ■ about forty miles west of Regina. He worked in Winnipeg awhile longer, the wages were $2.50 a day and it cost him $4.00 a week room and board.

In the spring of 1904 he left Winnipeg for work on the railroad going west and to look for some homestead land. He wanted to go to Melfort ■ look for land but as the railroad wasn't running trains due to frost, he and his companions had to walk 105 miles and shoulder heavy bags besides. The land there didn't appeal to him as it was swampy and had too much brush and scrap on it. He kept looking for good land there, and found some ■ liked — at $5.00 to $6.00 an acre — obviously he didn't prove upon it as he came farther west, going to Edmonton, working on the telegraph line as it went west.

On December 31st, 1905 he wrote to his relatives from Fielding, Sask. to say "the telegraph line was up ■ Edmonton, — he had gone back to Winnipeg but soon came back to his homestead at Fielding — this being NE 34-40-12-W3rd. He and his neighbor Archie Ashby put up a shanty on Ashby's homestead and then they made a shanty for Charles. He says "I like this country

(Mrs. Charles). Anna Sherman.

Charles Sherman.

Charles Sherman family in 1948 — Doris, Irene, Albert, Lillian, Rudolph, Emma, Ann, Helen and mother Annie Sherman.

very much, our winter was mild with six inches of snow — but homesteading is very lonesome."

Mr. Sherman kept on this homestead building a log barn — working on the railroad during the summer months, raising what crops he could, using oxen, but still finding it very lonesome.

On January 1, 1910 he was married to Anna Scharmann, who had come from Germany to work and live in Baltimore, Maryland, U.S.A. They went by ship to Germany for their honeymoon returning to the homestead at Fielding. He still had oxen but bought a team in 1913 — he had good crops in 1912, 2300 bushels of wheat — 500 of oats and 500 of barley.

Rudolph their first son was born in the fall of 1910 — then Emma in late 1911 — Albert in 1913. There were five more daughters born — Lillian — Annie — Irene — Doris — and Helen.

The children sent to Calais School — then at Beckwith also as the family had moved to the quarter known as the "Shirer place". They kept many horses and cattle — the boys learnt to work hard when they were very young, using horses and pitching sheaves along with hired men.

The family moved to their permanent farm one half mile, north of the original homestead. A large house and granaries were erected, with outbuildings and barns. The children were musical so had house parties with friends around.

Charles Sherman passed away in June, 1935. He had been a hard worker and a good neighbor, he had served on the school board for several years. Anna Sherman continued to farm with the help of son Albert until he married in 1938, then she moved with her family to Vancouver, B.C. She continued coming to Fielding for many years to visit the farm and friends and relatives. She told of coming as a bride and being so very careful to water the beautiful wee blue flowers growing around the yard — only to learn that they were blue burrs — in later years she hated them as they would get in the stockings of the children and her own. Anna passed away in Vancouver in 1955.

The Sherman family have increased in number from two in 1910 to slightly over a hundred in this year 1979. They now live in many places all in Sask., Alta. and B.C. with one member Doris married in California, U.S.A.

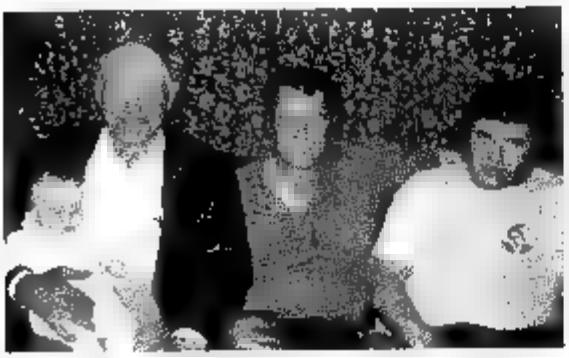
Rudolph and Muriel Sherman

written by Muriel Sherman

Rudolph Charles Sherman, first born son of Charles and Anna Sherman was born September 27th, 1910 on the Sherman homestead at Fielding — he stayed and worked at home until he was 23 years old, and then decided to branch out for himself, so he moved a house onto the farm known as the "Shirer place", he batched there for one year before being married in 1933 to Muriel Castle of "Ringleton Firs", Mullingar, Sask.

In 1934 his first son Everett was born and in 1939 his second son Gordon was born. He farmed at Fielding for eight years all through the dirty thirties and decided he would like to try blacksmithing, so answered an add in the paper, which was a shop in Mullingar, he had an auction sale and netted enough to buy the shop — so in the fall of 1941 moved up to Mullingar. He also had the dray business there — it was also very handy for the boys to go to school, "one big reason" for moving from the Fielding farm. He blacksmithed in Mullingar for thirteen years and then sold the shop and bought one section of land three and one half miles from Mullingar, where he still resides, still real active at 69 years of age, and farms for the love of it, and for something to do, we have seen grasshopper plagues, russian thistle, and now tent caterpillars by the billions. Through all the trials of life we are both well and active — we have three grandsons — four granddaughters — and two great-grandchildren 2½ yr. old Jeffrey and 2 week old Laurie.

Rudolph and Muriel Sherman.



Four Generations, Rudolph Sherman holding Grandson Jeffery, Everett, and Kim.

Mr. and Mrs. Everett Sherman
Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Neill

by Jean (Crawley) Sherman

My sister Elnora (Norrie) and I are the only grandchildren of JOHN and Dora Foster and they were the only grandparents we ever knew. We were born in the so called "dirty thirties". As I look back now I have no memories of ever being hungry or poorly clad. I'm sure dad would have taken food from his plate rather than see Norrie or I hungry. The fact that my dad had two well-to-do sisters in the east accounted for many a parcel of clothes and extras at birthdays, Christmas, and Easter.

School presented no problem or hardships as far as attending. We lived close enough to walk there each day, home at noon except on the coldest winter days we took lunch. Both Norrie and I have fond recollections of the excitement and preparation for the annual Christmas Concert. Dressing rooms weren't always adequate so we often had to run from the Orange Hall to the nearest home to change into crepe-paper fairy costumes! One teacher in particular, Miss Audrey Page, felt it wasn't a Christmas Concert without a Christmas Pageant. I think at times we must have had some odd-looking Josephs and shepherds, etc. especially when there weren't enough boys to take those parts.

We made our own fun after school. It was a time of rafting on the sloughs, building tree-houses, large snow forts and tunnels, make-shift play houses, picnics in Blacklock's pasture. I remember one play house in particular. One spring, Dad had intended to buy a pig so he made a pen from old railway ties in the far southwest corner of our yard. We found out the town didn't allow that so he turned the pen into a play house for us girls. We spent many hours with friends there making mudpies by the dozens decorating them with wild rose petals and wood violets.

When we were old enough to go to dances, the highlight of the spring season was the Print Dress Dance — it was one time when we knew for sure we'd have a new dress. It was a colorful and happy time

Noel Crawley, Norrie and Jean — 1944.

attended by everybody young and old. Also, in those days there was still a Sports Day Dance. It was a time to do "as you were" so many went right from the ball diamonds to the dance hall.

All in all we had a happy childhood and growing up years.

We are both married now. I married Everett Sherman of Mullingar. Norrie married Cyril Neill. Everett and I have lived in Maymont 15 years. We have five children, two sons Kim and Chris, who live in Mackenzie, B.C.; three daughters Diane, Donna, and Denise. Our oldest son is married to the former Judy Thompson of Richard and they have a son and a daughter so we are grandparents. We have one girl, Denise left at home going to school. The other two girls live in North Battleford. Norrie and Cyril have two children, Randy who is also in Mackenzie, B.C. and one daughter Wendy at home at Rocky Mountain House, Alta.

Norrie and I both will always think of Maymont as home and so will all my family. The girls are home every week-end and our sons still look forward to three weeks holiday each year when they can see old friends and family.

Gordon Charles Sherman

told by Norma (Oliver) Sherman

Gordon C. Sherman was born in April, 1939, on the ¼ section of N.W. 36-46-12 W3rd, and ■ ■ the second son of Rudolph and Muriel Sherman. When Gordon was two years old, his Dad and Mom moved to Mullingar, where Rudolph operated a blacksmith shop. At Mullingar Gordon received his education. After leaving school, Gordon turned his hand to many different types of work. He worked in the MacMillan Bloedel plywood mill, in B.C. Back in Sask. he was a farm hand, and he also worked on a road survey crew. For awhile, he worked with Sask. Wheat Pool, and finally became a Helper for Pioneer Grain Co. After several months of being a Relief Agent at different points throughout Sask., Gordon was promoted to Elevator Agent at Hillmond, Sask. in Dec. 1961.

Gordon and Norma Sherman, son Barry, daughter Rhonda.

An interesting note here is that when Gordon worked on the survey crew the crew surveyed a grid road in the Hillmond area. At that time Gordon had been considering accepting a position with Pioneer Grain Co. One of the crew members asked Gordon "what would you do if you were dumped into a HOLE of a place like this?" Gordon's answer had a negative attitude.

BUT . . . Gordon did some positive things in Hillmond. In 1963, he married a Hillmond girl Norma Oliver. In 1964 they had a son — Barry Dwayne. Gordon was manager of the Hillmond All Stars Hockey Club for the years of 1962-63, 1963-64, 1964-65.

In July, 1965, Gordon, Norma and Barry moved to the farm at Mullingar. Also that year a daughter — Rhonda Yvonne — was born. That completed the family.

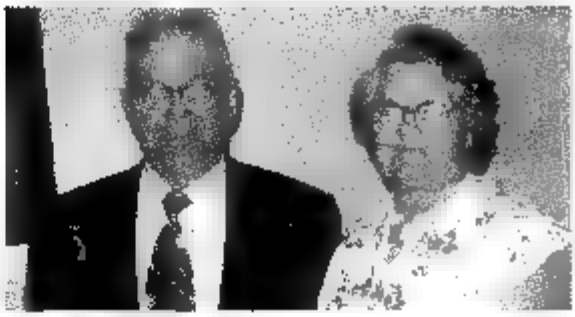
While still farming, Gorden and Norma are active in community activities. Gordon has been Relief Agent for Pioneer Grain Co. at Whitko, Maidstone, Turtleford, Sandwith, Hillmond, Spiritwood and Rabbit Lake. He has also been a Helper at Rabbit Lake. He served for two terms as councillor for the R.M. of Meeting Lake No. 466. He has served on the Rabbit Lake Central School Board since 1975. In the fall of 1976, Gordon became a school bus operator. He has taught Mechanics ■ 4-H for two years. Norma is involved in 4-H too. She has been a leader for six years, — one year as an assistant leader, — one year as a craft leader, — two years as a Let's Entertain leader and two years as a Sewing leader. Also for the past eight years she has been either President or Vice-Pres. for the Rabbit Lake Home and School Asso., and has also been the Local Co-ordinator for the Rabbit Lake Community College Committee of Mistikwa Community College of North Battleford for four years. Norma cooks part time at the Rabbit Lake Union Hospital.

Both Barry and Rhonda are active in the 4-H program. They both carry two projects a year and they usually hold an executive position. At school they take part in the extracurricular activities.

The Albert Sherman Family

written by Gertrude Sherman

Albert was born in May of 1913, the second son of Charles and Anna Sherman. They were living on a farm on the Shirer Hill in Fielding community. Albert took his early schooling in the Beckwith school, going there with his sisters and brother. They used buggies in the summer and cutter ■ the winter time. One of his teachers was Miss Violet Laidlaw, who lives in Maymont yet; she is Mrs. William Fast.



Albert and Gertrude Sherman with daughters Lucille Wynn, Edna Carnahan, Patricia Carnahan, Helen Fields.

Their near neighbors were the Archie Spences, Joe Prechtis, Charles Kiepers and Dick Williams' who all had families to raise.

Albert's family eventually moved from the Shirer Hill further west where they owned more land closer together. They built a large two storey family home in the Calais school district. This house was built of lumber, lathe and plaster; the carpenter was Mr. Warcup of Fielding. It was finished in 1927. Two more children were born here, completing their family of eight; six girls and two boys.

Some of the near neighbors here were Collins', Cameron's, Hodges, Edge's, Patterson's and Longs, as well as others — every quarter seemed to have someone homesteading and living on it. During the 1930's, many families sold land to other farmers and moved further north.

Albert's father Charles passed away in 1935 after a lengthy illness; with hired men to help, the boys kept the farm going — pigs, chickens, and cattle were always kept for butchering, eggs and milk, as well as trading butter for groceries. Albert's father taught them to be good with horses, taking good care of the animals, harnesses and machinery, taking care of what tools they had, putting them away again where they belonged.

Albert and I, Gertrude Krischke were married in September of 1938. I was born in the Spinney Hill Community, Gunness School District, across the river from Maymont. We met at school dances, some broomball games on sloughs throughout the winter when the Turner, Denomy, Skinner and other local Maymont boys played Gunness School boys. We travelled to dances in the winter in covered cutters with a heater in it. It was fun but dangerous if it had tipped over.

I remember one time in the early part of April, my brother and I had come with a friend to visit Shermans and Longs. We skated on the sloughs during the day and lingered longer than we should have. On going onto the river, the horses stopped to take a drink. Needless to say, we were glad to reach the farther shore safely, as it was very dark and the ice was creaky.

Also, in the summer when Albert came to see me, it cost 10¢ after ten o'clock to cross the ferry, so he went home before ten o'clock. Soon after that the ferry rate went up to twenty-five cents at midnight, then to a dollar per car — so inflation has been around a long time. How many people have watched a ferry being built, then people had a gala evening dancing on the new floor, before it was put into service. These were our fun times.

Albert's mother and six sisters, one married, moved out to British Columbia during the first two years after we were married. We had our first of four daughters the year war was declared. Prices started improving, crops also, though there were cycles when army worms or grasshoppers came along. It was strange to see army worms go up and over the high grain elevators in town; they went up and over, not around objects.

We had many good times with our friends; there were 500 card parties, box socials and school concerts — Anglican church services were often held in the Calais school. We always took our children to things — no baby sitters — the children went to sleep on available space — teacher's desk, spare benches or most often on quilts and robes in the cloakroom.

We had our troubles too; concussion, broken legs, horse's kicks, as well as one time, one of the children was watching me pumping gas into the tractor from a barrel on the truck, it was a hot day and fumes rising up soon gave us an unconscious child — out in the field — miles from help.

Books were always a part of my life. We had a travelling library box of books in my home, so we applied for one and had it for many years in our home for use in the district. It was always looked forward to.

The children were taken to Sunday School, Messengers, Explorers, C.G.I.T., 4-H, skating, swimming, softball, choir and all kinds of events, so with Ladies Aid and Women's Missionary Society and later UCW, we led a busy life along with farming.

Schools were Calais, Fielding and eventually being bussed to Maymont. Chester Ferris of Fielding and Harvey Denomy of Maymont were the capable, friendly bus drivers.

Our eldest daughter, Lucille, is Mrs. Marshall Wynn of Hanna, Alberta. She has 1 daughter and 3 sons. Edna, a teacher, is Mrs. Allan Carnahan, on the home farm. Patricia, a teacher, is Mrs. James Carnahan of Battleford, Saskatchewan. She has 1 daughter, Helen, a secretary, is Mrs. Ben Fields, of Banff, Alberta.

Albert and I had a wonderful trip for a month to Figi, Zealand and Australia. We have now moved from the farm to Maymont where we built a new home. We are interested in many organizations, have hobbies and are enjoying our retirement.

Rev. and Mrs. Floyd Sloan

told by Floyd

My earliest recollections of early days in Maymont and Fielding Districts are mostly in the Fielding Area, as that is where my parents and both of my grandparents on both sides homesteaded. My parents homesteaded in SW ¼, 41, 11, located two miles northwest of Fielding.

The first four years of my life we lived in a sod house where my two older sisters and I were born. Our buildings were just across from Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Brock, now known as the Ryan farm.

My father came to the area in 1903 and mother's folks came in March of 1904. My parents were married in March of 1905; my mother was the only daughter of

Mr. and Mrs. Gerhart Fast who settled in the Neepawa School District on N.E. Section 24, 31, 12.

Building a large sod house on their homestead, and being a friend to all who came along, their house soon became a place of many activities, among which was the first church services of the area which were held there. Ministers from various churches called and ministered as Riding Ministers as they were riding by. Many a lonely homesteader and weary traveller found a warm welcome and a hand of love shared to them. This included the Royal Mounted Police who often found a night of rest there. Among the earliest settlers I recall were: Tom Miller, Sam Miller, George Northcott, Dave McKay, Jack Miller, Herman Reiber, Schloemers, Tyhursts, Dick Wilcox, and the Bergman family; Albert one of the boys is retired and living now ■ Aldergrove, B.C.

Many interesting factors come to mind but we must only highlight a few. Although there were many hard times, neighbors and friends meant much to each other.

Fielding remained our chief shopping place. The town of Fielding was a booming place at one time when wheat haulers came from Speers District and even north of that, and from across the river to the south as strings of teams came for miles bringing their grain and produce to market.

Among the earliest storekeepers and businesses were Smith and Shay whom my father hauled groceries for from Saskatoon before the railroad came through. We are told Saskatoon although a supply centre then had only a box-car for a station. Other businessmen in Fielding were McGregors; L. W. Stott, who had a harness shop; R. ■. Harris, a store; Nelson Ebby and Isabestor, and later George Downey were blacksmiths.

Fielding had many fires throughout the years and many places were never rebuilt. The one that really destroyed its future was in late July, 1922 when nine buildings were totally destroyed; Shanks Garage, Post Office, Livery Barn, Hotel, Meat Market, John Deere Office, Telephone Office and two general stores owned by A. Gunn and C. W. Dickinson.

A bucket brigade from the town well was the only fire equipment at that time, and with a strong northwest wind there was little that the huge crowd could do. Much gallant effort saved the hall which if it had gone much more of the town would have been wiped out. Many of these places were never replaced.

As it ■ Saskatchewan's Seventy-fifth Anniversary, I should like to mention the Jubilee Celebration of 1927, the twenty-fifth Anniversary of Confederation. Parades and Sports Days were held ■ each town. I have a picture each of a float in both Maymont and Fielding. The Maymont float was directed by Mrs. R. F. Johnston and Mrs. Butterfield sponsored by the ladies of the area. The six grey horses on the float of which four belonged to J. L. Sloan and two to James Taylor were driven by Mac Taylor and myself. In 1955 Maymont celebrated the Fiftieth Anniversary of Saskatchewan. A sports day was held and many lovely floats made up a very interesting parade. The Maymont Foursquare Church sponsored a float depicting fifty years progress in places of worship. I was pastoring the church at that time. My wife and I have many precious memories of the years we served there.

Leaving Maymont in November 1956 we spent four years pastoring in Campbell River, B.C. where we also did Indian work on Quadra Island. Then in October, 1960 we moved to Haney, B.C. where we pastored seven years, also held services in three Rest Homes in Coquitlam and Haney Area. ■ the fall of 1967 we moved to Langley, B.C. where we were assistant pastors in the Pentecostal Church; also worked in Skidroad Missions in Vancouver during week nights.

I believe that my brother, Ted, was giving an account of our family, but I should say that Kate (Mrs. Wiley) passed away in January of 1970 and Bert also passed away in February of 1977. Audrey and her family live at Aldergrove, B.C.; Walter and Norma Wiley in Burnaby, B.C.; Bill and Velma Bjerkness live in Coquitlam; Betty and Joe Pennell in Squamish and Ralph Wiley in Campbell River. Mr. Wiley who has remarried lives in Whalley, B.C. The rest of our family still live in the Maymont area.

Our three children are married and live nearby; we have nine grandchildren Bob, his wife and four children live in Surrey, B.C.; He has a transport truck and hauls for Overweite Stores. Marlene and her husband and three children live in Coquitlam; they both work at Woodland Schools in New Westminister. Margaret and her husband and two children live in Clearbrook; they also have a transport truck and he hauls for Co-op Stores in B.C.

We moved to Clearbrook, B.C. ■ May of 1973 on retired basis but seemed to find quite a bit to do but are thankful for health and strength to do it.

V. W. (Pete) Sloan

I now take the liberty ■ writing for your 1980 book on behalf of my wife, my five sons, myself and my ninety-one year old uncle, George Sloan, who was in the area for many years. He did a lot of custom land breaking as well as his own and some of Ben Sloan's using his four oxen, making three hitches daily, sleeping and eating under his wagon. This was when ■ was a teen-ager and in his twenties.

I can't go into great detail as much has happened in these many years in the district. Of course, I can't write very much on the past thirty-three years because I left the area in 1946. I kind of regard this as like writing the Home-Loving Hearts page. It's true it's home-loving or I would make no effort to help with the record of the past and I realize many folks will be represented so if you think I refer to myself too much, excuse me. It's true I certainly don't want anyone to think I'm taking advantage of the dear ones who are long gone. My writing, spelling and grammar are ab-

George Sloan's 91st birthday. Floyd Sloan, George Sloan and Pete Sloan.

Ruby Sloan and Mrs. Holmes.

sured due ■ not writing much. Just don't blame it on my teachers because I'm going to tell you who they were and where they came from and I don't want them to be embarrassed.

Miss E. G. Nutting was one of our first teachers. She was raised in Fielding. Miss Lucille Giffard of Maymont was followed by Miss Lydia Ballsrud who stayed two and a half years. Then another Fielding girl came — Miss Muriel Elliott. We also had Miss Muriel Harris, Miss Irene Reid, Miss Ellen Reid, and for a short time Miss Ellen Reid was a relieving teacher. When I quit school we had Dorothy Dean of North Battleford.

Now I would like to draw to your attention that these girls all drew my greatest respect and I can only say they were the best. Not one ever gave me a licking and those were the days of law and order, at home, at school and in court. Truly I believe we all missed Mrs. Allan Bean more than any as she was there two and a half years and she had a wonderful sense of humor with us all and kept the ruling hand with love. We had perfect discipline ■ the school those years. I am proud to tell you that among very few keepsakes I have are five different Christmas cards from Miss Ballsrud. Even though she left to teach elsewhere she sent Christmas cards. So I really appreciated that and must remark about our wonderful relationship. I only speak for myself, but I am sure the rest that remain will verify my statement. I am glad to be able to say she became the wife of one of the best personalities to be raised in the district, Allan Bean, a friend to all.

Our school district, Neepawa No. 1570, consisted of eleven sections, so I believe it was relatively a small district. My dad (Les Sloan) was quite constantly on the school board and so was S. R. Miller, and J. H. Fast was the secretary for over twenty years. There was always a third trustee who was someone from the district and as their children grew to school age took more interest. In the case of my father, having ten children probably retained his interest longer. But that's not the point I want ■ make. It was this: I know for sure about Sloan and Miller, they were both firm believers in giving the local students first chance if they applied for ■ job. They both had firm convictions that the daughters of the men they knew should have first chance since it was only up ■ Grade Nine and it gave young girls a chance to be home the week-ends. Usually the teacher boarded at S. R. Miller's. The list of local girls didn't stop because I left school. It still continued and I'm sure when you read the list you will say, "Well done, Neepawa and God bless you all for this beautiful trust you had in your neighbor's daughters." I'm sure not one of them let you down, I'm sure each one left of their own free will.

I'm like a voice crying in the wilderness as since 1938 I've spent very little time in the area. Due ■ circumstances I left for various other parts of the world or I should say country as I've only made one trip to

Europe in my life. My father seemed to cleave to the Fielding district for some time after the rest of the family claimed Maymont as their town. We were almost mid-way till 1930 when the old highway was put along-side the track cutting down our grain haul several miles. We could make three trips ■ town instead of two so this was the reason we changed post offices. But my father's old friends from early years were Fielding people so he found it difficult to change. It's true Fielding had served him well as a town. He had had a butcher shop there at one time in the early years as he did homestead on SW 20-11-41. Fielding was badly burned out in 1922 and most of the business buildings burned and lots never were replaced. The fire started ■ the livery stable owned by Mike Burns at that time but due to ■ strong wind blowing embers across the town, in spite of all the surrounding district and town folks, little could be done to save the town.

I recall as a small boy seeing a circus and parade that I believe I've not seen the like even in the large towns now. The first airplane I recall seeing and parachute jumper was just south of Fielding ■ the fall of 1922. One of the best race tracks was in Fielding. My dad took his steam engine in and with Tommy Thompson and George Downey helping him they graded it to the standard of the track. You are probably not aware of what Fielding had; they had some of the fastest and best competitions in that part of Saskatchewan. S. R. Miller sold Alex Gunn, the storekeeper, ■ black stallion that almost made as much history as Dan Patch. This horse was trained and jockeyed by George Smith. This horse cleaned up ■ Chicago in the Middle Twenties. Bill Sowden had a good stallion at Maymont called Freak. Gunn's horse was the well-known horse Idle Frisco. Besides this there was no doubt a lot of horses that hit the race tracks from Fielding that I'll not recall. I remember Wes Summers having a horse they called Long Green and S. R. Miller had several, one they called Abbot and another Gracepointer. Bob Hodge had ■ track horse, and also R. B. Harris. Old Grandpa Andrews had one he called Baby Wilks which his son, Lou, I believe drove. There were no doubt more, but being a young kid I can't recall them. To tell you the publicity of Fielding's sports, three horses were driven up from Aberdeen, Saskatchewan to participate. Skinny McIvor was one of those drivers. He liked Fielding so well he moved up and spent many years ■ the district. So when I say my dad liked it at Fielding he had reasons to like it. He did ■ lot of custom threshing ■ the early years in the Fielding District. Maymont and Fielding alike lost much of their business when the rail line was laid north on the Speers line and then again in 1929 and 1930 when the C.P.R. put the line in south of the river from which ■ lot of grain and business came. So it was progress that slowed these towns down considerably. At the Annual Fielding picnic, we have at Queen's Park, New Westminster, ■ lot of remembering goes on during the day to be sure. Burtis Summers, who left Fielding ■ 1926, came to Vancouver, ■ prosperous business man and hired dozens of men from Fielding, Maymont, Richard and Speers, Alticane, even ■ few from Mayfair that I knew. I worked one year for him myself along with ■ brother to the Dean in Saskatoon University. So you see some of what Burtis did for his home area. Yes, I've even seen ■ man, Howard Johnston, from Spinney Hill working there and Burtis had hired men for many years before I was in Vancouver. Anyway, he was commenting on the Fielding fire. He said he had recently been visiting in ■ home in Vancouver and he noticed the piano that was badly scorched on one side so made further inquiries and found it was the piano that came from the living quarters over the Dickeson Store that burned in the bad fire at Fielding. So ■ went on to tell the significance of the event was that ■ and Walter Thompson, both boys in their early twenties, went up in that apartment and pushed the piano to the exit and with the long rope Joe Prechtl came running with, they eased it down past the flaming wall. That's how it came to be burned as it is to this day ■ the city of Vancouver. Men at the bottom grabbed it and carried it to safety as the rest of the contents stayed. I believe that last sports I saw at Fielding was after the horse racing days were over. It was a contest of town against country. And with what appeared to be ■ mighty effort — the country guys won!

There was the occasional time when ■ real animal circus having elephants, camels, lions and almost all kinds of animals paraded around down the various streets in Maymont, Fielding and Hafford. I recall attending ■ circus at each one of these towns. It's hard to feature that such events took place on those streets. Even though we did have board walks, we had good entertainment. On the Twelfth of July the Orangemen would put on ■ celebration in one of the local towns, I believe the best part of ■ was the parade. George Lowery playing the flute, Ern Fitzel played the drum (he was Mrs. S. R. Miller's dad and ■ fine drummer he was) Bill White of Fielding on the bagpipes. It usually drew ■ big crowd from the various towns.

Not nearly the crowd, however, that there was around some years later ■ August of 1932, at Dr. Scratch's picnic. I'd like to make an unusual comment about this durable little man. No doubt most everyone has heard about the faithfulness of Dr. Scratch in the many miles of terrain he served in. But few, other than men like myself who drove him by livery team can actually make the fullest of his ability to serve his people and his true responsibility. In the winter of 1942 I was driving livery at Maymont. I lived on the south side of town and had no phone, so I want you to appreciate the fact that the Cassidys made it as easy for Doc as they could. Under ordinary circumstances they would send word to me on behalf of Doc. It was ■ Sunday morning, 2 A.M., about 25 degrees below Fahrenheit and ■ northwest wind blowing. I was wakened by ■ man's

voice beside my bed saying, "Pete, come on we got to get to Mayfair. It's a maternity case so let's get started." I never used to lock my door as I never knew when he'd have ■ come for me. We were on the road in jig time and by daylight we were quite a way past Speers. However, we were back in Maymont before 9 P.M. that night. He took his cases from my cutter into his car and off for Radisson and got stuck in the snow, had to walk to Kents and had to get him to drive by team to Radisson and back; then to dig or pull the car out and get it started. He returned to Maymont and a man was waiting to take him six miles out in the country to see his sick child and at 6:30 P.M. I saw his going towards home. He stopped and said, "Cripes, Pete, Ive not been home since we left Mayfair yesterday." It must ■ remembered that he was no doubt past sixty at that time. People have so often said to me, "But Doc sleeps ■ the road." You try it. Very little rest he acquired banging about going fifteen miles an hour on roads that were quite bumpy. To me no man was any more faithful than he was. Dr. Scratch made a comment to me I'd like to pass along and I'll verify it as the truth. He siad, "This Maymont has the only hotel I know of that threw the key away to the sitting room and always had a nice warm fire and anyone is welcome to come in day or night and enjoy the heat from that old pot-bellied stove." So I think Mr. Bill Sowden has much to be commended on his hospitality and what it meant to many through the years that he owned that hotel.

You know the hotel wasn't the warmest place in the world but it was a real asset to the town. The one story that brings a laugh to even the most solemn ■ the story of a traveller who spent the night in there. Ernie Andrew was a very good man. I worked for him often and they don't come better that Ernie was. He always had whiskers and moustache. This one cold bitter morning in December he had brought the children in to school. He drove back, tied up his team, then covered them, then came over to the hotel where ■ knew the old stove would ■ casting off a good heat. He came in from by the cafe and the traveller who had stayed all night was standing by the stove when all of a sudden ■ noticed this man coming by the stairway with ice in his beard and moustache. He paused a bit then with amazement he said, "Good gosh, which room were you in?"

Well you may or may not believe it but there is a house north of Fielding that R. M. Pitts had built that would hit that category. Yes, I know I worked there and don't get me wrong. These people were two of the best folks in the world but circumstances beyond their control made it difficult. It was on the McNaughton farm. It was a house that was built only for a summer home by ■ real estate company only to be lived in in the summer time but Bill and Patty McNaughton had moved up there as there was a good well and grew coarse grain and fed many carloads ■ cattle off there. The house was a nice house with hardwood floors and the first fireplace I'd ever seen around but I don't remember why they didn't use it, likely it smoked but don't think I ever saw a fire in it. See all this big front room and no fire in it and our bedrooms above it, no chimney to put up a stove. So I think if I'd had a beard it would have white frost on it. Sometimes cattle prices were so poor it was almost impossible to start making renovations. Bill gave a man from Ontario ■ choice of a car of fat, young cattle at four cents ■ pound and there were three hundred to choose from and ■ refused to pay more than three and a half cents a pound. The only comment I have, besides saying I was sorry for Bill and his wife, is that there was no inflation.

Well you know 2000 years ago Moses said, "Pick up your picks and shovels, get on your ass and hit for the Promised Land," and you know I think McKenzie King told them to get off your ass, grab your picks and shovels, you're in the Promised Land but it really wasn't. It was just Canada in desperate conditions but really no inflation. You know I don't want you to feel I am complaining on my job, not a bit. We were getting twice as much as the government was paying. They paid five dollars a month and three of us were getting ten dollars a month. What a payroll! It was hard to make ends meet — worthless pigs, and cattle everywhere you looked. We ate good anyway.

The summer of 1937 was hot and very dry much like 1933 when it forgot to rain all summer. It made ideal breeding conditions for grasshoppers. They didn't pick out certain people or sections; they took on all comers and to be sure they took their toll. A lot of poison was put out to at least try to cut them down but it just seemed to be in vain. I was up at Bill's that fall again helping to thresh. McIvor ran the rig and a half dozen fellows pulled ■ the scarce harvest. A decision was made for the first time to thresh the straw in the big hay mow. The day was hot, ■ course, the wind was in the northwest making the weather ideal for the occasion. After about seven hours threshing we had trouble. I was several hundred yards out from the rig and I heard it stop with what sounded like a full cyclinder and then as I looked I could see Bill on top of the separator yelling for God's sake someone get some water. McIvor was running with the drive belt to get hooked on the separator so I dashed in fast as I could go with part of a load on. All the while I was going Bill was still screaming for water. Ken Buckingham had been trying his best to draw attention to the two pails he had and was reaching one to him. When the water was poured on the boxing, the smoke ceased. We reset and threshed as before. That evening as we were having it all over along with our supper, it was most amusing to hear Bill say, "I've always maintained that in case of fire, you got to keep cool and don't get excited." Even his wife laughed about that one because she heard him at the house. But we all liked Bill and his wife very much.

I had left at the end of October to go to Oliver Rogers for the winter where I'd be able to look after stock I had close by. One evening in November or early December I went to call on these dear folks, (Mr. and Mrs. McNaughton). She told me then that his blood pressure was very high and he was to soon go [redacted] Saskatoon to the Army doctor or to do with War I doctoring. Little did I know it was my last visit when I'd see them both alive. About ten days later Mrs. McNaughton phoned to have them tell me her husband had had a bad stroke the night before. So I immediately rode over to the farm. As I sat by that bedside my friend and boss was lying unconscious. As I realized there was little hope that we would ever speak to each other again, the thought occurred to me "When I get up [redacted] go home, then who is waiting to come? No one, as there was no family. I felt so sorry for her to face this by herself. I wished I could just have been their son to help her face what the next few weeks held before her. A few days later [redacted] was gone at about fifty-six years of age.

These people had been very good citizens. I recall a few winter's previous when I was there. We came in for breakfast and Bill said, "How cold is it this morning?" Someone said it must be forty anyway. Bill said, "I'll bet old Jack's froze to death then." He got up from his chair, 7:30, and started ringing the phone. Soon we noticed the serious expression come over him. He grew pale as no one answered the phone. It was more than obvious that Jack Ridley could be frozen to death. He hung up and turned to me where I was eating breakfast." Pete, go hitch up Barney and the Maxwell horse and we'll get over there." To be sure we lost no time and it was still dark, breaking day as we were approaching the big, dark house. No sign of smoke!" Bill remarked, "No smoke, Guess he's dead alright." Before the sleigh was stopped Bill was out and almost ran to the door while I went to put the team in the shelter as they'd come the three miles [redacted] jig time. I saw several cows lying dead, as well as one horse in the barn and a few cows were very poor and hungry and looked very bad and no feed did I see. I then noticed Bill cutting kindling so by now I was well convinced [redacted] my mind the man must be alive so I went over to where he cut the wood, picked it up and on approaching the house I saw this man well into his sixties sitting with his head facing down, propped by both hands as his elbows rested on his legs, not a sign of a move. The box stove [redacted] sat by had failed to burn when he'd last tried to make a fire. A baking powder can of unmelted snow sat on top of the stove. We moved him back. While I made a fire, Bill commenced rubbing his limbs and after getting the fire going I helped him and finally [redacted] commenced to look as if life was coming back to his body. He wouldn't have been much longer till he'd have just never woke up. We made him a cup of hot tea, found some food and put wood close to the stove for him as both feet had been previously frozen badly. We went back home. Bill phoned the Reeve of the R.M., S. R. Miller and he came up, took Jack to the Maymont Hotel till spring. Dr. Scratch attended him in the hotel.

It was in 1942 when I was working for J. [redacted]. Blacklock near the Maymont School when a car came out into the field. As it drew closer I could see it was J. [redacted]. McNaughton and Aunt Paddy in the car. J. [redacted] said, "Pete, Paddy, is leaving for Penticton, B.C. and she would like to say good-bye to you before she leaves." I was glad for her as I knew she would no longer be living in the summer house, R. M. Pitts had built. I was glad for her as she'd now [redacted] with her two sisters where the weather would be much easier. But as I shook hands to say good-bye my eyes filled with tears. I was afraid [redacted] would be the last time I'd see this lady who'd been like a mother to me. But I'd like them to go on record, too, as being very worthy citizens of the district.

I trade horses a lot one or two winters and it seemed every one I traded with was a Liberal. They weren't my enemies but I just was further to the left I guess. So one day I said to a local Liberal, "How come seems most of the trades I have are with Liberals?" The gentleman laughed and replied, "Pete, if we can take a chance on MacKenzie King for four years, we can take a chance on a horse trade with you." I fooled some of them because now and then they'd rename the horse 'Pete'. But the joke was on them. That's not my name anyway.

One [redacted] my boys, Eugene, who went to Maymont School for one and a half years, owns his own trucking business. Three years ago he went to Nanaimo on competition — driving for heavy trucks on Vancouver Island. He came [redacted] second and the Brock boy from Port Alberni came first. Of course neither of them knew their grandfathers had lived across the road from one another for several years when Joe Brock was a young man breaking up the Ryan farm. Dad's buildings were across the road so they were neighbors. Joe Brock was reeve of the Mayfield municipality for some time in the 20's. He lived one mile north of the Fielding Cemetery then.

Ron, another of my boys, who was born at Maymont went to school, too there for awhile. He was importing antiques and had his own store besides working for C.P.A., so was often in various parts of the world. He got acquainted with an old steam mechanic in Vancouver through an antique steamboat. He found the owner of the Royal Hudson. The man told him he had an offer for $7400 to sell it for salvage so Ron returned to Prince George, got three more old steam men interested. The four of them planned to purchase [redacted] for a honeymoon train in the North. But the Barrett government was in power and [redacted] said, "There's no way we're going to miss that train. They had applied for permission to move it by B.C. Rail and it came to government attention. So he over-ruled his cabinet and bought it as he felt it was B.C. heritage. It's been the greatest tourist attraction we have. It's been in the Western

States last year promoting tourism. This year down to Eastern Canada and another two coaches added for daily runs to Squamish all because another boy born and partly schooled at Maymont could see a future in one of the very few steamers left.

This year my oldest son, Bill, who was born at Maymont won the B.C. salmon derby. His cousin, Ralph Wiley, who received all his education in Fielding was running his own boat that Bill was in as he got the 60 lb., 4 oz. fish. His prize was $4000, an out-board motor, and a fishing rod and reel, as a prize.

Now my wife and I are pensioners and so we enjoy some of the benefits given us.

George Sloan celebrated his ninety-first birthday March [illegible]. He has very good health and lives to get to Fielding picnic every year where everyone is astonished that [illegible] doesn't get any gray hair or use a cane or glasses.

Mrs. Britton from Maymont, too, is on pension here but still serves in the bus depot cafe. Her daughter, Margaret, is the head nurse in Uculta Lodge (almost the same as extensive care). Allan Britton teaches at Comox, B.C.

My grandson, Butch Sloan, has been in many countries including Japan and the Soviet Union in Judo competitions. He has won much fame and recognition on this continent as well as abroad. He didn't go to school in Maymont but spent considerable time with Ted and Evelyn Sloan when he was a boy.

I spent the last six years of my working years at April Point Lodge, well known to all salmon fishermen. I got well acquainted with John Wayne, Bob Hope and many more of the holidayers from the Western States, also oil men from Calgary, etc. It was a very interesting place to work as maintenance man. A lot of my work was at the docks, floats, boats and off-season building summer homes for the various folks who wished to reside all summer. Many of these homes ten years ago were worth forty thousand dollars. I worked on schools for several years. One of the most interesting jobs I was on was the instant town of Kitimat when I worked for Johnston and Crooks of Partland as a carpenter. I was a working partner to Oscar Haggin, a North Battleford man, who had worked for Miner Construction. The black bears would come under the dining hall as it was built on a hill side for drainage, (not exactly a hill but sloped to a ravine) and the thing was ground level at the front but four feet at the back above ground. Kitchen, storehouse, loading platform and sandwich room at the back and so this was not rat-infested but bear-infested. The cookhouse sat four hundred and fifty men. There were six hundred at supper. It was first come, first served so as the fall grew on and days shorter the last shift would run into darkness and it would have been much better if the bear had been white ones. They didn't only thump around under our feet, as we ate supper as the bears could smell the food and there seemed to be several of them. They were apparently of the same mind as the men were when it was suppertime. I saw three different men, and when I say different I mean it, who got [illegible] and were sent sprawling by those black bears. If you came on them suddenly, like on a rattle snake you had [illegible]. When we were on a house one day, inside work, Jim Mayson, a painter was on a long ladder painting the large board, with white paint. He had most of a gallon when a big bear came around the corner so, he soon got on the roof and dumped all the paint on the black bear. We heard him laughing and he was yelling for [illegible] to see the new bear in town but the bear was losing no time to get back into the heavy Hemlock forest from where he'd just come. The company finally brought in the Security Guards to shoot the bears off as at that time already a couple of hundred families were dwelling there. We put up three hundred houses for Alcan Aluminum Company that summer. Streets, sewers, and schools, businesses all went up in a few short months. I was on the housing contract. I worked on three dams as a carpenter. On the last dam, in almost three years I was there, four men lost their lives, one an arm, as a shovel upset. I was a safety director. Our jobs were to take the various complaints to management. Also to take a tour once a day to check for safety. One day when one of our safetymen was railing on about losing a man, and about several accidents, the management showed us a report on a similar job and sixty had been killed in the Orient somewhere. I suppose there are advantages in being Canadian.

My son, Ron, has acquired an old Saskatchewan map from 1912. It gives all the existing towns to date and their present populations. Maymont and Fielding were over 230 and less than 240. I can't recall the exact figures, I rather believe six or seven difference. Ron has a wonderful selection of antiques and collector's items such as a Vancouver Sun of the day the World War II broke out, and another with a report of V.J. Day. Another item is a pistol one and a half inches long that shoots bullets smaller than a lighter flint. It was designed for gambling men many years ago. He has some old chairs four hundred years old. He was importing from many parts of British Isles and Europe. I flipped my lid when [illegible] told me over the phone one week he bought a hundred pianos in Glasgow.

George Sloan had told me several times that the first Orangeman's Lodge meeting was in a house of his great-grandfather. He was not sure but it was an ancestor and not really turning me on as I had little concern as it may and may not be old hat but to keep the records straight. A Mrs. William Sloan who is a nurse in Castlegar, B.C. and her husband, a history teacher, who is a grandson of my father's cousin who has been doing some historical research came to see me this year and she said, "Just last night as I was looking through some old news clippings my dad has brought from Ireland I noticed an account of the first Orangemen's meeting held in a Sloan house." She also

told me that she had traced the Sloan name back to Oliver Cromwell's invasion when the Irish escaped, many to Scotland, some to the bogs and forest. But when the skirmish was over the name Sloan was one out of twenty names left that had been in Ireland before the Invasion. So according to her findings it was originally Irish. Even quite a few Scots have the name and England the same. Now don't get me wrong. I'm not trying to get out of being Scottish or English. Kind of nice to know where you came from, even if Oliver Cromwell won the battle. Can't win them all. I guess the Irish are still trying to get even. Glad I'm in Canada.

I remember back, when I'm not sure of the date but is of no significance anyway, but I'd asked a chum of mine to come to church with me and I tried explaining to him the need for all men to worship the Creator. He put up a good defence, one excuse after another. Finally he said, "I'll go if you say the preacher won't be preaching on Naiman being a leper" I said that most of the times he went that was it. So I assured him there would be no danger. He came the next Sunday and the preacher was doing it on liquor and bootleggers, etc. Finally he said, "I think it should all be dumped into the river." Then he said in closing, "Anyone got a favorite song?" My brother innocently spoke up and said, "Shall we gather at the River?"

The Sloan Family

by Ted Sloan

The Sloans originally came from Ireland. William Sloan and his son, John, settled at Lindsay, Ontario. In the 1890's, John's son, Benjamin, moved to Neepawa, Manitoba.

In 1902, Benjamin Sloan drove with a team and buggy from Neepawa to the Fielding, Saskatchewan area and filed on his homestead, SE¼ 20-41-11. The following year they transported their goods by rail, and built a log house on the homestead near Fielding. Ben's wife, Elizabeth, soon became known as a midwife in the area and was also involved in the beginning of the Presbyterian Church in Fielding. (In 1908 she took a trip to Ontario to visit relatives. She was killed in a train wreck on a bridge that crossed a river near Chapeaw, Ontario, at the age of fifty-six).

Ben and Elizabeth Sloan — picture taken about 1900.

Mr. and Mrs. Les Sloan — married March 13th, 1905.

One of Ben's sons was my father Les Sloan. In 1905 he and my mother, Mary Fast, were married.

(It is interesting to note here that both my mother's family, the Fasts, and my father's family each brought five sons to the community. Today not one descendant from either the Sloan or Fast family is in this district to carry those names to the next generation.)

Of Benjamin's children, only my father settled here permanently. Some of the others stayed here for a number of years but later scattered to a variety of places. George left 4-41-12 in 1936 for Birch Lake, Saskatchewan and then moved to B.C. Wes lived on 28-41-11 until 1925 when he moved to Lloydminster. Vince lived at Mayfair and died at an early age. His children moved to B.C. in 1937 Hart went overseas in world war I from 1914 to 1918 married in England. Hart eventually settled north of Edmonton. Minnie married Harry Dawson and lived on 30-41-12 and later moved to the United States. Another sister, Ida Plackett lived on 23-41-12 until they moved to Australia.

When my parents were married, my mother's

Ted Sloan, his pup 'Toby' and 'Spot' the cow in the camp on the homestead N.E.¼ 36-60-27.

father helped them build a 16' x 26' sod house on SW¼ 20-41-11. It seems that my father usually found additional ways to make money besides working his own farm. At this time he worked for the C.N. Railroad, became the section foreman, and travelled back and forth on the hand car.

For one year they lived at Warman where he served as section foreman.

In 1911, he quit the railroad and sold the homestead. He then bought S½ 26-41-12, three miles east of Maymont. The buildings are still at that location, beside the old highway.

From 1911-1927, my father owned and operated a steam threshing outfit.

My parents studied books and pamphlets to learn the art of taxidermy. Together they did a considerable amount of this work from about 1910-1916. The largest head they did was a 17-point moose which was sold to someone in Ottawa. Coyotes, moose, deer, prairie chicken and antelope were some of their projects.

As another sideline job, my father later shipped cattle for the Pool.

To start their own cattle herd, my parents bought a six week old heifer and raised her on soft porridge. This nourishment must have given her a good start in life as she lived to the age of twenty-one and had her last calf when she was twenty years old!

Windmill power was used to pump water, along with gasoline power. (Years later, in 1946, while work was being done on this pump, my father's thumb and parts of several fingers from both hands were cut off.)

His first team of horses cost $600 and they travelled by horse and buggy until 1917 when he purchased his first car. It cost $800 — a second-hand McLaughlin Buick, which burned in the Fielding Fire, 1923, while in the garage for repairs. My Grandfather, Benjamin, was known for his preference for walking. It is said that he often walked from Fielding to Saskatoon to buy a plug of chewing tobacco.

My parents raised a family of five girls and five boys: Kate (Wiley), Floyd, Adeline (Williams), Ted, Pete, Hazel (Beaudoin), Mabel (Wood), Roy, Bert, and Audrey (Wood). We attended the Neepawa School near our home. The first school was located on NW 30-

Sloan family, 1949. l. to r. — Bert, Roy, Ted, Floyd, Dad, Kate,Audrey, Mabel, Hazel, Adeline.

41-11. This school burned in 1921 and the new location was just ¾ mile south of the previous school. We often walked to school carrying our lard pails or took the horse and buggy. In winter we used the team and sleigh.

I once impressed my brother, Floyd, by shooting a Hungarian Partridge without the use of a gun. We were just finished our chores when a flock of partridges flew up in front of us. For no reason, I pointed a finger at them and said, "Bang!" One of the birds fell to the ground. "I got one!" I yelled, and my brother had a hard time believing me. I don't know who was more stunned — Floyd or the bird! Apparently, it had hit the telephone wire but was not seriously hurt so we released it the next morning.

Lightning struck our yard several times. In July, 1925, I was outside putting the little ducks in the pen before a rain. The family was sitting down to dinner when lightning took the chimney off the house and scattered stove pipes all over the house. It did not start a fire but there was a great deal of excitement as everyone left the table of soot-covered food to run outside. Frightened by the commotion my young brother in the high chair called out, "Get me, Mama!" Lightning rods were installed on the house the next week. After that on four occasions lightning struck the yard and killed a horse, a pig and a duck, and many years later demolished a power pole.

Our family enjoyed playing music and singing together. It was a usual practice to have music after supper in the evenings. Even now when family members get together, music is a highlight.

Our home became a gathering place for ballgames.

The buggy we made from our first car — Trudy Sloan, Danny and Lew Andrew. Spring, 1942.

40th wedding anniversary, 1976. L. to r. — Shelley, Charlotte, Sharon, Ted and Evelyn, Elmer, Trudy Leroy.

we started with a few relatives and a hired man, and soon a very large group gathered regularly on Sunday afternoons. This continued for several years.

In the early days churches usually began in a house. The Evangelical denomination came from Rosthern to hold their first meetings in the Fasts' home. Later, they met twice a month at the Neepawa School.

In 1936 the Foursquare Gospel began to hold services in my parents' home and often forty or fifty people crowded into the house. A pool hall was later converted to a church.

We had our share of supper guests off the highway. Most ■ them dropped in during 1929 and in the early thirties, and Bernest Heard was one of them. He hailed from Barrie, Ontario and was pushing a barrel from coast to coast across Canada.

During the summer of 1934, my brother Pete and I ventured north to Pierceland, Saskatchewan, where we each filed on a homestead. Hay land there was already leased and the future in that area held little promise for us. When we returned in the fall we had some interesting experiences and memories behind us: hauling logs out of muskeg, mosquitoes that Pete said were part sparrow, my dog howling to the music of my mouthorgan around a campfire and a faithful cow who returned from grazing with range cattle to give us fresh milk each evening. One homesteader said he was doing alright he came there 3 years ago with nothing and he still had it.

I began a much more eventful and successful venture on October 17, 1936. Evelyn Andrew and I were married in her parents' home. We started our marriage living three miles east of Maymont, and in subsequent years we completed a circle around the town. Through renting and buying land we lived east, south, west and northeast of Maymont.

During the 1930's money was hard to come by. I was fortunate to have a resourceful wife. She sewed good-looking shirts for me from dyed red flour sacks, and she even captured an egg-eating magpie in the hen house with the use of a saucepan!

At this time politics were often discussed and my nephews, Walter and Ralph Wiley, listened to some of this discussion. They had also been told that if they licked the cow's salt block they may get T.B. One day Walter ran to the house yelling, "Quick, Mom, Ralph is licking the salt block and he's going to get C.C.F.!"

Another day their father had a frustrating experience. He had a three month old pig in his shed and when he looked out the window, he saw the pig running around the yard. He began to chase it and several hours later he returned to the shed to find his own pig safely inside where it belonged! He had exhausted himself chasing someone else's pig.

In the fall of 1948 we disposed of our cattle and horses and made plans to move to Campbell River, B.C. for the winter. This long train ride was an interesting one for us as we managed to keep track of our three girls. I found work for part of the winter doing general construction work at a dam; however, it was a happy day for us all when we headed home to the prairies at the end of April. On this trip we were accompanied by Elmer Sloan, our first son, who was born during our stay in B.C.

Although we knew we had to start over again from two head of cattle when we returned, we were excited to know that a new John Deere tractor, (ordered the fall before) awaited us.

Our children attended the Keystone School located 2½ miles north of our home. This was the same school their mother attended. When ■ was moved from that spot, the old Neepawa School that I went to was moved in in its place. On summer mornings we sent them off with the horse hitched to the buggy shafts and a sheaf sticking out the back of the buggy for the horse's dinner.

Transportation in winter was a different story. I drove the children to and from school and this was a

very time-consuming job. A small stove inside the cutter usually kept us too warm and there was always an extra stick of firewood to throw at our slow moving Daisy when she refused to pull her share.

Our oldest daughters took some correspondence courses and then boarded in Maymont in order to get to High School. We anxiously awaited their weekend visits. The roads were completely blocked one Monday morning when I took Trudy back to Maymont. We picked our way through the fields and upset the cutter three times. I left home at seven a.m. and finally returned at 2 p.m.

All this changed in 1959 with the coming of the school bus. This was a great boon to us. Roads were kept open and the responsibility of transporting the children to school was no longer mine. Our small country school was closed and the Maymont School expanded. Our first bus driver, Les Parker, was extremely punctual and was an excellent driver.

During the 1950's, other areas of our life style also changed. We got "the power" in 1954 and our coal oil lamps were placed on the shelf. A common past time among the school children was to count up all the electrical appliances each home had acquired.

In 1958 we gained another avenue of convenience — the telephone. About this time, too T.V. presented a new dimension. However, in spite of these changes and some of our children growing up, we still enjoyed family evenings playing music and singing together. The smaller ones who did not know how to play a musical instrument blew through a comb and tissue paper and so contributed their "kazoo music".

We welcomed progress but "neighbouring", as we called it, was ■ longer the necessity it had been. The big wood sawing bees were replaced by electric stoves and oil burners. Threshing crews were replaced by combines, and in some cases T.V. substituted for visiting. In the past a common government bull was provided. Regular bull club meetings were necessary and we scheduled these during the evenings when our families could enjoy a gathering with the neighbours. We could count on a Russian dance from Henry Pauls and some good singing from his wife. "Froggie Went A-Courting" was always a favourite.

Our six children have grown up and married. We are fortunate that they all live within a one hundred mile radius of Maymont, (with the exception Leroy, who is presently in Alberta.) The lifestyle of our grandchildren is very different from what ours was. In my lifetime I have seen oxen plowing fields and I have also seen men walking on the moon. ■ just a few years we have seen almost everything around us change and develop. Faith, family and friends are things that never change.

Elmer Sloan

Elmer Leslie William Sloan

With three girls making up their family, my parents, Ted and Evelyn Sloan moved to Campbell River, B.C. in the year of 1949. The change in climate must have been what was needed, for it was there they had their first son. I came into the world and in order to keep peace in the family I suppose, I was given a good choice of any of several names from both sides of the family. Perhaps my folks feared they would not perform the trick of producing another son but at any rate I was dubbed Elmer Leslie William Sloan. Although I am now known to most as Jon, a name compliments of my sister Charlotte, I am sure I have been referred to by many other names as well. I would be naive indeed to think the hundreds of students I have taught, called me Mr. Sloan all the time even when I wasn't present. Regardless of my Christian names I bear the surname Sloan with pride.

I have many memories of growing up in the Maymont community. The most treasured memories are those of growing up with my four sisters, Trudy, Sharon, Charlotte, Shelley, and my brother, Leroy. Many of our good times were enhanced by and shared with the Beaudoin and Pauls families, each only one mile away.

My first four years of school were at a one room school called Keystone, 2½ miles from home. Our main form of transportation was horse and buggy, and I recall the first day I went to school. I sat on the sheaf in the back while my oldest sister, Trudy, drove old Babe and with that my career in education began. Some days when I have had to put up with certain people involved in education I can't help but remember those thistles in old Babe's sheaf which also gave me a pain, exactly in the same location.

When my sisters went to board in Maymont to school, Jim and Wayne Beaudoin used to pick Leroy and I up with their old buggy. Leroy and Jim usually rode ■ the seat while Wayne and I sat in the back. Wayne had the habit of trying to speed up old Bid when Jim wanted to stop or stop her when Jim wanted her to go. It was on the way home one afternoon, I had the misfortune to fall out of the aging vehicle. I landed between the wheels and Wayne yelled stop. As we had just nicely got going and were on our way home to boot, Jim could not be blamed for ignoring the shouts coming from the back. It was when he felt the bump as the buggy wheel went over my head that he realized what had happened. Mrs. McCready kindly gave me a faster ride home in her car that night. Other than a bad headache I suffered no other ill effects, although some folks feel some things I did later in life may have been from something still loose inside from that incident.

A favourite time of year for all of us kids was the fall, for that is when the threshing and wood sawing bees were held. I remember watching Henry Pauls standing beside the saw, pitching blocks onto the pile and wondering what ■ would do when the pile got a little higher, as he was already dwarfed by the growing stack of winter fuel. Shortly everyone rotated to a new position and my worries were over.

Threshing was a time when work and food were both abundant. Some of the racks were drawn by tractors and some by horses. George Williams had the newest tractor and ■ of us kids fought to see who would get to drive it for him. My uncle, Bert Sloan, kept life on a threshing crew from ever getting dull. We always kept our eyes open for a sheaf on the head, a mouse on the tractor seat or any other practical joke he could invent in the middle of a stubble field.

Life on a farm meant many chores and milking cows was one of the least desirable of such jobs. We learned the dubious skill at an early age and as ■ was a daily routine, the monotony of it required that one invent various diversions ■ make it slightly more tolerable. We taught the cats to sit up and lap a well directed stream of milk straight from the cow and when the folks weren't around more than one milk war raged across the manure strewn isle of the old barn. The most enjoyable activity always came when our cousins, of which we have an ample supply, from the city would come. Sending them over to milk the bull was usually our number one suggestion. The best, of course, was to entice them into a vulnerable position with stories of minute sized lice or whatever, and then delivering a forceful stream of sticky white milk squarely between their expectant eyes. Strangely enough they always seemed to return but they avoided the barn with a passion.

After eight long years of school in Maymont I went to the University in Saskatoon before taking my first teaching job in Abbey, Saskatchewan in 1970. It was while at University that I met my wife

Marilyn Hollowell and I were married in 1969. Our first home was a small two room apartment in Saskatoon while I finished University. In 1970 we moved from Abbey to North Battleford where I have taught ever since. Marilyn's father, Jack, and brother, Ron, were very involved in hockey in the 5-40 League when they lived at Speers. They since have moved to Shellbrook.

In 1975 our oldest son, Curtis was born. Our youngest, Devon was born in 1977. They are the only two Sloan boys from our family tree left to carry on the Sloan name in this area. However, if they continue to have the same amount of energy they now have, I am sure there will be many more Sloan boys in the future to replace me.

It would seem one of my main problems in life was usually having my mouth in gear long before my brain was engaged. At times this led to physical alterations and the Maymont Sports was usually as likely a time as not for that to occur. One time I recall getting about one punch in before my opponent returned what seemed like two dozen. When the dust had cleared, my face was rather the worse for wear, but standing there to my relief was my brother. He looked down at me, shook his head and said, "That's the last time I lend you one of my shirts." I was a little more concerned about my jaw than his shirt at the minute, but he didn't see it quite that way. He couldn't have been too mad though, for in four or five years he broke down and did lend me one of his shirts again. I took care that time though to return it and my body in good shape.

Our family has always been a very close one. My parents, above all else, gave us a family pride and love. Their home on the farm near Maymont is still the favourite gathering place of all the grandchildren. Both Ted and Ev have always had time for kids and kids know it. Gramp Ted is always good for a tractor ride or a trip into Maymont for treats. Gramma is probably one of the best story tellers a child could hope for. My grandfather, Billy Andrew, was the only one I ever knew who could hold a candle to her.

Music always was and still is a favourite passtime ■ our home. Ted started almost all of us off on our musical endeavours. The girls began playing the piano and Ted taught me to play the mandolin when I was eleven. Jim Beaudion started me on the guitar a few years later. Although we all played "by ear" and didn't know a B flat from a hole in the ground, we enjoyed our own music and the good times it centered around. Today Leroy and his wife, Shirley do a great deal of entertaining with their music abilities, as does my sister, Shelley. Each of us will always treasure that gift our father gave us, the desire and opportunity to enjoy a talent like music. I have heard my parents say many times that they wished they could have given us more when we were growing up. Many of the things which our parents gave us were not wrapped in ribbons or were not bought in stores, but are gifts which have lasted through the years, long after the paint would have rusted from many toys. With the time, love and encouragement they gave us, who would have asked for more?

It seems when I return to Maymont it is with mixed emotions. The people of the town are new and I do not recognize many of the faces. Lyman Reid, the best boss I ever worked for, is gone. Ted Saunders and his cheerful greetings are lost forever. The kids in the cafe have new faces. Someone other than Harvey Johnson and Clem Coleman are coaching the little league team. In many ways I am a stranger in my own home town.

Yet there still prevails the intense community loyality, which in spite of all odds, binds people of the past, present, and future together. It is my hope that I can give to my community what Maymont people give to theirs. It is the strong communities of Canada which make it a strong country. May the thousands of places like Maymont hold on to their traditions so our children can enjoy the kinds of lives that we have been lucky enough to have.

Tribute to Archibald "Archie" Spence (84)

from a newspaper clipping

Archie came to Fielding in 1904 from Ballymena, County Antrim, Ireland, where he received his educa-

tion. In 1917 he married Cassie Meek in the Presbyterian Church Belfast, Ireland and returned with her to the farm where he spent 36 years.

He retired to the village of Fielding in 1950 and revisited Ireland in 1952-53. In the midst of a host of relatives and friends, Mr. and Mrs. Spence celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary in 1967. Archie was a keen curler and gardener. From miles around people came to see his beautiful flower garden. For some years the Village's neatly trimmed caragana hedges were a tribute to his care and attention. He served as village councillor, Beckwith School Trustee, on the Telephone Board, and Hall Director; he was a faithful United Church member.

Mr. Spence's grandsons are the fourth generation on the family farm. He was of a quiet and unassuming nature, respected and loved by all who knew him.

Tribute ■ Mrs. (Archie) Cassie Spence

taken from a newspaper clipping

Mrs. Spence was a friend to all who knew her and in times of trouble, was always there with words of comfort and willingness to help.

During the second World War Mrs. Spence organized the Comfort Club. The Fielding boys will long remember the food parcels and good cheer she was responsible for sending.

Mr. and Mrs. Archie Spence — Golden Wedding anniversary.

She was without exception the district's most noted correspondent. Besides a long list of friends in Canada and Ireland with whom she corresponded regularly, she seldom missed sending a card or an encouraging letter to folks in hospital.

For many years it was left to Mrs. Spence to decorate the Fielding Hall for special events. This she did with care and enthusiasm.

She promoted every community project that she felt was good. She was interested in drama and directed many skits and plays in the early days. Her Irish wit and her genuine hospitality will not be forgotten.

She was a member of the U.C.W. and a faithful member of the United Church in Fielding.

Don and Laura Spence

■ 1973 Don Spence married Laura Small, formerly of Craven, Saskatchewan and rented the E. K. Turner farm. They have three small children, Jeffrey born in 1974, Angela in 1976 and Seann in 1978. Don and Laura have been active in the 4-H Beef Club.

The Bernard Spence Family

told by Mrs. Eleanor Spence

I was born and raised at Maymont, the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Johnston. I started to school at Etonia with Mrs. Wilf Langley as my first teacher and later Blanche Racine from Radisson.

I attended Wavie Bank from Grade 3 to Grade 10. Our transportation was a Shetland pony and cart, horse and buggy and horse and cutter, which our children laugh about now.

I'm glad I had the opportunity to attend a country school, because I have been left with many fond

Bernard and Eleanor Spence wedding June 22, 1954; (bridesmaid) Ilene Johnson — (bestman) Chester Free.*

memories, some of which town children miss out on in a big school.

Getting ready for the Christmas concerts were almost as exciting as the big night itself. Hallowe'en and Valentine parties, nature hikes, school picnics and for many of us, we learned to dance at these country schools with local talent as the orchestra.

Wavie Bank school has been moved to Everett Shermans here in Maymont and made into a workshop.

I attended Maymont School for one year with Jack Armstrong as Principal. It was a big change coming from a country school and taking correspondence courses.

Bernard is the eldest son of Bill Spence and the late Nellie Spence (McGrath) of Fielding. He has one brother, Walter, in Battleford, two sisters, Kay, Mrs. Maurice Huard of North Battleford and Thelma, Mrs. Ron Schmidt of Ruddell.

He attended Hopewell and Beckwith schools and took his High School at Fielding. He worked for Jim Nutting and various farmers, later farming with his dad, until he was employed by the T. Eaton Company in North Battleford. He was there from November, 1953-55.

We were married June 26th, 1954, in the Maymont United Church by Reverend F. Myers. The first month we were married, I came down with the mumps, red measles and virus pneumonia. When the Tuberculosis survey came to North Battleford in May of 1955, it was found I had Tuberculosis. I entered the Saskatoon Sanatorium on July 5, 1955, and stayed for fourteen months, I had lung surgery in March of 1956 and came home in September. With two ten day passes (one at Christmas), visitors, cards and letters, the time seemed to pass quickly. Bernard only missed coming to see me one Sunday and that was on account of a blizzard. I have many fond memories of the people there, also, often thinking of those who weren't as fortunate as I was.

Bernard and Eleanor Spence — 25th Wedding Anniversary — June 22, 1979; children: Darrel, Karen and Lana.

Darrell was born June 24, 1957, in North Battleford, while we were living on the E. Frances farm at Radisson. We moved to Wilkie to work for Don Phelps in the spring of 1958.

While we were there, Lana was born, Jan. 31st, 1960. That fall we moved to Battleford where Bernard was employed at Western Grocers as shipper and receiver. In May, 1961, he started as a helper at National Grain at Holbein. He went to Biggar as a helper with his uncle, Hugh Spence. In November we moved to Aberdeen where he was agent for two years. We liked it there very much and Darrell started school there. But it was time to move again and this time we were transferred to Lilac, in April, 1964. That was home for five years and happy years for us all. Lana started school there, coming to Maymont in Grade Four. Darrell and Lana, too, feel it was a privilege to have attended a country school, where they could all play together at noon and recess, make huts, or listen in while the teacher taught another class. They really missed this when they came to town, as I imagine others did also. The big highlight of the year for them, also were the Christmas concerts and Hallowe'en. One year Bernard and Henry Oreel dressed up to go out tricking or treating. I wonder which kids had the most fun?

Our household experienced many changes when Karen arrived January 31st, 1969, one of the coldest days of the winter, and with more snow than I care to remember. I had stayed in North Battleford for two weeks ahead of time because of the weather, so by the time three weeks were up, I was content to come home and stay there for the rest of the winter.

In April, 1969, Bernard decided to resign from grain buying and go into farming full time. We had bought a half section of land half a mile north of the cemetery from L. Karpan a year earlier, and the necessary machinery. We moved to Russell Krake's farm until October, when we moved into Maymont, into the Mac Taylor house, then owned by Margaret Strautman.

Bernard rented Karpan's barn, north of town to raise pigs, as we had no cattle then. He also worked as one of the caretakers of the rink for a few winters.

Meanwhile we bought the half section of Norman Johnstons (Uncle Rob's) and Stanley Bohns half section. In 1973, we bought the farm we are living on from Dick Clayton, just east of the town limits, once known as Sowden's Park. On October 30th, 1973, we moved out of town and hopefully it will be our last move for a few years.

We have acquired a large herd of cattle over the last six years, specializing in Semmitals.

As for community affairs, Bernard is more involved than I am, as he enjoys being out in public. He

served on the Church Board of Stewards for twelve years, ■ a school trustee, on the Park committee, rink committee, and ■ a hockey representative for the Maymont team. He ■ an avid hockey fan and follower, enjoys curling and ball.

I help in the rink on Sports Day and regular weeks through the winter and I am the Sunday School treasurer. We are all members of the United Church where the children have gone to Sunday School, and where all three were christened by Rev. F. Myers.

We celebrated our twenty-fifth wedding anniversary this year with all family members able to ■ here.

Our family is gradually growing smaller. Darrell, who is 22, graduated in 1975 from Maymont Central School. He worked ■ North Battleford for a time, and is now apprenticing as a plumber in Lloydminster. While at home he was a 4-H beef Club member, Gun Club member and played hockey for eight years.

Lana graduated this year and is now working in Saskatoon. While at home, she was a 4-H Beef Club member, also took crafts and home nursing. She was a member of the C.G.I.T. for one year, took figure skating and was on the S.R.C. She enjoys sports and ■ an avid hockey fan also.

Karen is eleven years old and in Grade Five. She loves school, enjoys sports but is unable ■ be as active as she would like to be on account ■ an asthma condition she has had since she was two years old. Much of the time in her pre-school years she spent in the hospital. She attends Sunday School, was in Messengers and enjoys figure skating, having won the trophy for the most improved skater in 1978. She attends Explorers now, and on September 8th, she felt quite honored and happy to be one of the bridesmaids for Kirk and Lorraine.

Grandpa Johnston was always special to her and, of course, he helped to spoil her, too.

My Family History

by Elsie Sparkes

■ the year 1905 or thereabouts, a young man living on a poor rocky farm in Leeds, Quebec, trying to support himself, his wife and four children, decided there must be somewhere ■ this land where he could make an easier and better living. He packed his bag and set off for the West. The railroad had gone through the previous year and many were seeking new homes. He arrived at Blackie ■ Alberta first, but finally landed up at a little "siding" named Maymont in Saskatchewan. It was named after a popular young lady whose name was May Montgomery.

That young man was my father, James (Jim Johnston Reid). His wife Maud Diana and his four children, Stella Ellen, age 9, Edgar James age 7, (me) Elsie Bessie age 5 and a little curly red-headed chap named Lyman Dean age 3 made up our family at that time.

The following spring the farm was sold and Dad and Mother picked up the few belongings they had which included Mother's piano, and went first to Montreal where Grandmother and Grandfather Stephenson and son George were all packed ready for the journey as they were going West too. A lot of food had been prepared besides blankets and pillows. I faintly remember that train ride. The car was equipped for making meals and the seats could be pulled out for sleeping accommodation. There was a fairly long stop in Winnipeg where stocks of food could be replenished.

Upon arrival in Maymont we went ■ a boarding house run by Mrs. Eby where we were served a very nice dinner after which we were driven out to the home of Mrs. Arkley by one of her sons either Bill or Jim. It was not too long before the men had a house built. ■ was pretty much in the rough but provided a home for us. Seventeen people lived in that house that summer until they could build homes for themselves.

Friends and relatives started arriving from Quebec and from other places. Many of them brought their household effects as well as machinery and farm animals. The railroad made this possible by providing suitable cars and other conditions for that purpose. Dad's brother Andrew Reid, his wife and family, the Melrose family, Grandfather and Grandmother Reid all arrived the following year. They soon had homes built as most of them were good at carpentry work.

There were not too many businesses ■ Maymont at that time. There was Bean's Store and McCorkle's Lumber Yard. The hotel was built and we thought it was a huge building. One of the early proprietors was a Mr. Gillespie. Lyman and I were always pleased to deliver milk to the hotel ■ sometimes we received an extra nickel for ourselves. Dad had bought a real good Jersey cow so we supplied many with milk at ■ cents a jam pail. We were so sad when the Gillespie's lost their tiny baby. Mawhinney's Drug Store came into existence and Dr. Scratch started ■ practise medicine. Ransom Rogers ran a Shoe and Harness Repair Shop. My father, his brother John and Jim Patterson entered into a partnership to establish the Maymont Trading Company which was a general store. Mr. Patterson was a silent partner as he had a large Pool Hall and Barber Shop of his own to handle with living quarters above. He had a family of eight but little Archie died at an early age which almost broke his mother's heart.

Soon an addition was built to the store to serve ■ a meat market. Dad handled this part of the business while Uncle John looked after the general store. I believe Dick Morrow clerked ■ the store at that time. My sister Stella assisted Dad ■ the meat market as he was away quite often buying cattle.

Dad had filed on a homestead in the meantime located about one and one quarter miles south east of town. In order to gain possession of the land "homestead duties" had to be done. That meant we had to live on it so many months each year for three years besides certain other improvements. Each spring

we moved to the little log house on the homestead then back to town in the fall. We children looked forward to this move each spring even though things were a bit on the rough side. When the patches of snow disappeared from the bluffs which we melted for water, we hauled water from a nearby slough. It was strained and boiled but had rather an earthy taste. We pulled the dead wood out of the bluffs for firewood. The mosquitoes were a big pest. Even though mother tacked mosquitoe netting over the windows they found their way in through the cracks between the logs. The only relief was to make a smudge in an old pail and drive the insects to the windows where they could be "squashed". One summer we all came down with measles and confined to the house when a prairie fire came raging along toward the house. Luckily the men could see it from town and were able to head it off in another direction. One night we were awakened in the middle of the night and hustled off to Aunt Bessie's home which made us wonder. Next morning we were told we had a new baby sister. This was Bernice Emily, better known as Bunnie. A neighbour lady, Mrs. Tall, came to look after mother and the new baby. When she was not too busy she read stories to us that really charmed us. Uncle Tom's Cabin and The Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come were our favorites. When Stella and I earned enough money doing the janitor work at the school to buy a pony, we named her Dixie after the pony in one of the books. Archie Melrose brought Dixie from Alberta for us as, quite often he brought in carloads of horses to sell. By this time a Livery Barn had been built and soon a second one was needed as people coming from a distance needed a barn for their horses. Grandfather Reid kept his cow in the livery barn. About 6 o'clock one cold winter's day, [illegible] was hurrying across the railroad track on his way to milk his cow when he was struck by the evening passenger train. He was taken [illegible] North Battleford on the train but died on the way.

My first teacher was Isa Melrose who later married Art Martin. Then came Miss Irene Gray for two or three years. Some of the others were Miss Kelso, Miss Cadow, Mrs. Weber and Mr. Weber. When the time came for us to write our Grade VIII exams, Norman Melrose drove Olga Issac and me to Fielding each day to write our exams. The three of us all passed the exams. Until the Presbyterian and Anglican Churches were built, services were held in the school. Of course the Presbyterian church later became the United Church. Other meetings were also held at the school so it was made good use of.

My grandparents Stephenson took up a homestead about eight miles from Maymont. It would probably be in the Lilac area now. I believe grandmother was very lonely. They lived in a fair degree of comfort in Montreal among friends and relatives, then to a sod shack on the prairie, so far away from everyone, would cause anyone to be lonely. Their only means of travel was by horse and buggy, but the horse was a worn out old cow pony. Old Lucy had been an excellent saddle horse but objected to being driven with a buggy behind her and quite often balked and would not go at all. Of course if there was someone around who could jump on her back she would be off, but that was out of the question for grandmother to do. Granddad got the job of running the Maymont ferry so that helped them financially so that they were able [illegible] build a better dwelling. Oxen were used for cultivating the land. They did grow a marvellous garden. Even cucumbers and tomatoes were grown with success. This was something no one else thought possible.

The Richard family had built their home on the land at the place named after them — Richard. They were a very nice, refined, family. Mrs. Richard used to come to see Mother quite often. Mother could carry on a conversation in French as Mrs. Richard could speak very little English. Dad had dealings with Mr. Richard with cattle and horses. Just a little south and east of there lived two Eaton brothers. They were related to Timothy Eaton, the founder of the well known T. Eaton Co. They received many fine gifts of beautiful Hackney horses, harness and other accessories which were the envy of those of us who loved horses. If my memory serves me correctly Uncle Andrew Melrose homesteaded in that vicinity also. They were all thoughtful of grandmother in taking her groceries and her mail which she looked forward to so much.

Dad finally gained possession of the homestead then sold it and bought a Russell Thompson quarter close to town then the quarter west of it where he built a new, more permanent home. Another baby girl however had been born in that house in town. This was Irene Grace, about three years younger than Bernice. A few years later, one night about midnight, little Wendell Derby, now known as Derby, poked his little nose out into the world. He was a cute little duffer and we all loved him dearly. Dr. Scratch delivered all three babies born in the west. Grandma Long came to nurse mother and look after little Derby. She was a very fine person and did a real service to the community. Derby could have been spoiled as we all made a fuss over him. My cousin, Olive Smith, had come to live with us from Vermont to see if the change of climate would improve her health. She was about my age and we got along famously together. When Mother was away one time, Derby was left in charge of Olive and me. When she returned she asked him if we had been good to him to which he complained that "Addie and Yaw Yaw gave Wen no cup of tea". Those were the names he called us and his cup of tea was warm milk with a little sugar added. Of course, mother was very sympathetic and reprimanded [illegible] which pleased little Derby. Olive's health improved and she worked in the Post Office and then in the Bank. She later married my cousin Cecil Reid. They and Cecil's dad and mother moved to Vancouver where Olive still lives though Cecil and his parents died some years ago.

In 1916 sister Stella married Gordon Auckland and

went to live in Speers. Unfortunately, Gordon was in poor health and went to Rochester to have surgery for kidney removal. He was really never very well, but they bought a little farm on the edge of Speers and both worked very hard to pay for it through the lean years of the depression. Gordon died in 1941. Stella sold the livestock and machinery etc., and rented the farm. She went to Ontario and Detroit and after the sudden death of John, her second husband, she moved to the West coast, first to Vancouver, then to White Rock where she lived until her death on February 2, 1975. She married the third time, Claude Radley an old neighbour she had known in Speers. He had fought in World War I. He was laid to rest about a year after Stella but had been in poor health for some time.

Brother Edgar attended the University of Saskatchewan where he obtained his Degree in Pharmacy. He later joined the Forces in World War II in the capacity of pharmacist. He later operated his own store in Neilburg. He died suddenly from a perforated gastric ulcer at the age of 48 years.

Our brother Lyman pursued farming after his marriage to Evelyn Foreman. They brought up a family of five who were all a credit to them. After farming for some years, Lyman bought grain for one of the elevator companies before joining the forces in World War II. After five years in the services he again took up farming for several years but suffered from Emphysema so sold the farm and worked for a funeral home in North Battleford. Soon after his retirement, he developed cancer and passed away last September in Saskatoon (1975).

Bernice took a business course in Saskatoon, then married Henry Strudwick. They lived in Maymont for some time, then to Mannville and eventually to Edmonton. They have four children all married. Bunnie now lives in Penticton where her two daughters Jan, and Ruth live.

Irene went to Teachers' College and taught school in and around Fielding for some years. She was a great help and comfort to Dad after our dear Mother was taken in December, 1934. She married Al Hickman and went to Ontario with him when he joined the Forces. When they returned to Saskatchewan, Al worked for a time in a garage then they went to B.C. and are now retired and live at Lytton.

Derby ran the home farm until recently, when he was forced to sell out on account of a heart condition. He married Edith (Binky) Saunders and they have one son and three daughters Their son Derby suffered a very severe loss recently when his wife died suddenly.

As for me. I attended Normal School in Saskatoon, the last of the four month terms — taught in Blaine Lake, Ruddell, Leney and a short time in Major. But my heart was set on nursing so I took my training in the Toronto General, graduating in 1925. I worked at Wadena and Hafford then entered the Public Health field to do school nursing. However, I found it to be rather a rugged life so when Ralph Sparkes said "will you" I said "I Will" and we were married December 24, 1927. We lived in Kamsack first then Wadena and Saskatoon. We moved to Salmon Arm in 1950. I lost my husband in 1954 from a severe heart attack. I went back to nursing until 1960 then retired to the town of Salmon Arm.

My son Robert Kenneth works for Ontario Hydro as Physicist in their Nuclear Plant at Deep River. He served in the Navy for twenty-two years. He married Lillian Melgason and has four children, Gary, who is now married, Susan, Sharlene and Glen.

My daughter Yvonne Elaine is teaching Biology in a high school in Calgary. At first she worked as a Lab Technican but after her marriage to Lee Helmer and their two children, Barbara Lynne and Gregory Lawrence were well on their way in school, Yvonne decided to go back to University to get her degree in Education.

Stella Jean my youngest daughter took a business course. She was employed as legal secretary for quite a number of years then became office manager of a heating and tinsmithing firm. She married Glenn Horsley in 1955, has one little boy Gordon Ralph who, I am sad to say is crippled with Cerebral Palsy.

In looking back over the years, many people come to my mind as making contributions to the good life we enjoyed even though we had little money to spend. Just to name a few whom many of you may have forgotten, —

Mr. and Mrs. Bean, Ethelwyn, Catherine and Alan. The first store was established by Mr. Bean and was carried on after his accidental death by Mrs. Bean assisted by Harry Martin for several years.

The Fry Family whose farm was a little west of town. Dr. Fry, dentist, cared for the dental needs of the community. His son, Bliss, with his wife Ruth (Eby), managed the farm. Two daughters, Margaret and Beulah who married two brothers, Robert and Ernest McLaren. (I named my Eaton Beauty doll Beulah) as we were so fond of Beulah Fry.

Percy Knowles, Notary Public, his wife and children. The Fred Longs, and not forgetting Grandmother Long . . . Charlie Bride, the Shouldices, Henry Christfield who owned the first car in the district, Mr. Guy Trotier, first Bank Manager . . . Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Cook, and nephew Dean Crossley, Mr. and Mrs. McCorkle, Margaret and Helen and Aunt Margaret, The Duncan McLennans, Also the Butterfields, the Pedens, the Mohlers, the Giffards, the Bohns, the Johnston families, the Gray family, the Bouskills. Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Kerr, Sam, Dot, Cora and Edna, — how could we have ever managed without Mrs. Kerr to do our sewing.

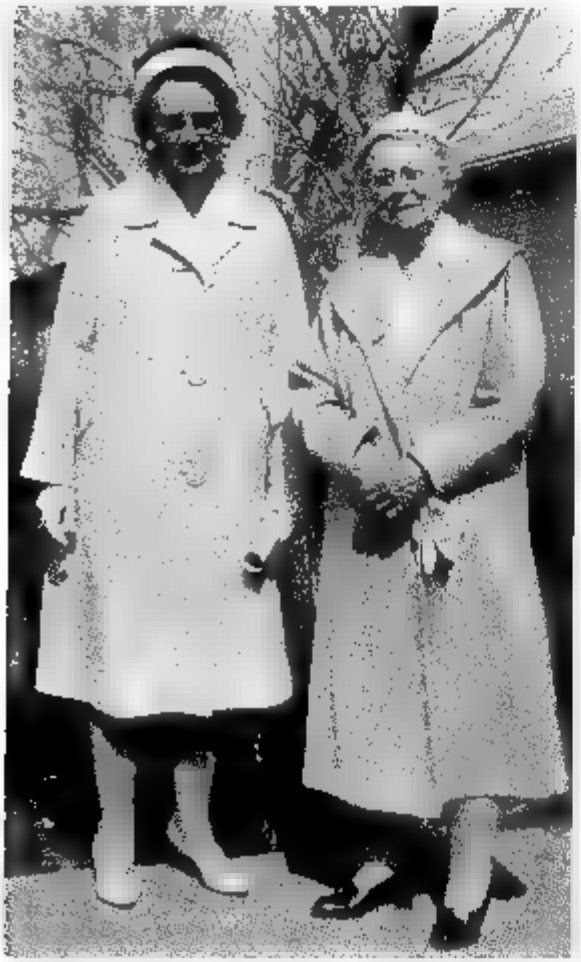
These are only a very few of all those who contributed so much to the history and the good and welfare of Maymont.

I submit this "history" in loving memory of my dear Mother and Dad for their courage and unselfishness, to give us, their children, a good life.

Mrs. George Smith — "Little Mother"

by Mabel (McKeen) Heber

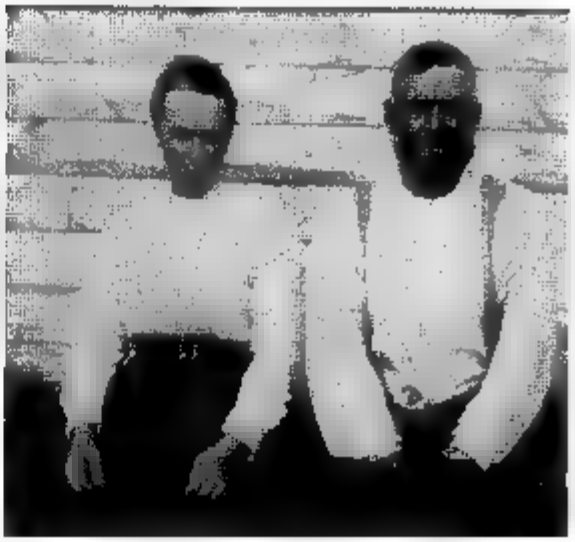
My grandmother, Mrs. George Smith, was known as "Little Mother" by many of the early pioneer men. Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Smythe were the only two married women in the school district for a time. Grandma did baking and washing for a number of the men — Alex and Tom Brebon and the McKeen Brothers — to name a few. Each Sunday that they had service at the school house her alto voice could be heard leading the singing. Grandma's wonderful sense of humour and a song kept her going in very lonely times in those first years in the Keystone District.



Mabel (McKeen) Heber and her mother Mrs. Jack McKeen taken on Mother's Day, 1963.

The George Smith and Jack McKeen Families

Hello! I'm Mabel, eldest of Jack McKeen's family. I have two brothers Ron and Bruce. The three of us are married and live at Speers.



Mr. and Mrs. George Smith, Mrs. Jack's McKeen's parents.

Our dad was a member of Keystone's first School Board. In those days lumber for the school was hauled from Saskatoon. This was a wintertime job. The erection of the building and its maintenance were jobs where the whole Board and Ratepayers got involved. Our mother (Bertha Smith) first saw our dad when he was down plowing the fire-guard. The teacher asked him in and he met the students.

Bertha, Smith, as a member of the class of Herbert Elliot helped to plant maple trees as a shelter belt for the school. Bertha was janitor of the school for a while. She would walk a mile to school, light the fire and tidy up while the fire 'got going'. Students placed their lunch pails close to the fire so as to not have frozen lunches.

I attended the same school that my mother had. I went in 1921, '22 and part of 1923. We had the original school but with a porch added. In later years when the North Battleford School Unit No. 56 was operating this building was moved to the Badger Bluff school yard and remodelled for a teacherage.

Keystone School District No. 1144 and Grey School used to have a school picnic complete with parade. I remember the parade of 1922 when we all went dressed like characters of the comic strips. "Tom Sawyer" had a "Becky" — that was me.

Harold M. Smith

told by Harold Smith

I, Harold M. Smith, taught at Maymont from September, 1939, until the end of Sept., 1941 when I left to attend the U. of S.

I taught the intermediate room comprising Grades V-VIII inclusive. Miss Edith Butterfield and Mr. Morgenroth were the other members on the staff.

H. M. Smith, teacher at Maymont School, 1939-1941. Picture was taken by Dolly Porter.

Pyramid building.

I boarded with Mr. and Mrs. Gray whose home was just across the road from the school.

It was a fine experience. I enjoyed it very much.

Curling, hockey, and baseball were well-established sports in which I took part. At school I organized and trained a group of boys in pyramid building. They performed locally, in neighbouring towns as well as at the Provincial Normal School in Saskatoon.

Ramona McLaren Smith

I was born in Maymont, February 13, 1908 the oldest child of Robert and Margaret McLaren. I left with my parents when I was 10 years old. I have many happy memories of friends and good times there.

I remember; picnics by the river and, at Meota, when coming back by train from there, lost a very pretty hat out the train window. I loved to go to the Giffard farm to visit and to parties. I went to Sunday

Home of Robert McLaren, Post Office on right. Aunt Ruth (Fry) on porch with Kathleen, Ramona in rocking chair, Lynn Fry and John McLaren.

L. to r. — Ramona and John McLaren, Grandpa Fry, Lynn Fry, Gertrude McLaren.

school once and came home with frozen fingers and mittens in my pocket. I remember vividly watching the trainloads of soldiers going to war and people waiting at the Post Office to get the latest news of the war when the mail was sorted. The night the livery barn burnt caused me to fear fire for years. I remember driving very fast with my parents in the buggy to reach our homestead shack the day of the great tornado at Regina. The sky was a dirty yellow and the wind very strong.

I took my high school at Waterford Ontario and Normal training at Camrose, Alberta. I taught for one year and married Robert Paul Smith in 1928. We have four children, three of whom live near Ponoka and our oldest son at Jarvie. We have fifteen grandchildren. We farmed for 36 years west of Ponoka, moved to town in the fall of 1964 and built our home at 5201-58

ave., where we now live in very good health and celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary in 1976.

The Soule Family

by Nora (Agar) Soule

Tired of trying to make a living clearing the stumps in Michigan, Ed Soule moved to Oregon and on to Ruddell where he settled on the old George Robinson farm.

He had three sons and one daughter; Era who married Bob Thrower in 1913; Guy who was second, worked around and moved to Port Angeles; Luther and Cecil went to school and there I met Slim, as Luther was known, I attended Ruddell School for two years driving seven miles.

We worked at our respective jobs. I taught first at Clarksdale School at Rabbit Lake. Then for several years at Bathgate School at Lilac.

I was married on July 16, 1925 to Luther (Slim) Soule and lived near Richard for five years and came to the river farm in the fall of 1929. Cecil and Doris (Little) Soule had come to stay on the old Stally farm cornering ours. We had one good crop then drought set in. Pigs, cattle, wheat became worthless as the depression deepened. Feed became very scarce so we stopped riding and turned to the river for diversion. Many a picnic we had, fishing, hunting and walking. Often friends joined us.

The air would be sweet with wildflowers, lilies, honeysuckle and fruit blossoms. Later in the year there were berries to can and jell. Fishing was a pleasure and sometimes we had extra to share. There were Goldeyes and Jacks not to mention the chubs the kids got.

In order to get a decent price for our cattle Slim began to take community carloads to Winnipeg. So we all realized at least half again as much. Somewhere here we bought Trixie our Shetland pony, a lovely grey. Thereafter she shared all our work and play.

Our first child, Larry, was born in 1926, followed by a second son Len, in 1927. Twin sons, Alan and Norman, were born in 1931. Our first daughter, Lorna, came on the scene in 1932. Herman was born in 1935 and in 1940 Aggie came "to be the prop of my old age" as a neighbor said.

Larry and Len left home about 1948. Larry finally graduated from U.B.C. by his own efforts. He met Vivian Palmer from Surrey, England at U.B.C. and married her there later. They both studied and attained their Ph.D. and a family of three girls. They are in Africa now in the Sudan. Larry also had published several books and also a book of poetry in which he is ably assisted by Vivian.

Len did many things around B.C. working for the C.P.R., later foreman on a ranch. He married Alma Barnes, returned to Edmonton and worked as a heavy duty mechanic. In 1970 he lost his family of four and in 1974 Len passed away. We miss him.

Alan married Edna Friedenstab, who is organist and secretary at the Lutheran Church. He, too, is a welder and mechanic in North Battleford. Alan and Edna have a daughter, Kathy, who enjoys figure skating and swimming.

His twin brother, Norman, was married to Ellen Gilchrist who works at Eatons in North Battleford. They have three children, Kelly, Darin and Carry — all busy all summer.

Lorna, born in 1932, a year after the twins, took teacher training, was married to Ron Bender. Later she turned to making pottery and teaching it. Ron is a chemical engineer at Fort McMurray, Alberta. They have two sons: Ron, Jr. in college and teaches skiing, and Geri who makes photography his hobby.

Herman stayed at the home farm and married Colleen Lee who brought us her lovely music while Herman ably farms. They are helped by daughter, Erin, who practises music and both she and her brother, Everitt, have their chores. He will start school in September 1979.

Aggie married Steve Woroch from Iffley. They have two daughters, Marion and Stephanie, who are stalwarts at softball and chores and very proficient at Ukrainian dancing.

Slim was fond of his family and tried to instill in them a love of work and to strive for perfection. He was plagued with diabetes, then was thrown as his horse stumbled which necessitated two operations. During this time we had scores of cards and letters as well as many other kindnesses. He recovered, but could not really work hard anymore. The family really took over about 1955. Slim died in 1962. It is lonely without him.

On the farm I have a cottage with the view of the river and Baljennie's elevators across it. At first they weren't there and in winter long lines of sleighs crossed the ice, sometimes thirty at a time, and through the yard hauling grain to Ruddell elevators.

But through the years what changes! Ox teams to horses to cars. Old Sykes of Lilac came with his effects in a wheelbarrow from Prince Albert, sleeping under it at night.

An ex-neighbor remarked recently that to him Ruddell was Sodom and Gomorrah. I assured him it was so only in his mind. To me they were the best friends and neighbors.

Mr. and Mrs. Ross Stally

written by Byrnece (Stally) Palsson

My father, Ross Stally, was born in Falkland, Ontario in 1885. As a young man he worked in the Penman mills and in a grocery store in Paris, Ontario. In 1905, he and some friends decided to see the prairies and went out on a harvest excursion. They spent the harvest season in Deloraine, Manitoba, then returned to Paris. They travelled west by train, no sleepers nor pullman cars, just slate seats and a stove in the back

where they made their meals. The call of the west was strong and the next year Dad and his brother Martin returned to Deloraine where Martin took a homestead and Dad worked with him until he left with friends who were going farther west to Ruddell. Here he worked for Charlie Robinson (father of Lawrence and Grace who later became Mrs. Oswald Harper) for the next two years. In 1908 ■ took a homestead a mile and one-half west of Ruddell.

In 1915 Dad went to Ontario for the winter and while there met and married my mother, Lottie Barker. Mom, her mother and two of her sisters had come from Bullwell, Notts, England ■ 1913, to Paris where they heard that work was plentiful. The girls all got work in the Penman mills. My grandmother and one aunt returned to England in 1914, but Mom and Aunt Annie (later to become Mrs. Ernie Anderson) stayed. After their wedding, when Mom and Dad were leaving for Ruddell, Mom persuaded Aunt Annie to go with them. Since neither of the women could cook, they told many stories of their cooking failures, particularly with bread making. Luckily they had good neighbors who gave them help and advice, one often mentioned as being a friend in need was Mrs. Ed Soules (mother of Cecil and Luther).

Later ■ 1916, Mom and my aunt took a trip to England to visit their parents. While there my sister, Vera was born, because of the war, travel was precarious and they were not able to return until later in 1917. Vera died during the "flu' epidemic" of 1919. I was born in 1921.

■ 1931, in order to be closer to school, Dad rented out his farm and rented the "Geddie farm" just north of town. Being close to town and school, and having a large house, Mom over the years had many boarders, girls from outlying districts who were taking their high schooling in Ruddell, eg. Muriel (Swan) Johnson from Lilac, Maxine (Jones) Turtle from Lilac and Grace Templeton from Baljennie. Several teachers stayed also, ■. Mary (Welford) Moffatt, Edythe Hamilton, Agnes Walters, Doc Palsson, Jim Baikie and Earle Simmonds. Often there were station agents and elevator agents as well. After they moved ■ town, George Pringle, an old friend and early Ruddell settler stayed with them until he moved to Churchill ■ live with a sister. Mom ■ remembered by all for her kindness and happy disposition.

In 1944, Mom and Dad moved into the station house, later buying the "Bill Geddie" house and Dad worked his own farm until selling to George Acaster in the 1950's.

After completing school, I attended Normal School in Saskatoon and taught in Sonningdale and Lilac. Married Doc Palsson ■ 1943 and we spent a year on the R.C.A.F. station at Coal Harbor, B.C. Our twins Ross and Thora were born in 1944 and I returned to stay with Mom and Dad until the end of the war. We then moved ■ Calgary and in 1948 to the Goldstream area just north of Victoria, where Doc taught at the Belmont High School until ■ retired in 1976.

Mom and Dad spent several winters with us. Mom was afflicted with asthma the last three years of her life and died ■ Victoria in 1965 at the age of ■. Dad moved to Victoria in 1969. He enjoyed the grandchildren and great-grandchildren and liked to help with the garden, but was always lonely for Ruddell and his old friends. He died in Victoria in 1973.

Of our children: Ross works as a commercial artist ■ an advertising agency in Edmonton. He and wife Penny and daughters Becky and Kate live in Ft. Saskatchewan. Thora and husband John Hoban and daughters Karen and Leigh live near us in Goldstream, as does Janet, her husband Mark Ward and daughters Tiffany and Johanna.

Teachers I had while attending school: Mary (Huston) Thrower, Miss McDonald, Grace (Vail) Jess, Vivian (Ferris) Nelson, Ruth (Robinson) Wilson, Garnet May, Ralph Wensley, Jim Vanpatten, Doc Palsson.

Dr. Scratch was practising in Maymont while I was growing up and for many years after. Believe Mrs. Johnson, Grandma Johnson to most, acted as midwife to many. She and her husband Charlie ran the Ruddell Hotel. Many of us have fond memories of Grandma Johnson's annual "Hot Cross Bun" tea.

Although I love my B.C. home, I feel that I was fortunate to grow up in Ruddell and have so many happy memories of friends and events which took place there and in the surrounding towns.

The Steeles of Ruddell

by Viola M. Beland

To begin the history of the Steeles (the name was originally spelled Steil.) I must go back over 200 years to the earliest known date, June 12, 1776, when John Steele was born in the New England State of Connecticut. Years later ■ married Catherine Long of Pennsylvania. Six children were born ■ this Pennsylvania Dutch family before they left to begin a new life in Canada. They entered the country somewhere near Niagara Falls. By March 1808 John and Catherine were settled on a farm in the St. George area of Ontario.

It was here, Joseph, their twelfth child was born February 8, 1817 and where he would later farm. On December 8, 1838 ■ married Mary Howell. At first they lived in a log house, but around 1850 built a frame house that ■ still on the farm. ■ 1852 the Great Western Railway was built through the Steele farm, spoiling the southern view. A beautiful arched bridge was built to allow the farmer to get to his fields across the railway. Years later the line was abandoned but the stone arch was spared. Joseph did not like the railway cutting off his best fields ■ he sold them to his younger brother Jacob, and a brother-in-law. The hilly, stoney fields were then sold and the family moved ■

Florence Steele ■ 1942, who provided most of the information for the Steele history.

Brantford Township. That year the Grand River had a big flood which washed away all the bridges in Paris. All the hay and moveables had to be forded across the river. Before they moved into the new place near Brantford, the house burned down. A relative three generations later related, "Grandmother said her mother sat down and cried after leaving the other new house."

Joseph and Mary had four children: Edwin, Lydia Ann, Sarah Jane and Margaret Amalia. Edwin was born July 29, 1840. He married Sarah White of Kentville, Nova Scotia on June 15, 1864. Two children were born ■ them: Mary Love, born July 16, 1865 near Paris, Ont.

Albert Edwin, May 24, 1870 Paris.

Albert was not quite ten when his father died February 22, 1880. The following excerpts were taken from a newspaper clipping now 99 years old. "The only son of Joseph and Mary Howell Steele . . . Brother Edwin Steele was a large, strong, active man, giving promise of many years with his happy family . . . a most affectionate husband and father . . . amiable disposition . . . high filial regard for parents . . . godly life . . . always shared . . . won for him friends on every side. ."

Albert Steele was about two years old when, on a nearby farm, a baby girl was born to George and Sarah Jane Barker Midgley on February 12, 1872. The Steeles and Midgleys were great friends from early years; so it was to be with their children. Albert and Minnie attended the same school, which with an addition, ■ still being used.

Following the death of her husband, Mrs. Steele took her children to town where they finished their education which included part of high school.

Back in the country they lived with a neighbor so that Albert could be trained ■ farming. By the will he received 100 acres and Mary was given ■ which included the orchard and a wheat field. Another training, masonry, was ■ stand him in good stead at the Ruddell farm. He also found out that masonry in the east was stronger than in the west. Saskatchewan alkali water for mixing was at fault.

Albert Edwin Steele married Minnie Jane Midgley at Paris, Ont. on November 12, 1891. Their children: Grace Ethel — March, 1893, Lawrence Albert — June,

Golden wedding of Grandpa and Grandma Steele, Nov. 18, 1941.

Albert Steele Ruddell (1912). 3 wheeler Hart Parr 15-30. Kerosene engine, seeding with 3 drills.

1894, Florence Alice — December, 1895, Elsie Wilhelmine — August, 1900, Eva Muriel — June, 1902. About this time, Albert and Minnie decided to move West. West at that time was Manitoba. Relatives and friends begged them to stay and it was not until 1907 that Albert left the family, the first step on the Great Adventure!

The following is taken from a letter written by Florence Steele, which she calls "Recollections of our Pioneer Past — The Steele Family".

"In March 1908 we came west from Ontario to Saskatchewan, Father coming with a car of stock and settlers' effects and Mother with us five children on the train. Moving and travelling so far away seemed an exciting adventure — The vastness of the rolling prairie dotted here and there with dwellings of log or frame and some sod, smoke curling from the chimneys skyward on a cold bright morning with lots of snow yet, greeted our eyes on our first day after arriving. We had come too soon so a kind neighbor took us on a load of hay down to his home until Dad arrived some days after. Then we hurried to our home."

Sad to say as we had played with others on the train, in due time we became sick with scarlet fever, one after another. Mother was a brave woman and could rise to the occasion in an emergency, and only for her good nursing, some of us might not have survived. Neighbors were kind, one bringing a dressed chicken, another offering to come and help even though she had a big family, but this, Mother refused kindly.

In the early years Mother was often called on to lend a helping hand when accidents, sickness, childbirth and even death happened in the community.

Exploring the ravine on our farm or watching the North Saskatchewan river at the foot of our place, in flood was interesting to us young ones. Father seemed to enjoy the wide open spaces and the change of farming methods. Cramped rooms with furniture unpacked, bunk beds for a start didn't dampen our spirits as yet. Mother was heard to say many times how she missed her old friends in Ontario and the fruit, which we had an abundance of there.

In August, around 1911, I believe, we had a terrifying hail storm with terrible winds which flattened the grain ahead of the hail frozen together in golf ball size, that pounded ripened straw into the ground and carried the grain over into the ravine which later sprouted and grew. Greener crops were a tangled mess. Before this they were a picture. Luckily for us as the storm swerved and cut across one corner of a lower field, though badly hailed it still could be threshed yielding bushels to the acre, to give us our seed and flour. Good sized chickens still in coops were battered to death. Mother, Dad and my brother worked out that fall on threshing outfits in other areas to earn money for needed supplies of food and clothing.

It was the old sod shack behind and against the frame of our house that saved us all from being swept into the deep ravine near by. The frame part creaked and shook and we had to hold pillows against the window panes to save them from crashing in completely. The awful roaring noise made it necessary to shout to be heard. After experiences like this, one began to realize just how much we had left behind in Ontario to come out here."

The sod house was turned into sleeping quarters with bunks in one corner for the children, these partitioned off from the master bedroom with a beautiful carpet tacked to the rafters, the same which had covered the parlor floor back in Ontario. Later the sod house was joined to the frame house by an annex. (That frame house was later to serve as a dining room for Lawrence and Violet Steele. After their new house was built in the fifties, the old dining became a garage, still bearing the signs of the terrible storm of 1911.)

The first garden was planted on the closer of two firebrakes surrounding the buildings. The pole barn was practically demolished. In 1915, Albert, with the help of Lawrence, built a beautiful house on S.W. 3, 42, 14, W3. They also helped the mason in stone cutting for the foundation, and wired the house for electricity. Grandpa got his papers for steam heating which enabled him to install it in the new house. Grandpa had long yearned to be a railway engineer in the days of steam engines and probably would have become one if Grandma hadn't persuaded him to keep to farming as a safer way to raise the family.

To make ends meet, Grandpa Steele took on the Grain Grower's Store in Ruddell and also sold Wawanesa and Farmer's Mutual Insurance. During the flu epidemic following World War I Mr. and Mrs. Steele went together by buggy to Ruddell, where he tended his business. On the way there they stopped at each farm, he to do the chores and she to cook, clean and tend the sick. On the way home did the same, and continued until the epidemic was over. Neither took the dreadful disease. The family at home took over farm chores and housework. Many a time Grandma acted as midwife and sometimes assisted the famous

pioneer, Doctor John Scratch of Maymont. (I remember one time when he was giving my children their shots, how easy it was now to make the rounds to his patients, he told me. "How did you manage with so little sleep?" He smilingly replied, "Drop the reins, roll under the fence and take ten minutes.") On another occasion Grandma saved the life of Harvey Peoples, son of Frank Peoples. The lad had mistaken strychnine for cocoanut. By the time she arrived at their farm home the lad was already stiffening. Having pried his jaws open she carefully dipped in a solution she had made from wood ashes. Harvey never did recover completely from the stiffness.

HARRINGAY SCHOOL No. 1864

Harringay School was built by Tom Cleator and Edward Mylrea, opening in 1906. Perhaps rather unusual for early western country schools, it boasted a hardwood floor. The school grounds covered two acres. When the Steele family began attending there in 1908 there was no barn for the pony and no fence around the grounds. To prevent it from getting away a tethering chain and stake was used.

Their first teacher was a Miss Stacy, then Helen Ford from Ontario. Helen's sister taught at Ruddell. Their third was Miss Gilliland who left after a short time. Teachers in those days came about spring and left for college in the fall back East. In that way Miss Helen Ford got her B.A. and M.A. One winter Albert Steele rented a room in the Ruddell station house and the family stayed there to attend the village school. Their mother sent food as it was needed. All Harringay teachers boarded at the homestead of Frank and Elizabeth (Wrath) Peoples as all nearby farms were run by bachelors. They and the Peoples' sons, Harvey and Buster walked the half-mile south to the school. (The Peoples came from North Dakota.)

While still on the farm Frank Peoples sold Hail Insurance, Fire Insurance and Life Insurance. In the winter he sold Watkins Products. While still working on the homestead he ran a Butcher Shop in Denholm. His last move was to Meadow Lake where he died a few years ago.

In 1915 following the erection of the Steele house, their daughter Grace married Lorne Henry Slack. The wedding took place in Ruddell December 28. Their minister was Reverend Robert Morgan. Lorne was the son of Henry and Carrie Slack, their home being west of Ruddell which later became the Art Robinson farm. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Slack and children, Alfred, Iva, Lorne and Bertha left there to live at Denholm sometime before 1906. Henry and Carrie died there.

Lorne and Grace homesteaded northeast of Denholm on which is now the Peters place. Their children were born there. Their next move was to the Baljennie District, living in a log house on the farm. Six children were born, Hazel Grace, born October 26, 1916; Floyd Edwin, February 11, 1920; Lorene Erminnie, August 27, 1922; Howard Alton, May 11, 1926; Orville Leonard, August 19, 1928; Baby Slack died shortly after birth, his mother, Grace, following him not long after, January 11, 1931. Hazel and Howard lived with their Steele grandparents, getting their education at Ruddell School. Lorene and Floyd went to Harringay School with their cousins, children of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Steele. After the marriage of Lorne to Emily Weaver the children were returned to their home. Harriett and Gordon were born of the second marriage. Three more were to be born following their move to a farm near Melita, Man. Born in Manitoba, helping his father on the Ruddell homestead from 1906 to about 1908 when his folks, Henry and Carrie Slack moved to Denholm. (They lived in the house now known as the United Church Manse.) . . . Lorne's own homestead near Denholm . . . to Baljennie . . . to Melita, Man. Lorne, the homesteader/horse trader had come full circle! He and Emily live there yet.

Hazel — married Jack Plews — children: Dora Leone, Brian Nelson, Evelyn Grace, Beverly, Gordon John.

Leone married Arlo Nast — children: Fay, Randolf, Cindy, Rodney, Valerie, Linda.

Brian m. Peggy Old — ch: Audrey, Laura.

Evelyn m. Jack Gabourie — ch: Lori, Jodi, Jaqueline, Christopher.

Beverly m. Douglas Amos — ch: Ginnette, Crystal.

Gordon m. Louise Smith — ch: Tracy, Trina.

On April 8, 1976 Hazel married Louis Alm at Bittern Lake, Alta. They live on his farm near there.

Floyd — m. Melba Steele of Ruddell on October 18, 1947 at Melita, Man. They worked on his father's farm for a short time before moving to Rainy River, Ont. ch: Laurence Wayne, Kenneth Marshall, Evelyn Gwen. Laurence m. Linda Scott, of Rainy R., June 15, 1974 at Rainy. The couple live in Winnipeg. Ch: — Shannon Lee born May 12, 1979.

Lorene — m. Leslie Woodland of Melita, Man. — ch: — Kenneth Alvin, William Albert, John Lorne, Joan Carol.

Kenneth m. Rose Marie Rock — ch. Cheryl Dawn, Jeffrey Scott, Rayline Rose, Wanda Marie.

William m. Janice Ethel Clubb — ch: Marlon Gordon, Tracy Ann, Michael James, Tanis Doreen.

Lorne m. Sigrun Alice Ferguson — ch: James Lorne, Kimberley, Jodi Florence.

Joan m. Donald Edward Duncan — ch: Terry Lee, William Leslie, Tammy Ann.

Howard — m. Anne Zechmeister — ch: Murray Howard, Grace Elizabeth, Melanie Hope, Bradley John.

Murray — m. Doreen.

Orville — m. Dorothy Elizabeth Ramsey — ch: Robert Leonard.

Robert m. Thelma Injold — ch: Justin Leonard, Anthany Paul and Nathan Robert — identical twins, born May 1979.

Reverting back to the second decade of this cen-

tury, when Lawrence Steele came of age he took up a homestead on the south side of the N. Sask. River where Balljennie is now situated. To visit his folks or Violet Thrower ■ rowed over. Violet was living with her step-brother, William Thrower, wife and family, on the farm east of the Steeles. William and Violet's father, also William, was born at Norwich, Norfolk, England. Mother told us the story her father had told her of how, just after he got off the boat, he bought a bag of beautiful red fruit, the likes of which he had never seen. One bite and he threw ripe tomatoes ■ the gutter!

Following the death of his wife, Will Sr. married Robena Coward. Violet was born August 23, 1885 at Sandusky, Michigan. Before her marriage to Lawrence Steele, Violet returned to Detroit, Mich. where she had worked in a private home, also where she gathered up her personal belongings. The couple were married February 27, 1917 by Joseph A. Vance, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan.

Arriving by train at Denholm to escape their friends, Lawrence hired a horse and cutter for the trip to their new home. Lawrence had previously sold his homestead to Jim Megaffin and had bought W½, 15,-42,14,W3 from Berne Robinson. It was here their children were born and raised.

Vernon Lloyd was born May 26, 1919. Viola Muriel — born September 30, 1921. Marion Elsie — Feb. 9, 1923; Melba Yvonne — Feb. 18, 1926.

As the family grew Dad was forced to add a granary from Grandpa Steele's. One morning I stood up ■ my crib to look out upon the trees and the robins which hunted for their meals so close to my window. The room was dark and the view was gone! I HATED that annex! Watching the saw cutting through the east wall to make a window was fascinating until, with horror, I watched the saw start slicing through the bedroom chair! ■ ■ still in among the highlights of our early years was Christmas with Grandpa and Grandma Steele at Grandview Farm. Excitment ran high as the sound of bells announced the arrival of other relatives . . . the parlor doors closed to the children . . . hearts beating fast as Aunt Elsie slowly opened the sliding doors from the parlor side, the glittering tree ornaments, mysterious packages, a wind-up train and a doll carriage under the tree. Santa arrival from the corridor. Adults visiting together, children following the leader through the swinging door from the kitchen into the dining room, from there through a door into the pantry, out of the other pantry door into the kitchen, around again and again . . . being banished to the corridor leading to the upper stairway . . . tip-toeing up to the first landing, then ■ the second. One step more up toward the third landing would bring a parent on the scene with a command to come down and stay down . . . the smell of roasting turkey browning and at last — the call to supper! Over the laden table the beautiful chandelier shed sparkling lights to enhance the occasion. While the women cleared away and washed up, Uncle Lorne lay on the couch in the sewing room and sang over and over the song about a blue-tailed fly. Time to go home, footwarmers with charcoal bricks glowing were placed in the bottom of the sleigh, horse blankets, horse robes and blankets over, under and around for warmth. Too sleepy for talking, watch the moon playing hide and seek with clouds, the sound of runners on packed snow, bells jingling. "Wake up children, we're home!"

Some where in the 20's Dad made his own radio. ■ had a gleaming ebony front panel with ■ total of seven dials and a plug in for two ear phones. The loudspeaker was horn shaped and the aerial wire was attached to two 30 foot poles. Dad had spent a good many hours winding and rewinding the thin copper wires in the making of a coil. Run by a car battery, 2 B batteries and one C. In winter we enjoyed the programs on KSL Salt Lake City and KOA Denver also the Mexican music from further south. One bad thing about radios then were sqeals when the neighbors tuned in for their programs and when the soprano ladies reached the higher notes, cutting out the voice. Later dad built a wind electric to recharge the car battery and also for electric lights.

As the children of Albert and Minnie Steele were sent to Harringay School first, then to Ruddell to finish their education, just so did the children of Lawrence and Violet Steele. A Miss Brooks and Mr. Chapman were the last two teachers before Vernon started school with Mr. Scott. The names of the next five may not be ■ correct order: Miss Mary Huston, Mrs. Bertha Hudson, Miss Annie Martinson, Miss Greenhaugh, and Miss Pierce. The following ■ proper order: Miss Margaret Bolan retired from teaching the spring of 1936 to get married. 1936-37 Miss Madeline Martel; 1937-39 Miss Muriel Brehon; 1939-40 Josephine Shields; 1940-41 Miss Edna McTavish; 1941-43 Winnifred Moore; 1943-46 Miss Nellie Harrower; 1946-47 Mr. Ivy de Margerie; 1947-49 Vilma Peters; 1949-51 Mr. Earle Dixon Mills; 1951-1952 Miss Norma Jean Bell; 1952-55 Mr. E. J. Olauson; 1955-56 school closed; 1956-58 Mrs. J. Gladys Gaudette; 1958-59 Mrs. Ruby Houston. Harringay School's highest record of pupils was 35 when Margaret Bolan was teaching. The school was closed for the second time and for the last time the end of June 1959, Mrs. Houston the last teacher. It was also the end of picnics and games, Prisoner's Base as soon as possible in the spring, Hop Scotch, Anti-I-Over, Duck on the Rock, Hardball which gave away ■ time to Softball. In 1959 Mr. ■. Krilow purchased the building. He used the lumber to build summer cottages at one of the northern lakes. A few maples mark the south boundary of the two-acre grounds.

At the end of high school Vernon helped with farm work and when the call came for recruits volunteered in the Reserve army. He served two terms at Dundurn

Army Camp, returned home to farm work and helping Dad build a new house there.

On November 18, 1941 friends and relatives gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Albert E. Steele to celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary. On June 11, 1944 Grandpa died shortly after entering hospital.

Many changes occurred through the years. Grandview home was closed, the family lived above the hardware store which Albert sold to Mr. Bragg of Baljennie. Then for a short time the Steeles lived over the Imperial Bank before settling permanently on their property just outside the village limits. Albert erected a shop for his John Deere Agency. Minnie soon learned the names of the various parts when her husband was busy on the land. Eva took over the housework and in spare time kept busy making quilts and doing embroidery work that brought many prizes at the fairs in North Battleford.

Elsie and Florence had gone back East. Elsie got her certificate for Home Nursing which she did until she married Erle Bond whom she had known from childhood. After Uncle Erle retired they moved to Whitby, Ont. They adopted little Rose Marie. Rose Marie married Grant Armstrong. They have three children.

Florence's work was caring for the elderly in their homes. Her work brought her back eventually to Ruddell to assist at home.

Lawrence took over the John Deere Agency following the death of his father. He moved the business to Ruddell across the street from the hotel. When the Company sent notices that they were withdrawing their agencies from the small towns Dad decided it was time to build a new house on the farm. He had drawn blueprints to build back in 1929 but the Crash came first.

During World War II the call came for teachers. Viola and Marion took the short course in the summer at Normal School in Saskatchewan. At the end of it Marion was given Elliston School where she taught for two years, then one year at Badger Bluff School. I taught two years at Blenheim School near Denholm.

On July 24, 1945 Viola Steele married Joseph Beland, son of Mr. and Mrs. Treffle Beland of Denholm, at St. Catherines R.C. Church in Denholm.

On July 11, 1946 Marion Steele married Clifford Underwood at Ruddell United Church.

On October 18, 1947 Melba married her cousin Floyd Slack at Melita, Manitoba. Their children are listed in the Slack history.

Viola and Joseph Beland children: Eva Muriel, Jean Marie, Pearl Rose, Orval Eugene, Gerard Hubert, Cora Anne, Edwin Earl, Stacy Carl.

Muriel married Mario Flor August 31, 1968. Children: Rose, Irene, Vernon, Brenda and Michael.

Jean married Gordon McNeil May 20, 1972.

Orval m. Beverly Roske April 21, 1979.

Gerard married Linda Oberowsky July 27, 1974. Ch: Karla Leah, Trevor Gerrard, Joey Troy.

Marion and Cliff children: Janice Lynn, born March 28, 1955; Susan May b. Aug. 23, 1959. Lynn married Donald Gregg Stillwell July 1, 1972. Ch: Brent Clifford, Stacy Phillip, Robin Charles.

Mother (Violet Steele) died April 18, 1965. A lover of the outdoors, Mother enjoyed milking cows, raising chickens and gardening. During the dry years we helped her haul water from the dam for the vegetables and flowers. In those years Jasper Highway no. 5 went straight west of Ruddell, passed our house then turned north along the west side of our property. Many strangers would stop to look and some dropped in to express their delight to see such beauty in a dried-out land. They were the people from southern Saskatchewan heading north to Meadow Lake. Mother enjoyed those brief visits.

Dad (Lawrence Steele) died April 8, 1970. He too enjoyed gardening; I remember how he used to follow behind Mother while she pushed the cultivator he talked and ate carrots. Dad was very good with flowers. When the Ruddell Band dissolved, he stored the instruments in the new granary he had just built. Vernon was the only one with enough wind to get a bit of sound out of them. Grandma cut up Dad's uniform to make a coat for Marion. I think she used Grandpa's uniform to make a coat for one of the Slack cousins. I shall never forget the day Dad sat grinning on Tony, our Shetland pony. A split second later landed on a peaked stone. He never tried it again; neither did I!

Grandma (Minnie Steele) died April 18, 1970 at the age of [redacted]. She fulfilled a wish from many years, dancing the jig on her ninetieth birthday! In the hard times, though many men stopped for food and drink she never turned anyone away. As she often said, "Some day we may have to walk the roads too." Grandma and Aunt Flossie both told me the following story which took place some time after her marriage. She was driving to town to do her shopping when a young gentleman driving a horse and buggy caught up to her in her buggy. The young man invited her to race to see who would win. Grandma couldn't say no to that. She leaned forward and spoke to her horse. Right there the race was on. What the gentleman did not know was that hers was a retired race horse, that it was a cross between a Welsh and Standard Bred horse. He was quite put out about it. Grandma sailed down the hill and had to pull back on the reins as she was entering Paris and could be caught for speeding.

J. S. Steele Family

James Stewart Steele was born February 6, 1884 at Dundee, Scotland. He left school at an early age and worked as a farm laborer. He imigrated to Canada in 1905 with his parents, two brothers and one sister. They settled in the Battleford area where a sister of her husband had arrived with the Barr Colonists in

Mary, Jean, Jimmy, Mr. Steele. Taken at the John Rolfe farm, 1937.

1903. One of his first jobs was working on the building of the Battle River Bridge. His parents took up a homestead on part of the land where the Saskatchewan Hospital now stands.

He took a trip back to Scotland but decided Canada was [illegible] his home so returned and took up a homestead not far from his parents along the Sask. River.

On Sept. 27, 1912 he married Thirza Mary Swaley who was born Feb. 7, 1885 at Norwich, England. They started life together in a one-roomed shack. A few years later they started another farmstead on the opposite corner of the quarter section.

Dad was a great lover of horses and raised Pure Bred Percherons — winning several ribbons and medals at the North Battleford Exhibitions. Mother had a Shetland pony and buggy which she drove to North Battleford to sell eggs and butter with which to buy the groceries. During World War I it was difficult to get hired help so Mother worked along with Dad, doing most of the stooking.

They had a family of three Mary, Jim and Jean.

In March of 1929 the family moved to Maymont and rented the John Davis farm. During their years in the Maymont district they lived on several rented farms — the Scott — Dudley, John Rolfe, Gifford and Norman Andrew. It was not easy during the Dirty Thirties — a lot of hard work and heart aches. Water for both humans and livestock was a great problem — there were the years when the "Relief Cars" arrived from Eastern Canada with fruit, vegetables and fish.

Money was scarce but we had good times to remember — card parties and dances at the school house and the neighbors in the winter and picnics at the River and along the creek at the Mike Byrnes farm in the summer.

Dad was a member of the Sask. Wheat Pool and served as a committee member for many years. Mother was a member of the United Church Ladies Aid and the Homemakers Club. She did a lot of knitting for the Red Cross during World War II. Dad played the accordion for many social gatherings.

Mary married Edwin Peden in November, 1940 and lived on the John Davis farm where our family lived when we moved to Maymont.

Jim married Ethel Barret in November, 1945. They have one daughter Lucille, now living in Edmonton.

Jean married Alder Greenslade in August, 1948. They lived in Edmonton for a few years before moving to Wetaskiwin. They have three children. Diane married Brian Mullen, they have two children and live in Fort Saskatchewan. Alan is in Edmonton working for Alberta Government Telephones. Darlene is at home and attends school in Millet.

Dad and Mother moved to Wetaskiwin, Alta. in 1952. They grew a large garden, specializing in gladiolus and strawberries. They were able to live in their own home until 1973 when they came to live with us. Dad was in and out of hospital and passed away in October, 1974. Mother is in a Nursing Home close to us and celebrated her 94th birthday February 7, 1979.

Ethel (Barrett) Steele

I attended school at Keystone School. In the early years I got a ride with neighbors and later walked in the summer time as the horses were being used in the fields. In winter I walked a quarter mile to my brother-in-law's place, there got a horse and toboggan or team and cutter and took their oldest daughter on to school.

In 1945 I married James Steele, Jr. We lived first on the Gifford farm north of Maymont, now owned by

Jim, Ethel and Lucille — Nov., 1970.

Walter Sadowsky. Then we farmed the Alfred Andrew farm and in 1960 moved to the Chamber homestead which we had purchased from Ted Sloan.

One daughter, Lucille Ann, was born in 1950.

Jim farmed and raised a herd of purebred Red Poll cattle until his sudden death in January 1976.

At the present time I am in North Battleford.

Lucille Steele

Maymont was the scene of my entire 'growing-up' years and where I received all of my formal schooling. In 1968 I graduated from high school and left home to attend the Olds College for a year of fashion merchandising classes. Following, began my 'working-days' at Red Deer, Saskatoon and now for the past seven years at Edmonton. I am presently employed by Wardair Canada.

September 1 of this year (1979) I will be married to John Riddell, a former Hamilton, Ontario resident. We will be making our home in St. Albert just northwest of Edmonton.

Lawrence William Stott Family

by Betty (Stott) Fair

Lawrence William Stott, known to many as L.W., was born in Peterborough, England, February 10, 1886. He passed away December 29, 1952. His wife, Florence Annie, was born in London, England, April 28, 1885. She passed away November 14, 1939.

They came to Hamilton, Ontario with two of Lawrence's sisters and a brother and their families. It was their wish to live near each other. Dad's first job was in a horse-buggy factory and he found the climate in summer too hot and humid. They couldn't sleep at night so [illegible] came West to Fielding in 1910 after answering an ad for a harness maker and shoe repairer his trade. In the early spring of 1911, he moved his family, wife and two daughters, Betty born in London, England and Molly in Hamilton, to Fielding. Our first home was the upstairs of the C.N.R. Station.

Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Stott taken on the Fielding ferry in 1927.

Donald Stott and Jack Allen.

After a few years of making sets of harness by hand, he found [illegible] could not keep up with the demand, so purchased a large harness machine, also a smaller machine for repairing shoes. I, being the eldest, sewed many traces, martingales, etc., on the machine for him to assemble. With farm machinery gradually taking over, the harness business slackened so he put in hardware.

After the big fire which took nearly half of our town, he enlarged the store about 1925 and added groceries and dry goods. The store was known as the United Store.

He was always interested in new inventions and was the first at Fielding around 1918-19, to own a radio, an "Atwater Kent", (two dials with earphones.) Saturday nights many hockey fans would gather at the store to take turns at listening to a game. Later he got the

In the early 20's family picnics were arranged. It was a long ride by team and wagon to the picnic grounds at the river, but always had a good time and looked forward to a treat of homemade ice cream made by Dick Williams. The freezer was always carefully packed in ice. The group consists of the Williams, Clorenshaw, and Stott families, also Mr. Millman Sr.

Archie Evans, back row with boy scouts. L. W. Stott — front row with the cubs. At Meeting Lake camping in the late 1920's.

three-dial with a horn. I was always sorry he didn't live to see the T.V. As well as sports his interests were also community affairs and his church — the Anglican Church. For many years he served as warden. In the early days he belonged to the Fielding football team. They travelled to various towns for a game by horse and buggy.

Mother and Dad always kept the English tradition — a cup of tea at 3 P.M. It was said by the neighbors, especially Mrs. George Downie, you could set your clock by L.W. going for tea.

Mother, though she was busy bringing up a family, played the church organ for many years and was a member of the Church Guild (now A.C.W.) She was a great lover of plants. Her windows always displayed many blooms.

In the earlier days she taught piano to the three eldest McClintick children. She also played the piano for an orchestra which consisted of Dick Williams and Tom Olorenshaw, on their violins, for local dances.

Every Sunday evening after dishes were done we children with Mother at the piano and Dad with his picolo or flute gathered round the piano to sing our favorite hymns.

Mother and Dad made one trip back to England the same way they came to Canada — by boat.

They with some of we children witnessed the three bad fires in our town. The first was on Main Street across the street from Dad's business and our home. It took the bank and its living quarters at the back as well as a double store with groceries and hardware and the drugstore. Mr. Richardson had the groceries; McKay (I believe) hardware; Mr. Wright the drugstore. Both these buildings had living quarters upstairs. Doctor Muller had an office at the back of the drugstore. The only building replaced was the Imperial Bank with living quarters upstairs.

The next fire was around 1921 and took most business places. It started in a small building behind Shank's Garage. The garage went, the post office, livery barn, large ice shed, the hotel, a three-storey building, telephone office and butcher shop; and across the road, Gunn's and Dickinson's Stores. The latter four had spacious living quarters.

Dad played a big part in saving the town hall and probably the balance of the town east and south, as a strong west wind was behind the fire. He opened his store to the many who were helping to control the fire to let them get anything that would carry water. He first took a large pile of horse blankets and mattress sacks which were placed on the north side of the hall roof. A water brigade was then formed, carrying water from the two large cisterns in the bank basement and from the town well. The blankets were kept soaked with water. He suffered a tremendous loss, as so much was lifted besides water carrying utensils, such as pails, copper and galvanized boilers and tubs. They were never returned. A few days later kegs of nails, not opened, were found in a bush south of town. But he was thankful his store was still standing.

Later, the then Brickwell Garage and living quarters burned. This building was of special significance to us, as it had also been our home. The garage portion was first a Massey Harris machine shop, operated by a Mr. Wilson. On the east side was our living quarters. The west side was Dad's first harness shop.

After a short time upstairs above the C.N.R. station, we moved to a home, where the Pool house now stands. It was bought by Mr. Keefer and moved to his farm. This farm was later owned by Chas. Kieper. Later it was sold to Leo Gelinas and was moved to his farm. It was the house that burned. From this home we moved to the above.

Our last home, a large two-storey house built in 1918, still stands on the corner across from the town well.

Dad's last place of business, after being vacated by son, Don, was sold to Charlie Neumeyer and later to H. C. Baker, who moved it to his farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Stott brought up a family of nine children.

Betty was born in London, England in 1906.

Mary Annie (Molly) was born in Hamilton, Ontario. In June, 1930 she was married to Archie Evans of Fielding, who was employed at the North Battleford Post Office. He later passed away with pneumonia. They had one daughter, Alice, who married Allen McGregor of North Battleford, now of Nanaimo, B.C. They had a son, Robin, and a chosen daughter, Leslie.

In 1939, Molly married John Hagerman of North Battleford who was manager of the Metropolitan Store for twenty-three years. He was transferred to the store in Kelowna, B.C. where they are now enjoying retirement. They had a son, Jack, who is employed in Kelowna and a daughter, Heather. She took up dentistry, teaches the subject in the College of Dentistry in West Virginia, U.S.A. and is married to the Dean of the College.

Charlie was born in 1911 at Fielding.

Kathleen was born at Fielding. She was most interested in music. Both she and her sister, Molly, took most of their lessons from Jim Evans and his mother, who came to Fielding from North Battleford. They both received their A.T.C.M. Later Kathleen trained as a Registered Nurse at City Hospital, Saskatoon. In 1952 she married Robert Hart, Port Alberni, B.C. He passed away in 1968. They had one daughter, Karen, who also is an R.N. She married Larry McKinnon, of Victoria, B.C. Kathleen had three children by a previous marriage, Charlie and Terry, and Joyce who is married to Walter Bauer. They have three children. Kathleen passed away in 1972.

Merle — born at Fielding, married Don Flynn of Vancouver, B.C. in 1940. His dad had been a station agent at Fielding. They had three children. Sharon — of Charlotte in North Carolina, U.S.A. She has two daughters. Her husband passed away a few years ago.

Michael who is married and lives in Port Coquitlam, B.C. Pat who is still a bachelor is employed at Fort John, B.C., with a Ham operating business.

Merle after her divorce is now Mrs. P. Grama of Delta, B.C.

Steve — born at Fielding, assisted his Dad in the store until joining the Canadian Army. After serving time overseas returned home and in July, 1946, married Mabel Rivett of Radisson. They took over a general store at Sonningdale, Saskatchewan. Mabel being an R.N. was called on often for advice and assistance. Later they moved to Vancouver, B.C. where they took over a dry goods store. Steve passed away in 1970. Their daughter, Shirley, born at Sonningdale, now lives at Kamloops, B.C. They have two children, Stevie and Barbie.

Mabel, 1976, married Lloyd Norris and now lives at Langley, B.C.

Gertie — the youngest daughter, assisted at home also took secretarial training at the North Battleford Collegiate. In 1939 she was married to Jack Glenn of Radisson. They have three children, daughters Barbara and Jacki and a chosen son Randy. All lived at Radisson. In 1952, due to ill health Jack was advised by his doctor to move to a milder climate. They took over a business in Rutland, B.C. Later they moved to Salmon Arm, where they purchased a variety store. Gertie and Jack are now enjoying their sports, curling, golfing and old time dancing in their retirement. Gertie wins many prizes and trophies at their fair and at Armstrong's for her hobbies — sewing and knitting.

Barbara trained as a registered nurse in Vancouver, B.C., was married, now divorced. At present is R.N. in the operating room at the hospital in Dawson Creek, B.C. Jacki, has two years University in Vancouver with a secretarial training. She worked in Vancouver until her marriage to Paul Easy, a school teacher. While in White Horse, Yukon they adopted two little Indian babies, Juan and Ruben. They are now at Cremona, Alberta, where they had two children, Andrea and Andrew.

Randy is a sign painter, had his own business, gave it up to be a salesman for the signs, which he creates. They have a family of three, Jonathon, Jeremy and Miliffa. After his marriage he lived in Kamloops but is now at Vernon, B.C.

William — Bill joined the airforce and was sent to Fort William, Ontario, for special training. While there he found he was color blind. The only way he could serve was with the Airforce Band, so was stationed at Edmonton, Alberta. While there he married Kathleen Street of Olds, Alberta in 1944. After he served overseas, they settled in Olds, where he had a jewelry store and watch repair.

They had three children, Trudy Lee, Trevor and Kathy. Bill passed away suddenly in 1969 at their twenty-fifth anniversary celebration.

Kay has since married Dr. Jenkins and resides in Calgary, Alberta.

Trudy Lee, married a school teacher in 1967, Brian Walker. They have two children, Christy Lee and Kevin, and reside in Lethbridge, Alberta.

Trevor, a chartered accountant, was married in 1972. They reside in Calgary.

Kathy, was married in 1976 to Abe Reimer. They have a little daughter, Stefanie, and reside in Calgary.

Bill was known for his love of music and played several instruments — guitar, violin and saxophone. George Downie, the town blacksmith and Scottish, remarked, "If I could get bagpipes I'm sure he could play them." While stationed in Edmonton we listened to him by radio play flute and piccolo solos in the Air Force Band. In Olds he played saxophone in an Orchestra.

Ella — Our little sister was born in a nursing home in Radisson. She was stillborn.

All nine Stott children attended the Fielding School. My first teacher was Mr. Edwards in a large one-room school.

Donald — the youngest was born in Saskatoon in 1928, spent most of his life in Fielding, and in later years assisted his Dad in the store. In October, 1950 he married Joyce Kimpton of Saskatoon.

Their four children, Gerald, Kenneth, Sheila and Raymond were born while their parents resided in Fielding.

After the passing of his Dad in 1952, Don took over the store until 1958. Then they moved to Radisson where he operated his own Red and White and sports store there, until his sudden passing in 1976. Joyce is carrying on the business.

Don was an avid sportsman and hunter and was best known for his love of Conservation of Wildlife. He always took an active part in the Fielding Branch of Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation. He was member of the Radisson B.P.O. Elks Lodge No. 568. Joyce is a member of the O.O.R.P. No. 347 Lodge.

Their four children live at Radisson. Gerry, purchased the Milo Brookman acreage. He has a business "Radisson Sand and Gravel."

Ken is employed with Frooms Sales and Service as mechanic. He is apprenticing for his journeyman's papers.

Sheila was employed as secretary with Smiths Rolles Service in Saskatoon. On November 8, 1975 she married Wayne Boklaschuk of Hafford. They now live in Radisson. Their daughter, Shannon, is seven months. Wayne is a trucker.

Raymond is employed with the Saskatoon Government Transportation Company in Saskatoon. He commutes.

The boys love sports, especially hockey and softball, and have taken part since young. They also curl. Ken has taken up golf.

Sheila and her mother enjoy curling and are avid sports fans and seldom miss a hockey or ball game.

Charles Harold Stott

Submitted by Dianne (Stott) Rawlyk

Charles Harold Stott was born in Fielding on December 18, 1912. As a young man he enjoyed hunting and trapping, and also worked around the district on farms.

He married Mabel Jeanette Wragg on October 25, 1939. They farmed north of Fielding until 1940 when he joined the air force. He worked as a mechanic in the air force in St. Thomas, Ontario and was later stationed in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

In the spring of 1945 he bought land six miles south of Fielding from Joe Hardy and lived there until 1952. Due to Beckwith School closing in 1952 he wanted to get his children nearer to Fielding School. There were no school buses then so he bought more land from Ken Laycock a mile east of Fielding. He moved his house and barn onto this new land and planted trees to make a new yard. Due to heart trouble the doctor advised him to stop farming so in October 1959 he sold his farm. He moved his family to Sicamous, B.C. where he had purchased a motel and service station which he operated until 1965. He had suffered a heart attack in 1964 and was advised to retire so bought a home in Salmon Arm, B.C. where they lived until 1968. He then bought five acres of property in Canoe, B.C. which consisted of cherry and apple trees. He enjoyed living there until his health became poor in the fall of 1971. It was discovered that he had cancer and he passed away in Kamloops Inland Hospital on January 14, 1972. His wife, Mabel, still resides in Canoe, B.C.

The couple had three children. Dianne Jeannette was born on December 22, 1940. She graduated from Fielding High School in June 1959, and from Canadian Vocational Training School as a Certified Nursing Assistant in 1960. She married Edward James Rawlyk on February 16, 1963 and lives at Borden, Saskatchewan. They have two children, Douglas born December 12, 1963 and Michelle born June 7, 1966.

Lawrence Walter (Larry) was born August 19, 1943. He attended Fielding School until Grade Ten and graduated in Sicamous, B.C. He apprenticed as an electrician and holds his A electrician's papers. He is employed by B.C. Hydro. He married Cheryl Moore in September, 1965. They have three children: Angela, 1966; Rodney, 1968; and Trena, 1972.

Judith Marilyn was born January 2, 1950 and attended school in Fielding until Grade Two, then attended school in Sicamous, then Salmon Arm. She later worked at Skagland Hot Springs, B.C. until she married Ivan Bourelle on January 13, 1968. They live at Enderby, B.C. and have two children Jade, born in 1969 and Carla born in 1970.

History of the Garry Swain Family

Garry Edward Swain, son of Mrs. Irene Swain and the late John Swain of Radisson, Saskatchewan was born September 11, 1947 at Turtleford, Saskatchewan. His first five years were lived at Livelong, Saskatchewan before moving to Radisson where for eighteen years his parents owned and operated what is now the "Truck Stop Restaurant" on Highway No. 16.

Patricia Marlene Swain, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Chester Miller of Maymont was born November 9, 1949 at Saskatoon. She lived in Maymont until graduating from Grade Twelve in 1967.

Garry and Marlene were married on August 23, 1969 at Sharon United Church in Maymont. Following this they lived in Saskatoon for five years where Garry worked as a plumber and pipe-fitter and Marlene as an elementary school teacher. In May of 1974, they returned to Maymont to live on the Chester Miller farm where they now reside as full-time farmers.

Garry and Marlene have three children. Craig John

Marlene and Gary, Kelli, Craig, Michelle.

Swain who was born April 10, 1973 has just completed kindergarten. Kelli Shirlene Swain was born March 8, 1977 and Michelle Patricia Swain was born June 23, 1978.

Mr. John (1859-1940) and Mrs. Ella (Shouldice) Swan (1874-1940)

by Muriel (Swan) Johnsson

John Swan was born on a farm on the outskirts of Ottawa, Ontario. His parents had come from Ireland to Philadelphia in 1855, a voyage which took six weeks on a sailing vessel. His oldest sister was born in the U.S.A. but the family came to Canada in 1856.

As a young man he worked in the forests of Northern Ontario, did some prospecting and worked on the farm.

In 1903 he came west to British Columbia arriving back in Saskatchewan just as the surveyors were leaving the area. He took a homestead the SW quarter of Section 10, Tp. 43, Rge. 13, W3rd, two and one-half miles northeast of Lilac; then he returned to Ottawa for the winter.

The following year, 1904 he, along with my mother's two brothers, Harry and Walter Shouldice, returned to the homestead location and proceeded to cut logs in the Whitewood Lake Area to build a house. My two uncles also took homesteads. Walter Shouldice later sold to S. A. Johnston and it is now farmed by his son, Ray Johnston. Harry Shouldice's homestead was located due north across the road from Wavie Bank School. He taught school in the Maymont Area.

Mr. and Mrs. John Swan and Muriel — 1936.

My father was one of the few homesteaders who had horses, having bought four horses at Maple Creek. Consequently he freighted supplies for Mr. Fred McCorkle's Store from Saskatoon. This store was located about four miles north of Maymont on the east side of the road. Mr. McCorkle was the father of Mrs. Alex (Helen) Spence of Fielding.

In the spring of 1906 he returned to Ottawa and on March 14, 1906 he and my mother were married in the parlor of "Fairview", my mother's home on Carling Avenue on the western outskirts of Ottawa. They came west to the homestead at the end of March. Although my mother had come from a large brick house to a one-room log shack she said she was never lonely. The second day she was here they drove to Fielding in the wagon to buy furniture, some of which is still in use today. To get some water to wash her hair she walked to a slough south of the buildings and in order to dip her pail she stepped out on three buffalo skulls.

Church services were held in various homes until St. Mary's Anglican Church was built in 1908. This church is now at the Western Development Museum in North Battleford.

From the team of horses on the wagon they graduated to a fast-driving horse on a buggy. They used to drive to North Battleford and cross the river on the steam ferry to do their shopping in the Old Town.

Some time later they bought the SE quarter of Section Ten from Mr. Bob Johnston, a brother of Mrs. Albert Foulston.

By 1914 they had saved enough money to build the house and barn and furnish the house with new furniture. The next year they dug the well, 203 feet deep. This well created quite a bit of excitement in the area as just as the drill apparently hit an underground river and the water rose, so did natural gas. It could be heard hissing and if a match were lit at the top of the well the air would burn a blue flame. The following morning the hissing had stopped and after pumping all night the level of the water stayed constant at fifty feet from the top. This well continued to supply all our needs as well as some of the neighbors and steam-threshing outfits in the fall until February of 1972 when the casing probably collapsed and closed off the supply of water from below.

I was born in 1915 and I remained the only child my parents had. I was never lonely and I still enjoy my privacy.

The northwest quarter of Section Ten had been homesteaded by an Englishman named George Sykes. He walked to Prince Albert and bought a wheelbarrow and a one-hundred pound sack of flour. He proceeded

to push the wheelbarrow home with the sack of flour in it. At night he unloaded the flour and slept with his head under the wheelbarrow. My mother used to bake bread for him and he rode a big ox named "John" which he rode over to get his bread carrying it home in a flour sack.

My father bought George Sykes' quarter of land about 1920. He bought it with the standing crop on it and that crop paid for the quarter of land.

My father bought a car, his first, in 1918 — a McLaughlin-Buick touring car. It cost $1000.00 cash. Our first radio was bought in 1935.

About 1925 my father travelled throughout the area selling shares at ten dollars each to build another elevator at Lilac. It was felt that competition was definitely needed for the elevator company which already had an elevator in Lilac, so it was decided to build an elevator under the name of the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company. This company sold out to the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool. The Lilac elevator closed in 1976.

My mother died on April 12, 1940. She died in her sleep and my father died on November 23, 1940, of Arterior Sclerosis, hardening of the arteries of the brain.

My father's farming career has to be a very rare success story. He had arthritis so badly that I don't remember him ever being able to do any work. He employed one man for twelve months of the year and two men for six months during the summer. We came through the thirties intact. He refused to take relief and would not apply for the old age pension. As I look back on the thirties they weren't so bad. Gasoline was three gallons for a dollar and we bought three gallons a week. The early thirties were good crops but very low prices. Some wheat sold for seventeen cents a bushel. The poorest crops were in 1936, '37 and '38, no rain and grasshoppers ate what did grow. The rains came again in 1939.

My father and mother are buried in Maymont Cemetery. My mother always liked Maymont and its people.

Mrs. Betty (McKerchar) Thompson

I first came to the Maymont district on May 14, 1943, as a teacher for Grey School. I came straight from Normal School to finish the school year, as the former teacher, Anne Funk, had been called to the Armed Services. I finished that year and completed the next (1943-44) school year.

I was the youngest child and only daughter of John and Marion McKerchar of Waseca, Sask. I was christened Marion Elizabeth but had been called Betty all my life.

I boarded at Ernie Ramsay's. She was the former Mary Green, a secretary in London, England, before she came to Canada to marry Ernie. He was the son of an Anglican minister and a veteran of World War I, where he was wounded (stomach or abdomen). He was also very fond of cattle and raised purebred Herefords.

In 1948, I married Lawrence, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Thompson of Denholm. We had two children, a girl, Lois, and a boy Douglas.

After a few years I resumed my teaching career and in 1969 came to teach Ruddell School No. 1588. When it closed in 1971 the children were bussed to Maymont School. I was moved right along with them.

I taught the grade two and three room in Maymont School for two years until June, 1973. Then I came to Prince Albert to join my husband and son, who had a paint store in the then, new mall.

In 1975, I went back to teaching, this time, teaching kindergarten every other day and I am still busy at it.

Larry and Doug now have a trucking company that Doug manages. Larry does the books and sells real estate for United Agencies.

Mr. and Mrs. (Scotch) Bill Thomson

sent in by Rev. Leonard Schnell

Bill and Freda Thomson farmed three miles south of Fielding. Freda was my first cousin. She was a daughter of my mother's brother. Freda came to Saskatchewan in the fall of 1912. She spent some time with her sister, Laura (Mrs. Louis Durand — the Durands lived south of Fielding on the road to Radisson). While at the Durands Freda met Bachelor Bill Thomson. They were married and had two children, Robert and Iris. The children went to Fielding School. Later Robert joined the Canadian Air Force in World War II.

Bill and Freda Thomson.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Thomas

by Neilane (Jensen) Thomas

Bob Thomas began teaching in the old Maymont School with Grades 7, 8 and 9 in 1958. When the new school opened he continued in the high school until 1963. He boarded with Mrs. Nellie Curry for the school term of 1958-59 but moved to the teacherage in 1959 after marrying Neilane Jensen who had taught in Ruddell the previous year.

Neilane taught Grades 3 and 4 until 1961 in the old Neepawa School which had been pulled into the school yard as an extra classroom.

Heather was born and lived in Maymont in 1961 and the family moved to Vernon, B.C. in 1963, Bonnie was born in 1964 at Vernon where they still live in 1979.

One interesting item which occurred in these years was the organization of a square dance club called by Al Osborne and continued by Bob and Neilane the next year.

Mr. and Mrs. Ira Thompson

Ira Thompson, was the youngest member born to Walter and Ida Thompson. He was born in Stormount, Ontario, on February 1, 1913. He had three brothers and two sisters. When he was two years old he came west by way of horse and buggy with his family, where they settled and farmed north of Fielding. He received his schooling at Neepawa School. He worked on a threshing crew from the age of 13 on and helped on the home farm.

In 1937 he married the former Katherine Kuziw. He met her at the Taylor farm north of Maymont where they were both employed, Katherine having come from Glaslyn where she was born on May 1, 1915.

They set up farming seven miles north of Maymont. Until 1951 they farmed using fifteen horses as their means of power. They had a small mixed farm. Horses were also their main mode of transportation for a good number of years.

They raised three children, the eldest a daughter, Winnie who was born at Maymont received her education at Grey School. She is married to Allan Monk and resides in Rosetown. She has a married son, Ian, of Saskatoon and daughter, Kelly, of Rosetown.

A son, Ken, who was also born in Maymont and received his education at Grey School. He is married to the former Peggy Thomas from Speers. They reside at Holbein where they farm and Ken is a crane operator at the Pulp Mill. They have two daughters, Patty and Kathy, and two sons, Kenny and Wesley, all at home.

The youngest daughter Lillian, who was born at North Battleford; she received her education at Grey and Maymont schools. She married Archie Robinson from Ruddell. They resided in Ruddell for five years where they farmed. Presently they reside at North Battleford where they are both employed. They have a daughter, Debbie, and a son, Shawn, at home.

After having raised their family they left the district and moved to Saskatoon to find employment.

They currently reside at Prince Albert where they are both employed.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Thompson

On April 7th, 1973 Raymond Joseph Thompson, son of Reginald and Margaret Thompson from Richard, married Margaret June Rogers, daughter of Dean and June Rogers of Maymont at Maymont.

The first three years of their married life was spent in Lloydminster, Sask. where Raymond was employed with Meridian Trenching. Margaret worked as a store clerk for awhile and then went to Reeves Business College there where she obtained her secretarial course and then was employed by the Dr. Cooke Nursing Home. In the meantime, Raymond had gone to work for the Lloydminster Gas Co.

Raymond had often talked of having his own trenching business and in the spring of 1975 we moved back to Maymont where Raymond started his business. Things have all worked out for the best and business has been reasonably successful in the last four years.

On June 22, 1976, a daughter, Raeanne Margaret was born to Raymond and Margaret. On February 1, 1978, a second daughter, Cheri Lynn was born.

At present, Raymond, Margaret and family are residing in Maymont where they take an active part in the community. Raymond has been one of the caretakers of the Maymont Sports Centre for the last two years and plays with the Old Timers Hockey Club. He is also a volunteer fireman. Margaret takes part in various community activities and has been a C.G.I.T. leader for two years.

The History of the Tommy Thompson Family of Fielding

by Olive Miller

Thomas Thompson (Tommy as he was better known), Emil Danielson (a half brother) and Morris Tokle came to Canada from North Dakota, U.S.A. in 1903. Tommy took up a homestead north east of Fielding, which is now the Clayton Clark farm. He returned to North Dakota in 1903 and married Gertrude Sandbek at Edmore, North Dakota.

Their first home was made of logs and clay. At the time there were no stores in Fielding so they had to go with horses and wagon to Saskatoon or Prince Albert for supplies. Sometimes they would walk carrying a pack sack, a trek which took several days.

In 1914 they moved into the town of Fielding to be nearer the school. Their home was what later became known as the McNaughton House. They then bought a

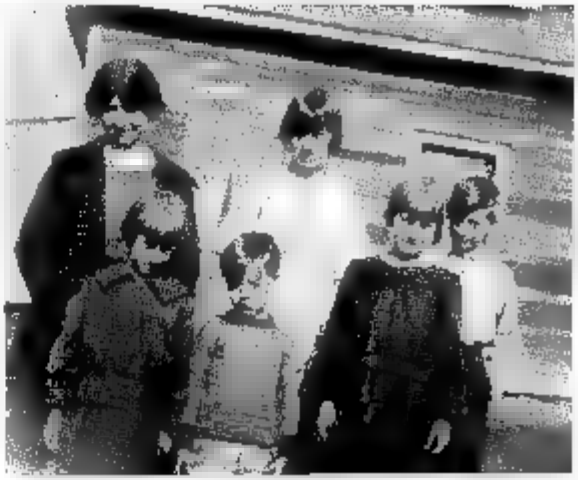
Tommy Thompson Wedding Picture, November, 1903.

farm from Alex Garnett one and one-half miles south of Fielding and farmed there until 1929.

Tommy and Gertrude had a family of five girls and two boys. Gladys born in 1905, Irene in 1908, Olive in 1913, Luella in 1916, Elvina in 1916 (she died at two weeks of age), Alfred in 1910 and Otto in 1918. In the family there are now 25 grandchildren, 50 great-grandchildren and 5 great-great-grandchildren.

Tommy was one of the first in the district to have a threshing machine and did custom work for the neighbors. In the winter he would saw wood and he lost two fingers doing so. Tommy passed away in 1929 at the age of 53 as a result of injuries suffered while operating a municipal grader. Gertrude stayed on the farm until 1936 when she sold the farm to Willis Scott. She then moved north of Fielding to keep house for Tommy's half brother Emil Danielson with her two young sons Alfred and Otto. Later she moved to Saskatoon where she lived until her passing in 1972 at the age of 88.

On November the 24th, 1926, Gladys married Martin L. McGrath of Speers. Their farm was located Southeast of Speers and about ten miles north of Fielding where they attended church. They had good and bad years on the farm, some dried out, some



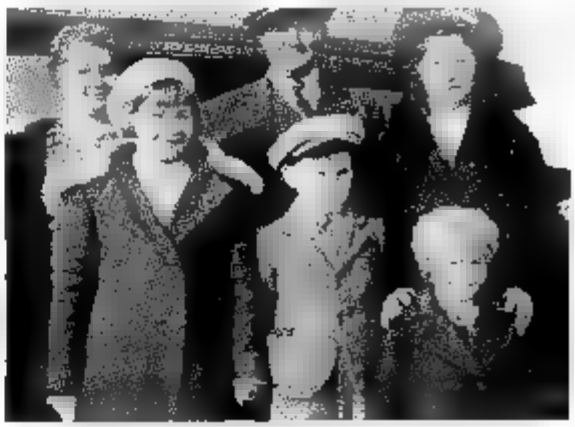
Tommy Thompson family about 1924. Front row (L. to R.) — Luella, Otto, Olive. Back row, L. to R. — Gladys, Irene, Alfred.

hailed out, some terrible winters and the depression years of 1936 and 1937. Having survived them all, they were happier and wiser with the experience it gave them.

They had four children, three girls and a boy. Agnes was born October 31, 1927, Noreen December 7th, 1929, Thomas June 20th, 1932 and Patricia March 17th, 1937. All of the children went to public school at Hillsborough School. After finishing public school all of the girls entered the Convent in North Battleford. Tom had no desire to go on with his schooling.

Agnes entered the religious life and is a Sister of the CHILD JESUS and is a teacher. She has taught in Vancouver, Williams Lake, Leduc, Saskatoon and is now in Prince Albert.

Noreen, after graduating, went to work in the bank in Richard, Sask. She then had several transfers with the bank to Blaine Lake, Treherne, Man. and then to Saskatoon. On August 2nd, 1958 she married a young man from St. Walburg, Sask., a carpenter and cabinet



Martin L. McGrath Family, 1941.

maker by trade. They have four children, two girls and two boys and live in Lloydminster, Sask.

Patricia after graduating from highschool entered the religious life, but it seemed to much for her so after a year at home she thought she would try Nursing. Working at it to hard caused her to have a nervous breakdown. It seemed everything she tried to do was against her. After her recovery she worked for a Doctor in Cutknife for awhile. She then moved to Saskatoon where she now resides and has been employed by a jeweller for the past twelve years.

Thomas had no desire to [redacted] to school so he worked out. He worked with Larry's Electric, North Battleford on road construction, he worked in an elevator [redacted] Biggar and was then placed in charge of the elevator at Lilac, Sask. On June 4th, 1960 he married Angeline Dryhorub of Richard, Sask. They had three children, one boy and two girls. When Tom's Dad had to quit farming due to ill health, Tom decided he would like to take over the farm. Unfortunately Tom's farming career was brief and ended in a tragedy. Tom was killed in a tractor accident on June 5th, 1965.

Gladys and Martin moved to Fielding when Tom took over the farm. After Tom's accident they sold their farm and the machinery and moved into North Battleford [redacted] Sept. of 1966.

While they were on the farm, Martin served as a trustee of the Hillsborough School District for many years. He also served as both a Councillor and a Reeve for the Municipality of Mayfield No. 406. After retiring, Gladys and Martin enjoyed their home in North Battleford where Martin spent his spare time carving things out of wood. One special one, of which he made a good many, was [redacted] team of horses pulling a sleigh.

Martin passed away on Feb. 25th, 1975. In 1976, Gladys sold the house and [redacted] now living in an apartment. She keeps very busy and is active in many senior citizens activities such as The Golden Years Club, carpet bowling, lawn bowling, Old Timers Card parties, the Catholic Womens League and the I.O.D.E. She says she hopes she will keep going for [redacted] few more years yet.

Irene married Fred Hodge in 1926 and for six months they worked for George Almas on his farm a few miles east of Saskatoon. They then bought a half section of land seven miles north of Fielding and began on their own. It was tough going at times, but with their own meat, milk and eggs they were able to manage. Because of the drought during the dirty thirties, almost everyone was on relief. Their family of four children at that time each received nine dollars a month (later twelve dollars). They farmed there until 1940 when they moved to the Emil Danielson farm which was about three miles farther east. In 1945 they sold their C.P.R. land to the McIvor family. Fred joined the Credit Union and was a Director for 17 years. He was also 5 years on the telephone board, 4 or

Fred Hodge.

5 years on the Wheat Pool and 5 years as a Director on the CO-OP.

In 1965 they sold their farm to the government for a community pasture and bought a home in Saskatoon. Fred worked as a janitor at the C.N.R. yards until 1970 when they sold their house and moved to Kamloops, B.C. They stayed there for 5 months, came back [redacted] Saskatoon and bought another home in 1971. He then found work as a janitor with the Post Office.

Fred and Irene had a family of seven, six girls and one boy. Florence, the oldest received her schooling at Keystone and Hillsborough, finishing at Fielding. In 1946 she went to Mission City, B.C. and worked for [redacted] year with a dry cleaning firm. She married Howard Beharrell in 1947 and farmed on Howard's Dad's farm for [redacted] couple of years. They then bought a farm in the Darfield District of B.C. about fifty miles north of Kamloops, where they still farm. They have a family of four, two boys and two girls all living [redacted] and around the Kamloops district.

Lorne also received his schooling at Keystone and Hillsborough. He quit school after grade eight and worked on the farm. He married a neighbor's daughter, Olga Lesko. They lived on their own farm until Lornes' eyesight began to fall him as a result of the diabetes which had stricken him at the age of fourteen. Lorne and his wife moved to Saskatoon [redacted] 1969, where [redacted] worked for the C.N.I.B., basket weaving and working in the Canteen at Saskatoon City Hospital taking the magazine, cigarette and sweets cart around to the patients. To help out, his wife Olga worked at the Travelodge Motel for seven years. She was a great help to Lorne until his passing in 1985. They had one daughter Brenda who [redacted] married and working with a Telecommunications firm in Saskatoon. Olga sold the farm in 1985. She remarried and

she and her husband Ron Buhler live in Saskatoon where he is a piano tuner. Olga has been working at Simpson Sears for the past eleven years.

Bernice also started school at Keystone, then went to Hillsborough when the family moved to that district. She finished her highschool in Speers. While she was there she picked up a virus which left her handicapped. She took a course at Robertsons Secretarial School in Saskatoon but was unable to get up her proper typing speed due to her handicap. She went to the Handicap meetings where she met Alex Holowenko. Alex was also slightly handicapped as a result of osteomyelitis. They were married in 1956. Alex was in partnership at Western Business Machine for [illegible] years which [illegible] sold in 1975. He is now employed at the Army and Navy Department Store as a security guard with Belfour Services. They adopted three children, two girls and a boy. The oldest girl passed away at the tender age of seven as a result of an allergic condition. They are still living in Saskatoon.

Lucille went to public school at Hillsborough and highschool in Speers. She enrolled in Teacher's College in Saskatoon and following graduation taught at Grey school near Maymont in 1955 and then at Acton School near Whitkow in 1956 and 1957. Lucille was married to Louis Shatra in 1958 and lived on his Dad's farm 25 miles northeast of North Battleford until 1974 when they moved into their new home a mile west of the homestead where they are still farming. Louis also drives a school bus into North Battleford. They have three children, two boys and a girl who still reside at home. The son helps his father with the farming and both daughters at the North Battleford Union Hospital.

Leona went to public school at Hillsborough, then worked as a waitress for two years in Saskatoon. She married Peter Kobzey, a barber by trade and lived at Colonsay for awhile. They then moved to a farm at Wakaw for a couple [illegible] years after which they moved back into Colonsay where Peter established his own barber shop in their home while working in the Potash mines at Colonsay and Allan. He also worked in the mines at Stewart, B.C. for a time. They have a family of six children, three girls and three boys. Leona and her family moved to Saskatoon in 1972 where they still reside.

Carol took her schooling at Hillsborough and her last three years of highschool at Hafford where she graduated in 1964. After graduating from highschool she took a position with Canada Permanent Trust in Saskatoon as a posting machine operator. She married David Johnston of Radisson in 1965. They lived in Saskatoon where David went to plumbing school and worked as an apprentice with Acme Plumbing and Heating for six weeks each year for four years. In 1970 they moved to Kamloops where David worked as a plumber for a construction firm. In 1971 they came back to Saskatoon where he worked for Quaker Oats for one year. David had to give up this job as a result of an allergy to the dust. He then undertook a trucking job for MacCosham Van Lines until 1975 when he returned to a plumbing job with Action Plumbing and Heating in Saskatoon. Carol worked at the Permanent for three years. They have three children, two girls and a boy.

Joyce received her schooling at Hillsborough until grade eight when the school was closed. She took grade eight and three years of highschool at Hafford and finishing her grade twelve in Saskatoon in 1965. She worked for two years with the Associated Radiologists in the Canada Building in Saskatoon. In 1968 she moved to Kamloops and took a position as a bookkeeper with McCall's Garage which she kept until her marriage in 1970 to Jim Milikin of Kamloops and formerly of Big River, Sask. He worked at the Kal Tire Co. and was promoted to manager 3 years ago. Joyce also held a position as a supplies bookkeeper at a Motel in Kamloops. They have two lovable little girls who are three and four.

ALFRED stayed on the farm until he enlisted in the army (World War II). He went overseas and after the war returned with a war bride. He lived in North Battleford for a while and then moved to Edmonton where he was employed by the V.L.A. until his retirement. They had one son, Terry who now resides in Edmonton.

Alf was remarried in 1973 following a divorce from his first wife Betty. Alf and Ruby (nee Prouty and also formerly from Edmonton) are enjoying their retirement in Cloverdale, B.C.

OLIVE was born at Fielding and took both her public and highschool there. In 1938 she married Walter James Miller and lived on a farm one mile north of the Sam Miller farm which was known as the Anderson farm. They had one son Robert born in 1941. In 1950 they bought the Jack Thompson farm one mile west of Fielding. Robert took both his public and highschool at Fielding graduating in 1959. In the fall of 1959 he entered the College of Pharmacy graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy in 1963. He worked as an apprentice for Finders Drug Stores in Saskatoon for one year receiving his licence to practice PHARMACY in May [illegible] 1964. He then joined the staff of the Pharmacy Department of Saskatoon City Hospital and worked as a staff Pharmacist until Sept. 1974 when he was appointed Assistant Director of Pharmacy. In Jan. of 1974 he was appointed Director of Pharmacy a position he held until Oct. of 1978. In 1976 [illegible] enrolled in the Canadian Hospital Association Health Care Organization and Management Program from which [illegible] received a Diploma in May of 1978. On Oct. 1st, 1978 he was appointed Medical Support Services Administrator at Saskatoon City Hospital. In 1965 he married Victoria Gabrysh and they have two children. A girl, Carrie born in 1967 and a boy Trevor, born in 1969. They live in the River Heights District of Saskatoon where the children attend school.

Walter passed away suddenly at the age of [illegible] in 1962 at which time Olive moved to Saskatoon where she still resides.

LUELLA was born in Fielding in 1916 and took her schooling there. She married Bill Roberts who was born in 1913 in Scotland and came to Canada at the age of nine years. They were married by Reverend Hamilton at Fielding where they were both raised on a farm. They have a family of six. Two daughters, Marlene and Sylvia and a son Leonard were born in Fielding. Bill joined the army in 1940 and retired from the army [illegible] 1963. They then moved to Saskatoon where they had two more daughters and a son, Sheila, Audrey and Donald. Bill retired from the army [illegible] 1963 and they lived in Saskatoon until 1969 when they moved to Calgary. They remained in Calgary until 1978 when they moved to Cloverdale, B.C. Four of the family are married and they have nine grandchildren, including Audrey's twin boys. Leonard and family live in Saskatoon, Marlene and Sylvia and their families live [illegible] Calgary, Sheila lives in Vancouver, Don lives in Calgary and Audrey lives in Surrey, B.C.

Otto —

Otto was born in the year 1918: went to school in Fielding and at that time the teacher was Miss Annie Blakely who later became Mrs. Charley Roberts, and in the primary grades, one, two and three, they had the old-fashioned school desks where two children sat together, and at that time most of the children walked to school. Otto would be quite excited when his uncle Emil Danielson would come to pick him up at school in his Model T Truck. On many occasions Otto and Luella would walk home with three other neighbor children, namely, Scott, Addley, and another Thompson family.

The years passed and they all grew up. Then Otto went to live with his uncle near Speers where he lived until his marriage in December, 1939 to Evelyn Scott who was also born in 1918 and went to Fielding school. At this time Otto had seasonal work until his enlistment [illegible] the armed services, the 16/22 Saskatchewan Horse in September of 1940, where he started his training at Camp Dundurn, from there to Weyburn where they were housed in the Exhibition Buildings for the winter. Then, in the spring of 1941, were transferred to Vancouver, B.C. where they were stationed at the Vancouver Hotel. Also spent some time at Camp Nanaimo on Vancouver Island; and after some months they were all shipped to Eastern Canada and, of course, many of the young wives went along too. At this time, they had their first baby girl. Then from the camps in Ontario, to Quebec and the Maritimes and, after close to three years of service, Otto received his discharge from Active Service. After having seen a great deal of this country, he and his wife decided to go to B.C. to live where two sons, Tom and Dale were born and a daughter, Judy Ann. Along came another son, Robert, while they were living [illegible] Mission City. The years spent there were spent at his being a salesman, then, later, [illegible] went into partnership with Ivan Hamilton from Radisson. The store was meat and grocery which was doing real well. Then Otto took a trip to Northern B.C. through Williams Lake, Quesnel and Prince George and that did it. The Cariboo, as it is called, is very much like good old Saskatchewan, so they made the move in January of 1952 and, what a change — no highway — it was the old trail when the early settlers used to drive their 8 and [illegible] horse teams and even mule teams hauling freight.

Like all things, time changes many things. At this time, they were finishing off the railway to Prince George. Otto had much to do as he was then working on the P.G.E. Railway and, when Princess Margaret's Royal Train came through from Prince George on its way to North Vancouver, he was the patrolman for his stretch of track, something like 20 miles. Shortly after all this excitement he became a section foreman. Also at this time a daughter, Nancy Jean, was born and, as always the children grew up. At this time, Beverley as a telephone operator and is long married with 2 children. Tom had graduated from High School, now married with [illegible] lovely girls. Dale [illegible] at Revelstoke and has his own Hardware business. Judy Ann, who worked many years for the B.C. Forest Service planting trees, is married and has 1 little girl. Robert is married and has one little girl and [illegible] working for the Dept. of Highways. Last but not least is Nancy who is doing very well working in the Plywood Plant at Quesnel.

They experienced a sad event [illegible] July of 1962 when Otto came [illegible] an untimely death while directing traffic [illegible] a car accident. Evelyn now resides [illegible] Radisson.

Mr. and Mrs. John Walter Thompson

told by Lila (Thompson) McDonald

Mr. and Mrs. Thompson moved west from Ontario in 1919, buying from Jim Robertson the farm that [illegible] now owned by Bill and Pattie Brown, their granddaughter and her husband. They brought their four boys, Trueman, Dawson, Herbert and Roderick with them and their daughter Lila was born at Fielding.

Hard times and the depression were common [illegible] everyone but the community spirit never died. Social events in the town and visiting neighbors was their form of entertainment. People shared, borrowed, and repaid. Work was exchanged rather than hired, produce traded for other produce. There was no refrigeration so meat was always traded as people would kill a pig or beef at different times so when your turn came you always owed some of the neighbors some of the fresh meat. Winters were very hard and a couple of winters Dawson and Herbert went to Ontario to work in logging camps. Trueman left in about 1931 to work in a bank in various places in Saskatchewan.

The other boys stayed on the farm and when war broke out the three older boys all enlisted and were sent overseas with one of the first contingents. Rod

enlisted in the Air Force a couple of years later and he was the only one of the four that did not return.

Mr. and Mrs. Thompson stayed on the farm until ill health caused Mr. Thompson to sell. They moved into the town of Fielding and Mr. Thompson died ■ 1956. Mrs. Thompson stayed in Fielding ■ number of years and then moved to Saskatoon where she passed away ■ 1974.

Trueman and Dawson and their families were in Regina, both with Prairie Gas Co. Trueman died in 1977, his wife and family still in Regina, as are Dawson and Pat. Herbert and his family are ■ Pleasanton, California where he is a machinist and has his own business. Lila and her husband live ■ Swift Current where her husband, Keith McDonald ■ parts manager at a local garage.

To date the Thompsons have 13 grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren.

W. J. Thrower

written by W. J. Thrower

Dad and Mother were born ■ Ontario, Dad at Goderich and Mother at Listowell. Dad worked on the Railroad going into Calgary in 1883 before the Riel Rebellion, when Calgary was ■ tents. Dad had a Barber Shop ■ Hamilton, North Dakota, where I was born on February 4th, 1896.

Dad came west in 1904 and my father filed on a homestead 4½ miles southwest of Ruddell. He built a sod shack and barn, then went back to Hamilton in 1905. He brought back a car load which consisted of four horses, one Jersey cow, chickens and machinery.

Jack Thrower Ruddell and Maymont's Gladiola King.

Mother, Louise, Fred, Delbert and I came one year later.

We lived in the sod shack for two years. Then decided to build a new home. In 1908, Louise and I started to school (walked) 4½ miles, Mrs. McKellar being our first teacher. I can remember running along the buffalo trails which all led to the river. We didn't go to school ■ the winter as the snow was too deep and temperatures often went down to —60 degrees below F.

I can remember in the spring of 1907 we nearly lost our sod shack and barn by ■ prairie fire, which started south of Denholm and went right to the river.

The early years were the best years. Every neighbour helped one another. ■ one was late putting in the crop and your neighbour was finished, he would come over and help you finish. Every spring they had "bees" (which they called it) to help cut up wood for the summer.

The first year Dad had a crop Mr. Megaffin had a portable steam engine and separator who threshed our grain. It was brought from Baljennie by ferry with horses.

Duncan McKellar had the first automobile, chain driven most of the time. Dad had the first Barber Shop in Ruddell.

In the first years there were thousands of ducks and prairie chickens, bush partridges and deer.

In the early years the neighbours put on dances at their homes and would dance till the early morning. Music was supplied by whoever could play a violin.

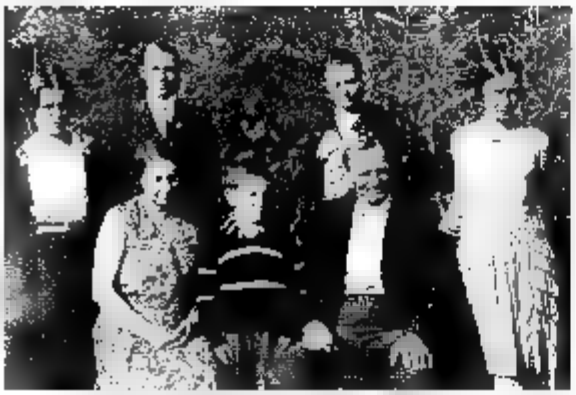
I can remember one Hallowe'en, the older boys took a buggy apart and put it on top of the livery barn. That was in 1911.

Turner History

THOMAS EDWARD TURNER left his native England at the age ■ twenty-one and travelled to Canada with the Barr colonists, arriving in Saskatoon in April of 1903. The group carried on to Lloydminster but TOM TURNER left the group ■ Saskatoon and proceeded to Prince Albert where he worked as a lumberjack until 1905 when he filed on a homestead south and west of the present Village of Maymont. He walked from Prince Albert to that location ■ the spring of 1905. By the time he arrived at the farmstead of George Heller, northeast of Maymont, his eyes were badly swollen and ■ was practically snow-blind. In the following years Tom was joined on the land location by his brother, Bert, and sister, Molly.

BERT, with his wife, NELLIE, farmed in the district until when they moved to British Columbia and operated a market garden near Vancouver.

MOLLY married MICHAEL BYRNES and they operated a farm which is the present location of Glenburn Park. They had no children but were commonly known throughout the Maymont and Spinney Hill districts as "Uncle Mike" and "Aunt Molly" and their



The original Turner family. Back row, l. to r. — Joyce, Tom, Win and Ev. Front row, l. to r. — Jessie, Ted and Tom Sr.

farm was a favorite stopping place for travellers going ■, and coming from Maymont via the South Maymont Ferry which was only a half-mile distance from their farmstead. In 1939 they moved to the Village of Maymont where they resided and ran a boarding house until failing health forced them to move ■ North Battleford where they passed away in 1951 and 1953.

TOM TURNER married JESSIE MUIRHEAD QUAILE OSLER of the Spinney Hill District. Jessie had come to that area with her parents, two brothers: Robert and Alex, and one sister, Cecelia. Jessie's father sought a drier climate than Edinburgh, Scotland for health reasons. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alex Osler, farmed in the Spinney Hill District for a great number of years before coming to live in the Village of Maymont where they passed away in 1941 and 1946. TOM AND JESSIE were married in 1911 and established residence where the present "TURNER" land is located — SE¼ 17-41-12 W3rd. The farm continues under "TURNER" ownership and is the home of Don and Laura Spence at this time.

Tom and Jessie were always active in the community. Tom was reeve of the municipality for many years, always a sport enthusiast, he enjoyed hunting and fishing and was an ardent promoter of all agricultural activities having been instrumental in organizing the first Wheat Pool committee. Jessie knew everybody and was dearly loved by all. She was a life member of the Homemakers, for many years she was a member of the W.A. of the United Church, a tireless worker at the public health clinics and her friendly hospitality was well known throughout the area. Tom and Jessie raised five children all of whom received their primary and high school education in Maymont.

THOMAS ALEXANDER worked with his father on the farm until 1941 when he enlisted in the Canadian Armed Forces and was discharged some four years later, ■ 1945, having served in England, North Africa, Italy and the Benelux countries. Tom returned to Maymont following the Second World War and operated the farm with his brother, Ted, until 1949 when he left to work with his sister and brother-in-law on a ranch near Lloydminster. He remains ■ that district today.

WINNIFRED ELLEN completed her high school ■ Maymont. She then took ■ hairdressing course ■ Saskatoon following which she worked in Saskatoon for a few years before marrying WILLIAM WILSON ■ March, 1939 and moving to Rosetown. She opened ■ beauty salon — "WYN'S BEAUTY PARLOR", which she operated for a number of years before joining her husband ■ "WILSON AGENCIES", an accounting, in-

This J. I. Case threshing outfit was purchased by the Turner Brothers and used extensively throughout their community. In later years, about 1924-25, it was operated by the "Big 4", Andrew Melrose, Billy Melrose, Andrew Reid and Tom Turner. During most of these years the steam boiler Case was operated by Ed Buhr, until combining made threshing obsolete in the area.

surance and real estate business in Rosetown. The Wilsons have two children: DAWN ELAINE DELAINEY, who completed her B.S.N. at the University of Saskatchewan and is living in Saskatoon; and THOMAS WILLIAM who is a partner in the business at Rosetown and also operates a recording studio.

EVELYN MARY completed her high school in Maymont and a few years later graduated as a registered nurse from the City Hospital in Saskatoon. She worked for a short time at City Hospital before going to nurse at the hospital in Lloydminster. In Lloydminster she met and married WILLIAM MITCHELL in April, 1948. They lived on a ranch in the Unwin District, south of Lloydminster. The "MITCHELLS" have three boys: ALEXANDER ARMSTRONG (ALISTAIR) who ranches with his parents; JAMES ROBERT who owns and operates a truck at Swan Hills, Alberta; and THOMAS IAN who is also ranching with his parents and brother, Alistair.

JOYCE CECELIA also completed her high school at Maymont following which she took a hairdressing course in Saskatoon and then joined her sister Win, in the beauty parlor operations in Rosetown. It was in Rosetown that she met and married WILLIAM EVANS in October, 1945. They operate a farm in the Rosetown District. The "EVANS" have two children: VICKY MERLE, a registered nurse, who is married to DAVE KONDRA and lives in Toronto; and TIMOTHY WILLIAM who lives in Moose Jaw.

EDWARD KERR (TED) completed his high school in Maymont and graduated from the School of Agriculture in Saskatoon in 1948. At that time he was farming with his brother, Tom, and took over the farm operations by way of a rental agreement with his father in 1950. Ted married MELVILLE BRIGHT of Maymont in July, 1950 and operated the Turner farm from then until 1966 at which time the family moved to Regina as Ted assumed responsibilities as First Vice-President of Saskatchewan Wheat Pool. In July, 1969 Ted was elected President of Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, the position he still holds. The "TURNERS" have three daughters: JANICE has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Social Studies and lives in Regina; JOY has a Bachelor of Arts Degree with a major in French; JILL has completed three years of studies towards her Degree in Agriculture at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon and plans to marry MURRAY WALKER, a classmate and farmer in the Langham District. Mel and Ted assumed roles of responsibility in the Maymont community where they were active in social, church and sports activities. They have been most fortunate to have had the opportunity to travel to many countries of the world as a part of Ted's job. While in Maymont, Mel played an active role in the Young Women's Service Club, as a C.G.I.T. leader, Sunday School teacher, and as a Homecraft leader. Mel played softball and was an active curler. Ted played hockey, a great deal of baseball, was an ardent curler and participated in clubs as an officer of the Young Farmers' Club, Secretary of the Board of Trade, President of the Curling Club, served on the Board of Stewards of the United Church, was active on the Wheat Pool Committee and as a delegate. He was also Secretary of the Dr. Scratch "Appreciation Day" in 1957 and Secretary of the Dr. Scratch Scholarship Fund as well as an original member of the Home and School Association.

Graham Turnbull Story

told by Bess McNeil

The Turnbull family emigrated from Scotland and settled in Brantford, Ontario. After the death of his wife in 1903 my father Graham Turnbull came west. In 1905 he and his brother George filed on homesteads — north quarters of Section 4-42-13 W3rd Meridian and purchased section 5 directly west where the original family home still stands.

In April, 1906 his mother, his sister Bess and his children (my brother Bill and I) came to join them. The Turnbull Brothers were well known for their registered Clyde horses and Shorthorn cattle — winning major awards at Regina, Saskatoon and Battleford fairs. They also donated a corner of their land for the Ruddell cemetery where Graham, George and Bess are buried.

I married Russ McNeil and live in Calgary.

During the summer of 1906 the Presbyterian Church service was held in our house — Mr. Madill of Maymont being the first minister. People came in many conveyances — some with oxen pulling the stone boat accompanied by the family dog who helped liven things up with the occasional dog fight in our front yard.

Graham and William Turnbull History

by Dorothy Cook

Michael Graham Turnbull born in Brantford, Ontario (known as Mike in the east but only as Graham when he moved west).

Graham came west alone in the summer of 1905 after the death of his wife who had passed away in the spring of 1903.

In 1905 Graham shipped his possessions and enough lumber and material for a small house. This probably took two railroad cars). He also brought a wagon, plough and horses and a cow.

Since Borden Bridge was not completed, that is as far as his effects could go by rail. They were unloaded, taken by ferry across the Saskatchewan River, and then by wagon to Ruddell, some forty miles further west.

Graham set up a homestead in Ruddell in the summer of 1905 and built a small two-storey house on the south west edge of the townsite.

This same summer, land agents were coming out

Turnbull house, Ruddell, formerly known as Geddies.

by team and democrat selling a section of land for ten dollars.

Spring 1906

Graham moved his family from the east along with the remainder of his belongings. His family came west on one of the first passenger trains from Brantford to Winnipeg and then to North Battleford. This was a steam engine train with about a half dozen passenger cars. The cars had slats for seats, a cook stove at the end of the car for the passengers use — and were known as Colonists cars.

One one of these first passenger trains (which took four days and four nights from Winnipeg to North Battleford) Graham's mother, sister, son and daughter came to the Ruddell District.

William Stephenson (son of Graham) — age 7½ years

The rest of this information is recollection of William Turnbull.

He arrived with his sister, Bessie, his Aunt Bess, and his Grandma Turnbull.

They arrived (1906) in Ruddell around 1500 hours on a beautiful spring day in April. There was no snow. Everywhere crocuses bloomed and the gophers were running around by the hundreds.

When the family arrived, thirty or forty acres had been ploughed, oats planted for the stock, and a small garden was put in. The small house was built, also a shed for the stock.

William remembers vividly walking over to this little house. His father had just baked bread.

In the summer of 1906 there was a building boom in Ruddell. Other stores came into existence. The hotel was under construction as well as the church.

The basement for the house was dug and by September or October the house on the knoll was completed (one-half mile south and one-half mile east of Ruddell on Section 5). So in the fall the family moved from the little house to the home house. It was all finished on the outside. The downstairs, which was all one room, was lathed and plastered. There were no stairs, so William and Bessie used a ladder to go to bed.

William remembers how his Grandma got up several times in the night putting wood in the cook stove and heater to keep the house warm. It was a terribly cold winter and recalls how nails were sticking through from the shingles and they were covered with frost. And when it was really cold they would 'zing' or make eerie sounds.

Turnbull Bros. Farm about 1911. Photographed by P. G. Barrett, Maymont.

Going back to the summer, church was held on the lawn outside the little house. Reverend J. C. Madill was the minister and served Maymont and Fielding as well.

There was no school, as the few children around did not attend school until the following year, making it one long holiday. William recalls how ■ and his sister snared gophers. The bounty was one cent a tail.

In October, 1906 the church was opened. Grandma Turnbull donated the pews.

1907

The hotel was open, complete with bar. There was also a livery barn, hardware store and several more stores.

School was started in the fall of 1907. Mrs. McKellar being the first teacher. William and Bessie walked to school when the weather was fine but used a horse and cutter in the winter.

By the end of 1907 and the spring of 1908 there were a lot more people. Charlie Robinson had opened a furniture store and Mr. McCann had come from the States and was the harness maker.

1911

On the same land a big house was built expressly for Grandma Turnbull.

George Turnbull and Bess Turnbull

1912 — Graham re-married, Eliza Vansickle from Brantford.

1917 — The big house on the edge of town was bought and in 1918, Graham, Eliza, William and Bessie moved from the farm home into this big house.

Graham bought a Clydesdale stallion from Scotland at a cost of two thousand dollars. He then had Clydes, which he showed at fairs, etc. in Battleford. He did this for many years and won prizes every time he showed his horses. The harness was made by a harness maker in Brantford and was beautiful — with brass buckles.

William recalls how it was his job to take a load of feed up to Battleford for the horses. It took him all day, sitting up on a big hayrack.

William remembers how many people stopped at their home for dinner. It was nothing for a N.W.M.P. to stop regularly.

Grandma Turnbull passed away in the spring of 1915.

William bought his first car in 1916 — naturally a Ford — price $550. (after ■ returned from Saskatoon).

William attended business college in Saskatoon 1915-1916 for ten to eleven months. The banker offered him eighty dollars a month and Imperial Oil offered him one hundred dollars a month.

In the spring of 1916 he went back to Ruddell and since farming was booming he decided to go back to the farm. His father suggested he take over a livery barn, and that he should have a car (this was mentioned before). He had a team for livery and he hauled everything from ashes to garbage. He was paid one dollar and fifty cents to plough a garden. William also drove the weigh-scale inspector for one month steady, receiving twenty-five dollars a day plus room and board. The scales weighed eight hundred pounds. He also drove N.W.M.P., loan inspectors and all sorts of travellers.

Local people who needed to go to Battleford, were driven in the Ford at a cost of ten dollars.

This car he drove from 1916-1924. He also drove Dr. Scratch hundreds of miles in the winter, driving a very fast team.

William married Ivey Jane Roche on August 2, 1922. The marriage took place in Saskatoon.

Ivey Jane Roche moved with her father, mother, two brothers and two sisters from Bowesmont, North Dakota in 1916.

Her parents were Michael and Gertrude Roche, sisters Agnes and Mamie, brothers Lee and Pat. After moving to Ruddell they had another son, nick-named Mike. Ivey's father was a section foreman.

William and Ivey were blessed with five children — Marjorie Adelaide, Arlene Wilma, Dorothy Jean, Michael Keith and Betty Jane.

Their first home was the little house that William's father had built when he first came to the West.

William, Ivey and family lived in Ruddell from their marriage until 1942. William joined the R.C.A.F. in May of 1941 and the family moved to Saskatoon in 1942.

As for the years in Ruddell, William had continued with the livery stable, later farming.

William served Canada in the R.C.A.F. from May, 1941 to September, 1945. On discharge, he worked for a Construction Company and later a farm implement company until his retirement. They bought their home in 1948.

Ivey served as a house mother at Saskatoon City Hospital from 1953-1969.

In 1972 William and Ivey celebrated their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary.

Ivey Turnbull passed away May 24, 1976 and their daughter, Betty Jane, passed away on April 16, 1979.

Of the Roche family only Mike is left (living in Vancouver, B.C.).

William now lives alone in Saskatoon. He will be eighty-one years old on September 4, 1979. He has good health, maintains a clean and well-kept home, looks after his lawn, trees, shrubs, plants a garden and drives his own car.

He has thirteen grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

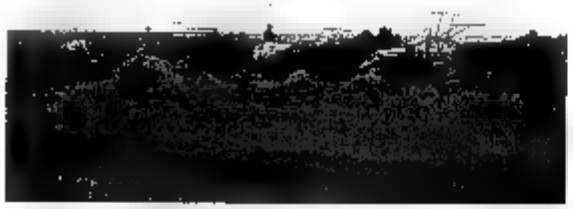
William's sister is living in Calgary and will celebrate with her husband Russ, their Sixtieth Wedding Anniversary in the fall of 1979.

George Turnbull Story 1878-1963

by Jean Kingwell

In 1905 George came west from Brantford, Ontario with his brother, Graham, sister, Bess, and their mother, Mrs. Peter Turnbull. They lived in houses south and east of the townsite of Ruddell.

George never married, his favorite saying was, "I'll just put on my hat and take my family with me." He farmed with his brother and lots of hired men working several sections of land which necessitated forty horses to be fed and harnessed every morning in the busy seasons. Overall there was ninety horses on the farm. Twenty-five or more would be broken in the spring. Each fall for a number of years George would take a car of horses to Ontario for sale.



Turnbulls, 1910.

The livery stable was kept busy in the early years. Land buyers and salesmen were either driven by cutter or buggy or rented a team themselves. Hot stones, footwarmers and blankets were kept ready in the office. Farmers hauling grain in the winter to the elevators would rent a stall, to be sure of getting their team undercover and fed before making the return trip home. With the coming of trucks horses were phased out, so the livery barn was sold and now sits on the Meena farm west of Ruddell.

George was of a quiet nature but had plenty of dry wit and sayings for all occasions. Turnbull Bros. had the first Rumely combine and tractor — a huge thing that required lots of muscle and cussin' to get it started. The company sent a fellow out to get information regarding it. George told him "the inventor should have been hung before he built it."

A wonderful well and good water was in Turnbull's pasture about three quarters of a mile from town. Ruddell had no source of water so George would haul many a tank of water and put it into the town well for the use of the residents.

The trains both night and morning had to be met with the dray and the express taken to the various stores, coal hauled in the winter, cows were milked and milk supplied to the town, cattle and Clyde horses were driven and led to be shown at the North Battleford Fair.

George spent his latter years with his sister, Bess Murison, and is buried beside his brother in the Ruddell Cemetery.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest (Ernie) Traves

Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Traves lived north and east of Lilac. Mrs. Traves was the former Gladys Russell. Ernie and Gladys had a family of five, two girls and three boys — Clara, Homer, Sidney and Edith (twins), and George. The children all went to Lilac School. Both Ernie and George are now deceased. Mrs. Traves lives in Alberta.

Norman C. Tyler

written by Edna (Tyler) Muirhead

Norman C. Tyler was born in Bowanville, Ontario. Like so many young men at that time he looked to the west to fulfill his dreams and hope.

His first stop was Port Arthur, Ontario where he obtained work as a carpenter erecting the grain elevators. While there he heard that the railway was being laid in Sask. so he decided to push west to Winnipeg. When he arrived there his next step was to buy a democrat and a team of horses and then he loaded the buggy with suits, boots and shoes, watches, etc.; anything a railway man would need and proceeded to follow the railway line (G.T.P.) west.

By the time he reached Calgary, he was, as they say, "Well Heeled" and made up his mind to return east to Kelliher, Sask. where he started, "The Pioneer Store". At that time there was no post office and they used to throw the bag of mail in the store and everybody helped themselves.

In Kelliher, Norman Tyler met his wife, Florence, from Brantford, Ontario. They were married in Nokomis, Sask. as Kelliher had no minister and they had the honor of being the first wedding.

Again, fortune followed him and after 8 years he got restless, especially after hearing a fortune could be made in wheat. He sold his business and bought a section of virgin land near Lintlaw, Sask. He also bought half an interest in a saw mill. His wife and daughter spent 2 years in Yorkton, Sask. and then joined him on the farm. After 5 years it was one disaster after another. If it wasn't hail or drought, it was something else and so to make a long story short he realized he had better get out of wheat while he could.

Norman had dear friends in North Battleford, Sask. and they talked him in to buying a business in Ruddell, Sask. This was the year 1928.

Ruddell was a small, sleepy village about 25 miles east of North Battleford. Every year the village declined in population and businesses moved out or just folded. This was about the time of the "Dirty Thirties" when dust storms would come up and it would be so bad at times that visibility would be almost nil. It was nothing to see wagon loads of household effects; cow or whatever tied behind going slowly

through the village coming from the south of Sask. on their way ■ the Peace River District.

Gypsies stopped once in awhile but never stayed long. They didn't spend any money, but just begged.

Norman and Florence Tyler had three children, Edna, Ronald and Gordon. After 10 years in Ruddell they all moved back east and settled in Brantford, Ontario. The parents were buried in Brantford. Edna lives ■ Nanticoke, Ontario and has two children named Dava and Don. Ron lives in Brantford and has two children, Ken and Bruce. Gordon is in Mt. Pleasant and also has two children named Brook and Scott.

"It ■ sad to think of these towns just fading away".

A Biography of my Parents Ernest and Emma Tyhurst

by Marjorie (Tyhurst) Nutbrown

My father Ernest Tyhurst first saw the light of day in Lamberhurst, Kent, England in the British Isles in the year of 1878. He was one of six little sons born to John and Jane Tyhurst. His brothers' names were Harry, John, Frank, Herbert and George. They were all less than eight years old when their mother died at the age of thirty-six.

Not many years went by before their father married again. Two little girls were the result of this marriage, Dorothy and Ciss. However their father (my grandfather) died at the age of forty-two years from sugar diabetes. Little was known of the disease at that time. It has since been under control with diet and insulin giving longer life ■ many since the year 1926.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Tyhurst's second Sod Home. A prairie fire in 1906 left the prairie around bare.

Mr. Ernest Tyhurst's Sod Stable and hen house. Marjorie and Dorothy standing by the oat stack.

After my grandfather's death an elderly maiden aunt took over the care of the six little brothers, there being considerable money ■ the family at that time. The aunt whose name was Emily saw fit to give them all a good education. They were sent to schools in Germany and France following their schooling in England. It must be remembered that at that time little children began their school work at age three to four years. My mother learned her first lessons ■ knitting then and cried many times from her sore little fingers. Knitting needles were made from steel and they were heavy.

When my father, or Dad, as I prefer to call him became eighteen years of age he ran away from his aunt as he wasn't happy in her home. The other brothers eventually did the same. They all came to Canada except George, the youngest brother, and he went ■ war in South Africa where he died at the age of twenty-four.

■ the year 1896 when he left his aunt he decided to come to Canada. Not having very much money, he came over as what he called a "stow away" on the ship, which eventually arrived on the coast of the United States of America. By that time Dad only had the value of fifty cents in his pocket. He went to Detroit where he found work on a tobacco farm. From there he came to Canada and worked on a farm in Ontario. After he left there he came to Regina where he joined the Royal Canadian Mounted Police with two of his brothers. By this time another brother had started life as a farmer ■ the Regina District but he only lived a few years.

The Prairie Provinces were then called the North West Territories. Later they became individual provinces — Saskatchewan ■ 1905 as we now know it to be. In 1903 Dad decided to go further west and came to what is now the City of Saskatoon which at that time was a village of shacks and lots of tents ■ which people lived. It was from there that the young people obtained their food and supplies as it came ■ from Winnipeg as the railroad had been built as far as Saskatoon and was under construction to Lloydminster. So Dad managed to get a job with the construction crew. He was hired as what was called "a bull cook" in other words ■ was there to assist the chief cook.

Dad used to get quite a kick out of telling us about the time ■ was working there and the little jokes played on one another. The cook used to make individual little pies and put them on the window sill to cool. For several days one pie would disappear from the same place, so Dad decided to do something about this. He caught a mouse, cooked it in a pie, put it out to cool. It disappeared as the others had done but the man never came back for another little pie.

As time went on a little village started up sixty or eighty miles north west of Saskatoon. It was then

called Shacktown or Village. Later it became known as Fielding after some prominent person.

While Dad was working on the railroad he had a good view of the lands and decided he wanted to farm for himself. At that time anyone wanting to have 160 acres of land could do so providing they lived on the land for six months and broke up ■ many acres each year. The price to be paid for the 160 acres would be ten dollars but a mighty lot of hard work had to follow. So Dad's choice was 160 acres on the south side of the railroad three miles west of Fielding. This was his Homestead on the northeast section of 14 in Township 41, Range 12, West of the Third Meridian. The year, 1904.

Dad worked with the railroad crew as far as Lloydminster. Then began his farming days on the Homestead as follows. He built himself a small one-room sod shanty first, also a sod stable, after purchasing two horses, a walking plough and a wagon. With this plough he plowed the furrows to obtain the slabs of sod for the walls and roofs of the shanty and the stable. These dwellings were very cool in the summer time and warm in the winter as the walls would be twelve to fourteen inches thick. Poles were put on the top to hold the slabs of earth for a roof. They had to be in a slanting position so the water from rains and snow would run off. Often the roof would leak in a rain storm. The floor in the shanty had to remain as a dirt floor until lumber could be bought to cover it, which came with time.

The shanty was lined inside with heavy building paper. Mice were frequent visitors and kitty cats were in great demand, being good mousers. Trees and brush had to be cleared by man and axe, stumps pulled out with the horses, stones had to be dug and piled. Dad made a stone fence on one side of the pig pen, with page wire on the remaining sides. All that work was very tiring and hard. They had to walk behind their machinery in those days. With time Dad bought another twenty acres. He never bought any more land but did rent a quarter across the way known as Section 13 for as long as he lived and farmed.

In the early days there was an abundance of wild fruit especially large wild strawberries, but in the thirties there came a drought which lasted so long that strawberry picking ended. Many of the trees and bushes died. The country looked very sad and forlorn — a very difficult time for everybody.

Dad planted wheat and oats, grew his own vegetables and always plenty of potatoes. There was always the danger of losing part or all that was grown from early frosts, drought, hail, grasshoppers or army worms and there still is, but some years we were lucky enough to get through without any of these problems. There was always a weed problem in the fields, mostly Tansy Mustard, Blue Burr, Stinkweed, and pigweed, the latter being very good to eat as greens when cooked, the correct name was Lamb's Quarters then, but I believe has been changed since. Weeds were picked by hand, then put in gunny sack and later burnt. As the years went by my sister, Dorothy, and I spent many of our summer school holidays with our dad in the field pulling weeds that were growing among the grain crops. ■ time a man was hired by the municipality to drive around in his buggy which sometimes was pulled with two horses, sometimes just one horse. This man was called the Weed Inspector and it was his duty ■ check the fields to see that the farmer was pulling his weeds and for this duty ■ was paid, of course. For all this many farmers paid little attention which made it extra hard for the man who did, for when the weeds ripened, and the winds blew, which they do on the prairies and very strong, with the result the clean farmer had to have the weed seeds from the farm where the man hadn't bothered. Unclean fields lowered the quality of the grain and a farmer lost a lot in dockage at the elevators.

In the early days of the 1900's Dad's friends and neighbors were the Fasts, the Sloans, Newmyers, Caveth and Stepler, Logies and the Rheinhardts, the Shermans, Prechtl, Millers and Scholmers, Linsdales, Lewises and the Englebees, also the Edge Brothers and the Collins, Ferrises and the Ryans and Wilcoxes. It seemed as if there was some one on most every quarter and the Northcotts and the Buells and Steplers, the Logies left before my time of remembering. There were the Pedens and the Williams and the Andrews and the Beaudoins. Everybody was busy but had time for one another.

By 1906 Dad had everything as comfortable as he could have, so went to Regina to be married. My mother came from Peasmarsh, Sussex, England ■ marry him. Her name was Emma Mary Avery and she was twenty-three years old. She was the eldest of three living sisters and two brothers. Four others had died in infancy. Her parents had a grocery store there and her father was a Baptist layman and Sunday school teacher. They were a very musical family and had a happy family life. Nevertheless my mother was willing to leave it all behind to marry Dad and come to the great unknown. They were married on April 23, 1906. From Fielding they drove in the wagon back to the farm. A year before their marriage a prairie fire swept through taking with it the dead grass, trees and bush. Mother came to a very bleak and bare countryside which was very sad. When I asked her her first impressions she just shook her head and as long as she lived she never spoke of those years. It was from Dad and his stories that I have been privileged to write their biography, and what I remember for myself. And I do remember running along the furrow behind the walking plow and I do remember the burnt bush from the prairie fire that Dad had yet to take out. I also remember living in the sod house which was demolished in 1912.

In October, 1906 after they had been married about six months their little sod shanty burned down. Dad was working three-quarters of a mile away in the field

near the railroad track. A freight train happened along on its way to points west, when the Engineer seeing the fire stopped his engine and went over to ask Dad "if that might be his home burning down", Dad had not seen it until then. He unhitched his horses and hurried to the scene. By this time all was gone except for one trunk which Mother had pulled out as it was near the door. Mother had been washing clothes and was hanging them on the line when the fire started. The day was very windy and a spark from the tin stove pipe had caught in the paper around the chimney and set it alight. That was a very sad and tragic day for both of them.

From then on my mother stayed in the hotel in Fielding while the kindly neighbors came to help Dad put up another sod dwelling. This one was larger and had a bedroom attached. The one that was burned down had an addition of some sort in which we had his oats. It was there to help keep the north winter winds from the shanty had it been given a chance. They lived in the new dwelling until 1912 when the sod bedroom caved in, so Dad bought a one-room frame house that either Mr. Caveth or Mr. Stepler had left behind. This he moved and joined to the livable part of the sod house. That part then became a bedroom. You see my sister, Dorothy, and I were part of the family then. I was five and she was four years.

Finally that part caved in and was hauled away. Dad then built another part on, dividing it in half to make two nice sized bedrooms. The front room was also divided to make an extra bedroom and storeroom. A kitchen was next to be built on. The frame houses were all very cold at that time as the men did not know how to build them for warmth. Insulation then was unheard of, just boards outside covered with tar paper and then shingled, with wallboard inside which could be painted. All the floors were covered with linoleum, a poor quality by today's standards but the best they could afford but better than the board floor in the sod house which was painted red. My mother was a good housekeeper and cook and made everything as comfortable as she could. Curtains for the windows were made out of scrim, a very thin material, but with geraniums on the window sills they were cheerful.

In 1913-14 Dad bought an organ, a nice fumed-oak sideboard with chairs and a table, this being the first time my mother ever had any real furniture. She badly wanted a new cook stove as the one she was using had gone through the fire and was badly cracked. A new one came years later.

In the early thirties Dad had a nice new house built in which they lived until 1944 when the farm was sold for eight thousand dollars to Mr. Miller. Dad was very upset at having to sell the farm as he loved the life and all nature. He was a good manager and took great pride in his farm work, but for him as for all, time takes its course and he felt he could no longer do the field work as he was still farming with the power of horses. On May 3, 1945 Dad passed away following a number of severe strokes. He was only sixty-seven years. Mother passed away twenty-one years later at the age of eighty-one years. She had not been well for many years. They left to mourn their loss three daughters, myself Marjorie, Dorothy and Elsie and one son, Ernest Alan. Two little daughters predeceased them, Kathleen and Marguerite, in 1918 and 1920.

Now we shall go back to 1912 and 1913 when Dad finally finished breaking the prairie sod into farmland. I was not of school age then, in fact the school still had to be built in our district. However, when my sister and I did we went to Neepawa School which was three and a half miles from home, a long walk for beginners, but Dad drove us there in the winter time until we were able to drive ourselves.

Dad eventually bought more horses, starting out with two and finishing up the last twenty-five years with from twelve to fifteen, including one kept for driving purposes when supplies of food were needed or repairs for the machinery. Plow shares had to be taken to the village blacksmith, a Mr. Downey, to be sharpened. Then there were the pleasure drives around the fields to see the growing and ripening crops. Many trips were made to the Fielding Cemetary to see the little graves of their daughters and those of friends and neighbors. Dad and Mother kept the Sabbath Day as religiously as was possible. Even after working in the fields all week with the horses they would drive the three miles to church and back most every Sunday afternoon except in the winter time. Dad was Church Warden for a long time and Mother played the organ. We children went to Sunday School when we could. We walked part way and had a ride with the Sunday School teacher, Mr. Harold Baker, the rest of the way.

After Dad bought more horses he also bought a larger plow. This had an iron seat on it which made it easier for his legs to be able to sit down, as he had very bad varicose veins. He also bought a set of harrows. They had sharp teeth and looked like spikes. These helped to smoothe the ground. He also bought a small seed drill. This was used to plant the seed. A discer was a must then, too, as it really helped to break up the sod. Four horses were used to pull that. It was a machine about seven or eight feet long. Underneath the framework were many large circular discs kept very sharp. A steel seat was built in the middle for the driver. On each end of the machine were two wooden boxes to be filled with stones to weight it down.

A binder was bought for cutting the grain at harvest time. When the crop year was good Dad hired a man to stook the sheaves of grain. One year the harvest was very poor so Dorothy and I were the stookers.

Dad never owned a threshing machine but hired farmers who owned one to come and thresh his sheaves. Threshing was a very exciting time of the year, very interesting, starting very early in the morning and often into the late evening if the weather was

threatening. There would be a crew of fourteen to sixteen men. In those early years many of the farmers used oxen to haul the bundle wagons ■ sheaves, also to pull the machinery in the fields. I remember the days of the oxen.

Dad would hire a thresherman who would have a cook car and a sleeping caboose. Mother, then, only had to cook for the grain haulers, which would mean five or six men. ■ the twenties I hauled grain myself from the threshing machine to the granaries. It was fun then. The hardest part was shovelling it by shovelfuls through an open window into separate bins. Dad was hauling too and often had to help me as I would be in the way. It was a time of all hurry.

Something that always fascinated Dorothy and I at threshing time was the cook car and the sleeping caboose, but those were places we were never allowed to ■ near in case we bothered the cook. As for the caboose it was just childhood curiosity to see what both were like inside. Sometimes there would be a man cook. Other times perhaps a farm wife. The cook car was a long narrow building built of wheels. It contained two long narrow tables along each wall. Benches were used for seats. The cook stove, cupboards, and bake table were all at the front end. I had the pleasure of seeing the inside of one once; it was no longer in use.

Our drinking water came from a square hole which Dad dug with a spade. The hole was ten to twelve feet deep and was cribbed inside and about three ■ four feet above the ground. A pulley was used so we could pull the water up in a pail. The water was very nice for drinking and always cool.

In the winter there would be a large wooden barrel in the kitchen in which snow was carried ■ to melt. This was lovely for washing being very soft. This water was also used to water the cow and chickens. The hens were kept busy laying eggs. There was only one little window in the hen house which frosted over very badly. Needless to say the mice were many in there. A hen would catch one very quickly. The highest price for eggs as I remember then in the winter would be one dollar a dozen so it paid to have the hens laying. In the thirties they were five cents a dozen.

Dad never milked more than two cows and usually only one. She would be a good milk cow which usually gave a large pail of milk twice a day. This would be strained into a large milk can with a ■ on it and from spring until the hard frosts came these cans were hung ■ the well where they stayed for twenty-four hours. By that time the cream had risen to the top and would be nice and thick. It made the nicest butter, whipped cream and table cream.

We also made our own ice cream in the winter time when we could make our own ice. The ingredients — eggs, cream, milk, sugar, a little salt, and vanilla — would be put ■ a five or ten-pound pail surrounded by ice and salt. The pail inside with a handle on it was then turned round and round as fast as could be until the mixture was ice cream. That was real ice cream!

Butter was made by hand. It was churned in a barrel churn or with a dasher, which my mother used before the barrel churn arrived. Neither way were easy ways, compared to today's standards but it was the way it was and they knew no other. They were thankful for small mercies.

Butter and eggs were traded for groceries at the store to Mr. Dickenson or Mr. MacGregor, Mr. Harris or Mr. Gunn. Only the essentials were bought in the grocery line such as tea, salt, cocoa, sugar, flour, baking powder, soda and icing sugar later on. Cornstarch was a must for puddings, there being plenty of milk. What milk was left over was given to the chickens in the winter, to the pigs and baby chicks in the spring. Raisins, prunes, dried beans, rice, macaroni and tapioca all added to the variety. A special treat would be ■ pail of bought jam and marmalade. I forgot to mention rolled oats for porridge.

Coal oil for the lamps would be bought by the gallon. Twilights were enjoyed during the age of the coal oil lamps. People just had to be very saving with everything. Later came the Aladdin lamps and the gas lamps which gave a much brighter and enjoyable light.

There was plenty ■ good fruit that could ■ bought in season, if the money was available which there was in later years. If the year was good without early frosts after the blossoms appeared on the fruit trees the wild fruit would be very good — strawberries, saskatoons, gooseberries, black currants, raspberries, pin cherries and cranberries. These were hand-picked of course and made into lovely jellies, jams and preserved in sealers with a sugar-water syrup.

We always looked forward to a nice Christmas Day. As far back as I can remember there were always oranges, bought biscuits, some good chocolates and candy. Mother made her usual nice Christmas cake, and pudding, with mince meat and lemon cheese tarts. We children hung up our stockings Christmas Eve in which we would find ■ orange, some bon bons, a chocolate or two and a doll or some other nice little gift, ever so much appreciated. Other than at Christmas time a five cent bag of suckers had to last a whole week. We were never allowed a whole chocolate bar at one time as long as I was home. In those days people had to save up as well for their old age or for hospital care if needed as there were not any pensions or health benefits then.

Another night to look forward to would be the night of Christmas concert, in the school house, in which every child took part, some with recitations, others in dialogues, drills, songs by little children, group singing, a real Christmas program. The parents would take lunch and a small gift. A dance would follow after lunch. Of course Santa Claus came with his sack of "we wondered what" on his back. The tree was beautifully decorated, mostly with home-made decorations. Santa always had real bells around his

waist. Coal oil lamps lit the room inside. Lanterns were used in the barns. Everyone wore the best clothes they had. The school girls usually had a new dress, while the boys had a new shirt and overalls or pants.

Everyone in those days dressed for winter with long fleece-lined or woollen underwear. They wore mostly woollen socks, felt boots or moccasins. In the early spring they wore rubber boots and leather boots. When warm enough the children went bare foot even to school until the cold fall days.

In the first fifteen years of the 1900's automobiles were not to be seen much less thought about. The first one that I knew about was the one our young Dr. Scratch owned. Some one will know whether it was a Maxwell, Allan seems to think it was. That was in the year around 1916. Before that Dr. Scratch drove a team of horses and a buggy. He lived in Maymont the years I knew him and had a little barn for his horses, Allan tells me. In the winter time people either went for him or the liveryman took him. The liveryman was a man who kept a team or two of horses in the barn in Maymont and people would pay him so much to take him to their destinations if not beyond driving distances. Summer and winter whatever the weather the doctor always went to his patient. The closest hospital would be in Saskatoon.

Dr. Scratch was a good doctor, a kind man. He would be twenty-three or twenty-four years old when I was born in the sod house. I understand my mother was his third maternity case. She was very uncomfortable and nearly died before the doctor came as no one knew where he was. Neighbors were close and word went from one to another. Fortunately it was late May and the roads were good. Some went on horseback to find him, others in their wagon or buggy. If ever telephones were needed it was in those early years when they hadn't any. However he was located and arrived in time to save her life and mine. Mrs. Long, Sr., who was Mr. Fred Long's mother, looked after my mother when I was born. We six children were all born in the farm home as most children were in those days. Some of the mothers did not live and many babies died but with some it was before there was a doctor. What a relief when a doctor did come.

Our toilet or out-house was a little log construction not far from the house which was used all the year around. An Eaton's catalogue or apple wrappings served as toilet tissue out there then. It's a wonder more people didn't have rectum problems at that time, but they seemed to live through it and there was no other way.

Our first school teacher was an elderly man by the name of Mr. Alfred Amos. He lived in a house within short walking distance of the school. He had a wife and two children, Bruce and Eileen. The school and house were on the land belonging to a Mr. Northcott who was a farmer and blacksmith. He had a mouth full of lovely gold teeth as I remember him.

We always had good teachers. We were taught to mind both at home and at school as were our schoolmates so there were few problems. The odd ones would have a good strapping if thought necessary. Usually once was enough. Although I do remember one occasion when every pupil was strapped on the hand. This is how it was: Our first teacher Mr. Amos always kept a bag of real nice candy in his desk. He always went home for his dinner, and one noontime somebody got the idea to taste his candy. It was passed around until when it came to we beginners we had to have the crumbs. When Mr. Amos came back from dinner and opened the drawer to have a candy they were all gone. He was very cross and wanted to know who had taken it but no one would admit to having done so. So Mr. Amos thought to punish every child with a few good hard straps on the hand. Some cried, of course. When they all got over that and thought things out some days later, some one had the bright idea one morning to surprise him by giving him the nicest food they had in their dinner pail. This was lined up on his desk when he came back at noon. Our best that day was two wieners. Others had given him cake or fruit or a sandwich. When he came back and saw all that on his desk his eyes filled with tears and he passed another bag of the same kind of candy around the room, but his was always safe after that.

Our school like all buildings then had not been built warmly and it would be very cold in the mornings in the winter time, so much so that often our lunches were not thawed out by dinner time. They would have to be warmed closer to the stove. We took our lunches in small three-pound lard pails, larger families took theirs in those big syrup pails. Someone brought water for everyone. When the days of the open pail and dipper were no more we had water fountains, much more sanitary. Mice were frequent visitors in our schools, even the new Neepawa School that was built after the first one was burned down. No one ever seemed to know who was responsible for that happening but we did not mind as the new one was built nearly one mile closer on the corner of the land belonging to a Mr. Fast.

Our school mornings began with the singing of "O Canada" and the Lord's Prayer and the day ended usually with "God Save the King" which was good. We learned respect for our Lord, King and Country, and our teachers.

Our teaching was strict and to the point. Our main subjects then were a good grounding in writing, spelling, reading, arithmetic, grammar, composition, geography, some art, algebra, English and Canadian history. We had to draw our own maps of the continents from the Geography books. No such thing as tracing them. Games played were football, softball and steal sticks. A good Inspector would call at the schools so many times a year to see how well everything was going.

The days we children looked forward to the most

were our summer school, Christmas and Easter holidays and any one's birthday. As I grew older I enjoyed school with the different lady teachers who were a Miss Lawson, Miss Lucille Giffard, Miss Hawthorn and Miss Emma Nutting. Miss Blakely was our High School Teacher in Fielding. She is now Mrs. Roberts and lives in Saskatoon.

I must mention the heating of homes in those and later years, which was done with wood. As the fire of 1908 had burned so much of the bush and trees Dad would have to drive three or four miles south to the North Saskatchewan River banks where the trees had not been burned. This was done in the winter time when he could haul the poles on the sleigh bunks as they were low to the ground for loading. He cut the trees down with an axe. They had to be limbed of course. Men should never have gone alone in case of an accident but most had too. He would have to leave early in the morning as it was a day's work. When he did get it home it had to be cut with a bucksaw in stove lengths for many years until a real sawing machine was invented. One was later bought by Mr. Brickwell who went around sawing up people's wood.

When the railroad bed had to have new ties under the rails Dad would buy some of the old ones as, being dry, they made a quick fire and very hot. The nice part too was that he did not have far to go for them. As time went on coal was able to be bought which made a more lasting fire with even heat. There were two kinds of coal, soft and hard. The hard lasted the longest and I believe it came from Drumheller in Alberta. Some was called Black Diamond.

Saturday nights were the "all over" bath nights, when the kitchen was made extra warm in the winter time. (no worry about heat at other times of the year). The clothes washing tub would be brought in. Each bathed in turn with nice warm snow water in the winter and rain water in the summer. Monday was wash day. Mother never had a washing machine preferring to wash by hand, as I did, too, for fourteen years after I was married but not by choice.

For meat on the farm Dad would buy two little pigs every spring. When the weather would become cold enough in the late fall he would butcher them by himself. The hams and bacon were put in a large barrel in a brine made with salt, saltpetre, brown sugar and water. This would be boiled and cooled before it was poured over the meat. In six weeks the hams were taken out and put in the smoke house for a given time. A special kind of wood chips were burned for that special smoke. After that was all over they were wrapped up and buried in the oat bin where they kept well until all used up.

The same was done with the bacon only the time was shorter in the brine. The same was done with beef which Dad bought from the farmers that sold their meat. There was a good butcher shop in our town of Fielding. One of the butchers was a Mr. Cassidy so we actually had all the fresh and cured meat needed, as well as our own chicken all the year round. Fish came from the fisheries at Big River. One could buy all the fish that was needed. Dad bought whitefish and trout. They were kept frozen outside until ready for use. Sometimes we had smoked and fresh herrings.

I remember going with Dad with the horse and buggy (before I ever went to school) in the fall of the year to the fields where the grain stooks were still on the ground and it was nothing to drive up to the stooks and see many prairie chickens around. Dad would shoot four or five at a time. They were lovely to eat fried in butter. The birds did not know enough to be afraid of man and his gun in those years but they soon learned. We had lots of rabbits to eat too, in fact, when Dad started farming and for some years after that was all the meat they had. The deer were leaving the country at that time, also the antelope. The buffalo had left those parts by then, but many dried heads and bones from those killed were still to be seen. In fact earlier there were so many buffalo bones that they were gathered up and sold by the carloads.

Mother used to make some of our clothes. A man had come around driving a horse and buggy with Singer Sewing Machines to sell. Mother was pleased to have one. A dentist also used to drive around to the farms pulling teeth where necessary. There wasn't any freezing then, so you suffered either way. There was a dentist too who came around checking horses' teeth.

Another thing that could have been a little worrisome especially to the women folks on the farm, when at that time telephones weren't even thought of, was the men that were called tramps, receiving that name from tramping from place to place looking for food. I say food because any that came to Dad's did not ask for work, just food. They were seldom invited into the house but they would sit on the wash benches at the side of the house while a sandwich or something was prepared, after which they would wend their way back to the railroad track from whence they had come. You see the C.N.R. track was only half a mile north of the farm buildings.

One day when I was about twelve years of age and our mother was in the hospital in Saskatoon, Dad was churning the cream for butter. Every once in awhile you had to pull out a plug that was in the bottom of the churn to let out the gas, or else the plug would blow out and a circle of cream would cover where it hit. Some mess to have to clean up! This rarely happened but while Dad was churning one of these tramps came right into the kitchen. Dad had him sit down until he finished the churning. Of course the plug had to be pulled. Dad did this just in time, too, as it blew with a terrible bang. This really scared the fellow and he jumped off the chair. He thought someone had a gun. I shall never forget the state he was in as Dad tried to explain about the gas forming off the cream as it was being churned. They always churned sour cream. When washed well it made good butter. The tramps

who came as I remember were not young men. They usually had a very heavy beard growth. They did not look very clean and some were very much in rags. Sad when you come to think of it. They never mentioned money and all carried a little bag fastened to a long stick which they carried over their shoulder. Their head dress was a dirty cap or a raggedy straw hat.

I remember another time when Dad did not lock the door at night. I do wonder why as he knew anyone could walk in. And one night someone did although Dad never did see him or hear him, but the next morning when he went into the kitchen to light the kitchen cook stove, on the floor a bed had been made out of some of the extra clothes that always hung behind the kitchen door.

Another time a stranger found his way around inside the house in the dark of night (and it was dark too as Mother had heavy green-colored blinds on all the windows which were pulled down before going to bed). He went right into Dad's and mother's bedroom first right round to Dad's side of the bed, perhaps hoping to find Dad's purse in his pocket, but it wasn't there. Dad and Mother were both terrified but they never spoke. They could not see the person. Finally he went into the bedroom where my sister Dorothy was asleep. This caused double fear, but as luck had it he left as quietly as he had come. They never missed anything, so really men were not all that bad in those days, as had they been, they had every chance ■ steal, murder, rape, burn buildings, etc. I must say from that night on the door was always locked.

I also remember as a little girl seeing the Royal Canadian Mounted Police mounted on their lovely horses passing on the road not more than two hundred feet from the farm buildings. That was their way ■ travel in the early days. They wore large Stetson hats, navy pants with bright red tunics and looked really smart next to anyone else then.

Mother was never very strong. She would feed the pigs sometimes and she often had to carry pails of water up the hill to the house. I know it was hard for her by the times she had to put them down while she rested, which times she always enjoyed just looking around and listening to the many different songbirds. There was still a lot of prairie grass and new trees and bush growing up after the fire that had swept through some years back. She loved the prairie sunsets and the lovely scenes in cloud formation, the same, many times at night with a bright moon and floating clouds.

My mother had been a very lonely little person for the first five years ■ her life ■ Canada. The closest neighbors at first were two miles away. They were German, hard workers and good neighbors but not much company as Mother could not speak their language. That's where my dad fit in with his knowledge of German and French. There were a few French families and later on more English settlers arrived. It was a lifesaver to my mother when her parents, sisters and brother came out from England in 1913 and made their home in Saskatoon.

Life went on much the same from day to day once Dad really became more settled with more and better equipment.

This must be the end of what has been a long story, more or less a life time of "as it was" in my parents time up to 1945.

Marmie (Andrew) Tyson

My father, the late Oliver Andrew, came to Maymont, Saskatchewan with his parents, brothers and sister.

Dad married Lillian Lafreniere. I have two sisters, Olive who lives in the U.S.A. and Gene at Deseronto, Ont. Our brother Sonnie (Walter) was killed September 21, 1944 ■ Belguim. He was with the Tank Corps from Southern Alberta.

Mom was always on call helping the sick and ushering in the new babies along with our dear Dr. Scratch. (I may add Dr. Scratch, brought my husband, Tom Tyson, myself and our three eldest sons into the world.)

Nothing too exciting to relate. We were all just plain old "Gophers" as they call a Westerner here. We lived on a farm for years, rode horseback, played ball and the odd game of nimble sticks. I used to compete with my Shetland pony "Midget" at the Richard Fair for best girl or boy under ten on a Shetland pony. My grandfather gave the prize. I always won first place. When I got to age ten ■ raised the age limit to twelve. One year I entered in the Ladies Class and won first place. Needless to say the rules were changed the next year. In the year of 1941, my husband and brother left Denholm and came to what was the City of Fort William. They started work at the Canadian Car Plant building airplanes, etc., for the airforce and army.

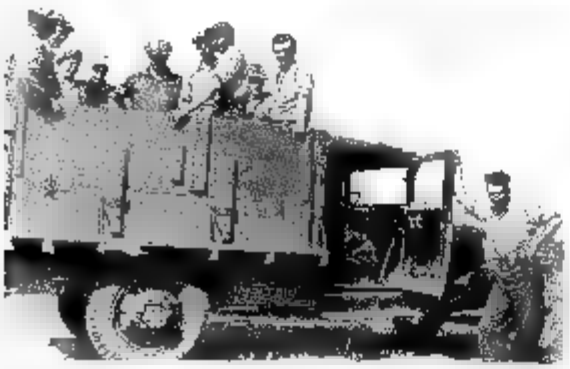
Mom and Dad came the following winter, worked at the plant, and went back in the spring and had an auction sale. They came back and both worked at the plant until war ended and the huge layoff took place. Dad worked steady till age seventy-six, at the Royal Edward Hotel. He passed away in 1967 at the age of eighty-three and a half. Mom died in 1969.

Henry Prior Voke

told by Mary (Welford) Moffat

Henry Prior Voke came to the Lilac district from Wales in 1903. His homestead was the S.E. ¼-16-43-13-W 3rd — commonly known as the "Shaw Place". ■ is now owned by the Gillatt Brothers. Here he built the usual pioneer's sod house but later replaced it with a two-storey frame house which he furnished but never liked. He bought the adjoining Alan homestead and later sold the half section to Mr. Shaw. Mr. Voke then moved for a short time to N.W. ¼-27-42-13. At this time he was asked by a Trust Company to look after the

H. P. Volkes outfit.



H. P. Volkes threshing crew (1940); Pop Golderman, Billy Welford, Johnnie Bulmer, Harland Johnson, Frank Ebach, George Patterson, Albert McIntyre, Harold Pain, Jack Patcou, Alwyn Ebach.

livestock on the Gregson place near Richard as Mr. Gregson had died quite suddenly. As payment for his services he was given ownership of the land. However, he sold it and moved back to Section 27 where [redacted] built a modest house and barn. He named his farm NEEDMORE and this sign was prominently printed on the west side of the roof of his hip-roofed barn. After several land deals he acquired the south half of Section 34 as well as the N.E. of 27 and eventually sold all four quarters to Mr. Harry Welford in 1944. It [redacted] on Mr. Voke's farm that Bill and Nellie Welford now reside.

Mr. Voke was a trustee for the first school board of Badger Bluff School District, as well as a trustee of Wavie Bank's first school board.

Henry Voke retired first to B.C. in 1944 but was unhappy there and came to North Battleford for his remaining years. He died in the 60's and was buried in North Battleford City Cemetery.

The Otto Voegeli Family

In March, 1927 two weeks before his seventeenth birthday, Otto Voegeli followed in the wake of his brothers to Canada from Switzerland. Not knowing a word of English, he made his home wherever he might hang his hat; working for farmers in the Fielding, Speers and Maymont area.

Ten years later he met Beatrice James, one of the children of Ernest and Ada James from the Maymont district. They were married in 1945. That year Otto purchased the Harper estate north of Ruddell for he and his bride to make their home.

The years brought seven children:

Dorothy Margaret, Leonard James, Ernest Otto, David Charles, Linda May Joan, Anna Marie, and Don[redacted] Alice.

With the help of their uncles after their father passed away in 1961, the three boys took over the management of the farm.

As a registered nurse, Dorothy moved to British Columbia and married a young mechanic, Sid Fournier. Sid and Dorothy have one son Duane Roger, born 1970, and twin daughters — Diana Marie and Denise Michelle, born 1972. They make their home in Nanaimo, B.C.

Dorothy was followed by her brother Leonard who married Sharon Lee. They have settled on Saltspring Island where they were bringing up their two daughters; Nadine, born 1970 and Erica Shane; born 1972. Leonard furthered his education in Victoria, B.C. to become a Ferry Boat Captain.

David married Gail Swanson a Registered Nurse from Crane Valley, Sask. and they built their home west of Maymont. There they are bringing up their two daughters; Krista Fern, born 1975; Leah Faye born 1976, and their son Tyler David, born 1979. David along with his older brother Ernie, continues to farm.

Linda's husband, Barry Stolcescu, started his own bakeshop in Nipawin, Sask. while she worked as a Registered Nurse in the hospital there. They are expecting their first child in December, 1979.

Anna became a Laboratory Technician before she married Blair Dearborn and they make their home in Saskatoon.

Donna works in North battleford.

Levi Walden

Levi Walden was born in Northampton, England on June 13, 1900. After public school he started an apprenticeship as a shoemaker, but quit this in 1917, to join the British Army in World War I. In 1922 he was working on a farm in England when a nephew of his employer came from Canada to visit. Levi became interested in Mr. Alf Tyson's stories about this area of Saskatchewan and made arrangements through Mr. Tyson to come to work for Mr. Welford. The agreement was that Mr. Welford would send over the money for his boat, and train fare and he would work on the farm until the debt was paid off. Levi arrived by train in Lilac in the spring of 1923 — a year when the station yard and half the roads were covered with water. A team and wagon with four curious Welford youngsters met him and drove him to his destination. His first assignment was to harness a team of horses and this left him rather bewildered until he got helpful advice from Jack and Ted.

Levi and Jennie Walden.

Levi worked on the Welford farm for eight years and then married Jennie Welford on March 25, 1931. They started farming on land rented from Mr. Voke — commonly known as the Carpenter place. In 1935 they rented the Albert Steele farm S.W. of Ruddell but hit the very driest years. Crops and prices were poor but they milked cows and sold cream, often putting up green Russian Thistle for a winter's supply of hay.

In 1939 when the World War II broke out, Levi enlisted in the army and spent a short time at Dundurn, Sask. but later became an instructor with the Engineers and was stationed at Sardis, B.C. On his return to civilian life in 1945, he and his wife bought the W. J. Davis farm (E½ 32-42-13 W3rd). They lived here until 1967 when failing health led to their retirement to North Battleford. Levi passed away in November 1977 and was buried in North Battleford City Cemetery in the Legion section.

I, Jennie Walden, was born in the Lilac District on July 10, 1909. I lived at home with my parents Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Welford and helped with lots of jobs in the house and outdoors.

I went to school at Bathgate school and got my Grade VIII. Then I went to Ruddell for a year and a half. I rode horseback or had a horse and buggy to travel back and forth everyday, a distance of seven miles each way. When the weather got too cold I stayed with Moisley's for a weeks.

I married Levi on March 25, 1931, and we lived on the Carpenter farm which was close to the Welford farm for four years. We moved to Albert Steele's farm near the river and farmed there until 1939. Levi joined the army because we weren't getting any crops. Lots of times we only had a silver dollar in the house and we wouldn't spend that. When we were on relief I felt we had lots of money, although it was only $8 a month for the two of us.

Levi was happy in the Engineers but we weren't together. I stayed with my father and mother and helped them until Levi came home. We bought the Davis farm and moved back to Lilac. We stayed there for 20 years. When our health wouldn't let us carry on, we retired to North Battleford and bought a house. We lived there for ten years since we were both failing in health.

I had Multiple Sclerosis and had been in and out of a wheel chair for years, but between Levi and I we carried on.

Levi's health got worse and he had to go to the University Hospital in Saskatoon where he died on November 25, 1977. By this time I had got into the River Heights Lodge in North Battleford. It's nice here and I have lots of friends and I enjoy playing cards and carpet bowling. They have lots of entertainment because different groups of people come in. The Old Timers enjoy watching the Old Time Dancers. There is a lot of Bingo and the winner of each game gets ribbon. We save the ribbons and each month the person with the most ribbons wins five dollars. I've been lucky and have won more than once. I find I handle more money than I ever dreamed of but if it wasn't for the Government's help I wouldn't be able to manage for long. I get a lot of nice visitors and I get out to visit at my brother's and sister's twice a year so I'm happy. I try to smile at everyone I meet and I hope this cheers them all up.

Wallace Family of Ruddell

written by John J. Wallace

Both Ethel Margaret Wallace (nee Madill), and Charles Ernest Wallace came to Ruddell from Ontario, not far from Toronto. I believe they met and were married in Manitoba. They came to homestead in

Saskatchewan near Richard in the early 1900's. It was on a farm near Speers where I was born. We then moved back to Richard, then to Ruddell sometime in the early 20's. By this time there were nine children, Roy, Mary, Violet, Earl, Jack (so called then), Clifford, Ruth, Margaret, and Bill. (There was three more Lily, Minnie and Lorraine). I do not recall too much of the early years but when we were older and should have known better, I recall a straw stack just south of the Ruddell school where Andy Abbott and I climbed up to the top and stood facing one another. As the small kids came up we would toss them over the side and down. Later when we were in the big room, I believe again it was Andy and I, for some unknown reason took the Moore girls' (Vi and Ivy) buggy and laid it on its side. For our trouble, I think it was H. S. Robinson, strapped us in front of the class.

Rev. J. C. Madill — was my grandfather. I do not recall ever hearing him preach a sermon but I do remember him when he came to visit us on the farm. We all had to kneel down while [redacted] prayed for us for a long, long time. I understand that during one of these prayers, someone stole the gas from his car.

Nothing very spectacular ever happened to us except the kids kept coming and the older ones moved out. Strange to say, I do not recall [redacted] 12 of us being at home at the same time. I left home around 1933, I think.

I will be retiring from the Ontario Paper Co., at the end of August this year. We hope to make a trip out west then if all goes well. My wife Moira and I were both born in Saskatchewan; both lived in B.C. and finally met in Ottawa in 1944. Our three off-springs (2 girls and a boy), are all married and the girls have 2 boys each. Our boy Wayne was just married last July — maybe there will be a granddaughter one day.

We have fond memories of picnics in the Maple Grove by the North Saskatchewan River.

The George Walton Family

by Leta Bohn

George Walton (Leta Bohn's father) came with his parents from England at the age of four years to Rapid City, Manitoba. My mother was born in Guelph, Ontario. She also came with the family to Rapid City where she was married to George Walton, In the spring of 1904 they came to their homestead. This was before the days of the railroad and they drove from Saskatoon to their homestead by team and wagon. They brought their three children with them (Gerald, Roberta, and Hazel) Leta was the first baby girl born on the homestead and the first in Township 42. Beatrice, Raymond and Jean complete the family. We all attended Grey School built in 1905 and which is now

Pledge.

"I WILL."

Pledge.

"I WILL."

Marriage Certificate

Hereby Certify that on the 6th day of December 1905 the Rite of [redacted] was solemnized by me, by authority of License between George Walton [redacted] of the Municipality of Rockthorn in the County of Marquette Province of Manitoba Dominion of Canada, and Lydia M. Tyson of the Village of Rapid City in the County of Marquette Province of Manitoba and Dominion aforesaid.

Witness my hand at Rapid City this 6th day of December 1905.

In Presence of Imogene Flaus, Emma Flaus

Jno. F. Vincent
Officiating Minister.

No. 1 Registered at Rapid City

Mr. and Mrs. George Walton's marriage certificate.

George Walton and Lydia (Flaws) Walton wedding picture, 1898.

George Walton family — 1910. l. to r. — Leta, Gerald, Raymond, Hazel, Beatrice and Roberta holding baby Jean. The little girls' dresses were made by Grandmother Flaws. Lace collars were the style of the day.

in the Western Development Museum in North Battleford.

Our parents saw to it that we did not lack in our early Christian education. One thing I remember was my mother singing hymns and my eldest brother playing the violin. Later on when we were going to Grey School I recall that once a week an Anglican minister, Reverend Bunting, came out to the school (from Maymont) to talk to the classes. When we were old enough to drive ourselves by horse and buggy we four Walton girls would drive to Keystone School for Sunday School. The Grey School teacher, Mr. [redacted] M. Patterson, got the two schools involved and I can remember good turnouts at the school.

My father kept sheep and one incident I well remember was walking along the barbed wire fences to pick off sheep wool. This was washed and teased preparing a large box of snowy white wool to donate to the Red Cross (World War I). Herding the sheep was also a job for us children and with the aid of the sheep bell it was much easier. I have the sheep bell to this day. I also remember the cradle, washing machine and the six-gallon dasher churn.

Saskatchewan became a province in 1905 and in 1926 the Saskatoon Fair Board invited all girls born in 1905 to attend the fair, getting passes to the grounds, grandstands and side shows, etc. I was one of those girls the fair board invited.

My brother, Gerald, served in the Air Force [redacted] World War II. Raymond served in World War II with the Royal Canadian Engineers.

In 1923 the Waltons rented the land and the family moved to Maymont where my father became a drayman. Gerald worked [redacted] a butcher shop, and sister, Beatrice, in the post office and I (Leta) worked in the phone office.

Today the only surviving members are Jean Campbell and myself, Leta Bohn.

Jacob and Anna Warkentin and Family

Submitted by Anne (Warkentin) Ellis

I was fourteen years old when we moved away from Fielding and having been born on the Prairie I often go back to the area and try to recall the little things of which our life was made up.

My father's parents, Peter and Elizabeth Warkentin, and my mother's parents, David and Anna Redekopp, came from Russia in the nineteenth century although they were of Dutch descent. They settled around Plum Coulee, Manitoba. Both Mom and Dad were born in that area in the late 1800's and came with their folks to homesteads [redacted] Saskatchewan. Mom and Dad met in a church [redacted] Aberdeen and were married there on November 25, 1915.

Three boys Jacob, David and Henry were born at Aberdeen. After a move to Mexico for two years where Dad had a shoe repair shop they moved back to Hepburn where Sarah was born. In 1928 we moved to the Morrison's farm near Speers where I was born [redacted] the spring of that year. The boys had gone to school and Sarah had been sent to Aunt Mary's place. Grandma

was called to be the midwife once again as she had for most of the other births in our family. Having given birth herself to fourteen children, my mother being the eldest, she knew just what to do.

The folks seemed to be constantly on the move. From Speers we moved to Hunchuck's place near Hillsboro School where the boys did the janitorial duties — then on ■ Garth's farm in the Radisson district where another boy, John, was born in 1932. The older boys went to Scotville School there.

■ the fall of 1931 Dad finally bought a quarter section of CPR land five miles north of Fielding for twenty-five dollars ■ cash and the balance to be paid with one-third share of the crop. But these were the depression years and most of the time Dad only paid the taxes. George and Mary Friesen (Mary was my mother's sister) bought the quarter section just west of us. But in 1936 or 1937 they moved to Saskatoon. The names of their children were Ann, Sarah, George, Mary, Margaret and Eva — some of which attended Neepawa School. They later moved to Mission, B.C. where they lived till 1976. Mrs. Friesen passed away in their new home around Williams Lake, B.C. in the spring of 1978. George is living there with his daughter, Eva, and family.

After purchasing the land Dad and David built a small log house on it for us to move into which we did the following spring. A barn was built of logs with a sod roof and ■ well had to be dug by hand which produced only hard water in limited amounts.

By now there were six of us so they built another log building next to the first where the boys and Sarah slept. Mom made a bed for me under the table every night. She had such a large family and such a small oven that she had to bake bread every day — brown one day and white the next.

A year or two later they built the larger permanent house of logs, cut off our own property by hand, hauled home with horses, dried, peeled, etc. After the house was built the cracks were filled with a mixture of clay and water for mortar. I remember the day we moved in, it was so exciting. We had two big rooms, a large kitchen and the other served as ■ bedroom till Dad and the boys added two bedrooms. The older boys shared one room.

By now Jake was out working and away from home most of the time. Dad, Mom, Sarah, John and I shared the other room. The floors were rough boards which after awhile dried out and shrank leaving spaces between the boards and one had to be careful not to drop anything or you might lose it. My dresser consisted of an apple box which held all my possessions and my closet was two nails above my bed which held both my dresses. Dad used to insist on us wearing sensible shoes to school so each fall we got a pair of ankle high boots. To go along with our black boots we would wear black woollen stockings held up with elastic garters. We had black buckle overshoes and of course bloomers (fleece-lined).

We had to be dressed warmly for our three mile walk to Neepawa School. In the winter there were no short cuts, we had to walk the full three miles there and back. One winter while Henry was still going to school we had a horse and cutter to drive. Sometimes the drifts were so high the poor horse had quite a time getting through. One of those winters I missed two months of school because I did not have adequate clothing for the cold weather. That year Dad drove us to school for the Valentine party and picked us up again after — the only day I attended between Christmas and the end of February.

Valentines and cards were all homemade and given freely to everyone. Christmas concerts in Neepawa were the highlight of the year. We practiced for about ■ month, memorized, made costumes and really got excited. The last two weeks we all but dispensed with classes and just practised. The teachers always bought gifts for all the students. The students exchanged names. Santa would arrive with bells and a tale of his trip and we wondered who Santa was this year. The only one I think no one recognized was brother David — even his family didn't know who the chubby fellow was. Christmas holidays could begin as early as December tenth.

Christmas in our house, though we were poor, was always a very exciting time. We made our own decorations and our Mom would make buns, cookies, cakes and Christmas breads. Dad and one of the boys would drive out into the country, sometimes an all day trip, and bring back ■ Christmas tree. Mom usually accompanied Dad on the one-day Christmas shopping trip to either Maymont or Radisson.

Our gifts usually cost from fifteen to twenty-five cents each. One year Sarah and I were given a little grooming kit consisting of comb, mirror, nail-file and nail-white pencil in ■ case. I once remember getting a tea set and the very special time I got ■ store-bought doll about twelve inches high with a china head. Mom used to make rag dolls for ■■. Instead of hanging stockings on the hearth on Christmas Eve we would all set a shoe box on our place at the table and in the morning we would find in it a mandarin orange, an apple, some peanuts, a few chocolates, cream candies and hard rock candies, beside a variety of nuts and our gift. We were allowed to eat the goodies at our own will. We would have cake or cookies at every meal which was an extra special treat for us. Since money was scarce we seldom had sweets and could not always afford fruit. Most of the family was home that day as well as a bachelor uncle or two. In the evenings Dad and Mom would light the candles on the tree and we'd all sit around while they burned away. The rest of the winter was always so long and hard.

All of our farming was done with horses. Dad never owned a tractor or a car. Our threshing was done by Epp's threshing crew.

Dad made our living mainly by grain farming. Some winters we had potatoes to sell and all the eggs

and butter we could spare were sold or exchanged for groceries at Slotts or Gunns store in Fielding. The price of butter at one time dropped to twenty cents a pound and eggs were sold for five cents a dozen. There were times they couldn't be sold at all.

All summer long Dad would be out cutting trees on our place and hauling them home. Then in the winter it would be cut with a buck saw, loaded on the sleigh and hauled five miles into Fielding or seven miles into Maymont to be sold for two dollars per load. At times it was hauled as far as Radisson. On occasion he would bring the load back home not having been able to sell it.

Mom would spend her spare time in the winter months making crepe paper flowers and on one of these trips to town with a load of wood one of us would go along with a box of flowers and sell them door to door.

These were the depression years and they were very hard. One year while building an ice house brother Jake, while trying to split a log, cut off a toe and badly cut his foot with the slip of the axe so of course had to be hospitalized and we had to pay Dr. Scratch for his services.

When Dad took in a load of grain, practically all of our harvest, the money was seized to pay the hospital and doctor's fee. I remember when we came home from school that day Mom was near tears when she said, "I don't know how we'll live this year, there won't be any gifts for Christmas". But Dad again went hauling wood into town after cutting it out of the bush and Christmas was about the same as usual. After a number of years of crop failure because of drought we finally went on relief and had our share of chicken haddie and flat salted codfish which some folks were tempted to use for snowshoes. They may have been the object of many jokes but they helped to keep starvation away.

Dad and Mom worked very hard and we were poor but I have never regretted living through those years because though I didn't share in the responsibility and worry of it, I learned how to cope when times were hard for myself. Our parents taught us to be honest, to work hard and to have respect for God and for all authority. I will ever be grateful to them for it.

After Friesens left the area and Dave grew up, he built a house one mile east of our place where Ted Sloan's house now stands and lived there by himself until one night while standing and talking outside at Andrew's place after a young people's meeting they noticed a glow in the sky in the direction of his home. Thinking only of his horse tied up in the barn he ran all the way home to find his house and all his belongings were burned to the ground.

There was a time during the depression when jobs were very scarce. Brother Jake decided to wend his way to Alberta to look for work. All Dad had to give him was twenty-five cents, and with a few belongings in a bag he started on his way. I remember him walking past the school and watched till he disappeared out of sight. He later told us of how he did chores and odd jobs for people along the way in exchange for a meal or a place to sleep and he hitch-hiked or rode the rails until he found work.

Jacob was later drafted into the army after his marriage to Agneta Riemer from Sand Beach, Saskatchewan and transferred to different points in B.C. and now lives in Surrey. They have one boy and two girls. Jacob will retire in about three years after working in a factory for nearly thirty-five years.

David worked one winter for board and room for himself and his horse and five dollars a month pay. After the folks left the farm at Fielding David farmed it for a year or so before going to the coast for a few years. He had tried to join the airforce but was rejected because of an injured knee. He has married Dorothy Hutchings of Vancouver and they have two adopted children. David and Dorothy have ministered in the Turtle Lake mission for nearly twenty-five years.

Henry seemed to be the most talented. He learned to play the Hawaiian and Spanish guitars and played in the church services at times accompanying his own singing. One of his hobbies was wood carving. He was about fifteen when he handcrafted a miniature homestead in full detail. I remember the set of farm equipment consisting of a wagon with a hayrack, house, barn complete with harness, fences, tiny sheaves and horses no more than two inches high, etc. These were his toys and that's how spare time was spent those days as well as hunting for bird nests, catching gophers, playing checkers and so on. Henry's drawing abilities have become a profitable hobby for him today. Having taken a few lessons in oil painting he has enlarged his talents and has sold many of his paintings throughout B.C. and Alberta. You will find his scenic paintings in many art galleries and business places in B.C. Henry and his wife Ann (nee Anna Riemer of Sand Beach) have raised a very talented family of one girl and two boys. Both boys play guitar professionally. The one has toured with Ronni Prophet, Buck Owens and others. Henry was drafted into the army at age seventeen or eighteen and was discharged four years later because of psoriasis. He has since worked in different departments of the municipality of Surrey and is presently with Parks and Recreation.

Sarah's first job was helping with the house work during the harvest season for a Mrs. Elliot south of Fielding. From there she went to Mrs. McNaughton's one mile north of our homestead. She started out at seven dollars per months which gradually increased to ten dollars. With that she bought her clothing and personal articles and often bought things for the other members of the family. She later went to work for Geron Wohlberg's near Speers where she stayed for several years before going to B.C.

She married Alex McKinnon who was a dairy farmer but later went into a logging business near 100 Mile House, B.C. They raised two girls and five boys. The boys followed in their dad's footsteps and took over his business. Sarah was widowed in November, 1975 and lost a married son in 1977. She has since then opened a health food store in 100 Mile House, which is now a thriving business.

Though life around Fielding was hard for all of us and we were poor it had a lighter side as well. Many laughs were had over some of the foolish things that were done. There was generally no need to lock your doors when you went out, and one day as David and Henry, then teenage boys, came upon Art Robb's little house, a mile or so east of our place, and since the door wasn't locked and no one was home, they went in. They found some biscuits that had dried out since Art was away, so they put them on a plate and set the table. They found an old rubber boot outside, put it in the roaster and put it in the oven. When Mr. Robb came home, being winter time he lit the fire and when the odor of roasted boot filled the house he realized something was cooking in the oven. He never knew who the guilty party was and it was pretty hard for Dave to act innocent when Mr. Robb told him about what had happened.

There were also the times when Mom would pack a picnic lunch. The family would climb into the wagon and go to the Saskatchewan River south of Maymont. We'd take our pails, take off our shoes (if we owned any). The men would roll up their pant legs and we'd wade through to the other side to pick highbush cranberries. One time about half of the way through, I slipped and fell in and had to go back to the wagon and wait the rest of the afternoon till everyone returned and we then drove all the way home in the wagon.

Everyone went berry picking those days so the patches were known to all. The first one out to the patch got the fruit. There was a good raspberry patch on Art Robb's property so every year it was a race between us and Mrs. Ida Thompson, who lived across the road from us. This one year we'd made up our minds to get those berries but by the time we got to the patch around 10 a.m., they had been picked. Mrs. Thompson had got to the patch first. So for the next picking we decided to go right after breakfast, like the wolf in the story of the three little pigs but about 8 a.m. when we were ready to leave, we saw Mrs. Thompson already going home with her pail of berries and sure enough when we got to the patch it had been stripped.

One event I'll never forget and treasure to this day is the picnic the McKay family put on for the children in the community. The whole family worked together and made craft items. I particularly remember the beautiful bead necklaces of which I still have one among my souvenirs. They worked for months on them, then they drove around the country with horses and wagon selling these items to finance the picnic.

Well the day we had looked forward to with great anticipation finally arrived and we were in no way disappointed for it was a smashing success in my opinion. We drank lemonade, adding a bit of soda to make it fizz, ate sandwiches and cookies and played games. Best of all they had purchased gifts for the children with the money made on the craft items. They did them with our names on them and we had to look for them at different times during the picnic. The one gift that stands out in my mind is a real genuine skipping rope. I used that skipping rope from morning till night. I'm sure if there had been a skipping marathon I would have come in first. That picnic was truly one of the most exciting events of my childhood.

I started at Neepawa School when I was eight years old. My first teacher was Miss Harriet Ballsrud whom I liked a lot. The students I went to school with were Jim Smith, Maitland, Ellen, Myrtle and Grace Northcott, Roy, Bert and Audrey Sloan, Elsie Tyhurst, Violet and Pearl McKay, Walter Wylie and Maxine Fast.

Brother David was taught by Mr. Max Braithwaite. Henry and Sara were taught by Mr. Archibald and Miss Ballsrud. Two other teachers that taught me were Irene Reid and Lillian Martin, both very well liked. One of them made Arbour Day a very special day for us. We would dispense with classes, bring our rakes to school and clean the school grounds. Then we'd have our lunch and the students as well as the teacher would go a hare and hound chase. One group, the hare, would be given a twenty minute head start to go within a mile or so of the school leaving a trail of scraps of paper (litter bugs) so the hounds could follow the trail which led to where we were hiding. The hare would spread out and hide in culverts, behind stumps and buildings and when the hounds had tracked down all the hare we would go back to the school where we would climax the day with homemade cookies and lemonade.

During my first year of school the students were all saddened by the loss of Wilma Carmen, also a first year student, who died of a kidney disorder. Her brother, Ken, was also in Neepawa at the time but the family moved away shortly after. They lived in a two-storey white house three miles north of Fielding, Walter Miller later bought that place I believe.

In 1939 brother John started school and being the only student in grade one, the teacher could give him more than average attention and his progress was enviable. He took two grades each year so by 1942 he was in grade six at which time the family moved to B.C. where he continued his education at a much slower speed. He and his wife, Jean, have two lovely children who are married and have given them three grandchildren.

John has been very successful in a logging operation and now resides near the 100 Mile House, B.C. in a country home. He contributes much to the Pentecostal Assembly there in assisting the minister as well as by his musical talents.

In May of 1936 the youngest boy, Peter, was born. The stork arrived without much notice and when we awoke in the morning we had a brand new baby brother. Dad had assisted with the birth. Peter never attended Neepawa for in the year 1942 our parents Anna and Jacob Warkentin sold their possessions and moved by train to Mission City, B.C. where they bought an acreage, built a house and lived quite happily for nearly twenty-six years. When Dad became too ill with diabetes to care for himself, they bought a house trailer in Surrey, B.C. near where Jake, Henry and Peter lived. Dad passed away on March 12, 1970 and Mom followed on May 1, 1976.

I spent most of my early working years in Mission City at various types of employment. I worked at the Co-op jam factory, the Aylmer Cannery. I picked fruit and did waitress work. Then I spent three years in Sharon Bible College in North Battleford, Saskatchewan. I worked as a nurse's aid in the Notre Dame Hospital there and later moved to Cranbrook, B.C. where I took a hairdressing course. I opened the Silhouette Beauty Salon there in 1960 and sold it in 1967 when my husband, Roy Ellis, and I made our home in Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta on an acreage. My husband is a radio technician for the Alberta Government and an ordained teacher of the Gospel in his time away from the job. We have five children. One is a chiropractor in Dawson Creek, B.C. One boy lives in Fort Saskatchewan and is part owner of a music store as well as being employed at a new Alberta Food Processing plant here. One daughter in Edmonton is married to an automobile mechanic. One daughter in Meadow Lake, is married to Bill Young, a plumber, and they have a foster boy still in school.

I will be eternally grateful for having lived in the Fielding, Maymont area at the right time, and for the two young ladies that came from a Foursquare Bible College to hold church services in Neepawa School and at Sloan's place for it was there that I found the way to become a Christian and it changed my life as well as that of several others of our family for always. It gave us a better outlook on life and a purpose for living. The two ladies were Ruby Rice, now Mrs. Pete Sloan and Gladys Nelson who married John Fast. I hope they will be rewarded for the good work done through their ministry.

Two years ago most of the family gathered on our old farmstead, now owned by Ted and Evelyn Sloan, for a reunion and had a wonderful time meeting old friends who came to see us and exploring the places that had been such an important part of our childhood.

We love the area and know that though towns deteriorate, homes are empty, and people are gone, in our memories it is ever beautiful and ever HOME.

The Herbert (Bud) Warren Family

The Herb Warren family moved to Lilac in February of 1942 where Herbert L. (Bud) Warren took the position of grain buyer for the National Grain Co. He took over from Jack Wright when Jack joined the Services.

The family consisted of Bud, Beth, and their two sons, Dalton and Dick.

Beth was active in the Ladies' Aid and when Mrs. (Ma) Klassen moved to North Battleford she took over the post office. She was postmistress until leaving Lilac in 1950.

Dalton joined the Air Force in December, 1942. Upon discharge he became a locomotive engineer with the C.N.R. and resides in Prince Rupert, B.C. with his wife Muriel and family.

Dick attended Lilac School from Grade 3 to Grade 9. He went to Melfort, Sask. in 1949 to work at Northern Auto Parts. In 1951 he left that job to work in the express department of the C.N.R. He now resides in Kamloops, B.C. with his wife Margerite and family.

Bud Warren was an active member of the Masonic Lodge in Ruddell and maintained his membership until the Lodge closed.

Bud, Beth and Dick were active in the Lilac Curling Club. To the best of our knowledge Bud was the first president of the Lilac Curling Club and was ice-maker-caretaker for several years. Many happy hours were spent at the Curling Rink both on and off the ice. The lunch counter was a gathering place for all to visit and wile away the cold winter days.

Summer spare time was spent with neighbours and friends at a lake.

Bud and Beth left Lilac in 1950. After a short leave of absence Bud again went to work as a grain buyer at Keompa, Alta. He eventually became a Government Grain Inspector for the Federal Government. He retired in 1966 and bought an acreage at Kamloops, B.C. In 1967 Bud moved to Prince Rupert, B.C. as a Fisheries officer and Beth worked in the hospital. They returned to Kamloops in 1971 and retired on their acreage. Bud passed away in Oct., 1974 and Beth still lives in their home in Kamloops.

Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Welford

by Mrs. J. Moffat

". . . Boarded the 'Canada' March 31, 1904 at Liverpool."

". . . The train came to a dead stop about one half mile from Lumsden. It was impossible to go farther as the ground was washed away under the track about 16 feet long and over 6 feet deep. We left the train, and walking along the ties carrying our hand baggage, arrived on the outskirts of Lumsden and found boats waiting to take us across the town. On the other side of the flooded valley, teams and wagons were waiting to convey us to the nearest point from where the trains could run. Here we found freight cars fitted up with temporary rough forms to carry us on."

". . . After a slow journey we arrived at Macdowell at

Mr. and Mrs. Welford.

1:30 a.m., April 30. It had taken me just a month having left home the 30th of March."

". . . We had to unload the wagon and carry all our luggage to the other side of the marsh, wading through knee-deep water part of the way with a muddy bed under foot. Just as we carried the last luggage over it commenced to rain."

". . . We got a good meal for 25 cents."

". . . ■ is amazing how easy it is to get lost on the prairies."

". . . Battleford is the nearest town and we have to ■ there for everything. The trip takes two days and means ferrying across the river."

". . . Mrs. Wm. John Davis baked bread for us, and for lots more. She was baking bread every day and each of us had to get it on our allotted days."

". . . We were living ■ ■ tent and tied our horses up ■ ■ wagon until we got up a sod stable."

The above are excerpts from a diary kept by Henry E. Welford (commonly known as Harry) when he came to homestead in the Lilac district in 1904.

While working in the office of his uncle's WELFORD DAIRIES in London, England, he was lured by the get-rich-quick advertisements of taking up homesteads in Western Canada and decided to try his luck. A chum, Bob Brown, had come out the previous year, and it was arranged they would meet at Macdowell, near Prince Albert, North West Territories.

1904 was a year of much flooding and the trip to Macdowell had many unforseen delays as the above diary quotes reveal, but miraculously the two made connections on May 2. They agreed to pool their resources, work, and make their way to this district where Bob Brown already had filed a claim to the N.E. ¼ 2-43-13 West of the 3rd. Our dad later filed a claim for the N.E. ¼ 34-42-13 West of the 3rd. In 1905 their combined assets were as follows:

1 Black Mare (very old)	$ 40
1 Bay Pony	40
1 Team of Light Horses	160
2 Sets of Old Harnesses	10
1 Wagon	50
1 Set of Sleighs	15
1 Riding Saddle	5
1 Small Forge and Anvil	18
1 Sulky Plow	■
1 Wilkinson Walking Plow	20
1 Deering Mower	50
1 Rake	30
TOTAL	$468

In the winter of 1904-05 Bob Brown went to Regina seeking work to get a little cash, but unfortunately he was killed in an accident there in early March. This was a cruel blow, but our dad was never one to give up easily. He made arrangements to not only prove up on his own homestead but also to do the necessary improvements and breaking for the Brown estate. This meant living the summer months on the Brown quarter and the other six months on his own land. Later he purchased the quarter from the Brown family. This land seemed well-suited to the growing ■ oats, and thousands of bushels of seed oats have been sold over the years.

Our dad was anxious to keep the land free from weeds. I recall in the 20's when he had the whole family out picking stink weed from a 40 acre field and removing it in gunny sacks! It was a futile effort but he did try. How pleased ■ would have been to see the clean fields made possible by today's chemicals! And he would have been one ■ the first to try them.

In 1907 our mother, formerly Lydia Rickets of Haddenham, Buckinghamshire, came by train to Ruddell to join him, and they were married in North Battleford on June 3. They had six children. The first child, a boy, died at childbirth but Jennie (Mrs. L. Walden), Jack, Ted, Mary (Mrs. J. Moffat), and Bill have lived all or most of their lives in this same area. Jack and Ted still live on the home farm.

In 1907 our parents were living in a 12' by 24' lumber shack. Then in 1918 a great dream was realized when a two storey brick house, complete with plumbing pipes and electrical wiring, was built on the hill and appropriately named "Hillcrest." This same hill caused untold backaches as it was a veritable rock pile. Neighbors will testify to the huge pile of stones once in

Tennis game at garden party at Welford home (1933).

the home yard — approximately 50 yards long, 25 yards wide, and 8 feet high — all laboriously picked by hand.

Food was plain. It consisted of salt pork, wild game birds and their eggs, and rabbits — until they had stock of their own. In winter an animal was butchered, cut up, and frozen by Mother Nature. There was no thought of wrapping the meat. If the weather became very mild, or if there was a surplus by spring, the meat was processed in sealers for summer use. When the Beef Ring started up at Tom Sawyer's near Maymont, the Welfords joined other local residents in getting a supply of fresh meat weekly.

With no refrigeration in the home, the meat was hung in a sack down a shallow well and later they made an ice well to keep perishable products cool. The "ice well" was made in very cold weather in winter. A barrel of water was poured each day into a cribbed well about 6 feet x 8 feet x 6 feet until a solid block of ice was formed. This was covered with shavings for insulation and usually lasted through the summer months. A small house covered the well. A trap door in the floor plus a small ladder let one down on to the ice surface. Homemade ice cream was a Sunday treat as one chipped out bits of ice for the ice cream maker.

Eaton's mail order service was used to purchase the necessary clothing requirements and in the earlier days they also handled staple groceries like tea, sugar, etc. When a big Eaton's order arrived it was almost as exciting as the opening of Christmas parcels!

Wheat was hauled to the Mill in Battleford and exchanged for 100 pound bags of flour, shorts (the second section of the wheat kernel), and bran. In 1918 — the year the house was built — our mother baked a ton of flour into bread. At this time there were two hired men, the house builders, and a family of four.

Our parents attended church services in the Davis home until the little Anglican church was built at Lilac in 1908. Our mother told of walking 3 miles across the prairie to attend the organizational meeting of the Ladies' Guild. Also in 1908, Bathgate School was opened and it was located just three quarters of a mile from the home. Many social activities were held there. There were also house parties in different homes with dancing until daybreak.

A pile of cedar posts purchased 1916 to fence the Welford Farm. These were all dug in by hand and lasted 50 years before being replaced.

Always keen on sports (particularly cricket and football) our dad developed the one and only grass tennis court in the district. In the late 30's our lawn was the site of several summer garden parties. Here many of the young people of the area learned to play tennis. On Sundays it was not uncommon to have 16 or 20 for supper — and there was always room for one more!

In 1928 a "Lister" lighting plant with storage batteries was installed in the house and then we had electric lights. The water system was not completed until the 50's when the power line came to the district.

In 1925 the Welfords became proud owners of their first car — a Chevrolet touring model with removable curtains. On one occasion a long-distance call came for our dad and he was working on the other farm two miles distant. In those days long distance calls were a rarity and were considered of great importance. Our mother had not yet learned to drive the car but she was always resourceful. We all helped push the car out of the make-shift garage since she did not know how to get it in reverse gear. With advice from Jack and Ted she got the motor running. Telling everyone to hang on, she bravely put her foot on the clutch, pulled the gear shift into low gear position, pulled down the gas feed lever, released the clutch, and with a jerk we were off. We travelled the two miles in low gear — surely the slowest trip that car ever made. But we negotiated at least four corners without mishap! You can be sure that with my dad at the wheel for the homeward journey the return trip was much faster!

Our dad took an active part in all progressive movements. He was an original member of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool and worked to get a farmer-owned elevator at Lilac. As a Justice of the Peace from 1908 till his death, he was able to assist many local residents with minor legal matters. On one occasion the dining room became a court of law!

The following is a list of our dad's activities — a list which he himself compiled in 1944 — just four years before his death.

Appointed Justice of the Peace for Saskatchewan in 1908 — 36 years

Helped organize and was first President of Ruddell Rural Telephone Co. for 15 years and then director for another 15 years — 30 years

Member of Canadian Seed Growers' Association — 28 years

President of Ruddell Co-op Association — 18 years

Chairman or Secretary of Bathgate School — 15 years

Secretary of the Lilac Wheat Pool Committee — 19 years

Director of the Mayfield & Douglas Agricultural Society — 21 years

Member of the Saskatchewan Field Husbandry Association and made a life member in 1957 — 19 years

Director of the North Battleford Agricultural Society — 9 years

Ministers' Warden at St. Mary's Church, Lilac — 20 years

Statistical reporter — ■ years

Secretary of the Denholm Percheron Horse Breeders' Club — 10 years

Helped organize the Maple Grove Old Timers' Picnics starting 1905.

Needless to say there were hard times and disappointing years when hail, drought, or frost destroyed promising crops. There were long, cold trips hauling wood from the Whitewood Lake area or grain to Ruddell. The depression of the 30's was another challenge to be faced, and while we had no money, we never went hungry. The biggest worry was meeting the mortgage payments on the farm, but our dad had the pleasure of receiving clear title to his land shortly before his death. He came to Canada as a "green" Englishman, but he watched the "experts," he asked questions, he was open-minded, and not afraid of work. It gave him great satisfaction to feel that ■ had played a part in developing one little corner of Saskatchewan.

Our dad died in 1948 and our mother in 1957. Both are buried in the Ruddell Cemetery.

Jack and Ted Welford

Not many of today's farmers can say that they live on the land which their father homesteaded, but this is a statement which Jack and Ted Welford can make. Both were born on the home farm at Lilac and are still actively engaged in farming. They attended Bathgate School which was about three-quarters of a mile from their home. Ted went to Ruddell for some high school and also attended a couple of six week winter courses at the University in Saskatoon. Both were members of the Lynx Patrol of the Richard troop of Boy Scouts.

Jack still keeps a small herd of the fine purebred Hereford cattle which he has built up over the years. He has also continued the production of good seed oats — oats which he carefully cleans on the farm. He took his father's place on the Ruddell Rural Telephone Board until it disbanded, and as a member of the Lilac Wheat Pool Committee until it folded up. He is interested ■ all sports and continued curling until a few years ago but now is content ■ be ■ enthusiastic spectator.

Ted won honors at Farm Boys' Camps and in later years has accumulated a number of curling trophies. He curls in the Battlefords and this past winter (1978-79) played 96 games. He has done some overseas travelling and enjoys yearly fly-in fishing trips to our northern lakes. He was a member of the Lilac Wheat Pool Committee for many years. His experience with deep wells enables him to help many neighbors with well problems and he is also a handy "Mr. Fixit" ■ the neighborhood. Indeed, both brothers are always ready to give ■ helping hand to their neighbors in a wide variety of tasks.

Ted and Jack Welford.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. H. Welford

Bill Welford and Nellie Prescesky were married on October 1, 1949, in Ruddell United Church. We started farming ■ the Lilac district with two milk cows, one sow, ■ team of horses and a few chickens, on a half-section farm. ■ the summertime we travelled in ■ 1927 Chrysler car, and reverted to a team and sleigh or cutter in the winter. Our cream and eggs were delivered to Lilac station, and taken by train to North Battleford. Our mail was received at the Post Office, and our groceries were bought at H. Mabey's General Store in Lilac.

Curling in winter, and following the Lilac Softball Team in the summer was our chief entertainment. A

May 5, 1978. (l-r) Leon Kachmarski, Ruth Welford, Anne Marie, Emil and Regan Woytowich, Henry, Linda and Cristopher Welford, Brian and Pat Welford, Ross Welford, Bill and Nellie Welford.

trip to North Battleford was something special, and didn't happen very often.

Our life style changed somewhat in 1952, when the power came through — lights at a flick of a switch, a refrigerator, electric iron, and a toaster. We were living in "luxury". Later on brought the deep freezer, mix masters, electric tools and a television.

Our horizons widened further when in 1968, our store and post office closed down. In 1971, the school closed and our children were bussed to Maymont.

Our oldest son Henry is married and farms in the Lilac area; Brian is married and is manager of the Co-op Pharmacy in North Battleford. Anne Marie is married and is a teacher in North Battleford; Ruth is going to Reeves Business College; and Ross is in Grade VIII at school. We have two grandsons — Christopher Welford and Regan Woytowich.

Now we farm three quarters, keep 18-20 cattle, some 70-80 hogs and up to 300 laying hens. We still curl in the winter, watch our sons play softball in the summer; and have travelled up to 100 miles to attend an Oldtime Dance.

We've come a long way in 30 years!

The Wm. J. Whitehouse's Story

submitted by Mrs. James Gray

Beyond the N.E. border of the present village of Maymont, Saskatchewan was located the Wm. J. Whitehouse's homestead — S.W. quarter 32-41-12-W 3rd.. It had become their prized domain, when duly filed upon in Saskatoon, N.W.T., in mid June, 1903. Therein lay their hopes of freedom and happiness in a new land. The Immigration Agent had assured Mr. Whitehouse of the area being well-wooded by aspen, willow and wild fruits. Other than a few cultivated acres, little was altered or removed on the acreage, beyond that required to provide their home, fuel, and foods during their life-time. An intense pride in all pertaining to their home was dominant — nothing must be allowed to mar beauty or nature's pattern!

Mrs. Whitehouse with Bingo and Hippo, 1938. Mrs. Whitehouse was a great character. She loved all beauty, could see beauty in things that the ordinary man-in-the-street could not see. She had, all her life, a desire to paint, I have never forgotten her teaching, so much so that perhaps she would be pleased with my work today. Both she and her husband were well read and could quote chapter and verse from the Bible without any trouble. They were pioneers who helped in no small way the togetherness of the village and district. The above is a tribute to Mr. and Mrs. Whitehouse from a friend, Edith Shepherd.

From the late Harold Coombs, close friend and neighbor, these few items of the early years of the William Whitehouse's were made available to us.

Born in Pennsylvania, U.S.A. in 1871, [illegible] was taken to Birmingham, England as an infant, where his father rejoined the family firm — pottery manufacturers. The latter remarried, later immigrating to South Australia with his growing family.

His own well-kept journal traced Will's progress through schooling, apprenticeship, choir and church associations, implied a close family contact — described walking tours through lovely countryside.

A strong urge to return to England, culminated in setting out upon a voyage, by sailing ship departing from the Australian port November 26, 1896 and docking at the port in England nearly five months later, April 17, 1897. The many gruelling, also equally fabulous experiences of those months, were recorded in some detail, within a lengthy poem he wrote as the ship proceeded. (Mrs. Whitehouse could repeat it almost verse by verse.)

Whilst in Australia Will had corresponded with English relatives and friends, one of whom he married in 1900 — Miss Kate Sara Nicklin, of Wallsend, England. She was proprietress of her late mother's "Draper" firm, which produced for sale all styles of ladies' white wear garments.

[illegible] 1902, Mr. and Mrs. Whitehouse became fascinated by the glamorous government offer of 160 acres of virgin land in Canada; this to be had for a ten dollar filing fee, plus specified improvements. Along with scores of Old Country families they too were enticed and made ready to immigrate to Western Canada. It is notable that at thirty-two years, Will made his fourth ocean voyage — this time by steamship in mid June 1903.

After arriving by train at Saskatoon, N.W.T., with usual firm determination of pioneer folk, the two set about to assemble an ox team, wagon, tent, provisions and essentials. Some furniture was loaded, their cow tied behind the wagon — so the trek to their homestead began Saturday morning taking a north westerly route. By late afternoon they reached the ferry hill on the Saskatchewan River. A kindly missionary, (driving a horse and two-wheeled cart) assisted them to manipulate the steep descent, also gave instructions for milking the cow! On Sunday, there was a service at the store, picnic dinner and visiting enjoyed, before they moved on [illegible] their goal.

Eventually, the land was located; like true settlers, a start was made to make it "home". [illegible] was good news

that the survey for the proposed C.N.R. line was very close; indeed, Will with his ox team assisted with the three mile grade west of the settlement. After that task was completed he later helped out as a clerk in Bean's Store.

The Community was growing rapidly — they were soon taking an active part in activities. Kate had a piano, both were musical and made new friends. Good reading was one of their hobbies, her great love was art for she was an accomplished artist. The walls of their modest home were literally covered by lovely paintings. Many friends and brides treasure tributes from her brush.

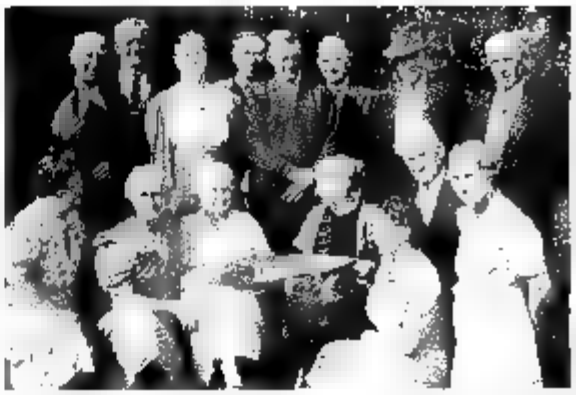
Each was firmly grounded in religion, faithful to their church (All Saints) in every way; participating as long as health permitted.

It was unfortunate during the latter years, Mr. Whitehouse, through ill-health, became fanatical, not seeking medical care, living poorly, refusing assistance, becoming very withdrawn. Finally he was taken to hospital, very ill, where he passed away April 21, 1952 aged eighty-one years. His wife's death was in March 1953 in North Battleford Hospital, aged ninety-one years.

For those who knew them over the years — their appreciation of all phases of nature, keen interest in fellowmen, (especially in war years) it will never be difficult to envision the God-fearing couple each of eccentric nature, pioneers who faced adversities with never a glance backward. For close to half a century Kate and Will had barely been more than a few miles from the precincts of their "homestead realm".

White History

John Grey White was born in Scotland in February of 1876, the youngest of a large family. His father passed away in early life. John came to Canada with his mother and other young members of the family to join the older brothers in Ontario. They settled in the Alvinston area. John worked in Manitoba in the Deloraine area before coming to Saskatchewan to file a homestead in the district which later became Ruddell. He came with his friend, Sam Cameron, in the fall of 1902. John filed on the NW of 12-42-14 W3rd and Sam on the SW of 12-42-14 W3rd. This quarter later belonged to Ross Stally. They returned to Deloraine for the winter to return in the spring of 1903. They lived together in a sod shack, the mound of which remains to this day. Many stories were told how many gophers used to be very close neighbors. They obtained their supplies and mail by walking or driving oxen to Battleford. Varied are the experiences they spoke of encountering. Springtime was bad when the river ice was going out. John often spoke of jumping the ice blocks one time when the river jammed. Ernie Whitlaw had to find another way to walk home as he wouldn't jump. On one occasion Sam Cameron came home with damp mail and it was much later that it



Friends of the Whites who came from Deloraine, Man. to live in Ruddell. Back row — Ross Stally, Charlie Murison, Mrs. Maud (nee Renton), Arthur W. Robinson, Mort Naylor, Bern Robinson, Lawrence Robinson, A. Ernie Whitlaw. Front row — Mrs. Lawrence Robinson, Mrs. Mort Naylor, Mrs. Renton (Mrs. Naylor's Mother), Mrs. Charlie Robinson, Mrs. Oswald Harper, John White, Mrs. John White.

was found out he had backed off the ferry at Battleford. These are but a few of the many experiences encountered.

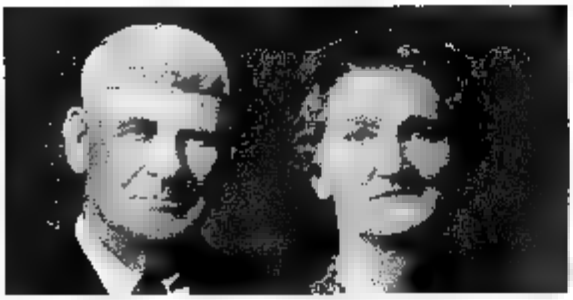
John took great pride in his team of white horses. In those days there would be gatherings in various homes throughout the area. Many dances were held to which John would take his fiddle. He could still fiddle a good tune up to the time of his death.

On January 1, 1908, John married May Eloise, eldest daughter of the family of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Morrison of Deloraine. He brought his bride to the house he had begun building on SW 13-42-14 W3rd in 1907. It is in this home that their youngest son, Charles, now lives. A kitchen on the north was added in 1909.

John and May White had two sons. The oldest, William John, born in December, 1908 and Charles Ivan, born in February, 1910. John and May White were very strong supporters of the Church and active in church offices. The church was built in 1906. John passed away in Saskatoon in January, 1949 and May in August of 1955, a great couple of pioneers who were always active in community affairs, always ready to lend a helping hand to those in need and always thoughtful of the needs of others.

History cannot be written without mentioning Dr. Scratch, the faithful family doctor, who proved his worth many times in many ways.

How well we all remember the "Dirty Thirtys". In those days everyone produced their own milk, eggs, chickens, pork and beef. Perhaps there are those who remember the beef rings operated in different localities. Maybe you didn't have any money, but you weren't alone — neither did anyone else. Those were the days that our generation will never forget. In the "30's" The Young Peoples Club put on many plays, pantomimes and parties with little or no expense. The



Mr. and Mrs. John G. White.

charge at the hall was usually 10¢ or 25¢. For summer fun the Young People would load into a big truck and go to Meeting Lake to spend a week or two. They stayed in tents and a hilarious time was had by all.

Bill (Willie) and Charlie walked 1½ miles to school in Ruddell. The school was one room but was soon expanded to a two room school. Their first teacher was Frances Reid, followed by Miss Jessie Duff, who became Mrs. Ephriam Reid.

School days were not without a few laughs. One episode that should be told is of the swimming hole south of the school. With 1½ hours at noon break the boys took their lunch pails to the swimming hole and had a swim each noon hour. One day the girls decided to go swimming too. The boys were ready to return to the school when about 7 or 8 girls came along. Being good boys, they went back to the school after watching the girls on the other side of pond undress and go in. The boys got to school just in time but the girls came sauntering in about half an hour late. The teacher lined them up and asked where they had been. When they told the truth they all remained after school for the strap. When they got home their mothers gave them punishment and when the fathers heard, more punishment was administered. Needless to say, the boys had no more visitors at the swimming hole. Anyway it made a bit of talk about town for a while.

School affairs were held with the neighbouring communities of Maymont and Baljennie. Charlie and Bill entered in several classes at these fairs. Silver coins were paid to the prize winners and success in a number of classes resulted in pockets heavily weighted.

During World War I there was a great need for money for the Red Cross. Bill and Charlie had a small strip of ground which they cared for. They sowed rows and rows of wheat by hand, using a tobacco pouch with a draw string to hold their grain while sowing. They cared for their plot all summer, cut the wheat by hand in the fall, hauled it to the threshing machine with their black dog pulling a small wooden wagon. The wheat was then hauled to the elevator and the money earned donated to the Red Cross.

Bill (Willie) continued his education in Battleford, staying at the Presbyterian school home. Some of the others at the school home at the same time were Ellen and Annie Reid of Maymont and Velma Anderson, Annie Martinson and Roe Foster of Denholm.

Bill won the highest aggregate prize at Farm Boys Camp in 1923 and again in 1924 which provided a scholarship to University. Illness occurring in January, 1925, terminated his attendance at high school and delayed entrance to the University of Saskatchewan until 1928. When Bill became ill in 1925 a sun porch was added on to the house by Mr. Asmussen where Bill convalesced for a year after returning from the sanatorium.

Graduating from the College of Agriculture in 1932, he proceeded to post graduate work in the University of Saskatchewan and later to the University of Minnesota. He received an appointment to the staff of the Dominion Forage Crops at the University of Saskatchewan laboratory in 1935 and became officer-in-charge of that laboratory in 1939 which position he held until 1956. In that year he was appointed head of the Crop Science Department at the University of Saskatchewan. This was followed by appointment in 1964 as Dean of Agriculture at the University of Saskatchewan, a post he held for ten years until his retirement in 1974. Bill also conducted important forage crop research both with the University and formerly with federal agricultural services.

Dr. White has published numerous scientific papers mainly on the breeding of forage crops. He has held executive positions in various organizations which include the following: President — Biological Science Association; President — Saskatoon Branch Agricultural Institute of Canada; Vice-President — Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists; President — Saskatoon Y.M.C.A.; and President of the Boy Scouts of Canada, Saskatchewan Provincial Council.

Bill married Edythe [redacted]. Amy of Saskatoon, who was born and raised at Grenfell, Saskatchewan, on December 18, 1934. They raised a family of four, Patricia Mae, William Harry, David Charles and Faye Eloise. They now have thirteen grandchildren. Bill and Edythe live in Saskatoon. They are and always have been very active in church work, community projects and devote much time visiting the sick in hospitals and the elderly and lonely. A good part of the winter months are spent travelling and enjoying warmer climates.

Charles remained on the farm throughout the years helping with the work that mixed farming entails. He was always interested in art work and through the years has taken lessons in oil painting, sketching, water color and art in all phases. In the last few years he has been keen on fabric painting or tube painting which has opened up a whole new list of possibilities.

Charles married Margaret Edinborough of Baljennie on October 28, 1939 in [redacted]. Bridget's Anglican Church at Baljennie. The officiating minister was Rev. G. H. Greenhalgh. (In the early 1940's this church was burned to the ground when struck by lightning.)

Throughout his days of farming, Charlie has been active in community affairs. He was a Sunday School teacher and superintendent for many years. He also held active positions on the church board and church session. He served as secretary of the school board for a period of time and later was a trustee for many years.

Charlie also spent many years as supervisor (or organizer) of Farm Boys Camp sponsored by Mayfield and Douglas Agricultural Society. He supervised boys from Mayfield going to North Battleford, Saskatoon and Regina exhibitions. He was ably assisted by Ken Meena and later by Gordon Gray. Charlie was also leader of Mayfield Multiple 4-H for six years.

He retired from active farming in 1975 but still lives on the original home farm taking a turn at field work when needed. His wife, Margaret, has assisted with farm duties, being busy looking after cream, eggs, chickens and turkeys throughout their active years. She also plays an active part in the Ladies Aid later to become the U.C.W. and the Homemakers Club which name has now been changed to the Women's Institute.

Charles and Margaret still enjoy being busy and spend much time in the garden among their vegetables, fruit and flowers. They travel in the winter months and are at home during the summer enjoying visits from friends and family.

Charles and Margaret raised two sons, Ivan Alfred and Bruce John. After the usual work and fun of school days, Ivan Alfred started his career working for a time in a garage and embarking on a mechanical course at tech in Saskatoon. After completing his course, he returned to North Battleford to work for a short time as a mechanic.

In 1968 he took up farming, first on a part-time basis. He now owns and operates the home farm where his parents reside in the original John White home.

Ivan married Elaine Sjoberg of Speers on May 24, 1967, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sjoberg. Ivan and Elaine now reside on the Albert Sjoberg farm at Speers.

Ivan is interested in aviation while Elaine is a music teacher and a legal stenographer.

Following school, Bruce John took several courses at tech and vocational institutes. He now is a fully qualified electrician and operates his own business in Prince Albert.

Bruce John married Yvonne Marie Gobiel of Albertville, Saskatchewan, on September 6, 1969. They have lived in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Yellowknife, N.W.T., Weyburn, Meadow Lake and now reside in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. Bruce started farming with his dad but a serious accident in January, 1969, made it impossible for him to carry on farming. He is now an electrician, passing his class with high standing. Yvonne is a Certified nurse which has proved most helpful in raising their three children, two girls and one boy.

The History of the Wiley Family at Maymont and Fielding

by Velma (Wiley) Bjerkness and Betty (Wiley) Pennell

In the fall of 1934 my dad and my mother and two brothers, four-year old Walter, and three-year old, Ralph, moved to Fielding from the dried-out southern part of Saskatchewan near Kincaid. The government would move a farmer out of the dust bowl of the southern part of the province, if they had a place to go to. We were given a box-car on the train in which to transport our belongings. With the rest of the family gone ahead, my dad loaded it with household effects, machinery, four horses, and two cows (one of them was milking) with enough feed for a week. He was to travel in the car with the animals. The train went through Saskatoon where it laid over a couple of days; so the duty of milking, feeding the animals and sleeping in the car with the animals became a tedious one. Finally the trip to Spinney Hill was made and he unloaded the wagon, loaded it with the household things, hitched up the horses and with the cows tied on behind was ready to make the last miles of the journey. Grandpa Sloan and Uncle Floyd were on hand to help him. The first trial of the trek was to cross the Saskatchewan River. The river had just frozen over but no one else had been across it yet so they were thankful when they had made it across safely and were on their way to the Lewis place, a mile west of Fielding.

It was on this farm in May, 1938 I came on the scene, having been preceded by brother, Wilfred, in 1937 and followed by sister, Betty, in 1941. We were on this farm till 1944 when we moved to the Arkley place eight miles north of Maymont which Dad bought through Colles Brehon, executor of the estate.

Sorrow came to our family in 1952 when Wilf died four days before his fifteenth birthday. In the next few years Ralph and Walter both moved their families to B.C. and in 1956 I also left Saskatchewan to attend college in B.C. and after two more years of winters in B.C. and summers in Saskatchewan, my folks also migrated to the warmer climes to stay.

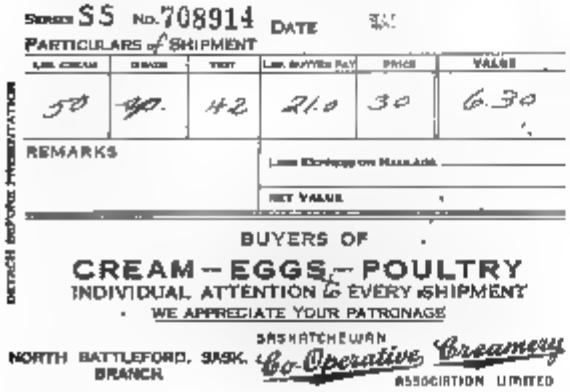
My mother went on to her reward in 1970 but we're very thankful to have our dad still living in Surrey. Walter resides in New Westminster where they have seen two of their children married. Marge (Mrs. Jim Sim) living in Surrey and Stuart, married to Gail and living in Fort McMurray, Alberta. Gloria is still at home when she's not away at college. Ralph lives in Campbell River and they have two married daughters close by; Bethene (Mrs. Herb Hall) and Beverly (Mrs. Rob Grant). Their oldest daughter, Brenda, resides in England. Blanche is in Kamloops and Brian is Edmonton. Betty's three children — Rick, Ted and Betty-Jo are still in school, as are our three youngest — Tony, Ben, and Tammy. Tim and Becky are both working but still at home until this fall when we see our eldest married.

Memories

by Adeline Williams

I was born on my parents' homestead, just across the road from where Hugh Ryan now lives. My Grandmother Fast and Dr. Scratch took care of us. ■ those days all babies were born at home with a mid-wife as nurse and usually a doctor at time of birth. The mother had to stay in bed ten days.

We had sod buildings, and a spring ■ get our water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Cream cheque stub, March, 1941.

from. Many steam threshing outfits got their water from it over the years.

My parents moved to Warman for a short time as my father worked for the C.N.R. He had been on the Grand Trunk Railroad in Ontario and was qualified to be an Engineer. He had a leather-cased certificate of which I was very proud. My brother still has it.

My mother did not want him to continue on the railroad so they moved back ■ the homestead, which they later sold to Tom Miller, and bought the south half of 26, 41, 12. (Dave Fast's and Everton Dunham's homesteads.) I grew up there and worked there till I was twenty-three. Mother got sick ■ 1929 and was never really well again. I was christened in my Grandfather Fast's house by L. Amacher, minister from Rosthern. My folks also were married there as they had church in their home from the time it was built in

Geordie and Mary touching up the saw.

Cook car, Adeline on pony.

1903. My mother was the organist, and I still have her organ which was brought from Nebraska.

My dad and Herman Hansen bought a steam threshing outfit, also an engine and gang plow, which my brother, Floyd, and I used ■ like to ride on when they were breaking up the southwest quarter of twenty-six. Also they broke the west half of Section ■ which belonged to Angus Smith. Later Herman went back to the U.S.A. and Dad bought his share.

My dad farmed with horses, the first years he did it with one outfit. After my sister Kate got out of school she drove an outfit too until my brother was out of school. When I finished school my dad was shipping stock for the Livestock Pool, so I drove his outfit when he was away, and I loved every minute of it. I really like horses and riding horseback. Elsie Brownridge gave me her saddle and bridle when she left the station in Fielding. Horseback, Bennett buggy or walk was the way of travel then. Also the closed in cutters with a stove ■ was a real luxury.

I went to Neepawa School, even in the barn which we used after the first school was burned till the new one was complete. My teachers were Mr. T. A. Amoss, Miss Dolly Larsen, Miss Emma Nutting, Miss ■ Hawthorne and Miss Lucille Giffard. We walked to school in summer and were driven in winter. For awhile we drove with a horse and buggy. I liked the school fairs we used to have. The teachers and some parents made the banners for each school. Two of the big boys carried the banner and the rest of us followed ■ pairs, one school right behind the other. It was quite ■ long parade route. Each school had an identification yell. When one finished the next school started.

Our yell was:

Ijiitiky kye yye yip!
Neepawa Public School
Zip, zip, zip!
Canna, Keena, waa, waa,
Waa canna, keena taw!
Neepawa! Neepawa!
Rah! Rah! Rah!

And another was:

Booma laaca, booma, laaca,
Bow, wow, wow!
Chicka laaca, chicka laaca
Chow! Chow! Chow!
Booma laaca, booma laaca,
Raw! Raw! Raw!
We are the pupils of Neepawa!

We got prizes on many things — scrapbooks, school work, fancy work, cooking, and a lot more.

The Municipality used to pay a cent a tail for gopher tails and two cents each for crow eggs and magpie legs, so kids made money that way. My sisters and I decided to make some money so with the express wagon, a cream can, a pail, and the dog we set off. All went well till we drowned out the first gopher. The dog wouldn't touch a wet one, and none of us would kill it, so it got a bath and we went home. Project ended!

We used to go to town on Saturday nights and watch the train come in and then walk the street by groups or pairs. "Lover's Lane" was very pretty then. Houses and trees all the way (it was the street farthest west for those who might not know). At the end of the street was Mike Burns' house. Mrs. Burns kept boarders, three teachers and Miss Mildred Rutherford who clerked in Gunn's Store for many years. I think Mike Burns had the livery barn. They lived in Maymont later, also where the park now is.

This is a picture of the Orange Day Parade. I'm not sure if it is Mr. Walton or Mr. Parker on the horse. Following are Mr. George Lowery who played the flute or piccolo and Mr. Ern Fitzell who played the drums, and of course the Lodge members following. It was always a special day for us as my Grandfather Ben Sloan was a very enthusiastic member, also my dad was a member. Grampa was quite proud of the colors and he wore them with pride.

In the early thirties we fed twenty-eight hobos at my parents' place in one day. They had no money so had to eat wherever anyone would feed them. We always felt sorry for them and never turned anyone away. ■ 1933 two of my brothers rode the rods from Lloydminster to North Battleford, and then walked the rest of the way home four miles east of Maymont. They had been threshing in the Lloyd Area. Of course in due time the war came on and they were not bums anymore as they were needed after all.

After Ted Glenn came back from World War I, he started showing picture shows in the towns around, a lot of which were real good.

1923 Orange Day Parade.

Another thing I really enjoyed was the Chautauquas. They were all live talent and had programs all day each day for a week. The Swiss Bell Ringers were something to be remembered and one show Daddy Long Legs somehow stays in my memory. They had to be guaranteed a certain amount of money before they would come, so a committee had to sign to pay if the door receipts did not cover it. George Williams and Ernie Andrew were two of the signers. I cannot remember the rest. The last year they were quite a lot short and had been some short before so they decided not to continue.

As we grew up Mother used to play the organ and we all sang hymns a lot which I did enjoy. Later my sister played the piano. Also she used to play piano and I the mandolin with her at the Fielding Community Club programs, occasionally. Mrs. Bud Summers had a class of girls who danced the Sword Dance to Bill White's bagpipes and they were often on the program. We also had really good Club Swinging taught by Mrs. Archie Spence which was on the program often. Of course there were many other really good items.

Fielding used to have a Travelling Library from which I have read many good books. We also enjoyed the continued stories in the magazines. Some of my favorites were People's Popular Monthly, Hearth and Home (which was thirty-five cents for a year's subscription), Western Home Monthly and McLarys. There were many others too.

■ 1920 the cook my dad hired for the cook car quit and there was no one else available so my mother went to do the cooking. My sister Frieda was three months old then so mother took me along to help her. We kids all got the whooping cough and of course Frieda did too. It was a long fall's threshing that year so it was getting quite late and cold. After we moved back into the house again Frieda got pneumonia and bronchitis, the doctor thought from the change in air conditions. She could not overcome it. I was by mother's chair as she held her in her arms as her little soul departed to be with Jesus. I looked after her for Mother so much ■ was really hard to see her go. Now I realize it was better for her and I'll see her again one day. I can still see that little white casket and "Gates Ajar" wreath my parents had bought for her. Her funeral was from the house as was Mother's in 1940. She had been an invalid for eleven years. I also remember the sad family gathering at my Grandfather Sloan's when Uncle Hart went to the First World War. He was in the fourth battalion. It was a much happier gathering when he and his bride came back in 1919.

We milked cows, raised chickens and pigs. The groceries were got the first years with butter and eggs taken to C. W. Dickinson's Store, which was the only way to sell them then. Later we shipped cream in eight-gallon cans which we took to town with a horse and buggy, also eggs in thirty-dozen crates. The prices

were not good, so in 1928 a Poultry Pool was started at Fielding. The chairman was H. C. Baker. The committee consisted of Mrs. W. Hill, Mrs. Joe Prechtl, Mrs. James Garnett. The secretary was Mrs. J. L. Sloan and the shipping agency was given to Mrs. Bert Brickwell. The date was March 22, 1926. They worked with the Wheat Pool for picnics, etc. The prices of No. I Northern cash wheat at Winnipeg for the month of October during sixteen years will be of interest perhaps.

1910	$ .98
1911	1.00
1912	.90
1913	.80
1914	$1.12
1915	.97
1916	1.74
1917	2.21
1918	$2.24
1919	2.30
1920	2.31
1921	1.15
1922	1.01
1923	.97
1924	1.55
1925	1.27

■ those years the grain was all stored in the elevators and some who held it and paid storage on it (hoping the prices would go up) lost most of it. It was very hard to pay mortgages and some people lost their land. Others lived very sparingly so as to make the payments.

In the early thirties the crops were very bad ■ after my sister got out of school, in August, 1933 I went to Alberta to work first on a farm for eleven dollars a month, later in a hotel for fifteen dollars a month, which I sent home to help out there. I liked the people and country up there but mother was failing and wanted me to stay closer by, so in 1934 I worked in the Fielding District for four dollars a month. ■ midsummer two of my brothers went homesteading so I went home to drive an outfit in the fields. I had planned on filing on a homestead in Alberta a short distance from their homesteads so I had to spend six months there to qualify, but they did not go back so I did not either. In the fall I worked for Mrs. Williams doing housework and chores, milking cows, etc., during harvest and threshing, and also in the spring and fall of 1935. I was at a number of different places the rest of the time. Usually girls were hired to do housecleaning (painting, etc.), chores including milking cows, for sickness, or when babies were born. People in most cases could not afford any help they did not have to have. ■ the spring, February 17, 1936, Geordie Williams and I got married. We did not have any special clothes or a honeymoon as there was no money. We went to Saskatoon on the morning train, got married at St. Andrews Manse by Reverend Brown, and came back on the evening train. We've had a very happy life together but much too short. He was quiet and very kind. We both liked fixing things up, animals and books, and always went places together and worked together. Yes, there actually were trains for passengers each way everyday at that time. Not only was it convenient for passengers but handy for shipping cream and eggs too.

In June, 1951 we bought our first car, a Ford Model A Roadster, using the money from three hundred and thirty dozen eggs. In 1952 we got the first tractor, a 102 Junior Twin-Power Massey Harris. I was very sorry to see the horses go. We did keep four for putting up feed, doing the garden, and we hauled wheat with them until we got a truck in 1957.

■ 1939 the boys sold two cows and a bull for a cent a pound. Some change now! The best grade of cream, Test 42, brought thirty cents a pound.

Geordie had Tom Harris' place rented for three years — 40, 41, and 42. The Soldier Settlement Board offered him a chance to buy it for sixteen hundred dollars but he did not want to go in debt for it so refused it. During the mid-fifties and early sixties he had Oliver Wiley's east quarter rented. He helped on building the first curling rink, also did volunteer work on the Memorial Hall. He was very fond of curling and curled for a couple years but with a lot of chores to do it was hard to get away so he quit. He also loved fishing, but did not get going very often as the work came first. We used ■ go picking berries and have a picnic out of it too. For many years most of our fruit was saskatoon, cranberries and rhubarb. We used a lot of dried apricots and solenberries for pies. We have grown a lot of strawberries and raspberries since.

Geordie came to this place N.E. 28-41-12, which ■ loved very much, with his parents who homesteaded here in 1903. I don't believe he was ever more than two hundred miles from here. He was born in Balmoral, Manitoba in 1899, December eleventh. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Robert Williams. Geordie often told me of his Grandfather Daniel Williams who used to come out to visit them. He was fond of books and Geordie used to read to him. He also read to me all through the years, and I made quilts, mats and knitted. We both enjoyed books, and I sure miss those times now he has gone. Now the Maymont Library, thanks to Mrs. Brehon, gets me tapes from the C.N.I.B. which I do enjoy. My eyes are so I cannot read. We even used to read books in the closed cutter when taking and getting Mary from school. Of course, I did not need to go but we always were together when possible. We had one daughter, Mary Louise, born April 30, 1937. She was born on this farm, Doctor Scratch, Nurse Pat McGrath, and Mrs. Ernie Andrew were in attendance. Mary attended Maymont School.

Geordie had four sisters — Elsie (Mrs. Bert Robbins), Janet (Mrs. Tom Harris), Vera (Mrs. Jim Shelton), Esther (Mrs. Earl Lewis) and one brother, Elmer, who had the same birthday only ten years later. He passed away June 14, 1969.

Geordie's father, Robert Williams, bough the S.E. of 34-41-12 from Walt Lowe who homesteaded it. Geordie and his mother used to tell me of the prairie fires they had fought. One time they saved the neighbor's house but could not save the barn and feed. There were a lot of fires when the prairie wool was still plentiful as it burned easily. Also it was the best of feed for it was still good even in the fall. There is no prairie now to speak of so not many wild flowers either. Geordie got a prize for best wild flower collection when he went to school. He had his leg broken by a horse and was gored by a hog and had many scars for the rest of his life. His father passed away suddenly October 23, 1923. Geordie helped his mother with the farm and all that had to be done. His youngest sister was just starting to school then, so he had two turns at taking children to school.

Those days taking out brush was done with horses and two people, one to drive the team, the other to cut roots. We burned wood for cooking and heating for many years. Each winter Geordie got up twenty-five to thirty loads and most of the time sawed it with the bucksaw. Sometimes we had a crew saw, and the last years we had our own saw (circular) and cut each load at night after he got home. He sawed and I pitched the blocks, and we cut our year's fence posts out of the straight ones. After we got the yard light in 1957 it was better. He always piled the wood when he split it. When Mary was little he made a room in the side of the pile and put a board roof over it for a playhouse. Needless to say that wood which formed the walls stayed for quite a few years. He also made a snowslide with an ice path the width of the sled and small sides to hold it on. It took many pails of water which had to be carried a long way but it was really used a lot.

In 1935 a golf course was made on the Williams farm and many people came to play. They had a tournament each year which was quite interesting. In May, 1936 Geordie was presented with a golf bag and five clubs.

In 1939 while mowing on the golf course Elmer Williams was thrown from the mower and cut his right hand off. It was one never to be forgotten day. His mother did all she could to help him. I ran to Ernie Andrew's to phone Doc, then to Tom and Janet's place to get Geordie who was working on the land there. He left immediately. Janet and I walked back a bit later but they had already taken Em to the hospital. Mary crawled up to the top step of the stairs and quietly stayed till I could get to her. It was a very hard time for Em, but he did get to use his hook very well and wrote with his left hand.

Geordie helped many people with sick cows, also was a bricklayer and made many chimneys, and a few basement walls. He did carpenter work for many people as well as all our own. He and Tom built our house (14' by 20') in 1940.

Pete, my brother, helped him dig the cellar. I helped on the rest of the building. He measured, and cut, and I nailed. We did not have a cow stable with a roof that did not leak until 1950 and we always milked cows. When it was to be shingled it was getting cold, and I being scared of high places told Geordie if he put a load of straw by it I would get up there, so he did but said if I did fall I would go between it and the barn. I did not fall and we got it done. The sod stable did for many years. The plywood one was a treat.

He made all our cupboards even chrome top table. We always worked together and since I liked outside work I often helped on the land, also fencing, etc. Since we milked cows there was feed to put up too. He made rope out of sheaf bands by braiding them together and twisted them on a rope machine he made. Many people got rope made on it but used binder twine which made it much easier. He worked in his workshop a lot and had things arranged conveniently. He made butcher knives out of used files and paring knives out of hack saw blades, also many other things.

In 1971 he was in an accident and not expected to live. He was in the chiller room in the University Hospital in Saskatoon for two weeks. They kindly let me stay with him each day, which I greatly appreciated. The doctors all said there was no hope, but with many people praying and very good care he came through. Doctor Paine, a very good doctor, was quite pleased with his recovery, though a blood vessel had been injured and pressed on a nerve so his vision was very limited. Doctor Cline told me he could have a cerebral hemorrhage any time. He farmed right to the end, and shovelled grain the day before the hemorrhage came on. On December 7, 1976 he went to his Eternal Home.

I farmed for two years with the help of my grandsons, who were both going to school, but due to ill health and eyesight failing, I have had to rent the farm this year. However, I would like to be out on the tractor. I am now waiting to follow Geordie. Over all the years he brought me wild roses in their season, so I miss them now. My little granddaughter comes to play with me as often as she can, and often brings me mud pies she has made. We (pretend) eat them together and they taste as good as they did when I was a kid. I have two grandsons and two granddaughters, all whom I love dearly, and pray God will guide them through life.

Hobb and Dorothy (Reid) Wilson

I took my schooling in Maymont, then on to City Hospital School of Nursing in 1932 graduating in 1935. I spent my holidays always at Maymont.

Dr. Scratch called on me to go on "a case" with him — At times I was called to do a bit of midwifery when he was out of town.

I do recall going on "a case" with Dr. Scratch to an Indian reservation, the Indian woman had a kidney condition. Doc instructed me to get a sample of urine — the woman couldn't speak English — after many

practical demonstrations and much to do, I was able to present the urine sample to Doc. He thought it was a great joke.

He had me catheterize a male patient -- something unheard of as a nurse in the hospital in those days.

I married Hobb Wilson — CNR ticket agent in 1941 — we had two children Lorraine and Andy. Lorraine married Ron Wallace; both teaching in Collegiates in Saskatoon. They have two children. Andy married Valerie Hiesen. Andy works for the Bay — they have two children. We are all living in Saskatoon.

Hobb died in October, 1977.

Mr. Charles Wood

The following letter was written by the late Charles Wood in answer to a letter from Geraldine Buziak, a student at Lilac School, as part of a Homemakers' project to celebrate the Fiftieth Anniversary of Saskatchewan.

I arrived in Saskatoon on the seventeenth of February, 1905. It was lovely weather, thawing, and no frosts at night until March 8. I looked around and I met Bob Dochterman and M. Hibbert. They were looking for homesteads, so we looked around the livery barns. There were quite a lot of broncos and steers some broke but pretty wild by the way they looked on the trail. Then we found out where the land office was. It was on the side where Nutana is now, no buildings except land office and a small blacksmith shop. We started to cross the river on the railway bridge which was on piles. As we got half way across, the train came round a bluff, so we sat astride the timbers. It just felt like we were going into the river. We got off as quick as possible, and found another bridge, and we got to land office and found out there was land at Ruddell. I bought a team of black Percheron mares, and an old wagon. It had a brake on it, so I did not have to hobble the horses when going down hills like some did the oxen. When I bought the team it was my idea to raise some colts, but it did not pan out that way as a team was too light to break the prairie. We left Saskatoon the last week in February. When we got to Borden one of my horses took sick so we stayed for a few days and looked around at the land, but it was too sandy for my liking. At Borden they were unloading ties and steel. We met Mr. Loveless there and he said he was going west so we all came together and stayed at his place while we located our land. Then on March 8 we started for Battlefored. There were Dochterman, Hibbert, two Loveless, and myself.

When we got to the river there was two feet of water on the ice, so we saw a load of wood coming and asked the driver for the best place to cross. He said to follow him, so his wife got in my wagon so she would not get wet. He went across with the wood, and we followed and in we went into fifteen feet of water. The Loveless went over the side into two feet of water and ran for the shore and shouted, "Save the old man." I threw the woman out and Dochterman the old man. We were in three quarters of an hour before we got the team out. The man with the wood asked his wife if she was cold. She must have been as she shook like a leaf. The wagon floated out. By that time there were quite a few there that wanted to cross so they pulled the wagon out. They did not dare to cross. The blankets, seats, bolster, etc. were lost. Then I had to help the man with the wood up the hills. I got some dry clothes and dinner, then I got the team out of the barn, and a sixteen foot rod and went down to the river to fish out the back wheels. I stood on the front wheels and there was a bunch of men holding the wheels with logging chains. The water was spinning and the men all eased at once, and let the wheels move, and in I went head first. I never could swim but it did not take me long to get out. By that time it was freezing and the wind was blowing. It felt a bit cold but I walked across the river and up to the Queen's Hotel. They knew I was coming, and as I entered the hotel I was met with quite a few glasses of strong stuff and then to bed, but next morning I was fine. We went down to the river and it was frozen solid enough to walk on, so we weren't long in getting the wheels out.

After dinner I went and filed on this land March 9, 1905, NW ¼ 22-42-13 W 3rd. You know everybody seemed to be after your dollars. This was evident as I bought things necessary for the wagon. There was a log shack about 12 x 12 on Dochterman's land so I stayed there until I got up a shack. We had the team in with us. We used to put the bed out in the daytime and back at night. There was not much room. The team could not lay down but they were quite a nuisance nosing around your face. I did not sleep much, you can imagine how the bed and cookstove was in the morning. I got my shack built 14 x 20. I did not put a floor in the bedroom as I used it for the horses. Then I bought a load of hay and put it quite close to the shack. I did not think about fire until later when I saw a prairie fire coming. I was eating breakfast and I thought I would hitch onto the plow later on but it was there before I could do anything. I managed to find a sack and I beat it out before it burned my happy home. That was my first prairie fire; the smoke and heat was sickening.

I had seven acres that had been broken before. I plowed it and seeded broadcast with wheat I had seeded with in the old country. I had no harrows, but I made them out of willows and poles, they worked well. Then I started to break but the team was a little light to break steady so I traded Richard for three green oxen. I put two to work first to get them broken in, but after a few rounds they were tired. They had long horns. They fought around until they got their horns stuck in the ground, and tied themselves in a knot. I knew I had to put the other steer on. I had to get a new hitch. You know in those days there wasn't anything around to make things with but I got them working and I broke for my neighbors and some for myself.

During the summer I built a sod barn, put up hay and bought a disc for forty-five dollars from Fielding. It is still in use. It was used by most of my neighbors for a few years. When the crop was ready I got Mr. Little to cut it for me. I stacked it and thrashed it by Richard's outfit. I had one hundred fifteen bushels. My bill was five dollars. I think I have the bill yet. Then I hauled firewood and cut it up, banked the house with manure, as I intended Mr. Hibbert to live in it and look after my oxen while I went to Prince Albert to work. I thought I had better get a little more wood so Hibbert and I started to get wood. When we were loaded there was a fire coming, ■ we got in the open and started a fire and just a piece burnt. We got the oxen tied and lay down with our face to the ground. When the fire swept by we started for the home and when nearing home I saw smoke around the house. I hurried and found it had burnt the dry straw, all my wood gone, two hay stacks, — one was saved by my neighbor's oxen as they were around it when I got home, hayrack, pig trough, and handles off my plow. I thought a lot of those things ■ those days. That was two fires in one year. The grass grew over them fast.

I started to Prince Albert in November. ■ was an open fall, lots of rain. I got a job fishing; then a cook job I did not like; then driving a team with one hundred twenty miles hauling fish to Prince Albert, and shipped them to the States. I quit at the end of January, 1906 as I wanted to get some logs to build a barn and granary. I went to Mr. Little's to get my axe sharpened. I went on ox back as I had broken one to ride. The shack was cold so I put on a good fire and then went to feed the oxen. When I got to the house the roof was on fire. I picked up the broom to beat it out but the broom made it burn better. Then I picked up the bed and when I got outside it was on fire. I saved one blanket and a coat. I took my axe and broke the wall where my trunks were but of no use. I had done a thing I never did before — took my watch and money out of my pocket and put them in a cupboard. I lost everything except what I had on. So I was broke again. I sat on a snowbank and watched the fire. It was forty below zero. So I picked up my bedding, coat, and six grain sacks that were in the barn. That was my bedding for the year. Then I went over ■ Hibberts with my bed and lay on the floor. I pretty near froze.

Next day I fixed up the barn, put tin on the roof from my trunks. Next morning I lit the fire and then went to feed the oxen which were tied in a straw shed next to the barn. Then I saw the roof was on fire. I at once took off my gloves to untie the oxen and onto the roof and threw off the roof and then the front of the barn caught fire so I threw it away. With it being sod it did not burn so fast. But I froze all my finger ends. Then I hunted for my gloves, found them, but they did not feel very good but I had nothing else to wear. Then I went over to Nelsons and stayed until I got lumber, on time, ■ build a shack — One ply of lumber and the old stoves after being through the fire were not very good. After a while I got a roll of tar paper and papered the outside which stopped the wind. Then I went across the river ■ get logs to build a barn and granary. Oxen seem slow making those trips but I got the building up that spring. Then I put in crop and then took a job breaking fifty acres and backsetting for Dunford to have some pay as soon as I started to work but no pay came. That was 1906. He thrashed me in 1911 and cleared me up. But I broke a few acres for other neighbors which helped out in grub. There was quite a few duck nests next to the shack ■ I used them and a lot of prairie chickens and rabbits.

I bought a gang plow and had Dochterman's oxen and I put a disc on the plow which was a nice load.

In the spring of 1906 I bought a pony, on time, to use in rounding up the oxen. The oxen would stray away as I used to unhitch at the plow and they fed around where I had worked. In the fall I used to let them go ■ a slough north of me. At night I used to fetch them in to a piece that was fenced. This night I went for them about 9.00 P.M. This pony had a cream colored colt and as I got to the slough I could see a colt on both sides of me and it stayed until I got home and let the pony go. It turned out to be a coyote. It followed me to the shack and stood partway inside. I took the gun and fired and missed. I followed it to a bluff and shot again. I went next morning but no coyote.

The first car I saw was a Ford driven by O. Harper.

The first radio was Miles Stalker's and W. Agar's with earphones.

The gas tractor I saw was Turnbull's. I don't know the dates.

Mr. Charles Wood

by Elizabeth (Patterson) Wood

Mr. Charles Wood arrived in Saskatchewan in 1905 and in 1910 Jessie Rowlandson came from England and they were married that year. They had eleven of a family. George (now deceased), Mary (now deceased), Peter, Edith, (now Mrs. Carl Johnston), Jim, Jesse, Allan, Fred, Rollie, Henry, and Thelma (now Mrs. Elmer Seib).

Charles Wood was a pioneer farmer and was an ardent gardener, keeping many families in vegetables during the depression years. He died in 1959. Mrs. Jessie Wood continued living on their original farm till her death in 1968. They had twenty-four grandchildren before their deaths and adored each and everyone of them.

They were true pioneers and in the early days held an open house for anyone who came along and were in need of help.

Tom Woods History

written by Tom Woods

Tom Woods arrived at Maymont, April, 1931 as agent for the North Star Oil Company, Ltd. to manage the Bulk Storage Tanks and Oil Warehouse.

Tom bought a lot at the corner of Main Street and Railway Avenue, North, across the road from Bill Sowden's Hotel. On the lot, Tom built a gas service station, workshop, and living quarters. He put in an air compressor for the tire repair trade and tools for the motor car and truck trade, putting in a good stock of items to keep the travelling public moving pleasantly. Now he was ready to open the business to be known as Tom Woods' Service Station.

For a month or two, things were quite slow, however, they started to pick up and kept moving along quite satisfactorily and Tom needed a partner.

Tom's girl friend, Isabel Baker, of Richard, was on the staff of the Provincial Hospital in North Battleford and not too happy to leave. Nevertheless Tom and Isabel were married in the Anglican Church, North Battleford, November 18, 1931 and after a brief honeymoon they returned to Maymont.

The 1930 years were hot, dry, and dusty. Wind, dust, and tumbleweed were blowing down the roads filling fence corners and ditches; The year 1937 was very bad. Lots of humans were looking for work and a spot to settle.

By staying and being on call day and night, every day in the year, Isabel and Tom kept things on the move and ahead.

September 21, 1933, being a happy event — a daughter Fay, was born with the best of care from Doc. Scratch and Mrs. Oliver Andrew. This made one more human to keep us busy.

Business was getting better each year and they started delivering to the farms at all times as needed; Gas, oil, grease, Massey Harris Machine and Implement parts and repairs, also weed spray and binder twine. Slim Walton, motor mechanic, worked in the repair shop.

We had a musical group and played for dances, meetings and social events quite often loading our instruments on to a truck and driving down to the river bank for a church service or picnic.

Getting the 1930's out of the way with the wind, dust, tumbleweed, and grasshoppers helped our feelings a lot.

The 1940's and 50's were very much better with business improving each year.

Tom served on the Maymont Village Council, was Fire Chief, and also Overseer for a number of years.

The big event of the Woods was the marriage of their daughter, Fay, to George Huziak of Speers. The wedding being held in the United Church at Maymont, August 7, 1953 at 2:00 P.M.

In December, 1958 Tom and Isabel thought after twenty-eight years of being in the service station business it was time for a change. The business was sold to Lloyd Parker of Maymont. Tom and Isabel retired to North Battleford.

Jesse and Mabel Wood and Family

N.W. 1-42-12-W 3rd
submitted by Mabel Wood

Jesse is the son of Charles Wood and Jessie Rolandson. His parents both came from England during the early years of the century. His dad homesteaded north of Ruddell, Saskatchewan. Here they raised a family, who went to Montro School, which was quite a distance for children to travel to school on Prairie roads, especially in the winter months. In time a school was built in their own district called Wavie Bank.

Some of their teachers whom Jesse recalls were — Mr. McFarlane, Miss Musk, Ken Doolittle, Miss Winters (Mrs. Wilma Gray), Harry Broley, Miss Bailey and Mr. Aldridge. This was during Jesse's school years of course. These schools are both closed and moved away. Montro was moved to Reiley's farm and Wavie Bank was moved to Maymont and is now Sherman's machine shop.

Mabel is a daughter of Les Sloan and Mary Fast. The details of my parent's and grandparent's will be found in brother Ted's write-up.

I got my schooling at Neepawa School. We walked one and a half miles to school during the spring and fall months and were driven during the winter by horse-drawn buggy, sleigh or whatever.

My teachers were Lydia Balisrud (Mrs. Allan Bean), Annie Dorsette, Dorothy Dean, Miss Ollan, Mrs. Harryet, Muriel Elliot, Muriel Harris, Kathleen McKinnon (Mrs. Roy Keiper) and Max Braithwaite.

We were a family of five boys and five girls who grew up with many precious memories of our childhood and home. My mother could sing nicely and she played the organ, so she sang a lot with us kids. My oldest sister, Kate, played the organ or piano too and I remember quite often on Sunday evening we'd have a hymn singing time which I enjoyed. Group singing and music was always a life style in our home.

My mother's faith in God was strong. That's how she managed to keep cheerful through twelve years of illness. Medical care was much more limited in the thirties than it is today. Today dropsy can be relieved greatly by use of medication.

Another tragedy in our family, which I feel should be mentioned, was that of my youngest brother, Herbert, who became ill at the age of twenty-two. This was diagnosed by Doctor Garrioch of North Battleford as brain tumor and arrangements were made immediately for Bert to be transferred to the University Hospital in Saskatoon. Doctor McConnel did surgery and removed quite a large tumor from the brain. This was very possibly caused from a severe fall Bert had had when he was about two years old, which hurt his neck and spine causing him to start creeping again instead of walking.

From this surgery he was hospitalized for several months. His recovery progressed very well and Bert lived quite a normal life for eighteen years as cook and

housekeeper for Dad and brother, Roy. But the tumor grew in again and Bert faced with dread further surgery. This time he was left more limited in what he could do. He used to play his guitar a lot before to pass time but now his co-ordination had no rhythm. During the next thirteen years the tumor re-occurred, this time brain cancer. This tragedy certainly saddened our hearts. Bert was a very fine brother. He enjoyed life, was thoughtful of others, and ■ was kind to all children. And children liked Bert. He was quick-witted and jolly and kind-hearted.

My dad was a very good gardener. There was always enough and to spare of vegetables in his garden. During the years of the depression he grew watermelons, muskmelons like you wouldn't believe, also popping corn. Last summer (1978) a girl who had lived in our district as a child was visiting back here, and after all those years, she remembered the popcorn and watermelon feeds we had at our house. A treat was appreciated in those days!

One of the scenes of the thirties that lives in my memory still, is that of the many movers who had given up in the drought-stricken areas and had gathered their family, a few cattle, often a dog and a few other belongings and set out with horse-drawn wagons to find a place to start over again.

We lived along the main road and it was almost an everyday occurence during the summer, for one or more mover-trains to go past. These moving trains consisted of horse-drawn wagons, cattle being herded along behind, mostly by meagrely clad children.

Dad had a windmill to pump water from his deep well and I guess it signified water was plentiful. Often the movers would stop to camp in Dad's pasture while they'd water their animals and have their meal along the way.

I remember a mover-wagon coming by in January. I'm not sure of the year but around 1930, I guess. It was snowing hard and the road was filling in. This covered wagon-deal came in sight. The people were travelling from the northwest going to Manitoba. They were English people — there were six kids from two to fourteen years old and the mother and father. They stopped at our lane, the man walked in to ask if he could water his horses. ■ was snowing heavily and their wagon wheels were bogged ■ snow, so Dad told him to bring his gear into the yard and bring his family in the house until the storm would be over. They did this and ■ was a couple of days before they could go on. Anyway they wrote ■ letter when they arrived at their destination to let us know they got there okay. Those were bad times but there was "goodwill" among people ■ those days.

People were also on the move by foot because they were unemployed, penniless and homeless. Very often one or more of these unfortunate people would call in ■ beg for a bit to eat, even a crust of bread.

In 1951 we came to live on our present home site — which we bought from Dave Penner. It was pasture land and needed ■ house to make it a home. Jesse bought a two-room house from Alex Beierle in the Lilac District. Relatives helped move this house on to this land and we were settled to make the best of what we had.

Darlene ■ nursing in ■. Mary's Hospital at Camrose, Alberta. She ■ active in her church and community activities. She travels during her holidays in the summer, so she has seen a lot of Canada from coast to coast and north to south and quite a bit of U.S.A.

Elaine is married to Allan Currie of North Battleford rural. They live on his farm and they have two sons — Scott and Curtis. Elaine was employed full time with the Bank of Nova Scotia for nine years. Since they have a family she works part-time. She ■ active in church work and active in their community. Allan has his own business in North Battleford — "Precision Business Machines, Ltd." Along with a bit of holiday travelling they keep very busy.

Orville is married to Bonnie King of North Battleford. They have a baby daughter called Oralee. They live in North Battleford, where Orville is employed at mechanics work. He likes ■ ride horseback and one of his prize possessions is his fifty-seven Chev. on which ■ has done a lot of work.

Leighton is still at home. He goes to Maymont Central School. He loves animals especially horses. He rides horseback a lot — has done ever since he was three or four years old. He likes to do mechanic work. His first project is building up a stripped fifty-seven Chev. Slowly but sincerely he plugs away at this project.

Our girls went to Keystone School until it was closed in 1959. Since that time our children went by bus to Maymont Central School.

This brings my reminiscenses to an end. I'm thankful for all the good things in life, for good friends, relatives and neighbors. May God Bless them Everyone.

Lucille and Marshall Wynn

by Lucille (Sherman) Wynn

I am Lucille Wynn, eldest daughter of the Albert Sherman family. I am married to Marshall Wynn. We live in Hanna, Alberta. We have one daughter, Rosemarie, and three sons, Albert, Robert and Leslie.

I grew up on a farm in the Calais School District and took eight years of school there. I remember one day sitting ■ the swing waiting for my friends to come and I got careless, fell off and broke my leg. Dr. Scratch of Maymont put a cast on it, without a walking heel. I was home from school quite awhile.

I never liked riding horses, also disliked the cattle so kept away from them.

Dad took us to school when we were young behind a fast team of horses. We had teachers boarding with us

for years and years, so had a ride through the winter months.

Some of my early teachers were Jean Downie, Amy McPherson, Irma Matthies, Walter Belyk, Mrs. Brady and Alvin Hamp. When we played ball, it took all of us ■ go on the team. We played against the other school teams around. We made huts out of tree limbs, straw and played without good equipment, but made up our own fun.

I remember once Dad was away and Joe Ducharme's hound dogs came prowling around the house, we were sure frightened of them. He used them to run down coyotes and then Joe sold the coyote hides.

I remember using coal oil lamps. We had to be careful carrying them upstairs at night — also all the indoor plumbing was outdoors — you had to put on all your outdoor clothes in the winter to just go 'to the bathroom'. My kids now say, "Tell me more of the old days, Mom".

Finally after ■ scarity of teachers and pupils, Calais School closed its doors and we went to school in Fielding. Dad bought me a small 'Austin' truck. It was funny how I only needed gas in it every week or so but oil near every day. In time a bus route was established from Beckwith District area and we had to catch it two miles away from home. I went to Fielding School for four years. Teachers were W. Stan Scott, and J. Weimer. I took a Comptometer course in Regina where I met my husband, Marshall. We were married in 1961 and lived ■ Saskatoon, Calgary and now ■ Hanna, Alberta.

Clifford Yule

told by Clifford Yule

Thanks to a Saskatchewan visitor to Ontario I became one of the harvest crew at "Alec Brehon's" driving a binder and helping with the threshing. We did not have a large set up — five wagons and seven men. I recall Emil Voegeli from Switzerland, I believe, who also drove a binder. Alec was a good boss, who smoked a crooked stemmed pipe and was determined never to let our "McCormicks" pass his "Massey Harris".

Mrs. Brehon was a fine cook. I was 21 so I really appreciated the good food. She went to Homemakers meetings. I think she was the local authority on cooking.

The school teacher boarded at Brehon's. Her name was Sophia Langham. Her presence made things more interesting. She and Mrs. Brehon's hired girl put bread crumbs etc. in our beds in the bunkhouse. That called for action. Colles' saddle horse was white. The hair from its tail, cut real short, was somehow put in the girls' beds by young Dick who was about eight years old. I don't think they slept very well that night.

Going to dances, in Maymont, about eight miles away, ■ an open buggy was quite an ordeal. It was worth the effort though. There were many good dancers.

We were done harvest by October 15 and I returned to Ontario, Happy to meet, Sorry to part, Happy to meet again.

In 1968 when my wife and I were planning a trip ■ the West Coast I decided I wanted to visit Maymont again. I contacted Colles Brehon and we were invited to dinner where we met Colles, Anna and their family. Anna too ■ an excellent cook like her mother-in-law.

Later, we visited the original Brehon home where Mrs. Alec Brehon and Lilah were spending the summer. Here we were served a delicious lunch and met George and his family who were on the home farm. Things had changed somewhat in forty-two years but the old bunk house was still there.

Last year, in 1978, we were overnight guests of Colles and Anna when we were passing through Saskatoon.

I feel I was very fortunate when I became a part of the Brehon harvesting crew in 1926.

Roll of Honour
CANADIAN ACTIVE SERVICE

Men's Legion and Auxiliary

Legion

Maymont Branch of the Canadian Legion No. 176 received its charter on April 25th, 1932. The first president was C. A. Coleman and the first secretary was Tom Woods. Charter members were Wm. Dawson, Stanley Thorsteinson, Thomas Knight, John Morgan, [illegible]. Dolden, Robt. Downing, Rev. R. W. Cozens, Robt. Neill, and W. J. Cash.

After the formation of the branch the next problem was where to hold the monthly meetings. First, the municipal office was used, as well as the bank, and a booth on the sports grounds. As the membership grew larger, these places became too small, so it was decided that the branch should have a place of it's own. After considerable discussion the members decided to build a place large enough to accomodate a gathering which was too small to warrant the use of the Orange Hall.

Stan Thorsteinson and D. Campbell were head carpenters and with the help of other members the present hall was erected and opened on Armistice Day in 1933.

Though not large in numbers, this branch of the Canadian Legion has remained active through the years and played a useful part in community life. It has assisted it's comrades and their dependents through difficult periods and sponsored many activities for the benefit of others. In it's work [illegible] has enjoyed the co-operation and assistance of the Women's Auxiliary.

On November 27, 1933 a charter was given to form a Ladies Auxiliary to Branch No. 176 of the British Empire Service League [illegible] Maymont. The following were the first charter members:

Mrs. Minnie Coleman
Mrs. Ethel Neill
Mrs. Mildred Knight
Mrs. Lillian Andrew
Mrs. Alice Bean
Mrs. Grace McLeish
Mrs. Florence Cozens
Mrs. Margaret Cameron
Mrs. Ellen Cornish
Mrs. Dorothy Thorsteinson
Mrs. Bertha Dolden

Minnie Coleman is now the only active member. She is also, of course, a life member who insists on always paying her dues. Mrs. Coleman has been and still is an untiring and inspirational example for all of us. From her, we have learned what it is to be a conscientious and dedicated member, working for the good and welfare of our disabled veterans and their families.

Our Auxiliary is very active, consisting of 14 members, two who have recently joined and two more who have made application for membership. We hold our meetings in our own Legion Hall which was built [illegible] 1933.

During World War 2 money was raised [illegible] buy wool for socks, bandages and cigarettes for our fighting men.

November 11 is of course still celebrated and our auxiliary get together with the Branch to enjoy a banquet meal to reminisce and sing the old songs familiar to all service men.

We feel that we contribute a service to our disabled and paraplegic veterans by donating [illegible] the veterans' hospitals. We also contribute to several other worthy organizations such as crippled children, rheumatism and arthritis, mental health and others.

Current membership is as follows:

Mrs. Sarah Beaudoin
Mrs. Janice Sander
Mrs. Merle Johnston
Mrs. Evelyn Bates
Mrs. Minnie Coleman
Mrs. Emily Hawkins
Mrs. Nellie Curry
Mrs. Jean Saunders
Mrs. Hazel Zaleschuk
Mrs. Jean Taylor
Mrs. Leta Bohn
Mrs. Cathie McLeod
Mrs. Alice Conkey
Mrs. Dora Plews.

Veterans of World War I

Fred Bohn
Harry Best
William Dawson
Robert Downing
W. Hunt
Tommy Harris
J. M. Martin
Colin Ramsey
Alfred Bohn
(killed in action)
Richard C. Brehon
(killed in action)
Sid Dolden
Jack Cash
J. Lowery
Robert Neill
John Morgan
J. Spiess
Stanley Bohn
Clem Coleman
J. Doherty
Nathan Friedman
Russell Knight
W. H. Nutbrown
E. Ramsey

Veterans of World War II

Hector Andrew
E. R. Andrews
(died overseas)
W. H. Andrew
(killed in action)
Maud Andrew
Myrtle Andrew
Harry Best
Fred Best
(killed in action)
Philip Best
E. J. Beaudoin
Mac Beckton
Stanley Bright
Glen Bright
Pat Brophy
Clem Coleman
Doug Coleman
Alan Coleman
Jack Cash
James Crozier
(killed in action)
Harold Curry
Bursil Conkey
(prisoner of war)
Robert Dawson
Everett Downing
Reg Gillatt
Robert Hawkins
Philip Hawkins
Albert Hickman
Carl Johnston
Harvey Johnston
(prisoner of war)
Tommy Johnston
Horace Knight
(killed in action)
Robert Miller
Stanley Milman
Winnifred Melrose
H. McCorkle
Brenton Nutbrown
Mary Parker
Wilfred Reid
Archie Reid
Lyman Reid
Eric Reid
Art Reid
Arthur Skinner
Ted Saunders
Tommy Turner
Edward Skinner
Alex Skinner
Doug Skinner
Sheridan Porter
Ted Porter
James N. Smith

Ruddell and Lilac 1914-1919

A. B. Ewing
T. Skidmore
L. Henchsliff
[illegible]. Davis
T. Dow
T. Bulmer
T. Moore
B. Megaffin
C. Clark
T. Little
H. Spence
M. Montague
R. Davidson
F. C. Murphy
R. McCann
S. Tyson
C. Rogk
B. Ellison
T. Henchsliff
B. Mabey
F. Smith
C. McFarlane
F. Daniels
A. Mallows
C. Caldwell
Reb [illegible]. Morgan
S. Dale
W. Ried
[illegible]. Ewing
R. [illegible]. Robinson
A. Dakin
[illegible]. Anderson
J. Birse
[illegible]. Marknson
B. C. Stewart
H. Turner
O. C. Harper
G. Geddie
J. Campbell
[illegible]. Little
C. Negus
J. B. Arnold
B. Mabey

Those who were lost:

J. McMillan
S. Mabey
C. Pringle
[illegible]. Mather
H. Campell
R. Bremner
C. Beechy
J. M. Beckett
S. Jackson
[illegible]. Roberts

Ruddell and Lilac 1939-1945

R. Abbott
D. Beierle
J. Caldwell
F. Gillatt
T. Johnston
H. M. Palsson
K. Reid
L. Thrower
L. E. Twitle
F. Wood
E. Schmidt
F. Agar
L. Beierle
C. Custer
O. Harper
W. Klassen
H. Parent
L. Robinson
W. Thrower
L. Walden
J. Wood
I. Anderson
W. Buttrey
D. Elders
H. Johnston
N. Lowes
W. Ralph
W. Roche
G. Topping
D. Warren
A. Wrenshall
R. Beierle
B. Carnahan
R. B. Firth
L. Johnston
S. A. Moore
G. Reid
G. Scott
W. S. Turnbull
W. Welford
G. G. Wrenshall

Those who were lost — W. H. Gillatt, J. E. Wright.

Honor Roll From Fielding — World War II

Austin Brant
Lewis Cousins
Adolph Ducharme
Delmar Evans
Chester Ferris
Walter Fast
(killed in action)
John Garnett
Gurney Garnett
Thomas Gollan
Harold Holmes
Desmond Johnston
Dennis McGrath
Samuel Nutbrown
Orville Northcott
Paul Reinhardt
William Roberts
Allan Smith
William Stott
Dawson Thompson
Alfred Thompson
Ross McNaughton
Kenneth Nutbrown
Richard Prechtl
Laurence Ryan
James Smith
Charles Stott
Robert Thomson
Herbert Thompson
Otto Thompson
Roy Babcock
(killed in action)
Janet Downie
Desmond Ducharme
Keith Ferris
Clifford Free
Elgin Garnett
Malcolm Garnett
Alvin Garnett
Doug Hockley
Laurence Iveson
Miriam Long
John Bodle
Clayton Cure
Delmar Ducharme
Rissell Ferris
Wilfred Fisher
George Garnett
Clarence Garnett
Thomas Glynn
Robert Hepple
Harvey Larson
Kenneth McLeod
Clarence Northcott
Fred Reinhardt
Wilfred Ryan
Norman Smith
Stephen Stott
Trueman Thompson
Roderick Thompson
(killed in action)
Allan Tyhurst

Veterans from Fielding area in World War I:

David Addley
Harold C. Baker
Max Denomy
George Downey
Arthur Elliott
Frank Glynn
[redacted] (Teddy) Glynn
Alfred Green
Elmer Hodson
William Hill
John Kinkaid
J. M. McNaughton
Bill McNaughton
John Nolin
Herbert Ryan
Charles Roberts
William Shanks, Jr.
George Stuart
Jack Thompson.

WORLD WAR I
1914 to 1918

John Birse

Alfred Bohn

Fred Bohn

E. Stanley Bohn

Richard Brehon

Hector Campbell

Billy Dawson

Ed Ewing

Walter Hewer

Walter Marshall

E. McMahon

John Morgan

George Lowrey

Colin Ramsey

VETERANS
WORLD WAR II
1939-1945

Elmer Andrew

Hector Andrew

John Andrew

Maud Andrew

Myrtle Andrew

Mac Beckton

Ernest Beaudoin

Fred Best

Harry Best

Philip Best

William Buffrey

Doug Coleman

Bursil Conkey

Harold Curry

Jack Campbell

Jim Crozier

Robert Dawson

Adolph Ducharme

Desmond Ducharme

Ron Firth

Elgin Garnett

George Garnett

Mac Garnett

Frank Gillatt

Reg Gillat

William Gillatt

Thomas Gollan

Philip Hawkins

Robert Hawkins

Albert Hickman

Carl Johnston

Harvey Johnston

Miriam Long

Donald McCorkle

Robert McCorkle

Bob Miller

Brenton Nutbrow

Mary Parker

Sheridan Porter

Ted Porter

Bill Ralph

Arthur Reid

Edgar J. Reid

Eric Reid

Lyman Reid

Fred Reinhardt

Bill Roberts

G. O. Saunders

Gwen Saunders

T. C. Saunders

Edwin Schmidt

George Scott

James Smith

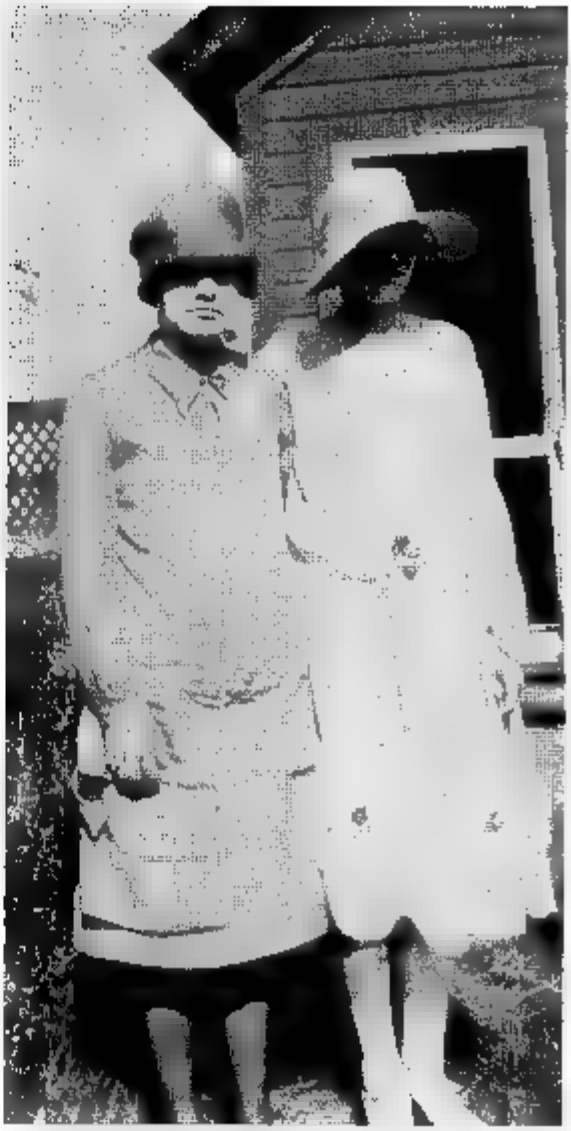
Ivan Thompson

Tom Turner

Alan Tyhurst

Raymond Walton

Styles



SAFEWAY STORES

Prices Effective Wednesday Morning and Thursday, April 15th and 16th, 1936

Tomatoes, No. 2½ tins ..... tin 10¢	Mother's Chocolate, ½-lb. cakes ..... pkg. 14¢
Cleanser, Royal Crown ..... tin 5¢	Tea, Finest bulk ..... lb. 39¢
Yellow Sugar, 2-lb pkgs ..... pkg. 12¢	Coffee, Airway, fresh ground ... lb. 35¢
Dill Pickles, Rosedale . No. 2½ tin 19¢	Prunes, Meaty ..... 3 lbs. 25¢
Flour, Airway, 24-lb bag 79¢ 7-lb bag 25¢	Ginger Snaps, Fresh-crisp .... 2 lbs. 25¢
Sugar, Granulated ..... 5 lbs. 34¢	Graham Wafers, Honey Grahams ..... pkg. 21¢
Soap, A.T.G. Naptha ..... 6 bars 17¢	Tomato Juice, Aylmer ..... tin 5¢
Prime's Toffee, Rum and Butter, Licorice ..... lb. 25¢	Soap Flakes, Finest bulk ..... lb. 10¢
Jam, Loganberry ..... 4-lb. tin 39¢	Beans, Green or Wax ..... 2 tins 25¢
Shredded Wheat ..... pkg. 9¢	Cherries, Lincoln Brand ..... tin 15¢
Macaroni, Bulk ..... 5 lbs. 25¢	Peanut Butter, Fresh Ground .. lb. 15¢
Mixed Candy ..... lb. 15¢	Cinnamon, Bulk ..... ¼ lb. 10¢

FRUIT

Oranges, Sunkist, medium size 3 doz. 63¢ ..... doz. 21¢	Grapefruit, Seedless ..... 4 for 25¢
Lemons, Juicy ..... 6 for 14¢	Onions, B.C. Cooking ..... 5 lbs. 15¢
Apples, Rome Beauties Box $1.95 ..... 5-lbs. 25¢	Spanish Onions ..... lb. 9¢

MEAT

Sirloin or T-Bone Steaks ..... lb. 14¢	Pork and Veal Patties ..... 2 lbs. 25¢
Beef Roasts, Shoulder Cuts ..... lb. 8¢	Beef Dripping, Fresh rendered .. lb. 8¢
Stewing Beef, Boneless ..... 2 lbs. 19¢	Cooked Corned Beef, sliced ..... lb. 17¢
Pork Steak, Shoulder ..... 2 lbs. 35¢	Jellied Head Cheese, sliced ..... lb. 15¢
Hamburger, Fresh Ground ..... lb. 5¢	

We reserve the right to limit quantities. Safeway Stores Limited.

SAFEWAY STORES

Prices in effect in October 1979 in Comparative weights in metric

Tomatoes, 398 ml ..... .54	Chocolate ½ lb. pkg. 2.88
Cleanser, 397 gr. ..... .48	Tea - Bulk lb. 3.39
Yellow Sugar, 2 kg. ..... .79	Airway Coffee, 454 gr. 4.16
Dill Pickles, 909 ml. 1.29	Prunes ■. 1.14
Flour, 2.5 kg. 1.85	Ginger Snaps, 800 gr. 1.82
White Sugar, 2 kg. 1.42	Graham Wafers, 369 gr. .1.14
Sunlight Soap (Hand) ..... .32	Aylmer Tomato Juice ..... .77 1.36 ....
Bracks Toffee 1.14	Soap Powder, 1.2 kg. 1.87
Shredded Wheat 4.50 gr. . .92	Green Beans 285 ml. ..... .59
Macaroni, 2 kg. 1.69	Cherries, 398 ml. ..... .75
Mixed Candy lb. 1.44	Peanut Butter, 500 gr. 1.35
FRUIT:	Cinnamon, 113 gr. 1.64
Oranges lb. ..... ■	
Lemons lb. 1.79	
Apples ■. ..... ■	

MEAT

T-Bone Steak .....3.99 lb.	Ground Pork.....1.59 lb.
Blade Roast .....1.98 lb.	Cooked Corn Beef.....2.70 lb.
Stewing Beef .....2.49 lb.	Head Cheese.....2.23 lb.
Port Butt Steak ..... 1.47 lb.	Ground Beef.....1.66 lb.

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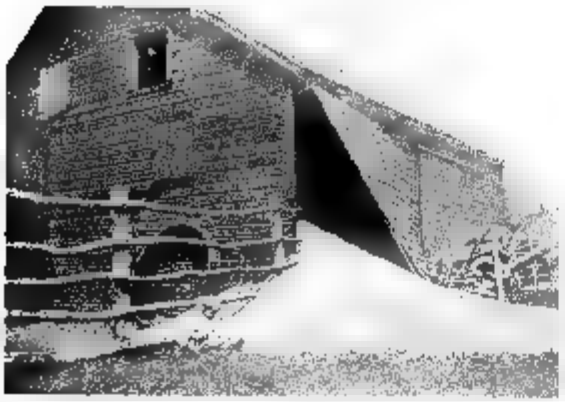
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

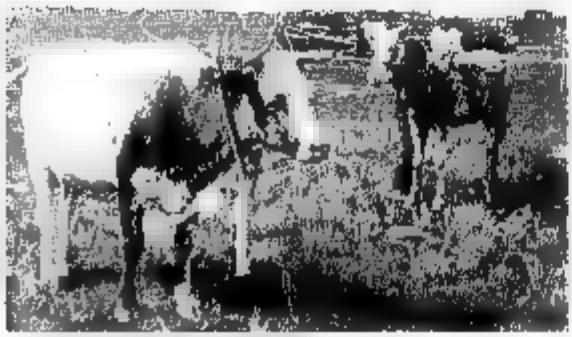
Farming through the years



That extra bushel did this on A. Sherman's farm.

Russian Thistle — the Dirty Thirties.

Steam engine around 1904 or 1905. The engine had to be pulled by horses. Note the threshing crew of thirteen men.

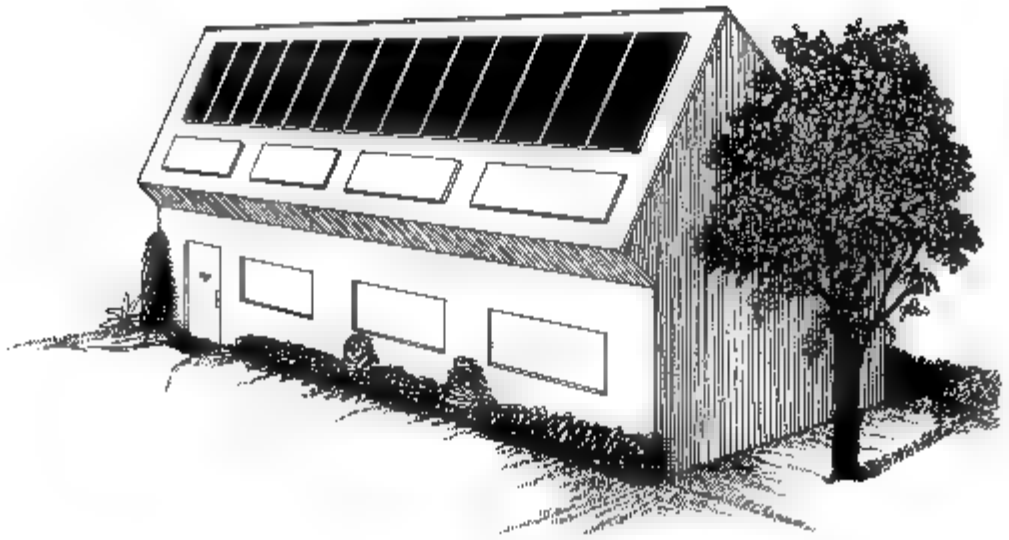


Forking hay the hard way.

This is the threshing crew on the Joe Hardy farm December 20th, 1909. They couldn't move the separator so they had to move the bundles from the stack by sleigh. Tommy operated the steam engine. They had to burn straw in the engine.

A homemade grasshopper bait spreader.

PRINTED ■ CANADA



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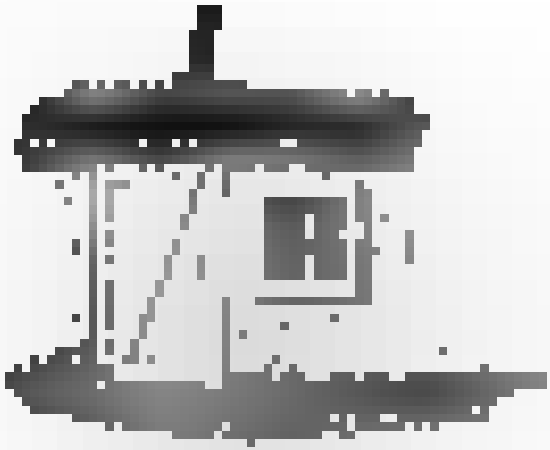
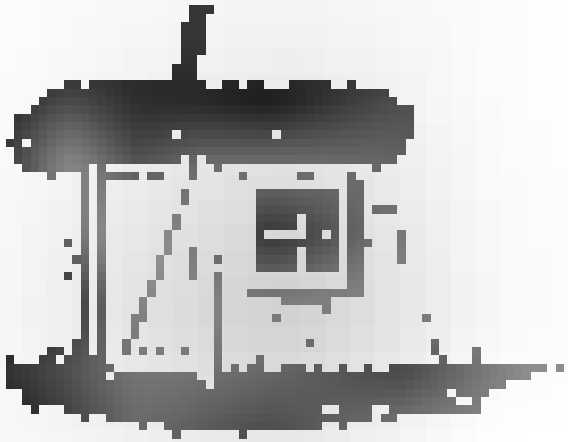
FROM SOD TO SOLAR



FROM GOD

FROM SOD TO SOLAR



FROM SOD TO SOLAR

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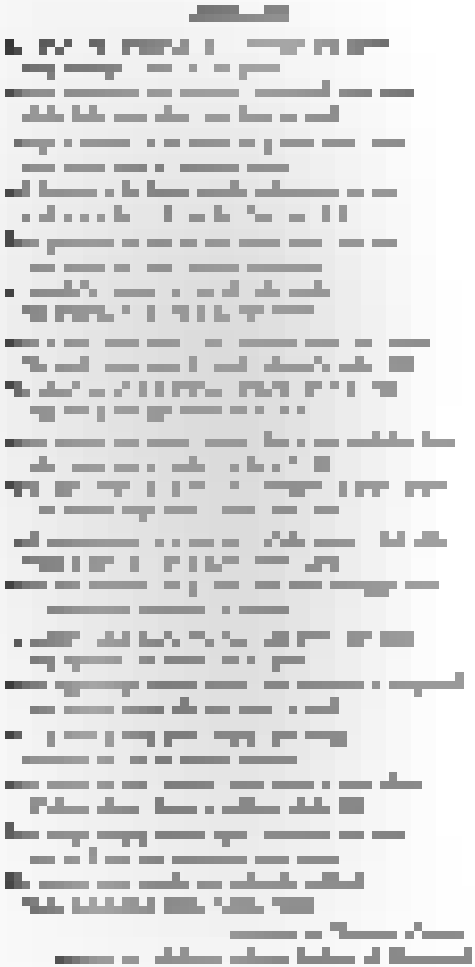

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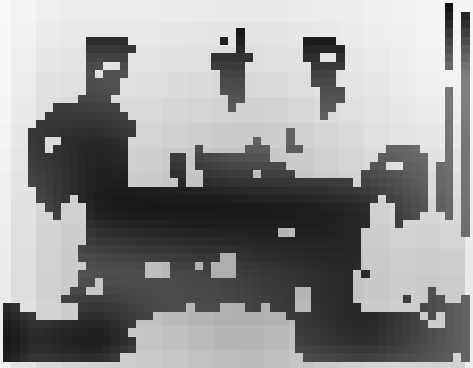
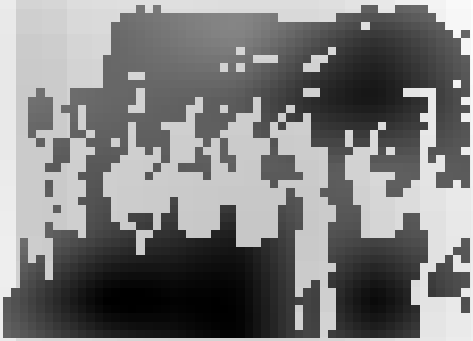
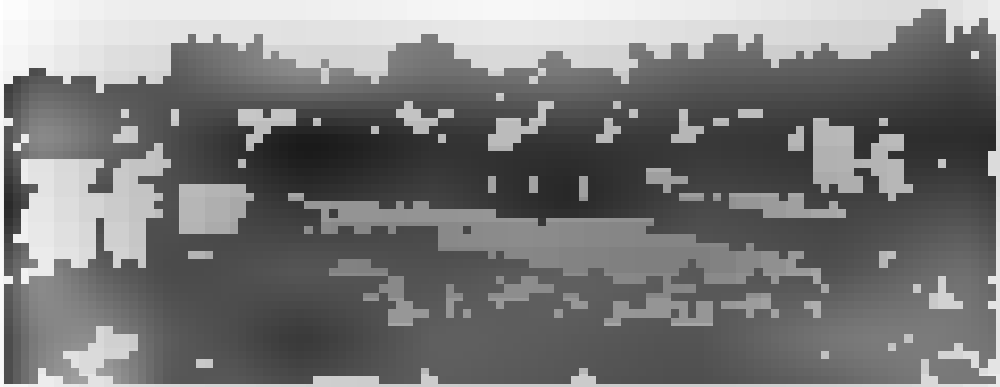
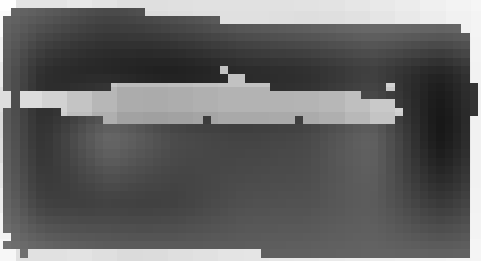
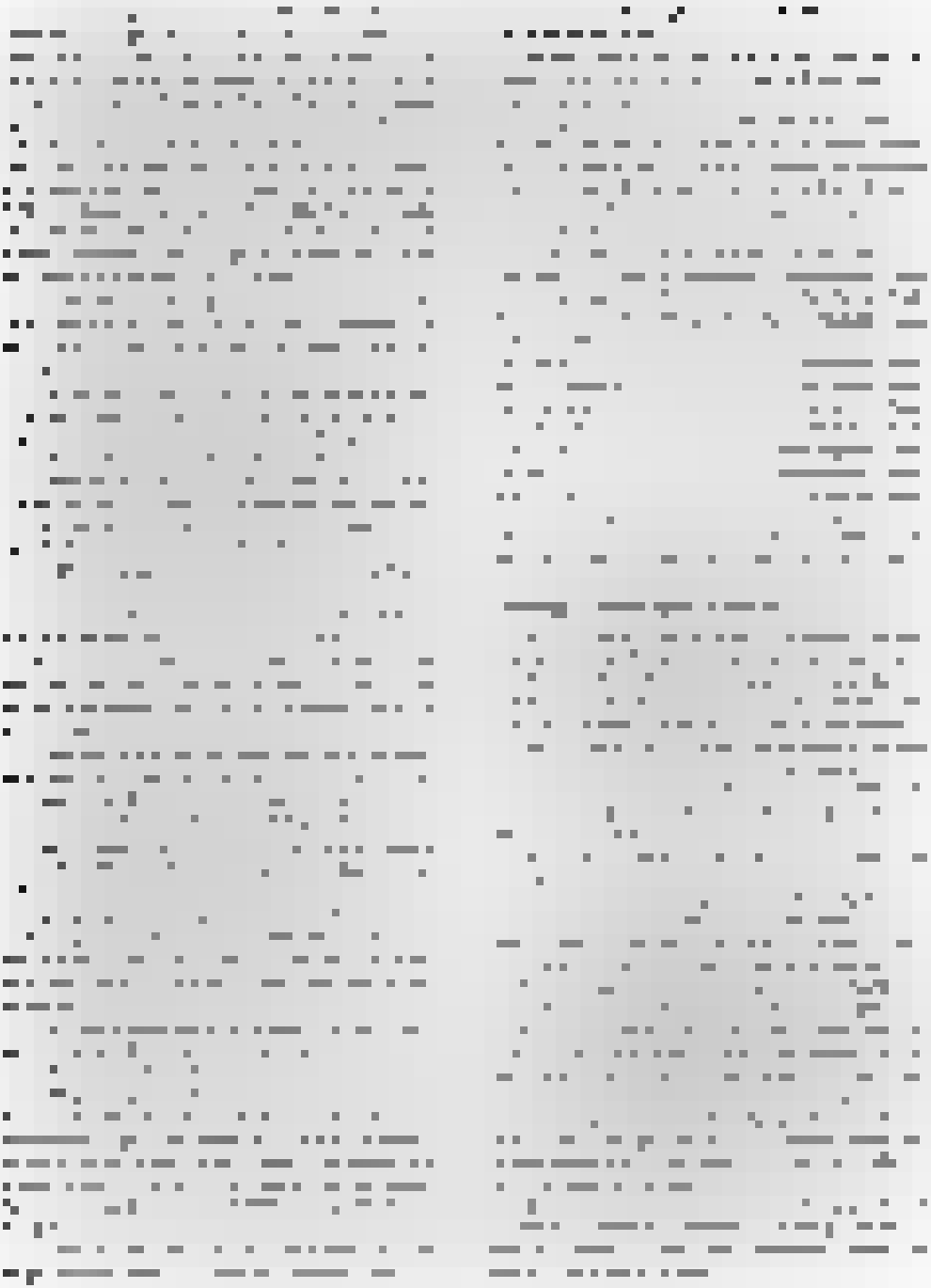
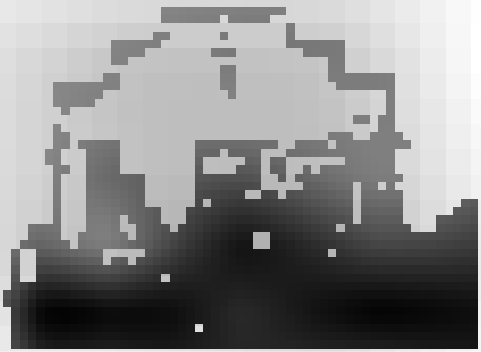


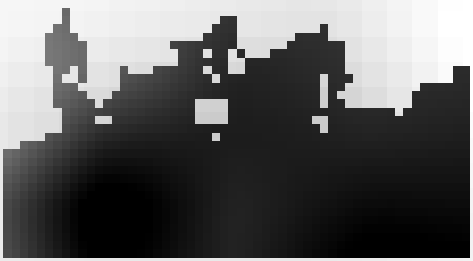


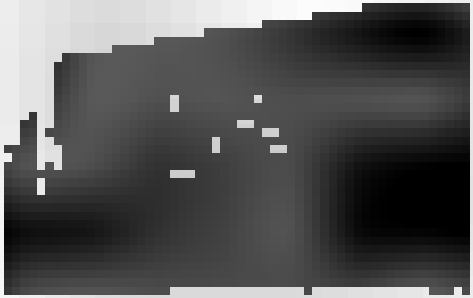


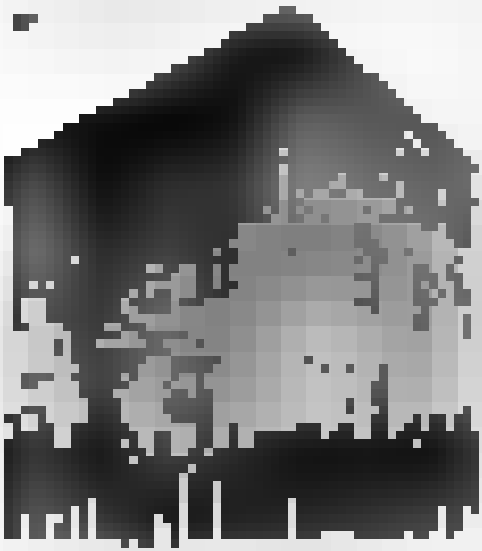


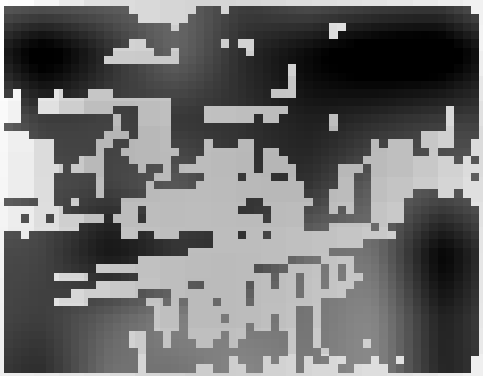


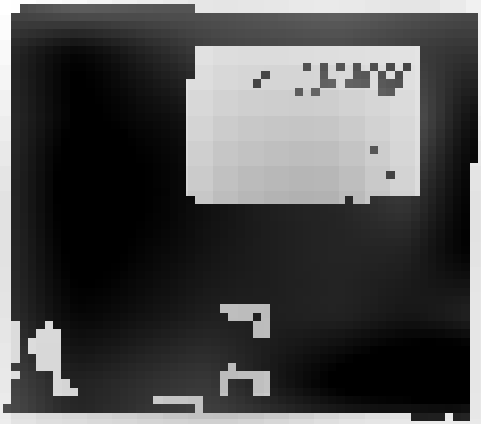


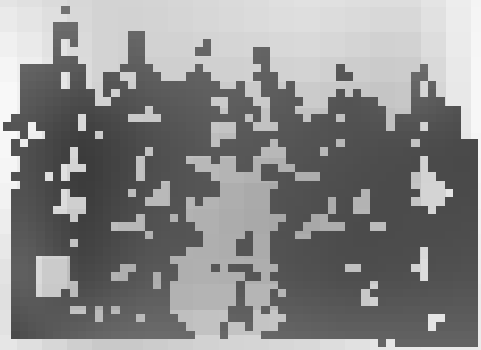


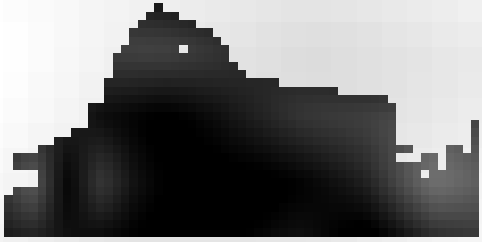


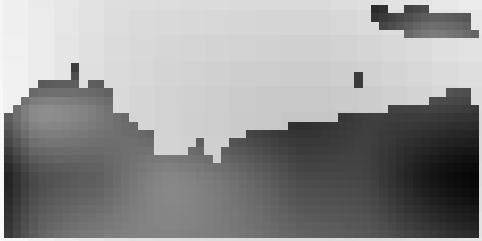


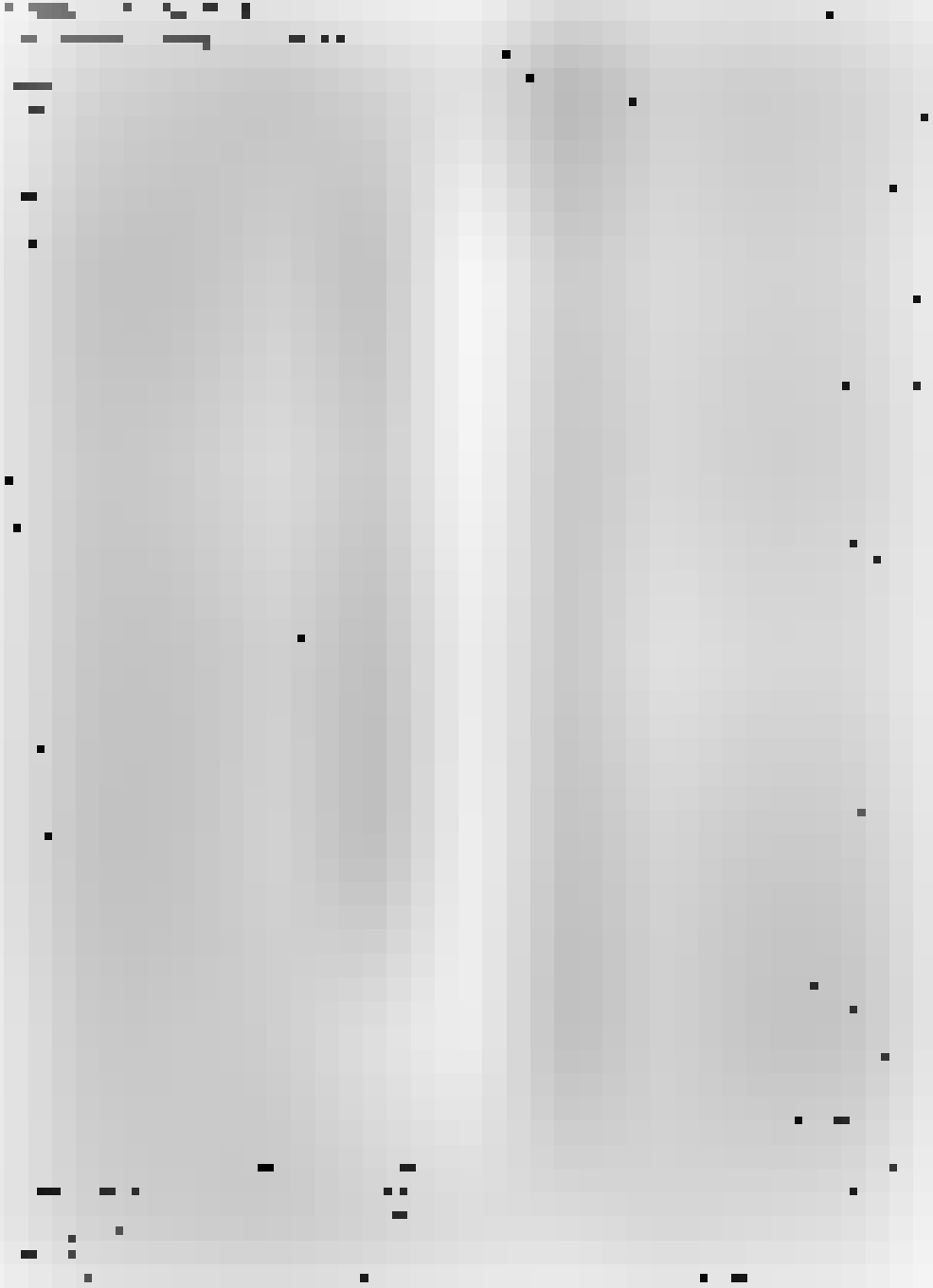


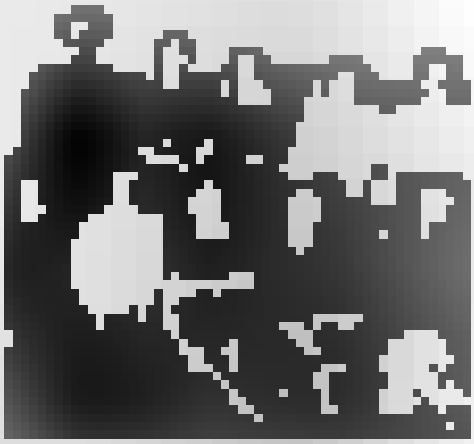


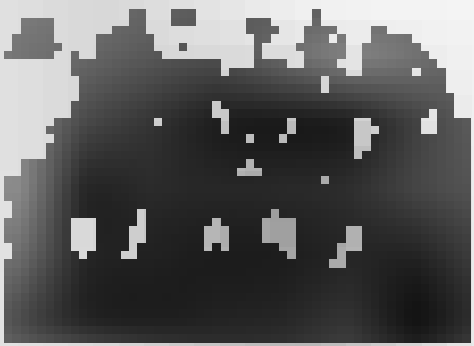


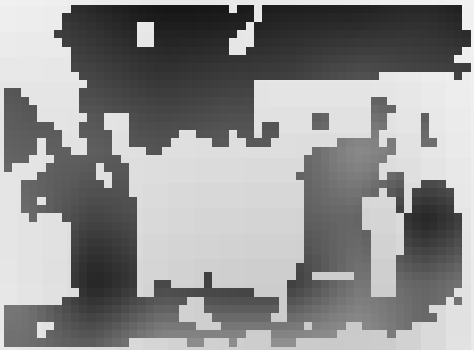


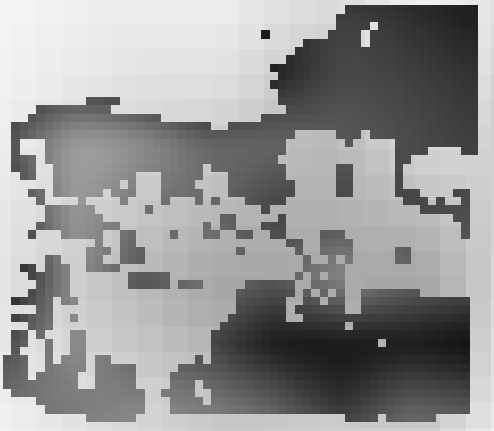


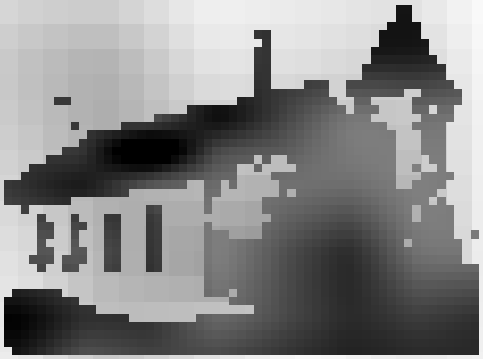


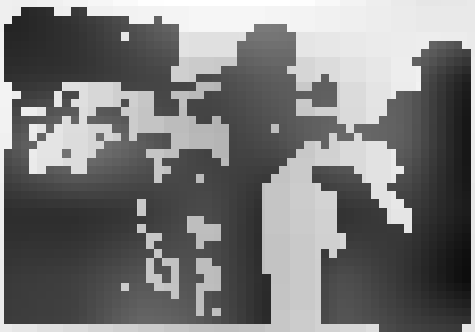


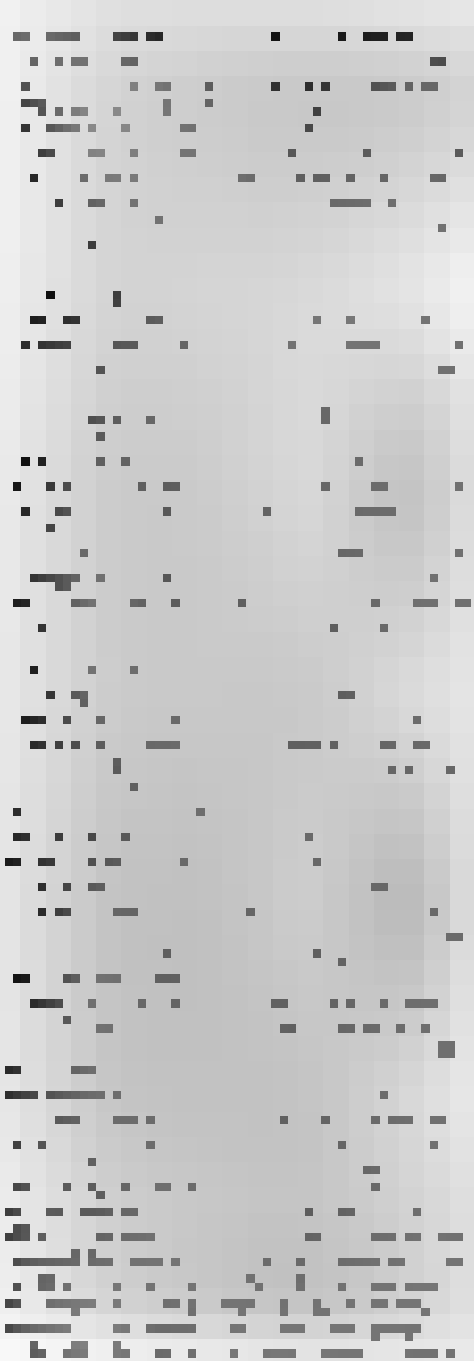


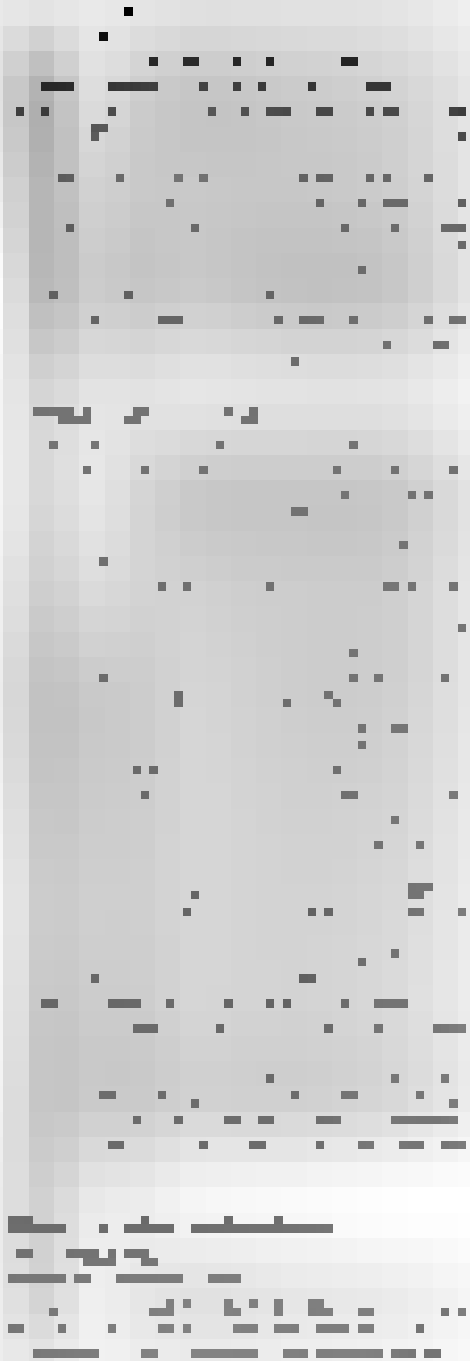


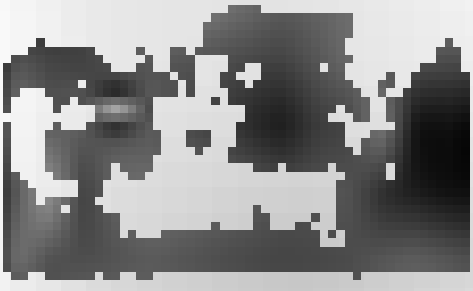


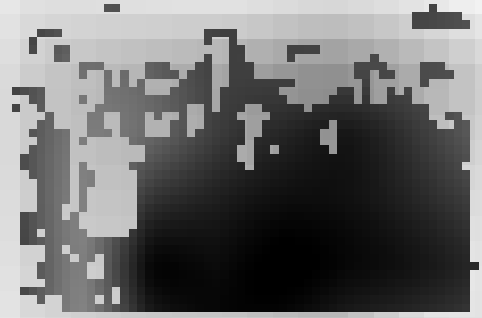


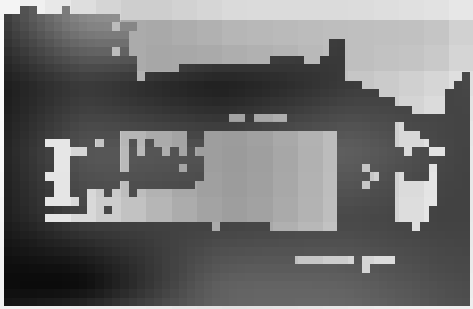


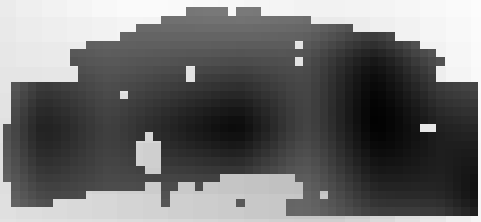


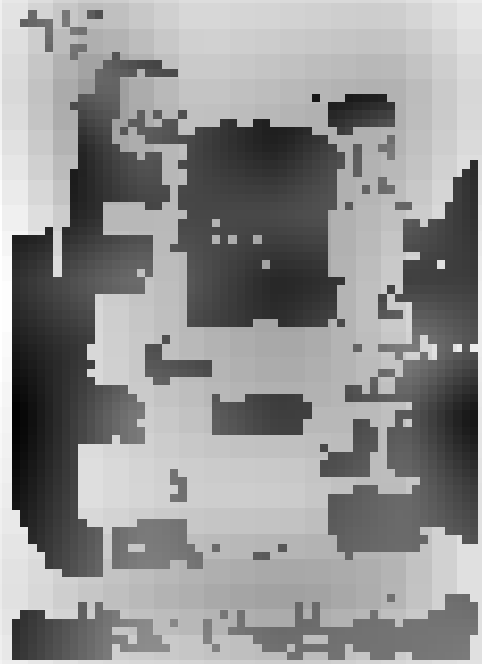


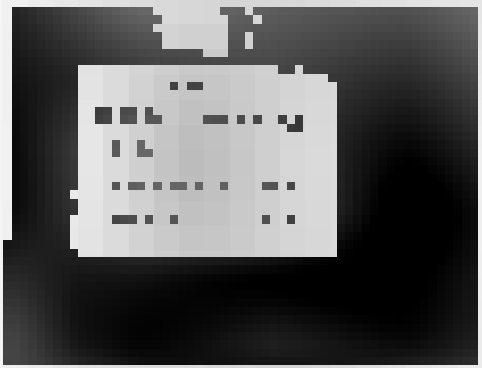


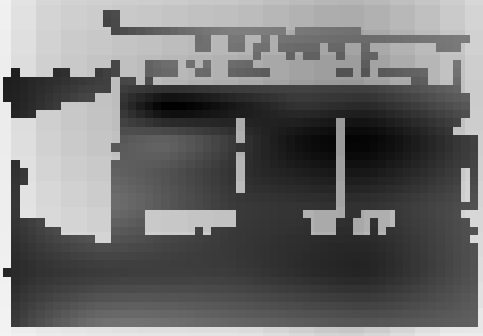


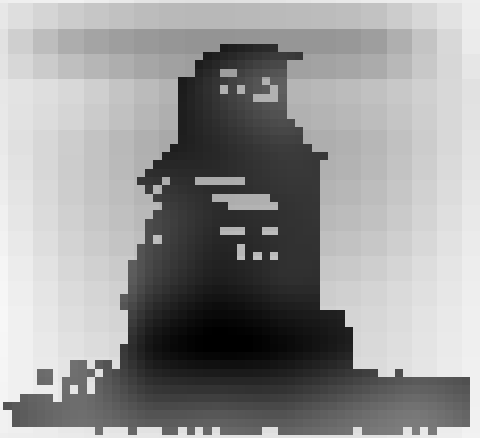


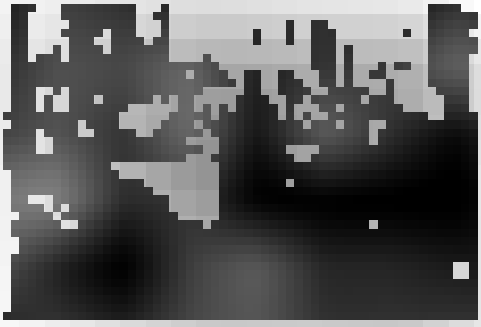


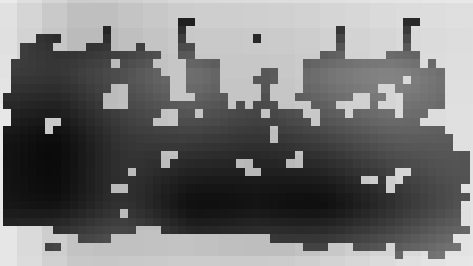


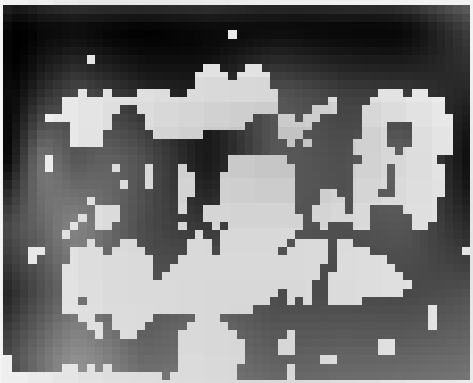


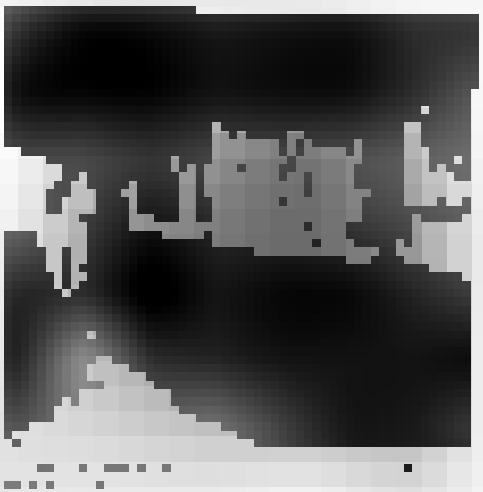


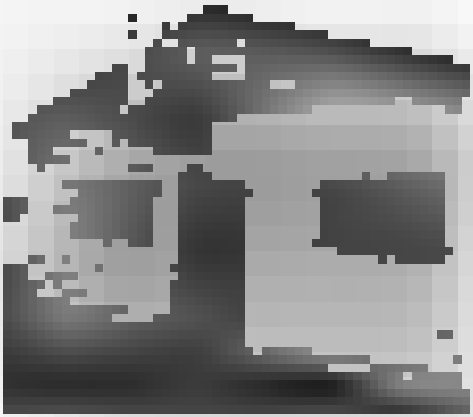


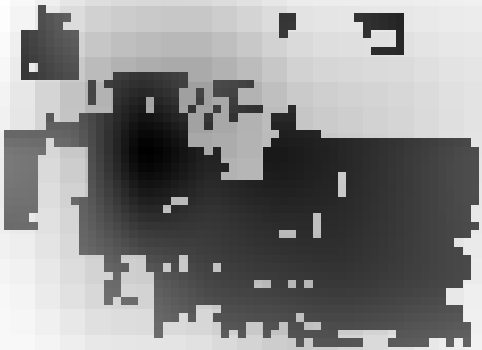


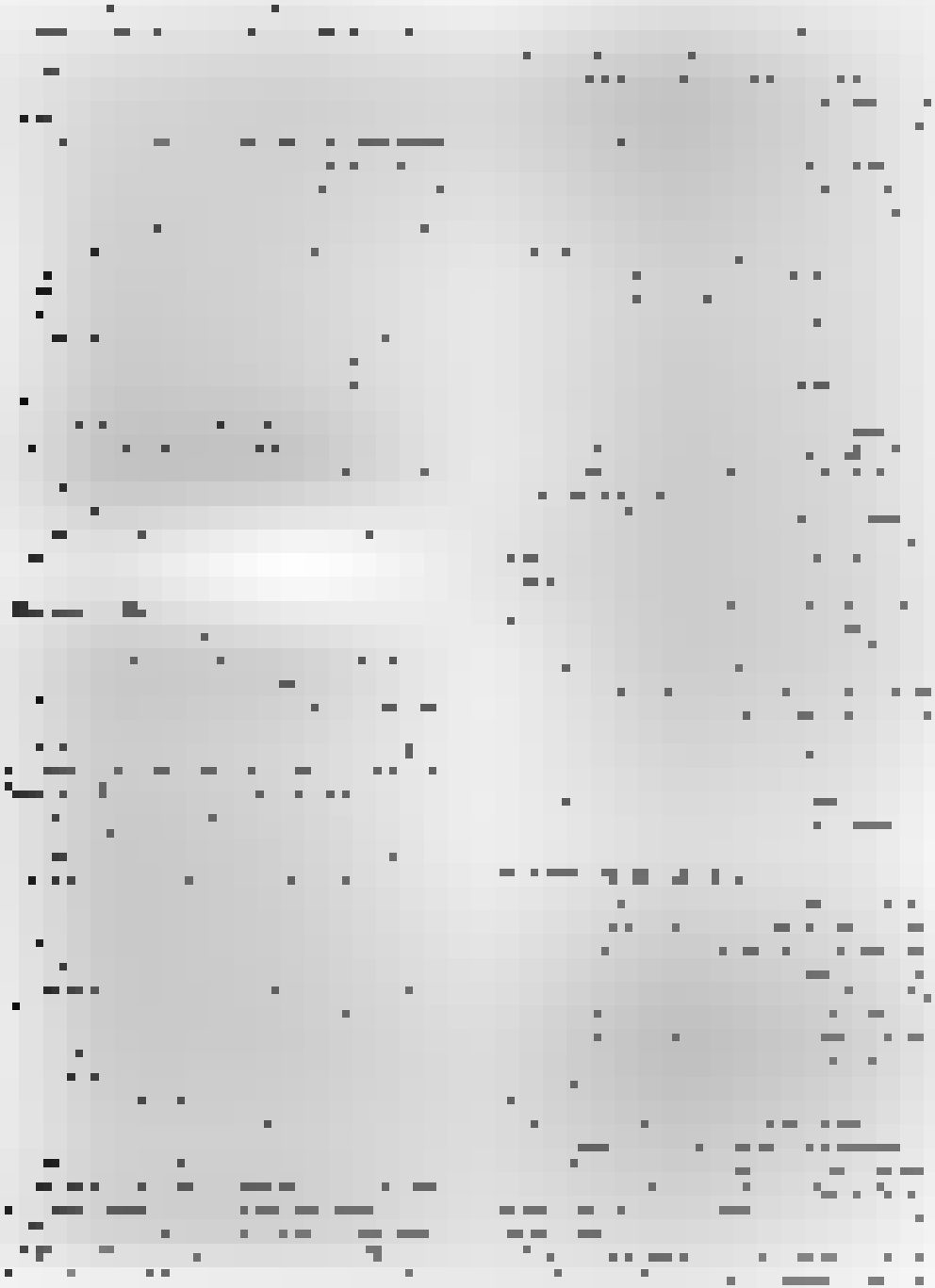


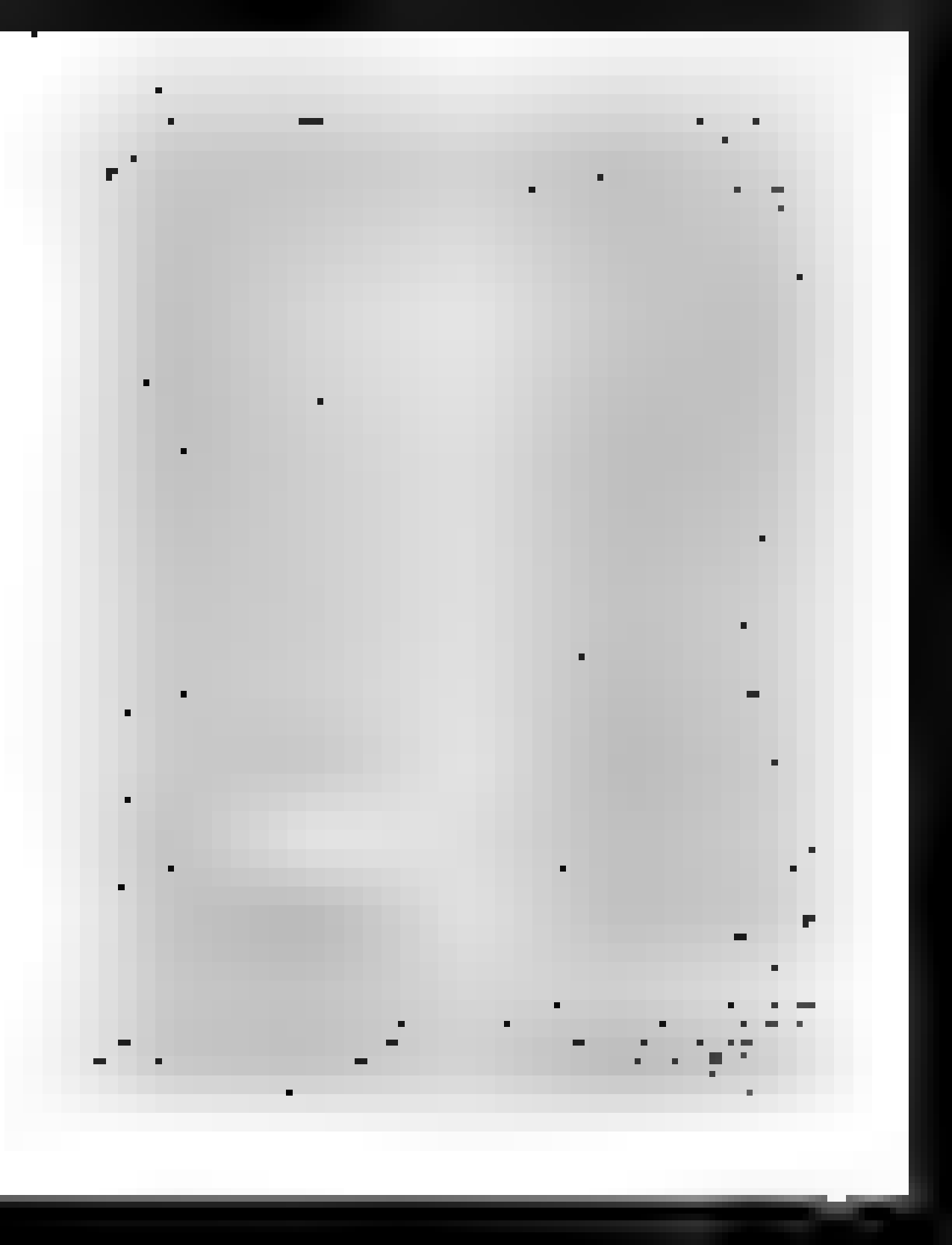


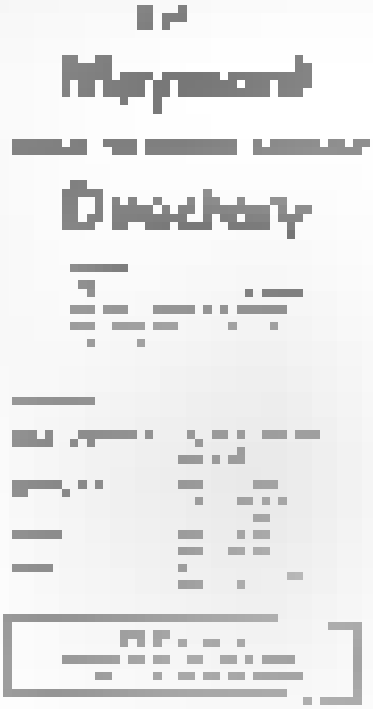


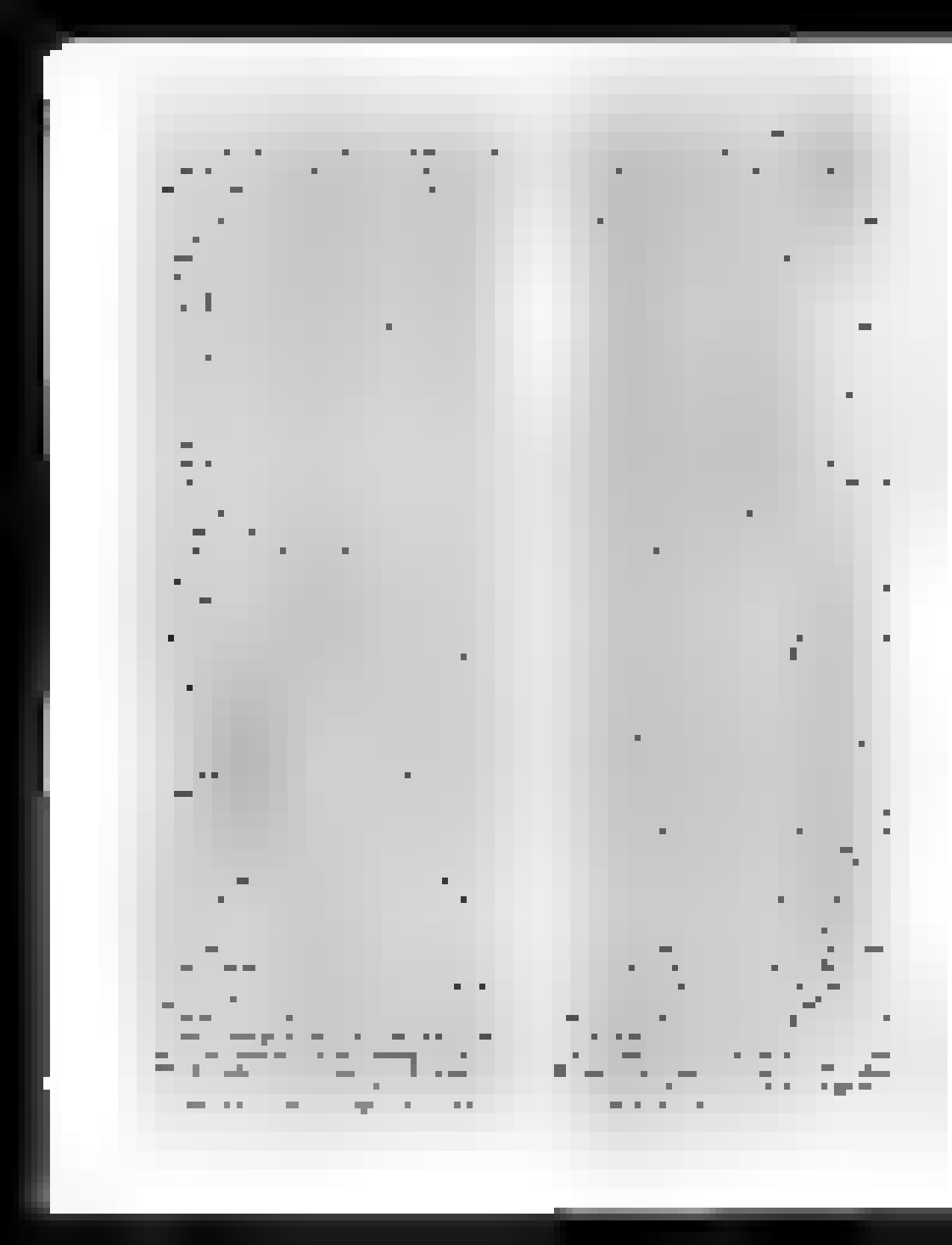


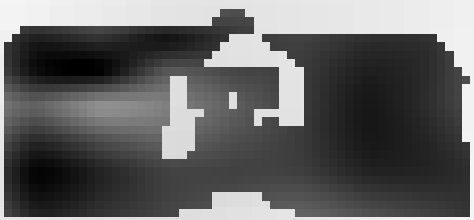


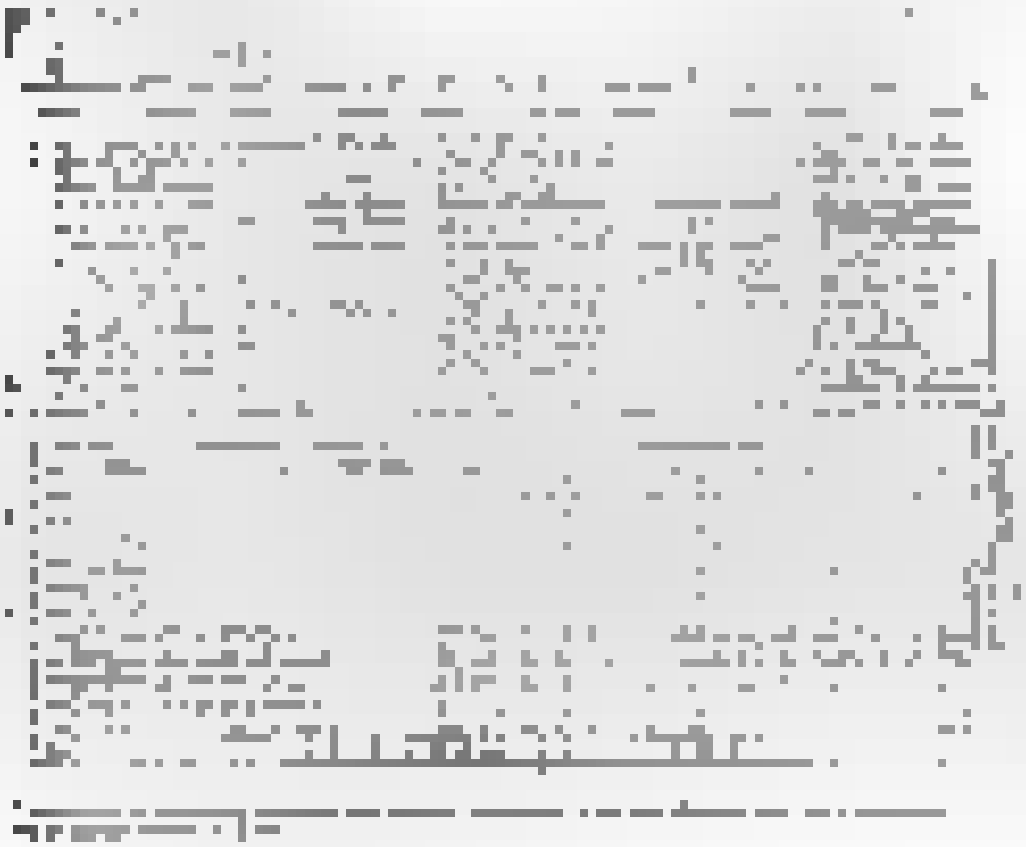


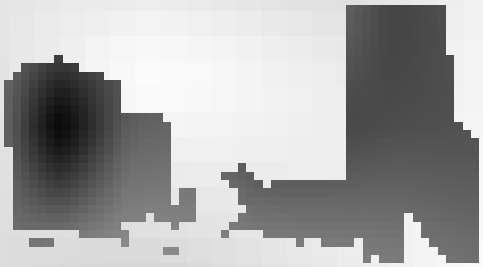


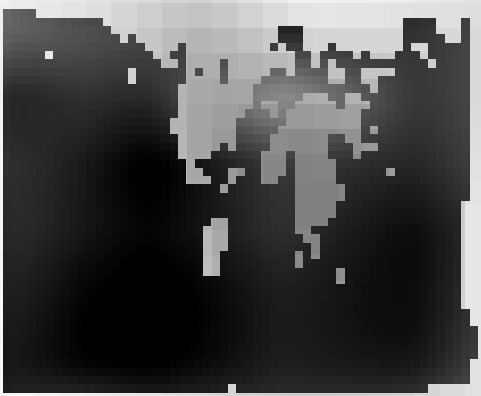


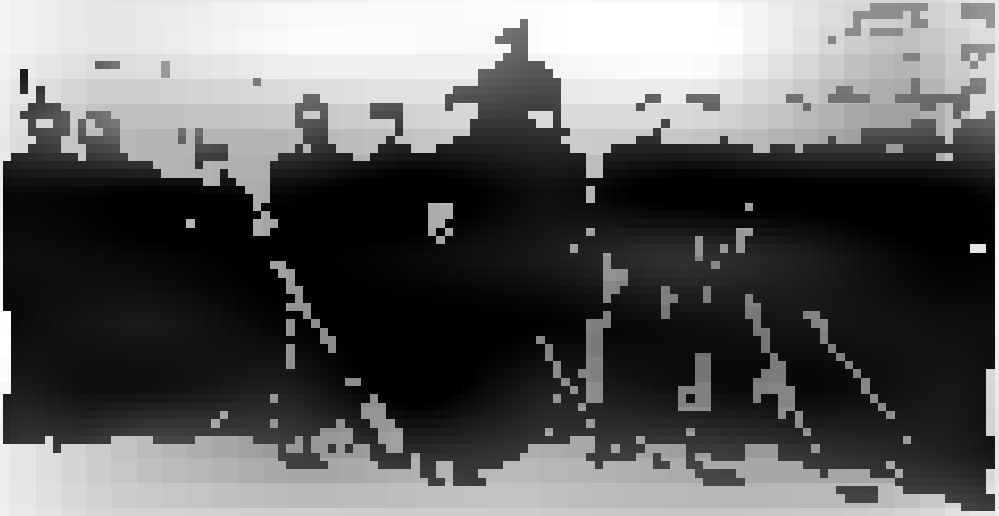


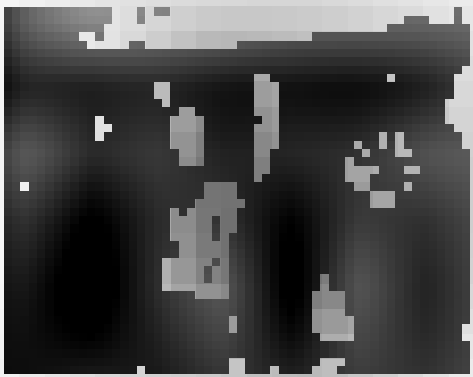


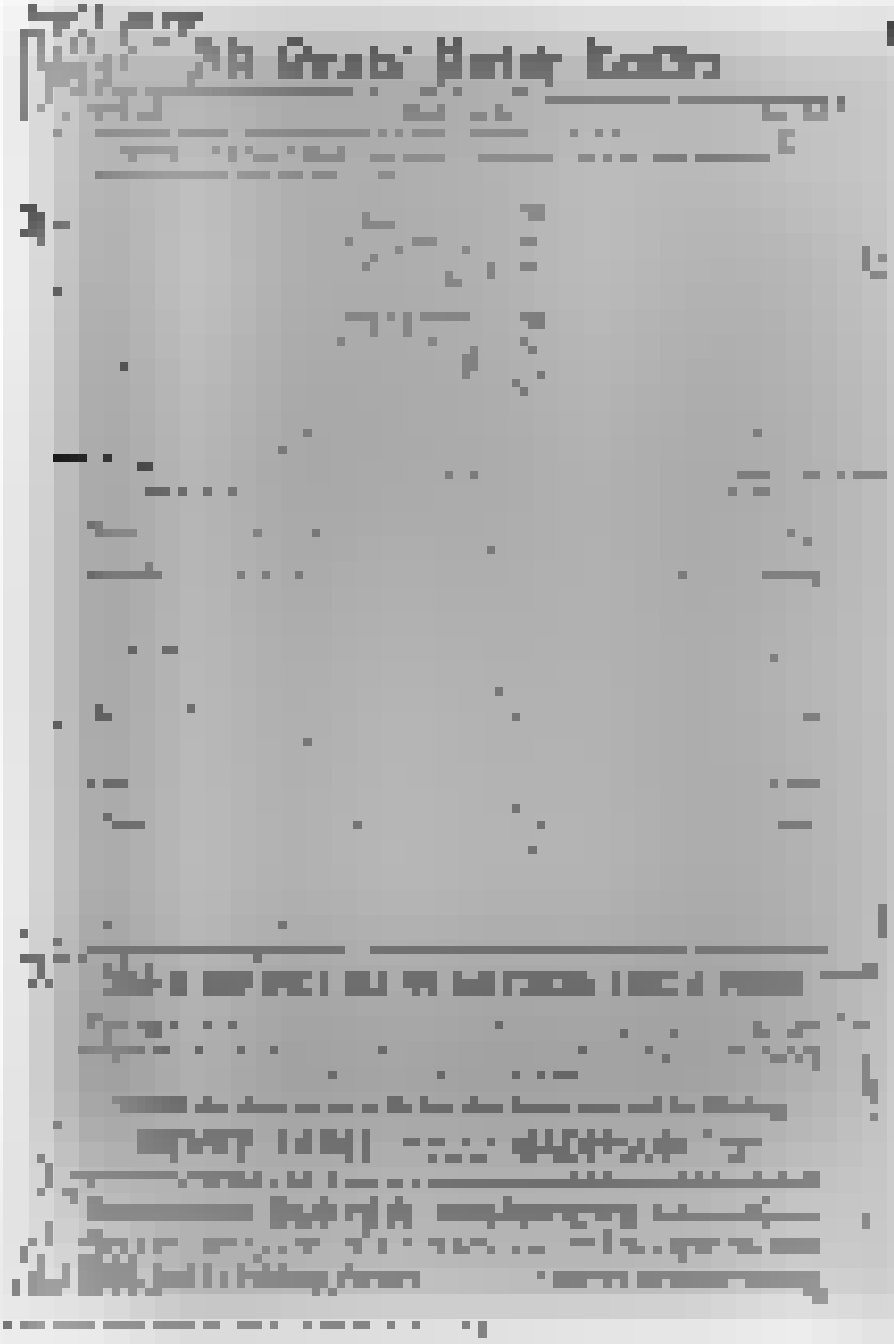
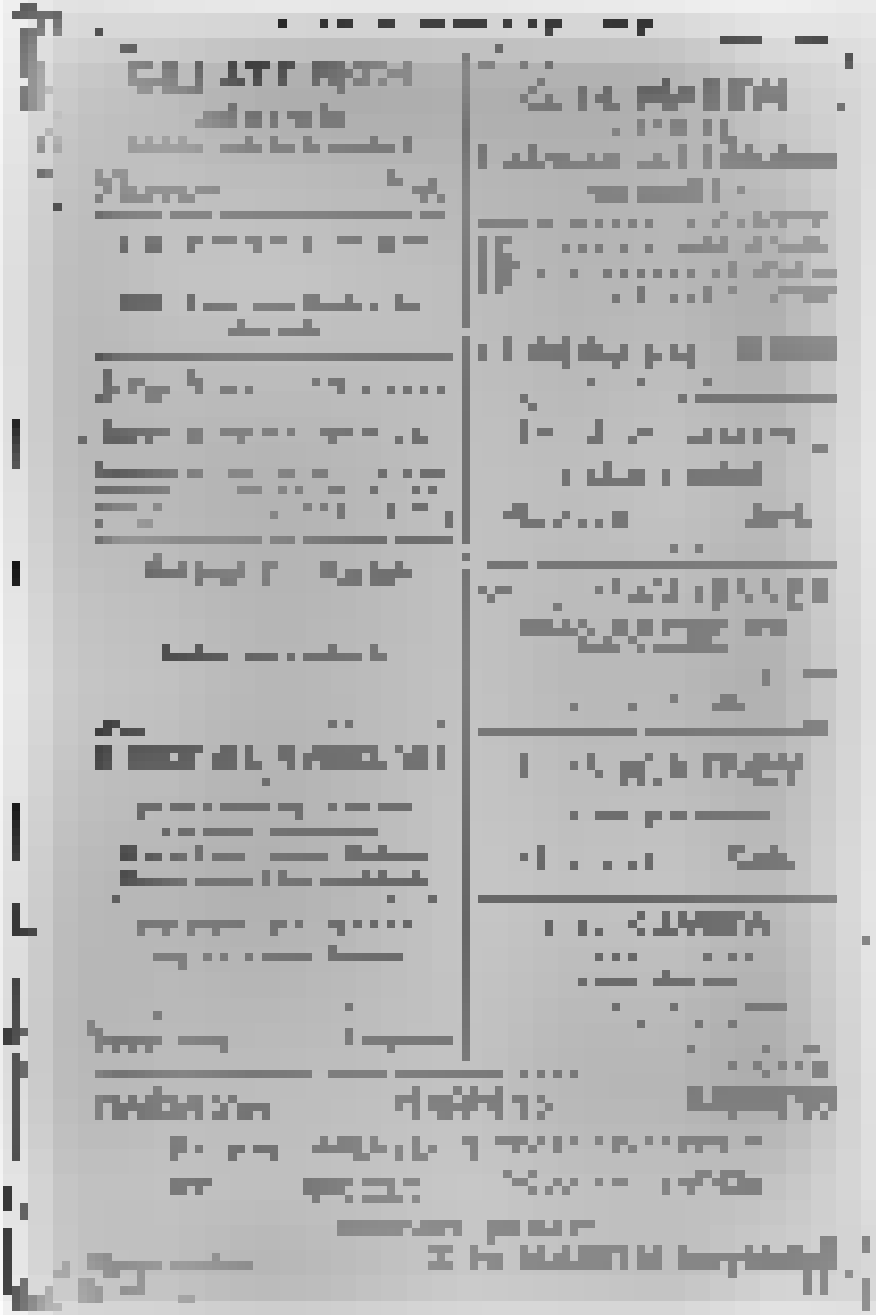


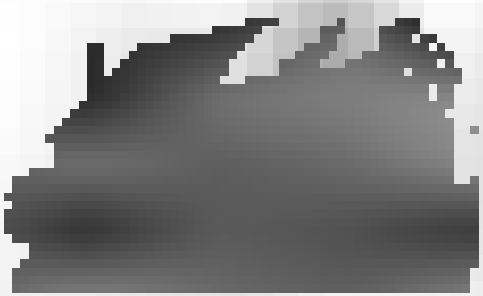


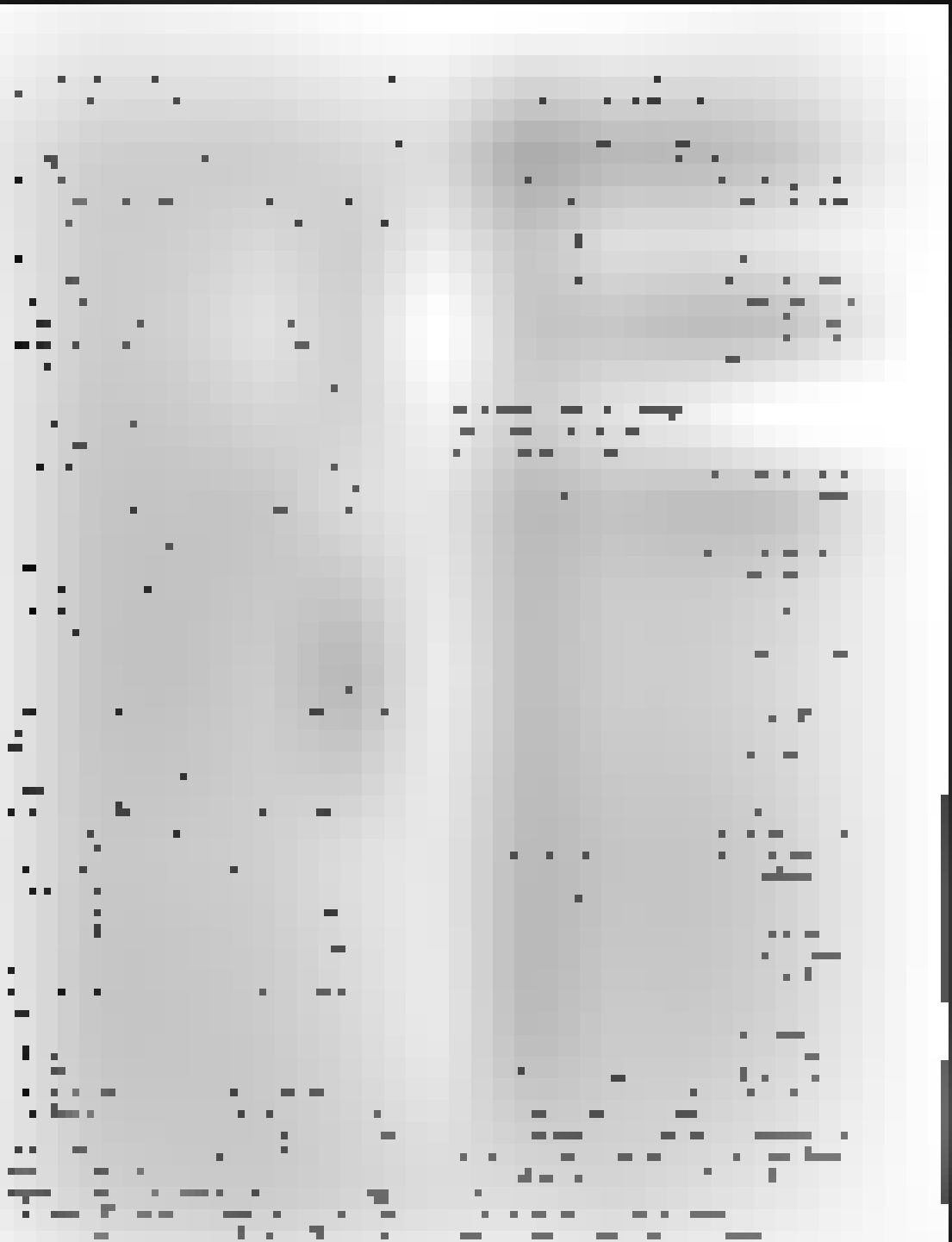


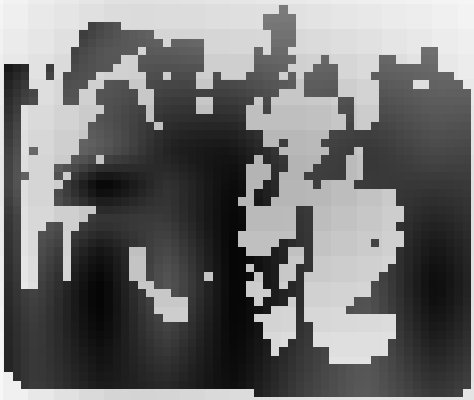


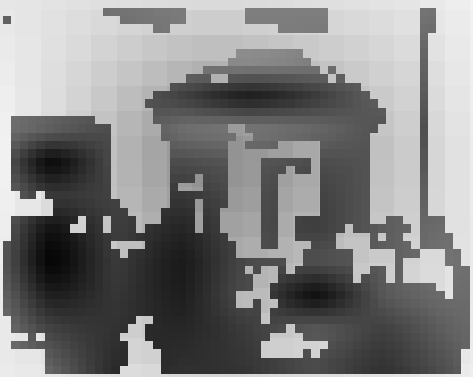


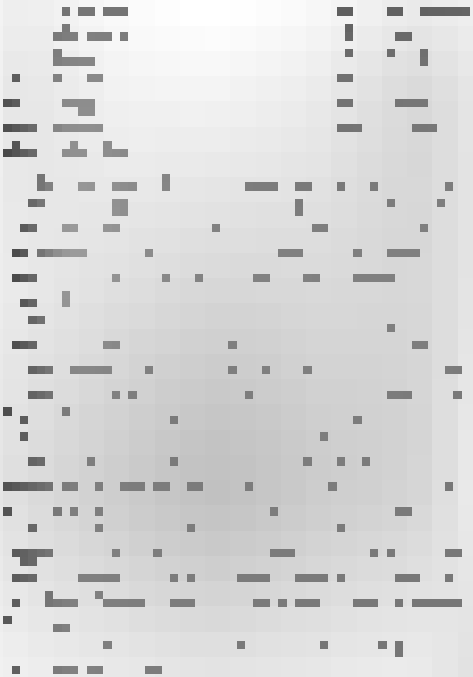


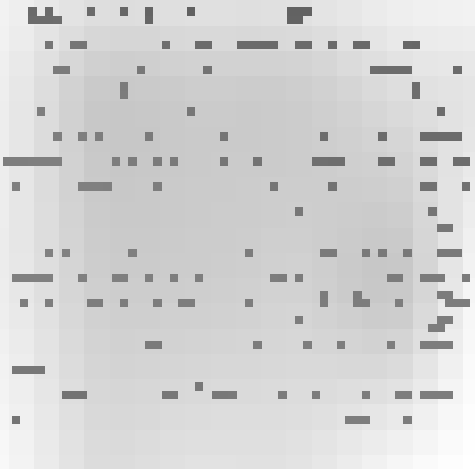


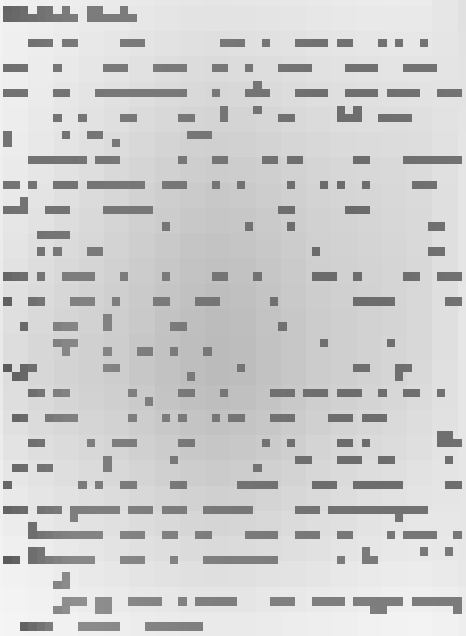


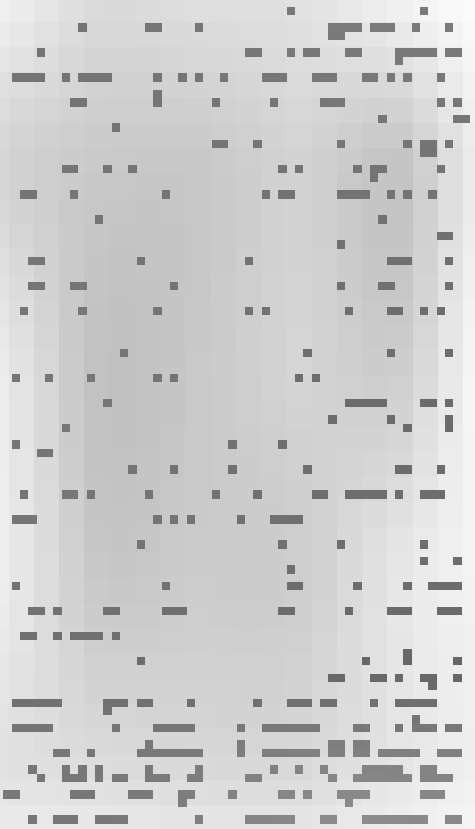


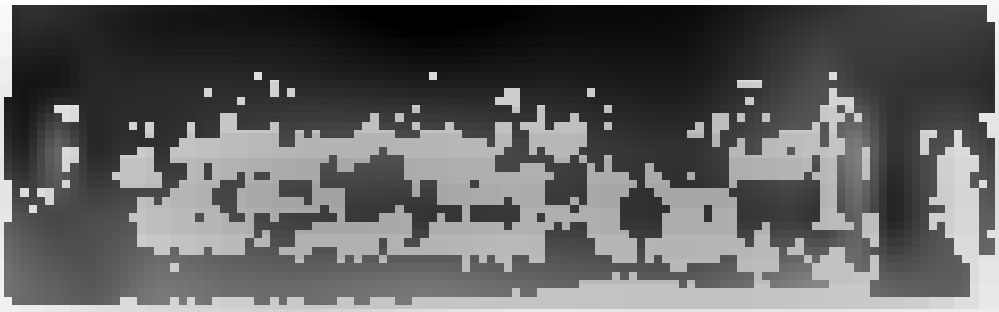


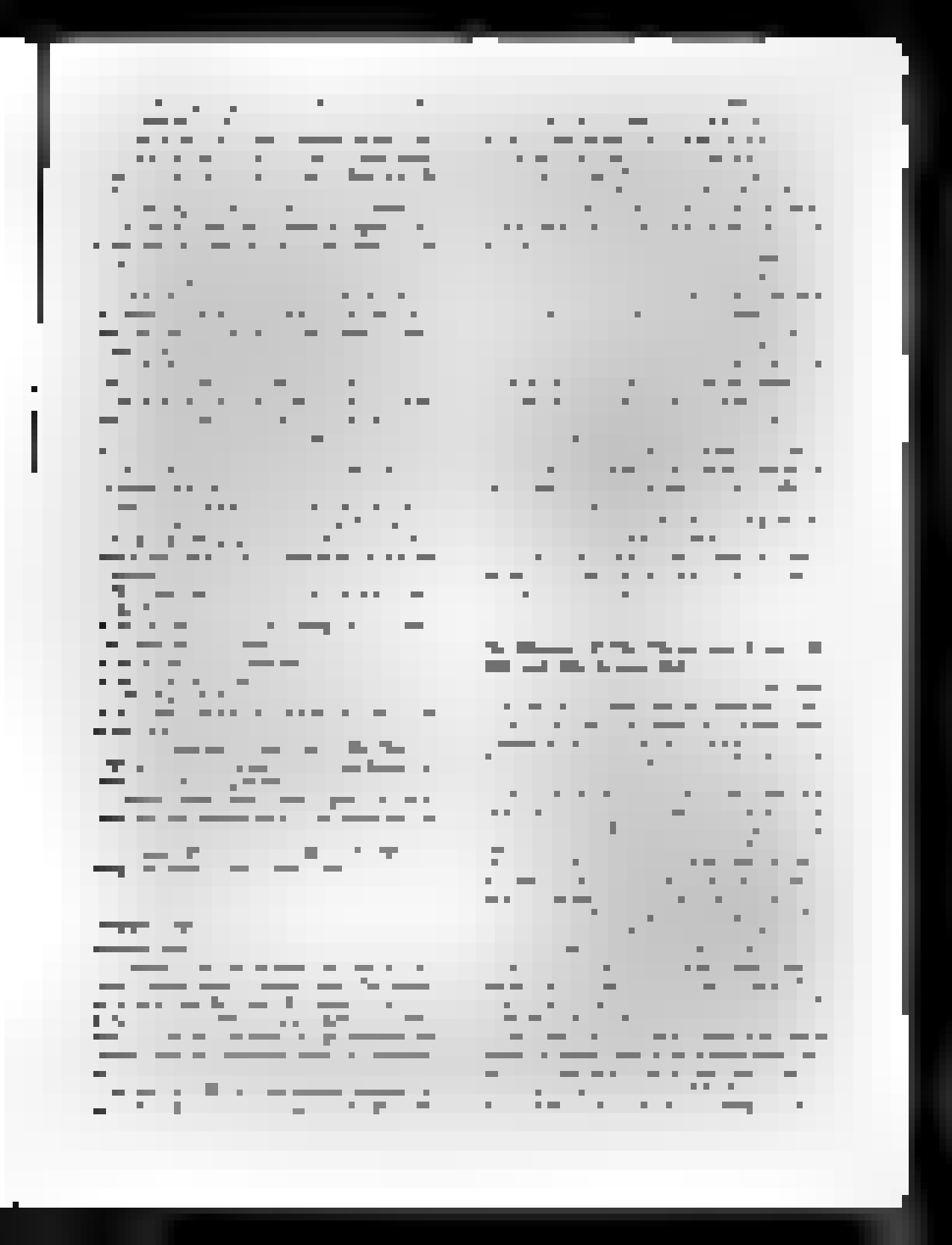


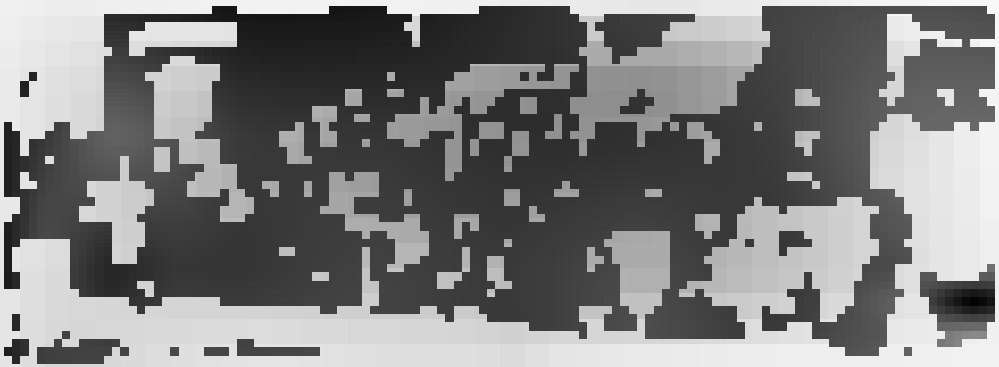


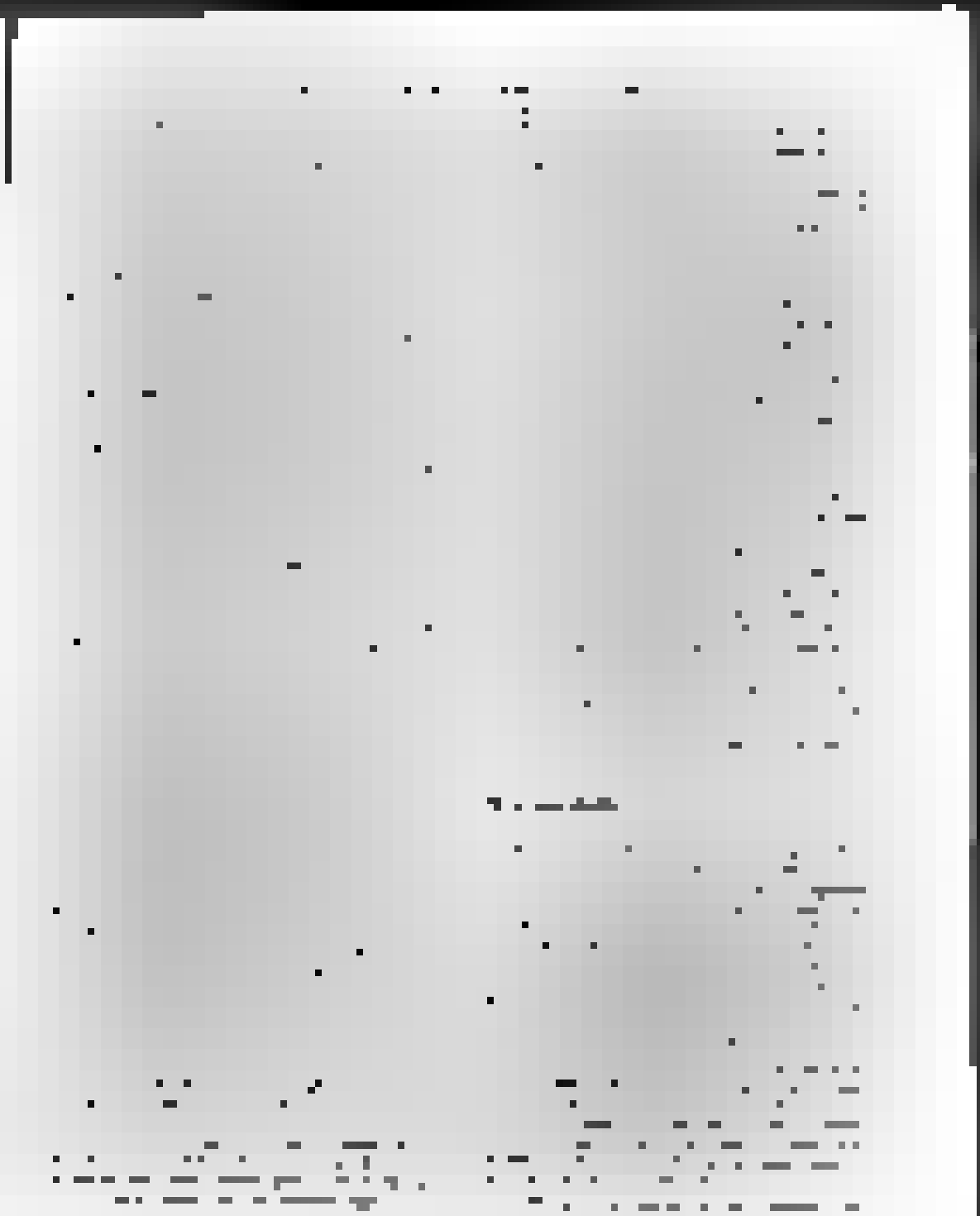




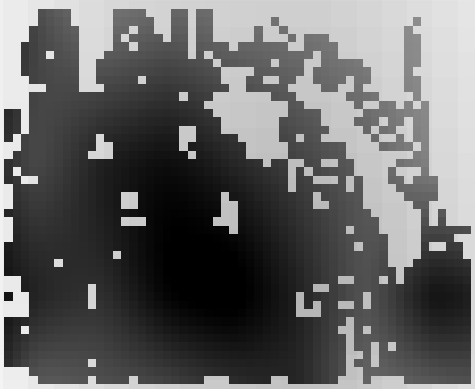








School Districts



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DAILY REGISTER

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OF

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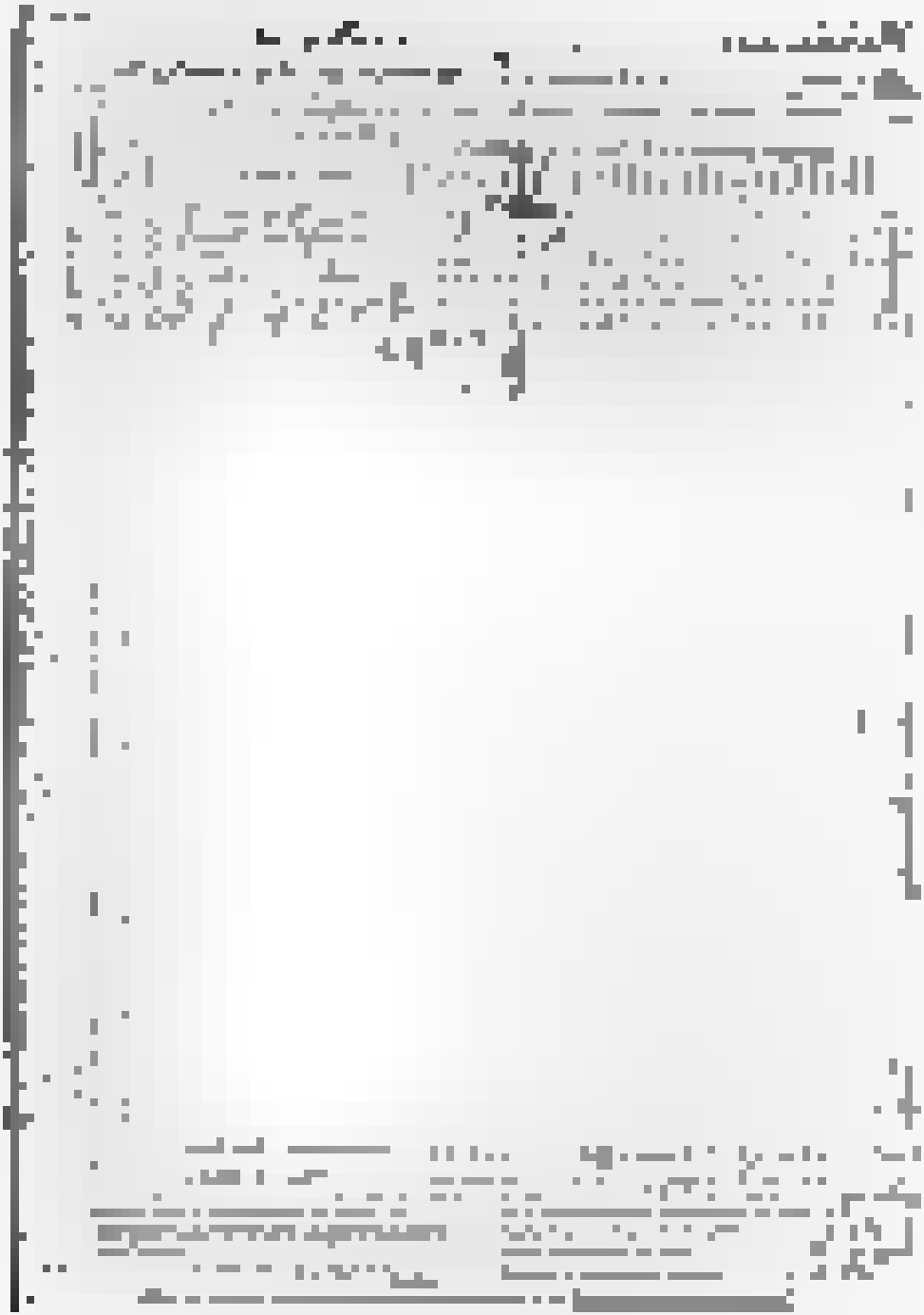
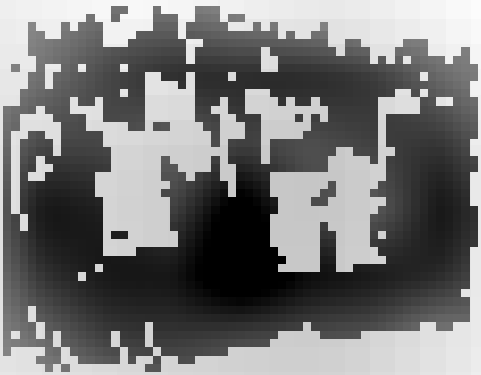
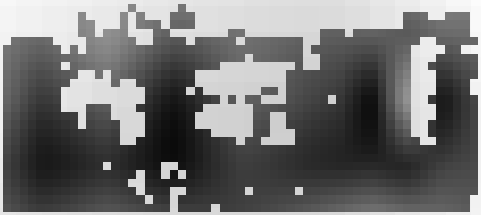
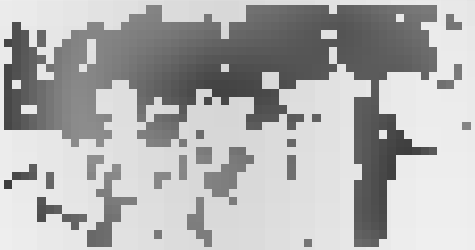
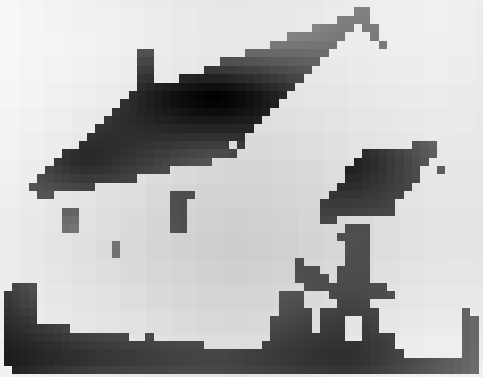
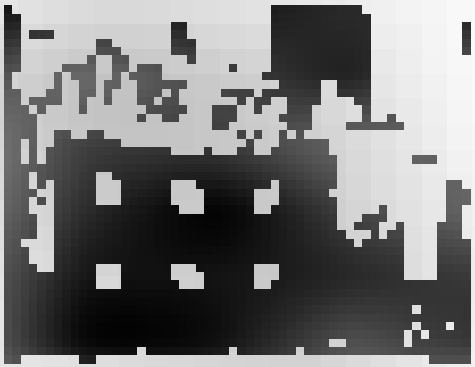


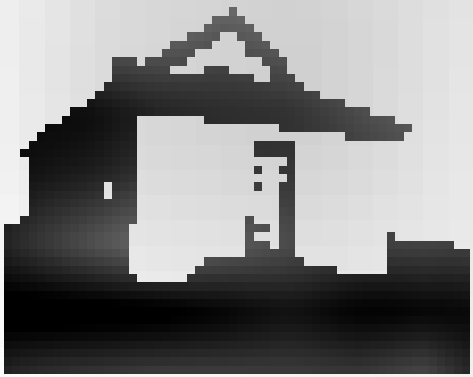


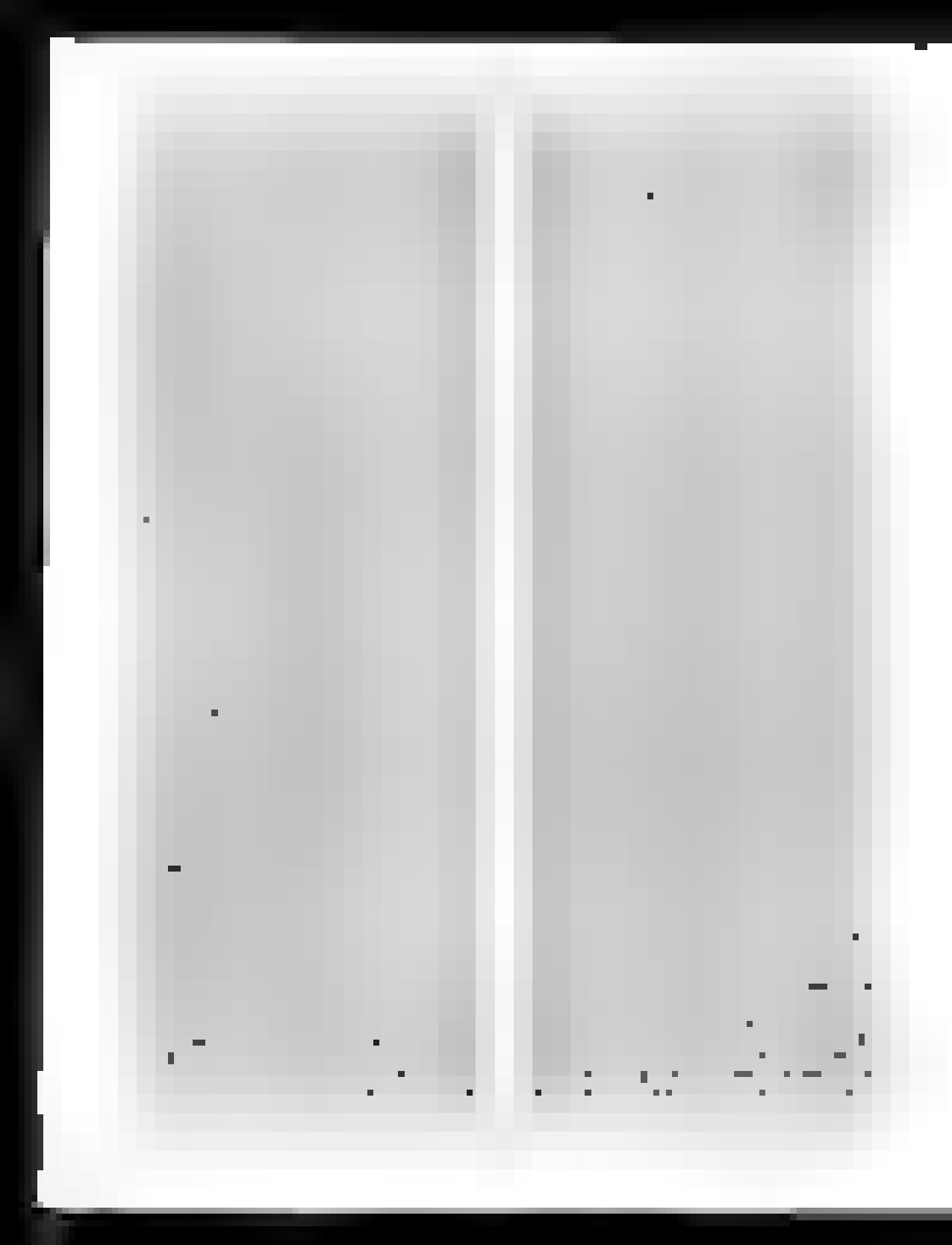


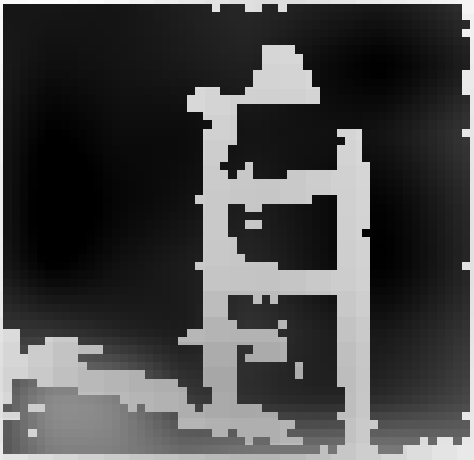


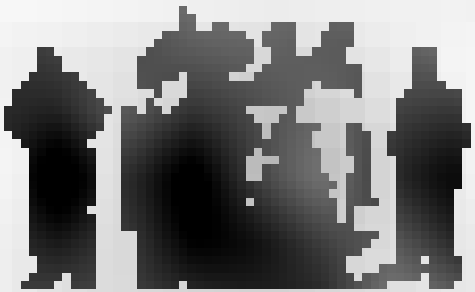


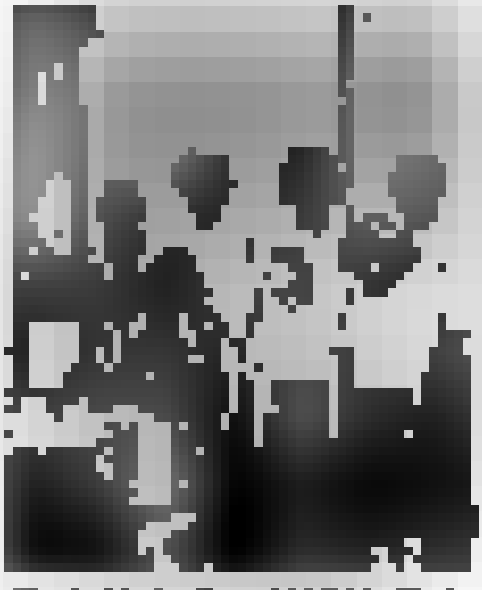


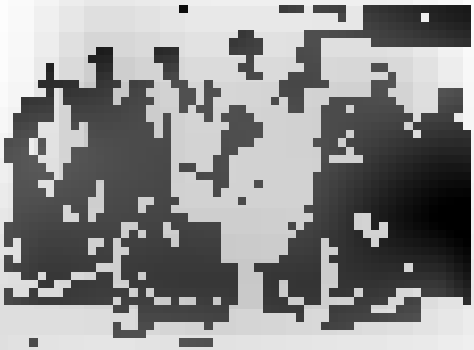


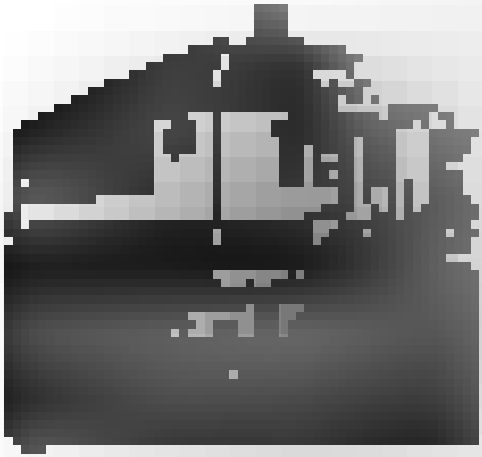


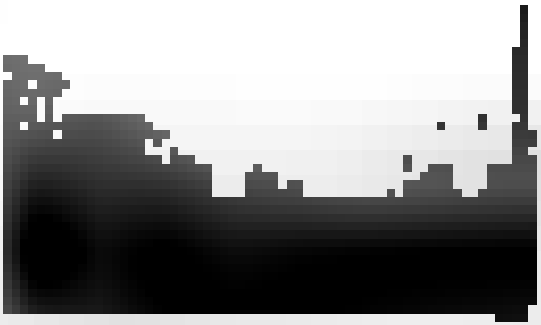


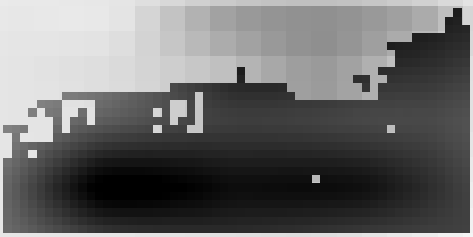


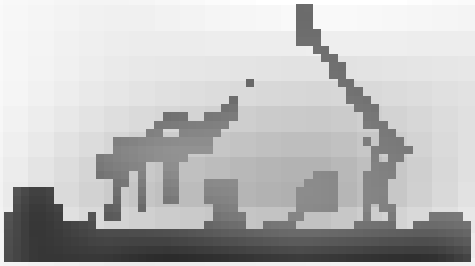


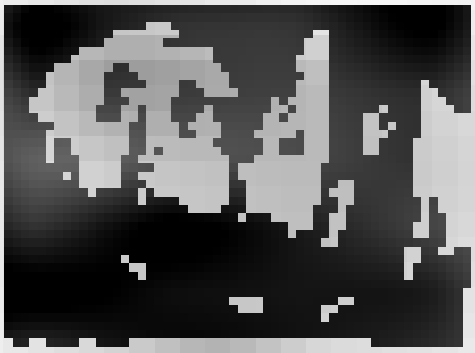


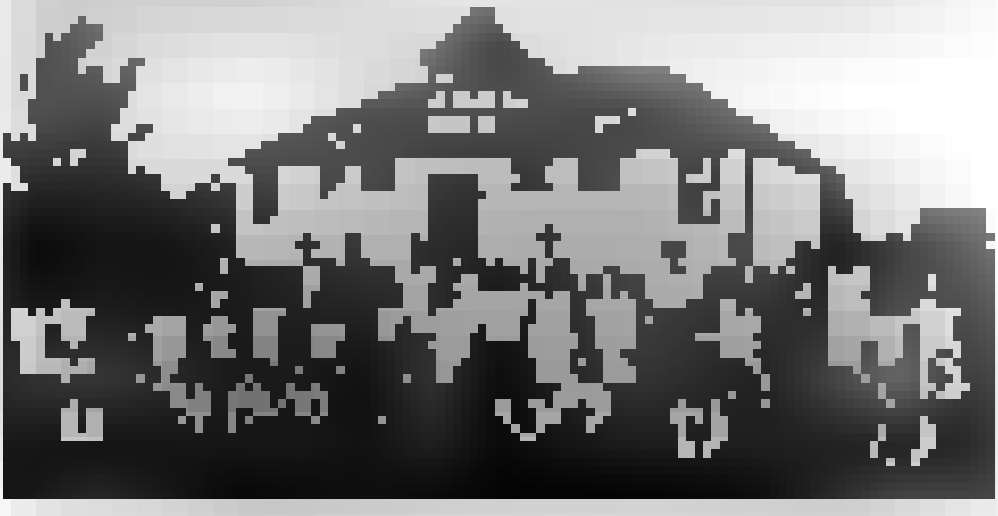


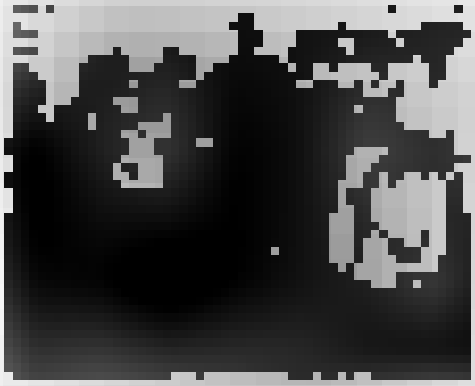


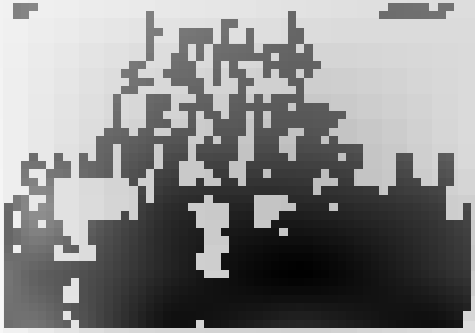


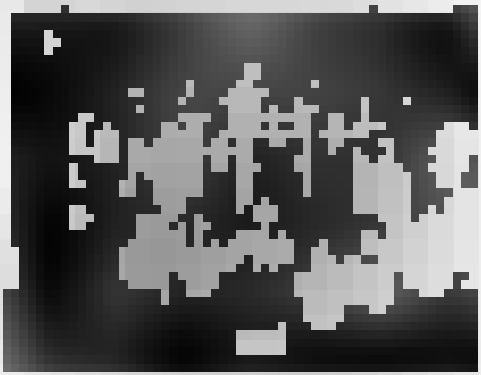


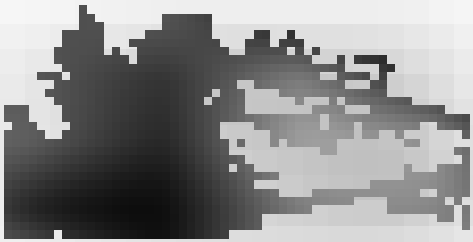


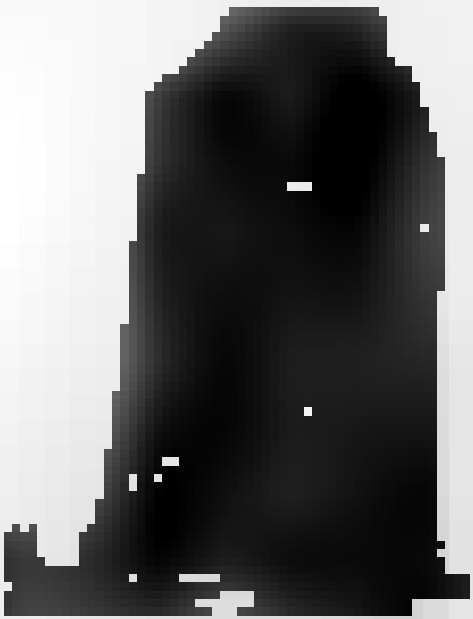




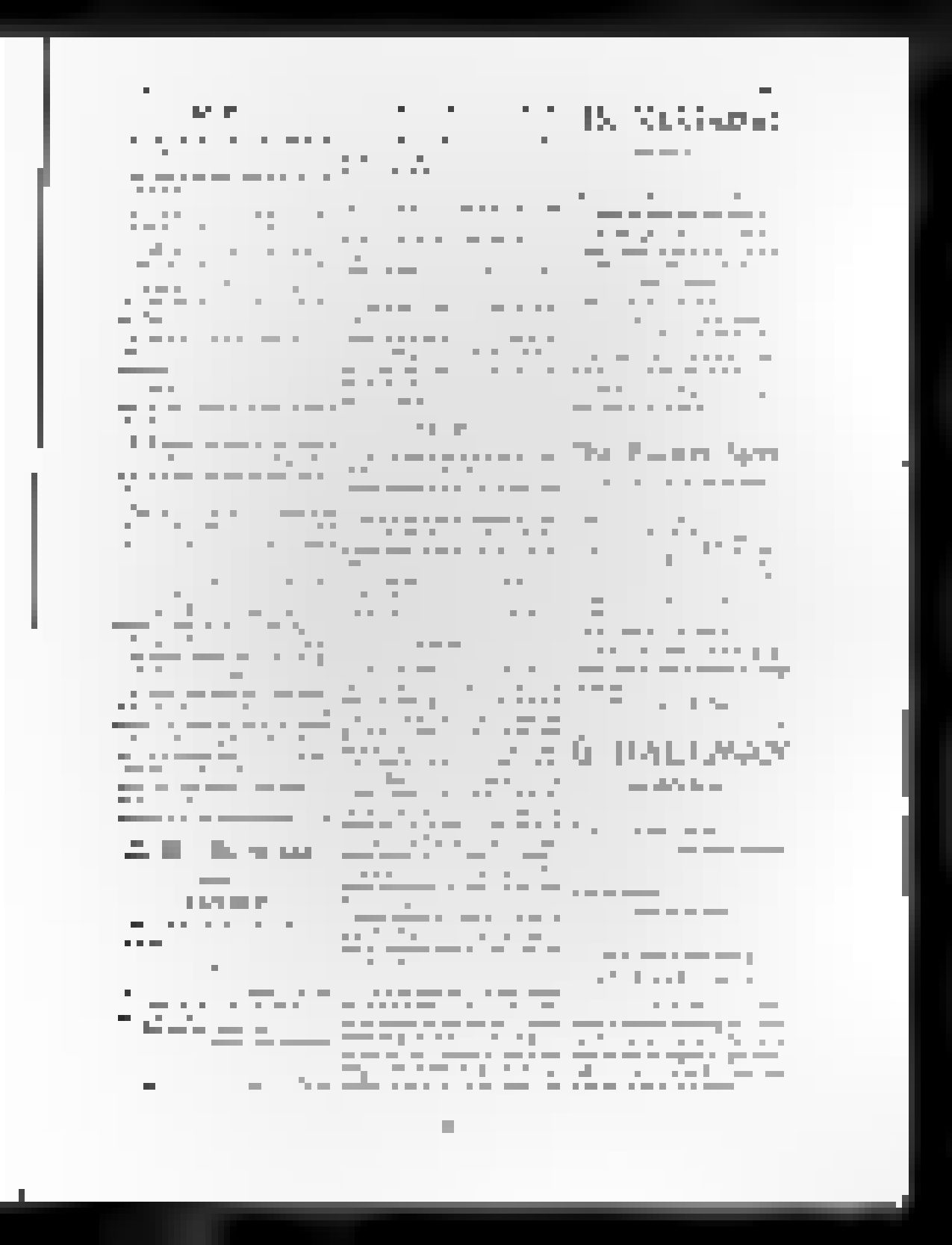


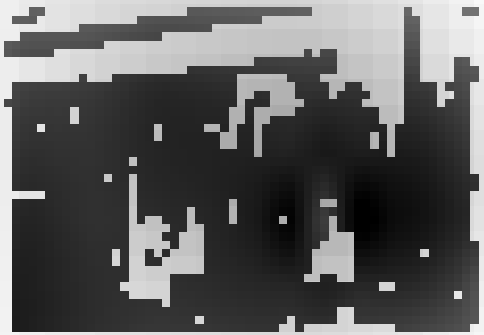


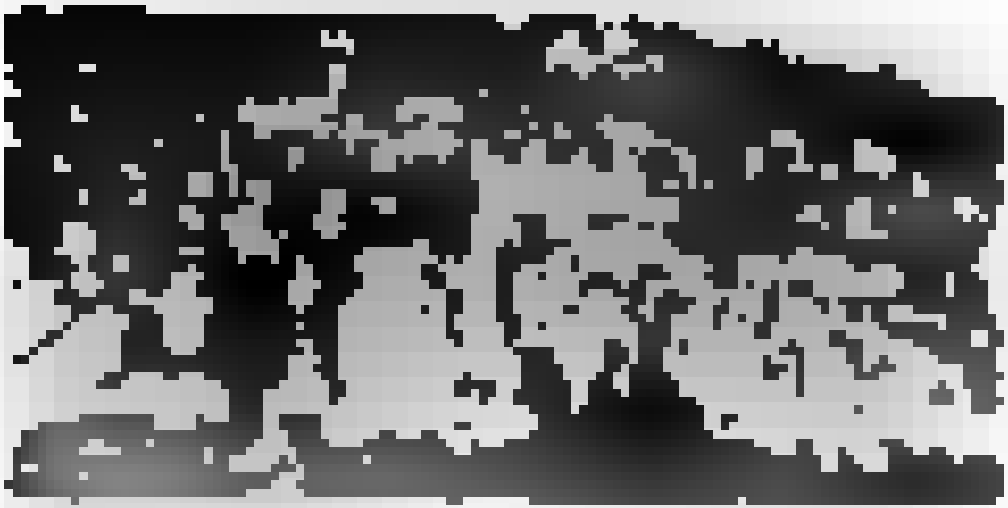


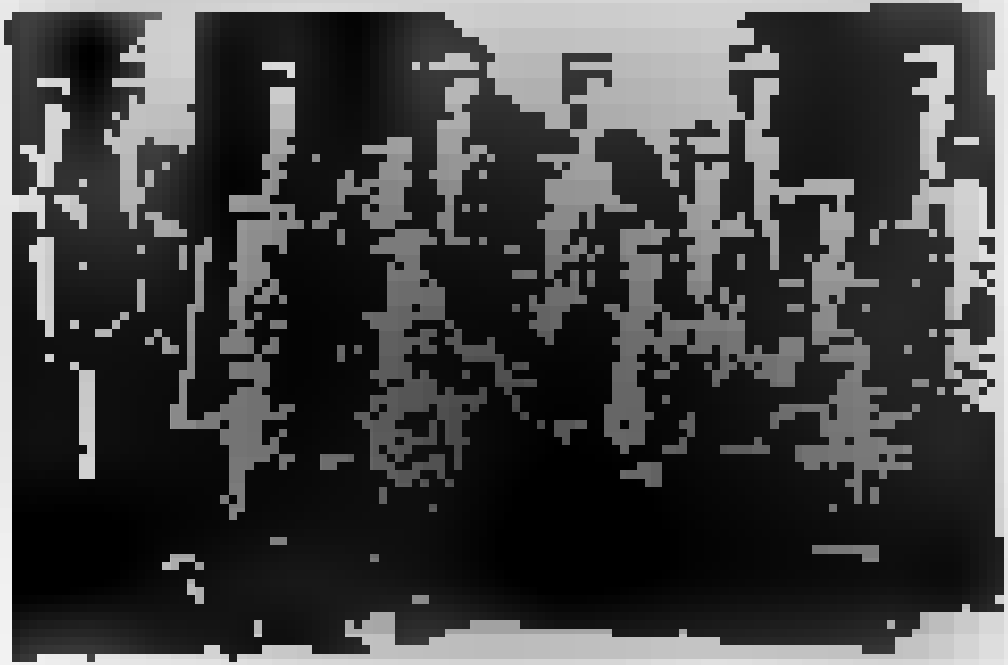


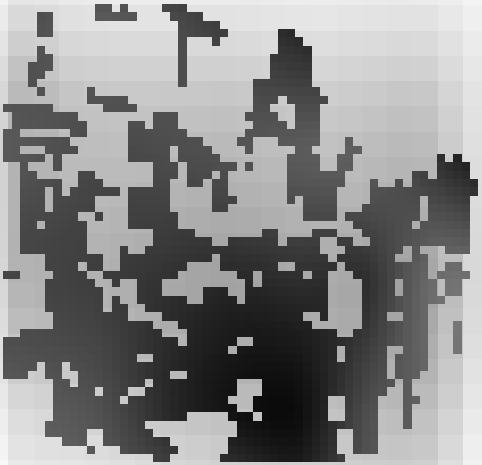
Ruddell News

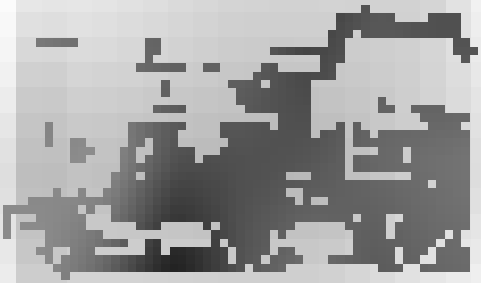


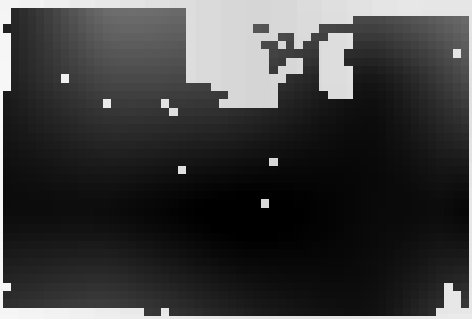


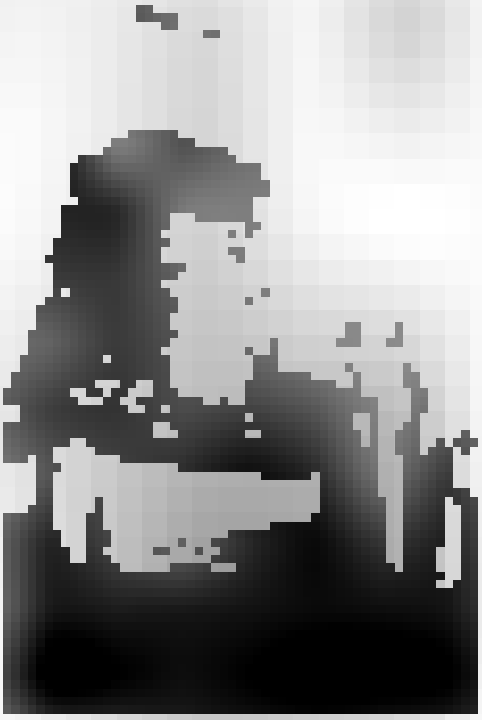


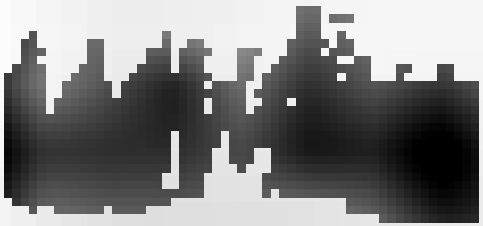


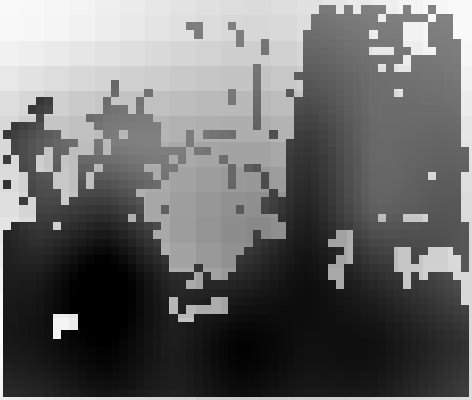




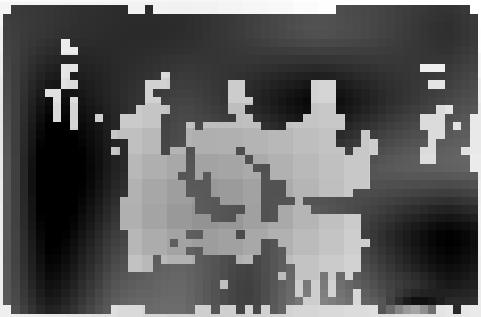


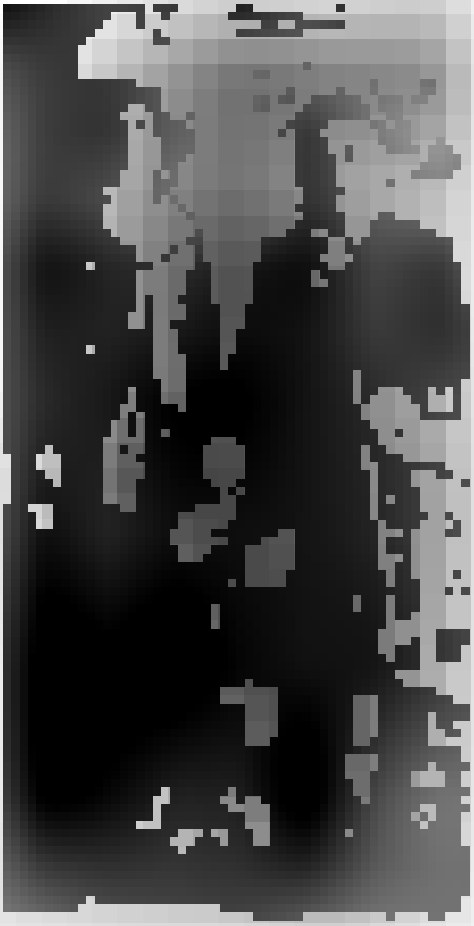


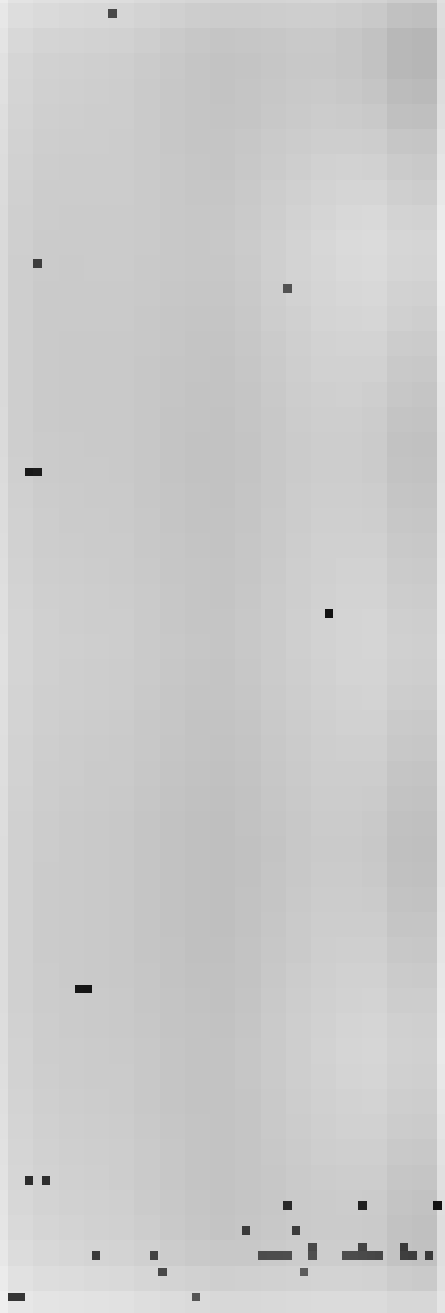


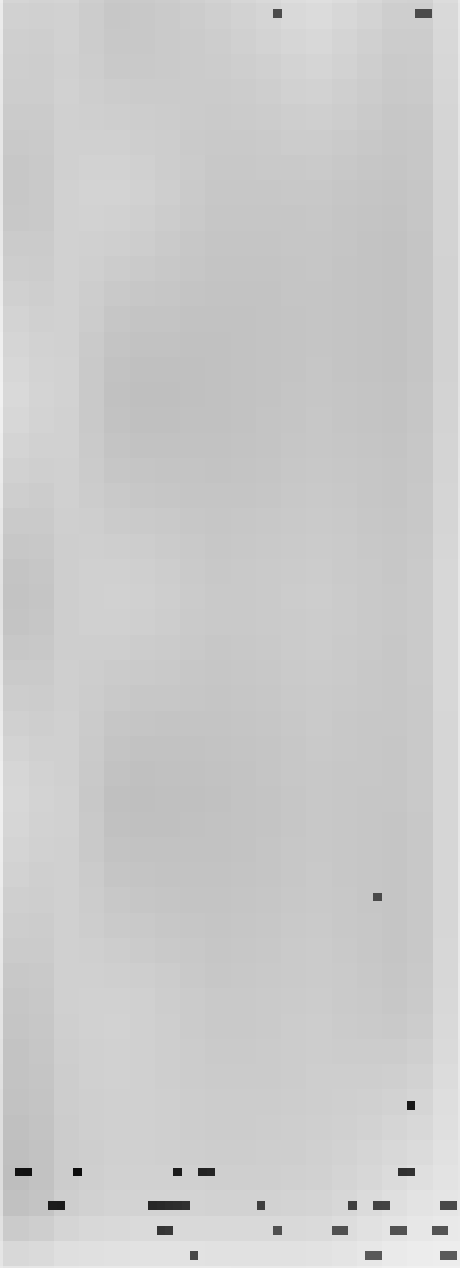


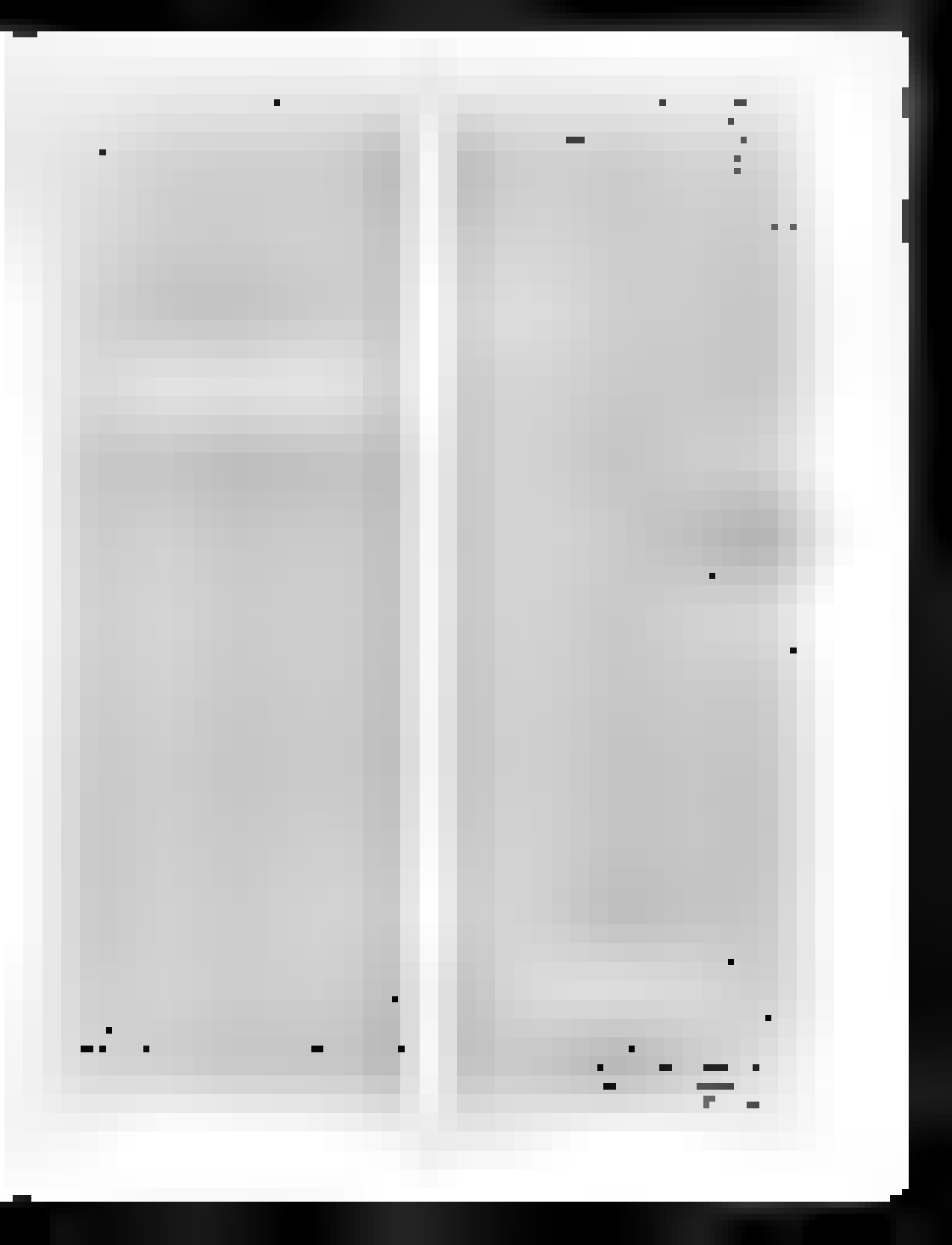
Family Disorders

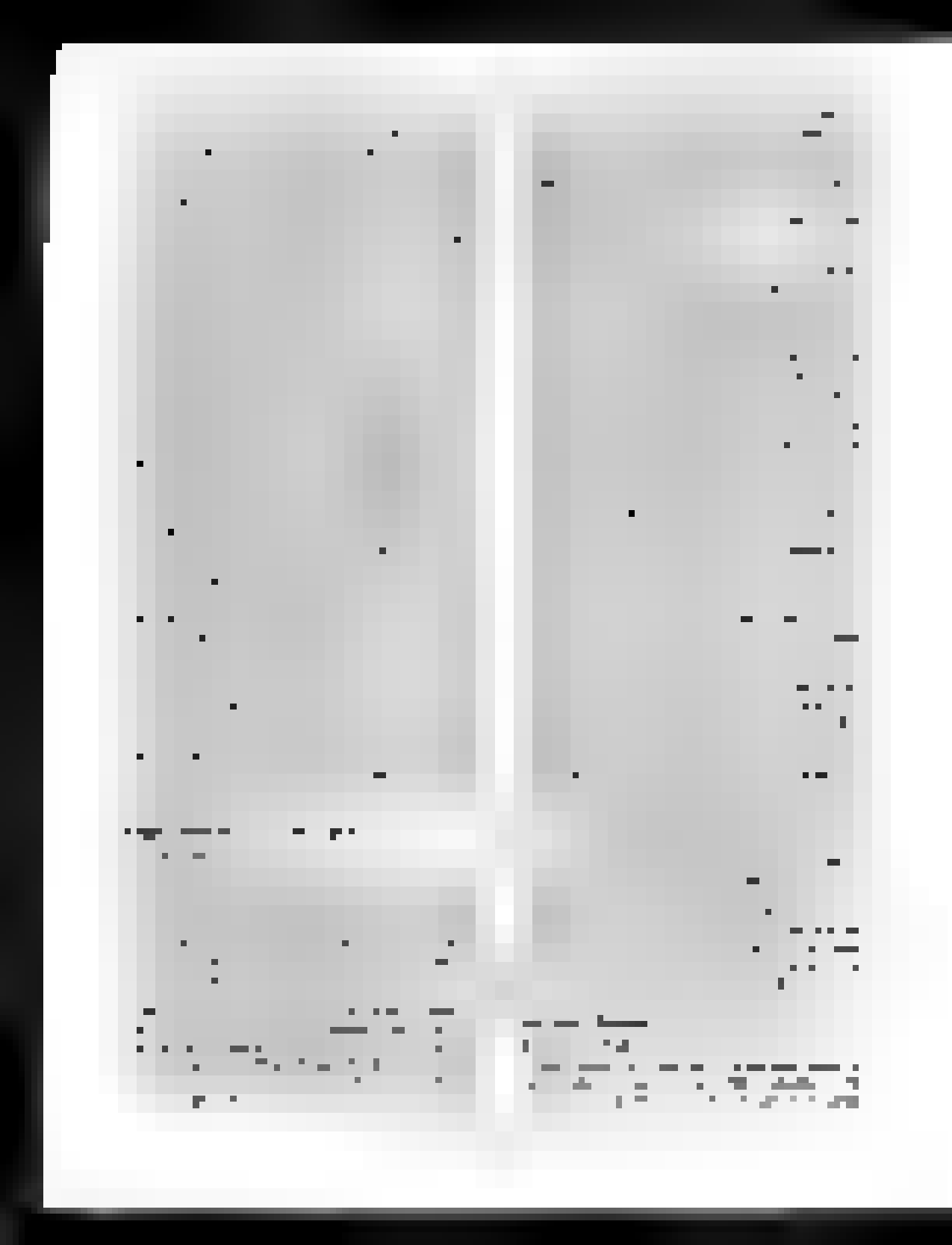


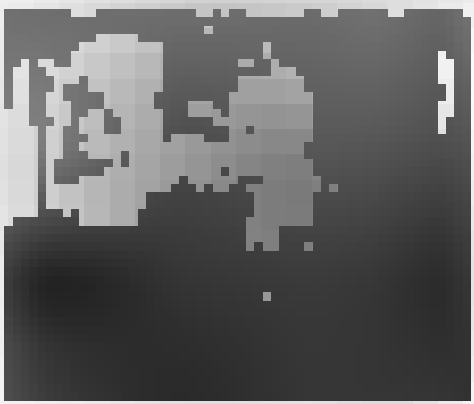


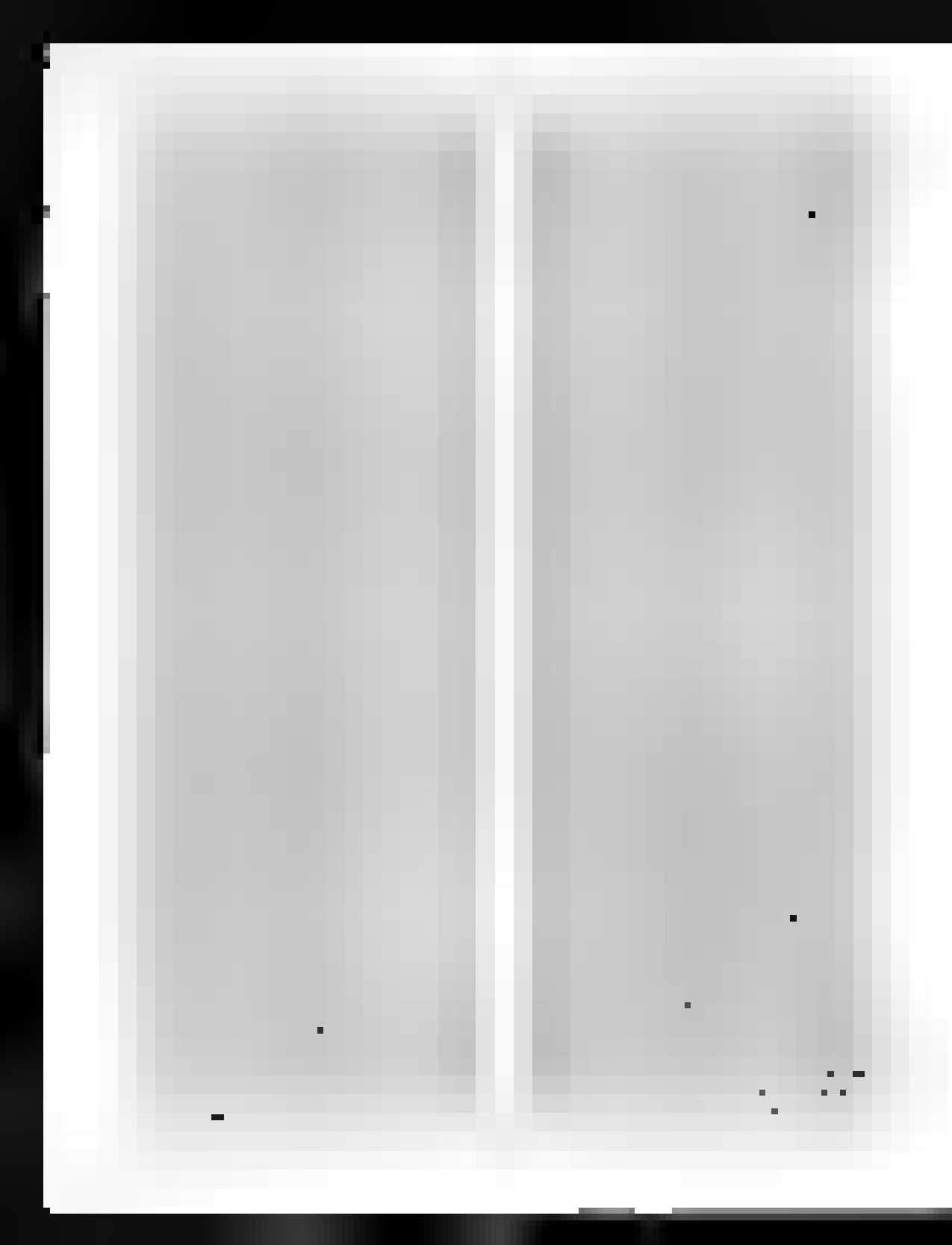


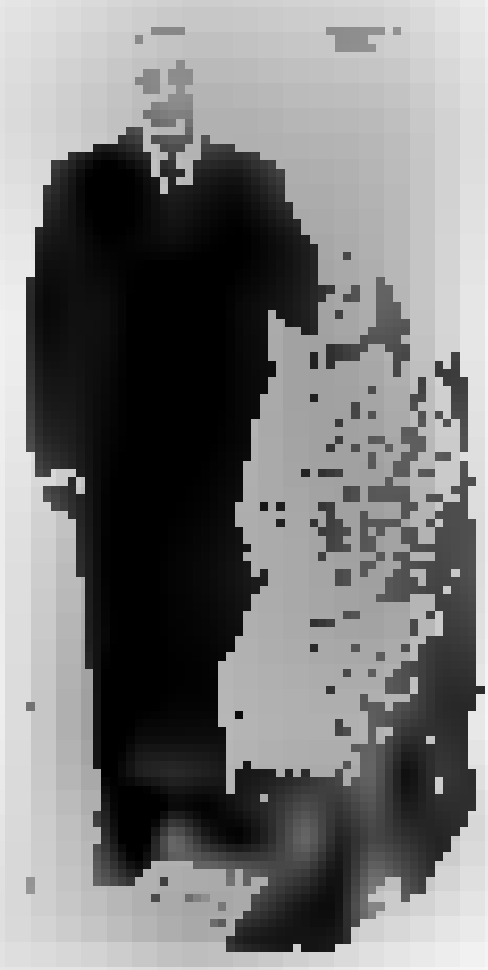


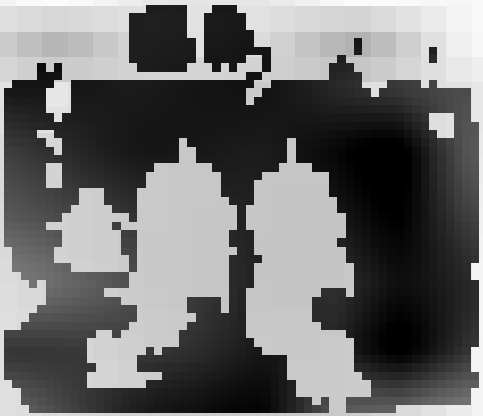


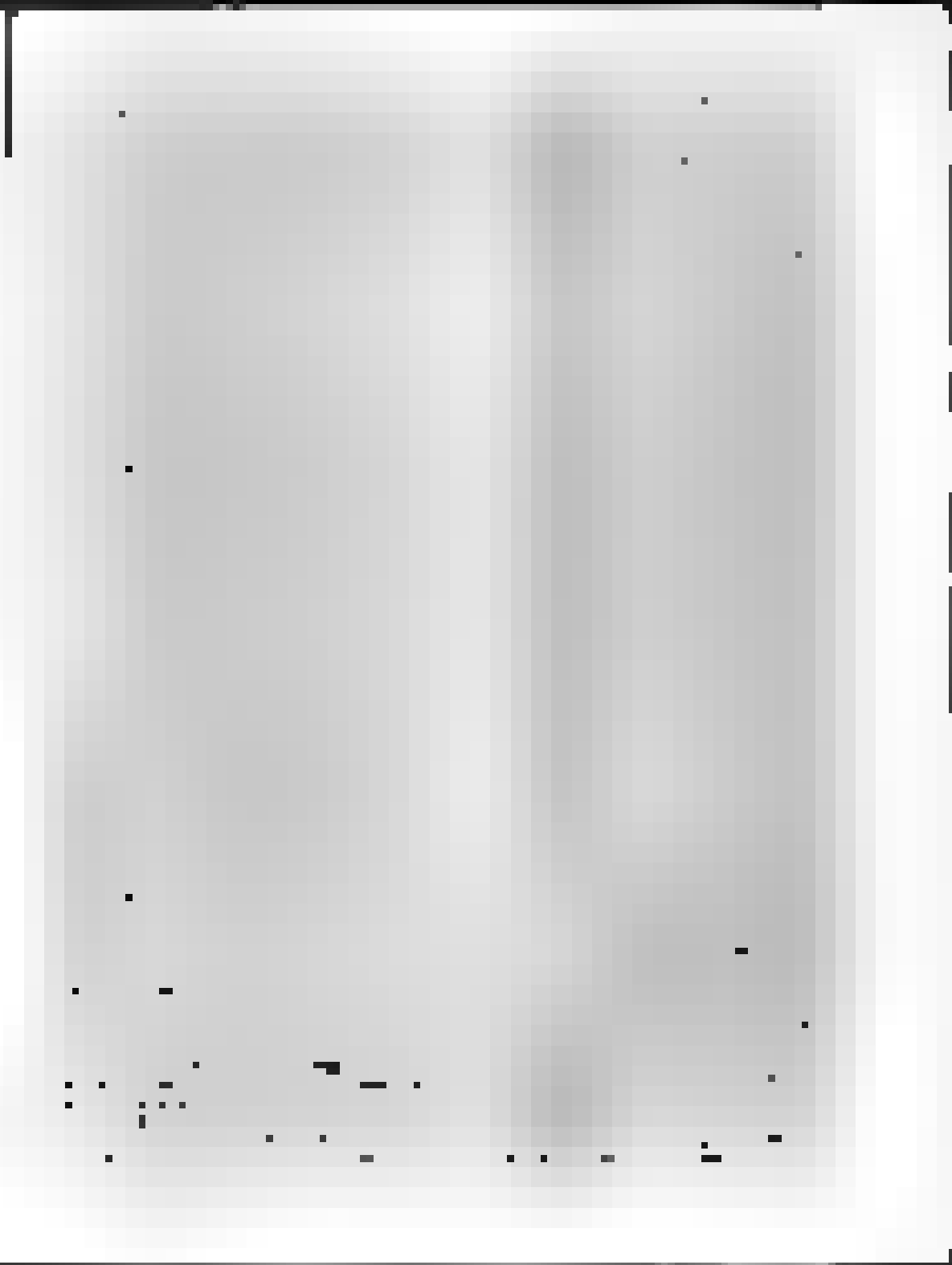


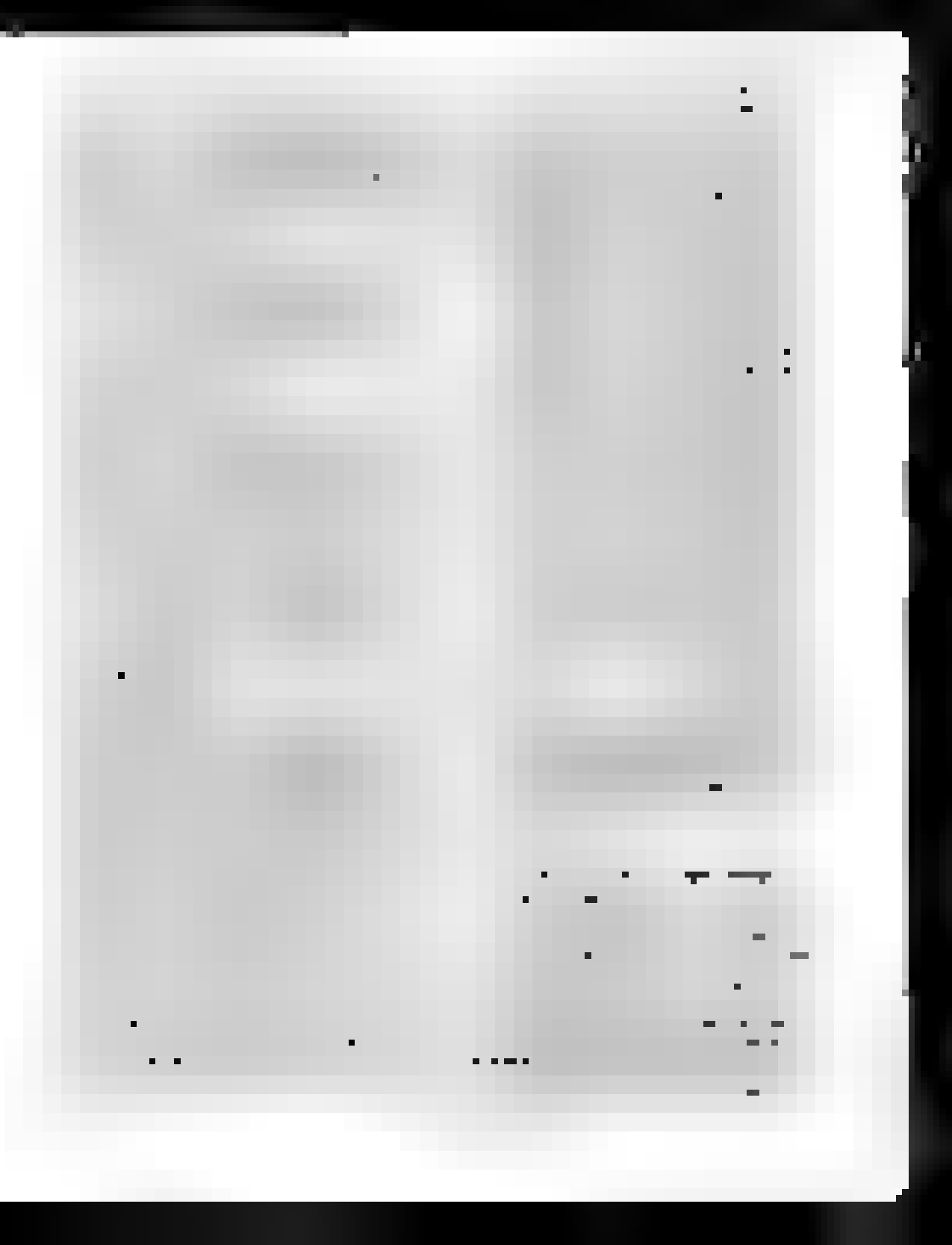


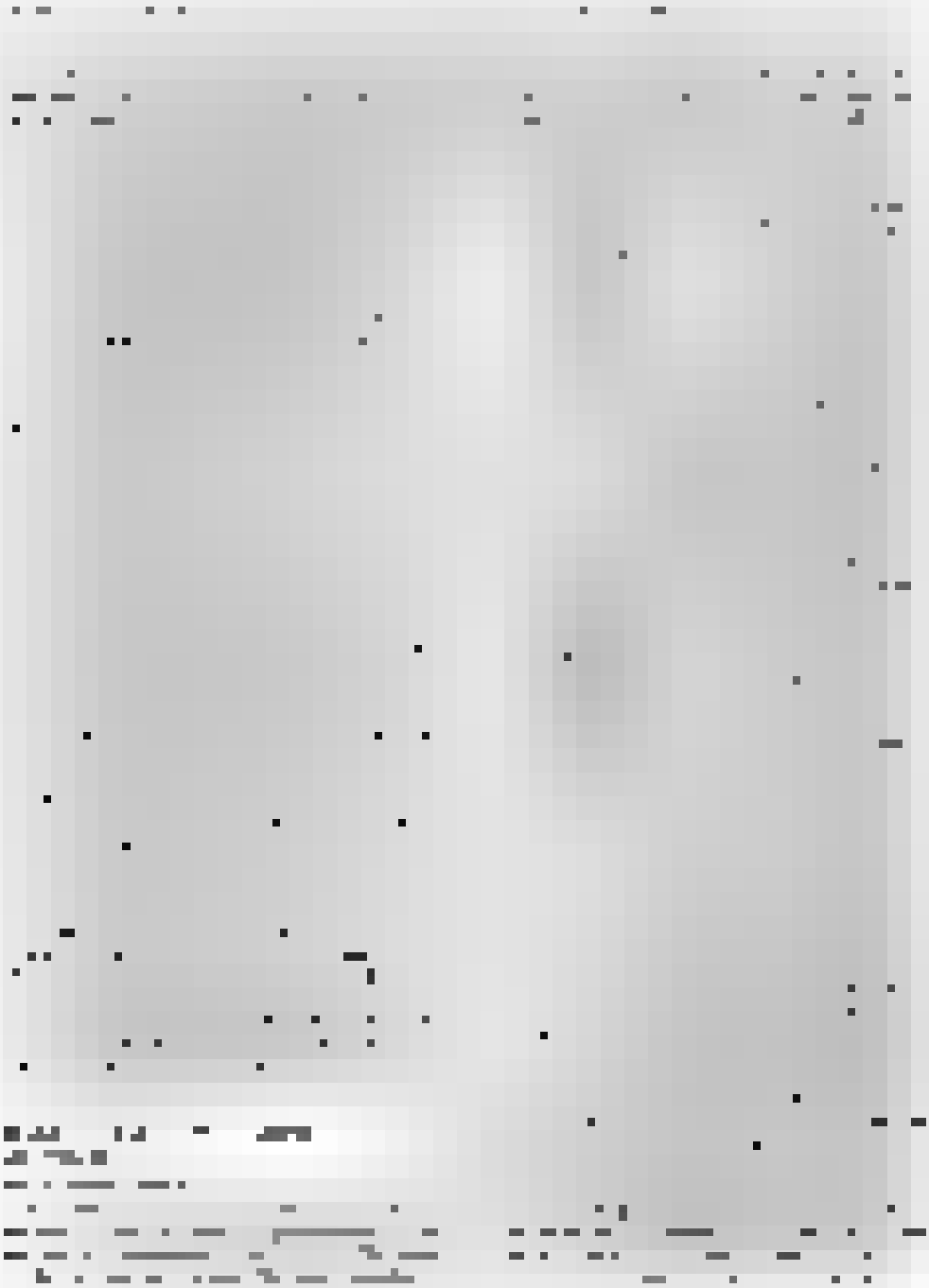


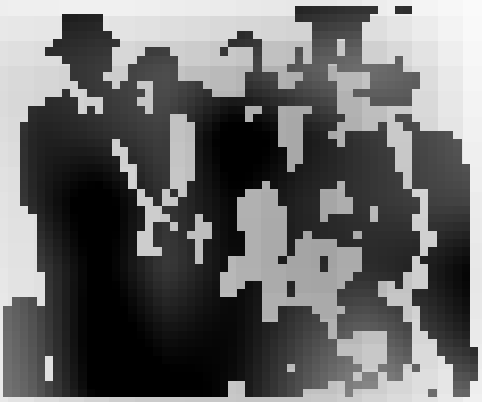


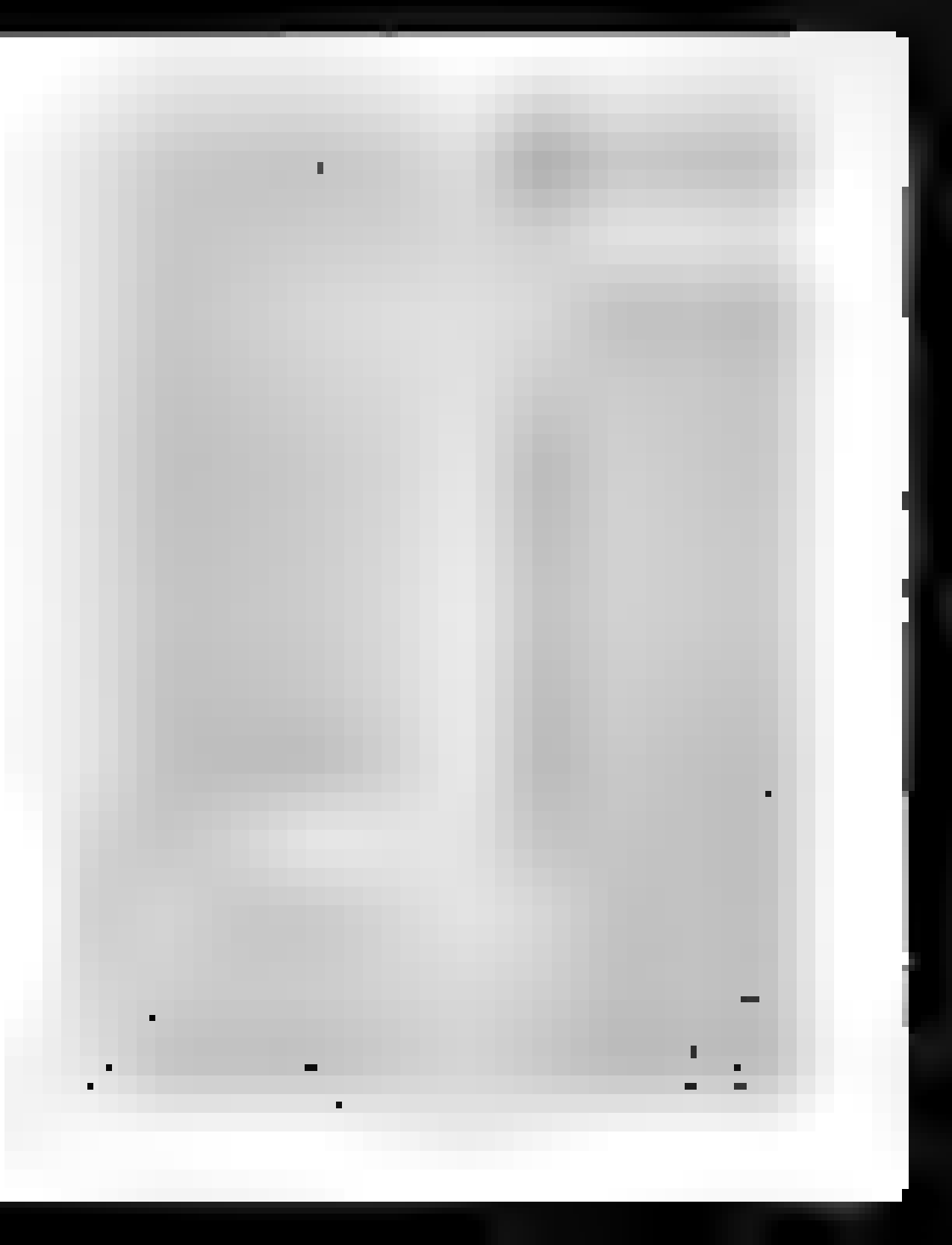


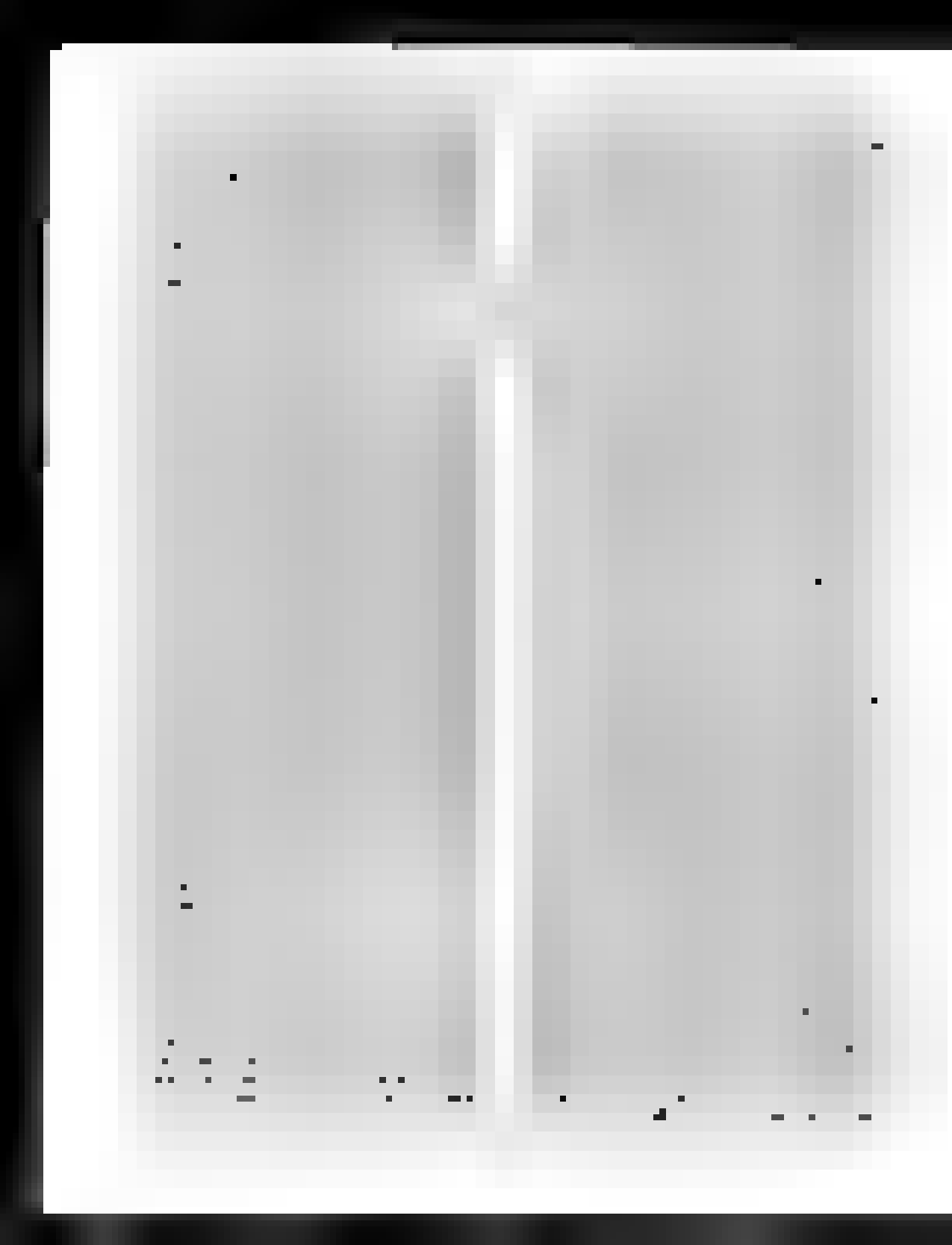


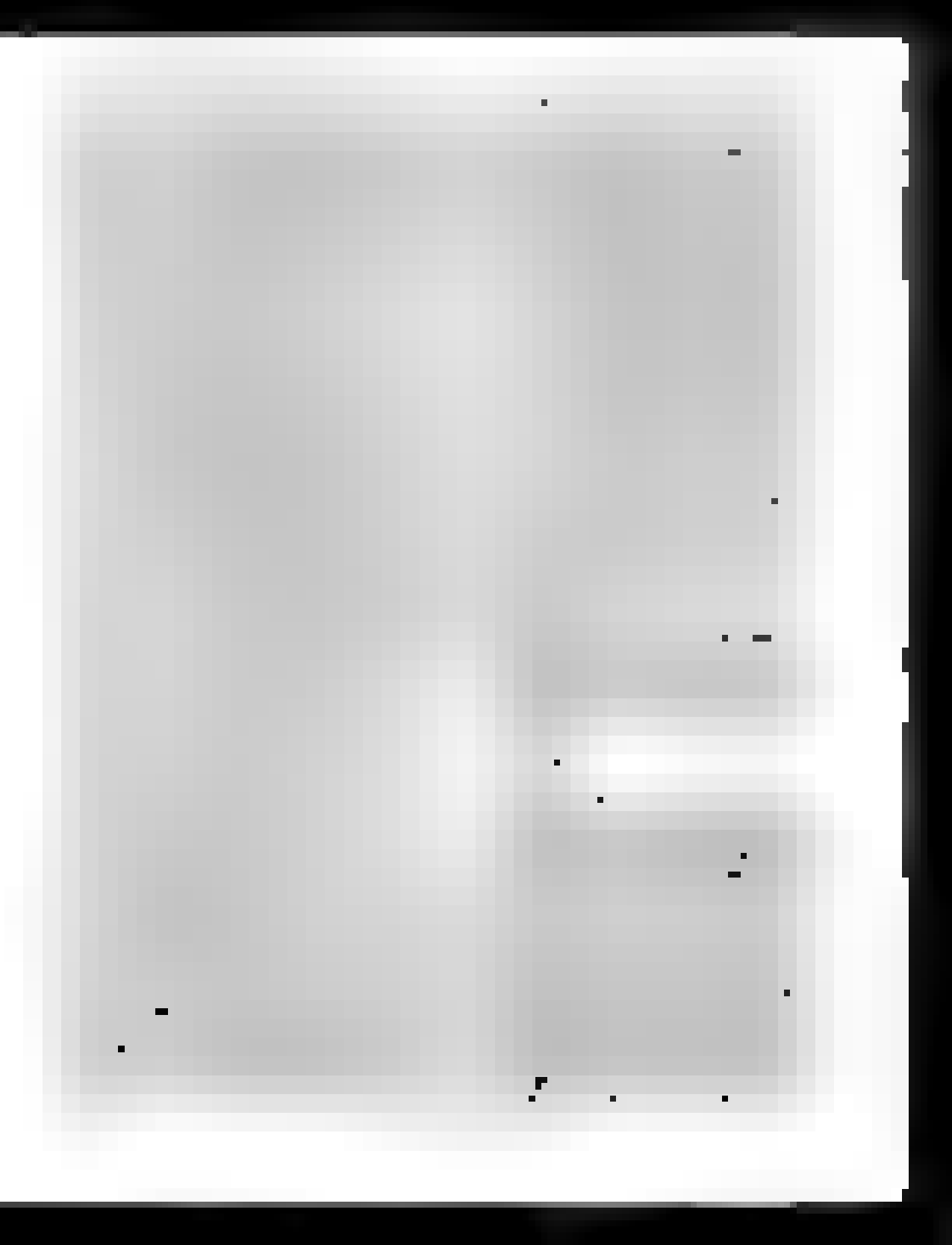


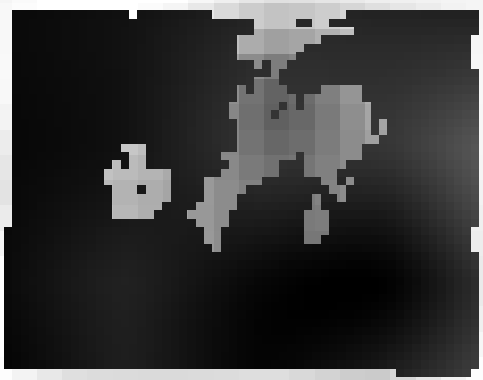


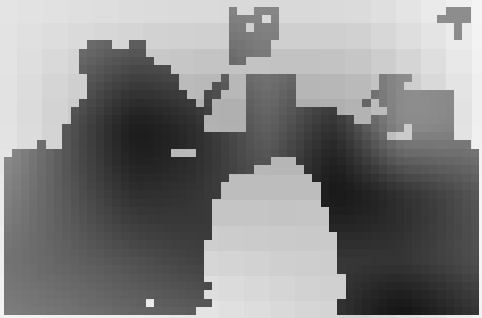


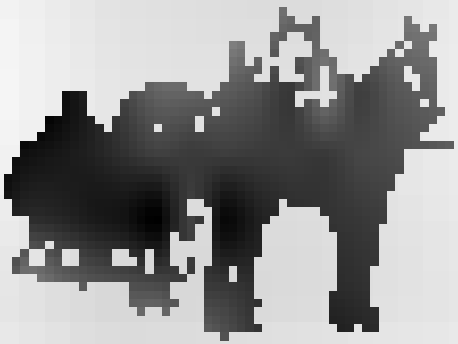


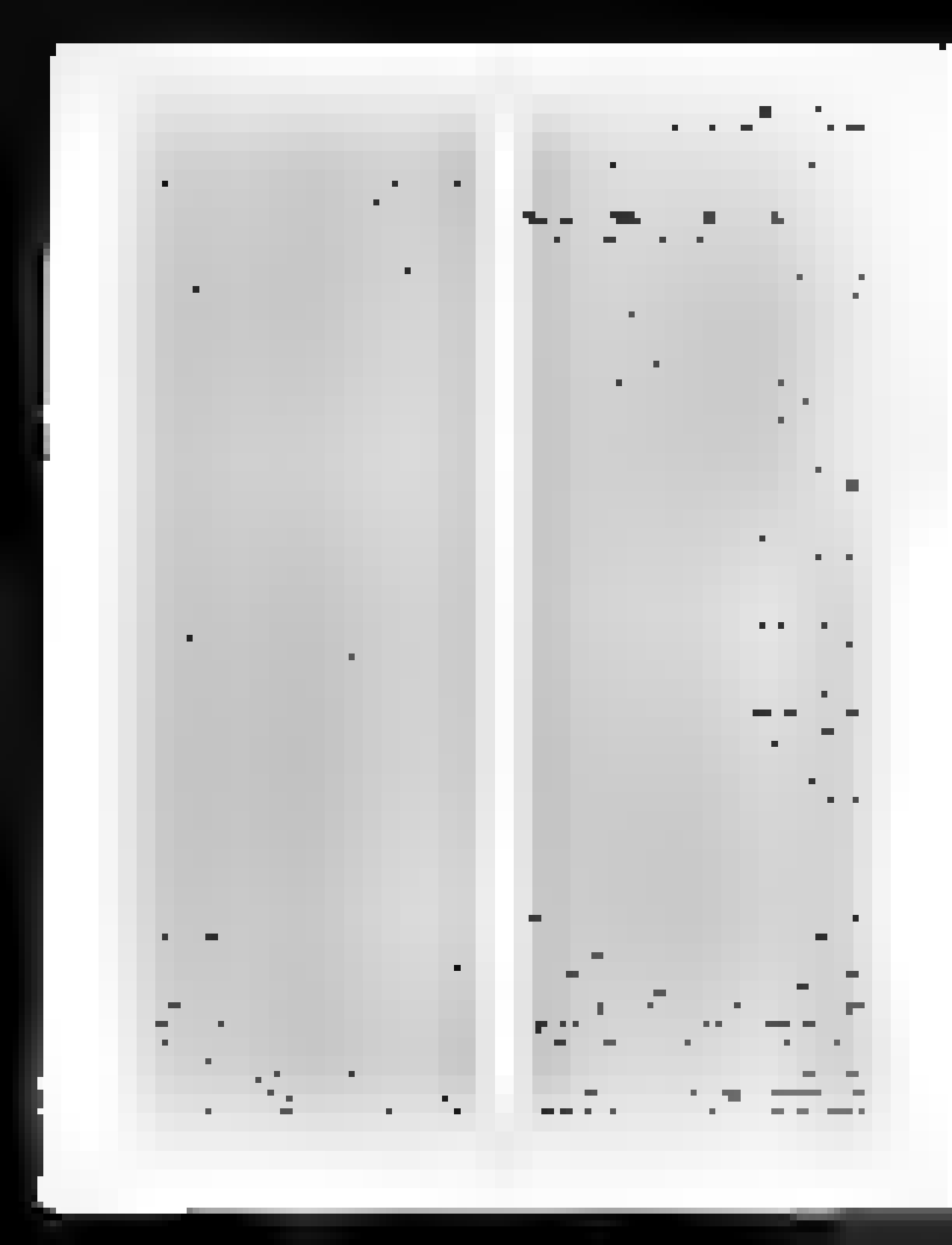


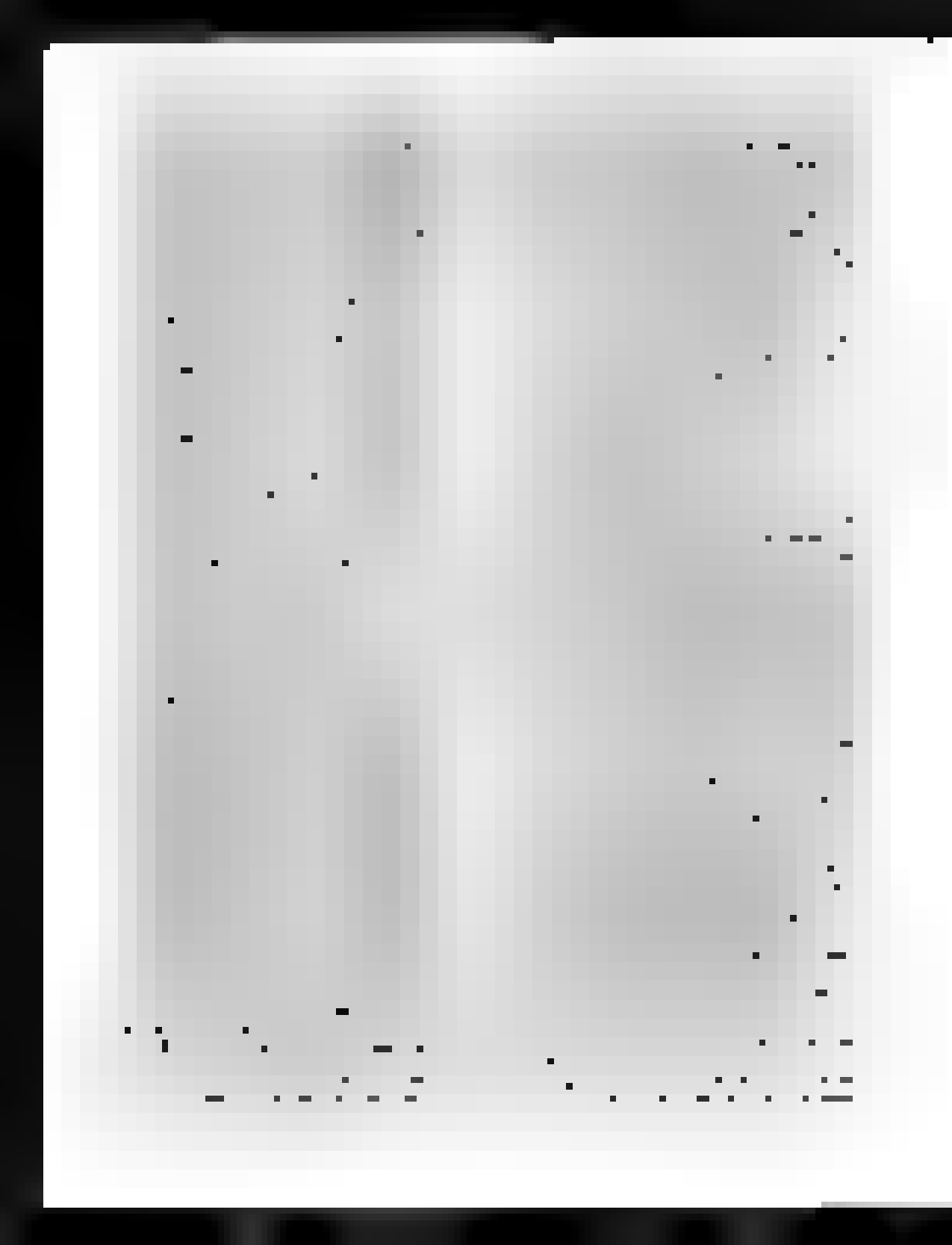


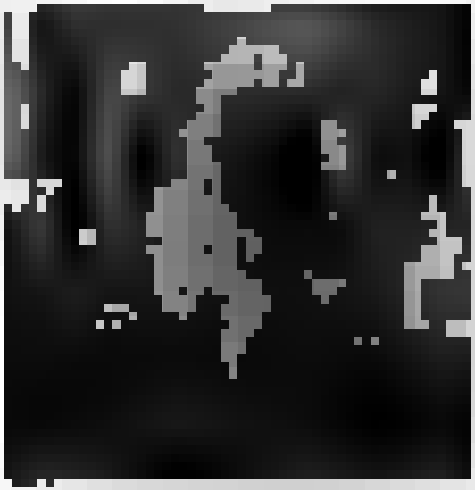


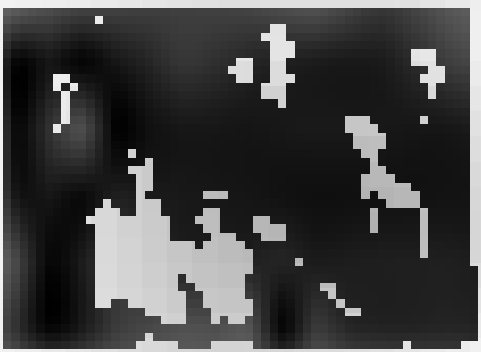


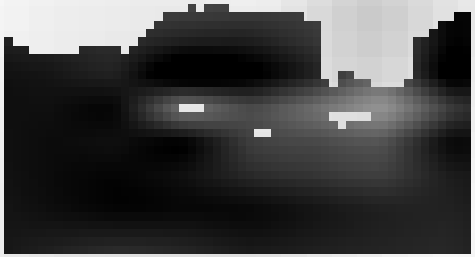


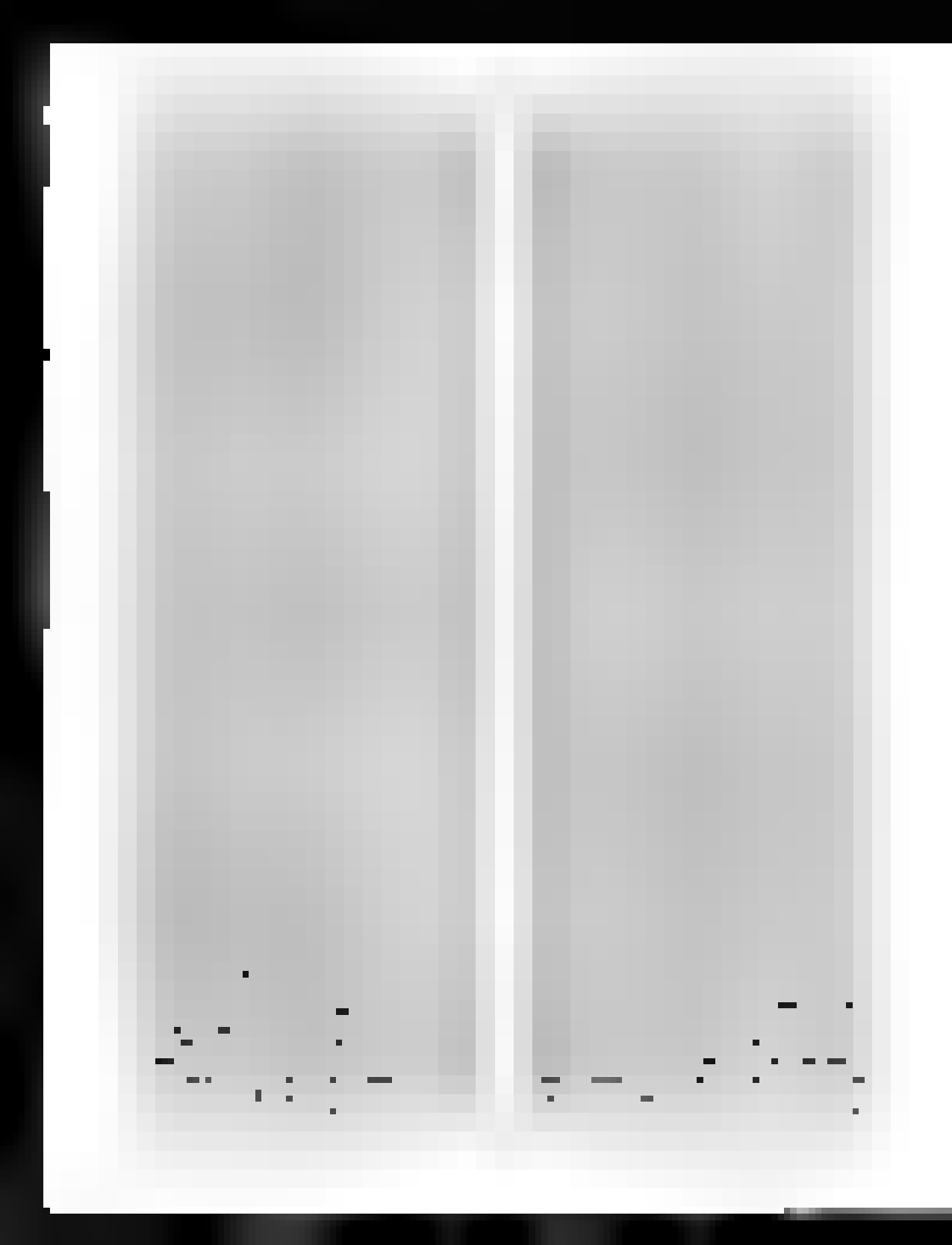


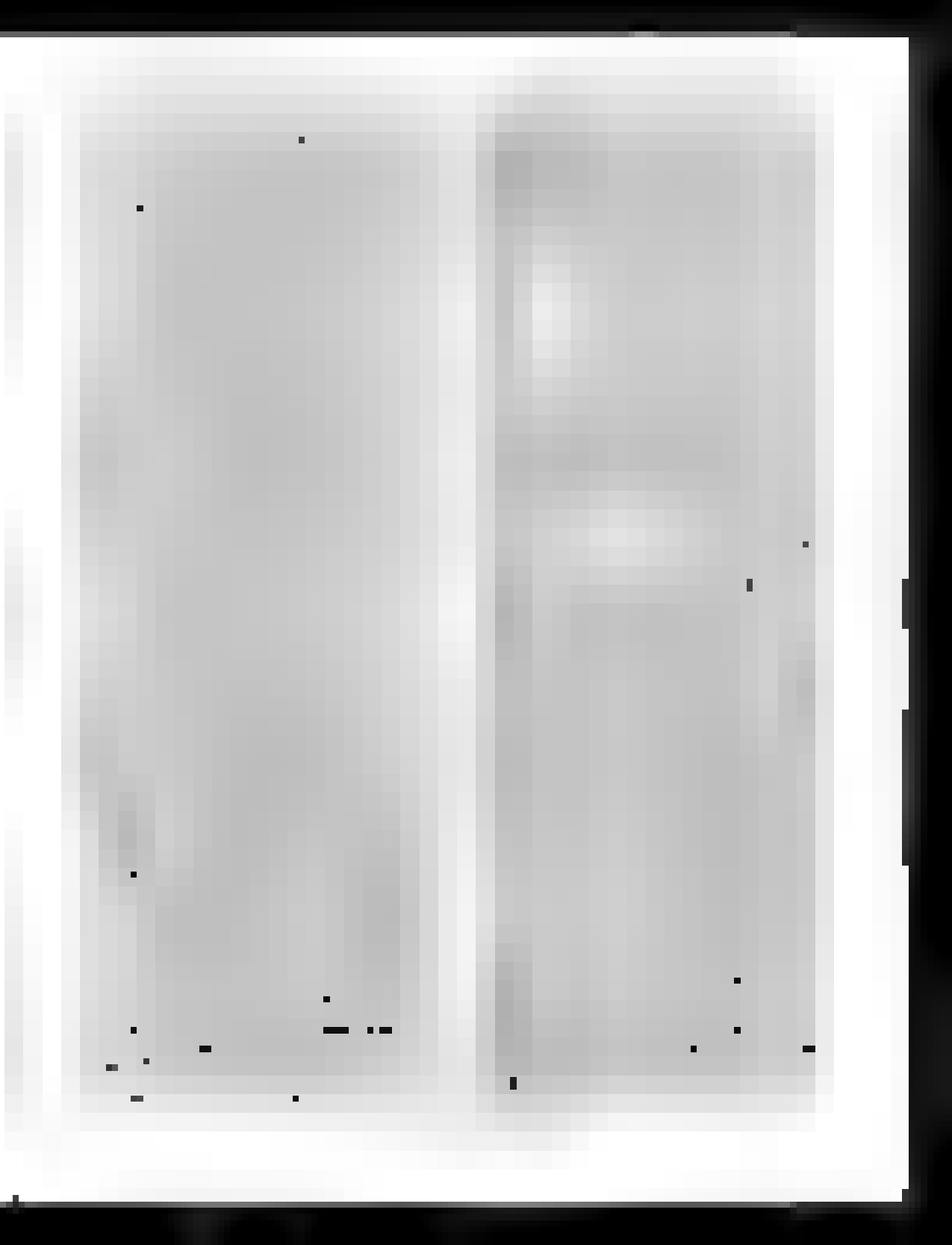


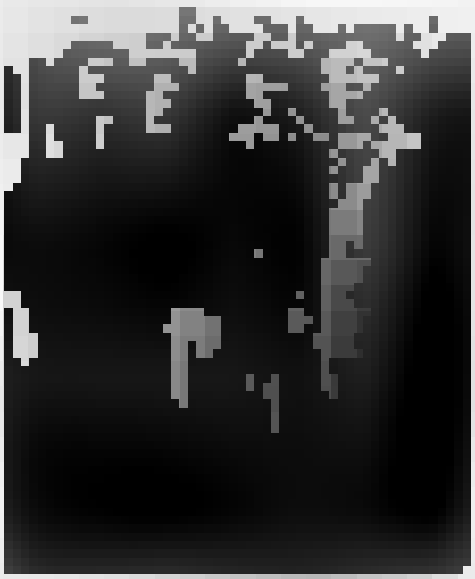


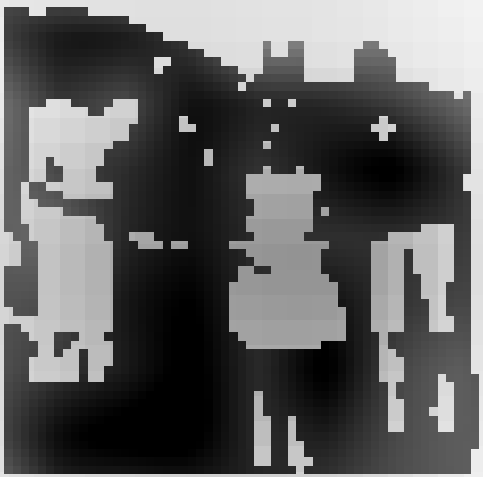


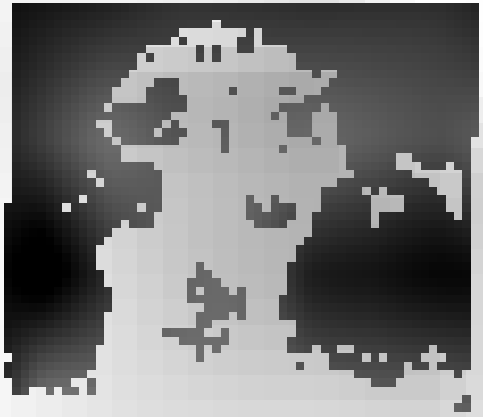


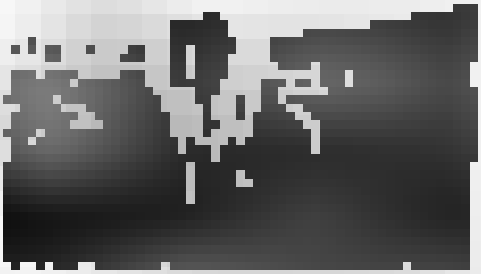


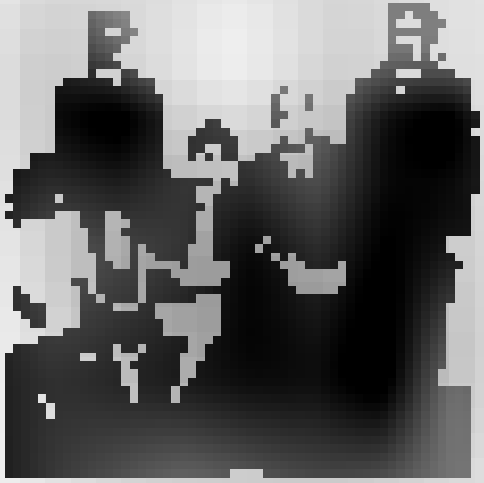


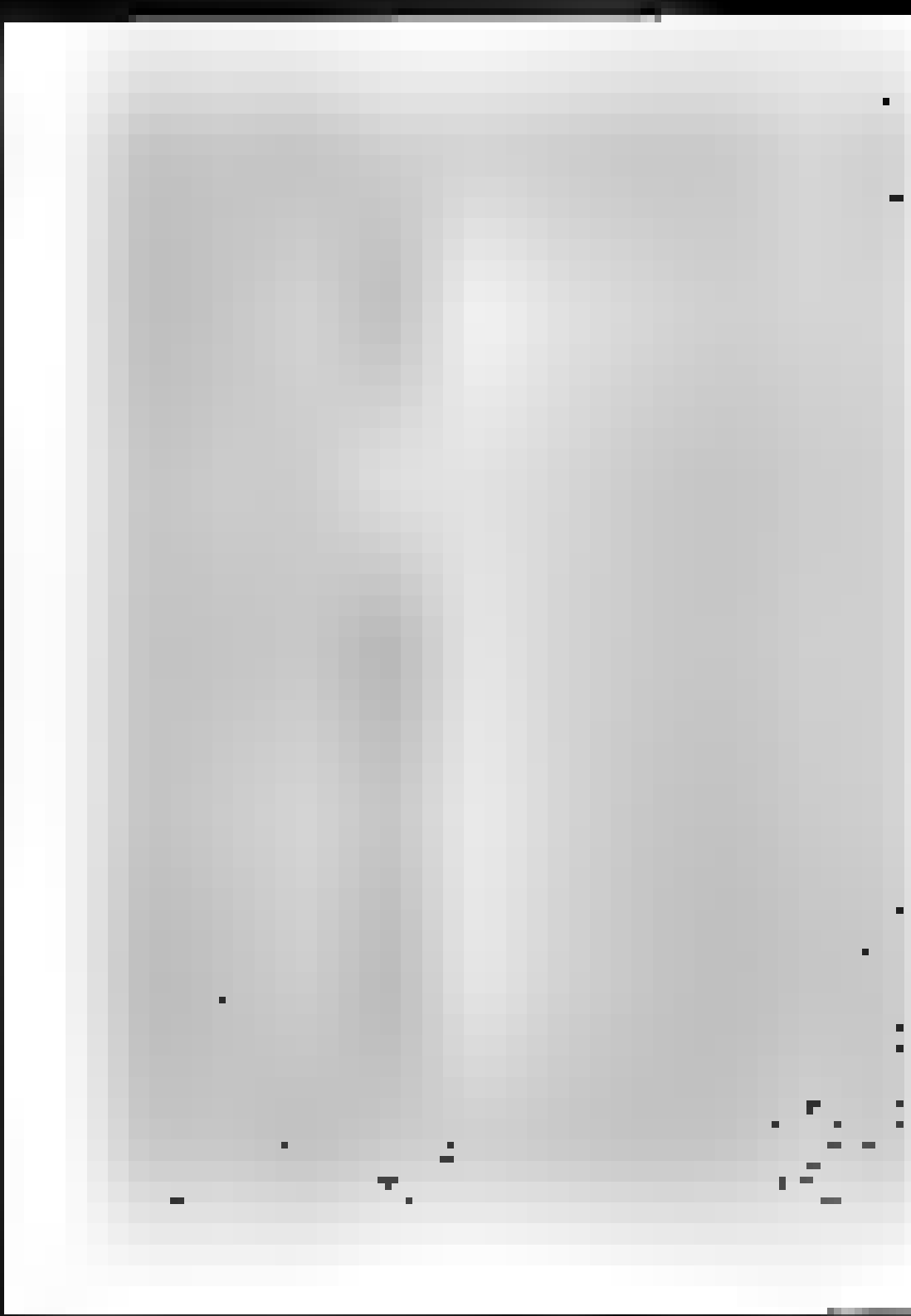


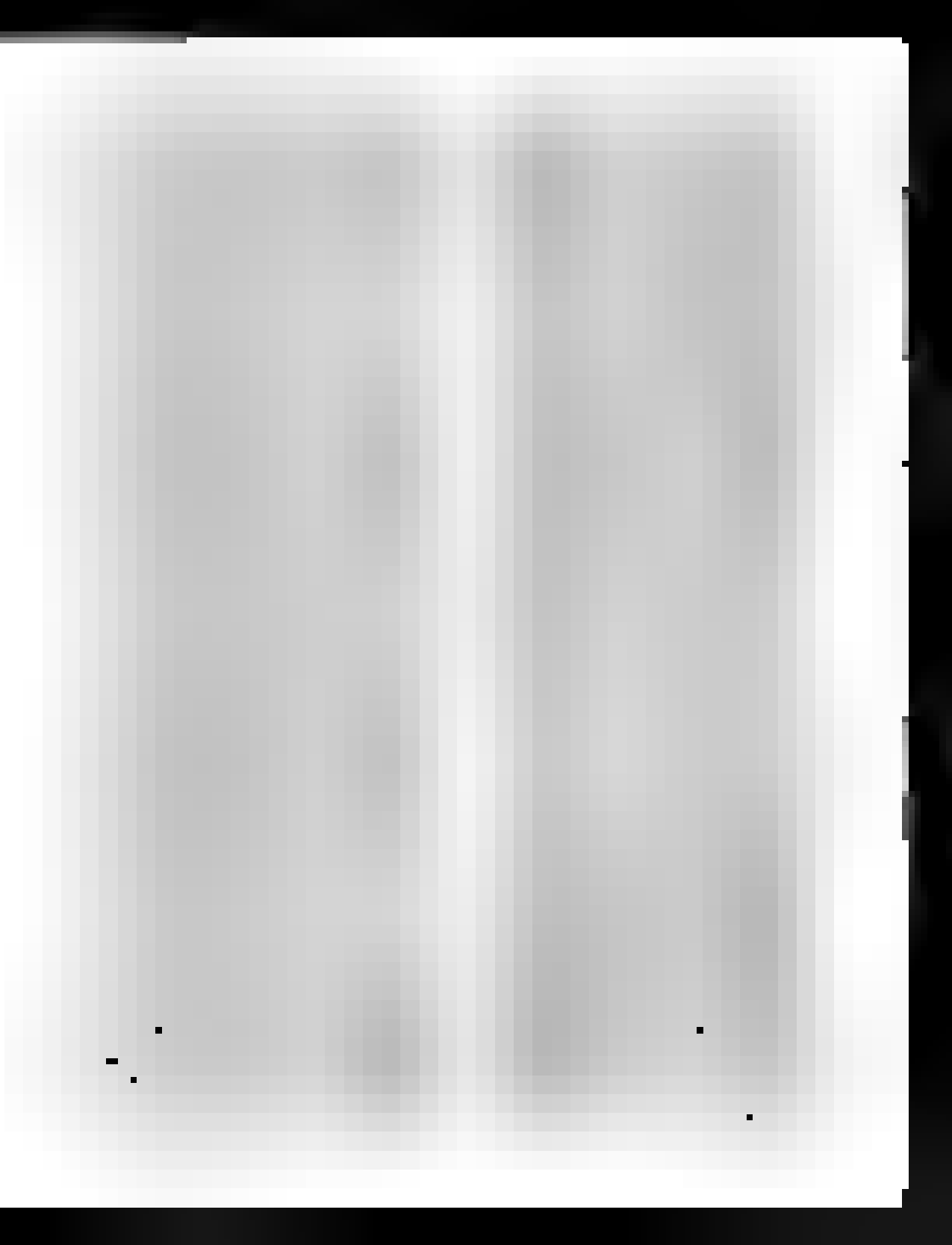


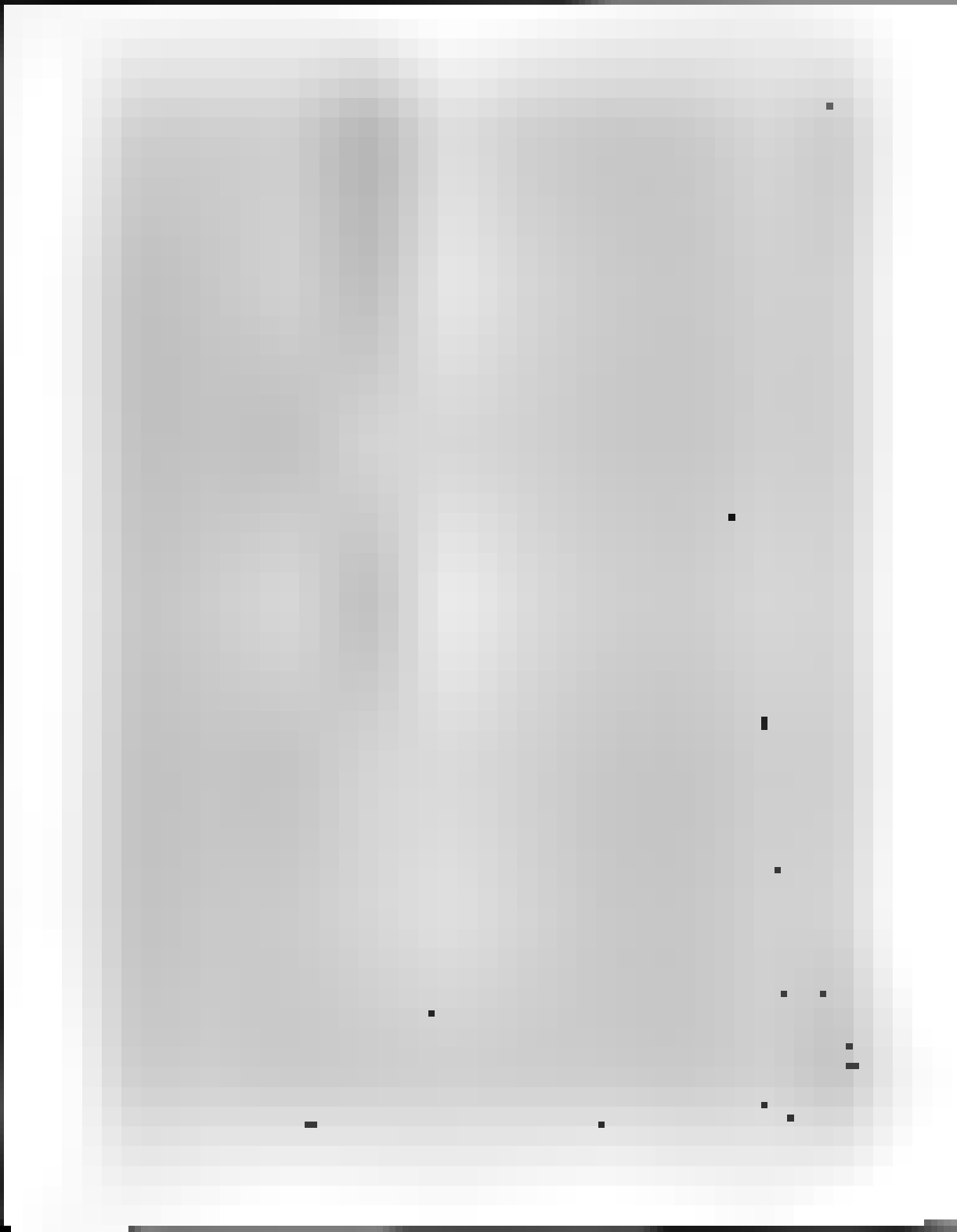


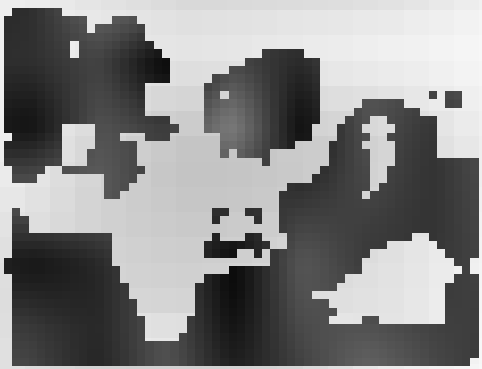


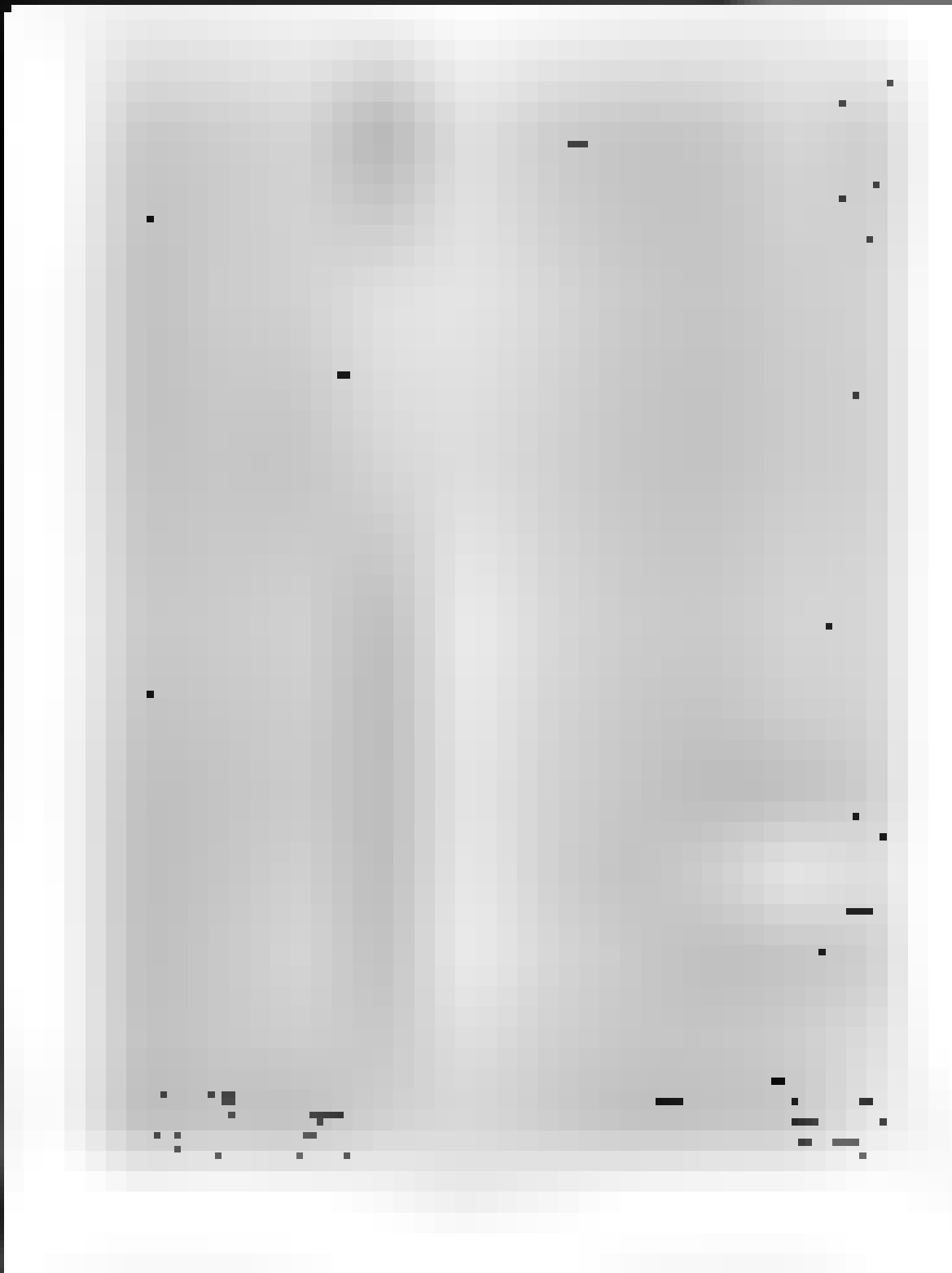


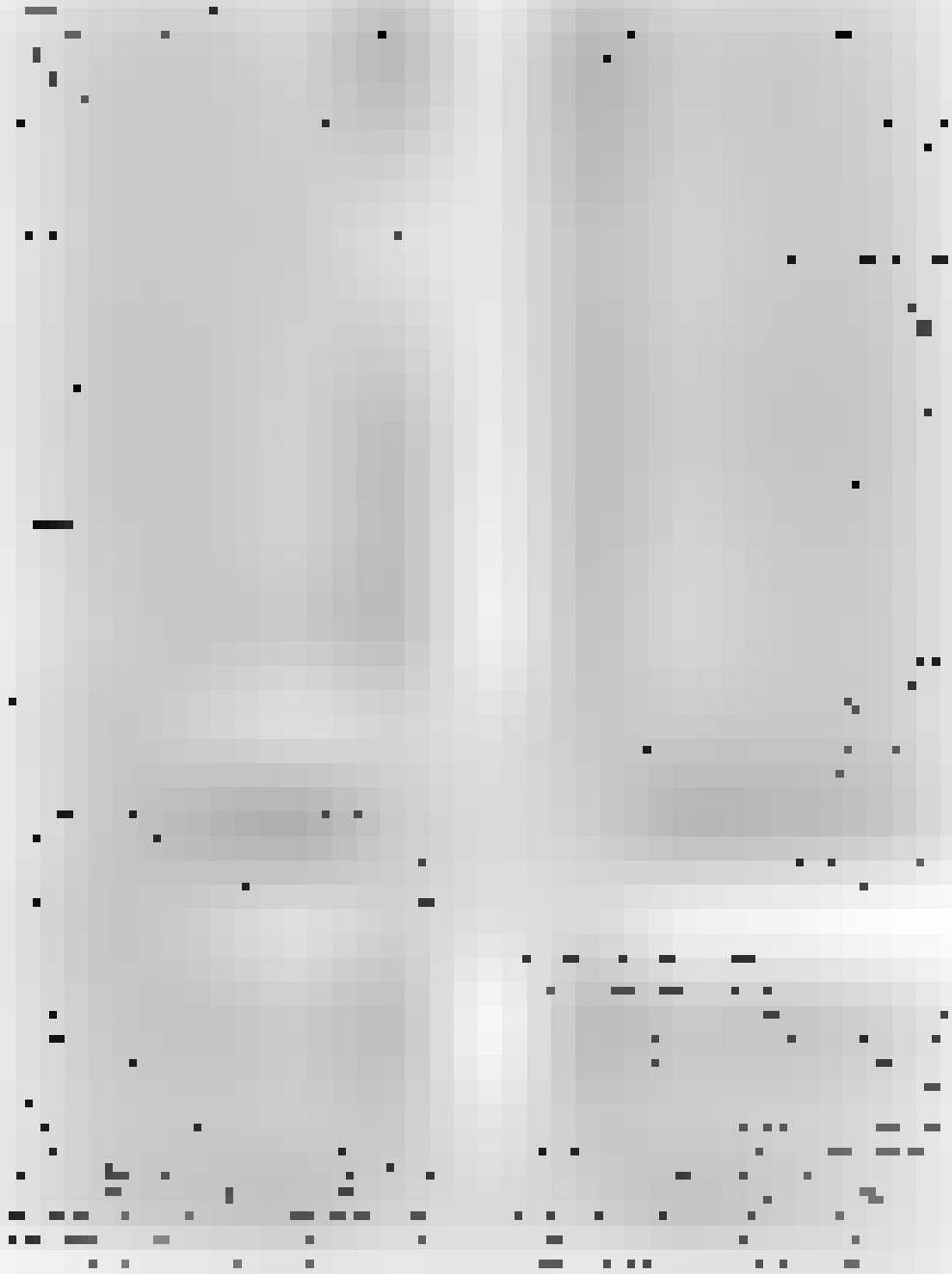


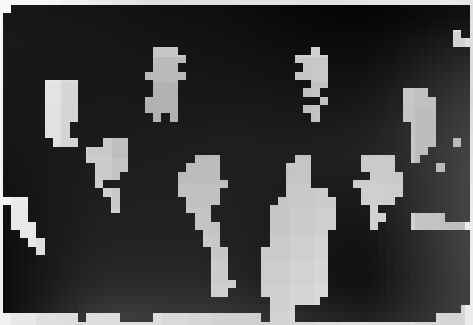


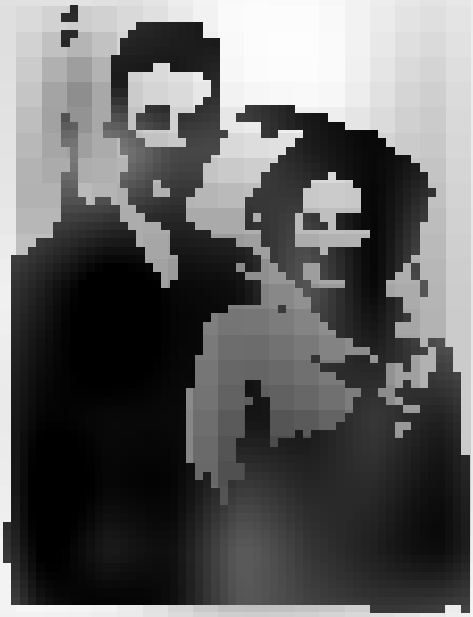


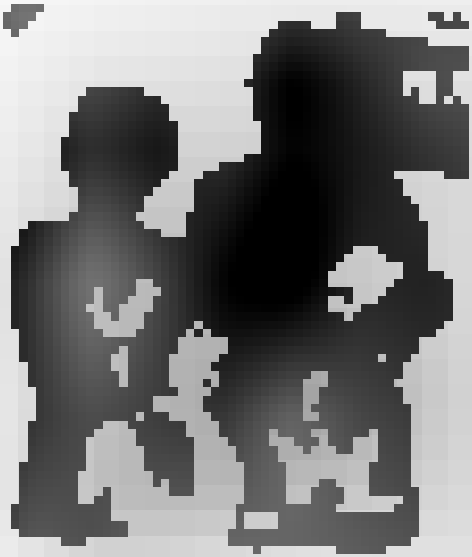


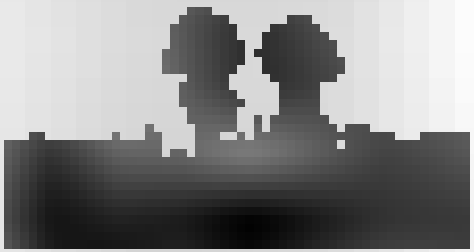


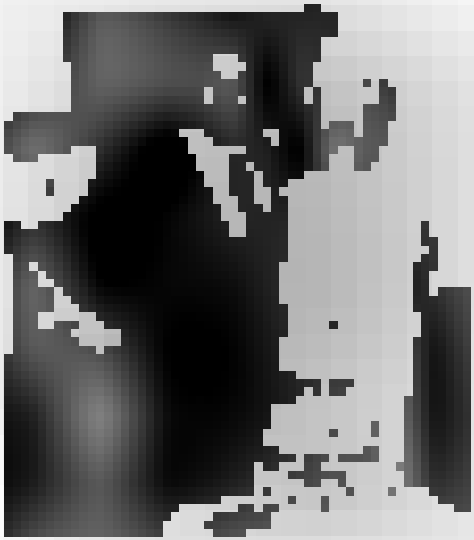


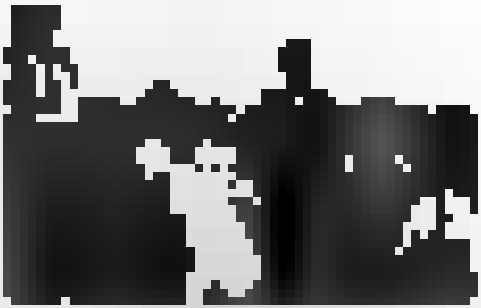


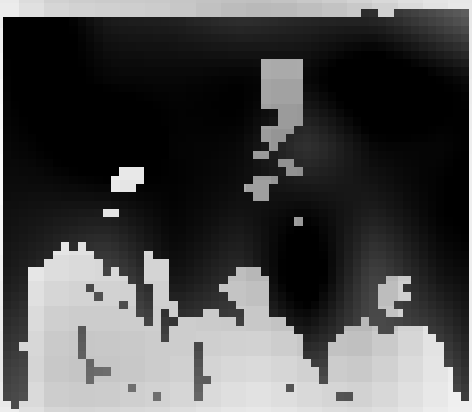


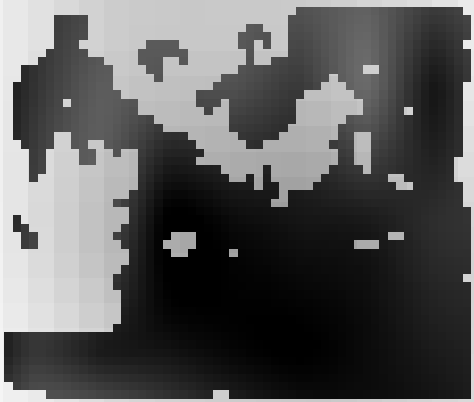


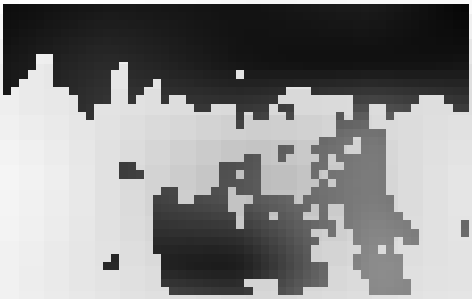


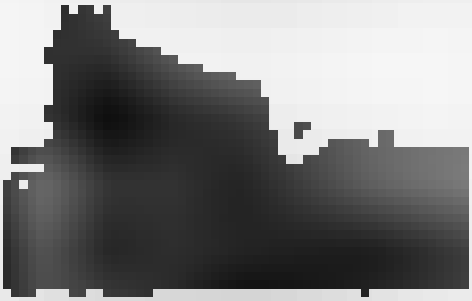


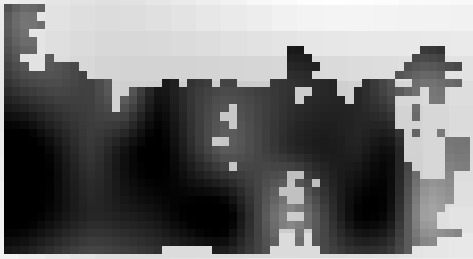












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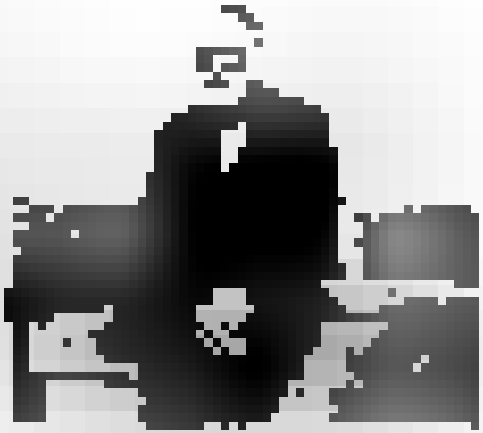

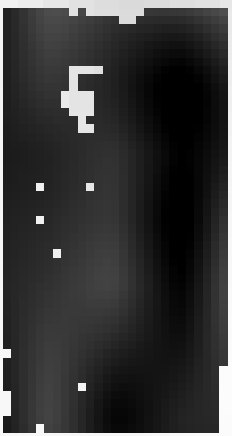

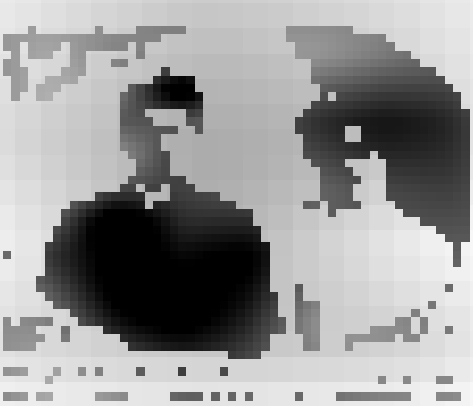

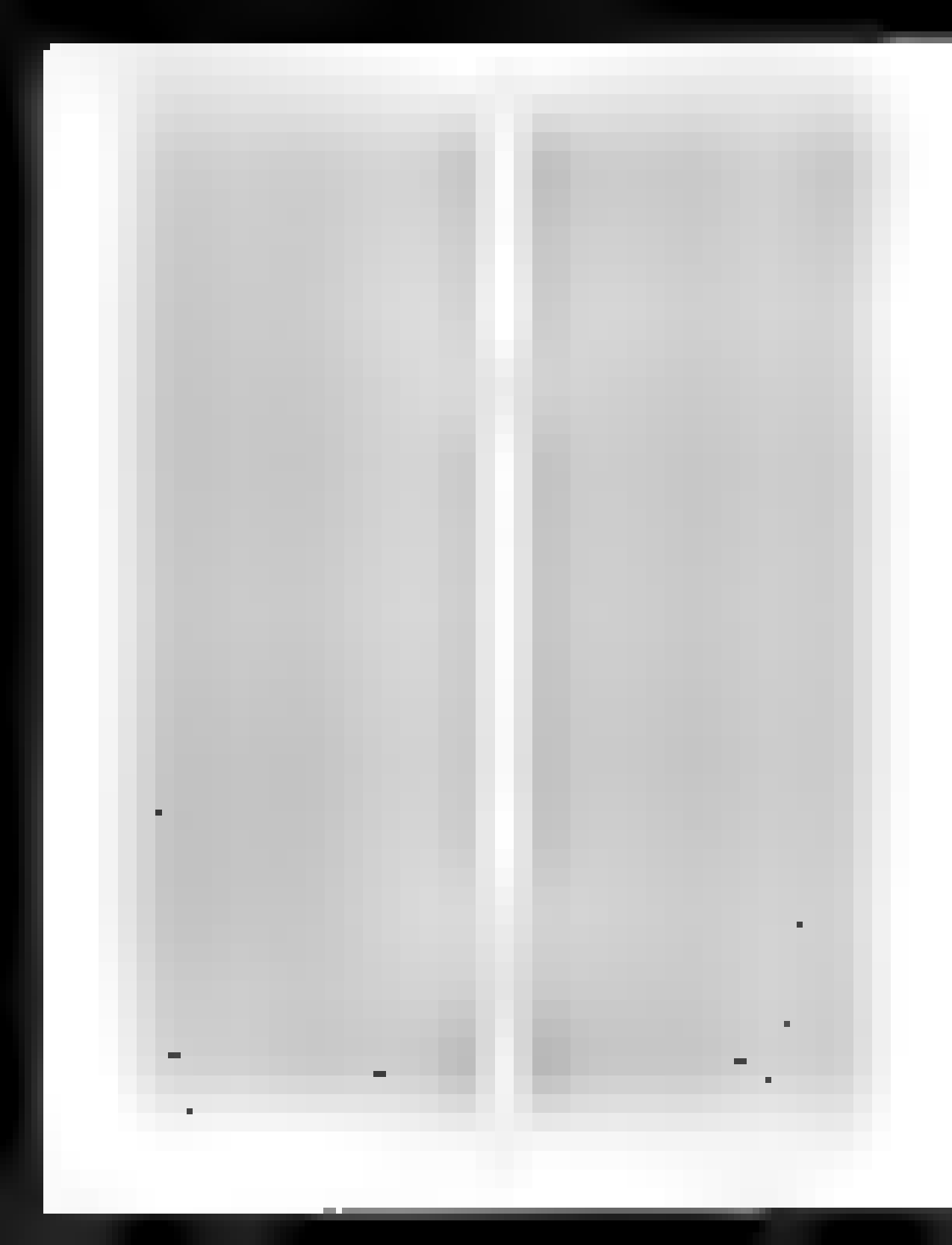

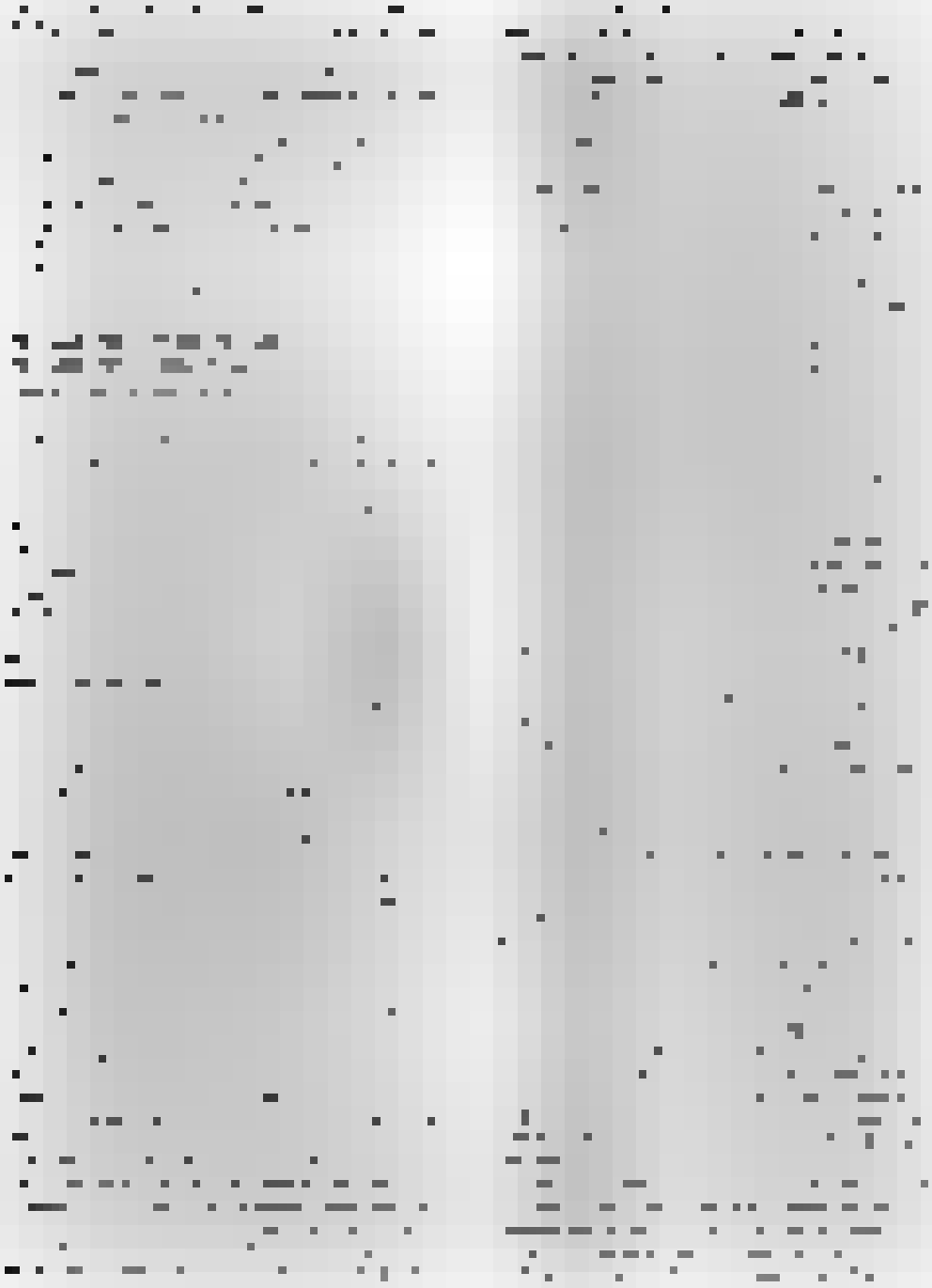

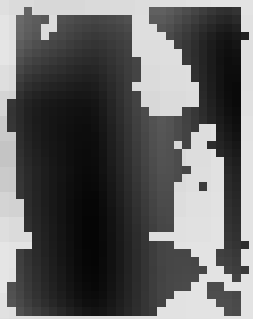

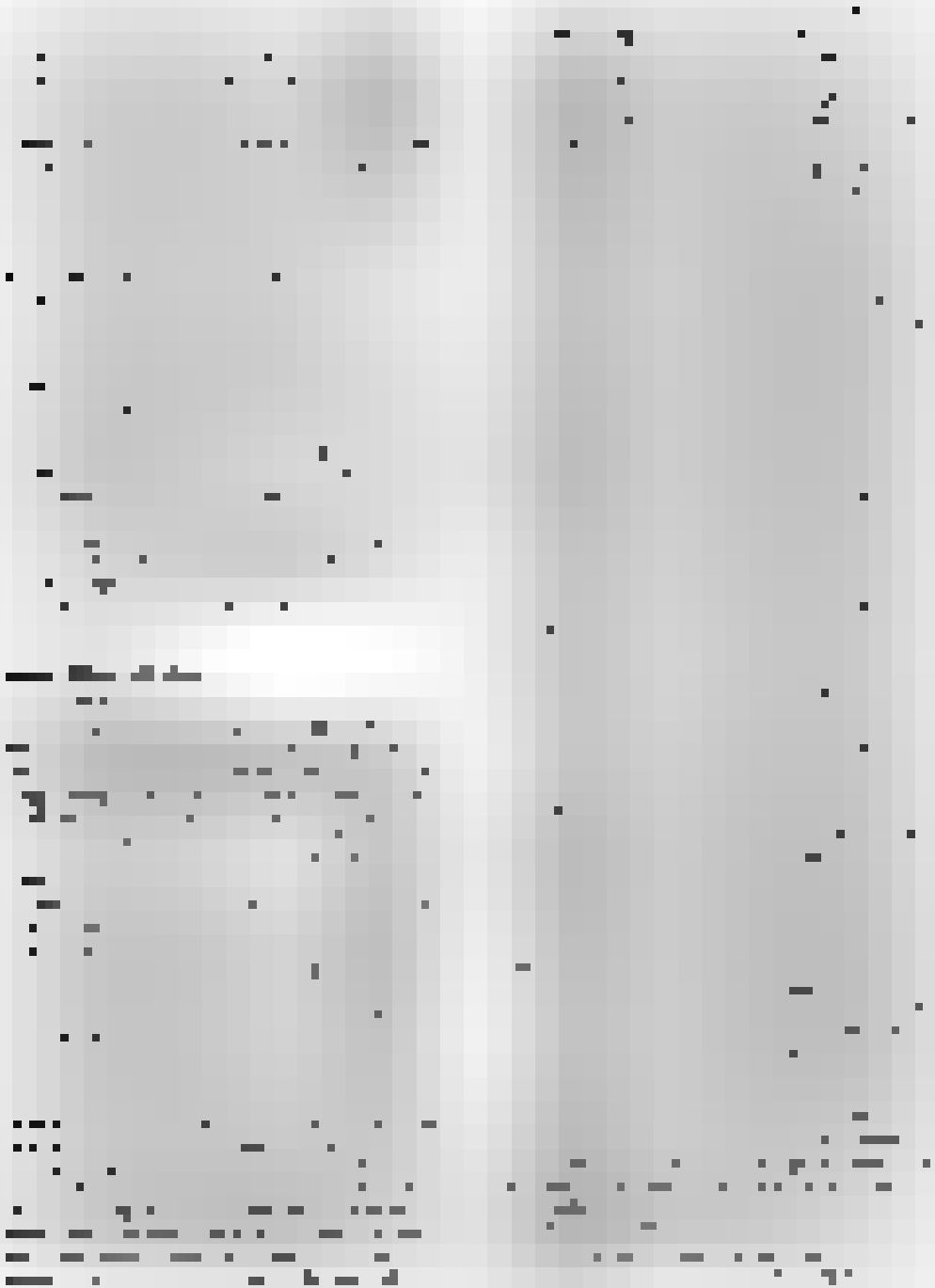

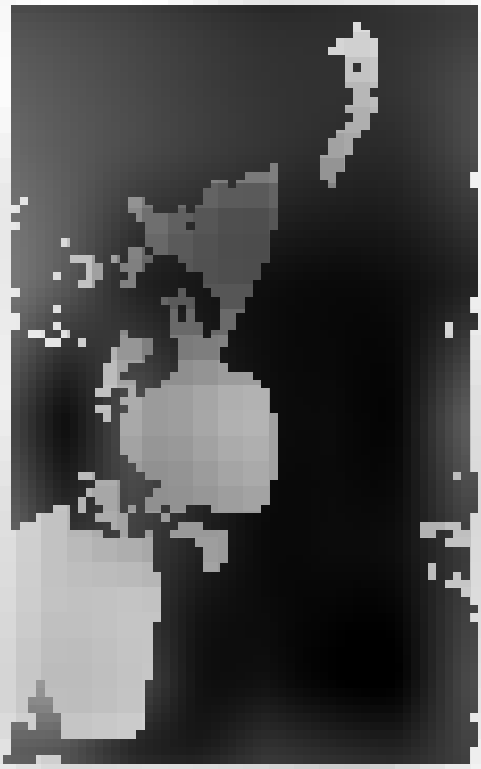

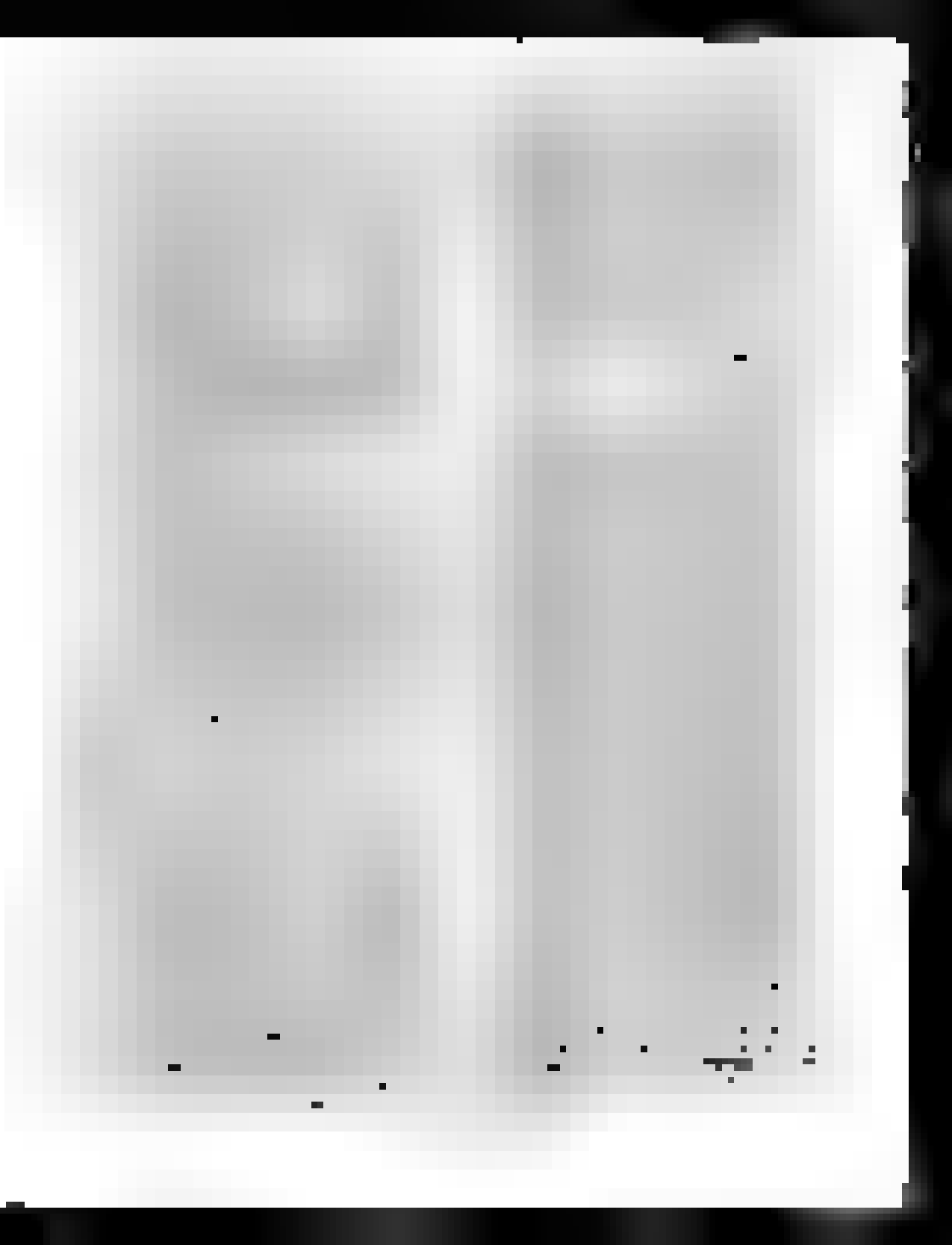

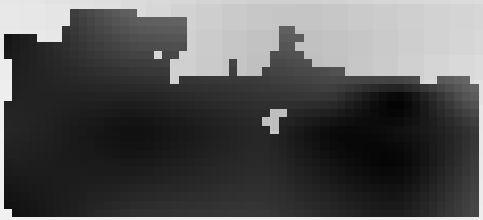

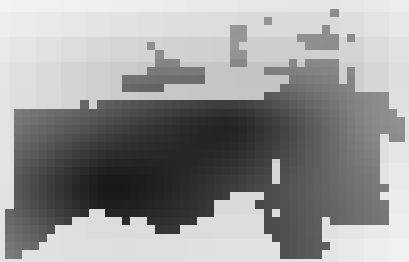

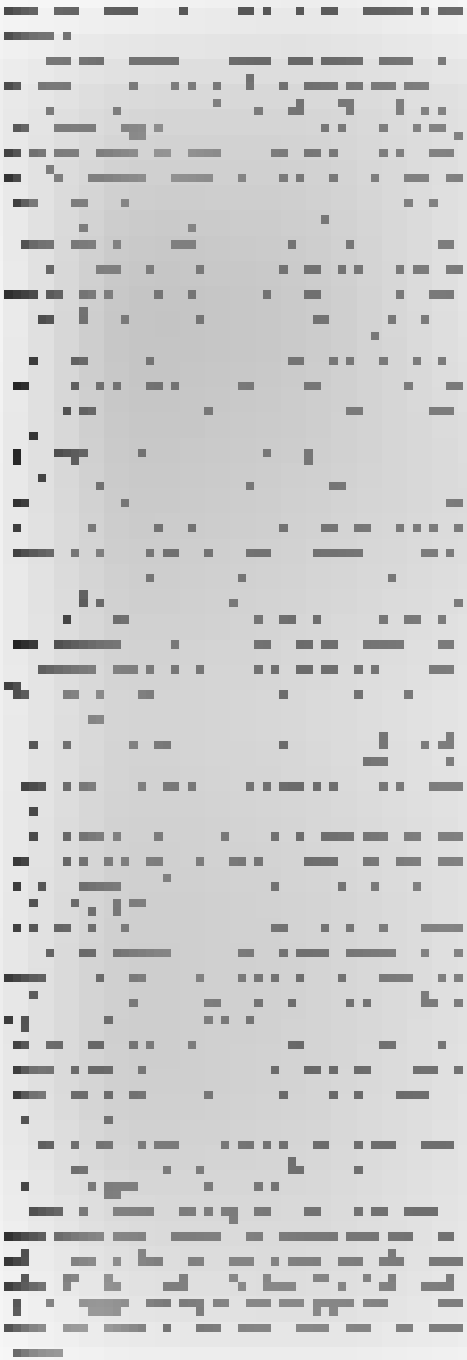

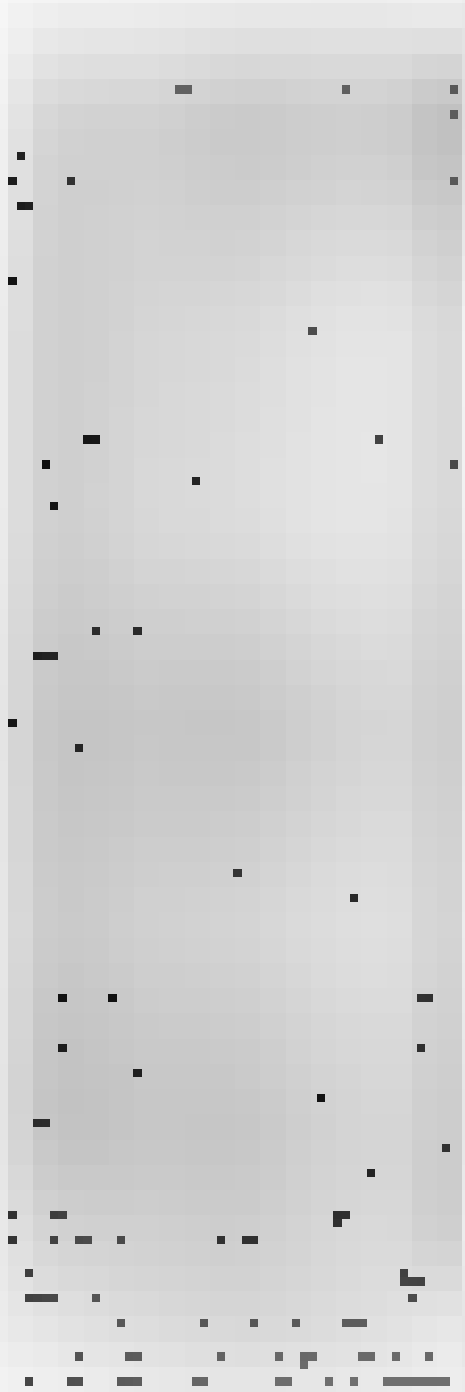

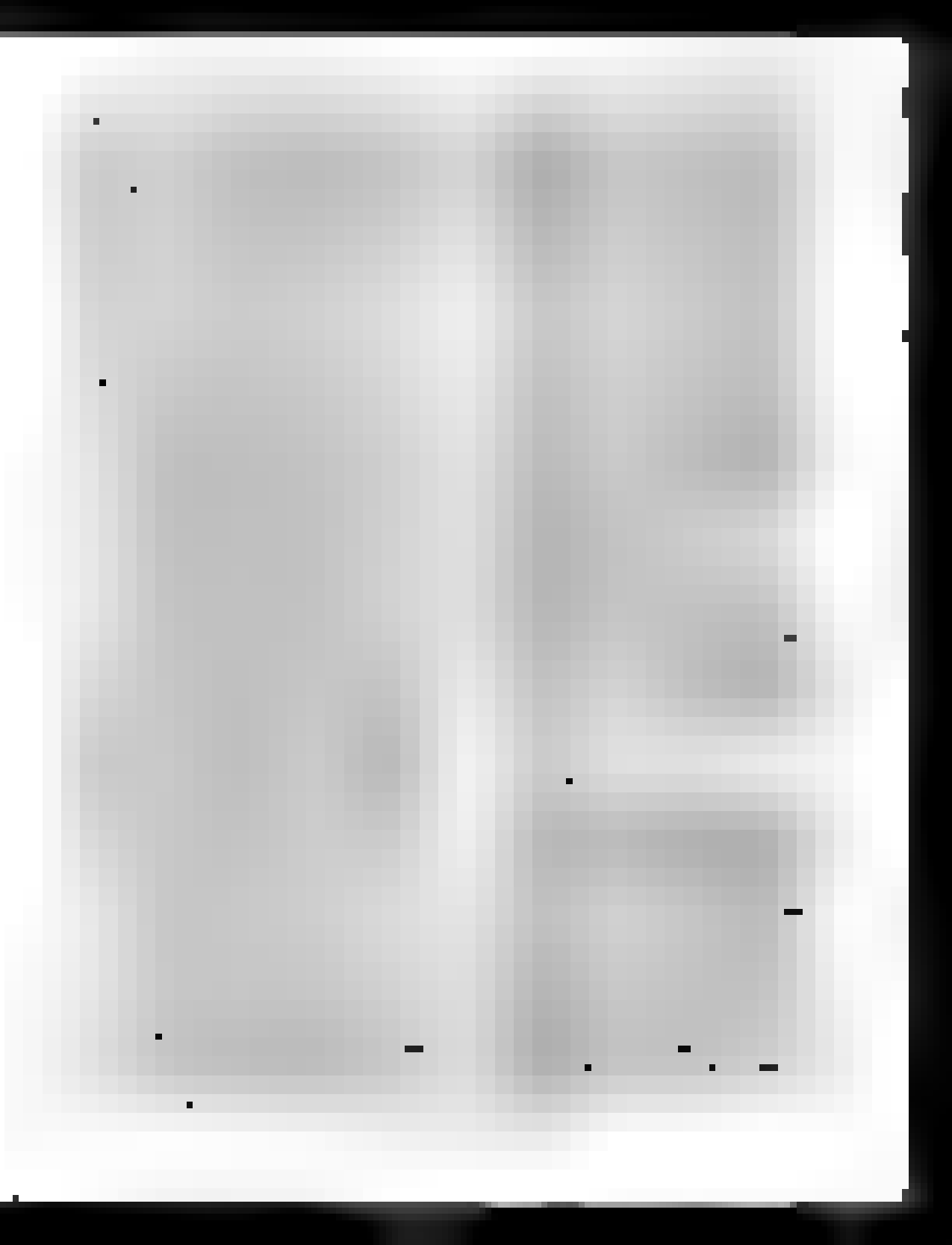

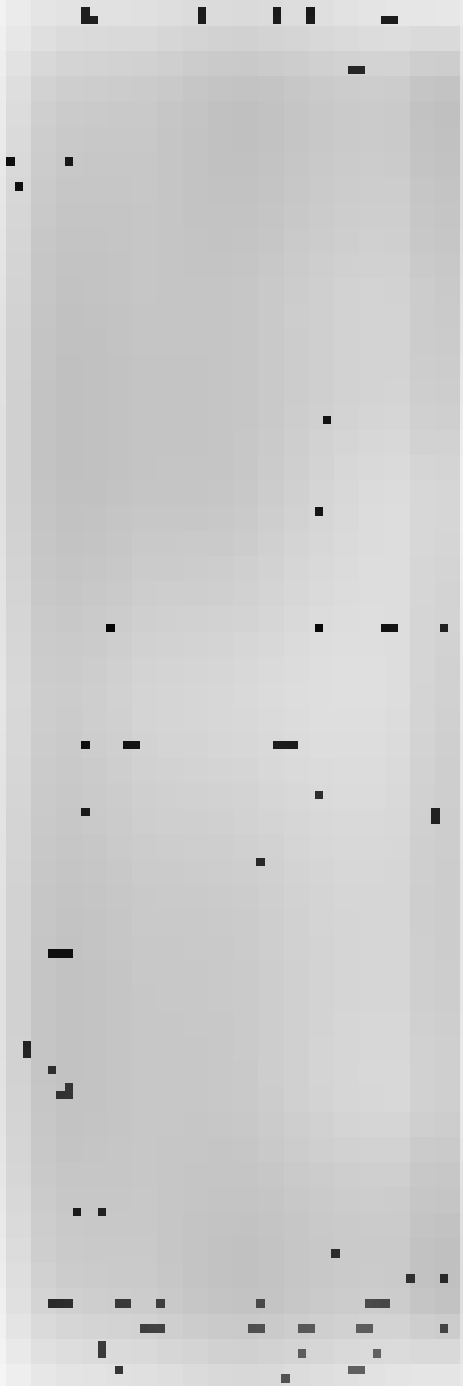

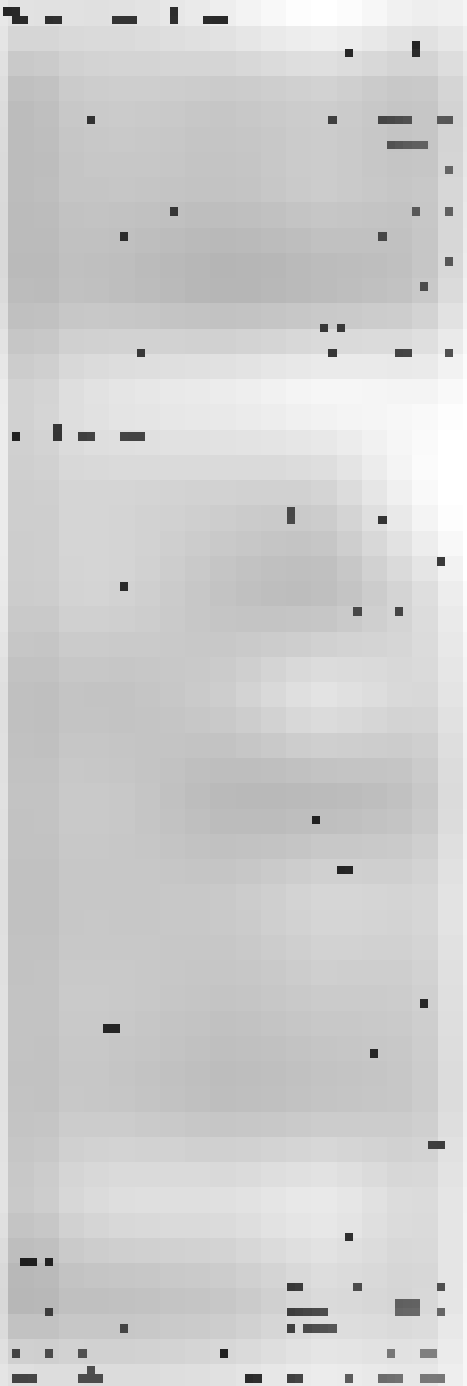

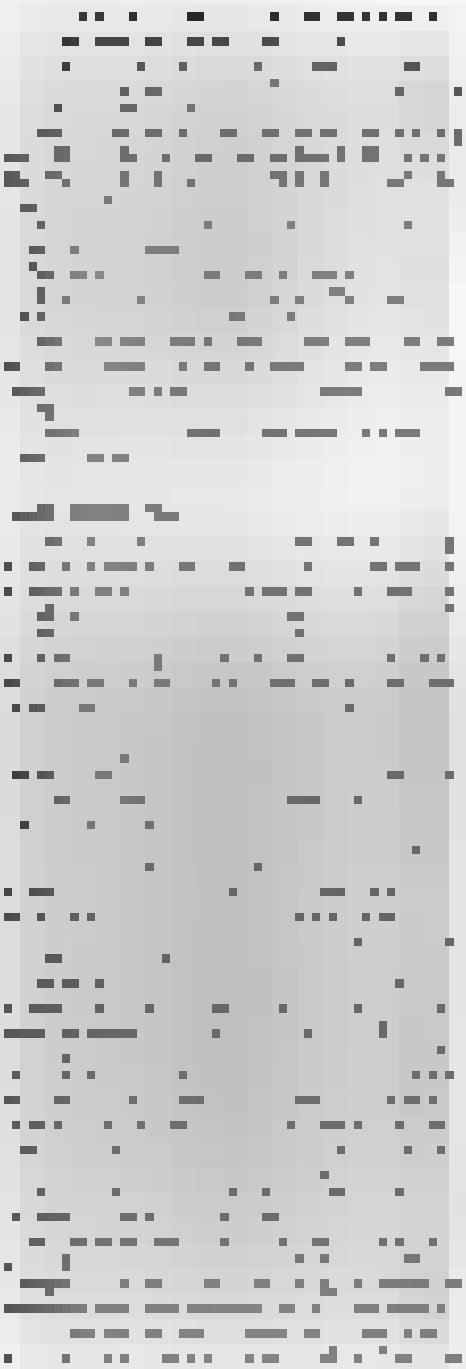

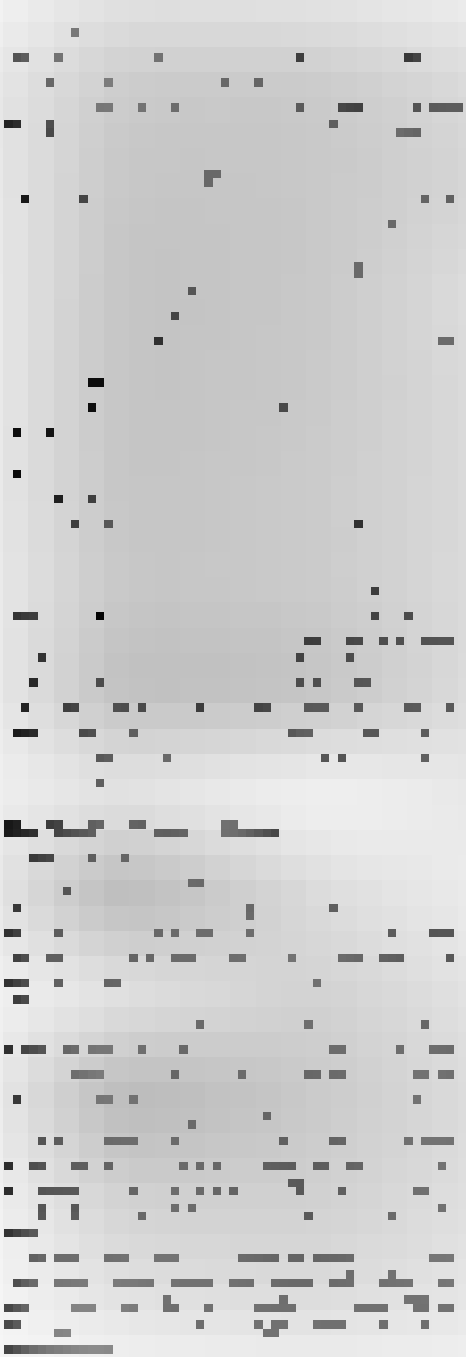

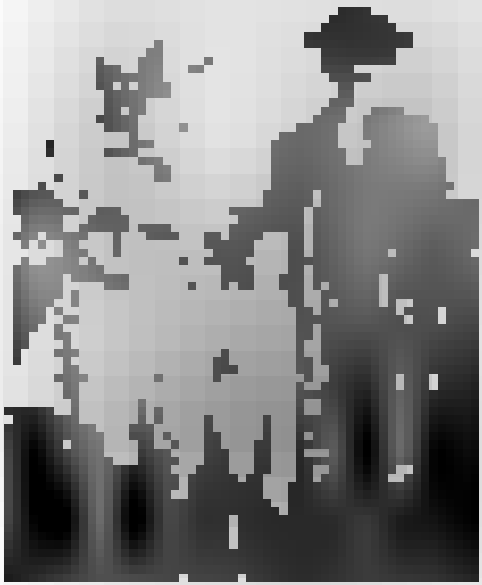

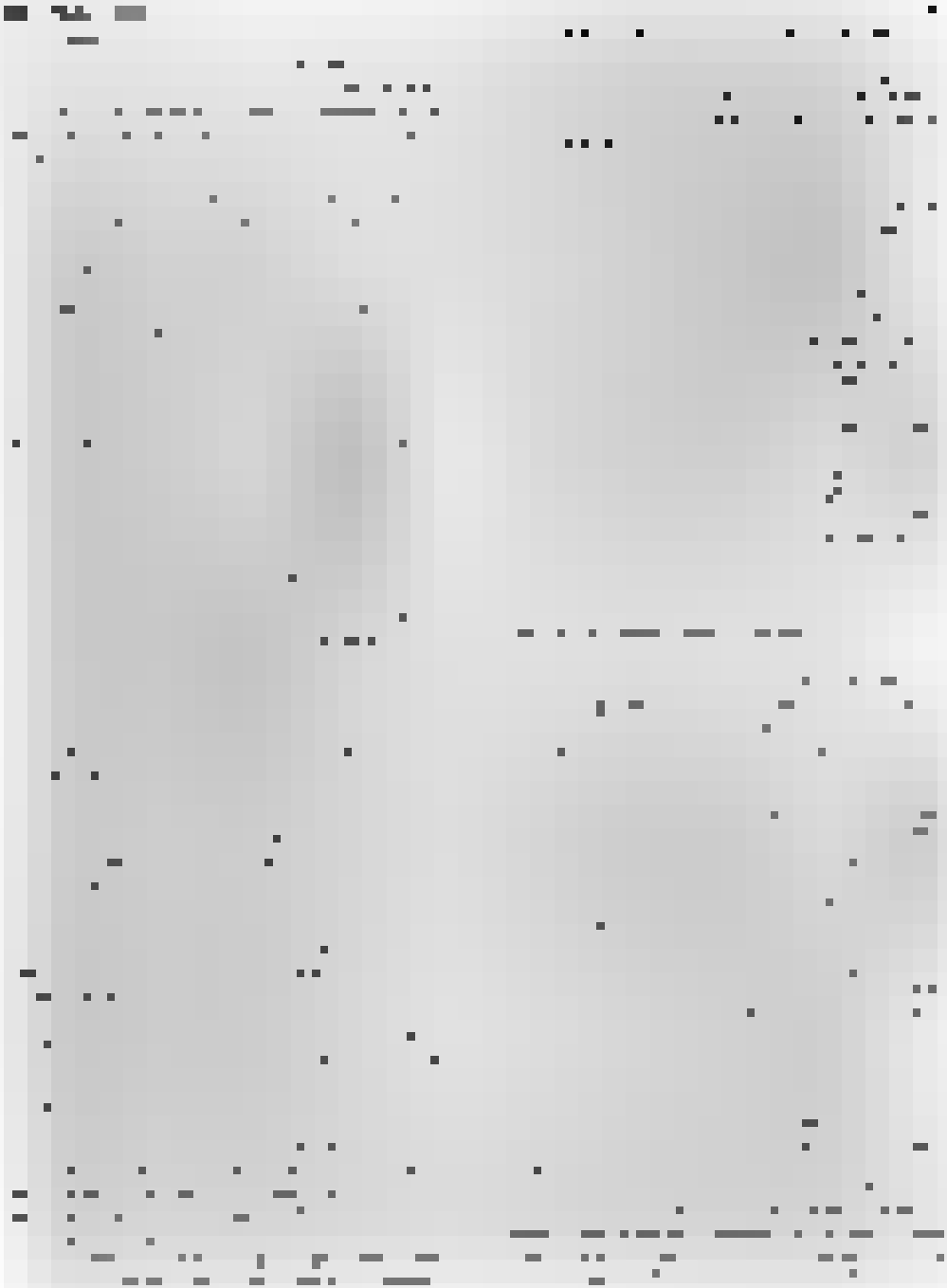

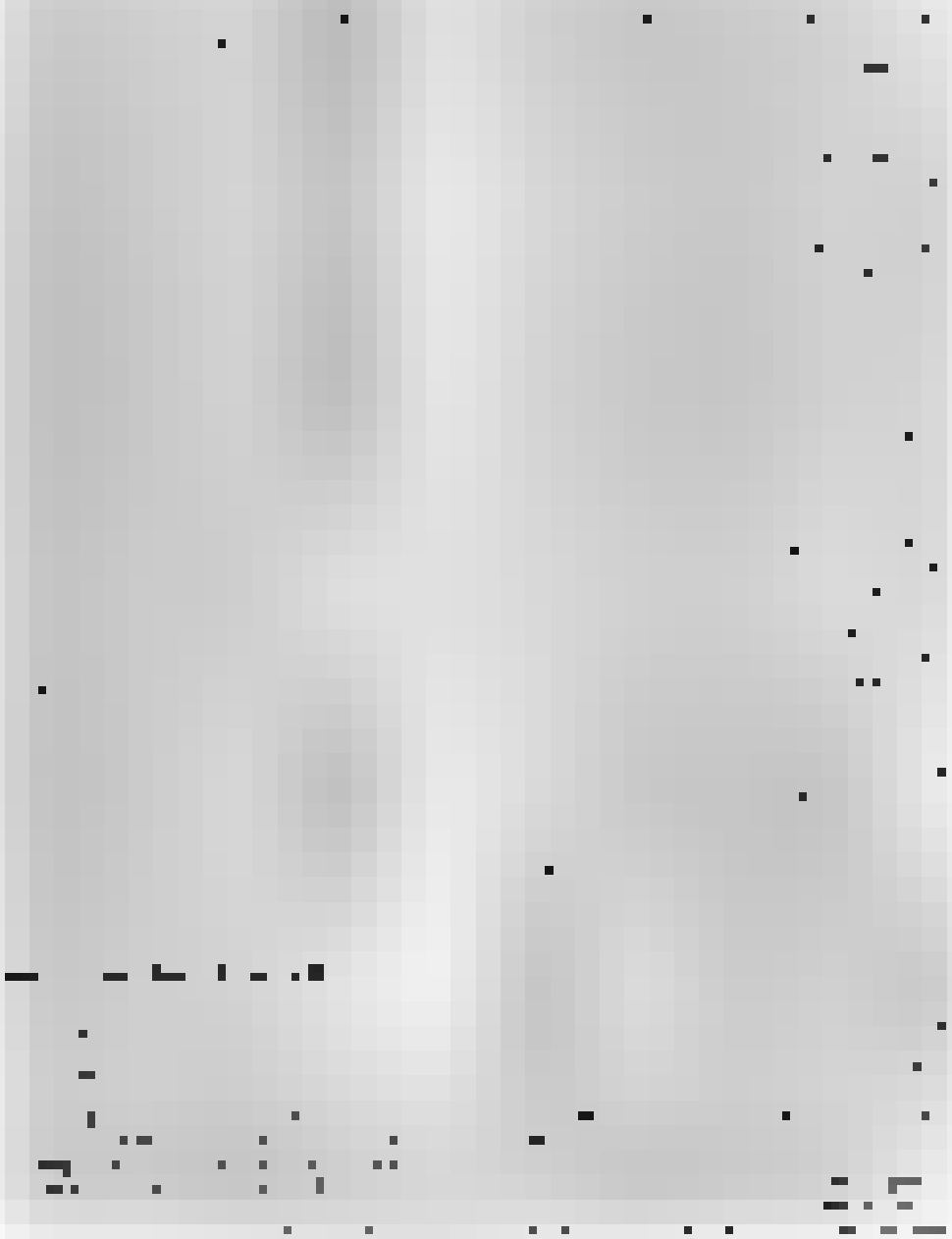

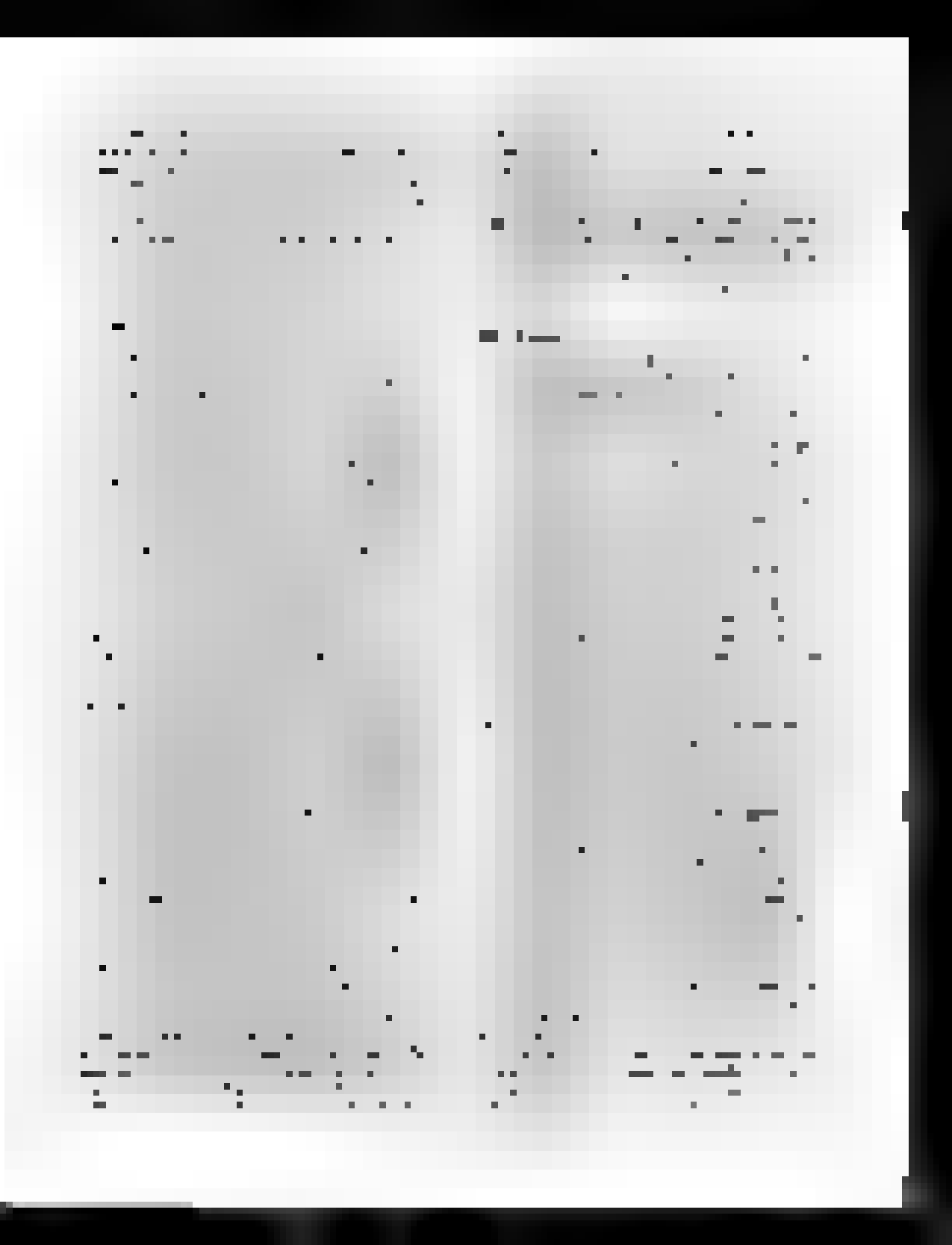

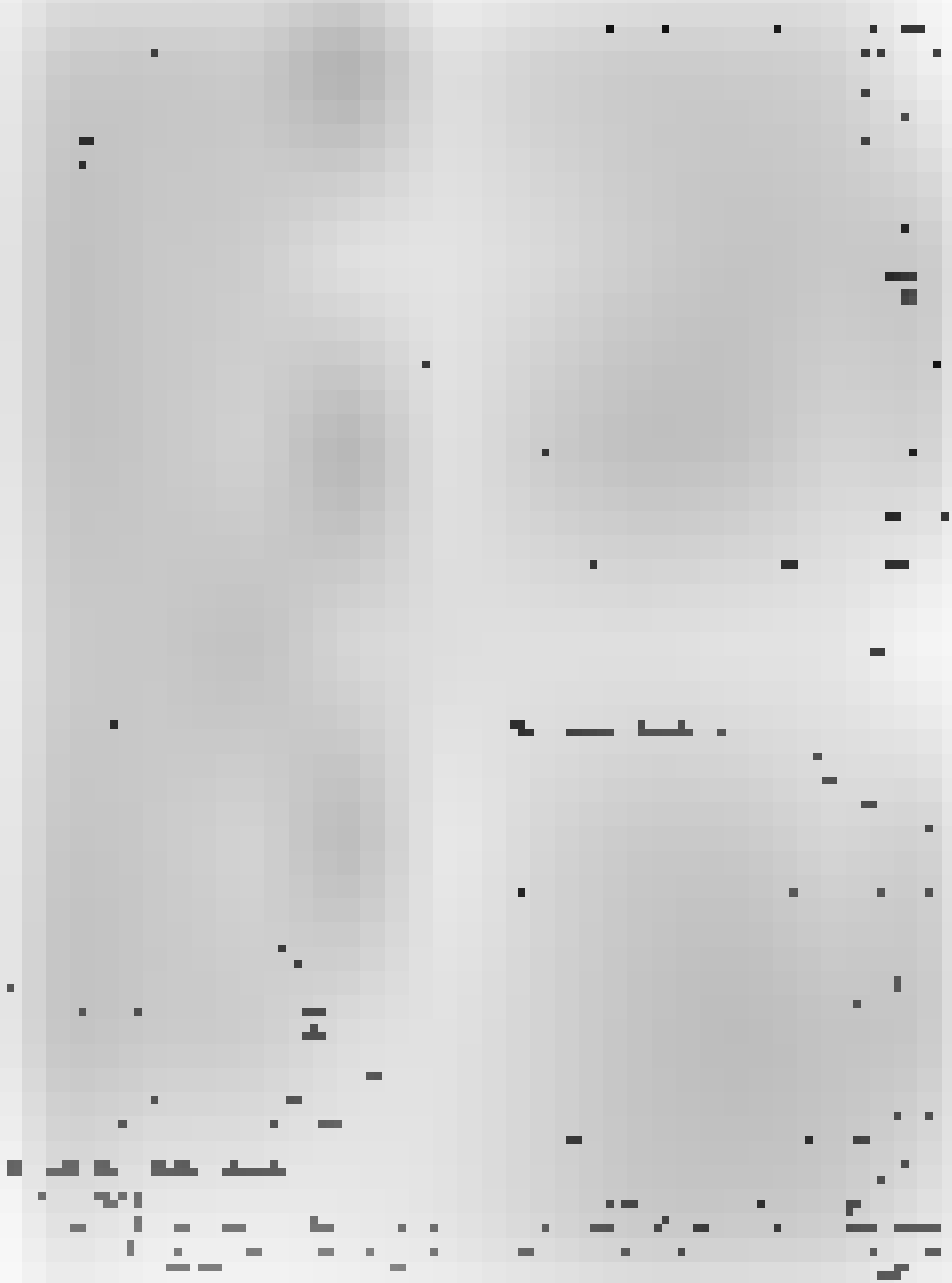

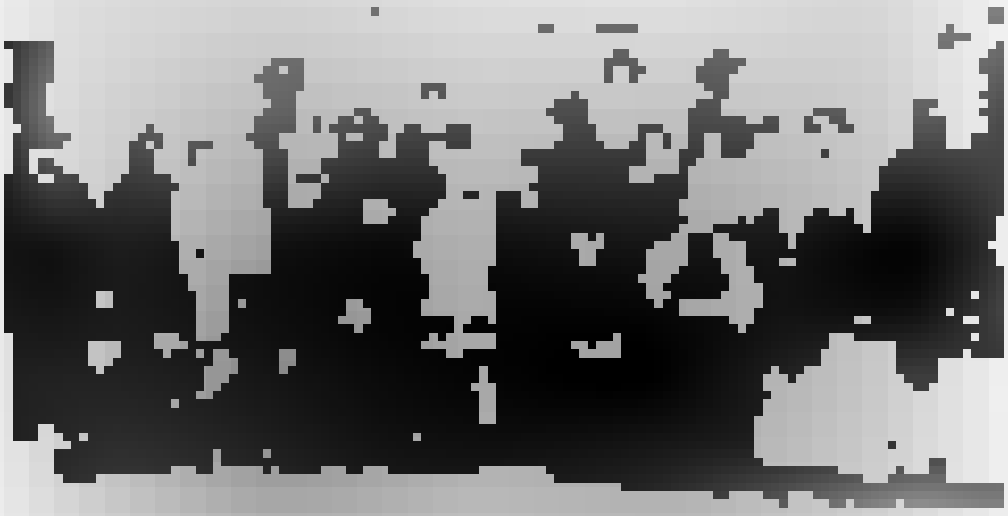

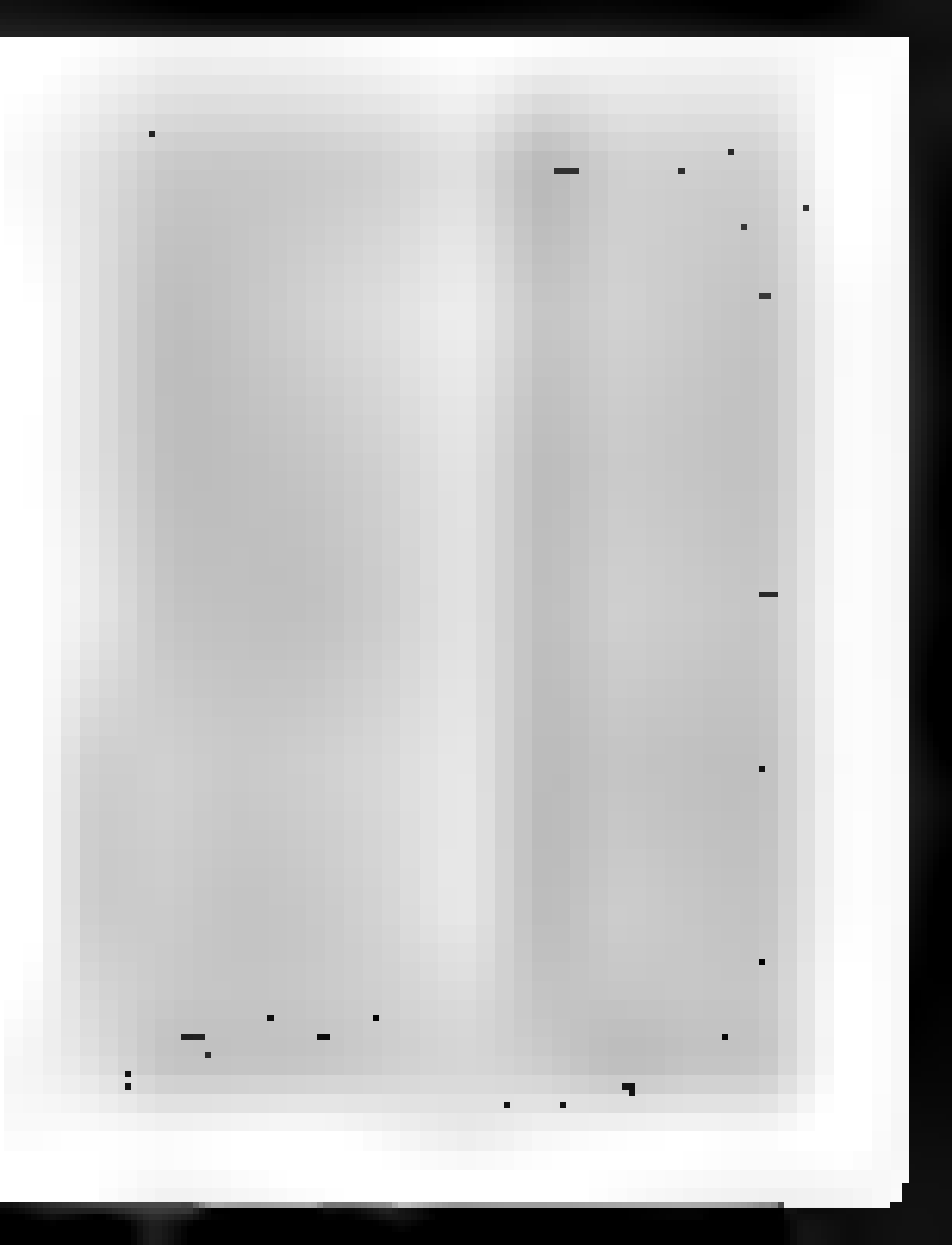

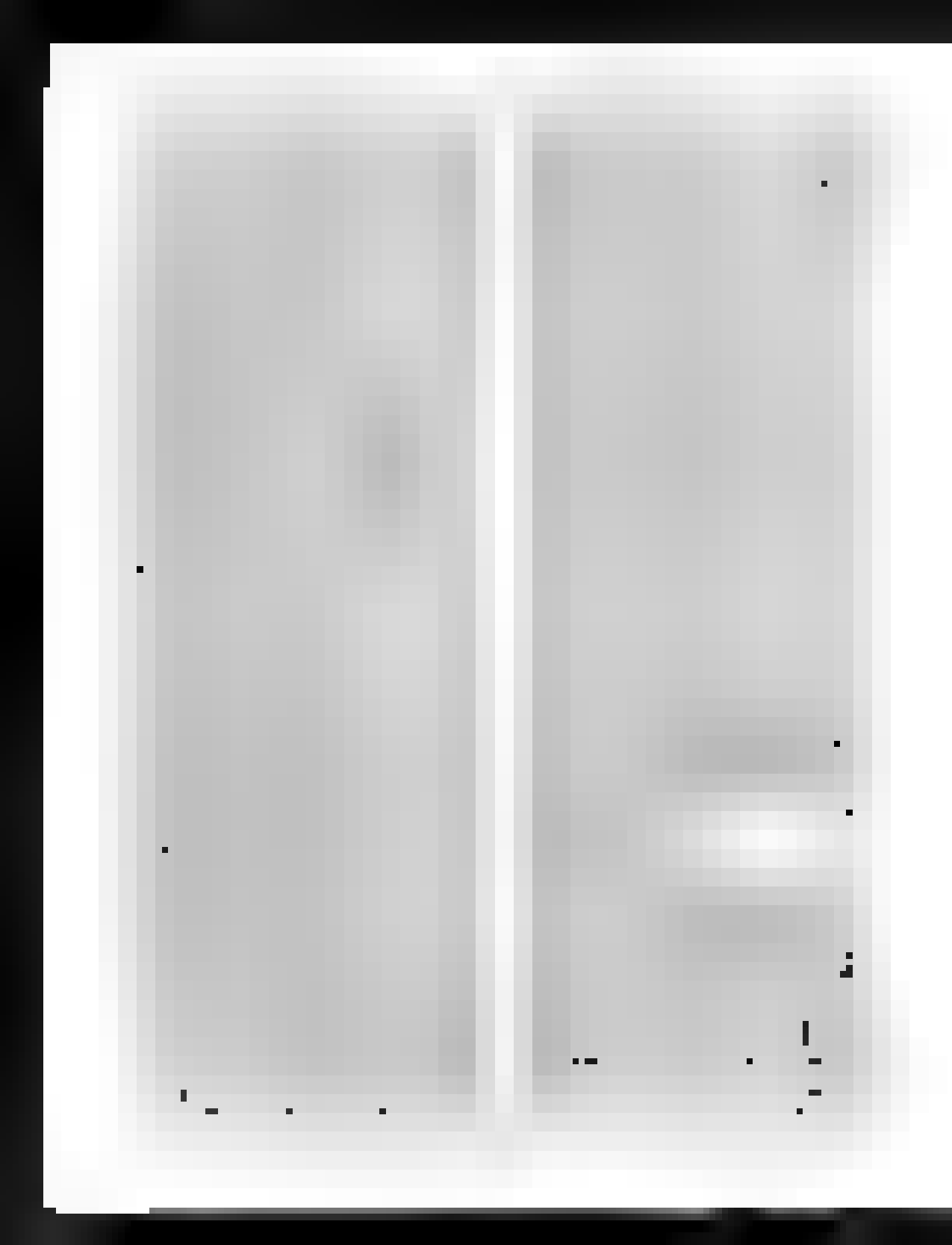

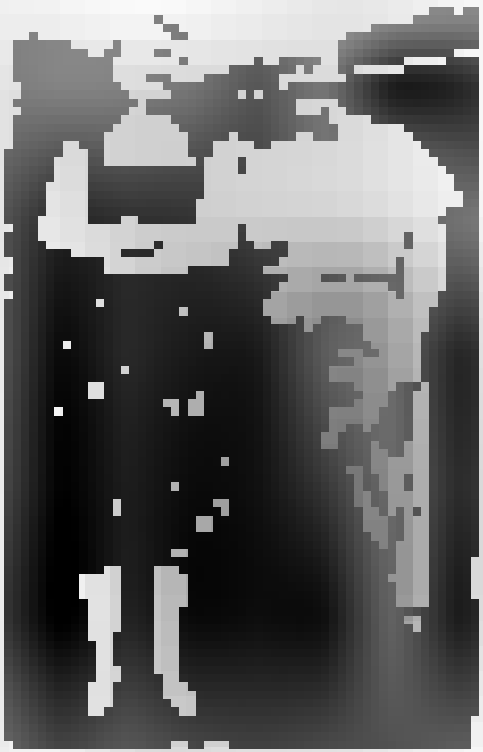

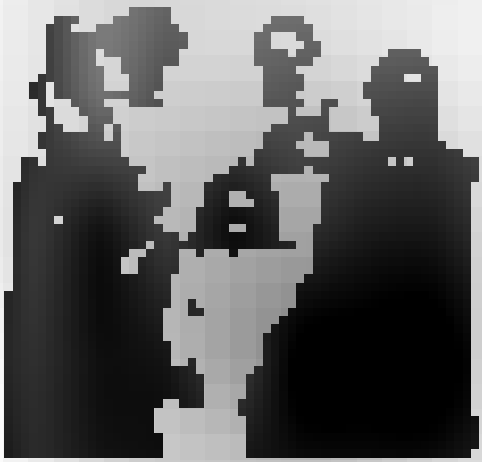

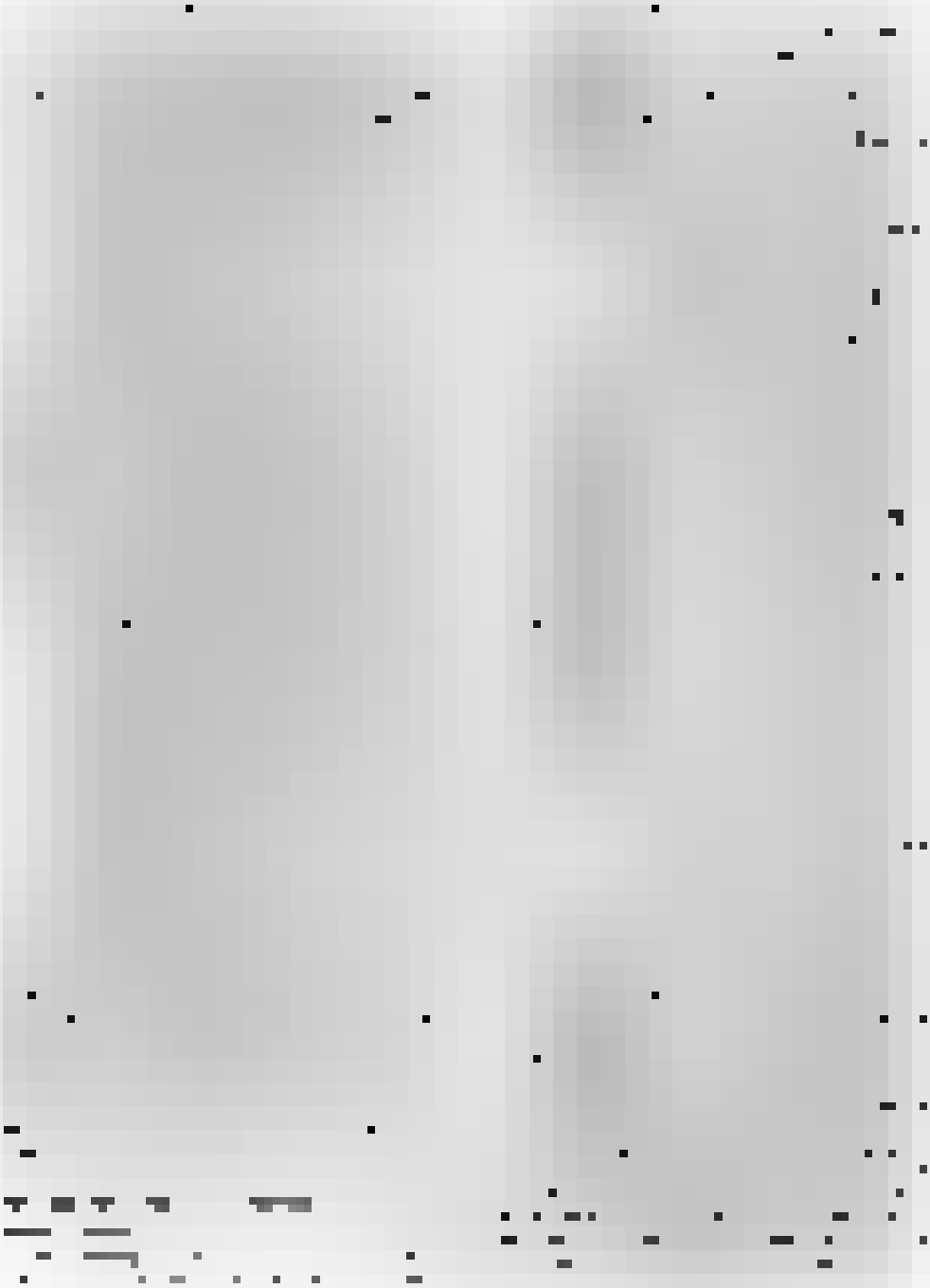

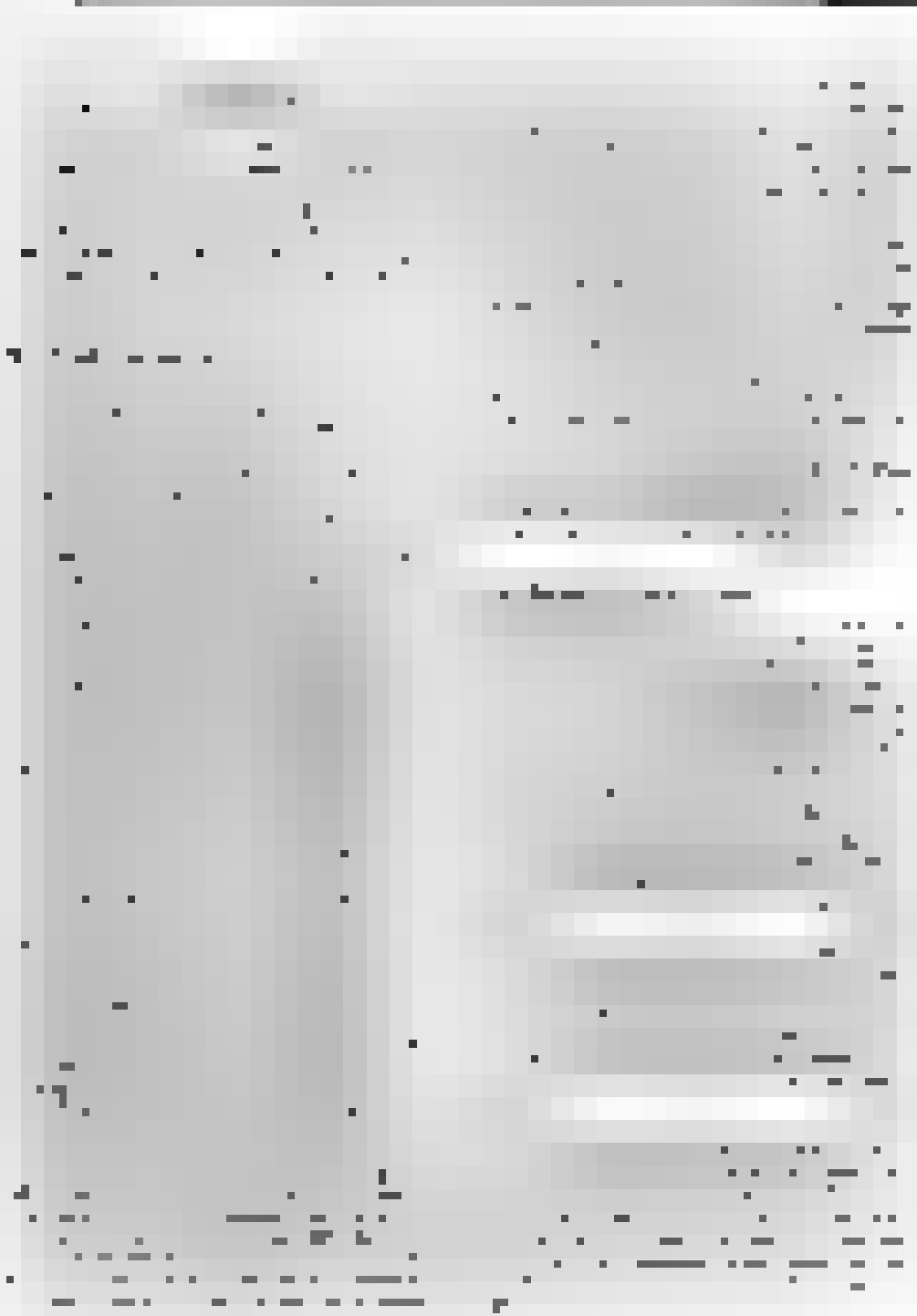

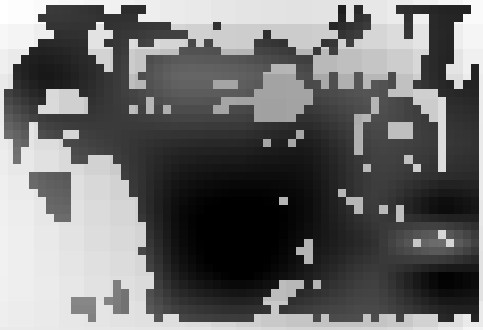

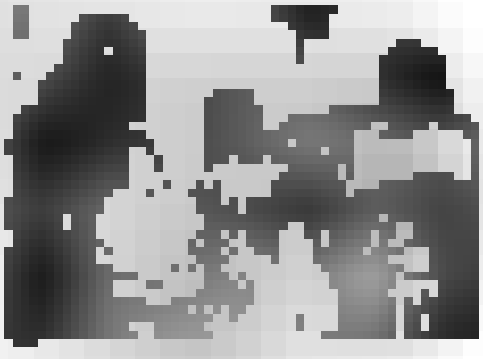

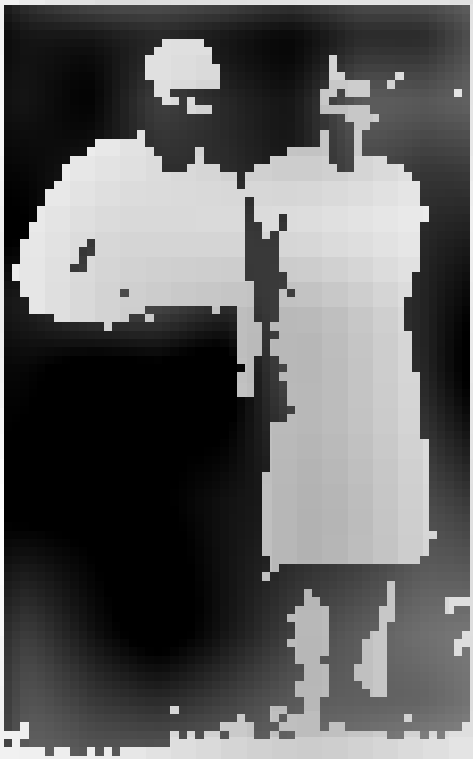

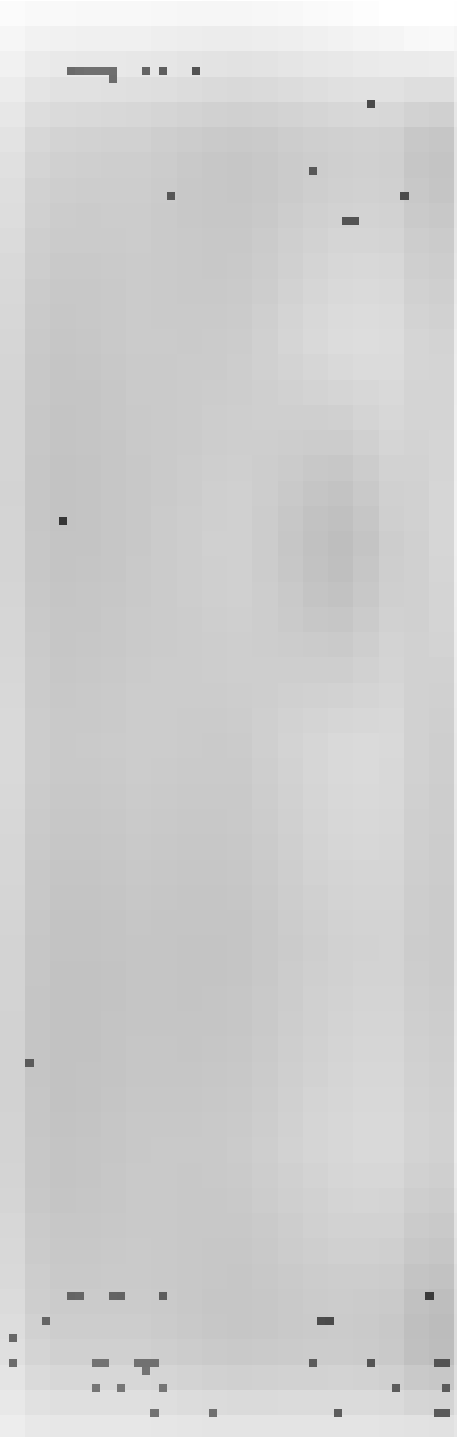

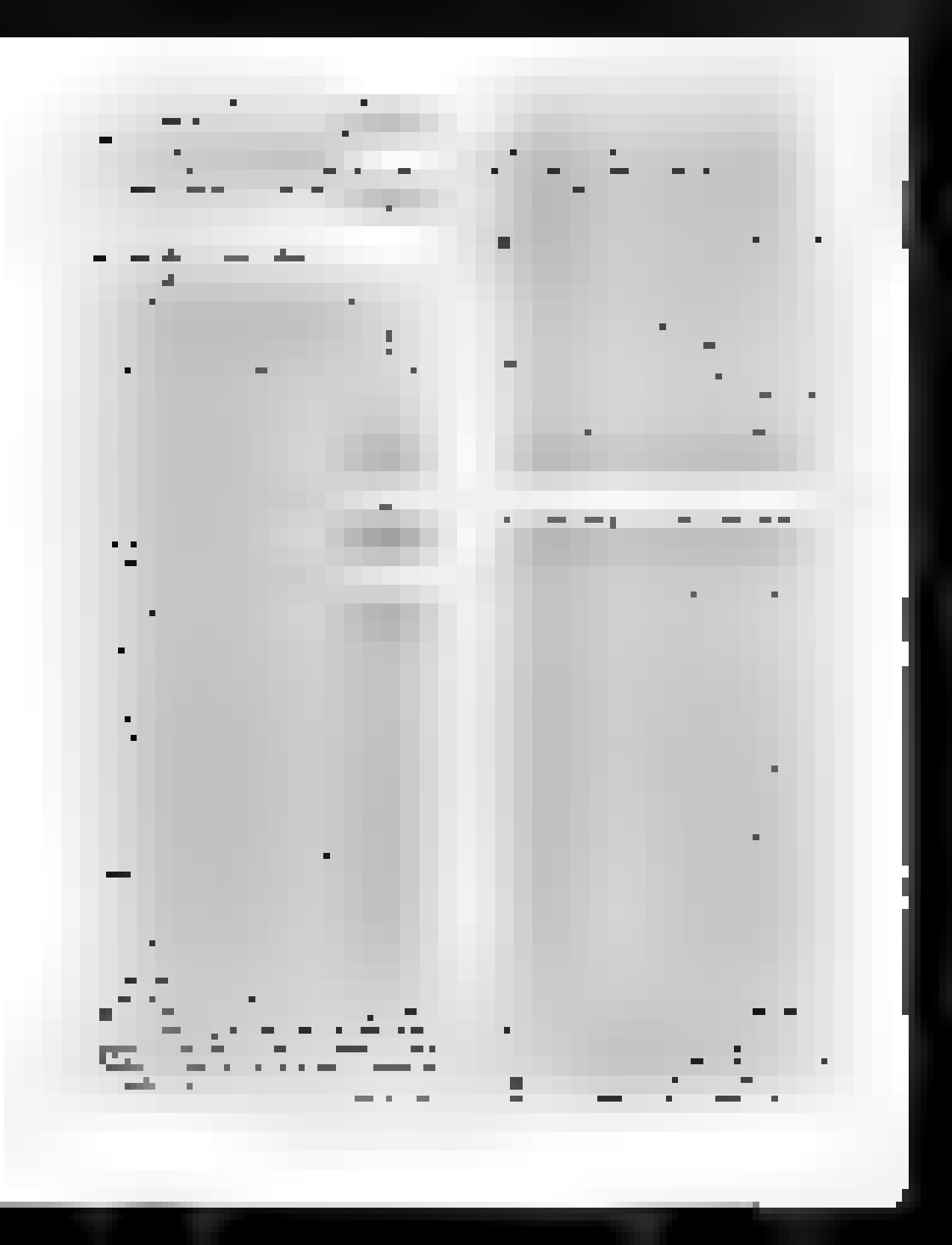

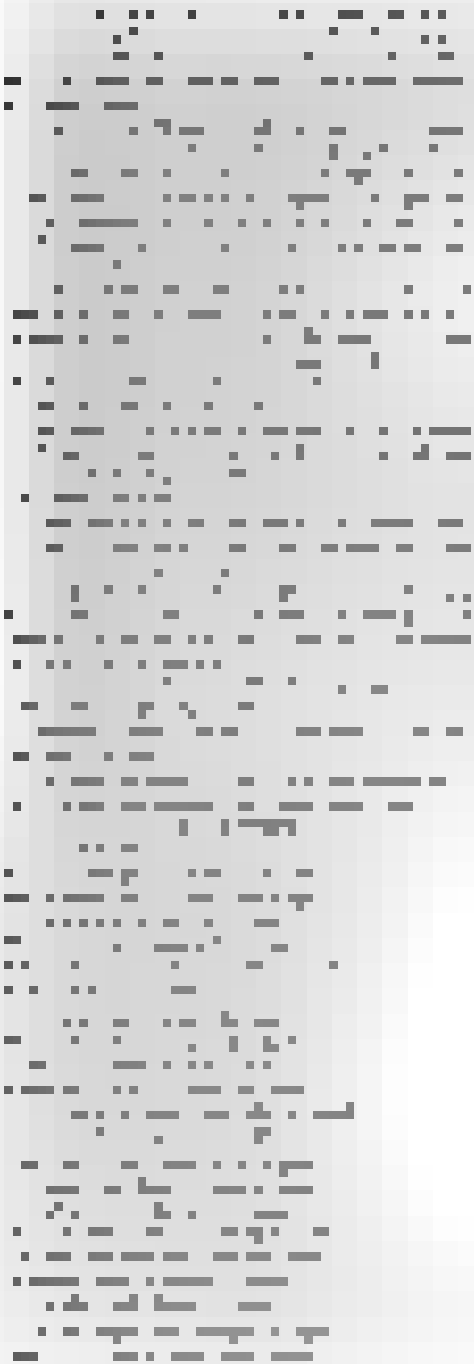

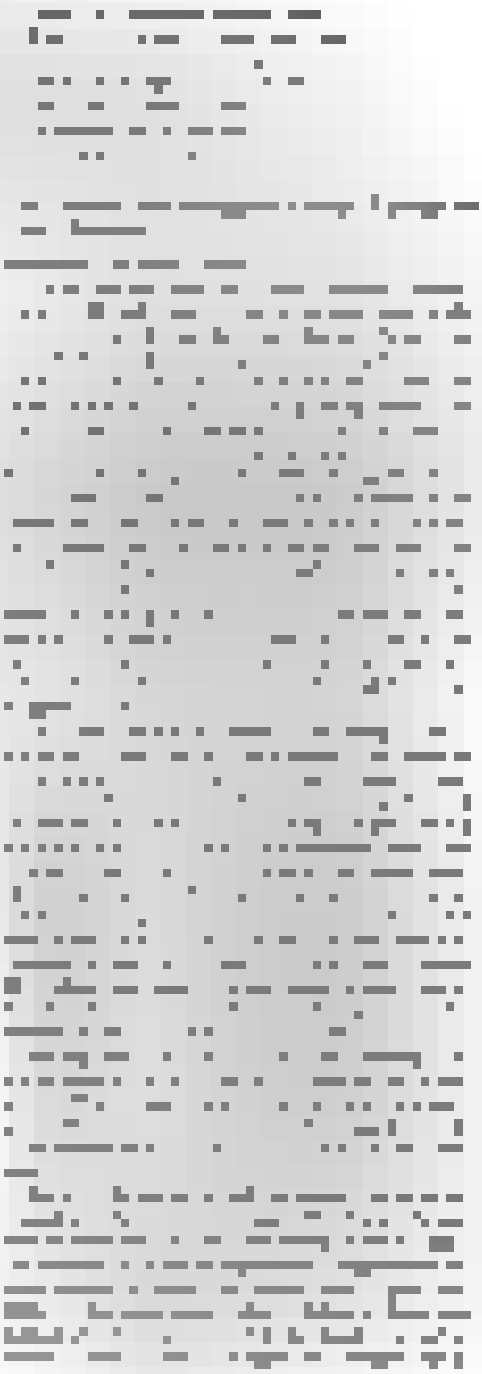

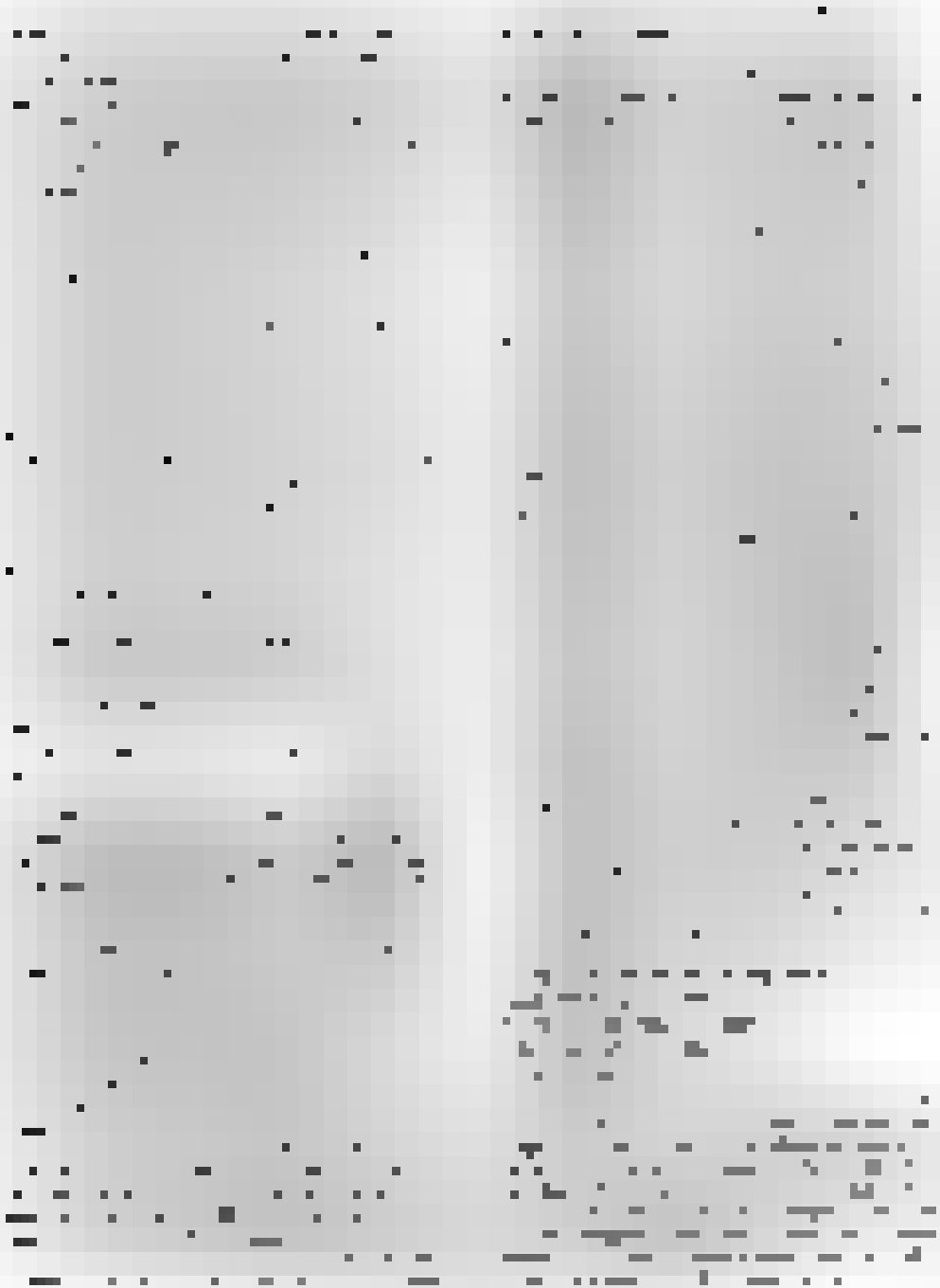

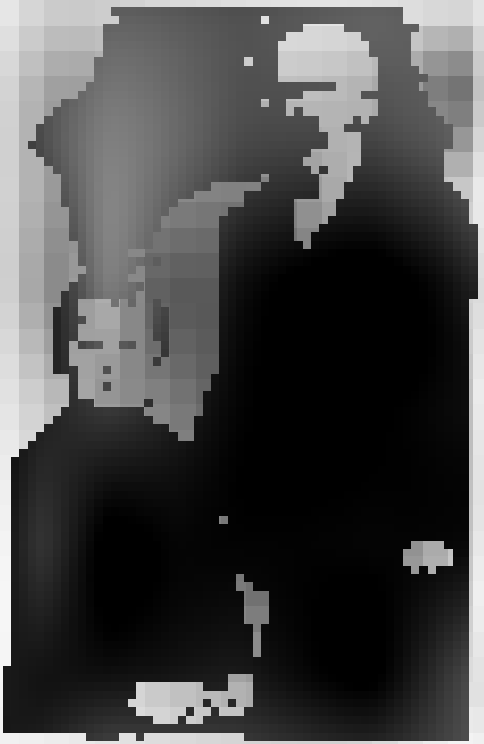

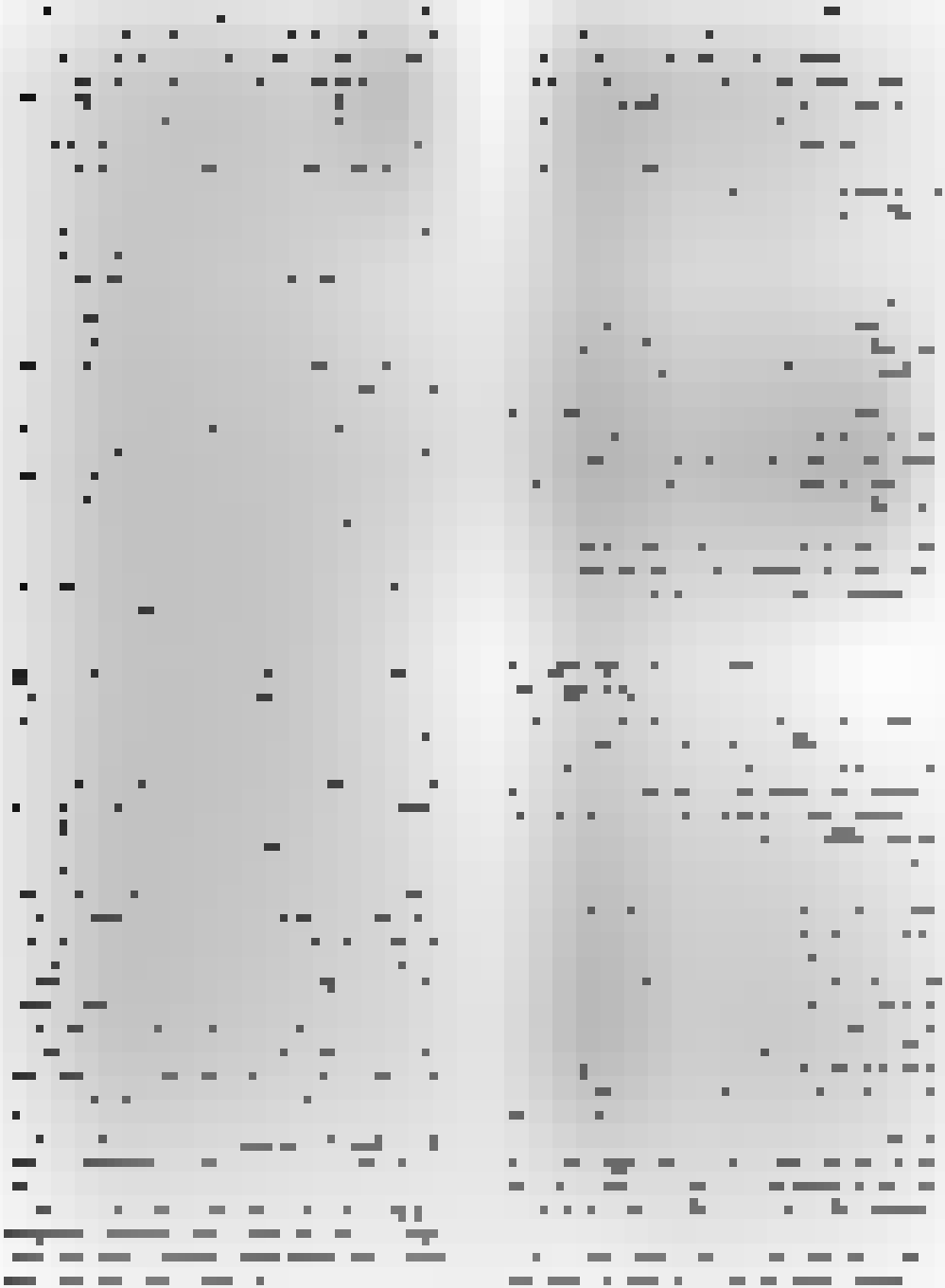

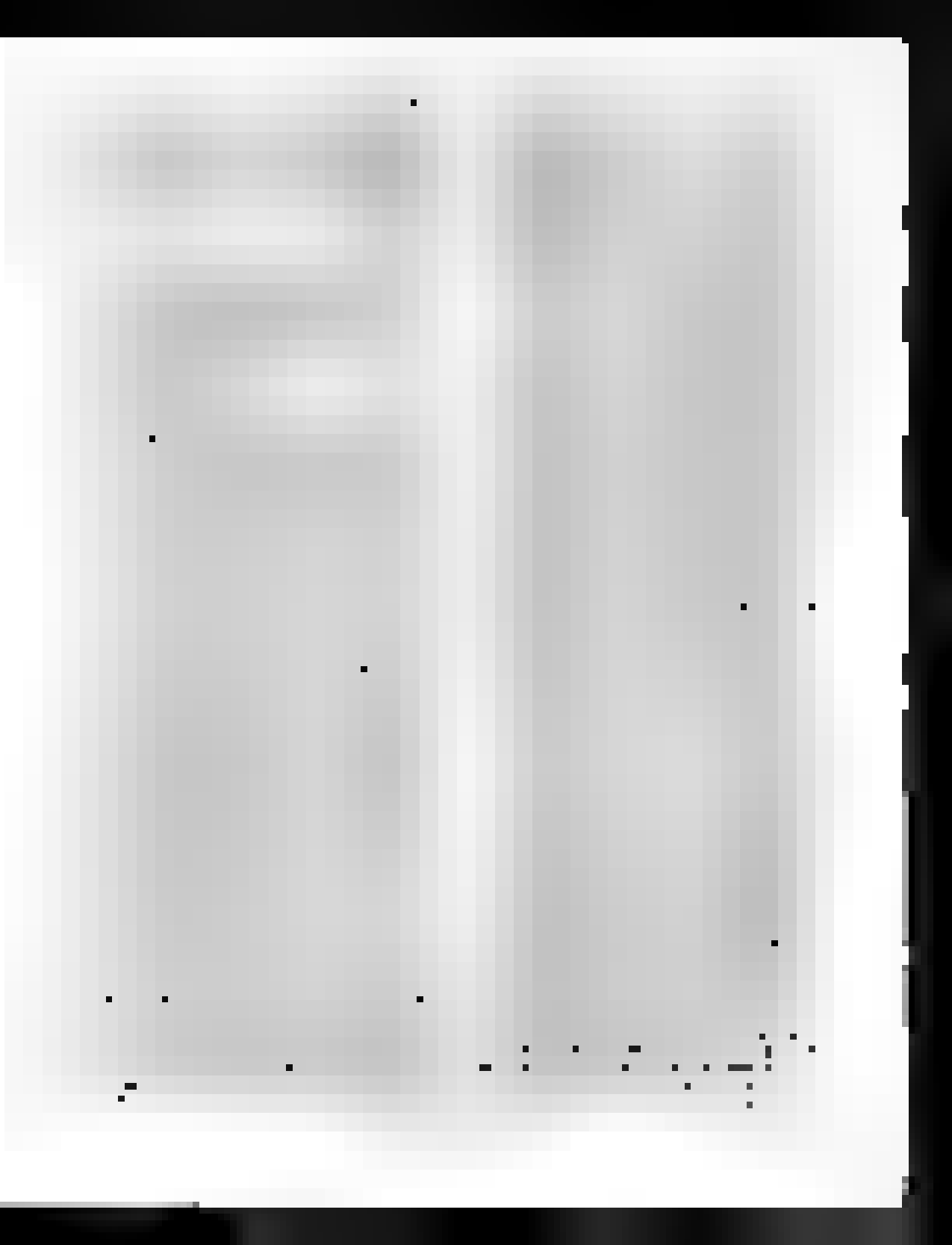

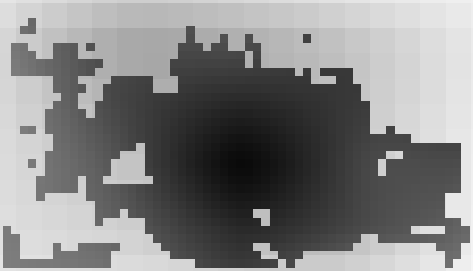

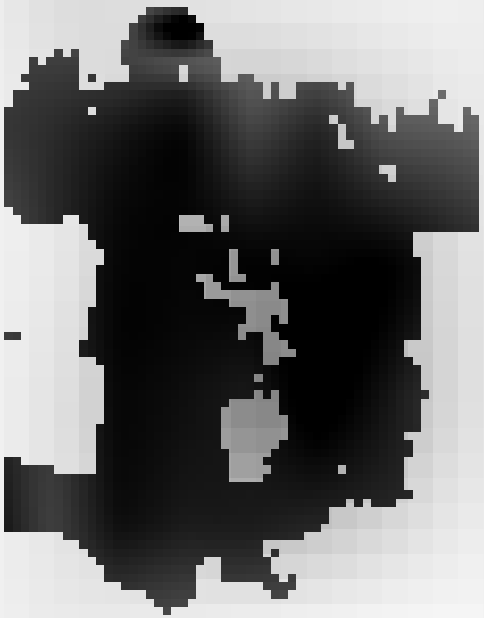

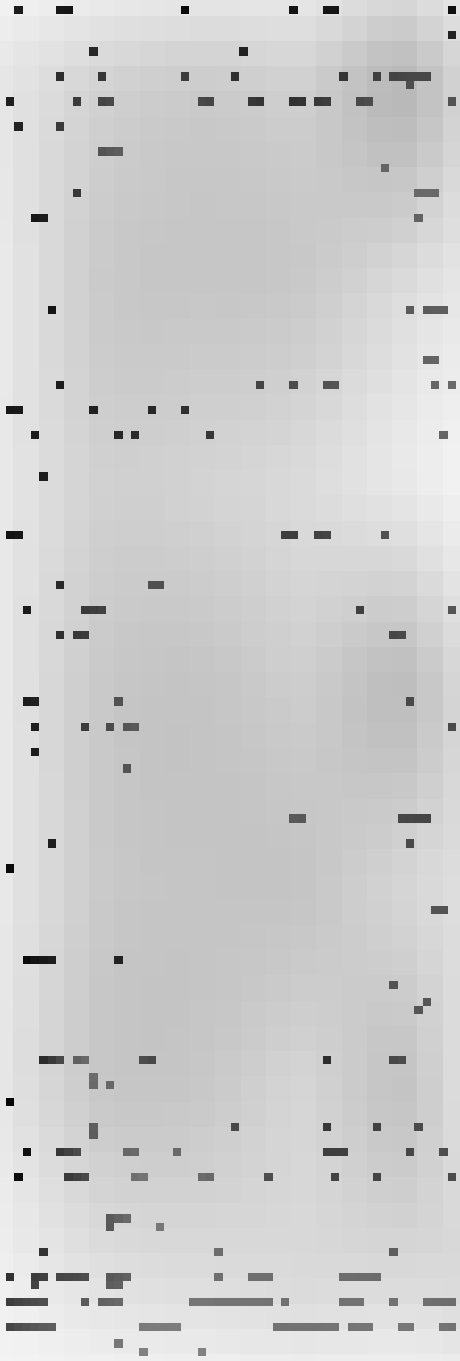

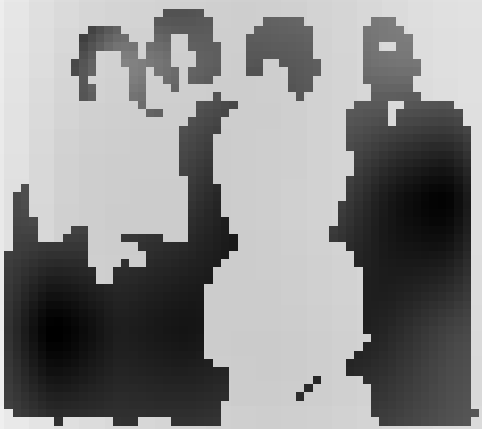

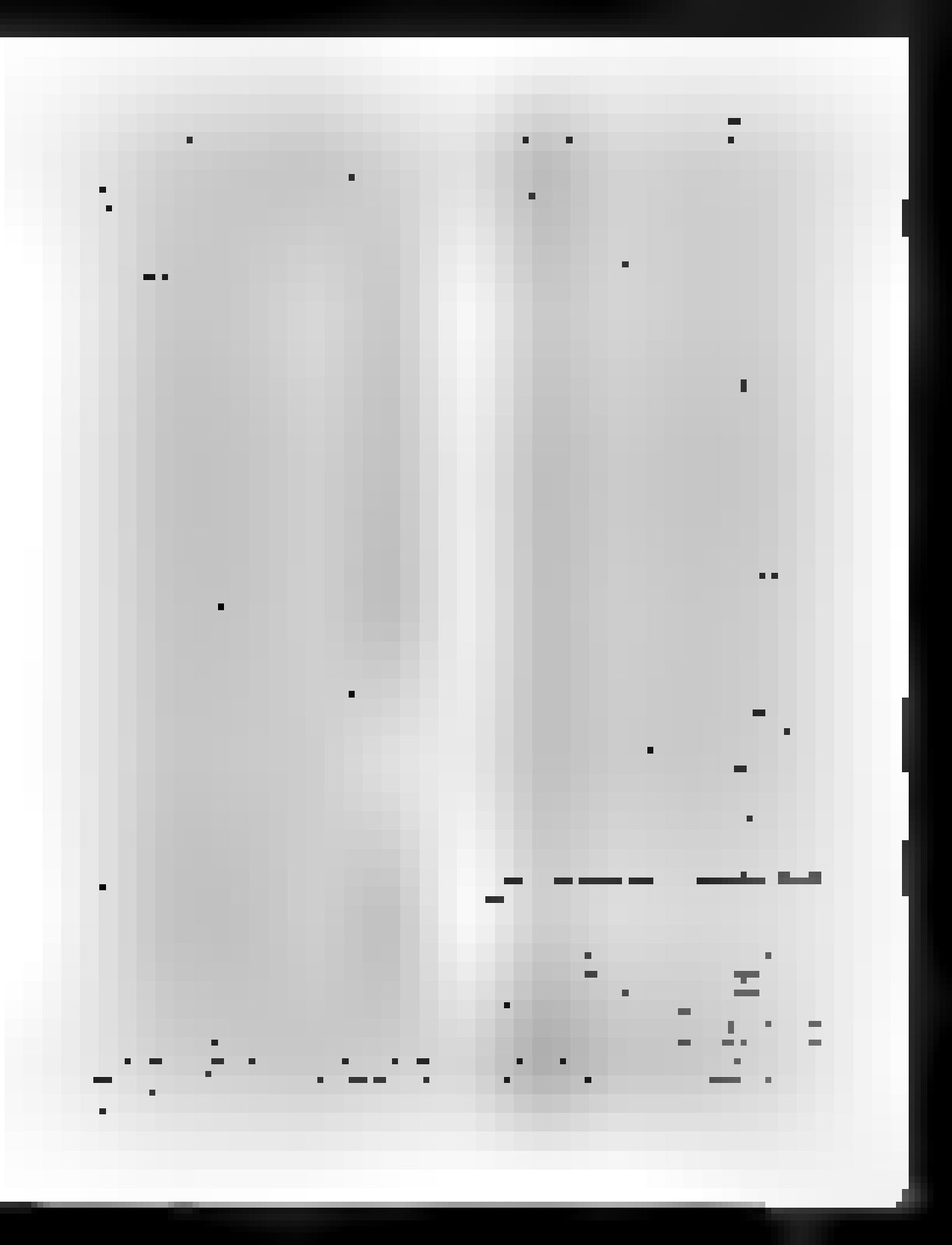

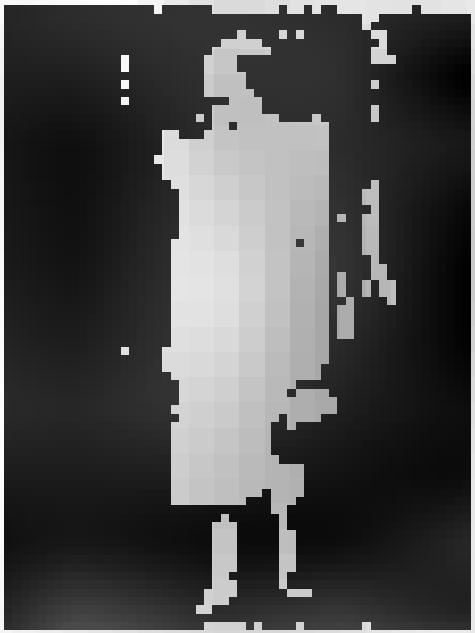

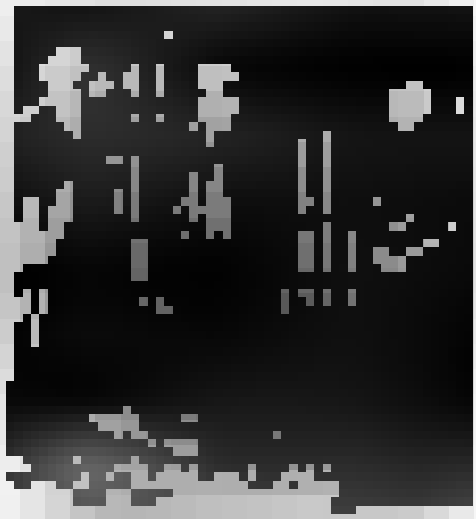

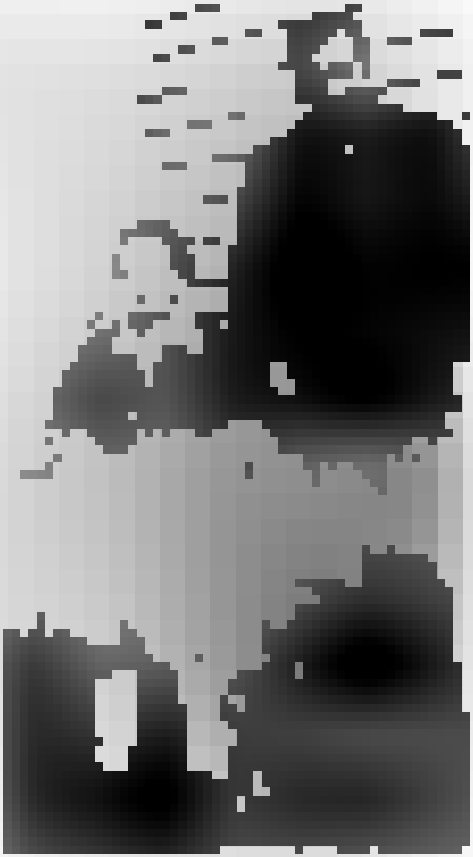

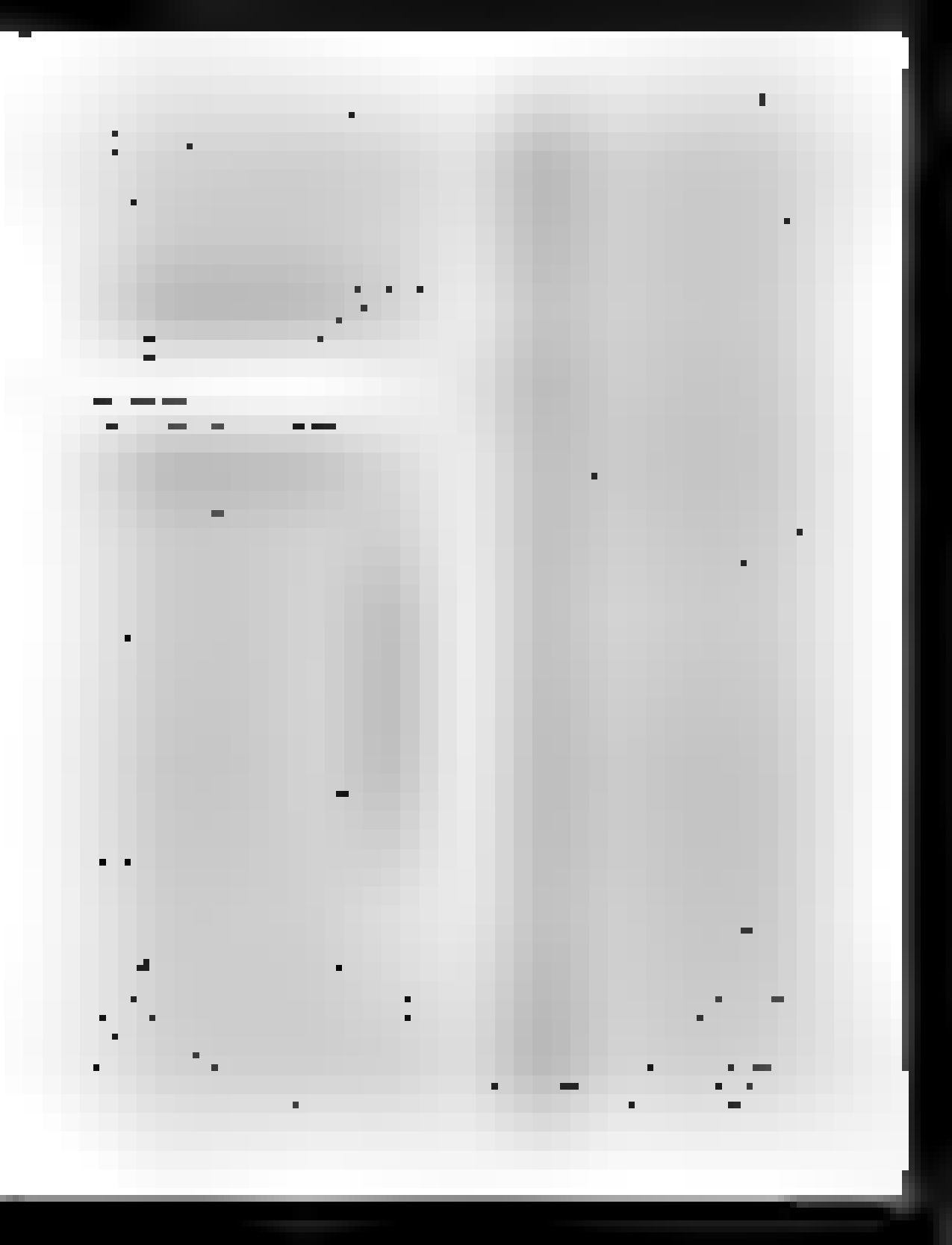

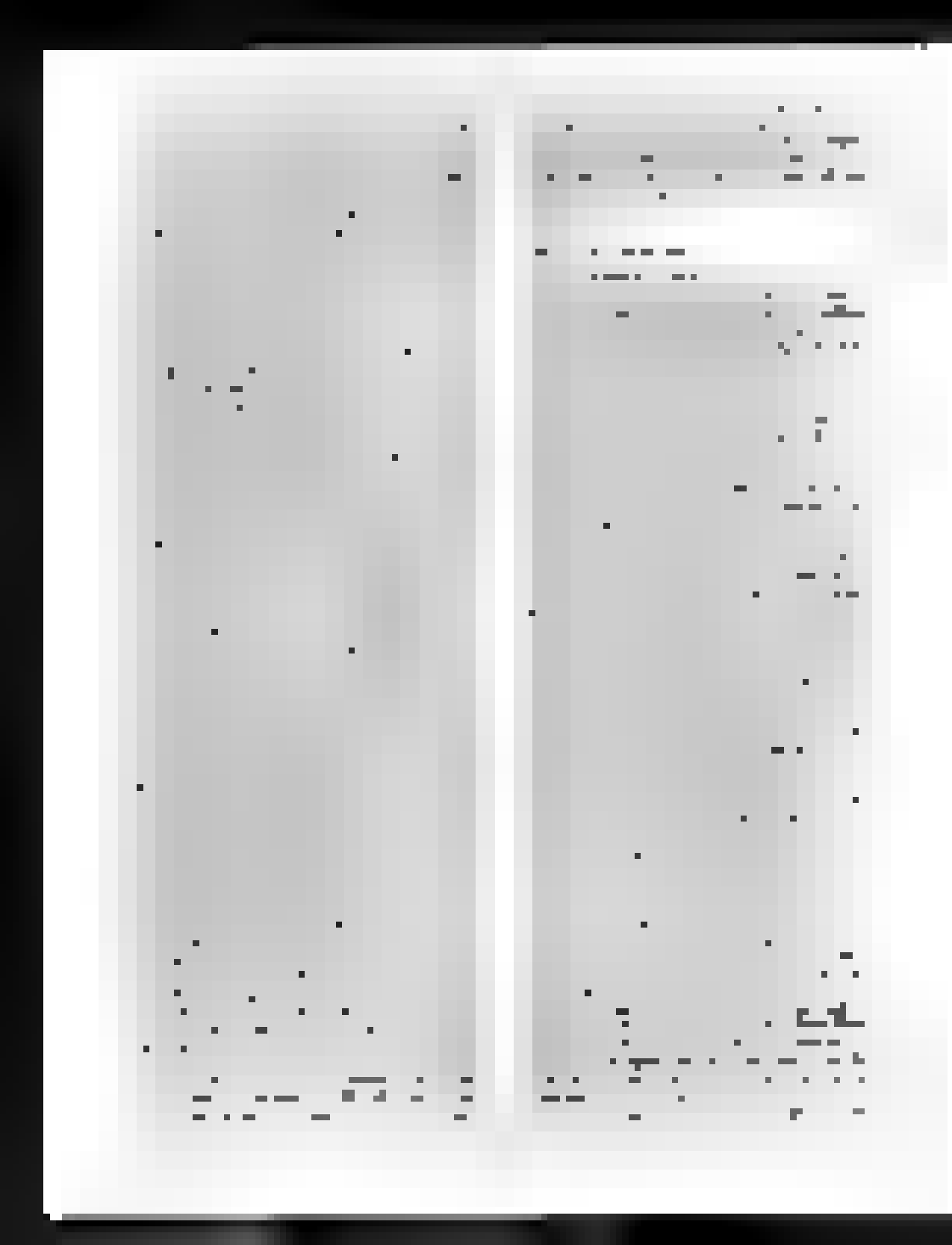

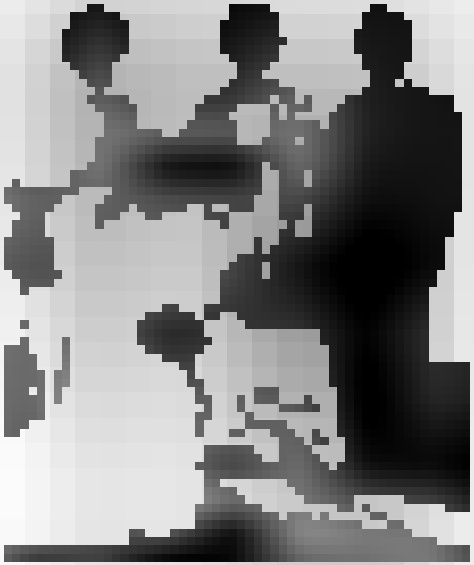

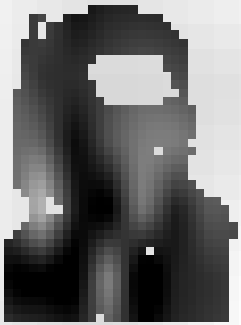

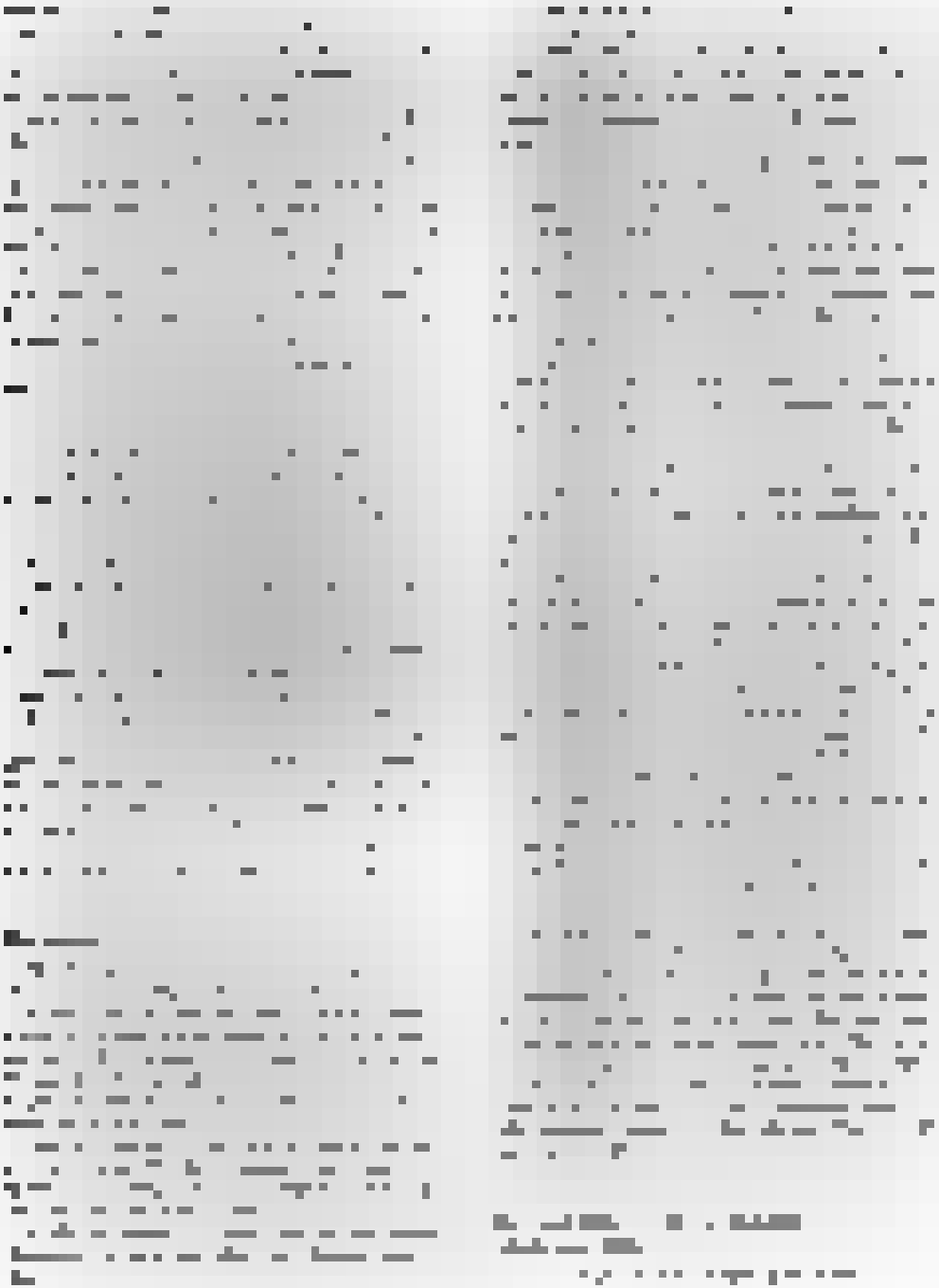

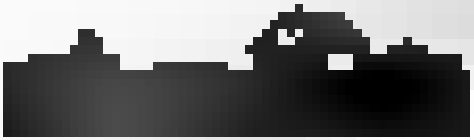

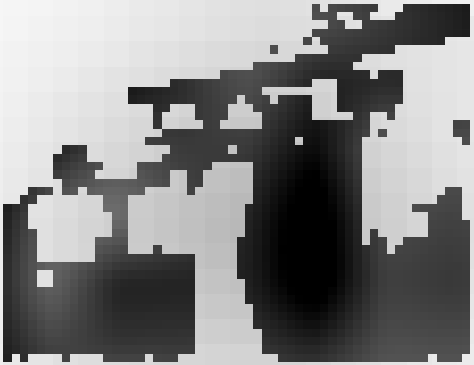

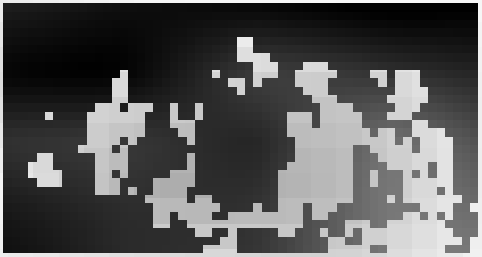

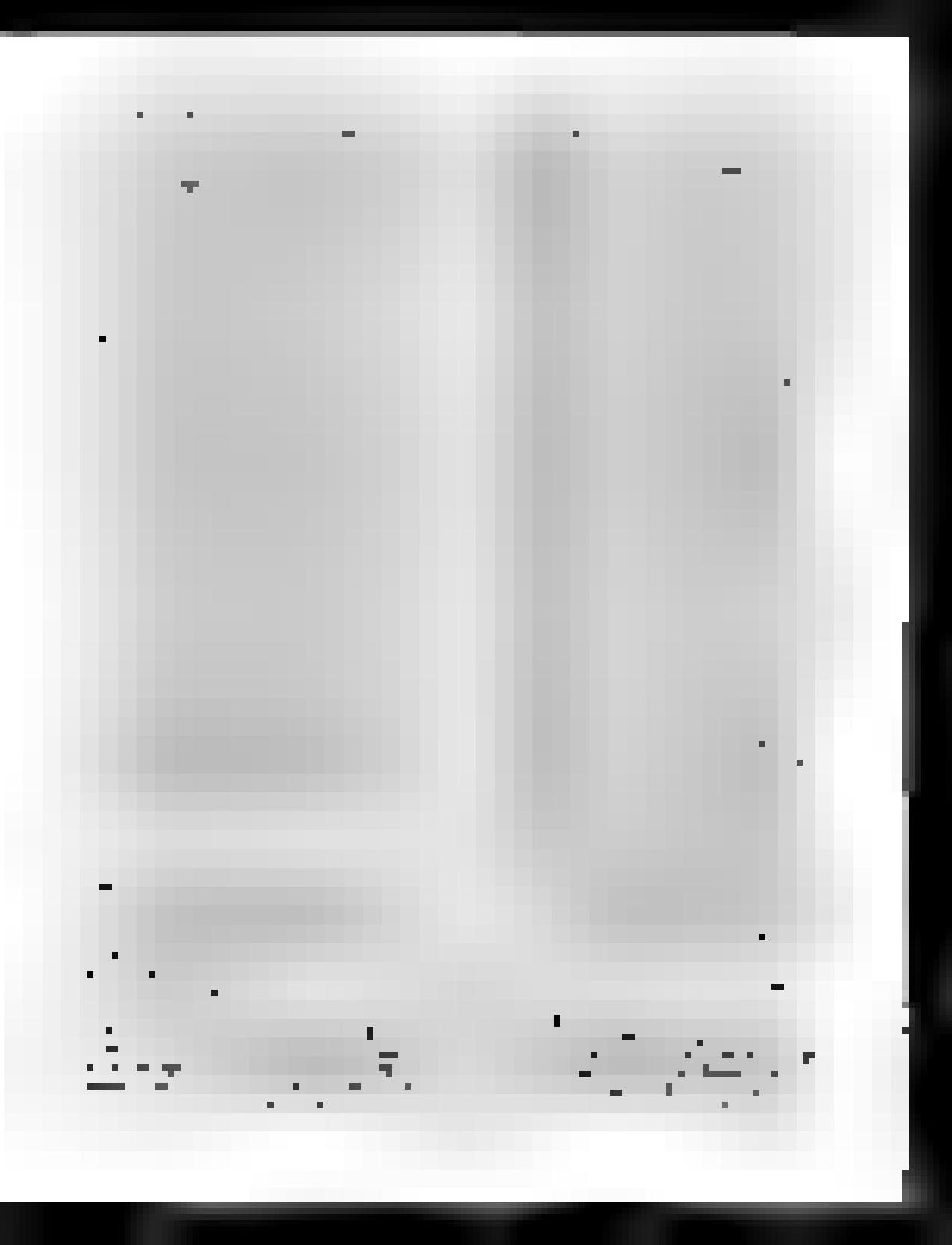

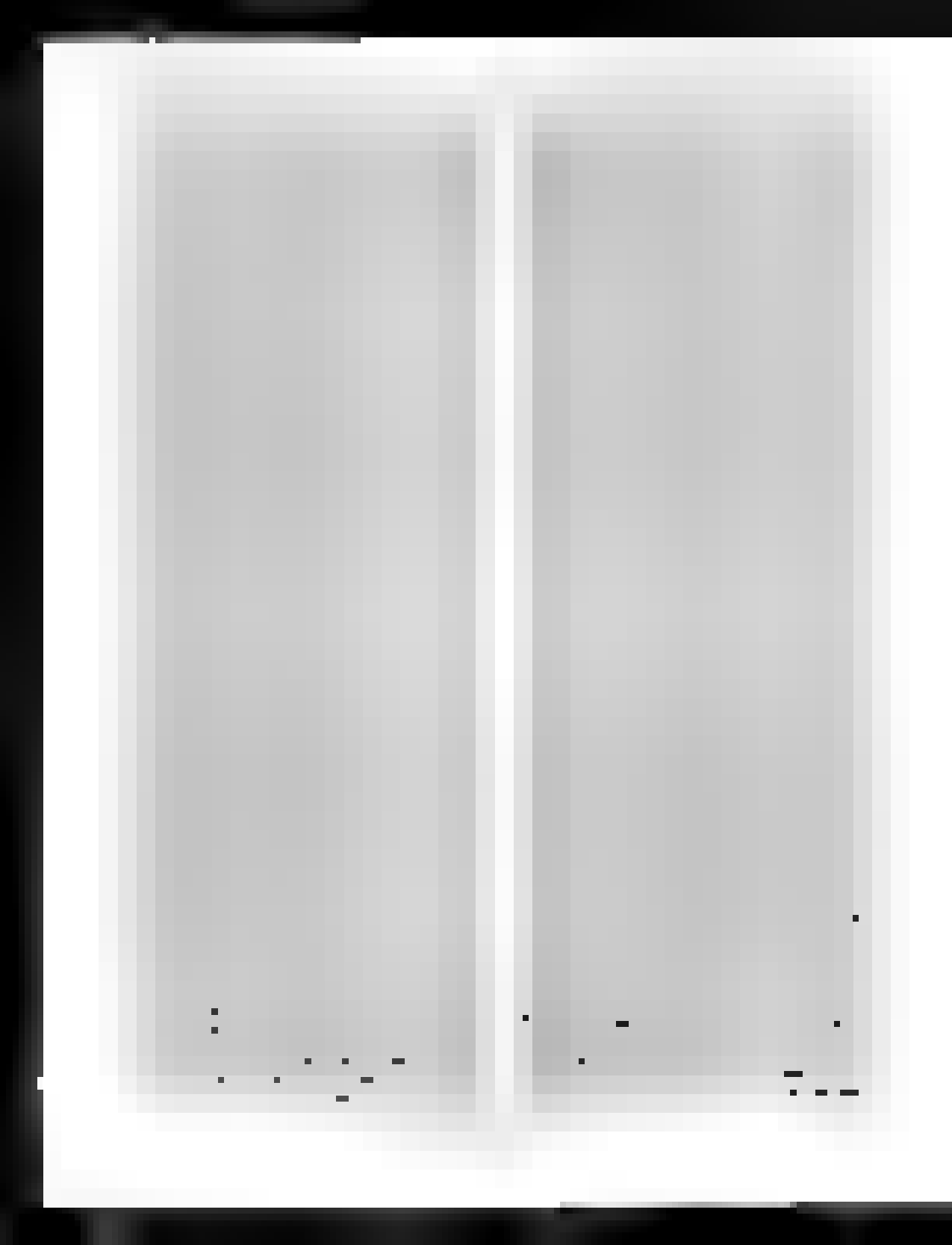

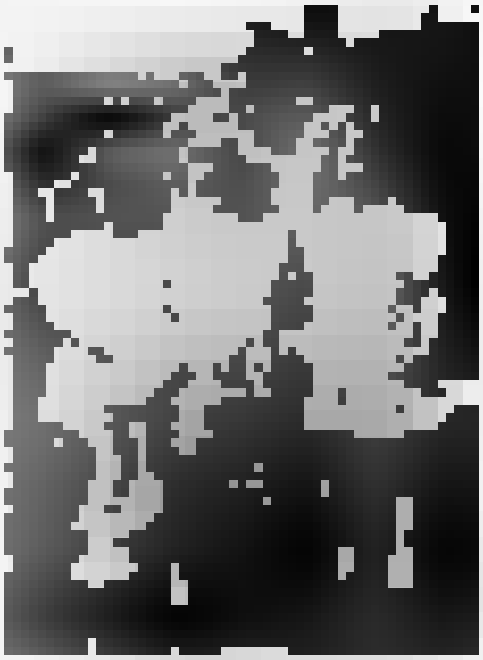

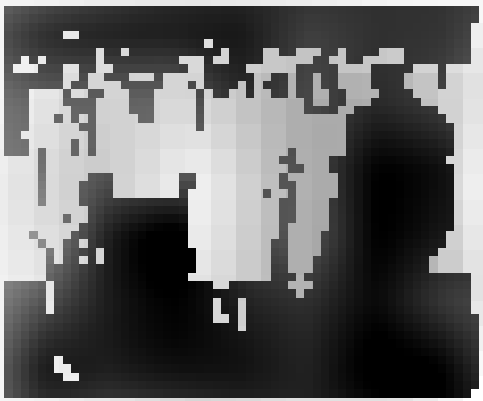

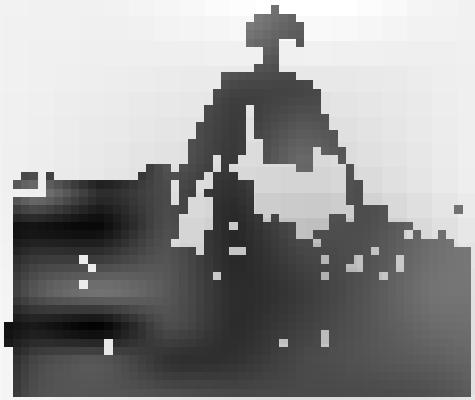

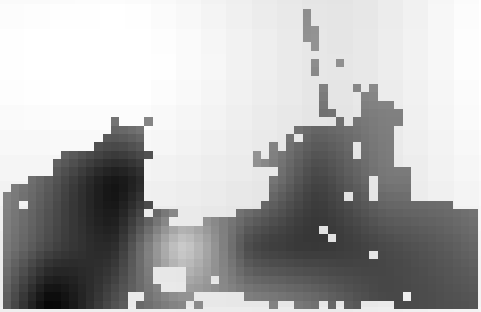

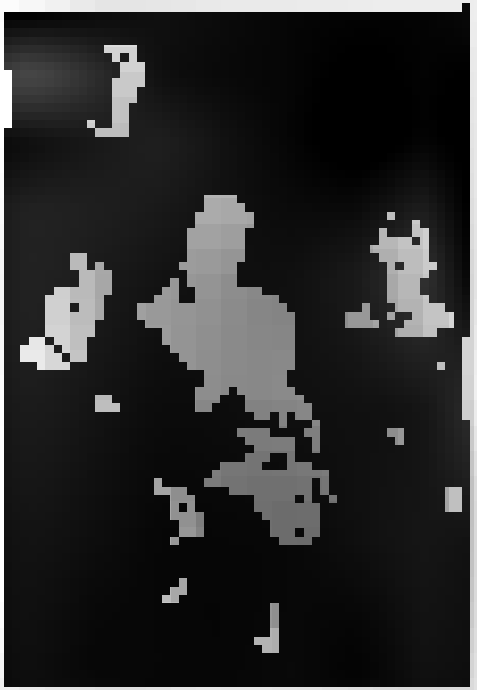

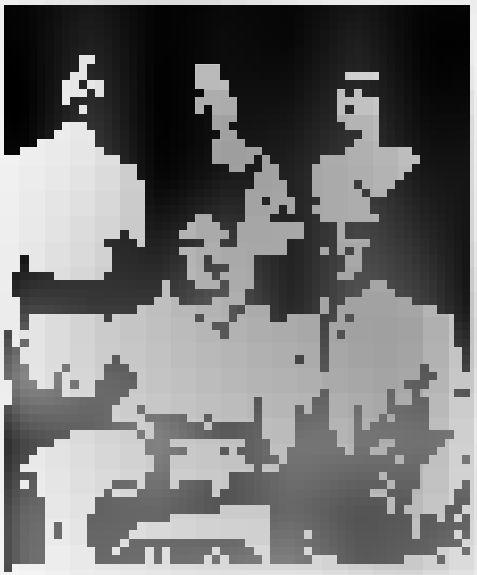

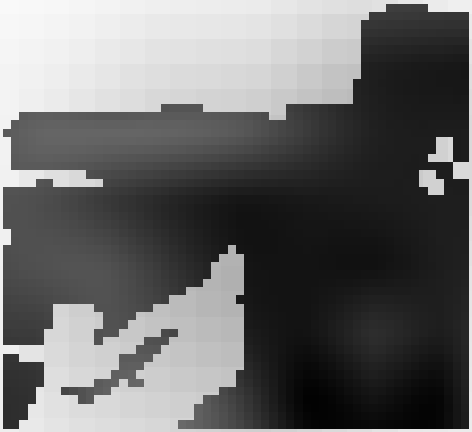

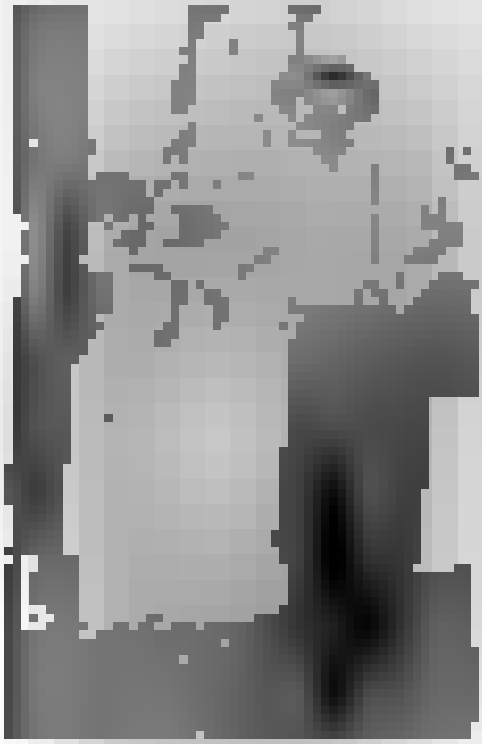

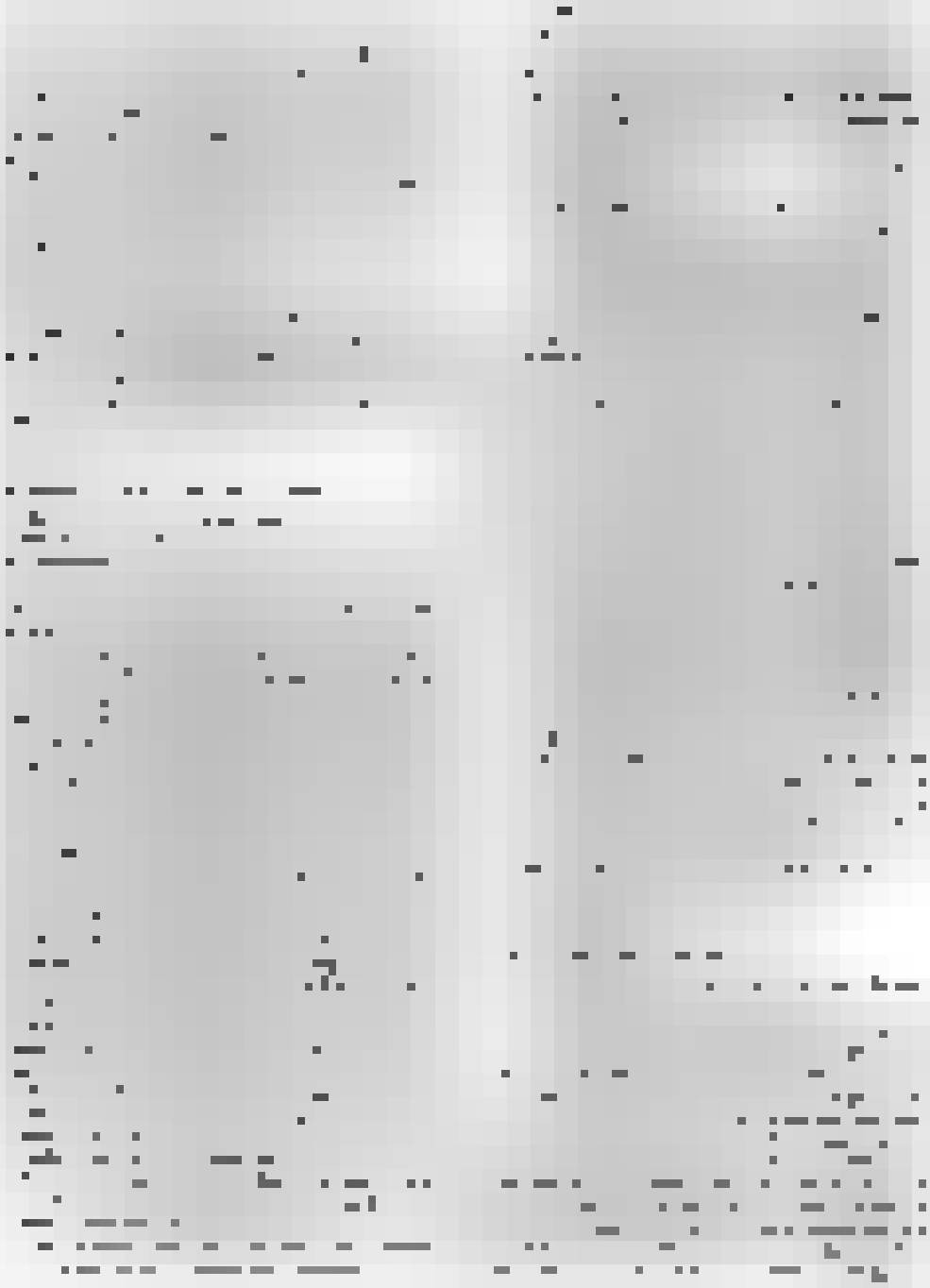

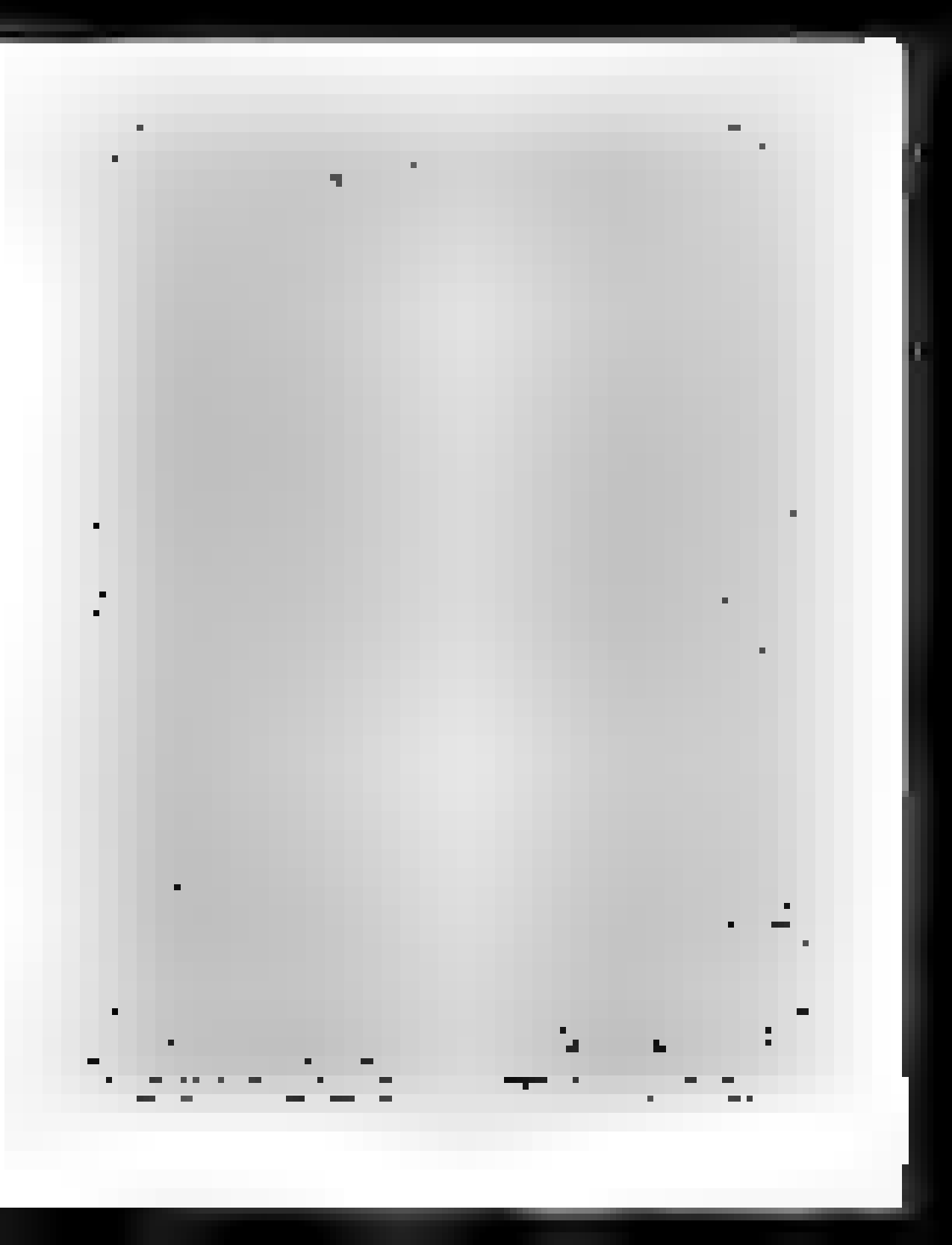

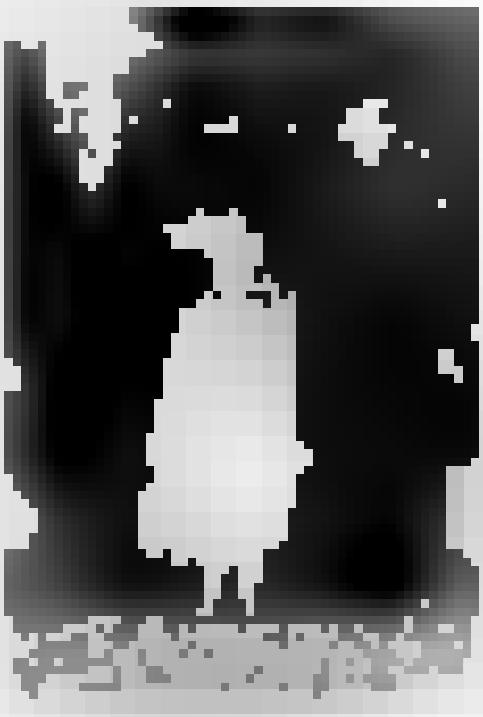

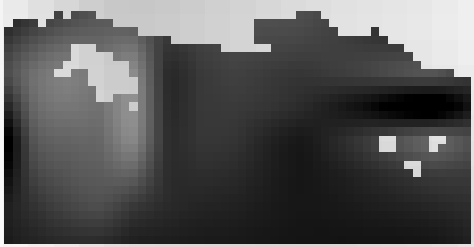

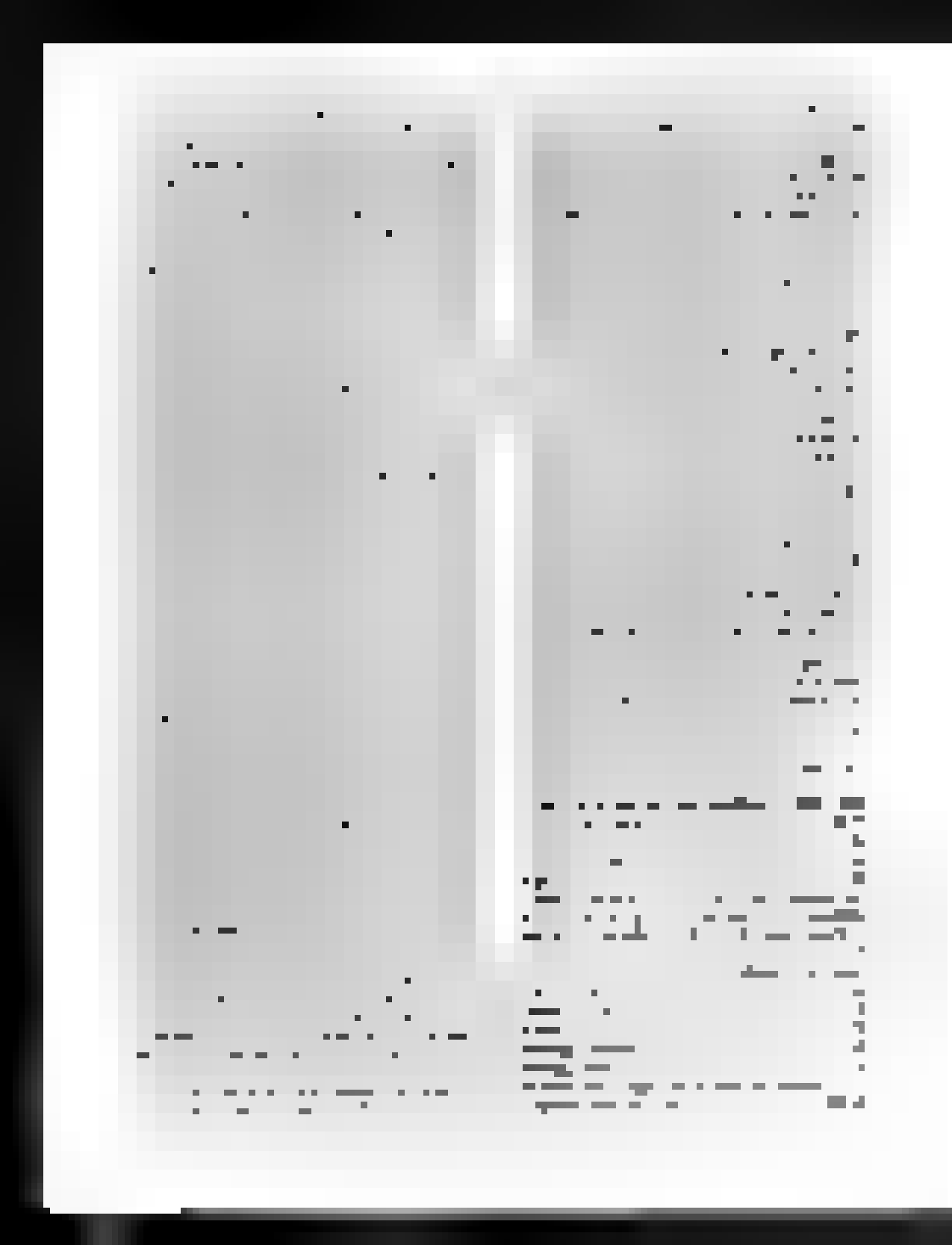

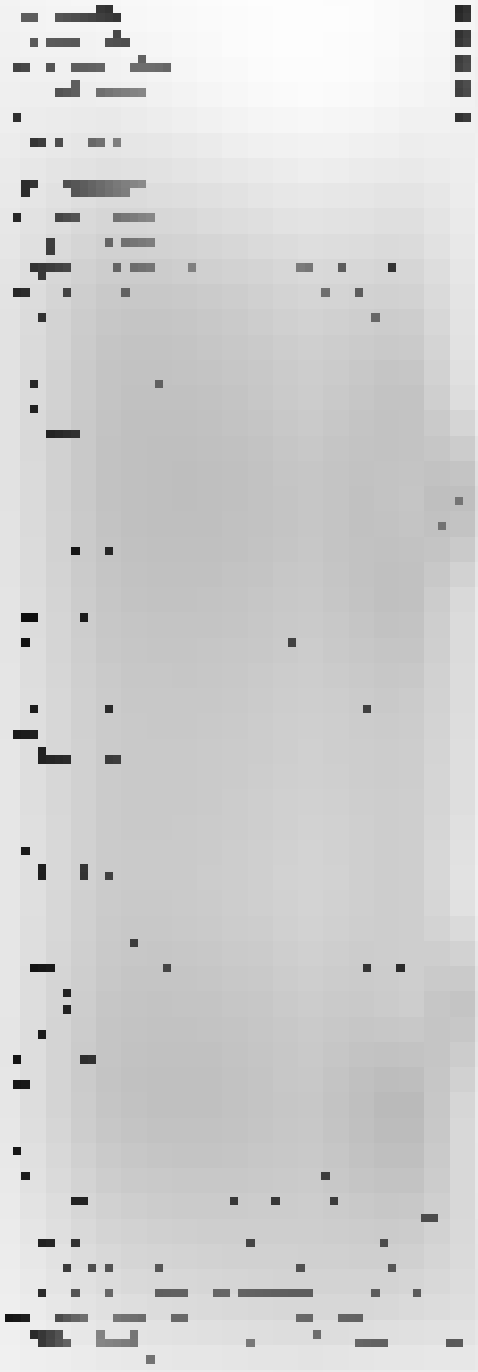

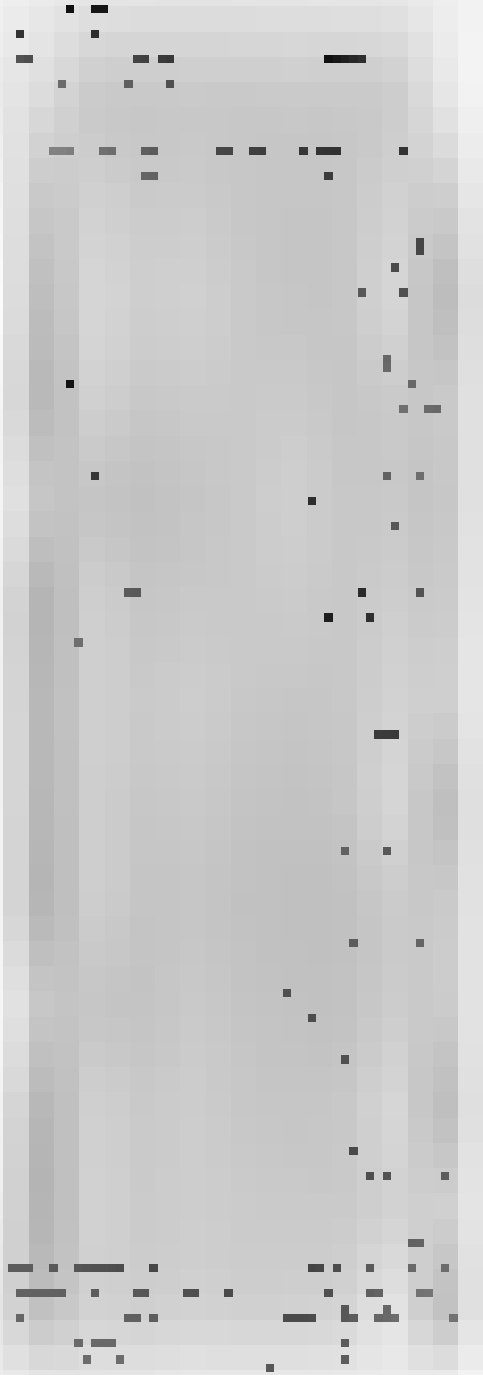

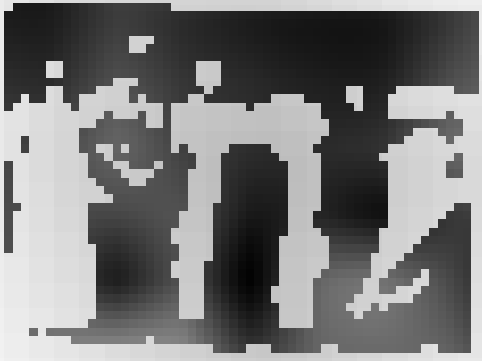

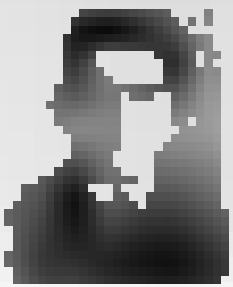

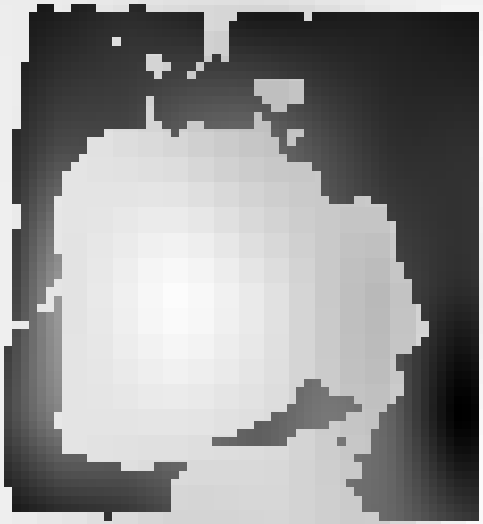

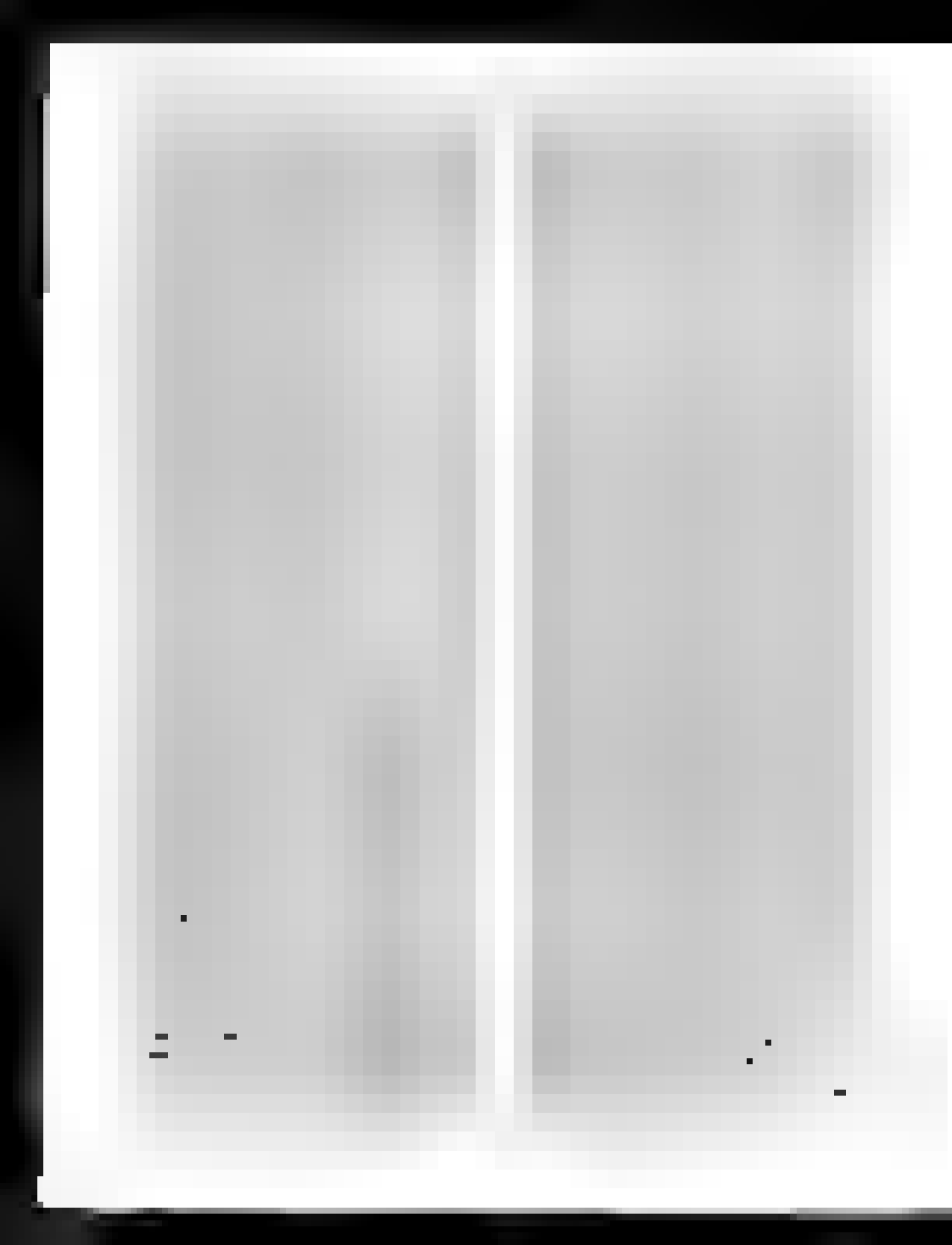

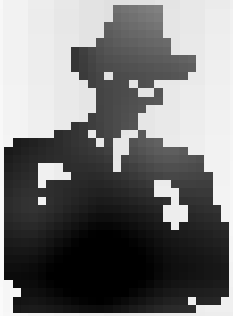

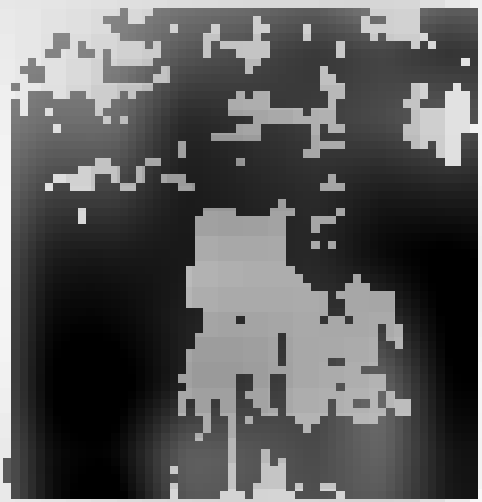

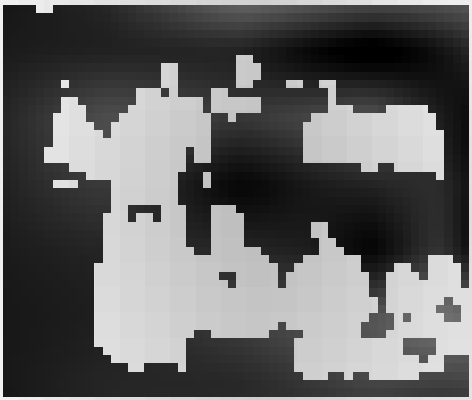

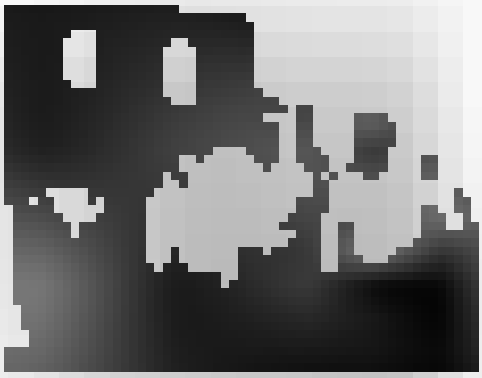

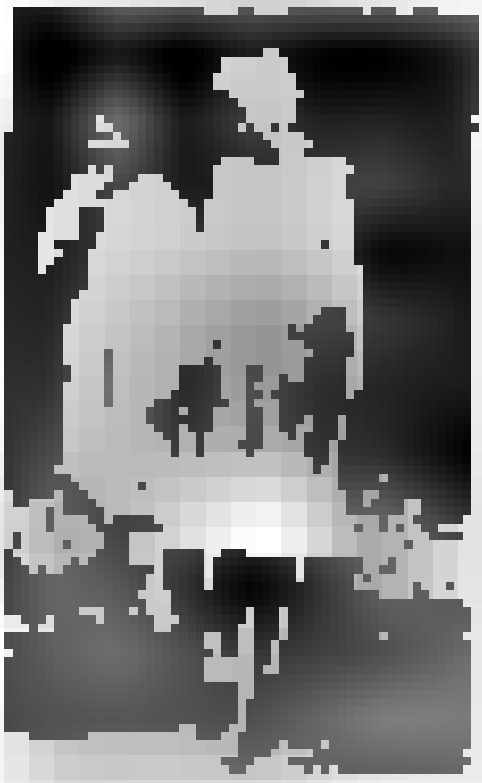

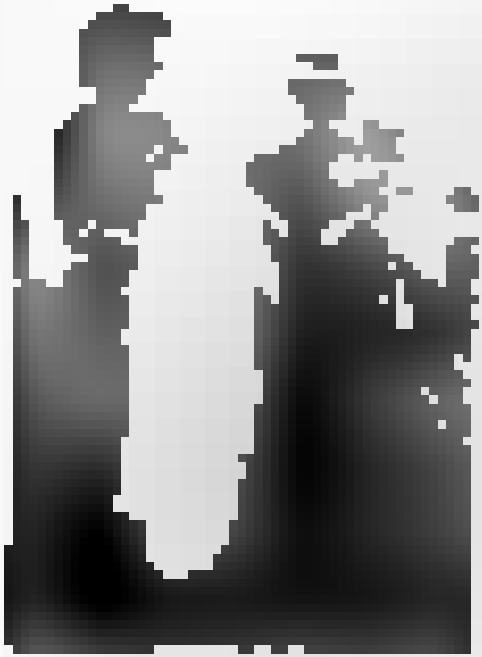

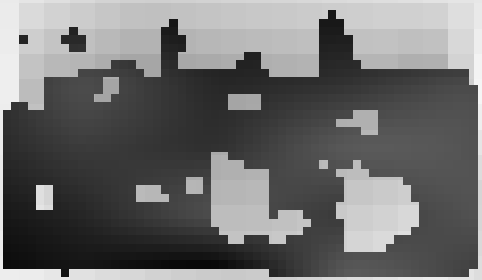

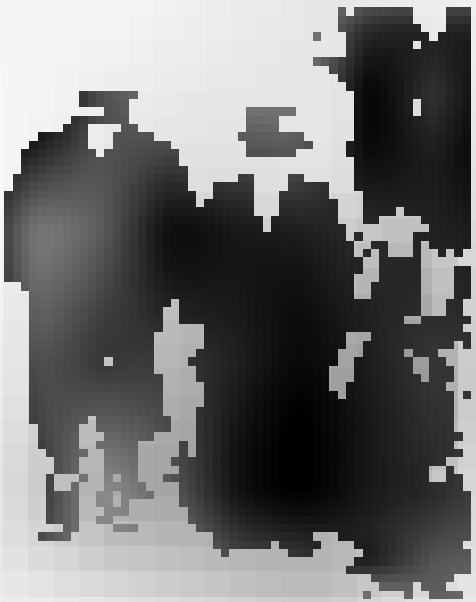

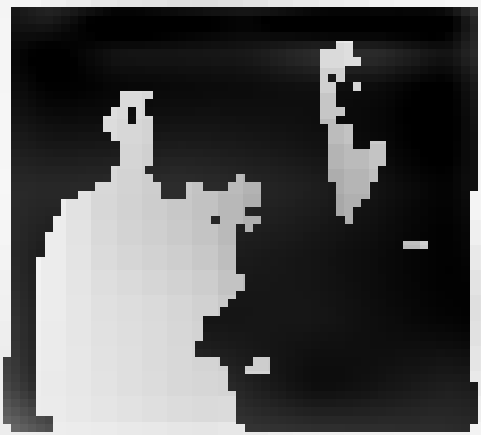

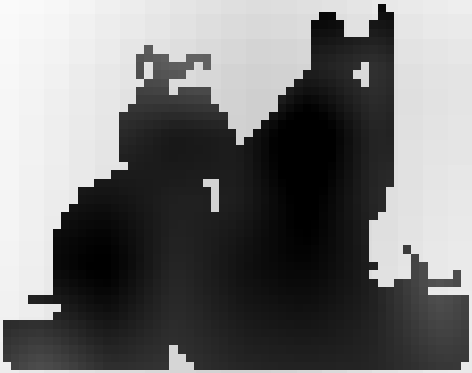

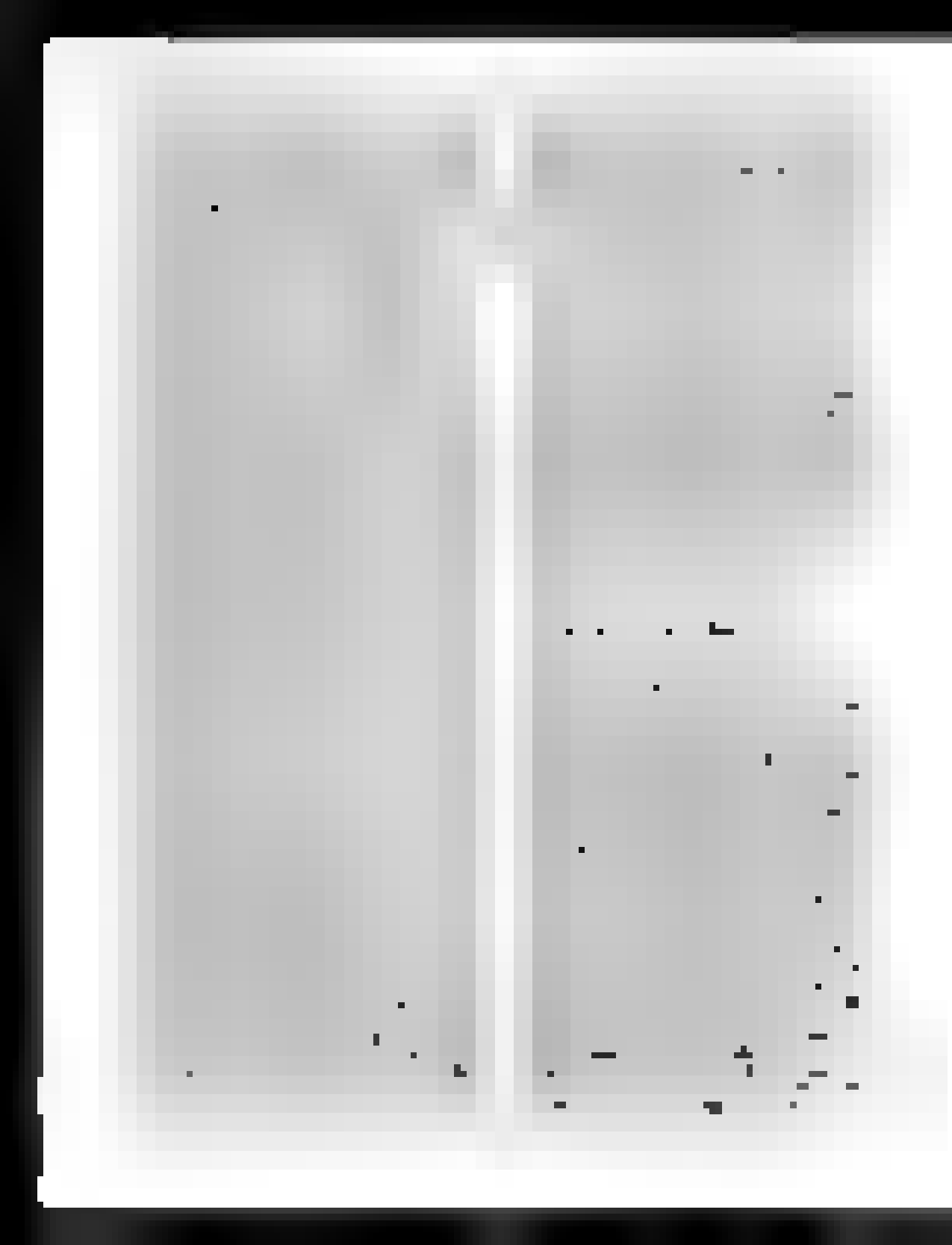

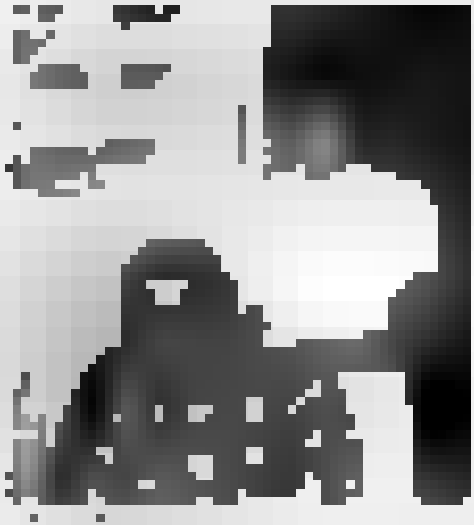

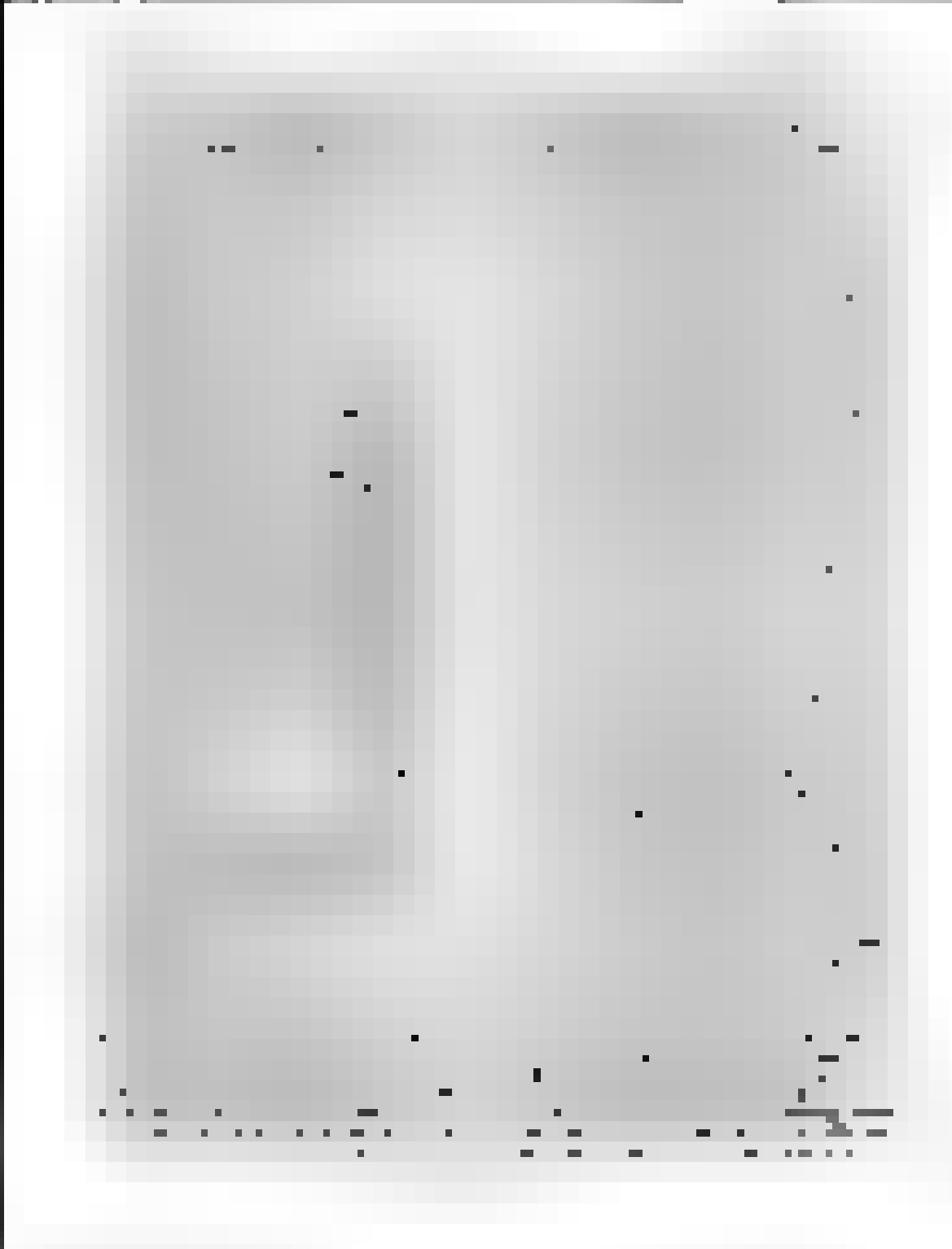

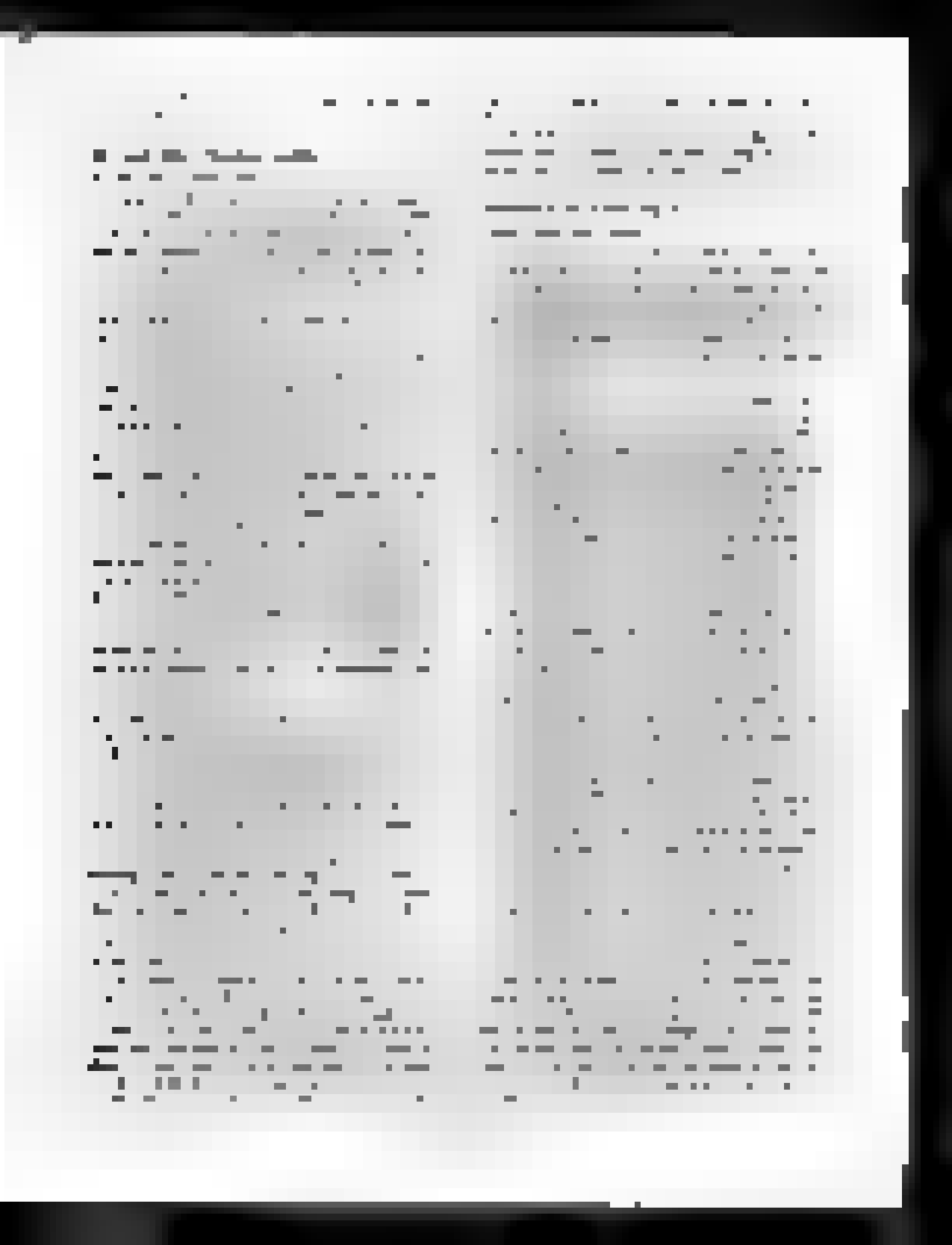

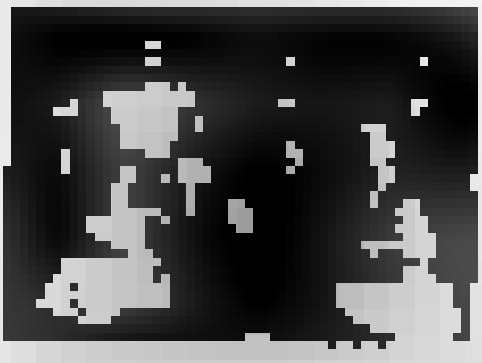

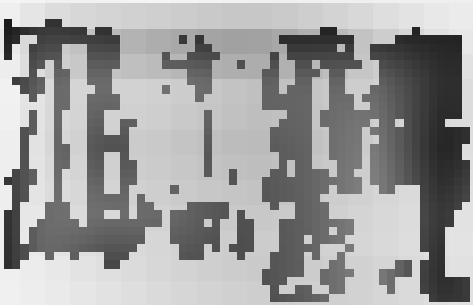

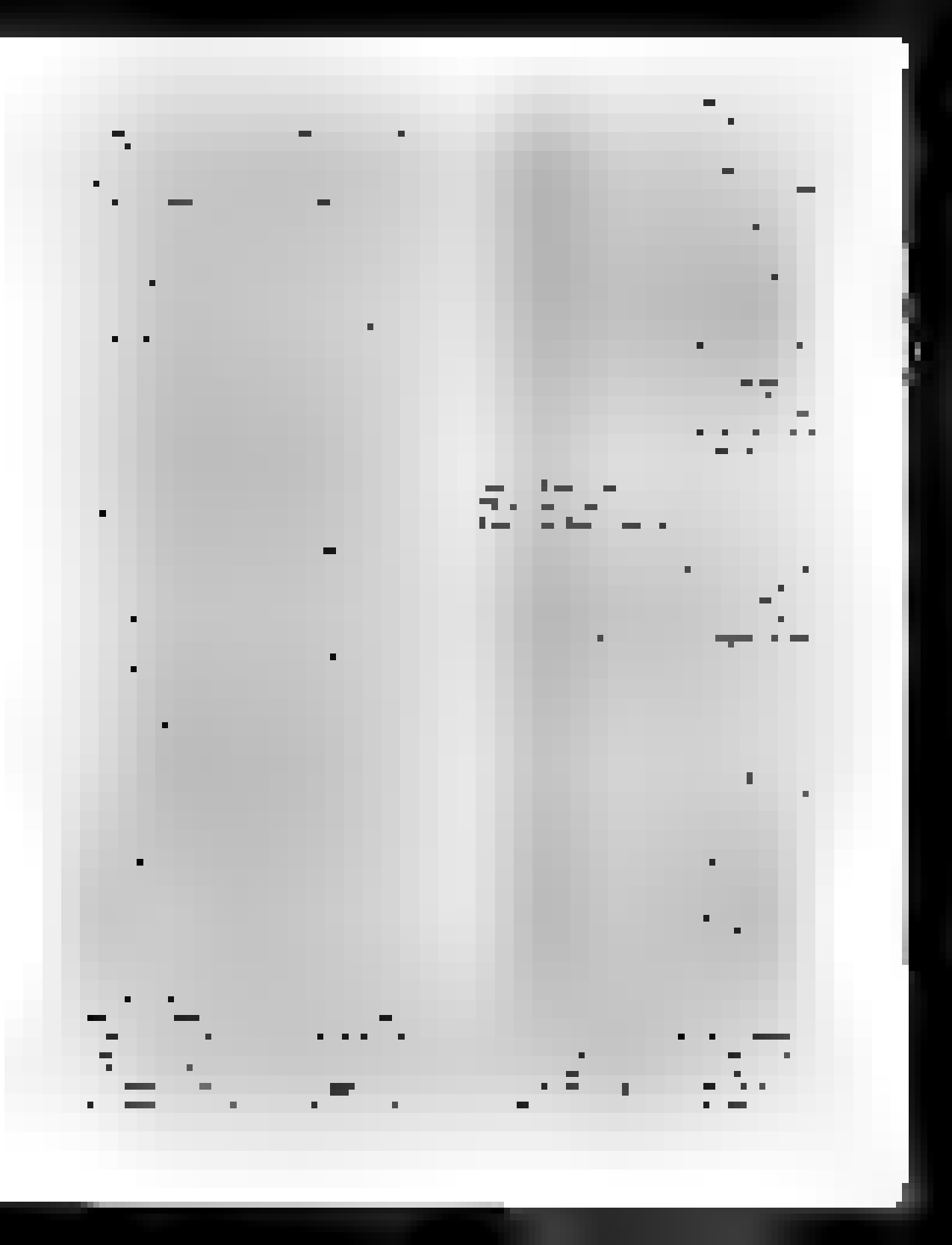

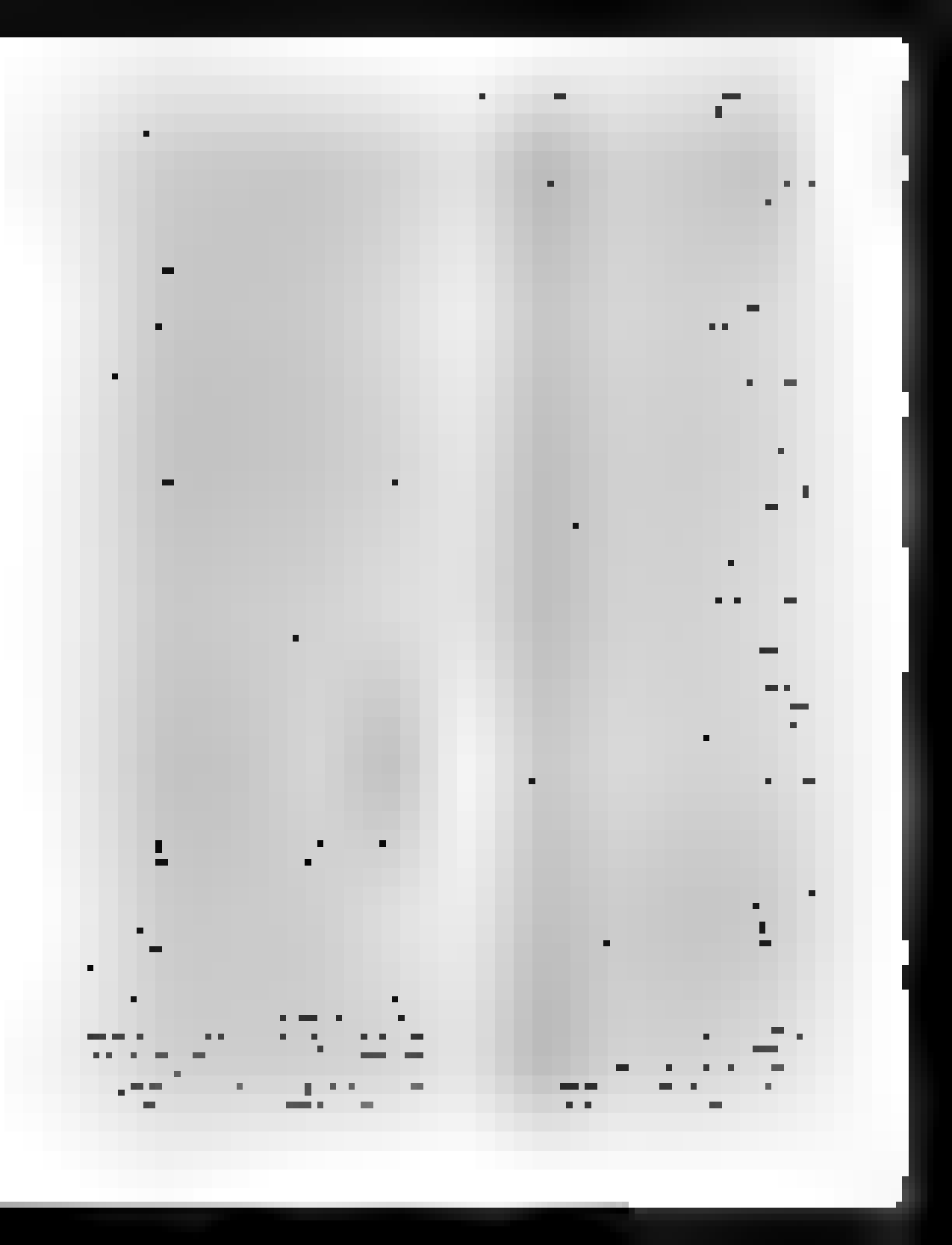

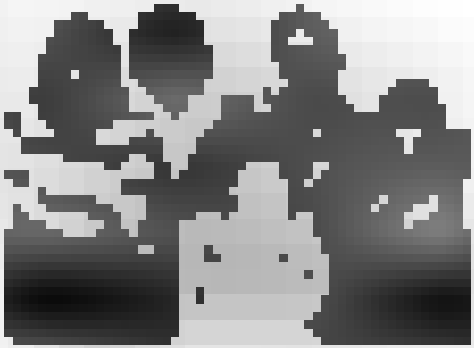

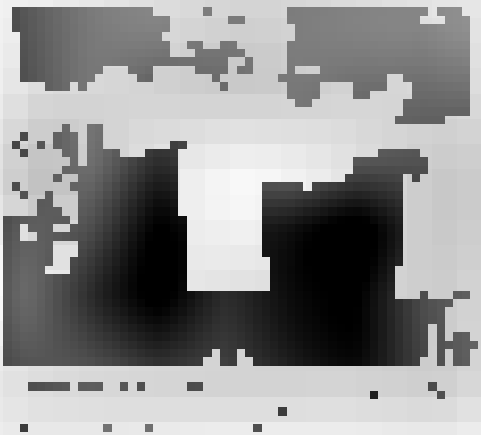

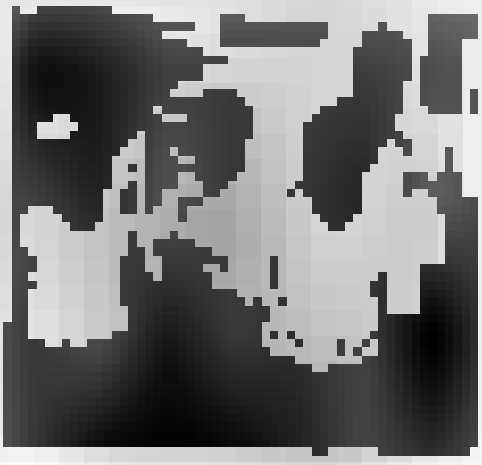

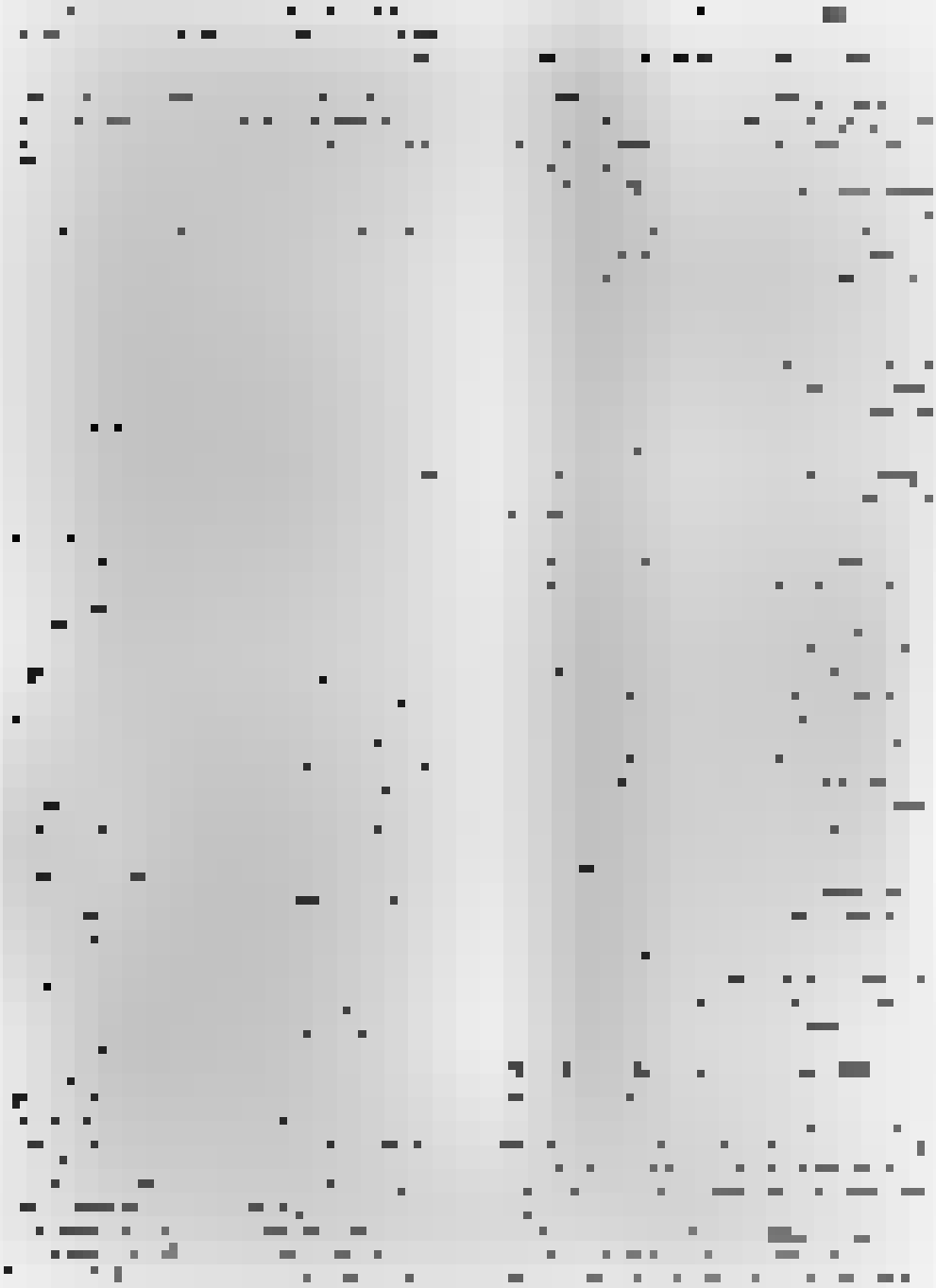

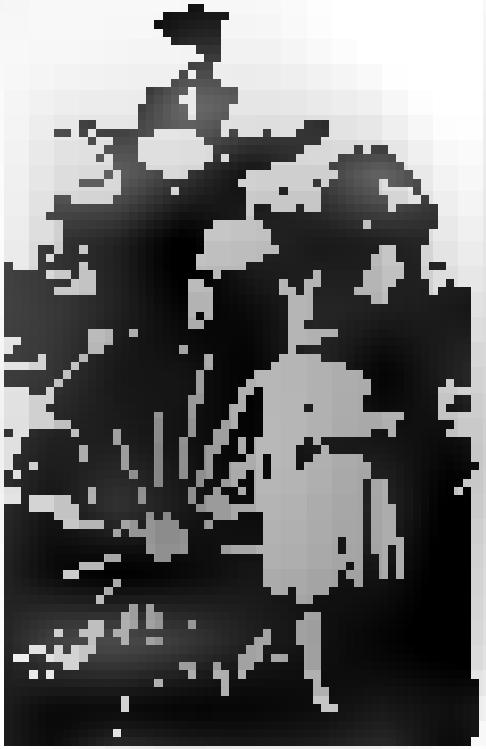

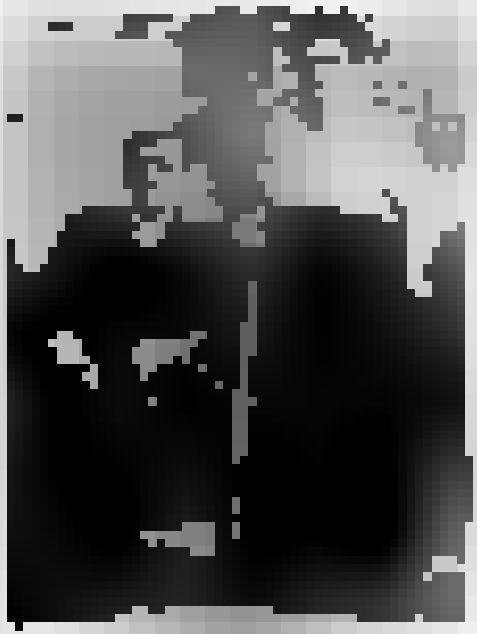

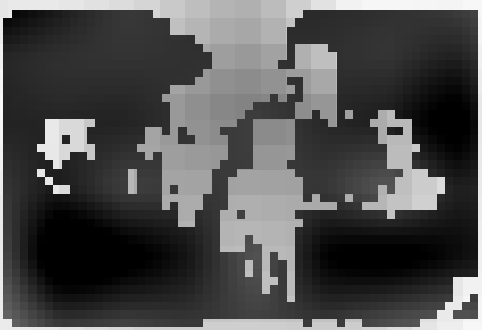

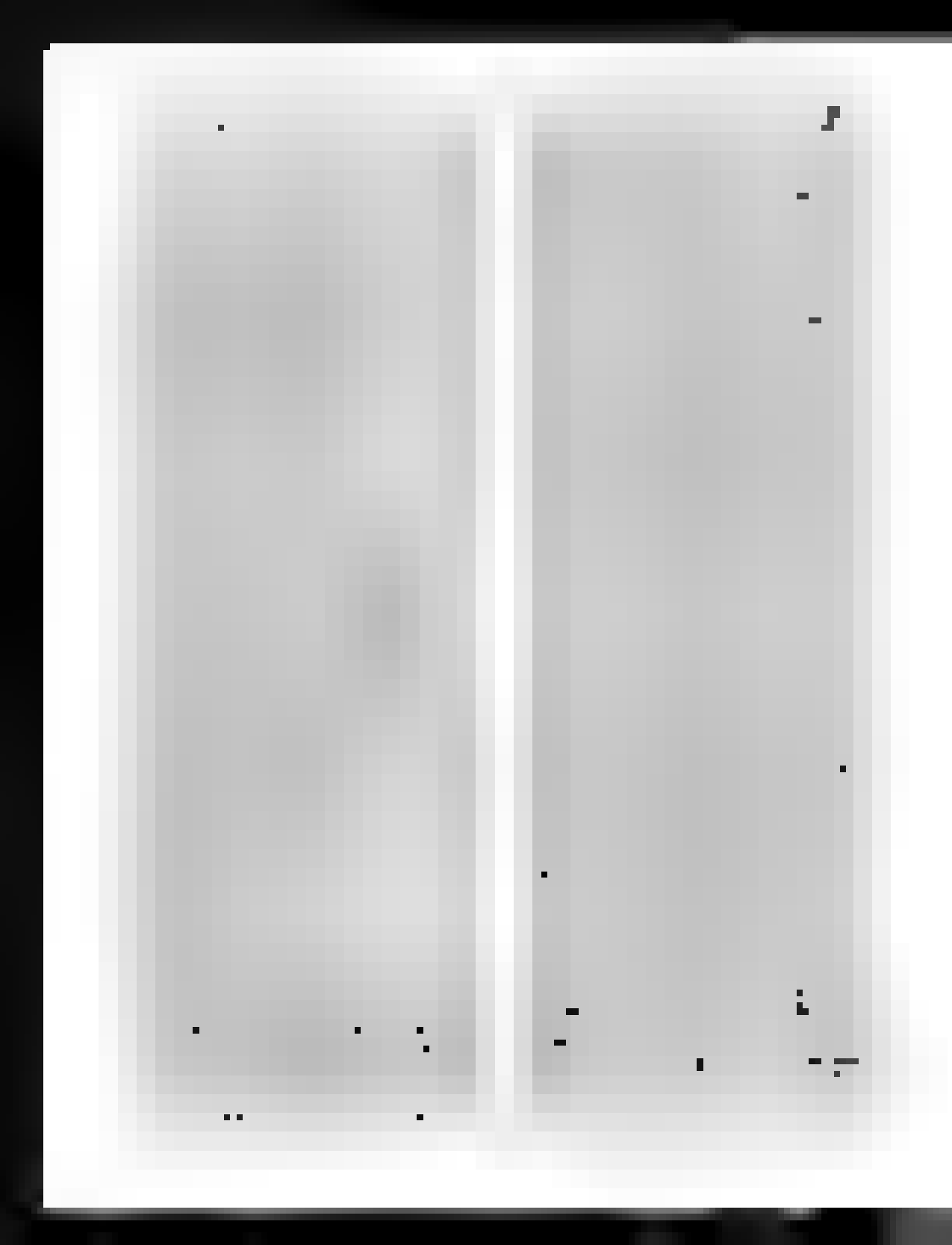

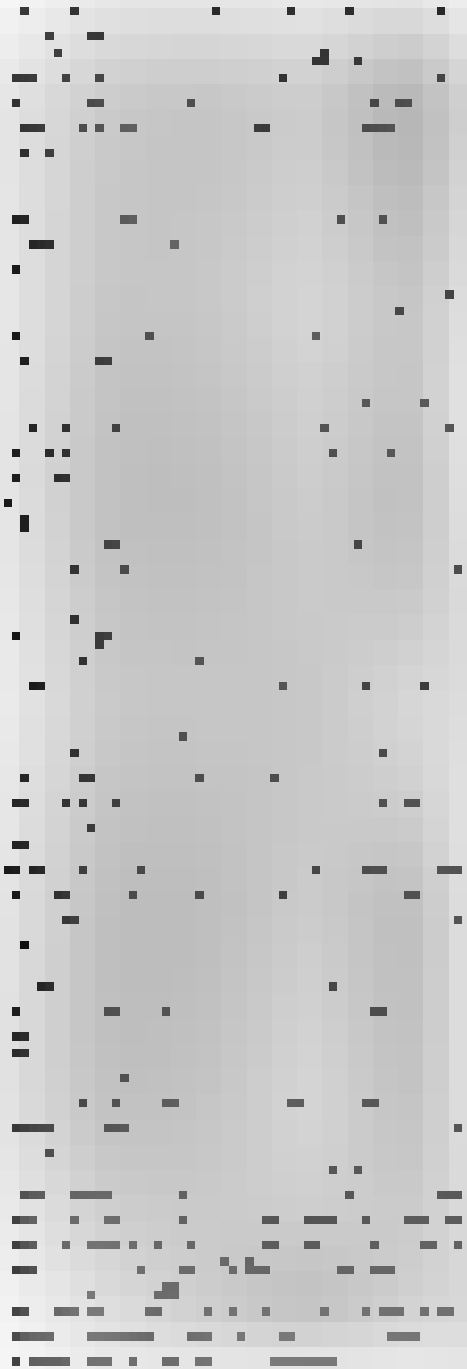

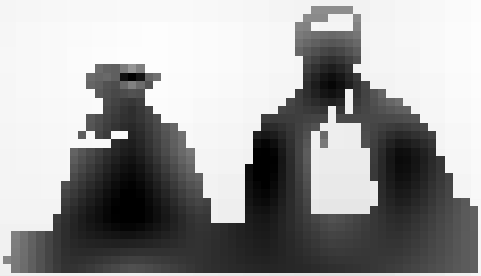

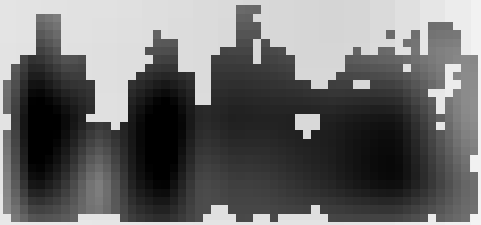

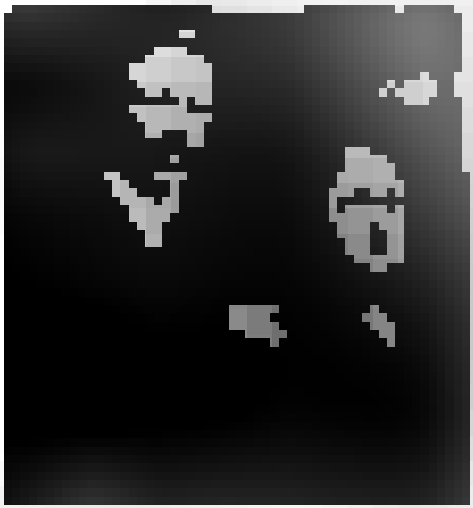

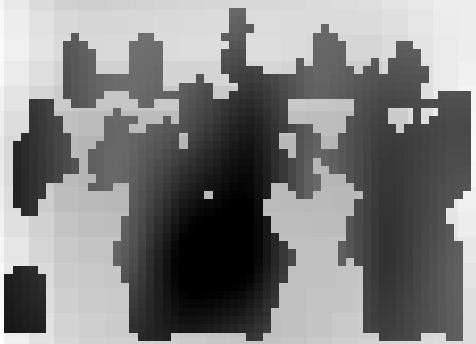

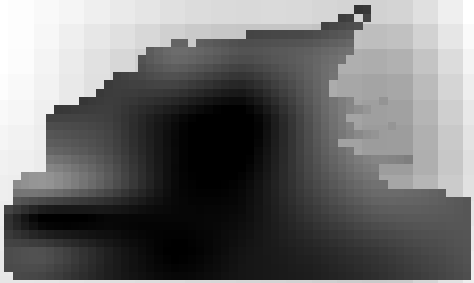

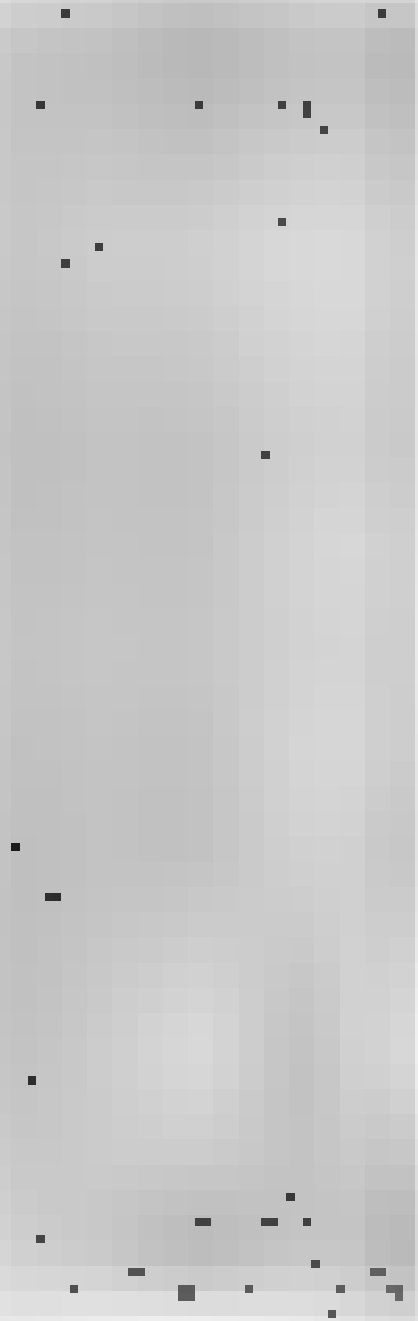

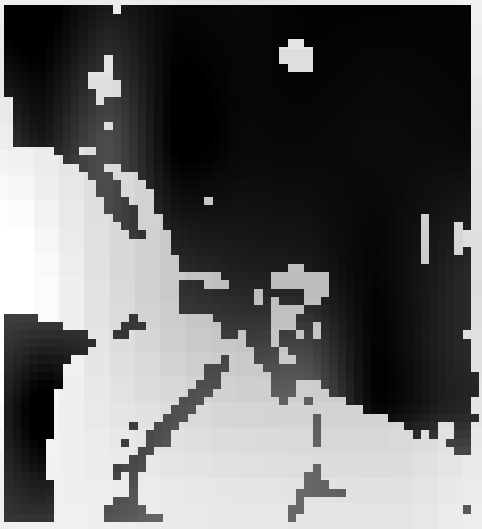

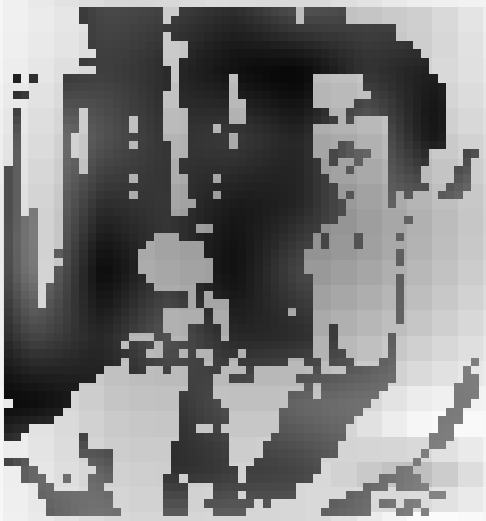

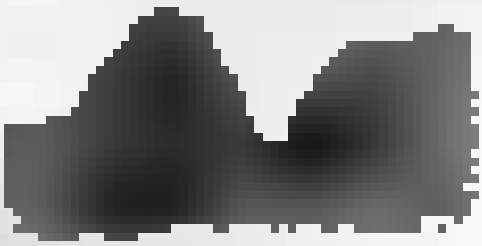

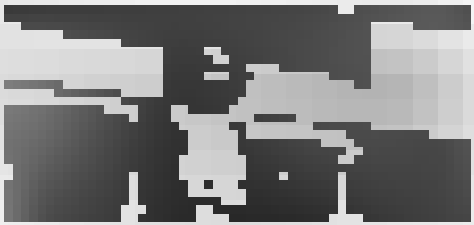

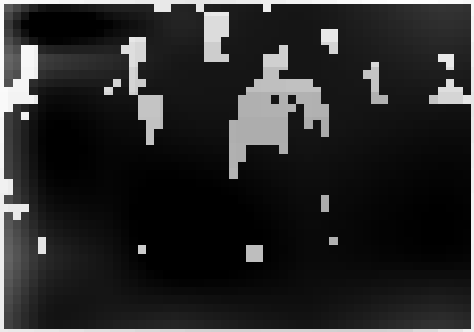

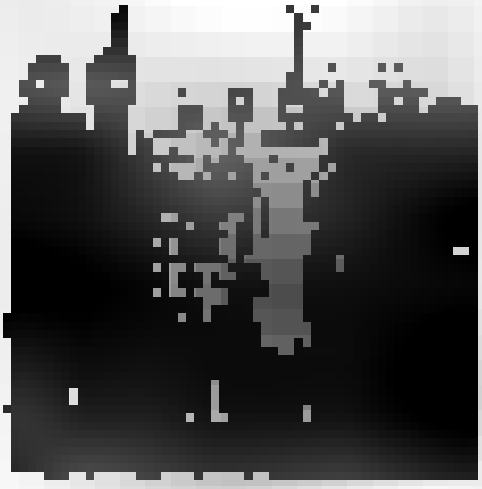

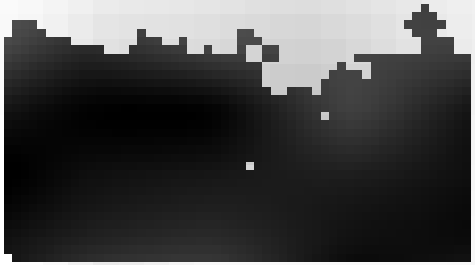

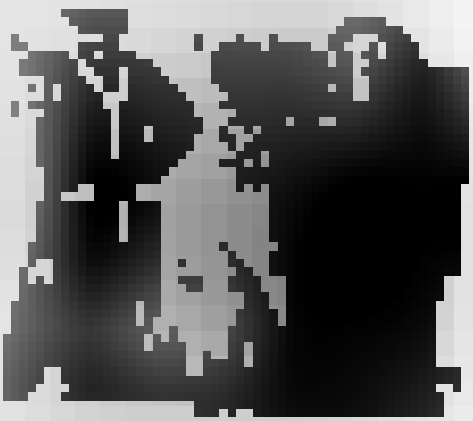

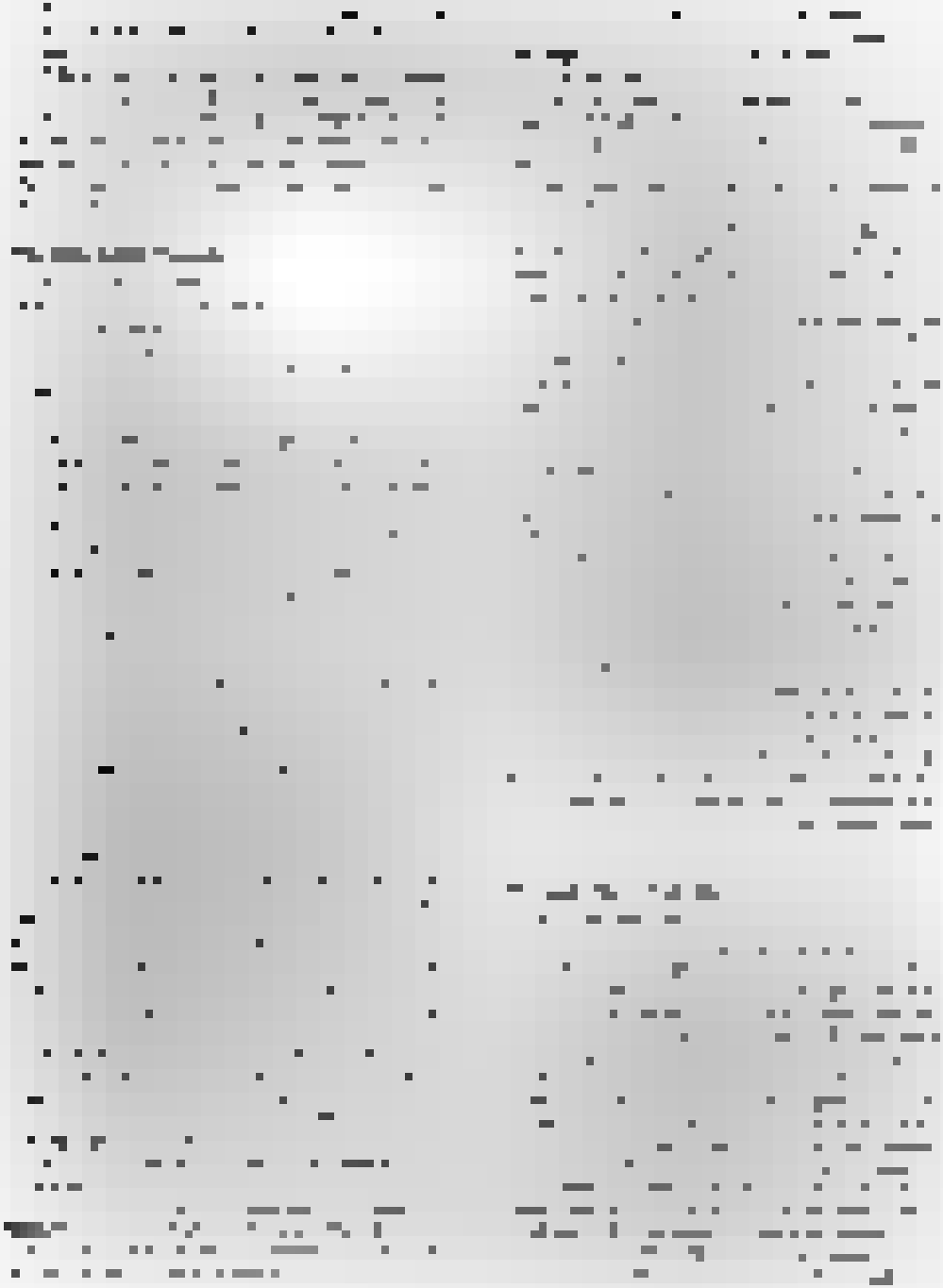

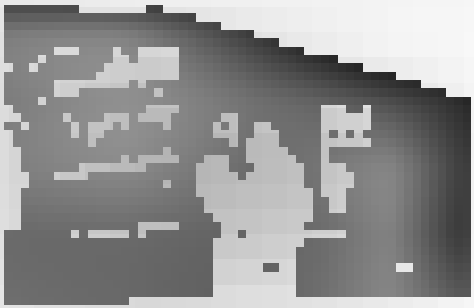

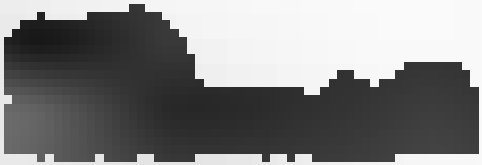

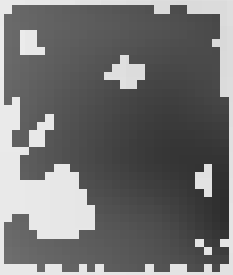

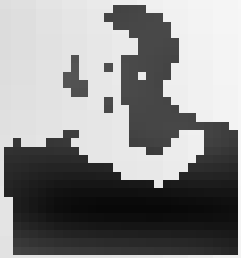

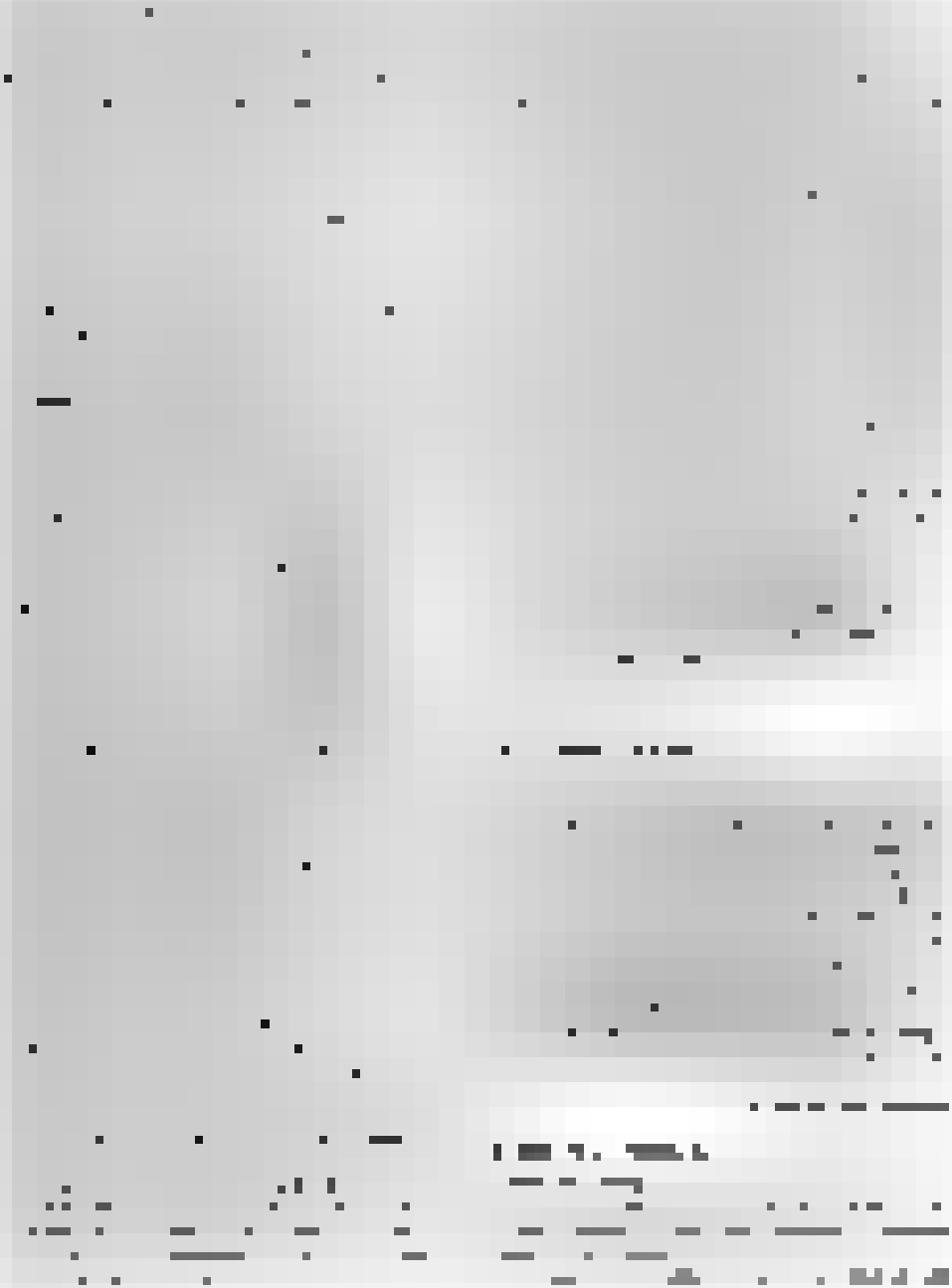

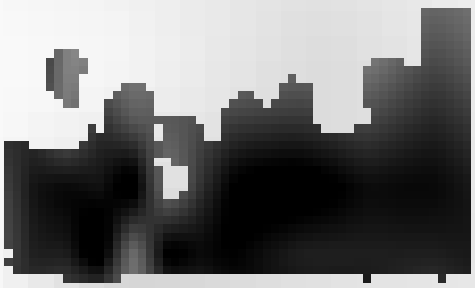

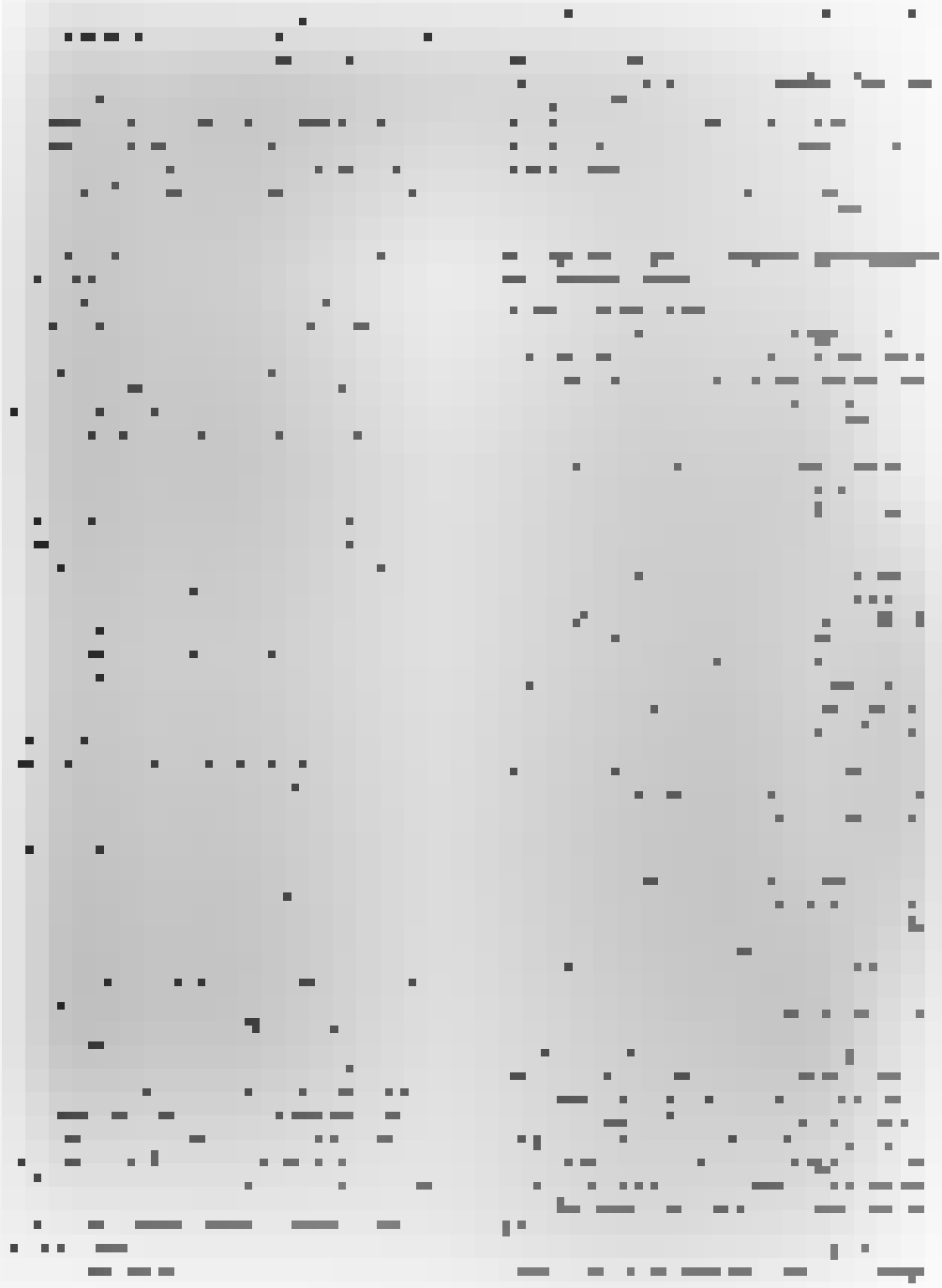

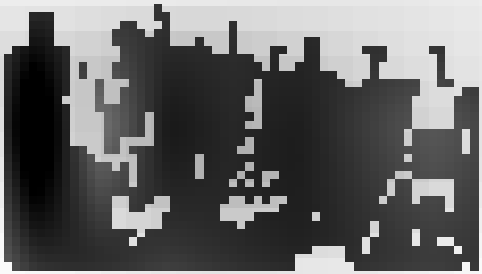

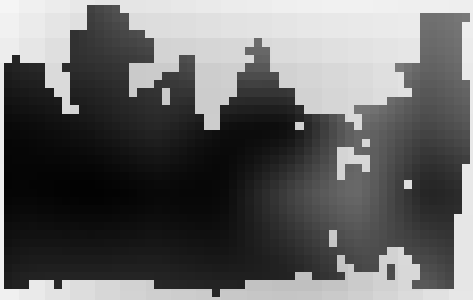

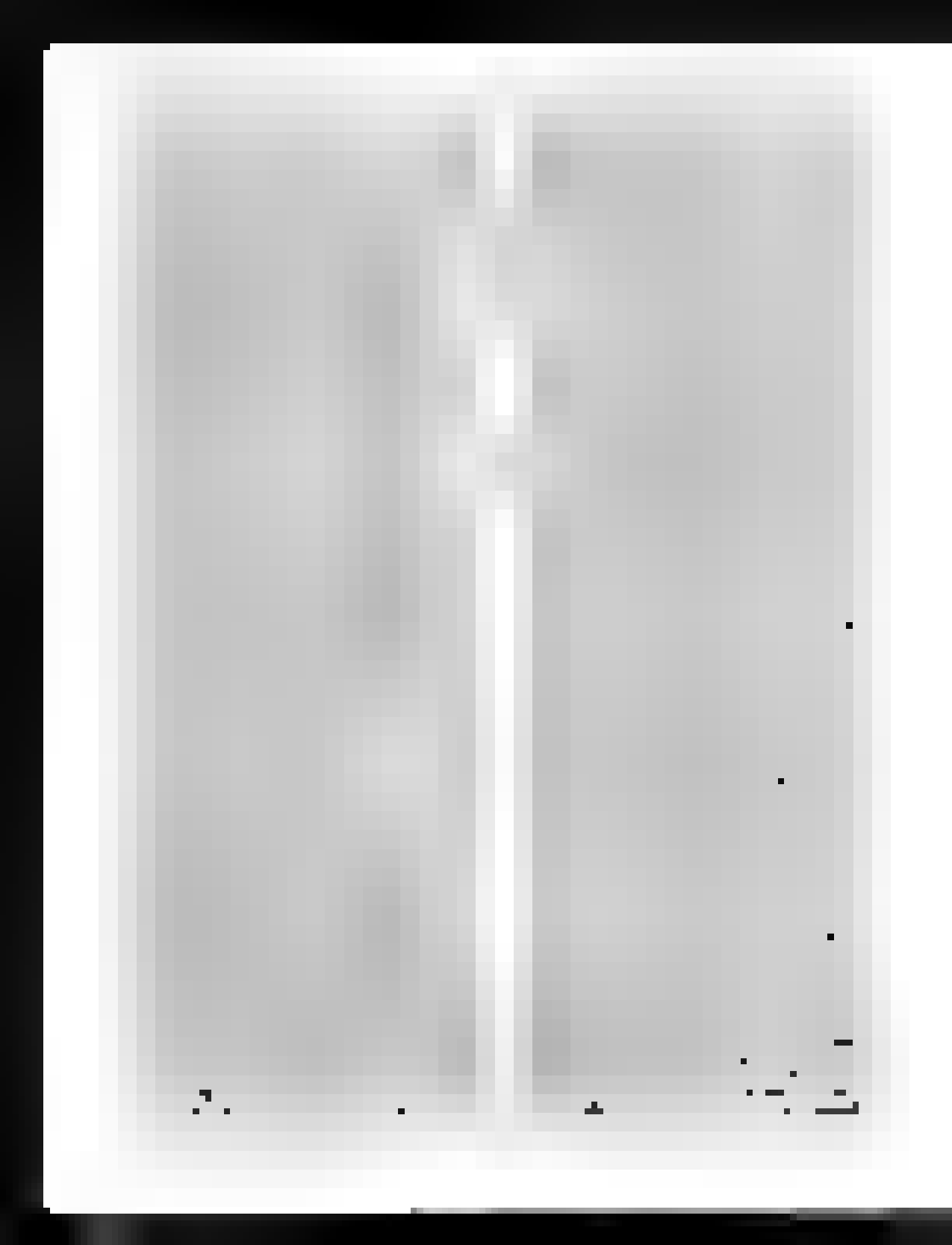

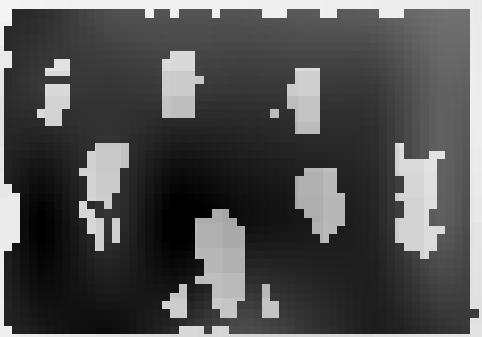

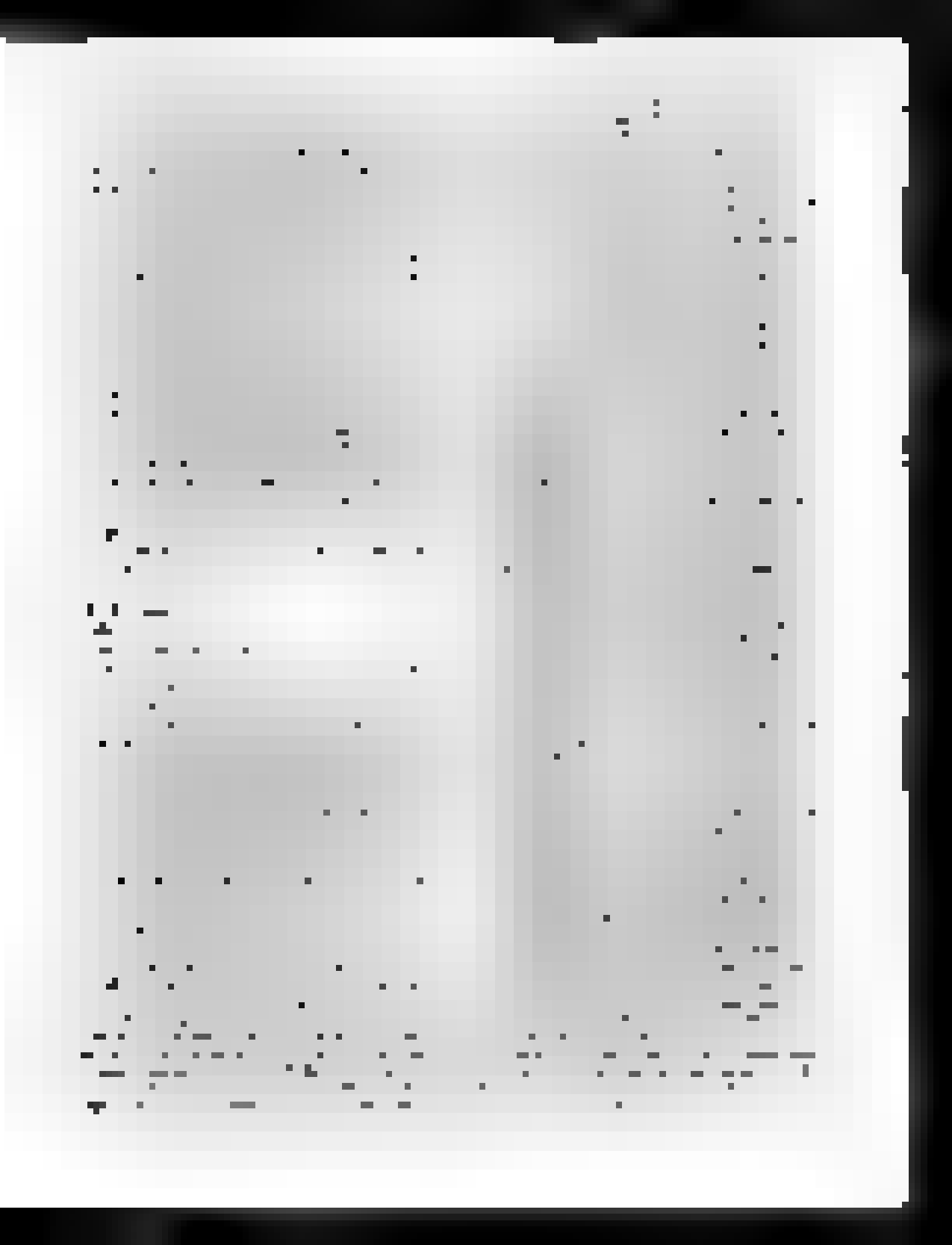

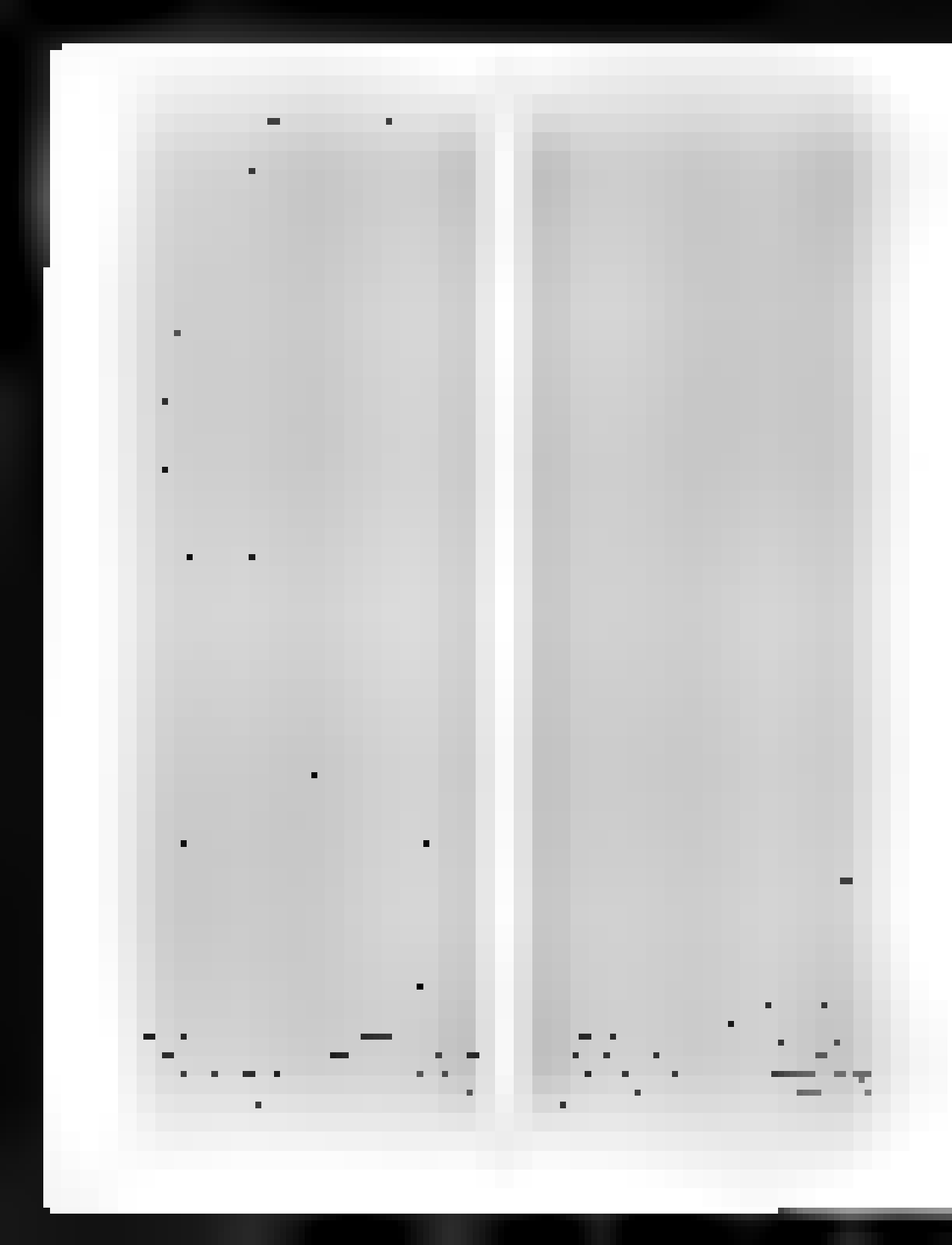

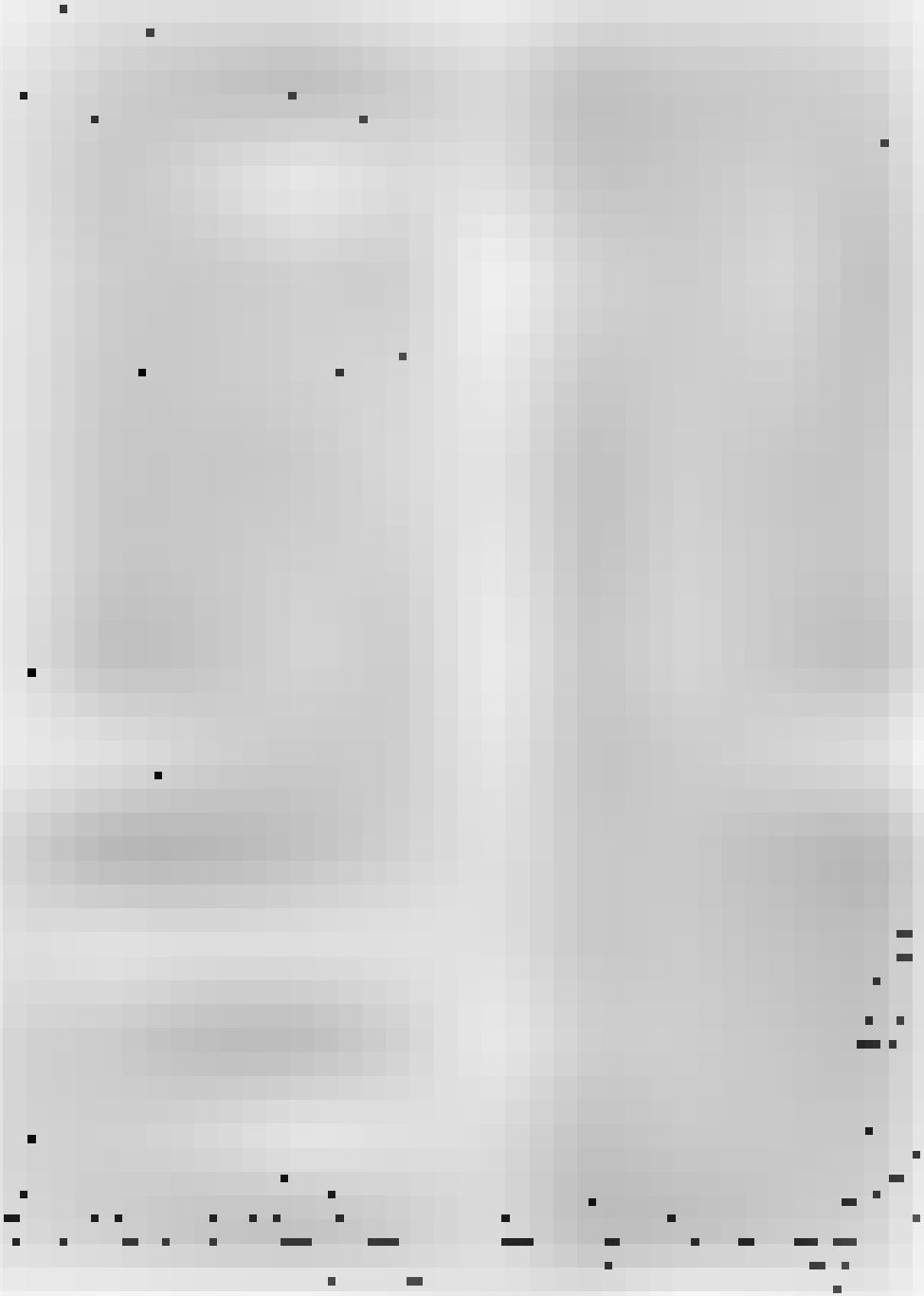

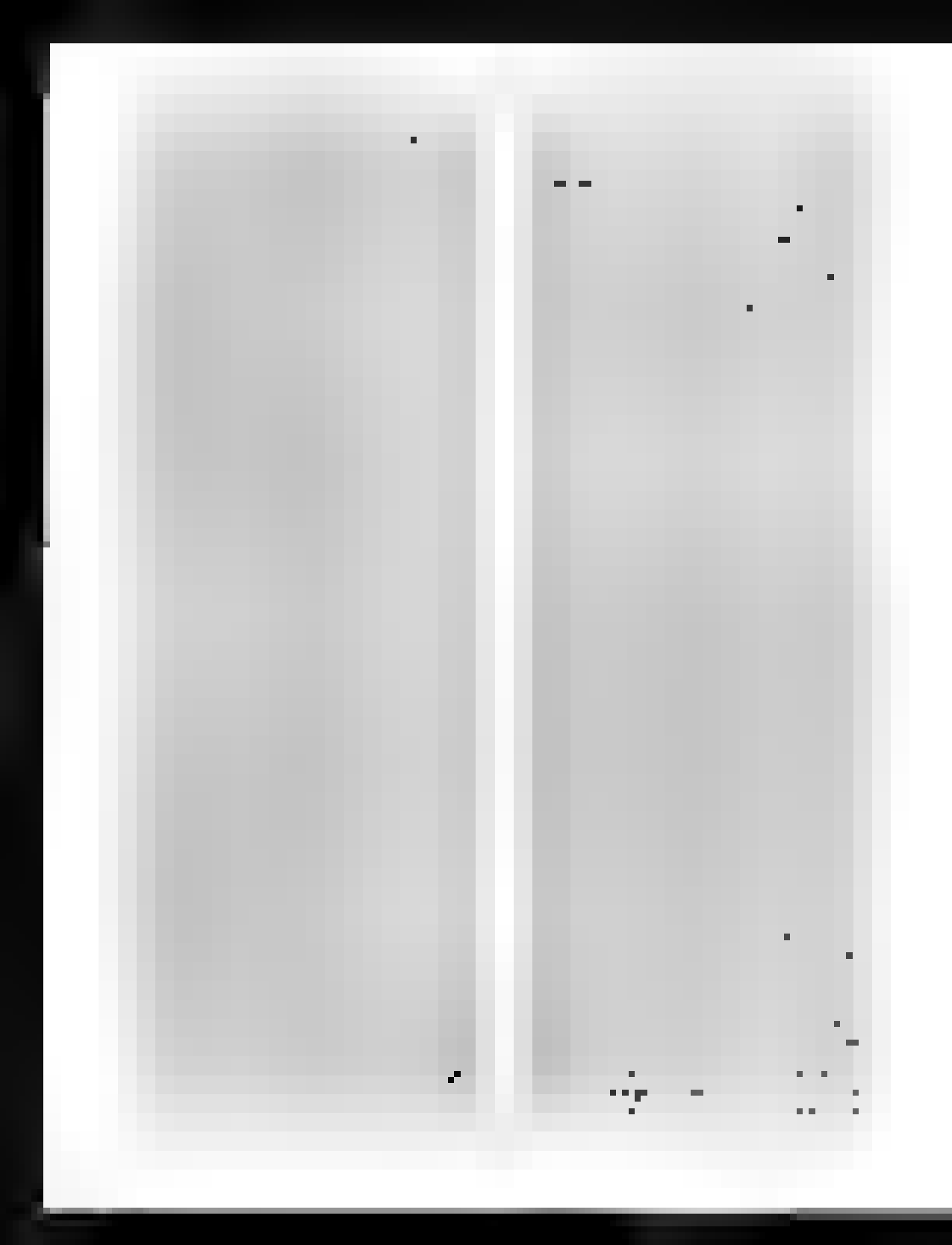

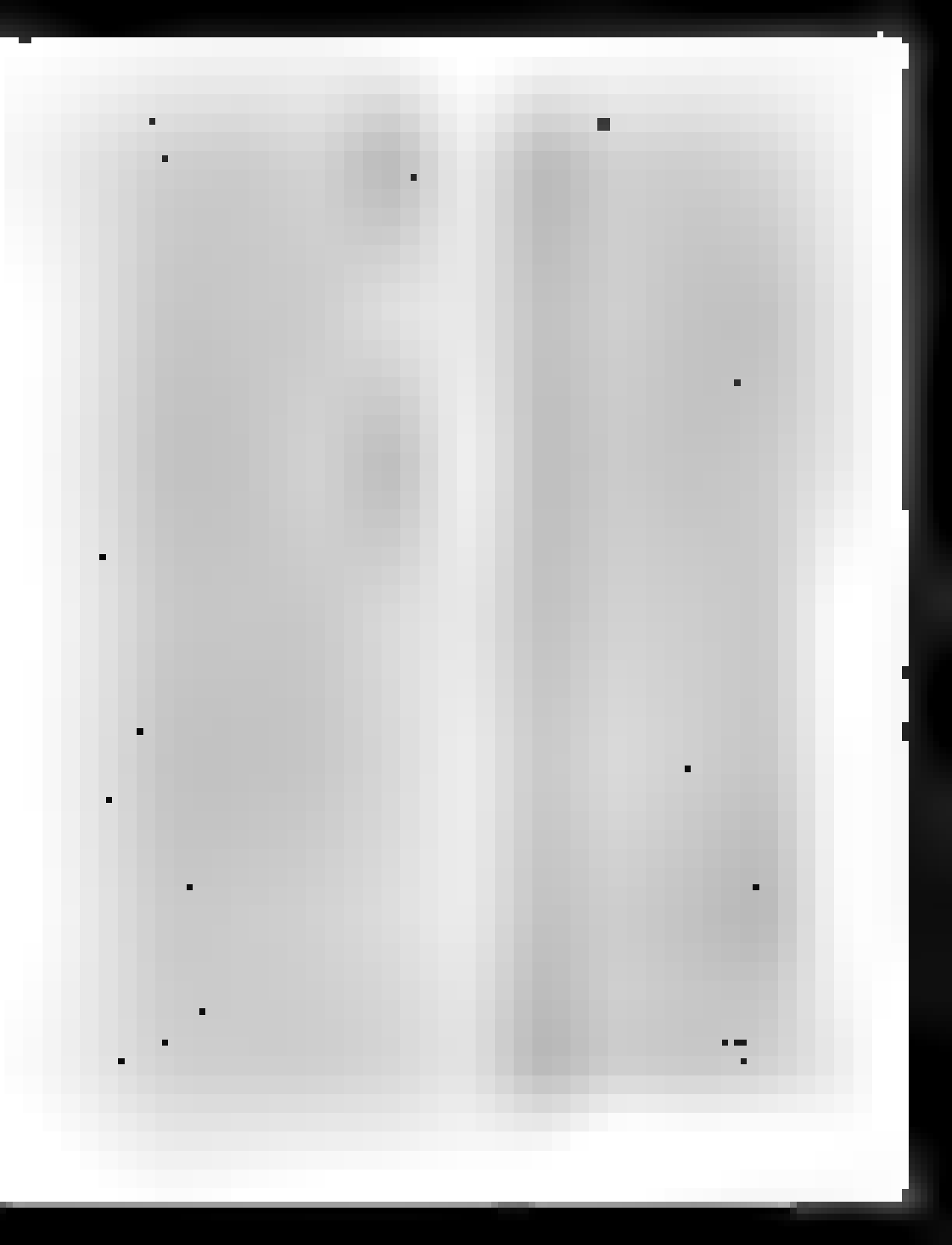

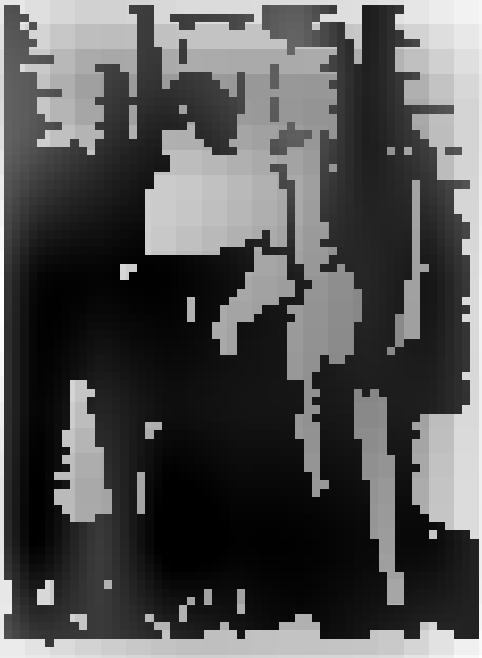

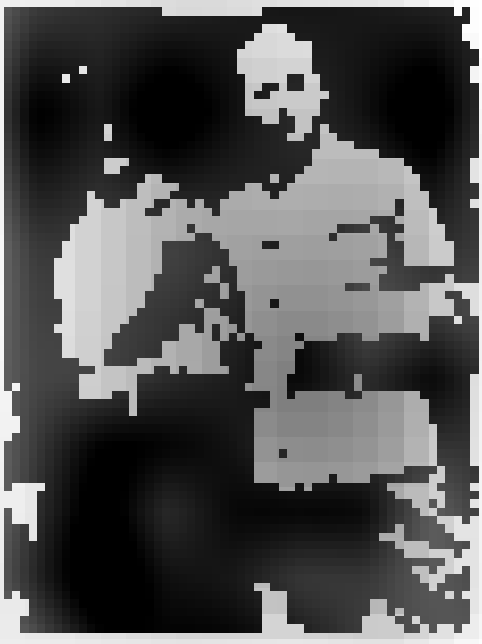

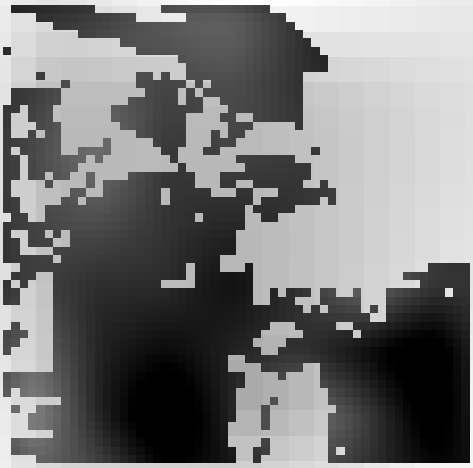

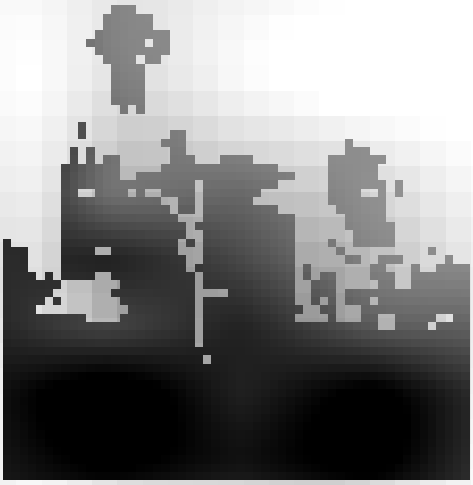

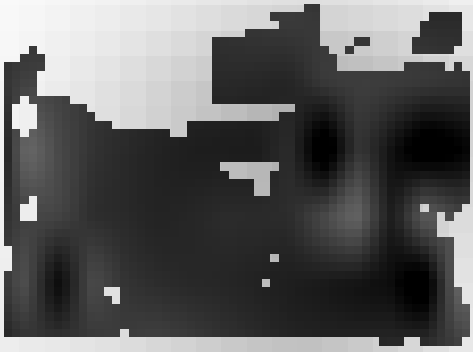

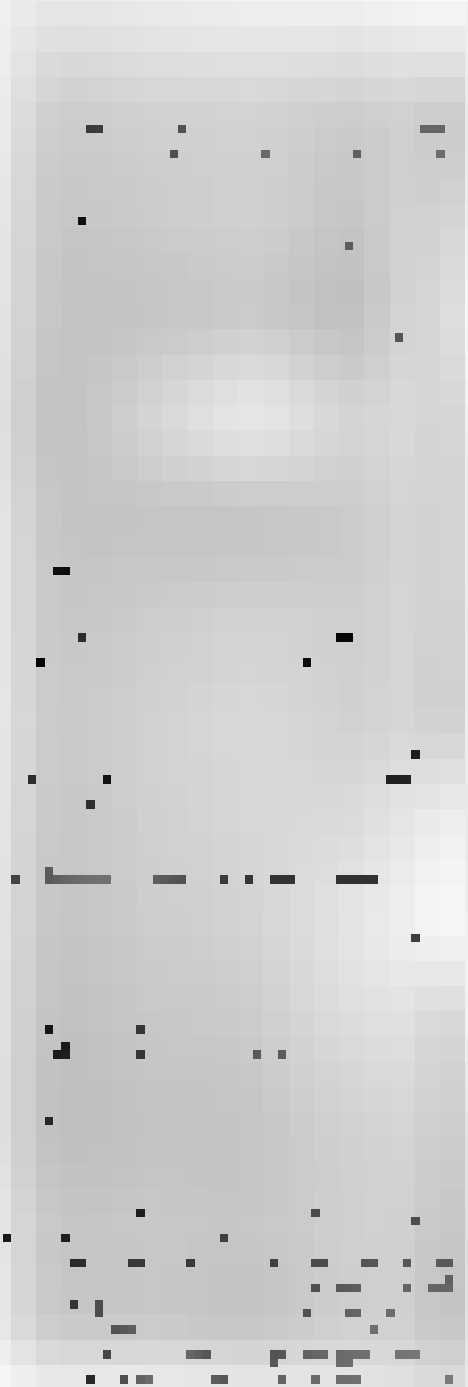

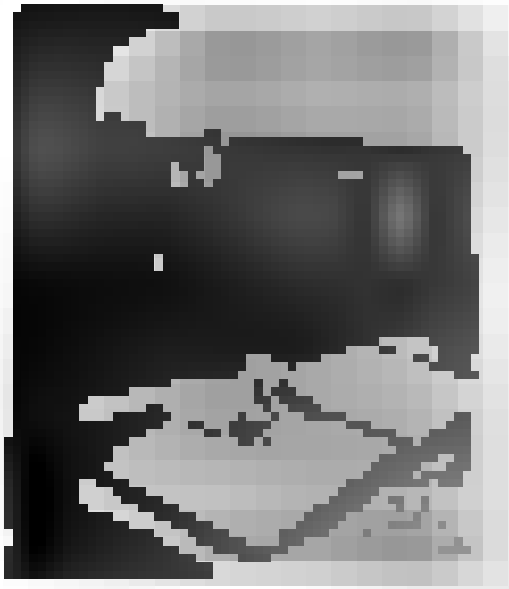

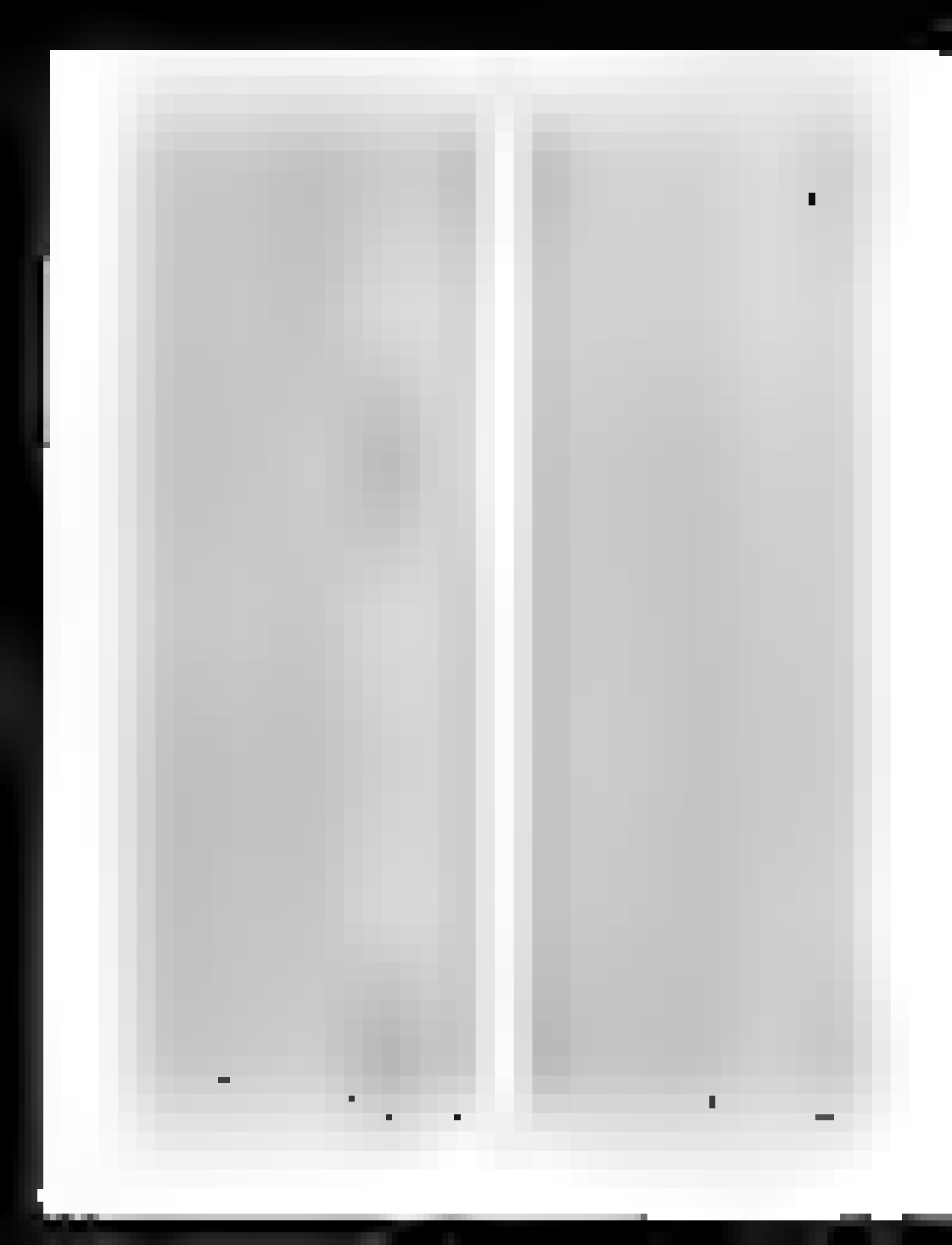

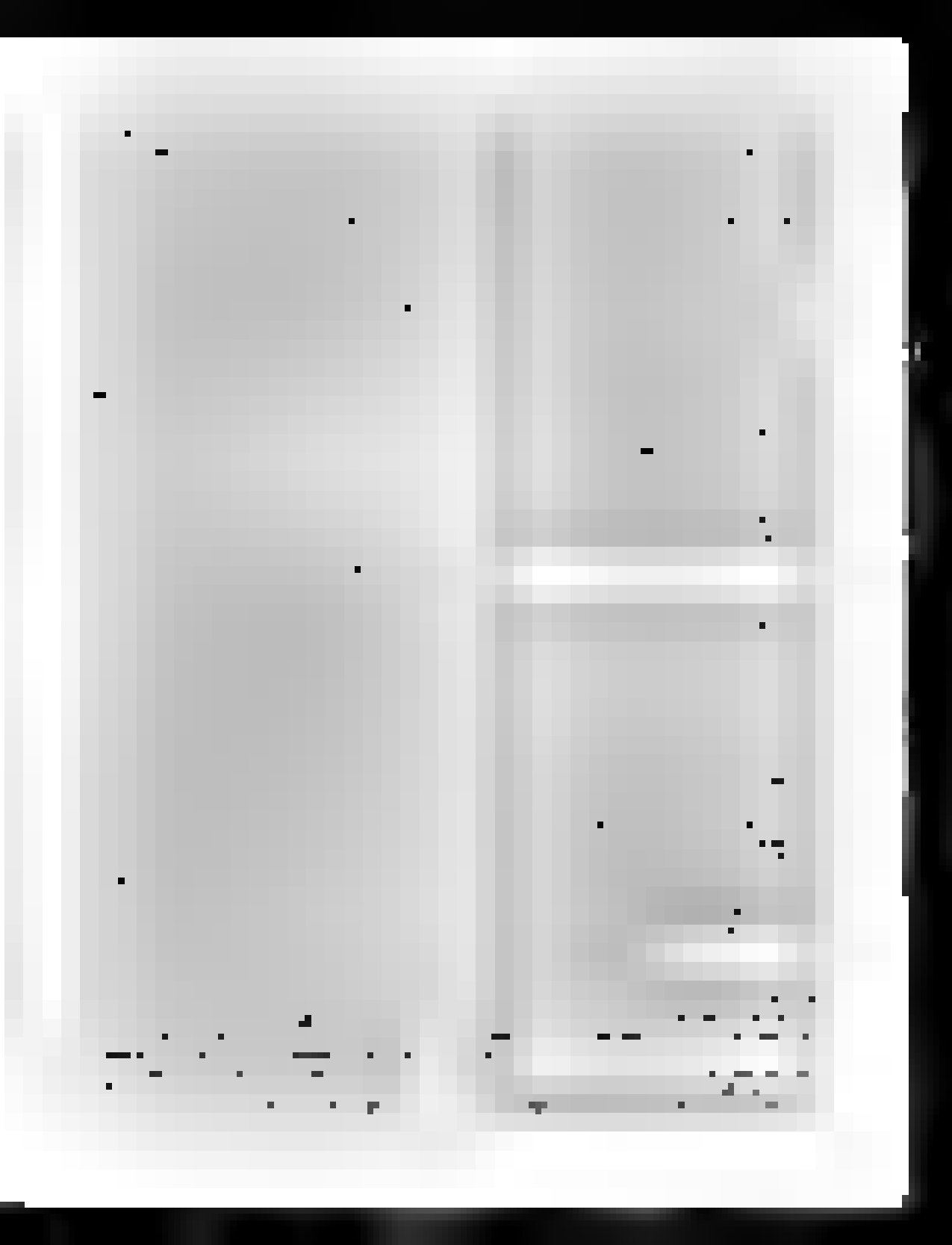

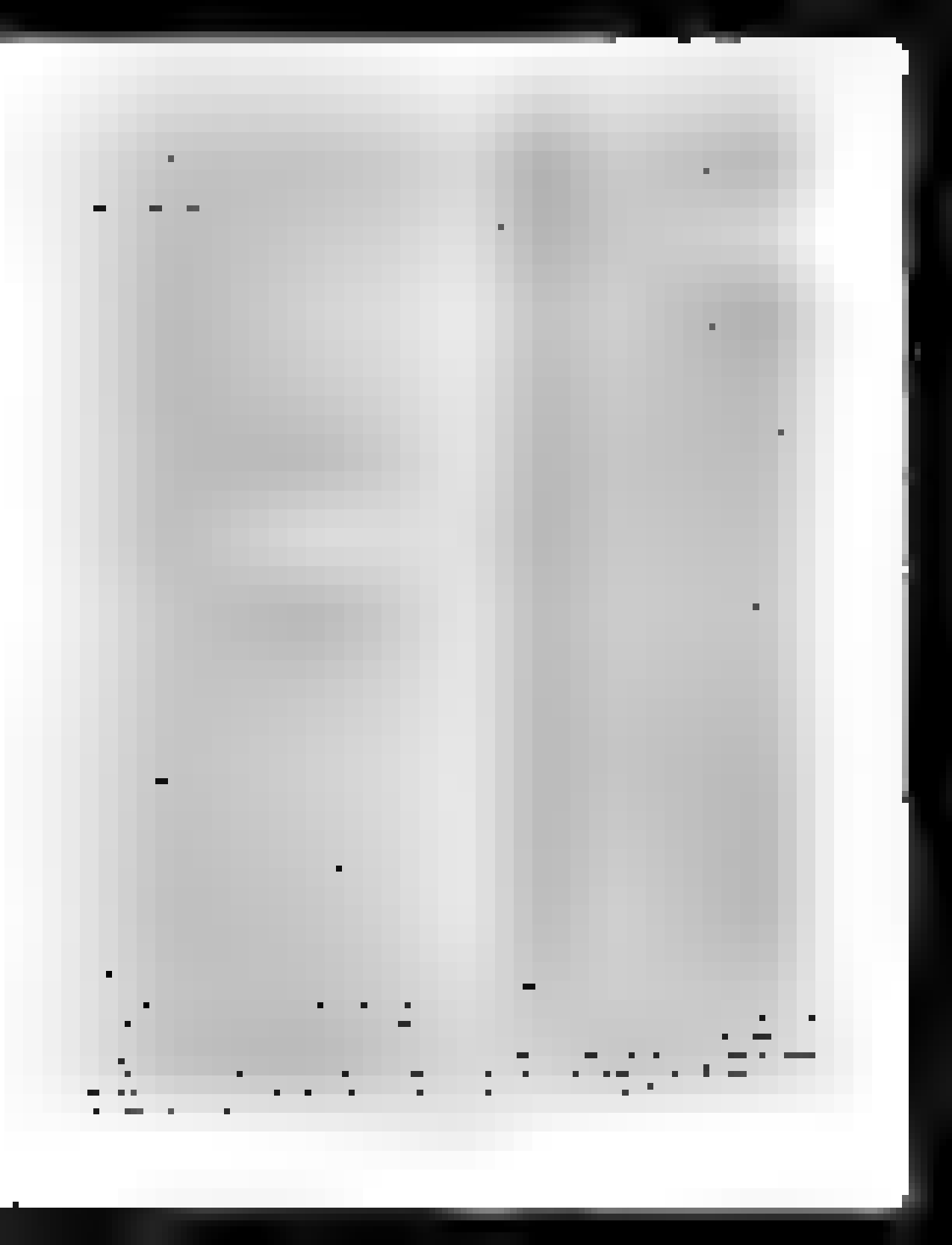

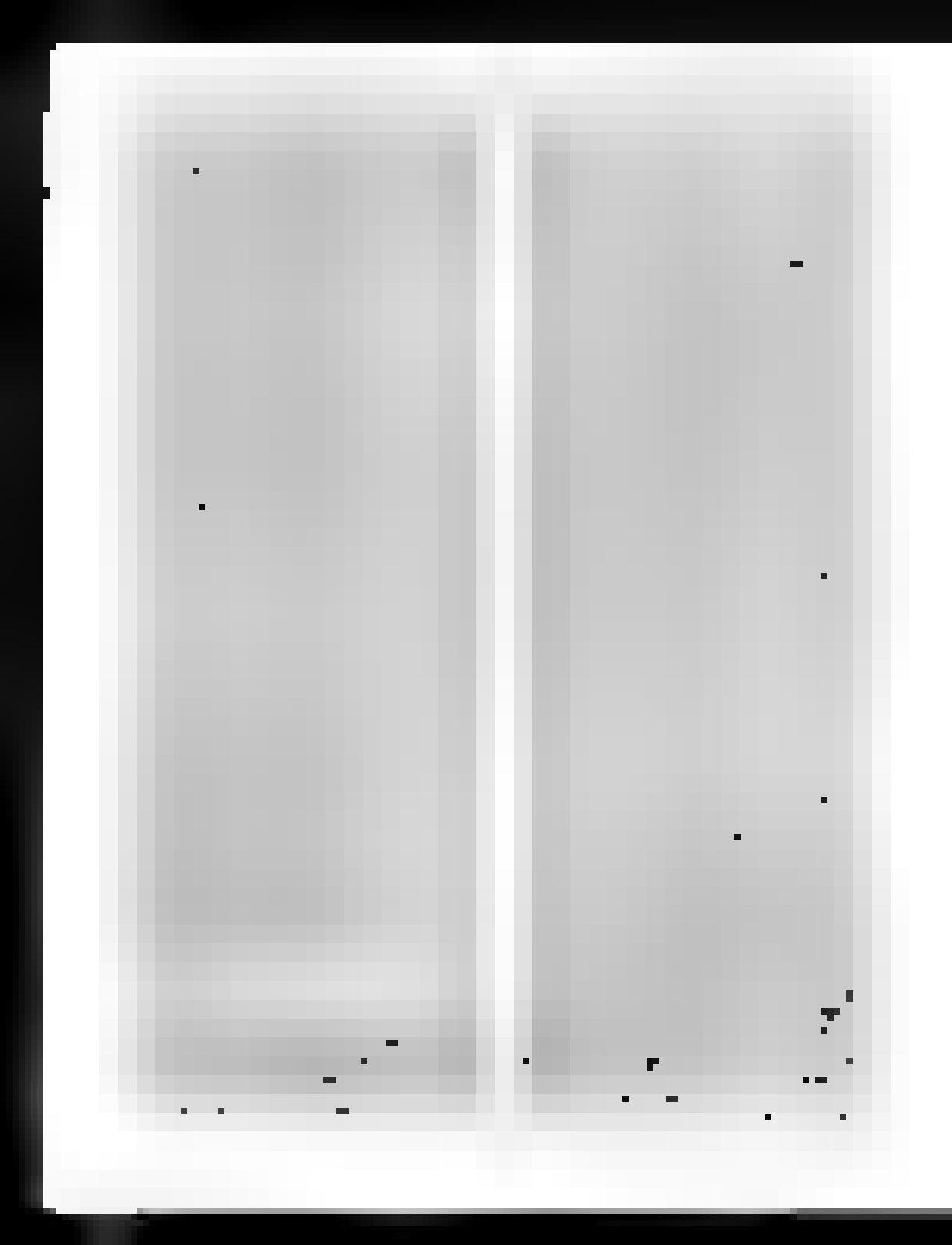

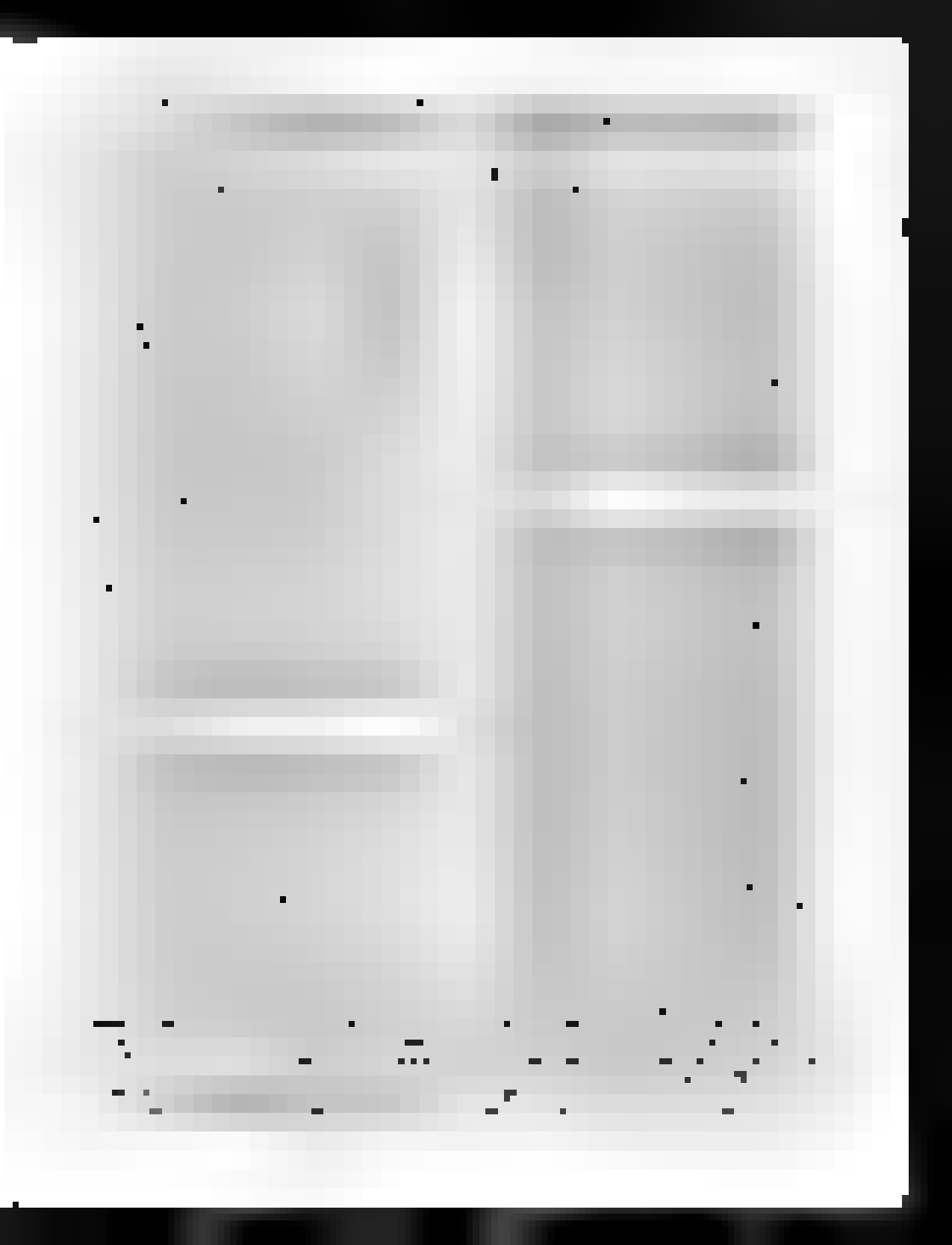

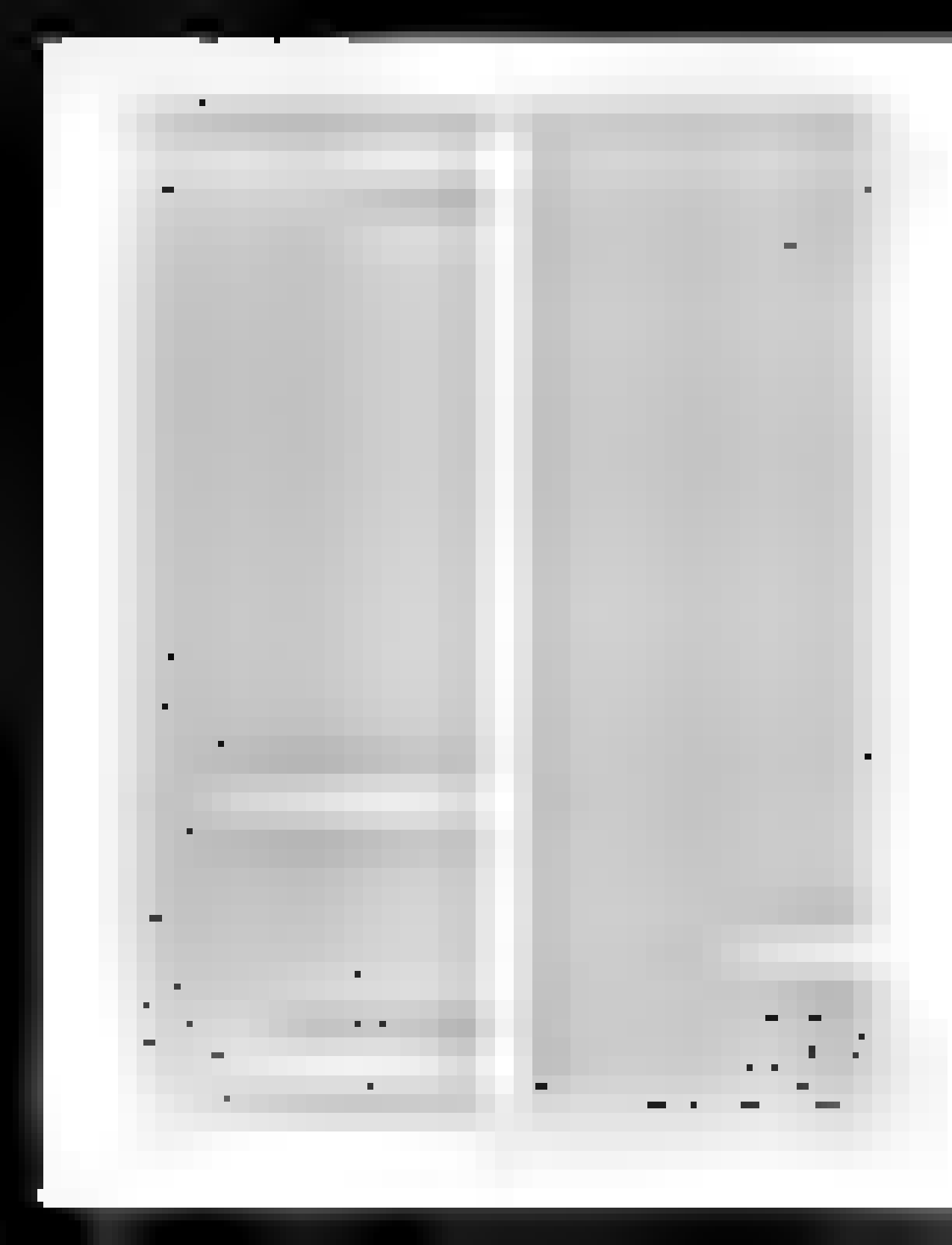

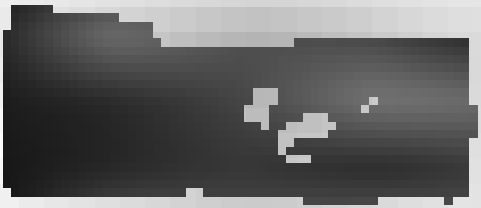

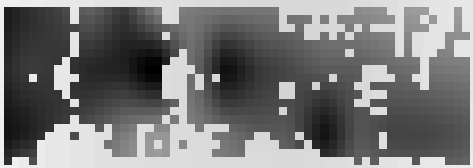

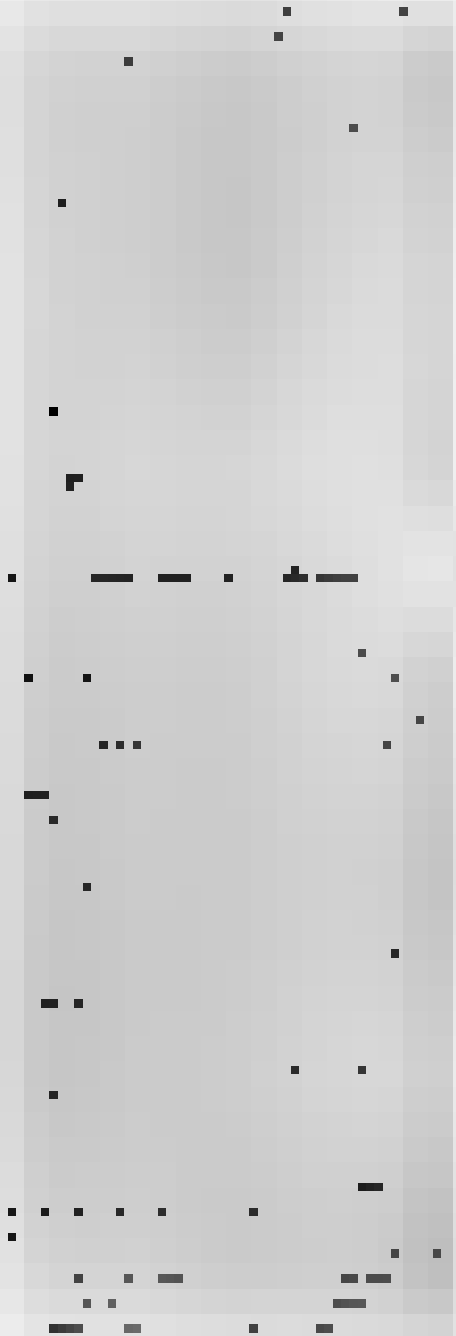

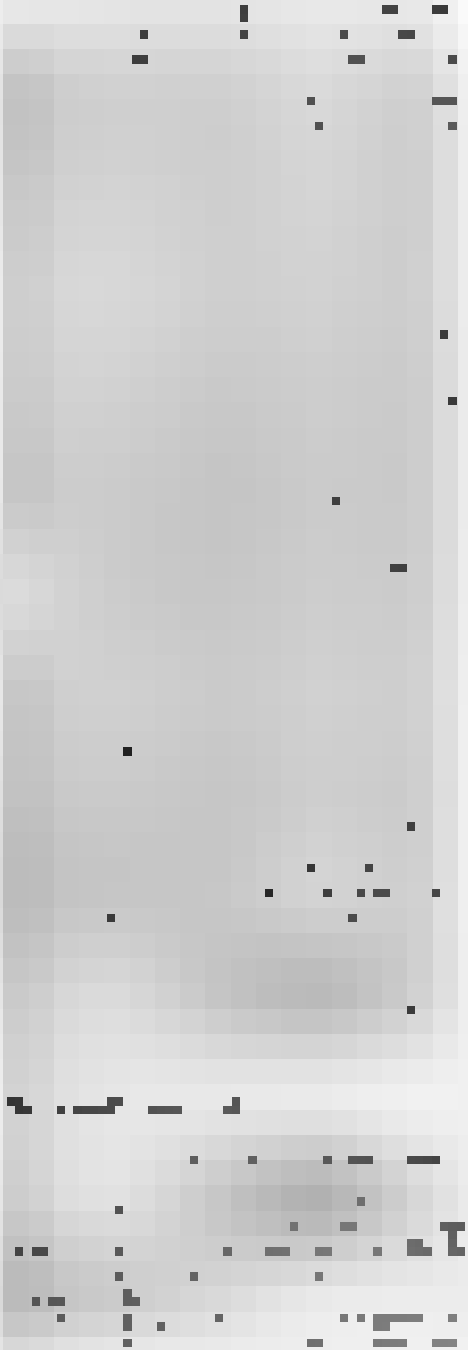

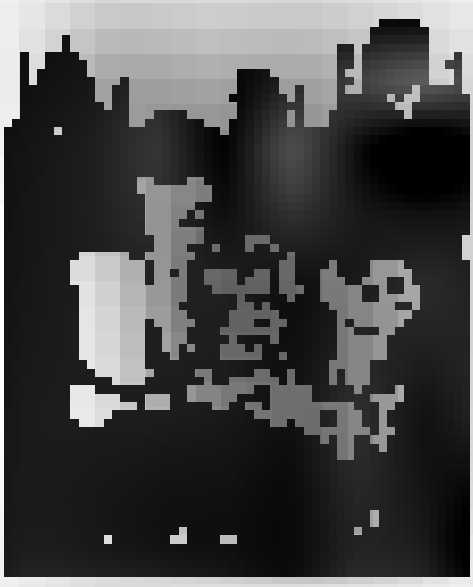

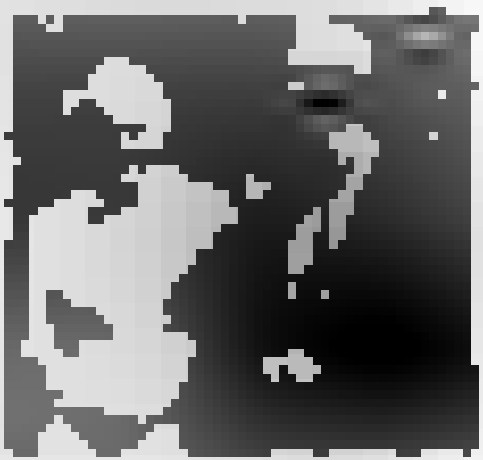

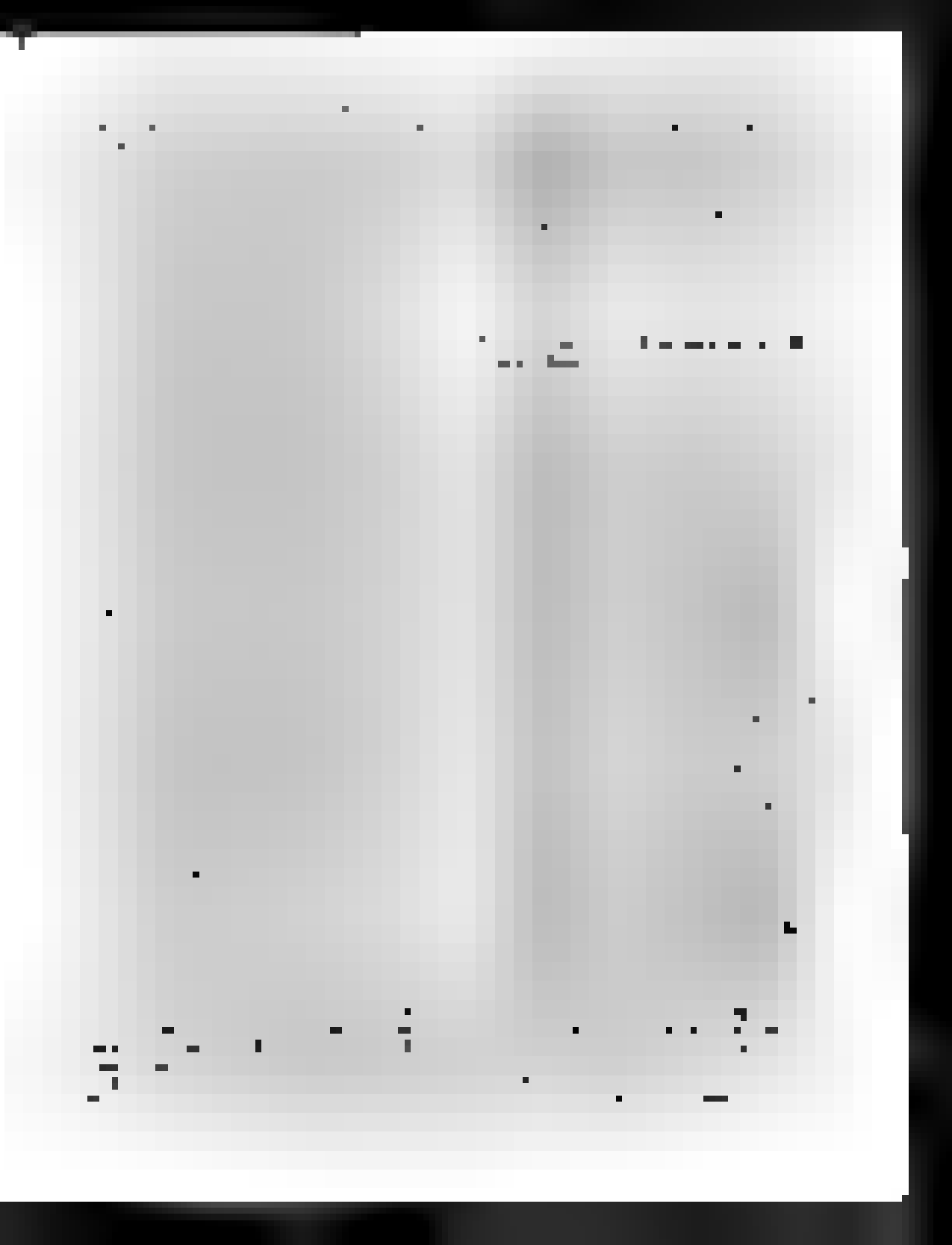

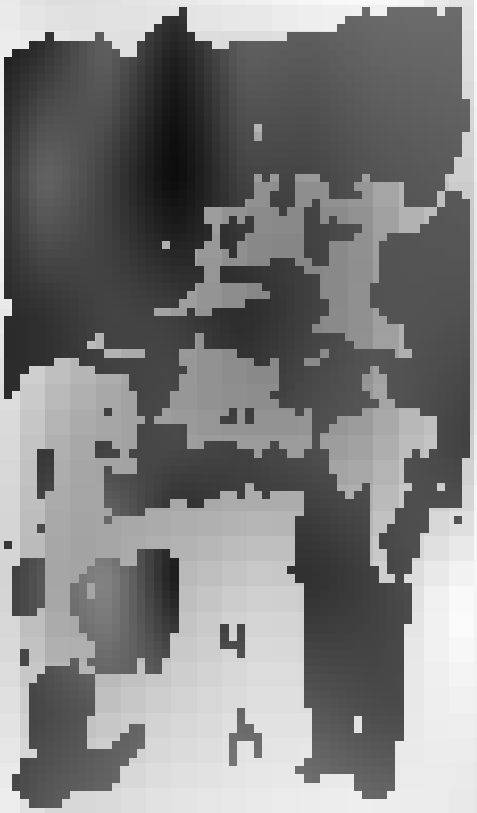

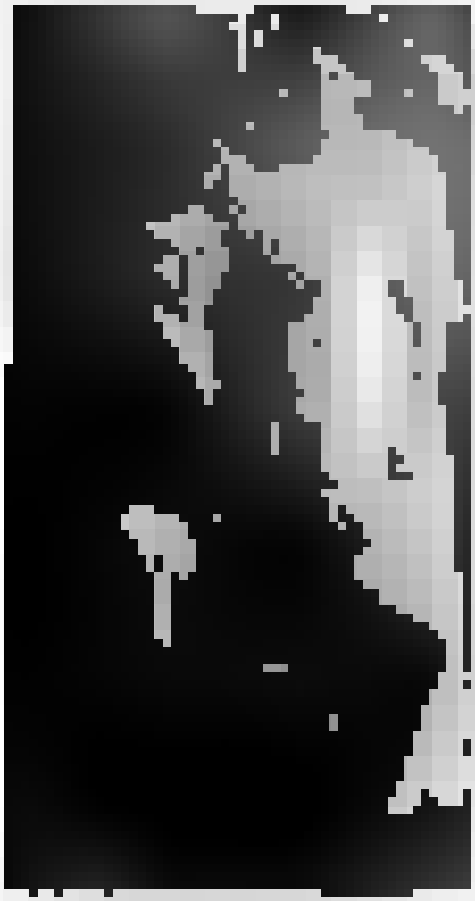

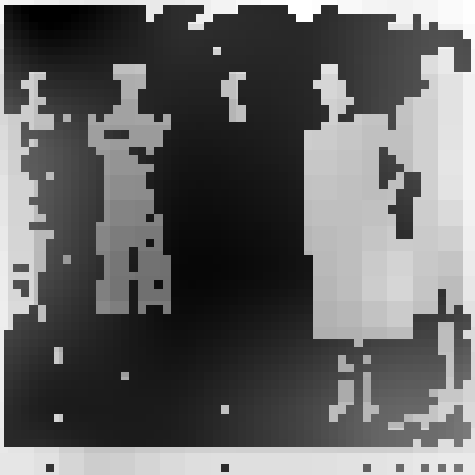

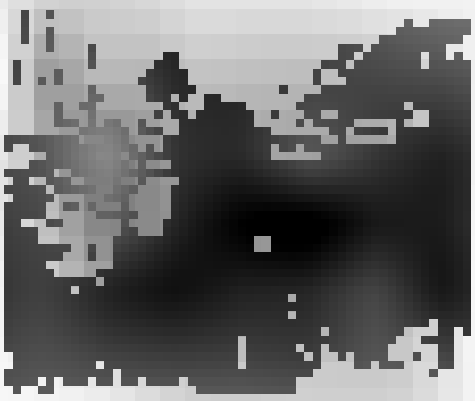

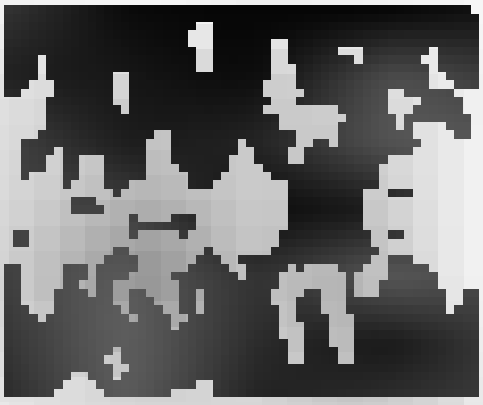

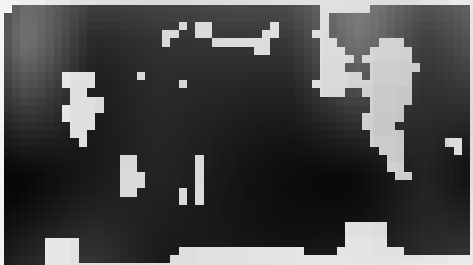

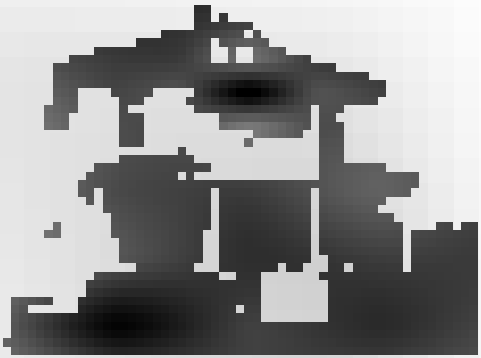

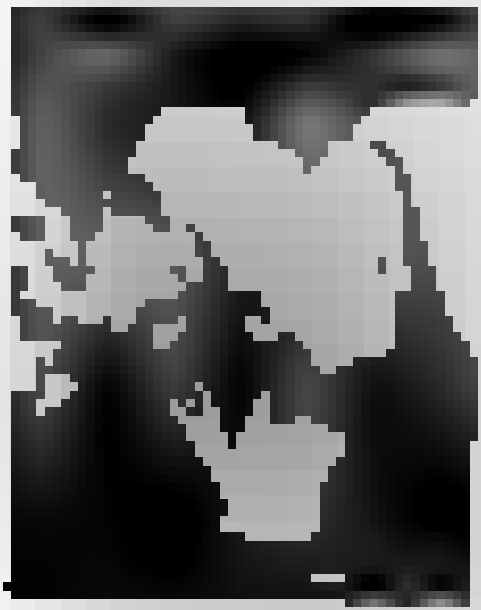

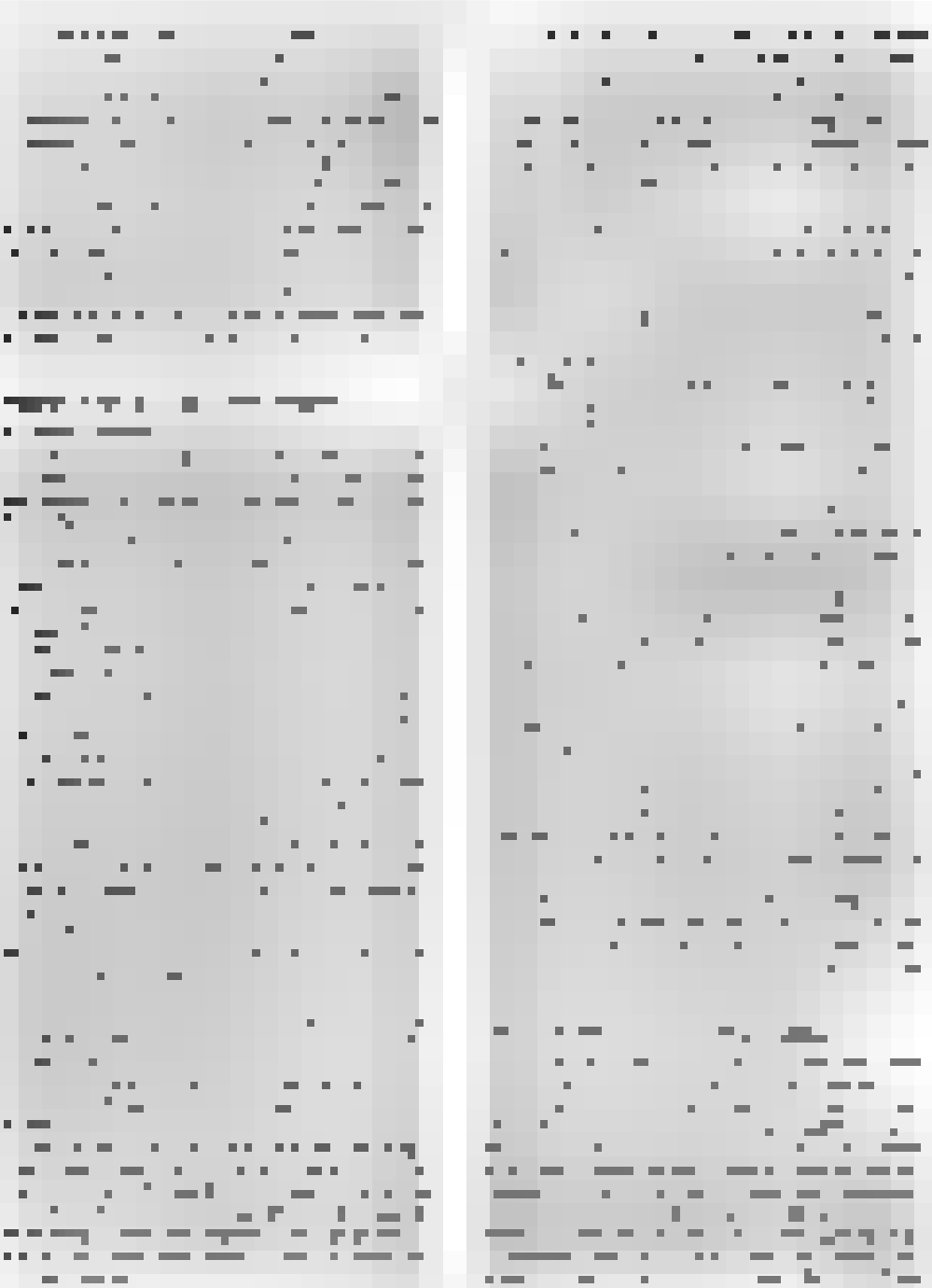

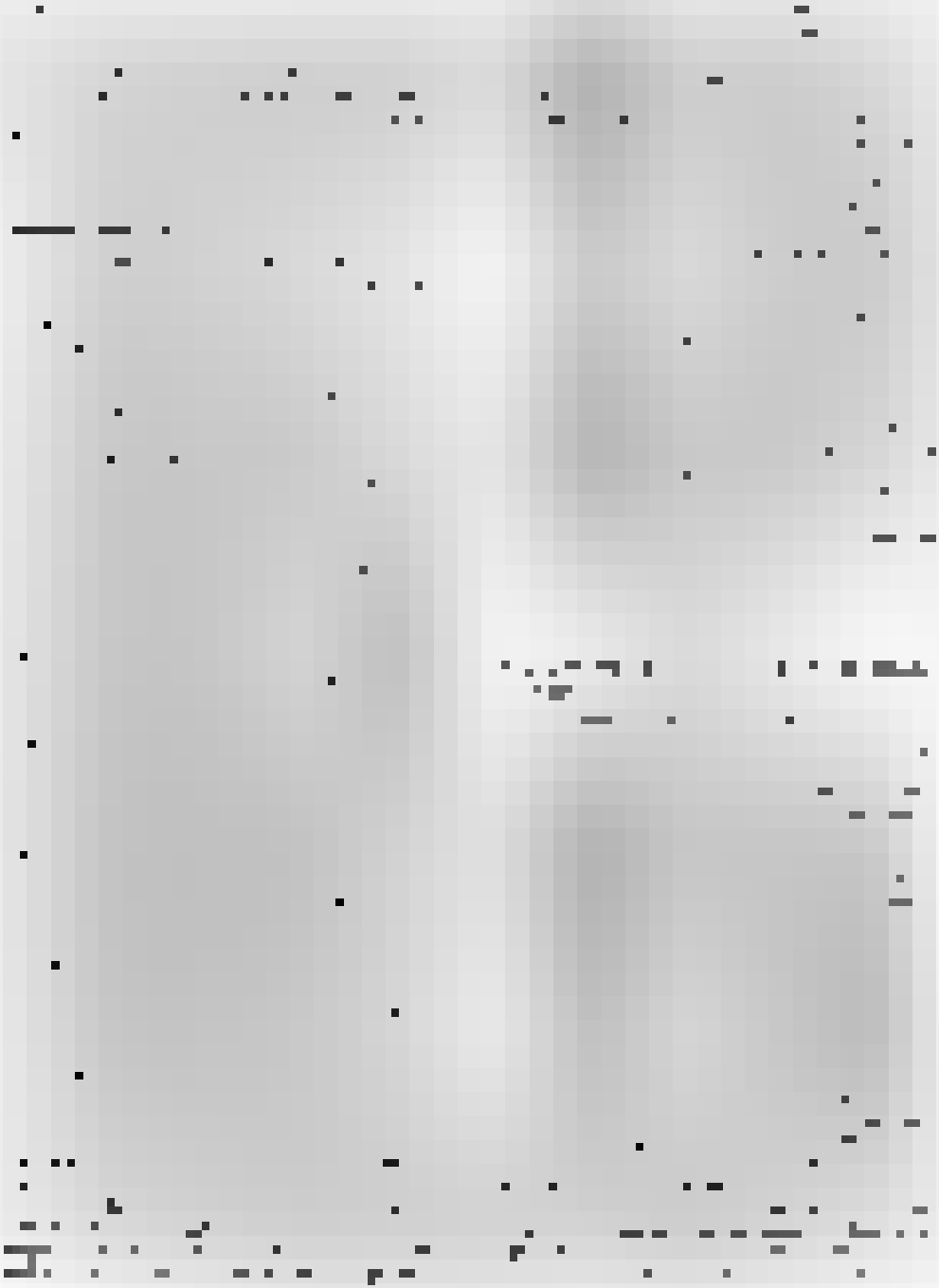

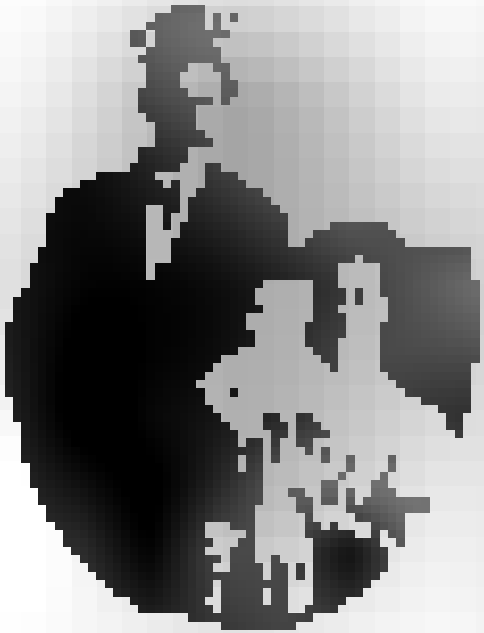

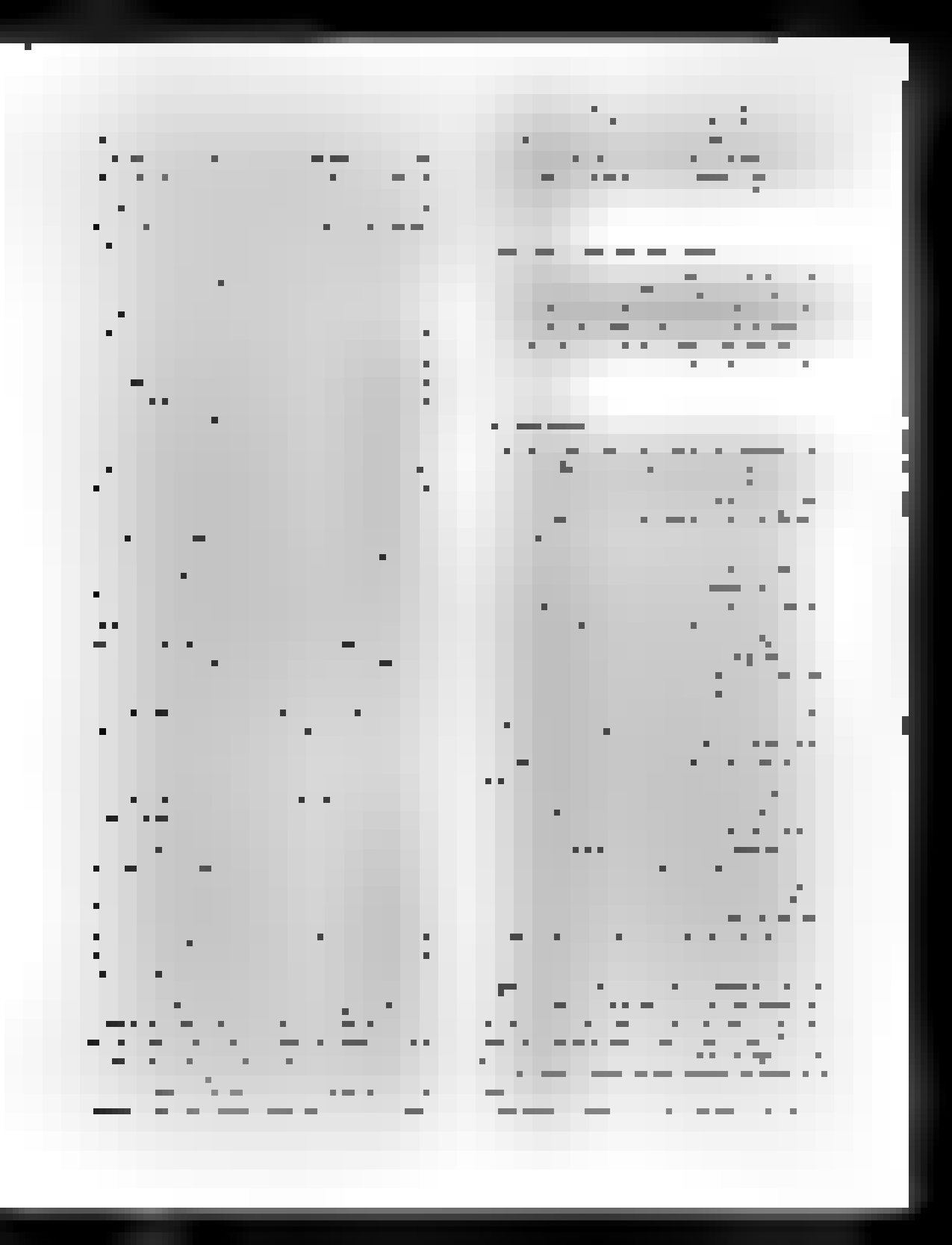

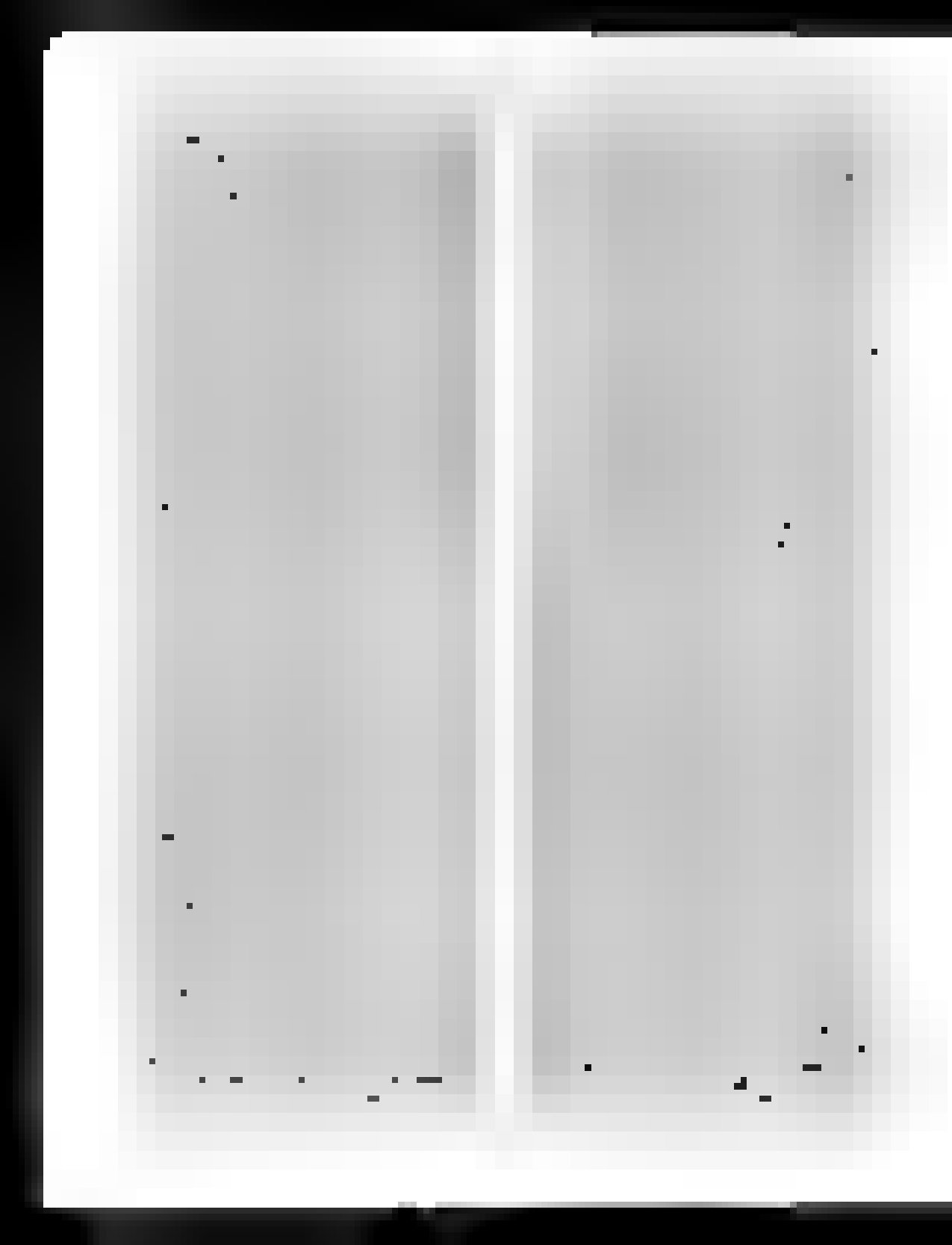

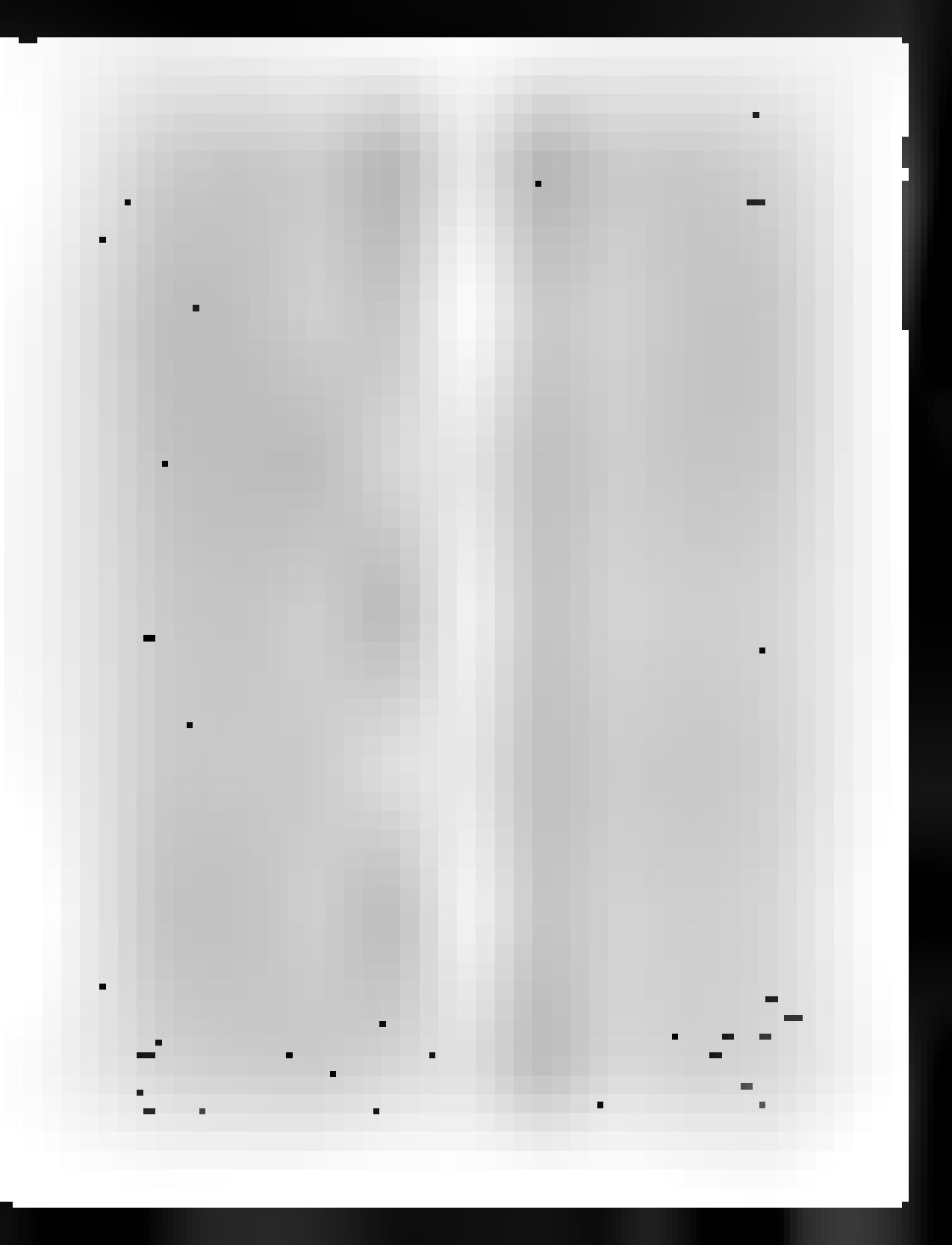

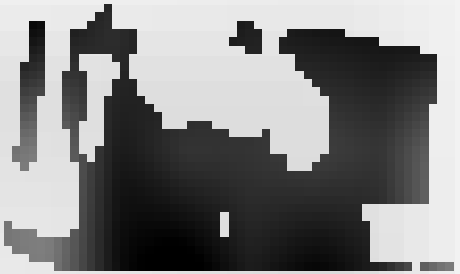

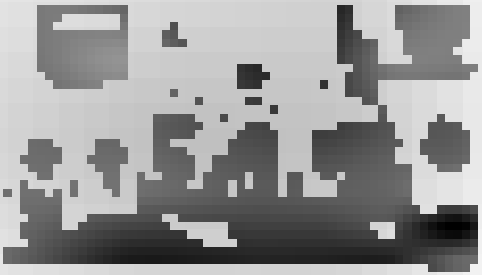

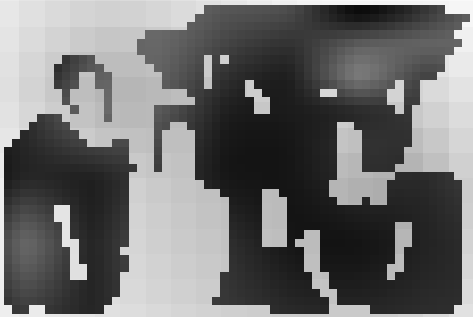

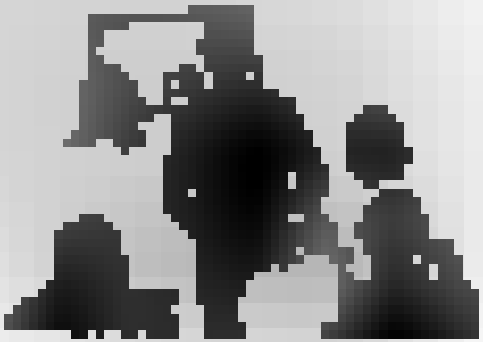

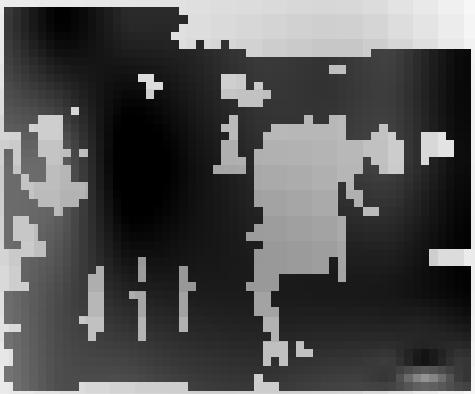

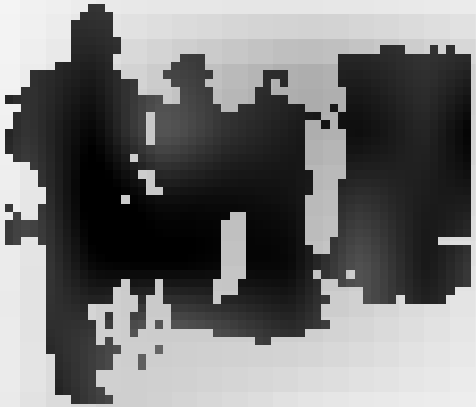

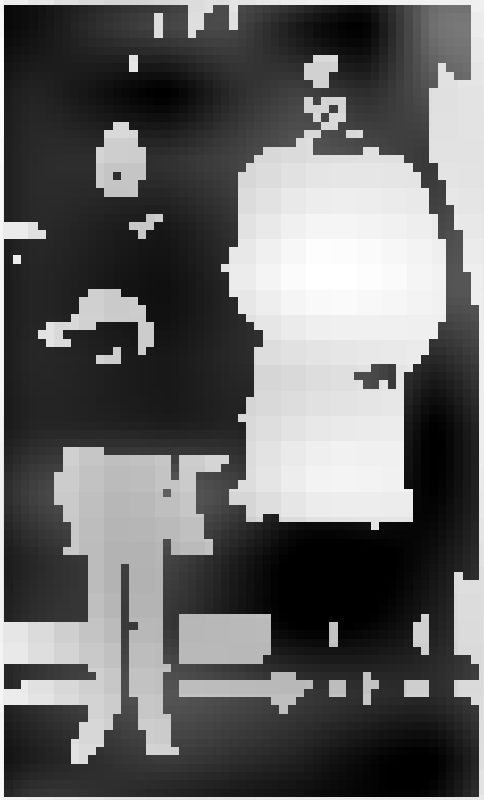

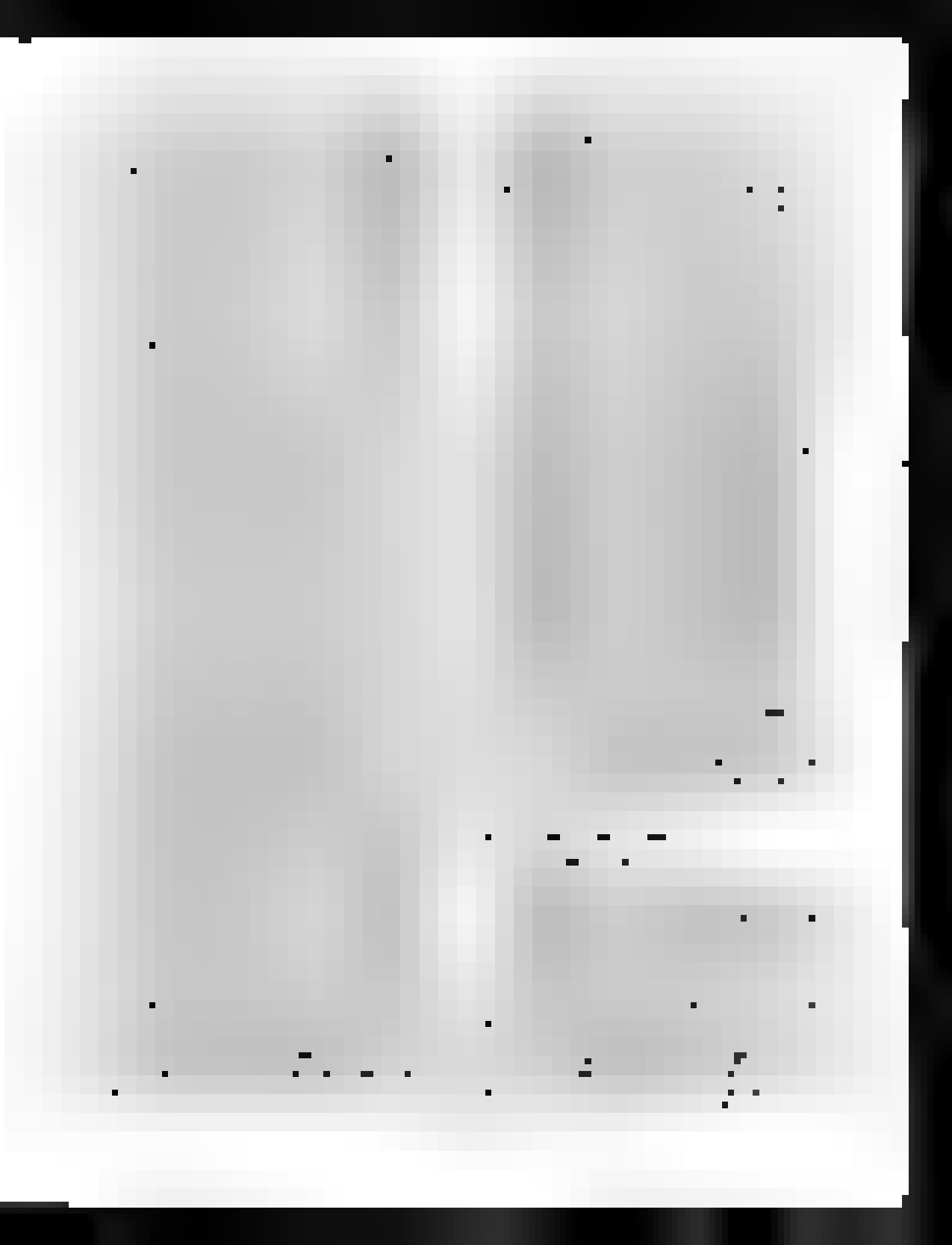

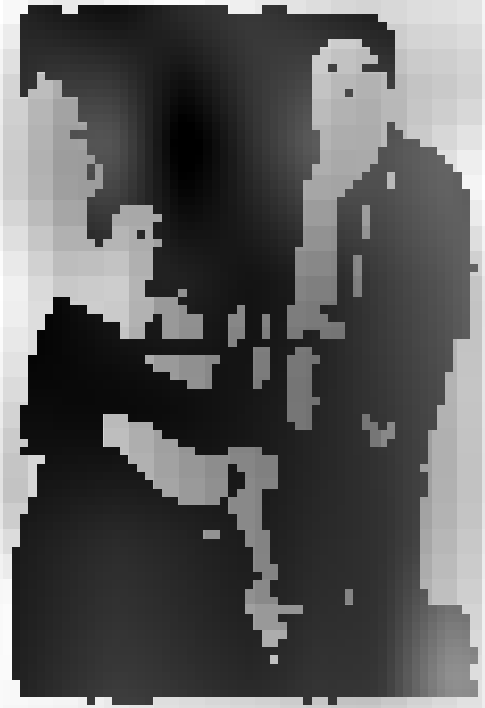

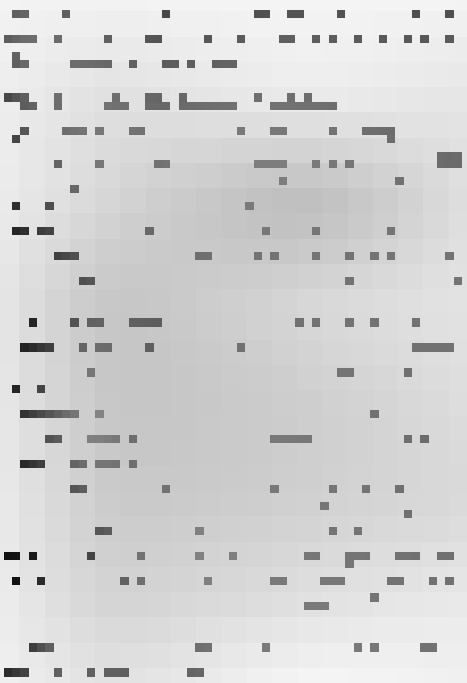

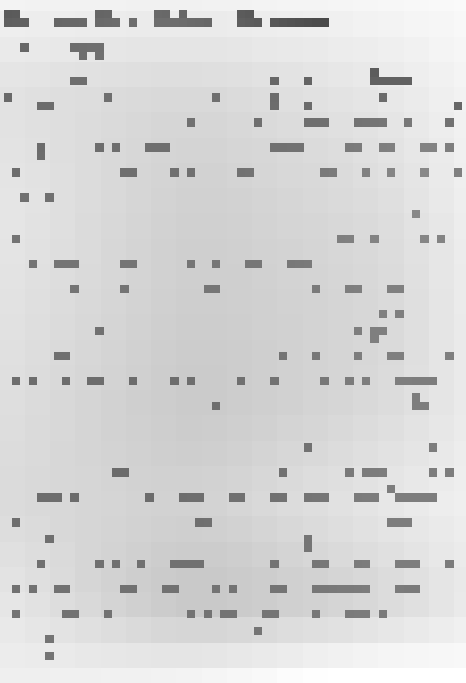

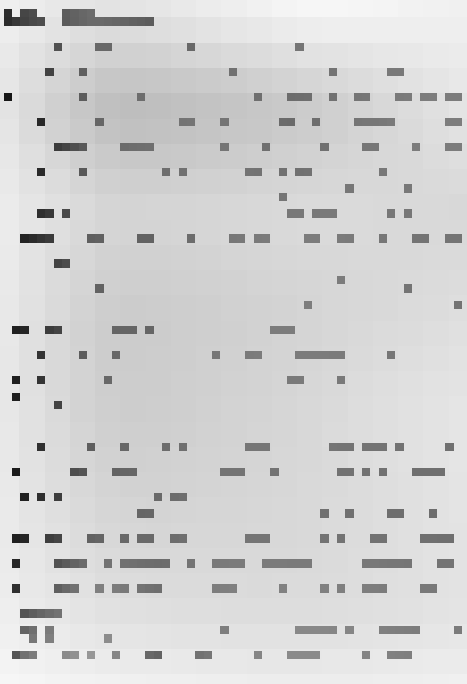

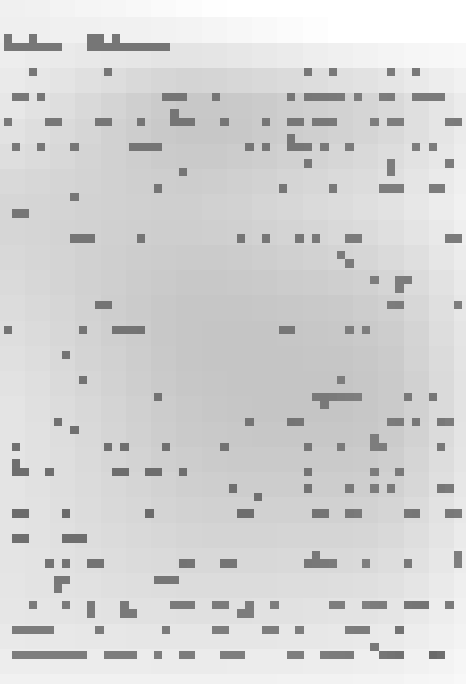

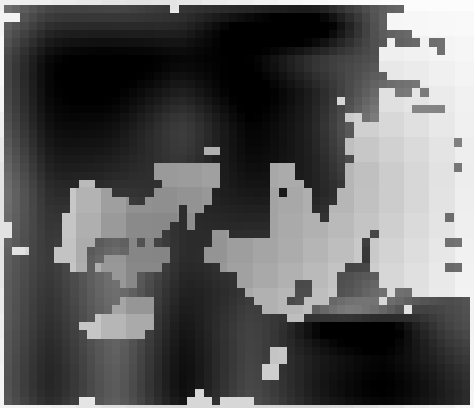

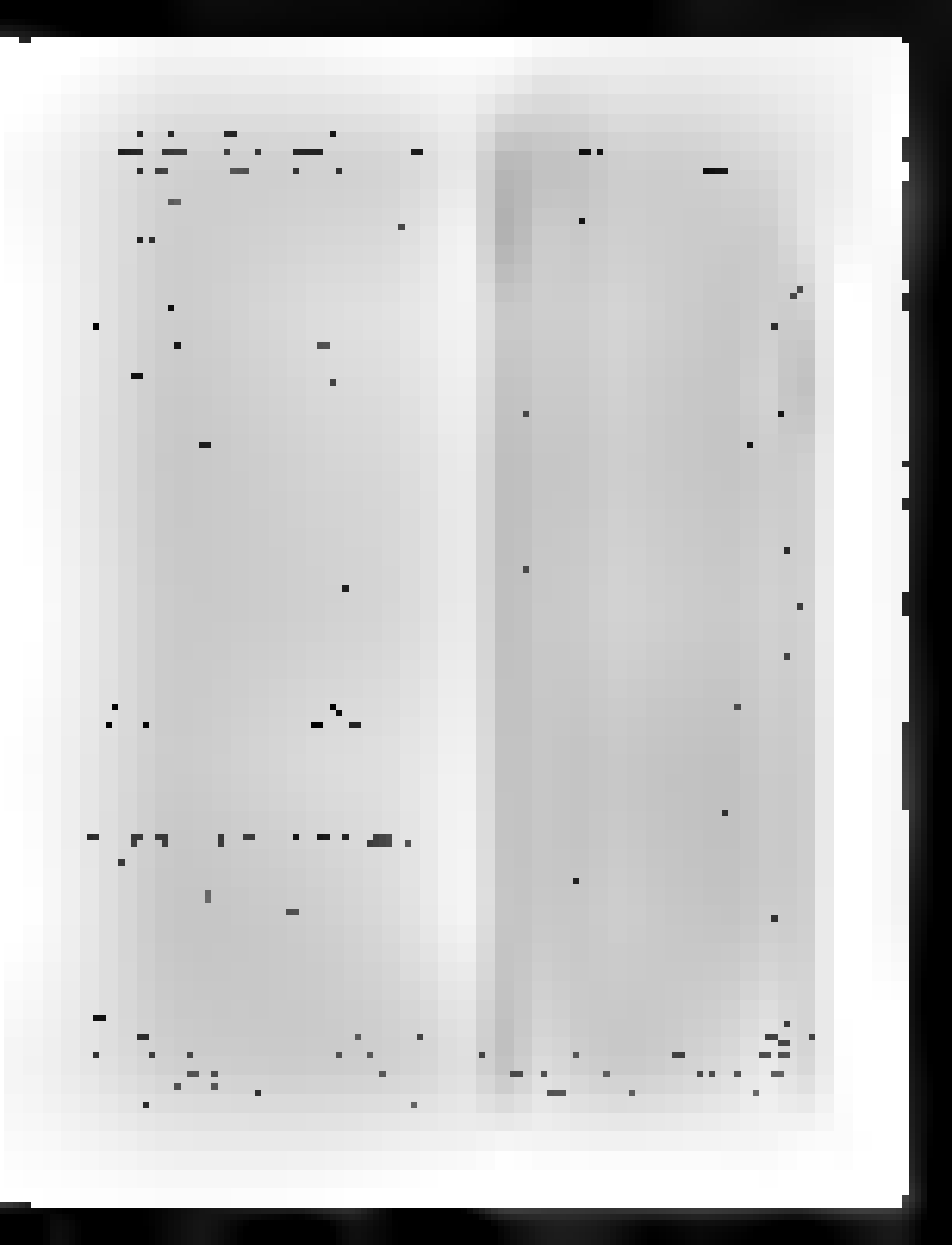

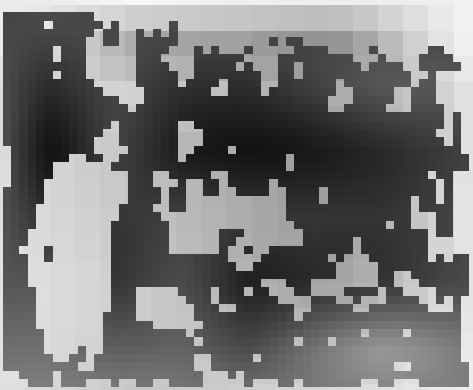

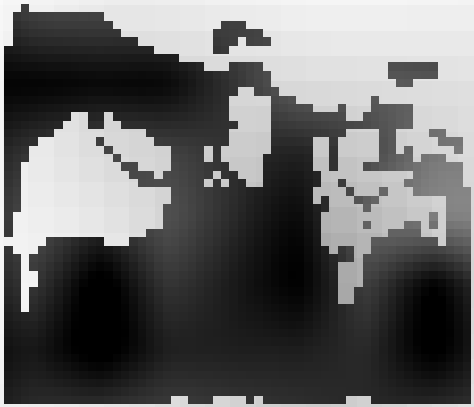

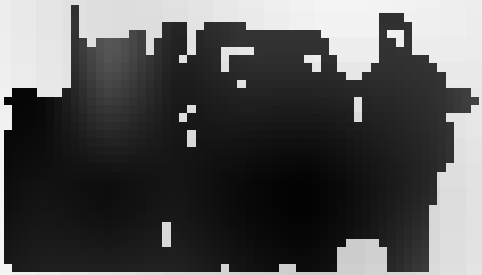

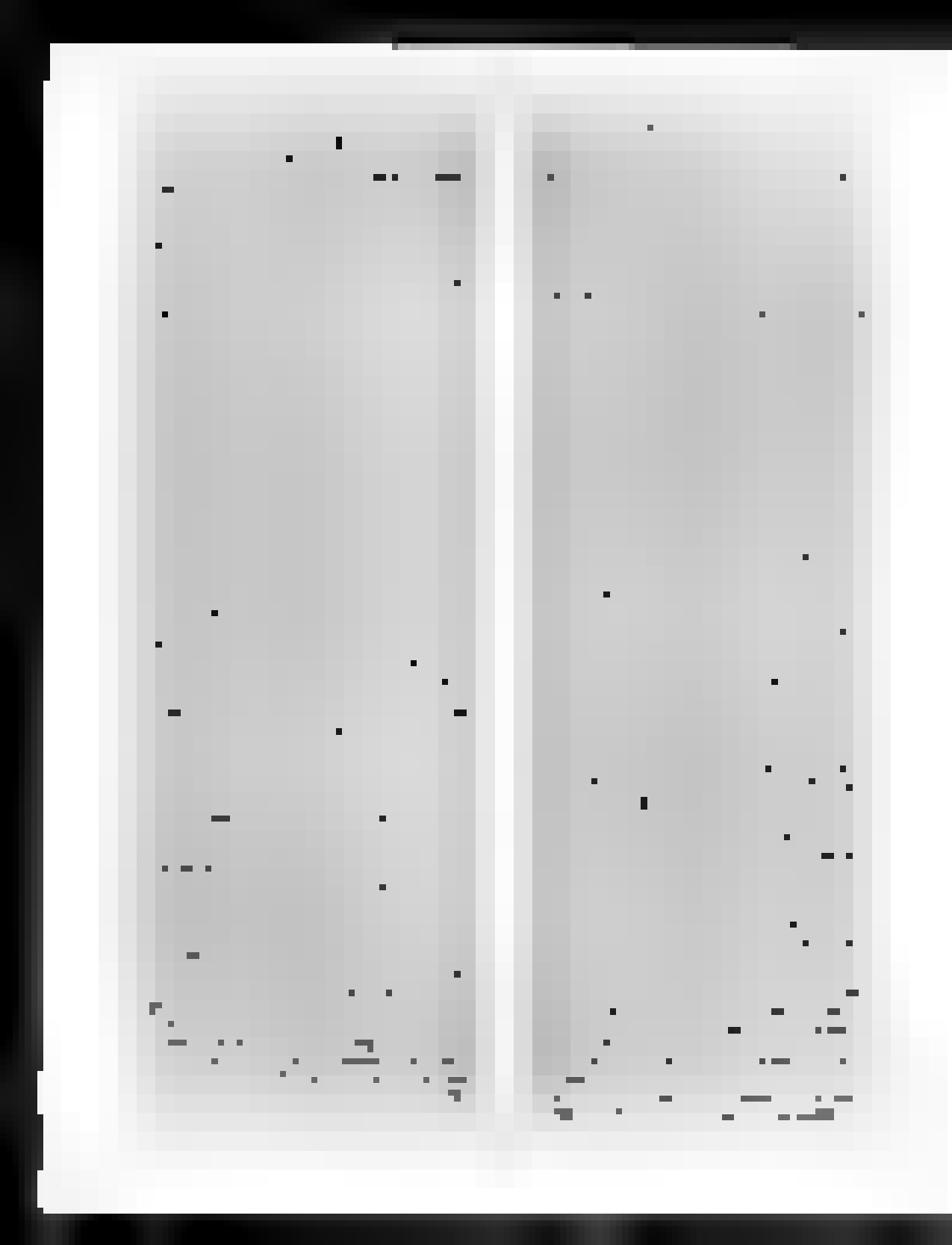

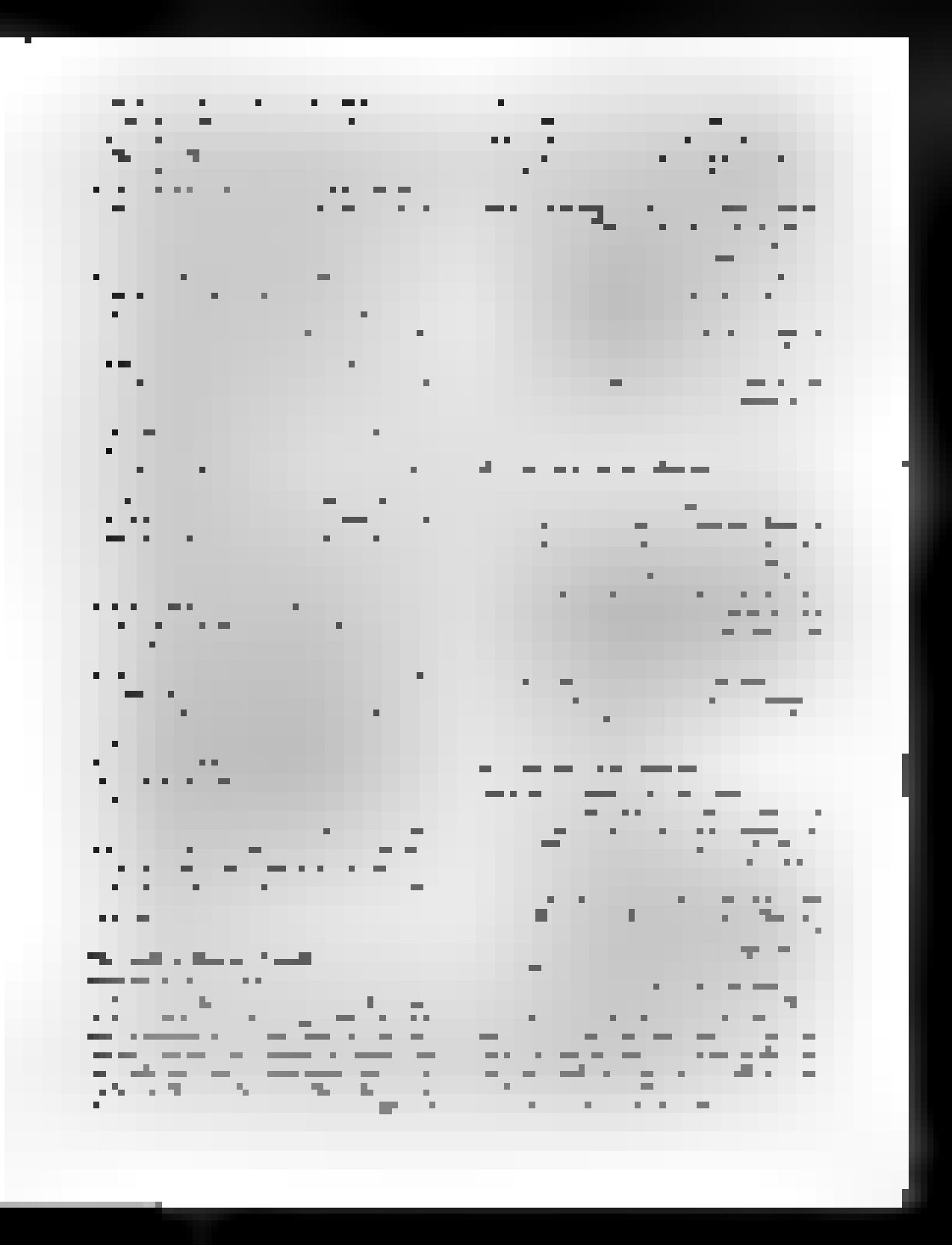

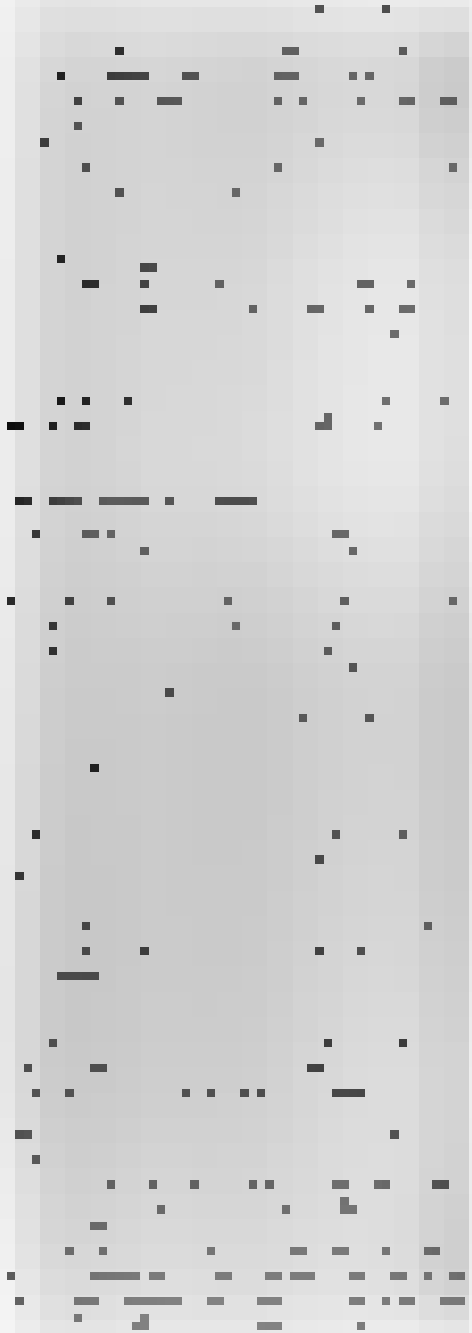

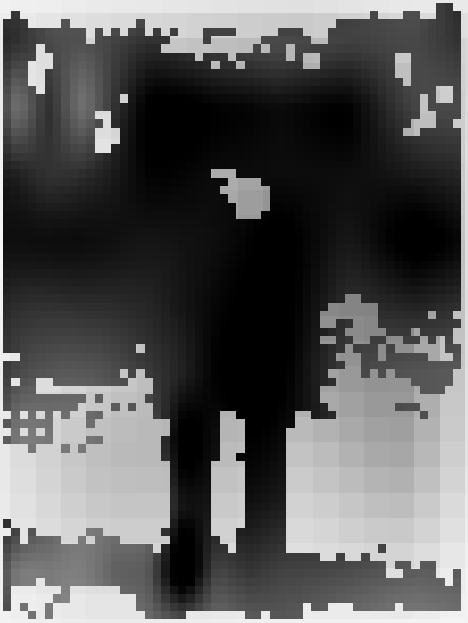

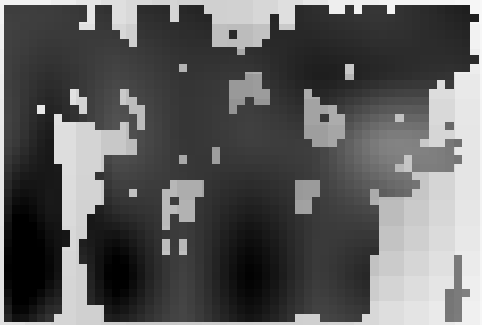

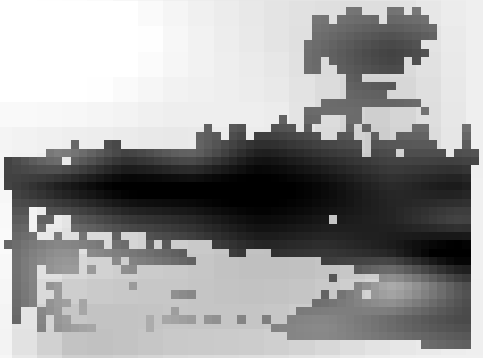

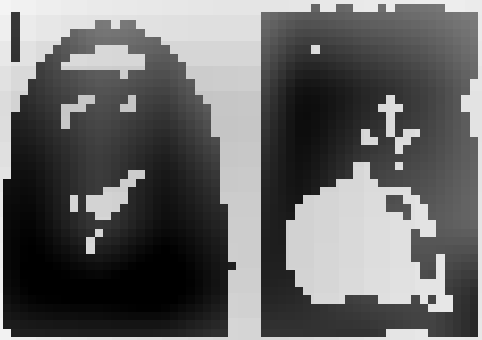

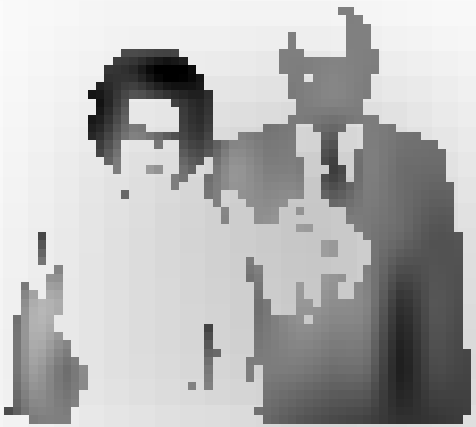

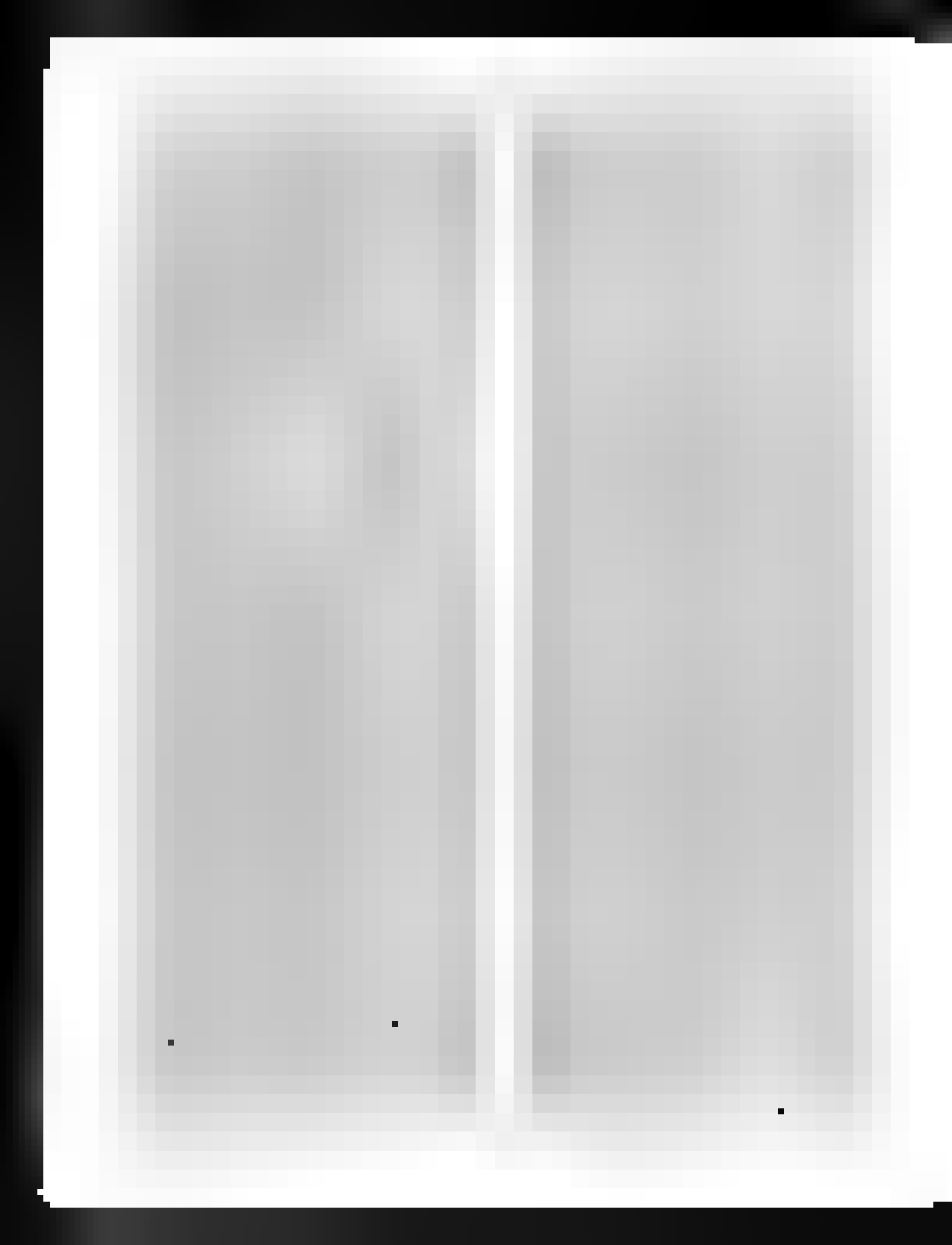

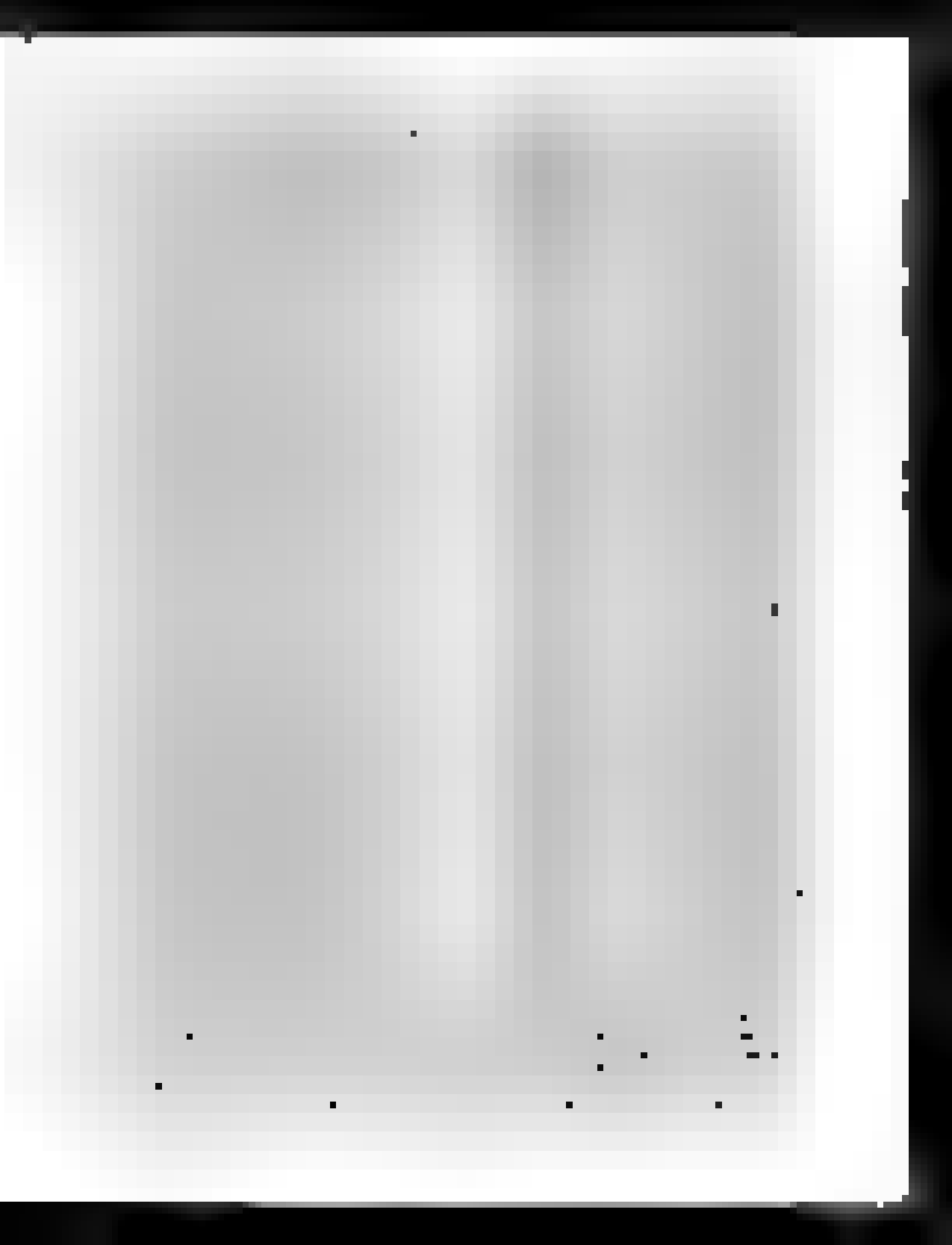

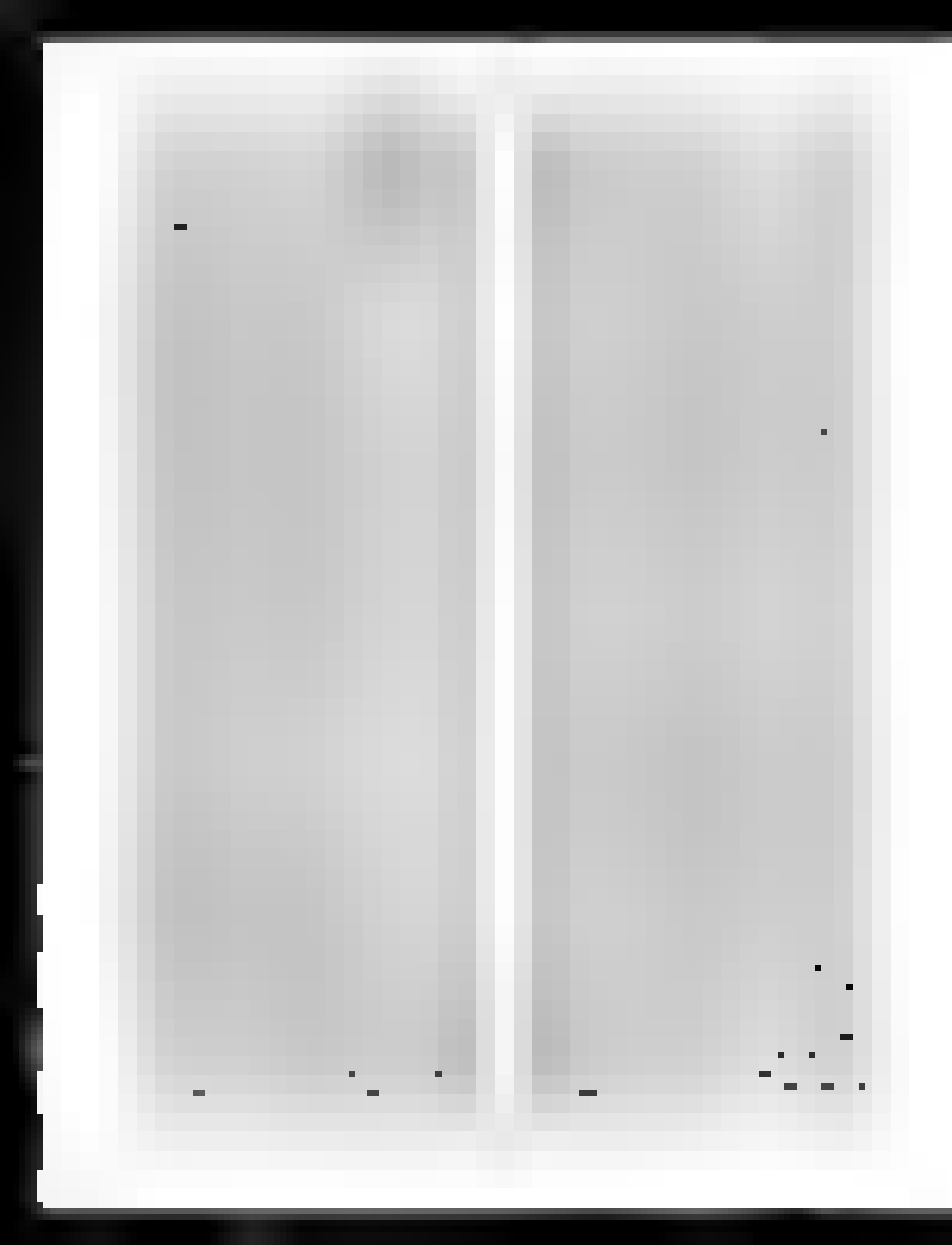

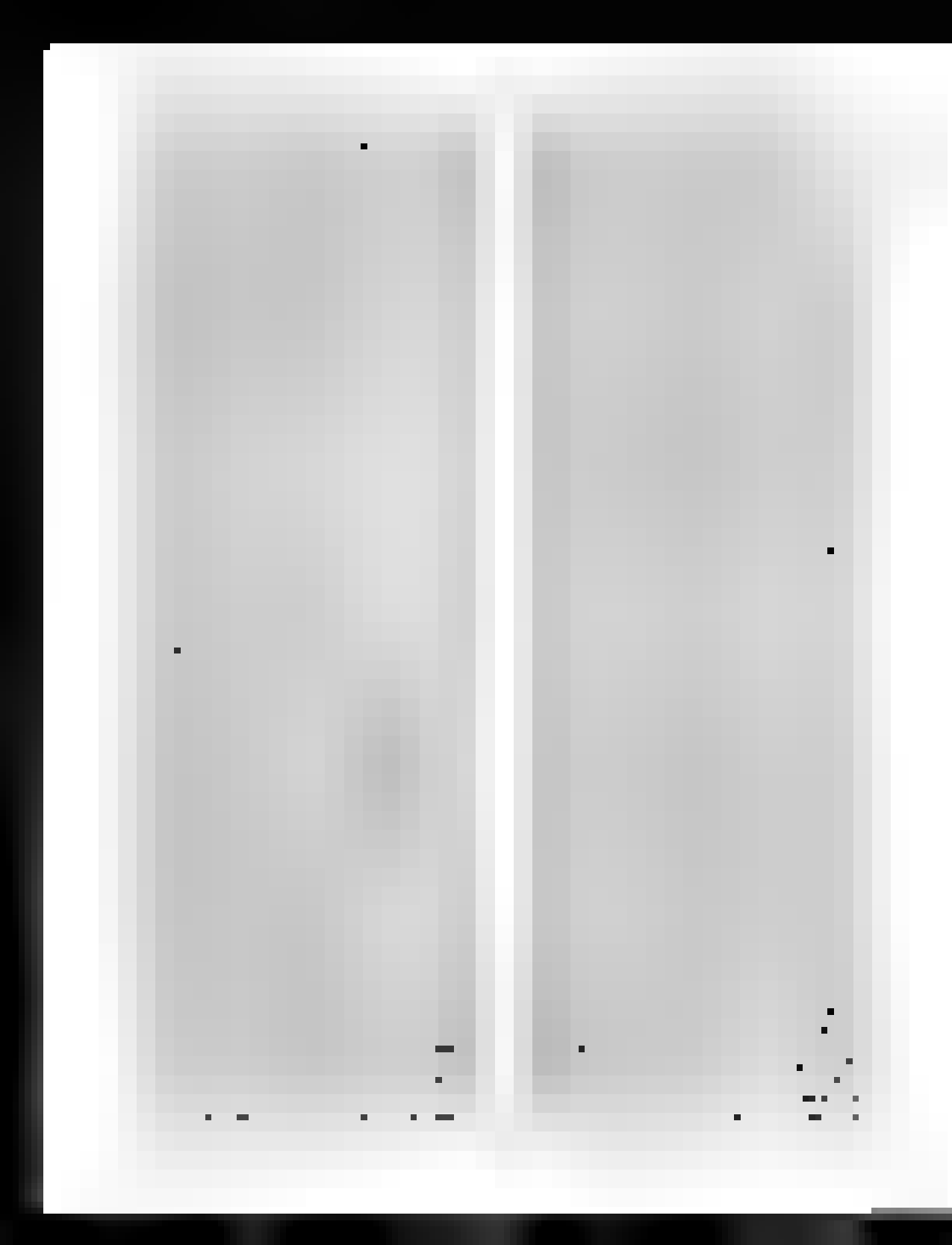

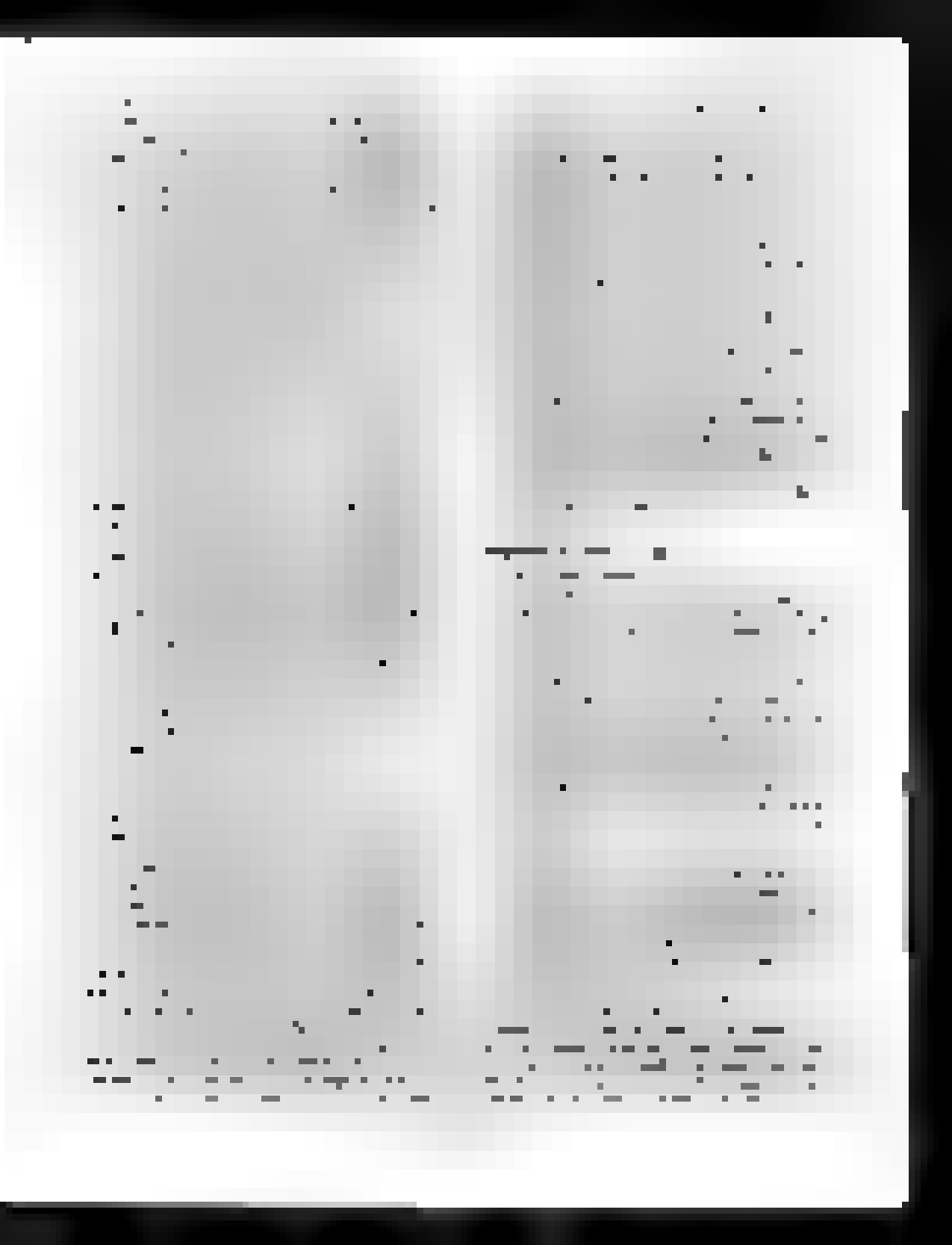

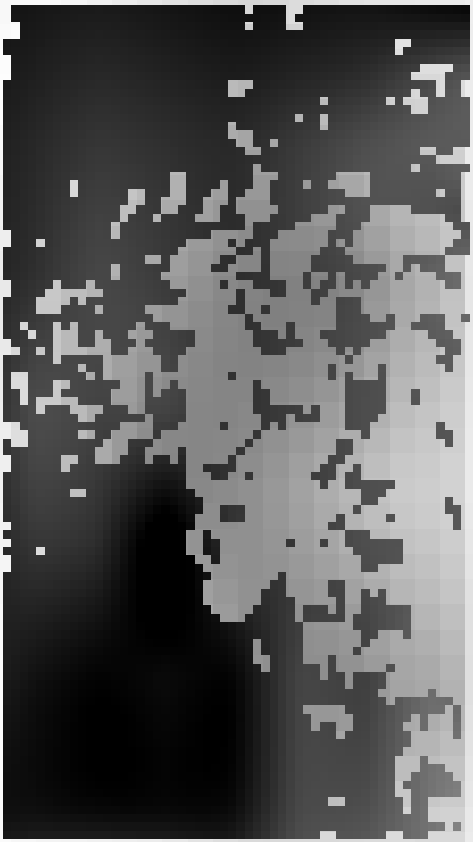

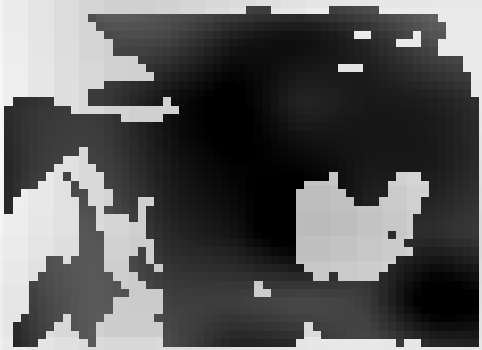

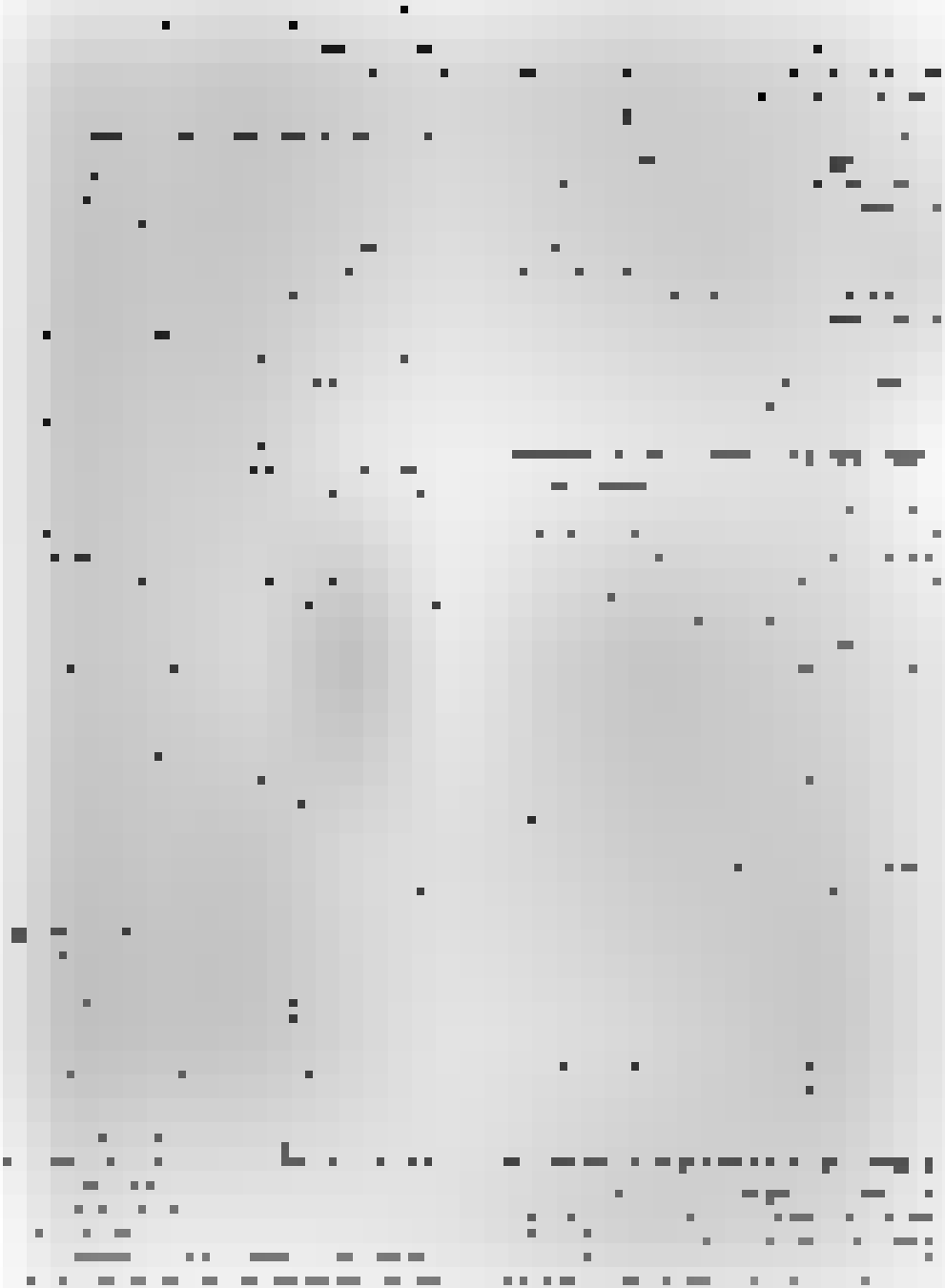

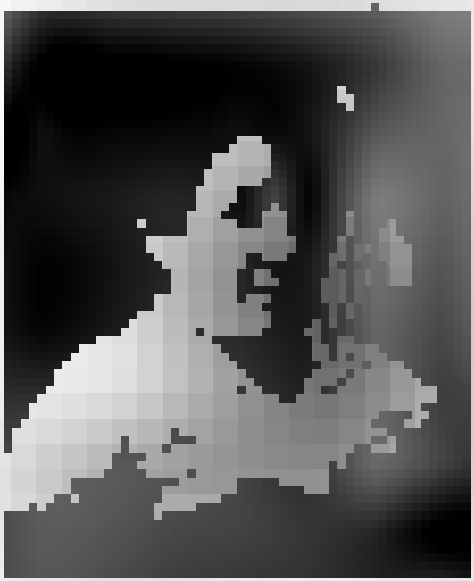

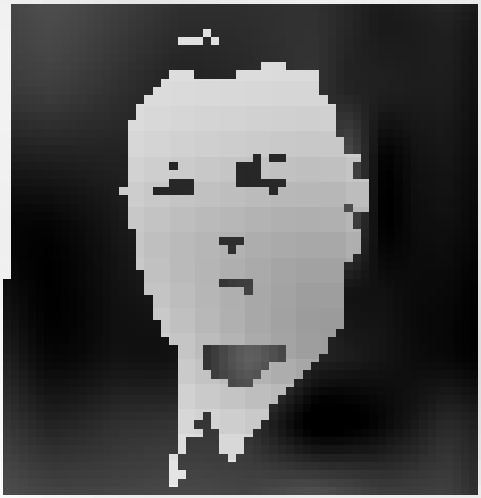

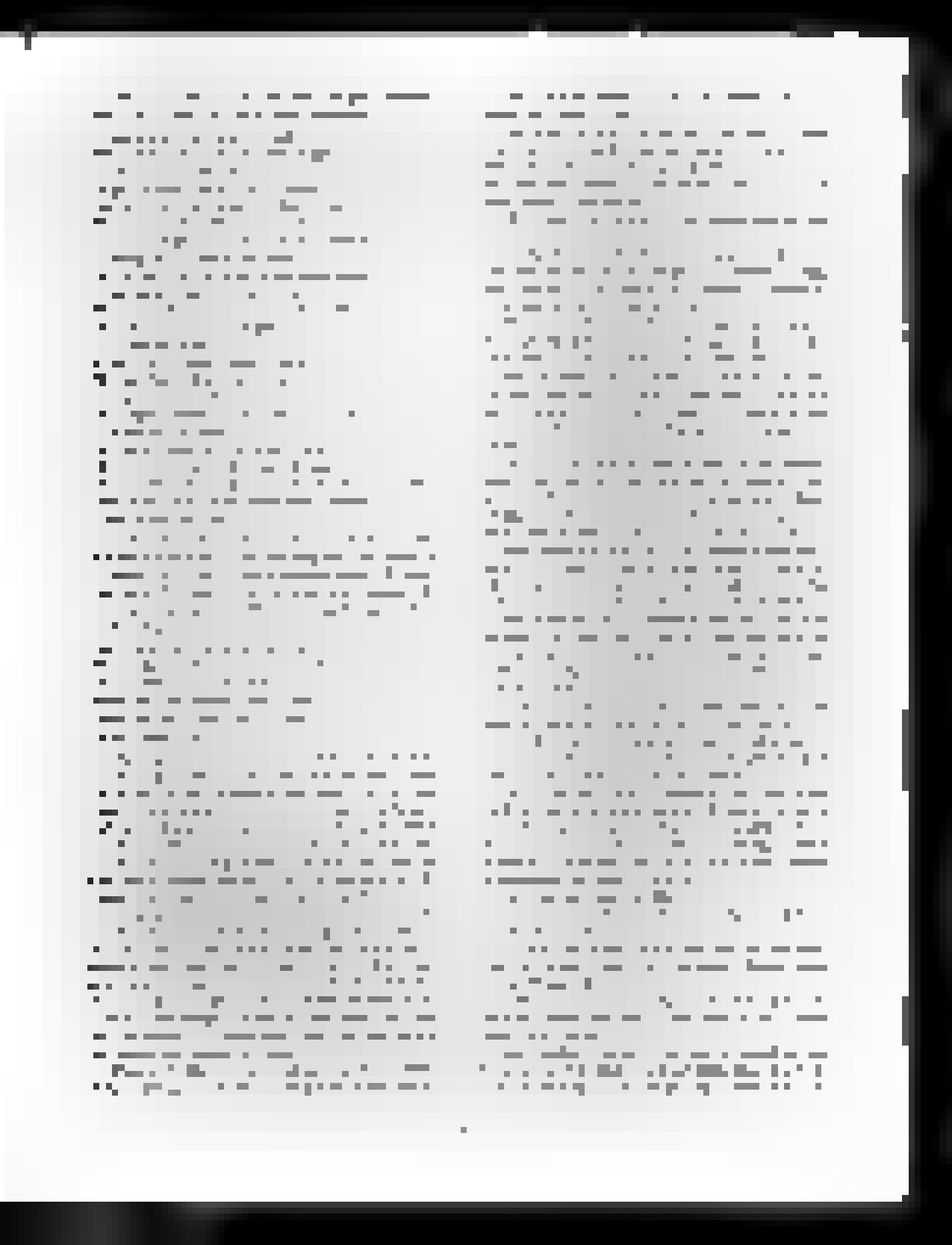

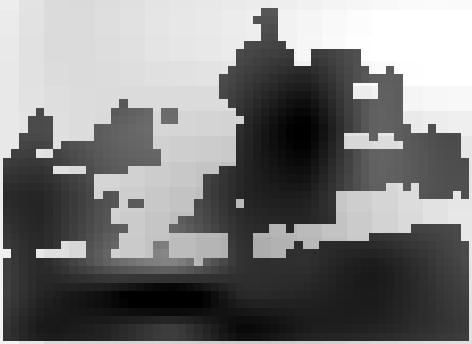

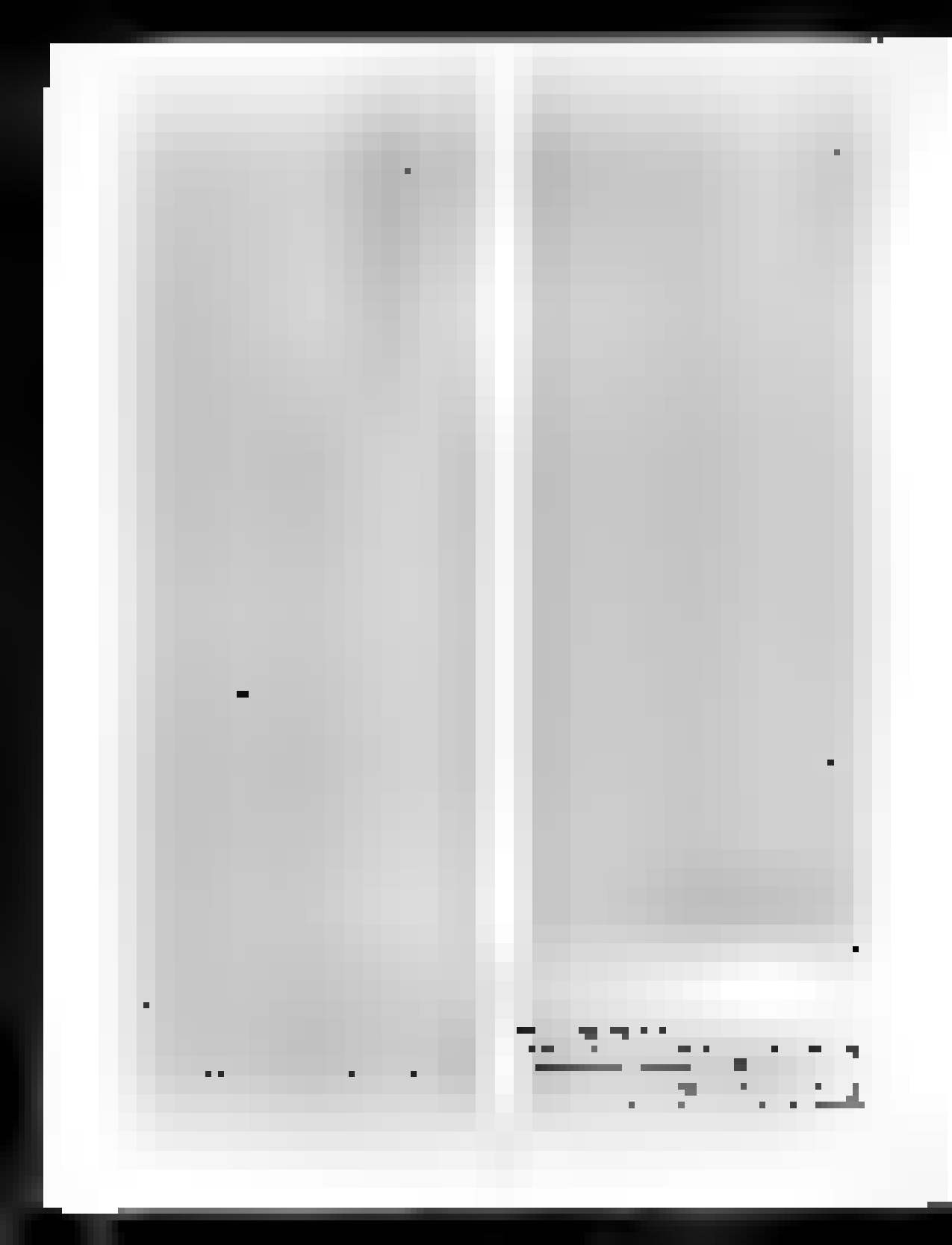

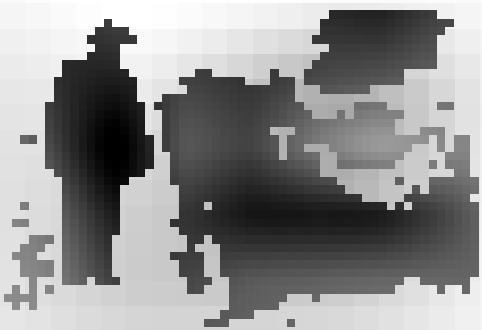

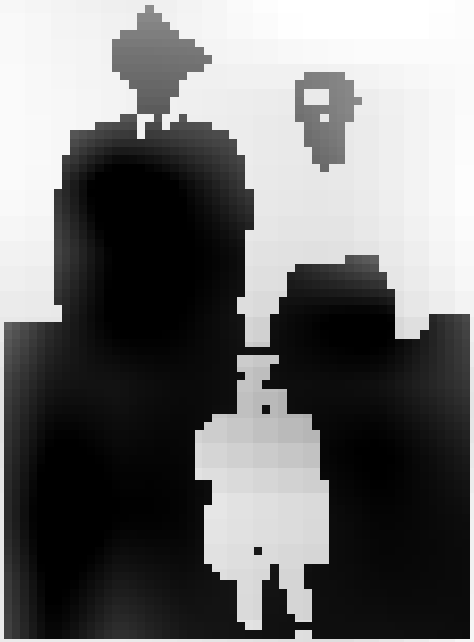

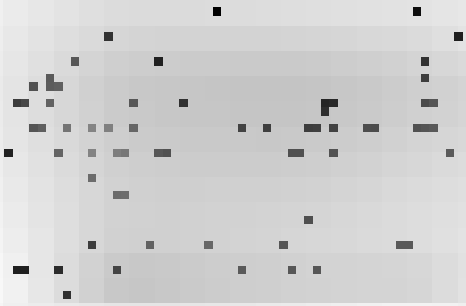

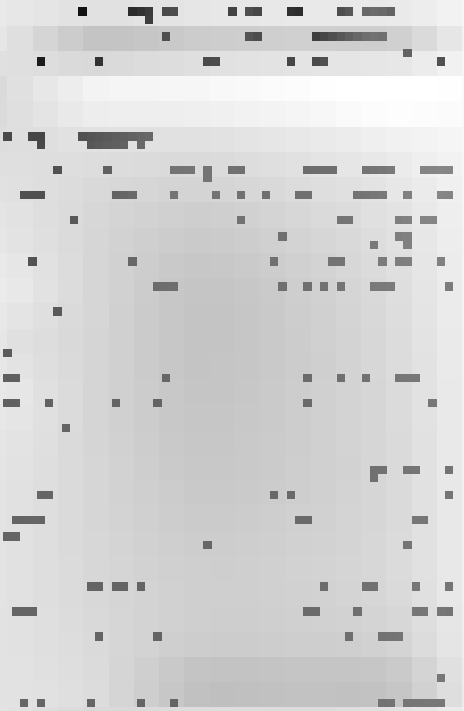

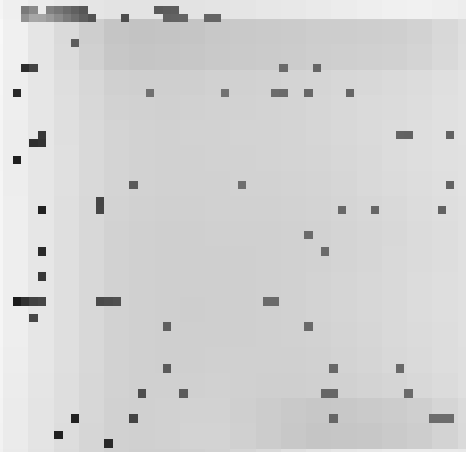

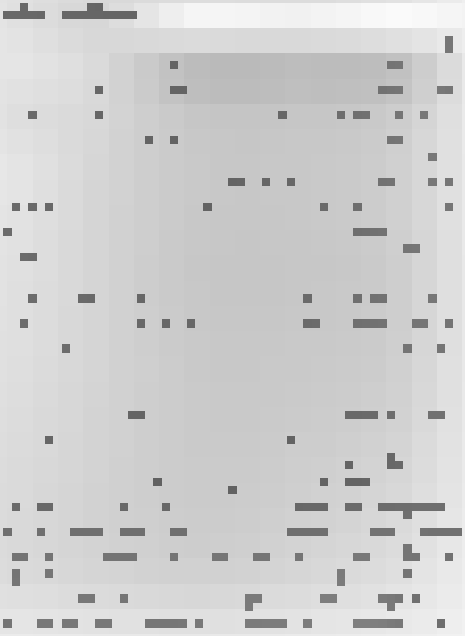

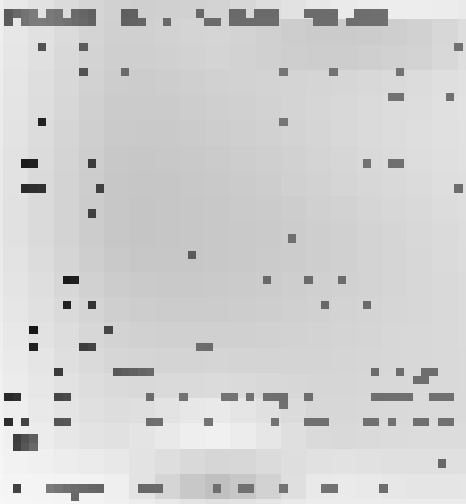

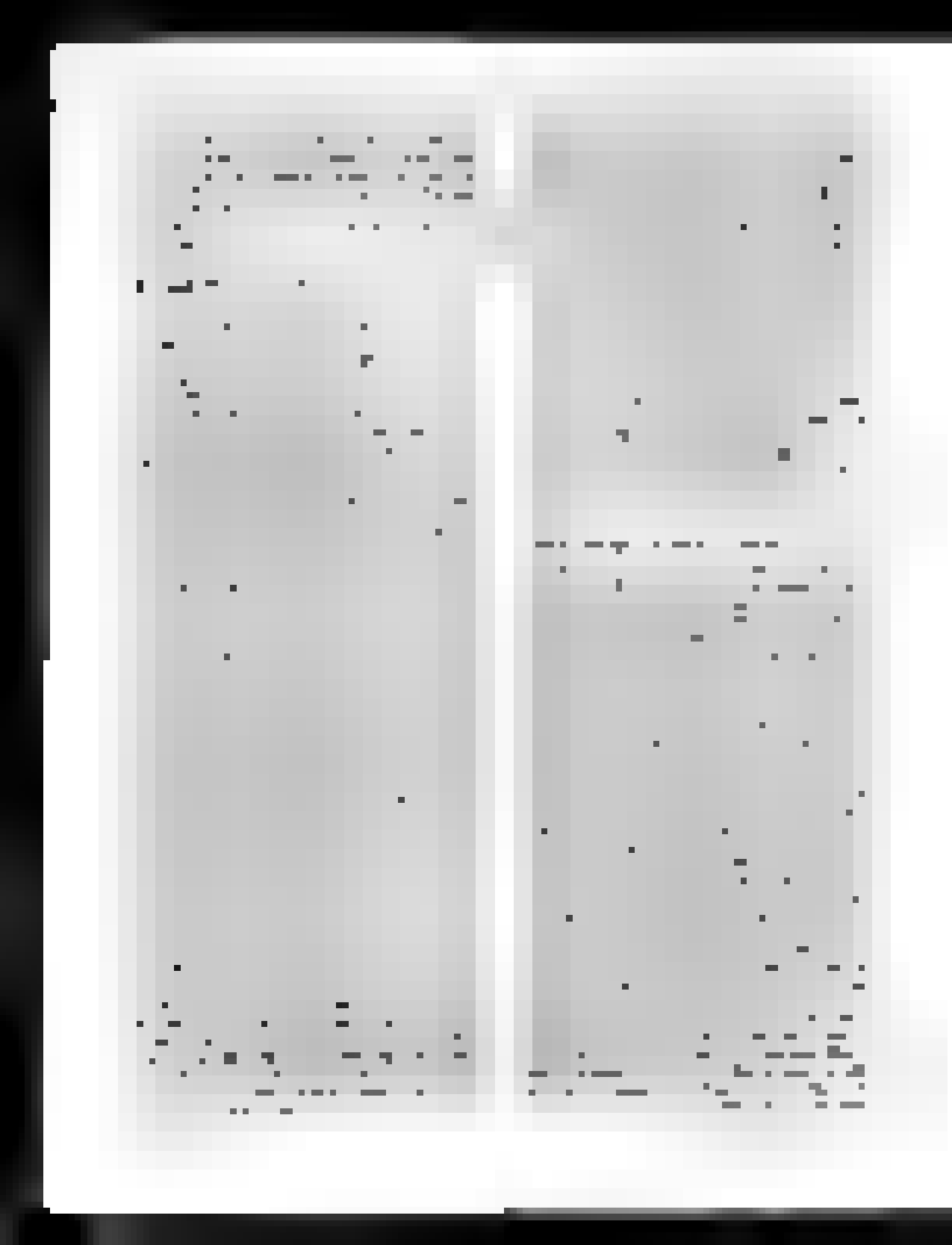

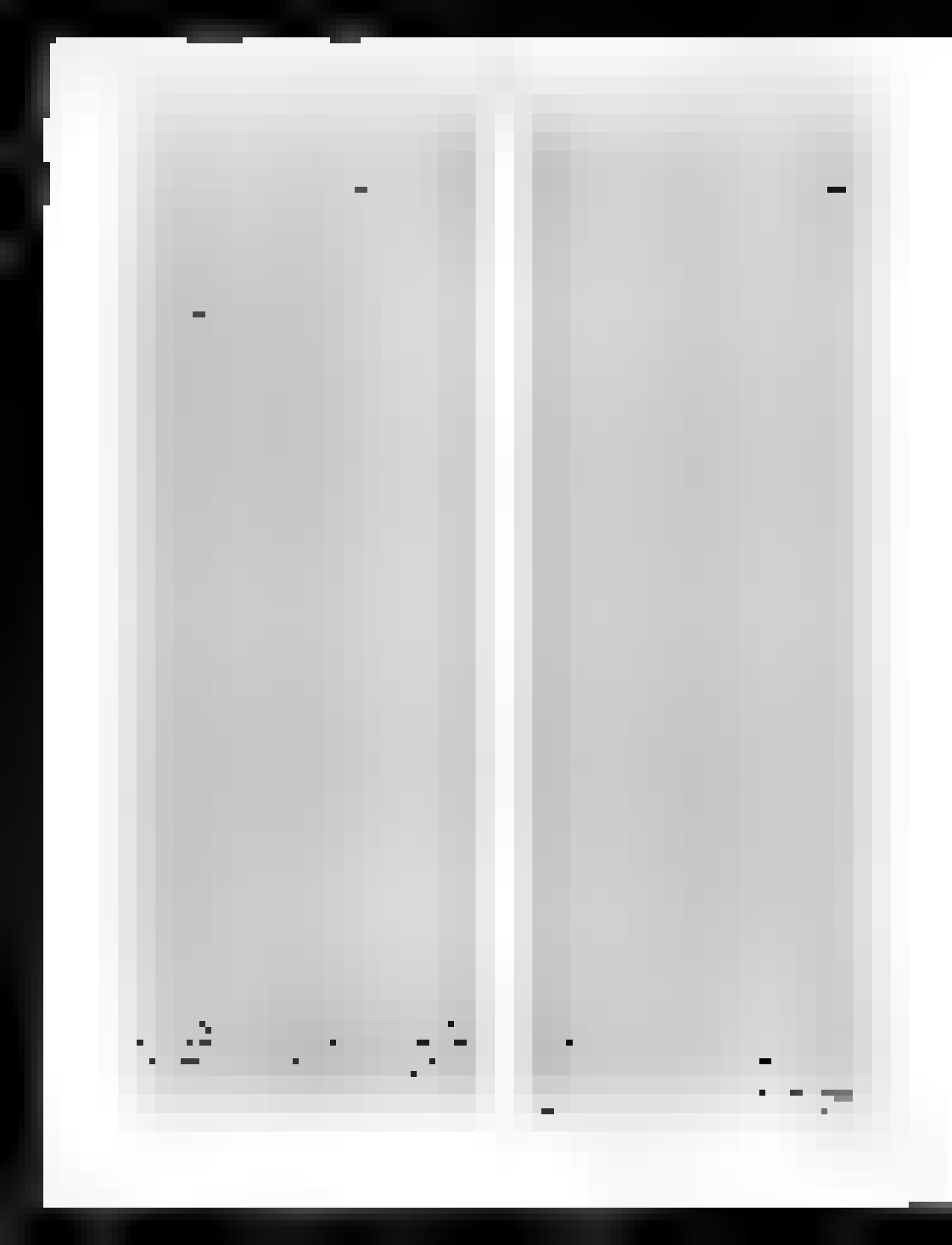

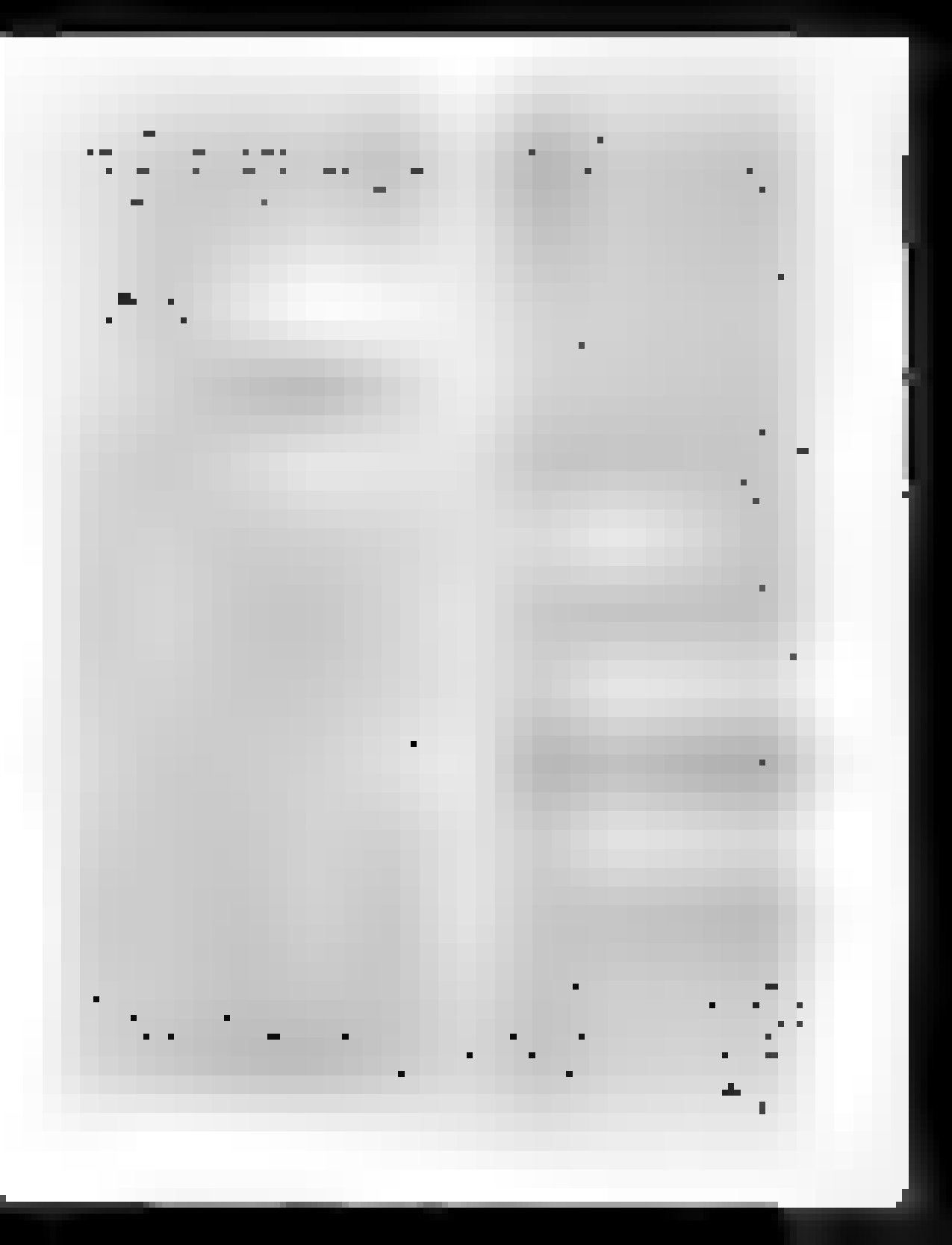

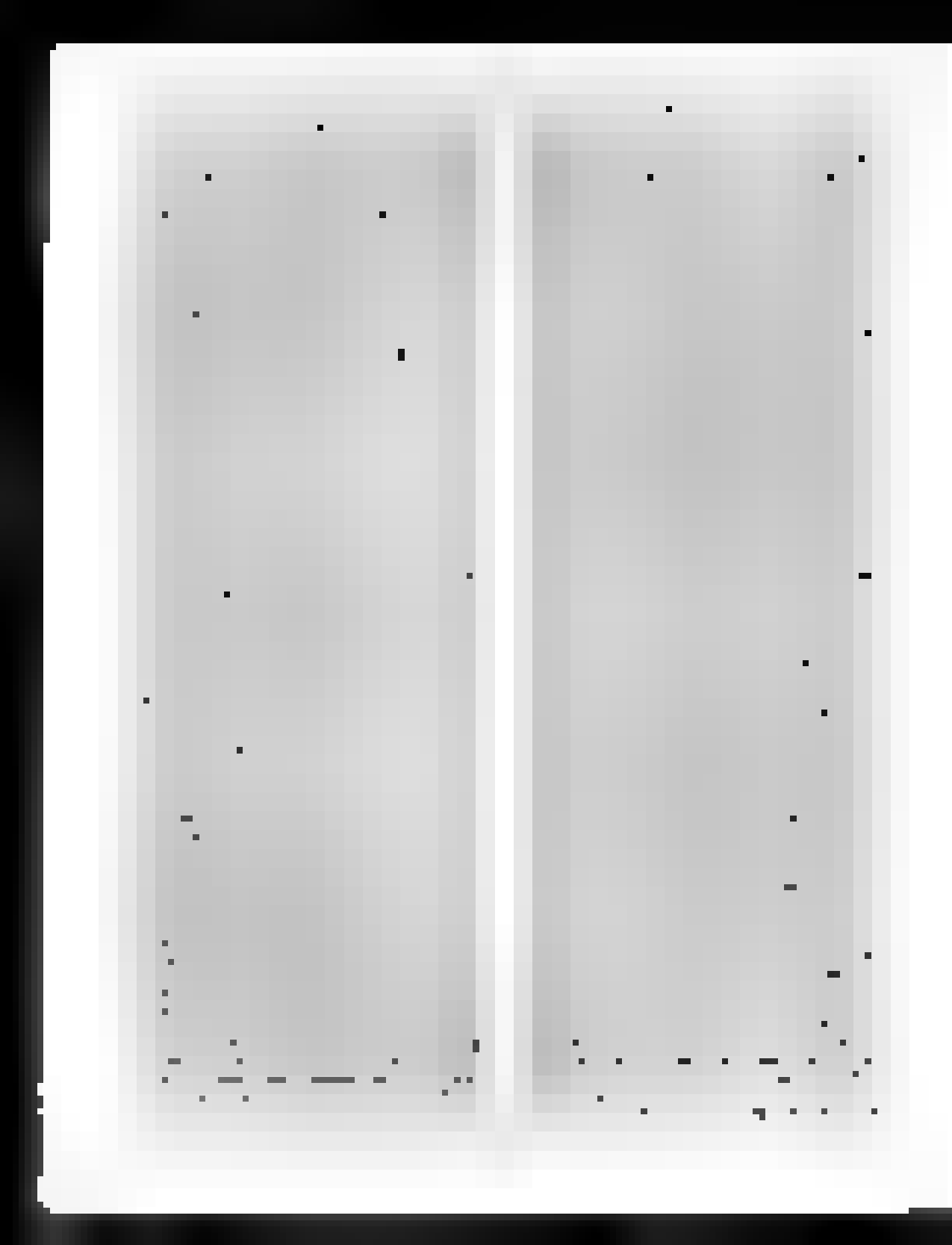

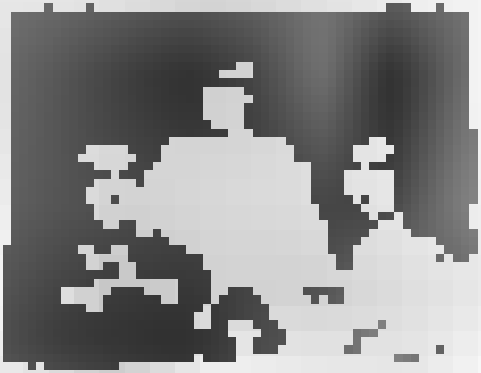

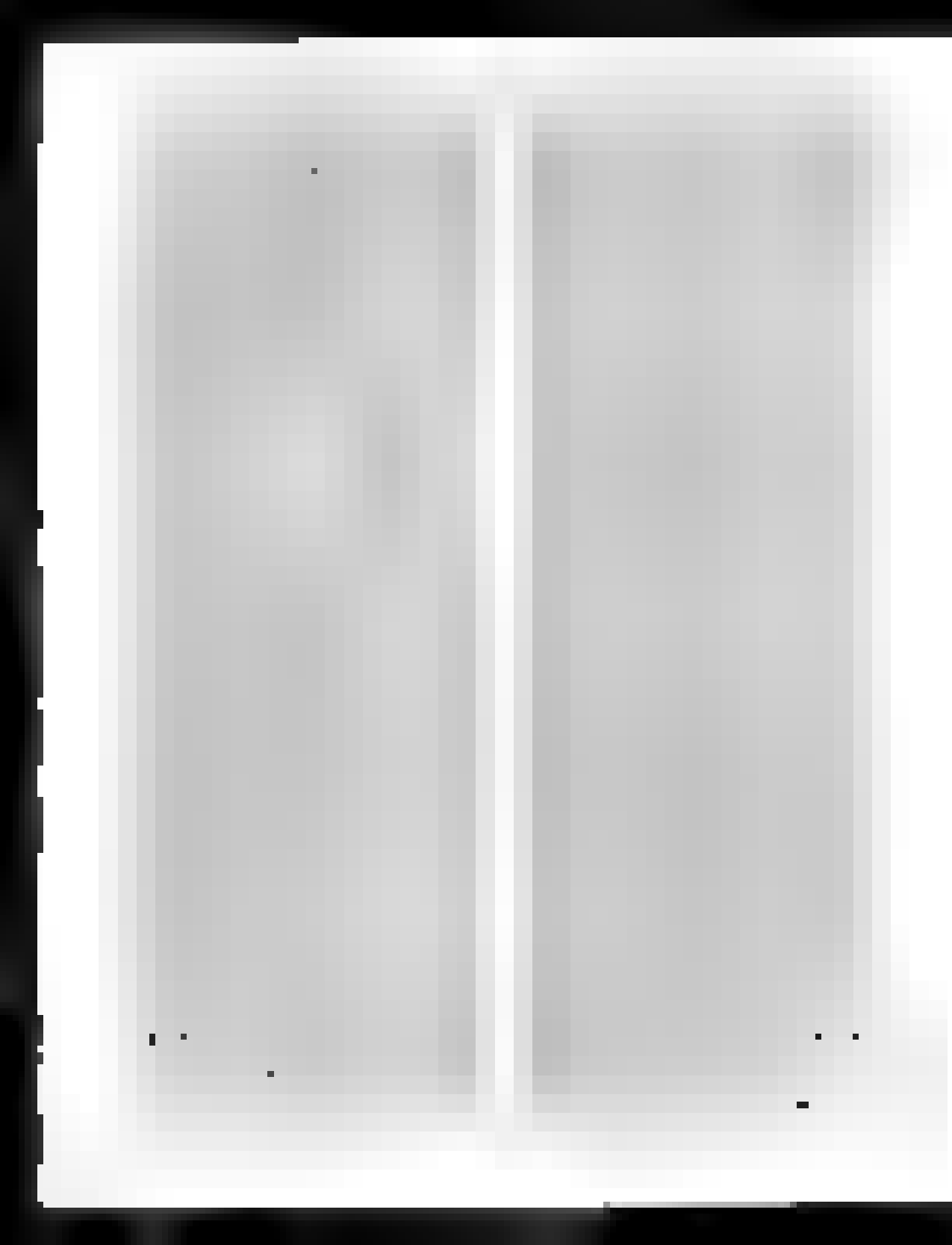

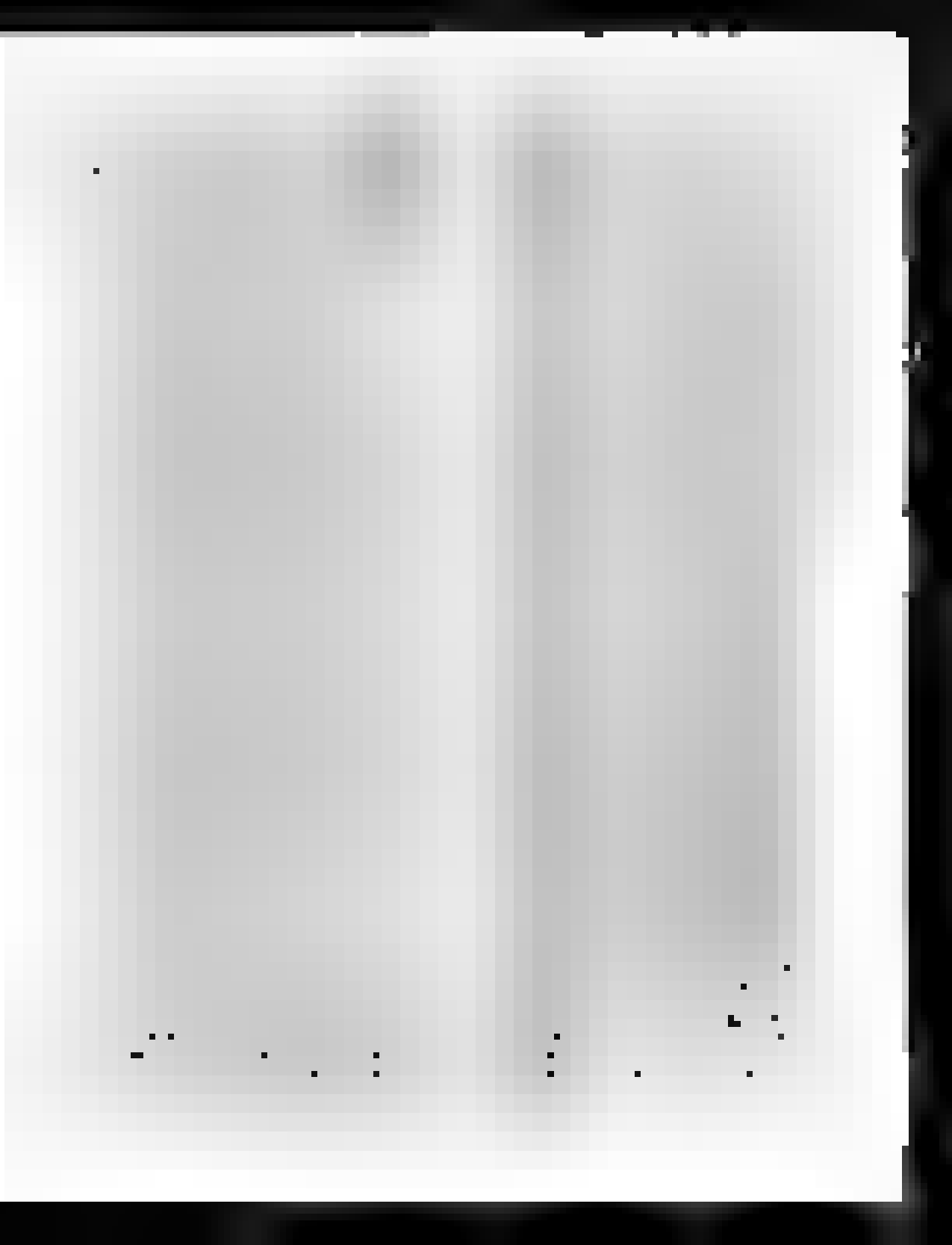

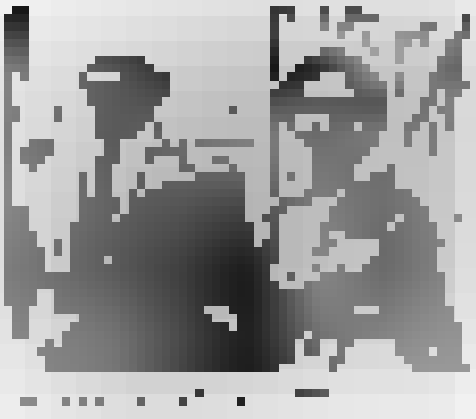

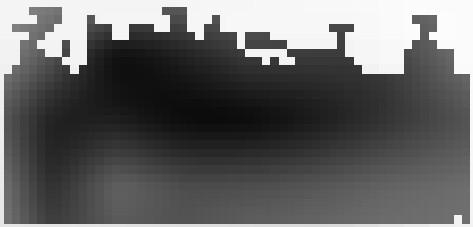

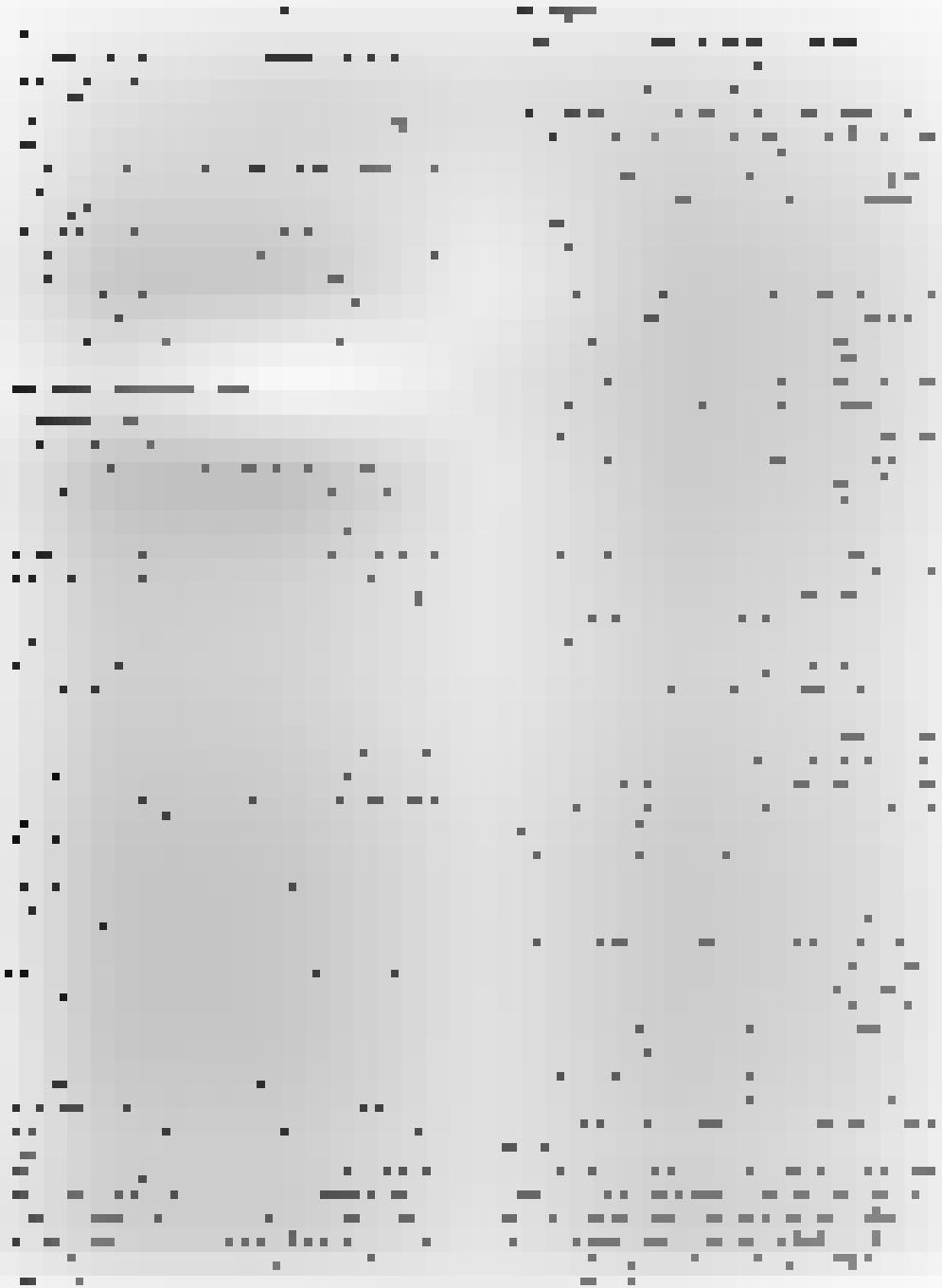

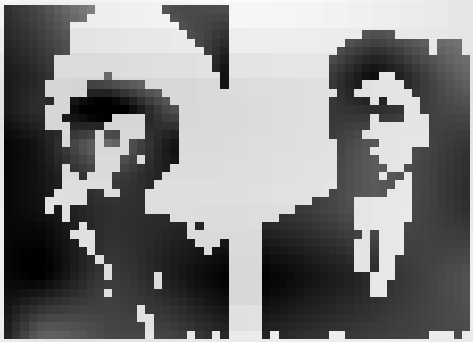

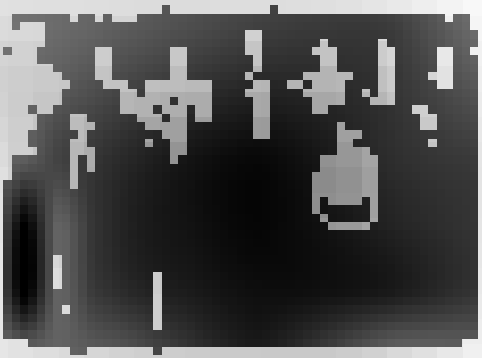

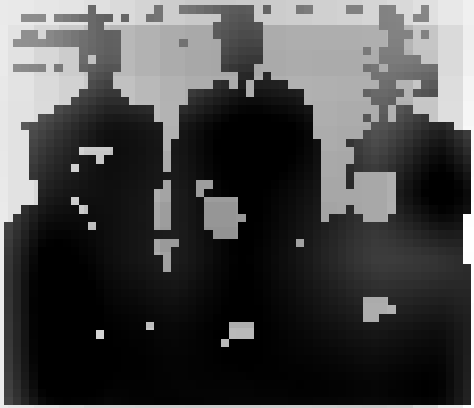

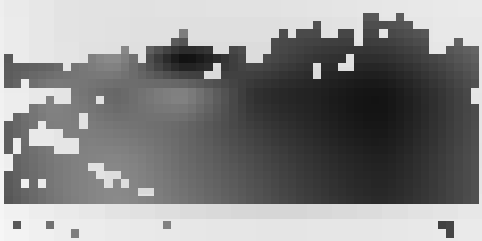

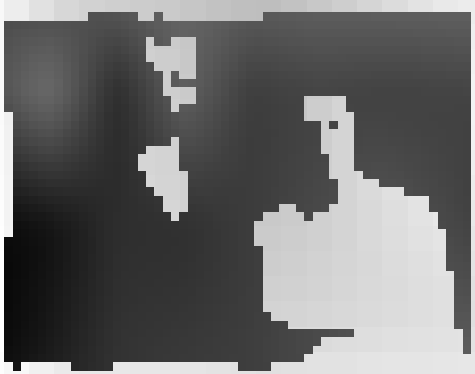

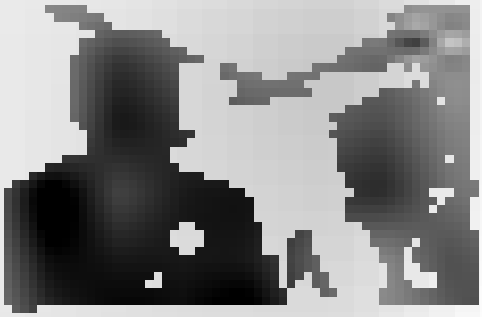

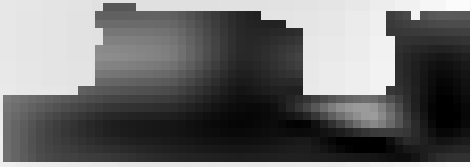

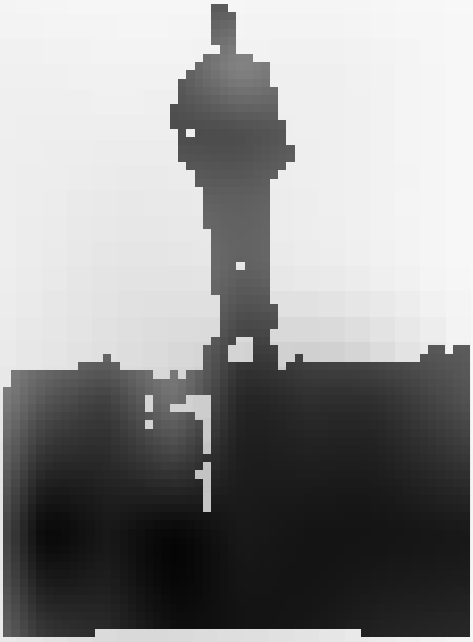

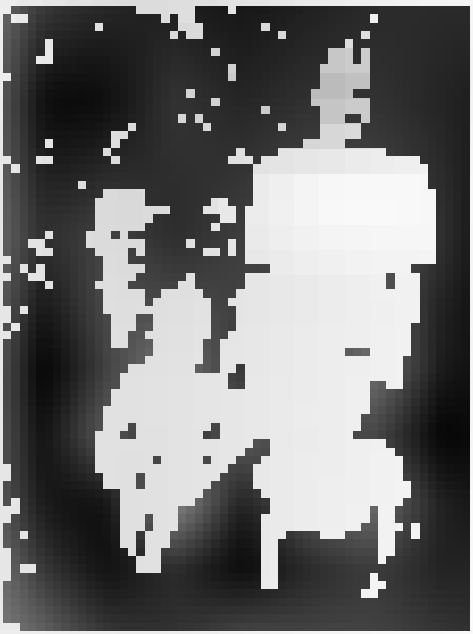

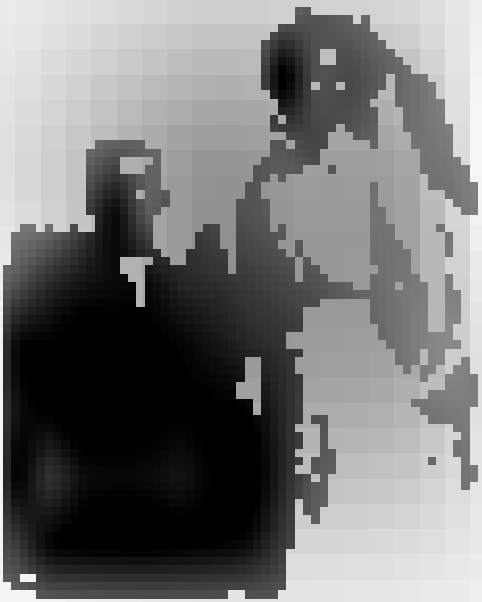

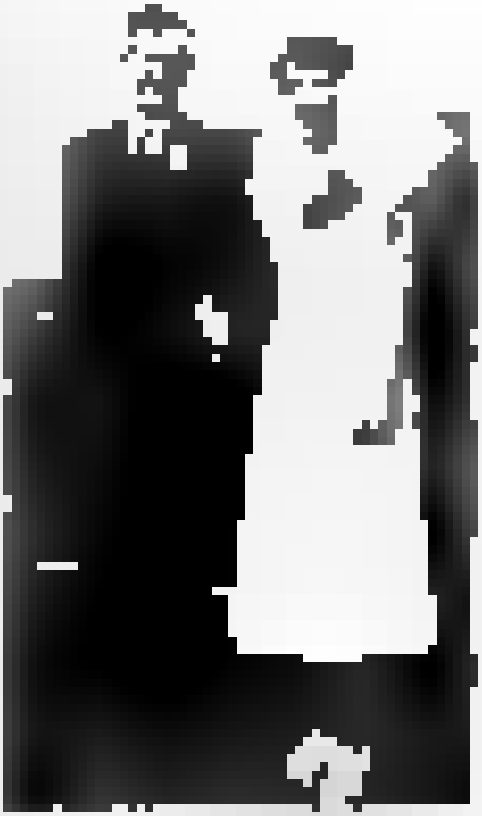

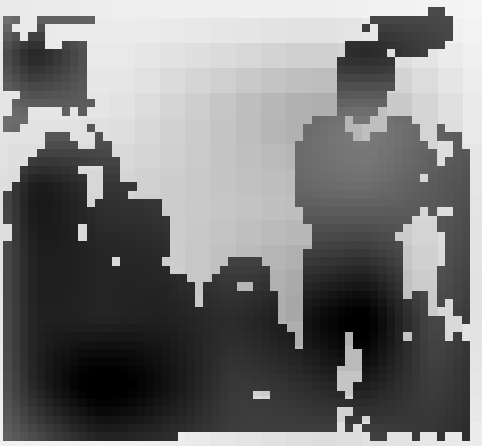

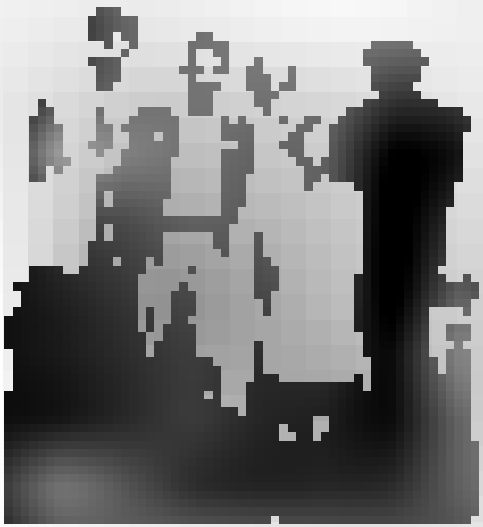

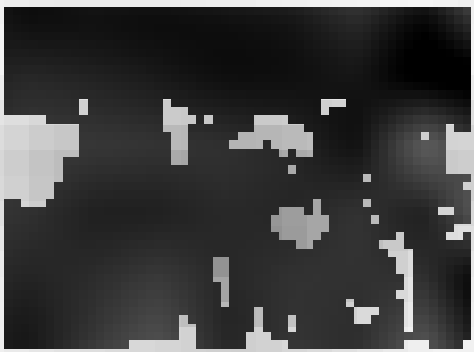

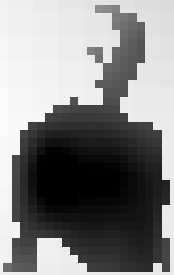

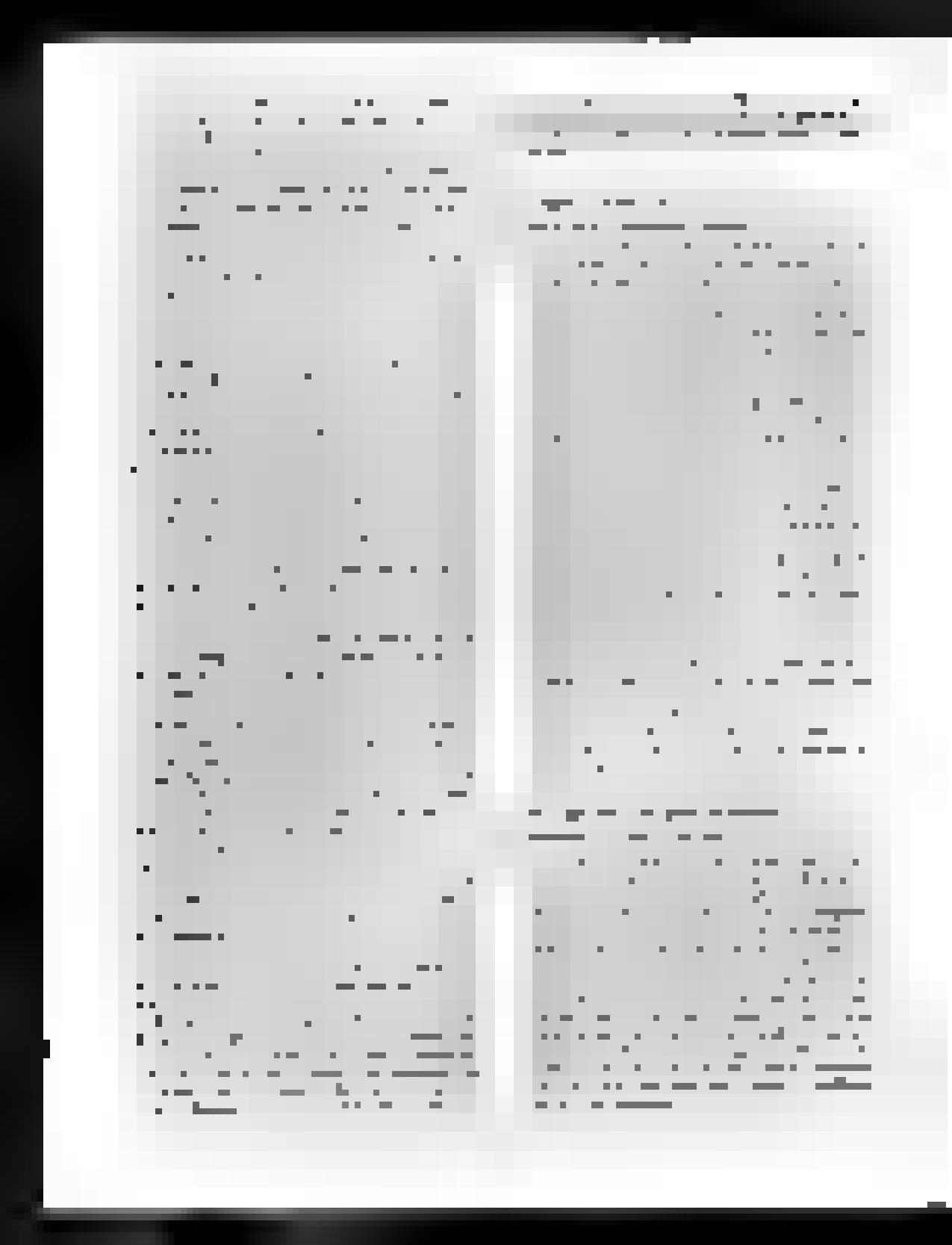

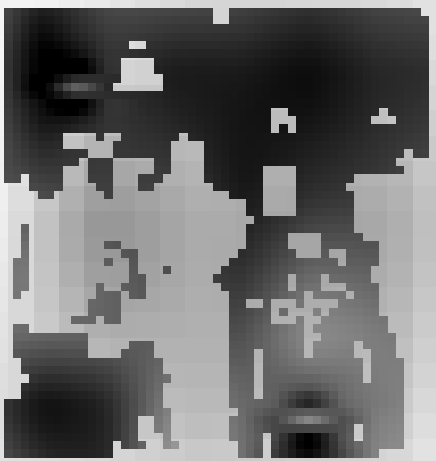

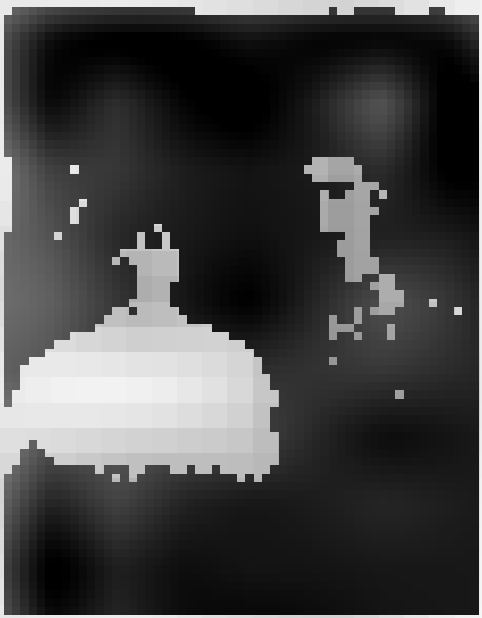

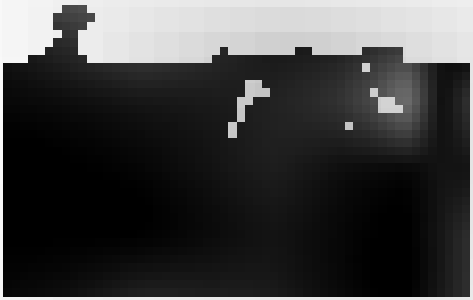

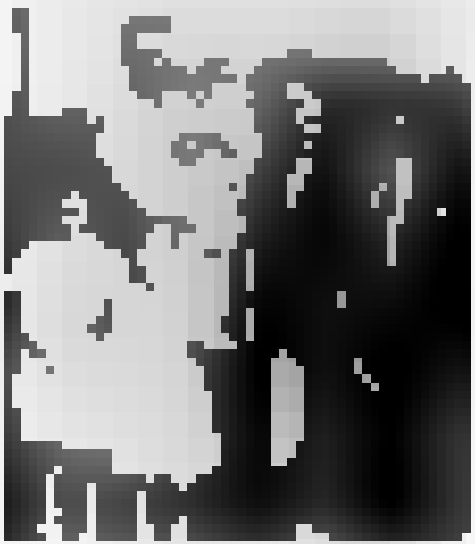

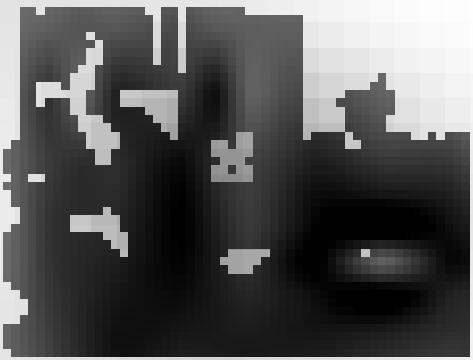

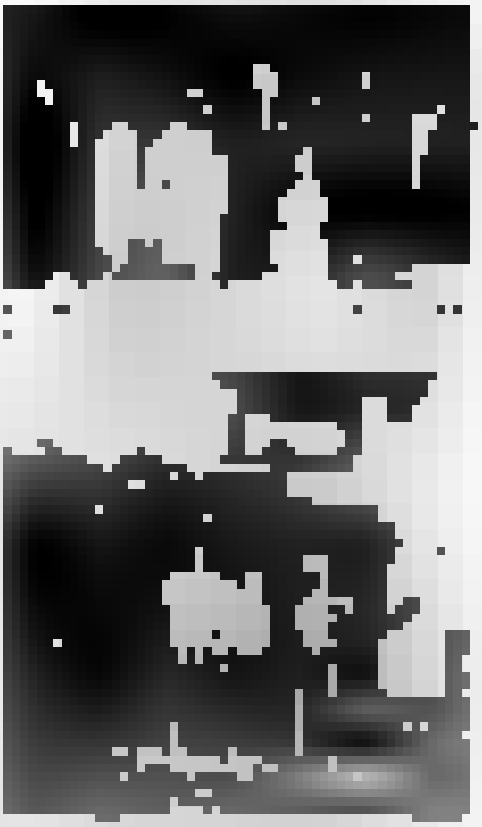

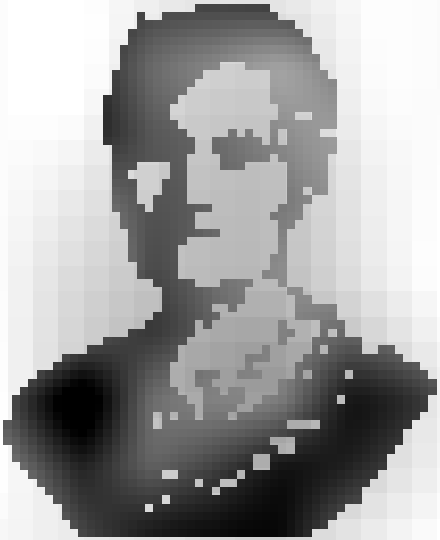

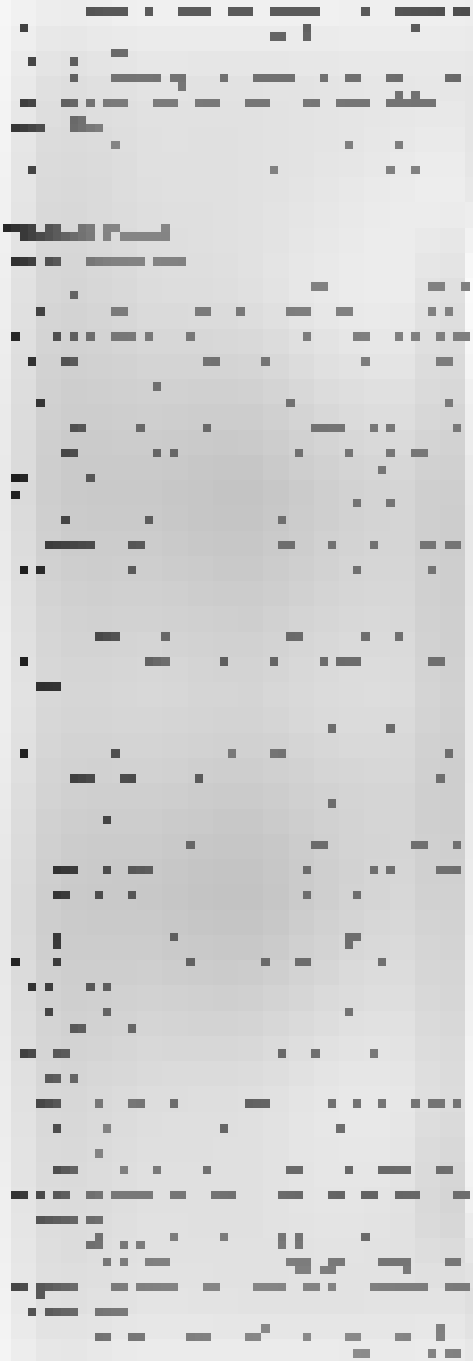
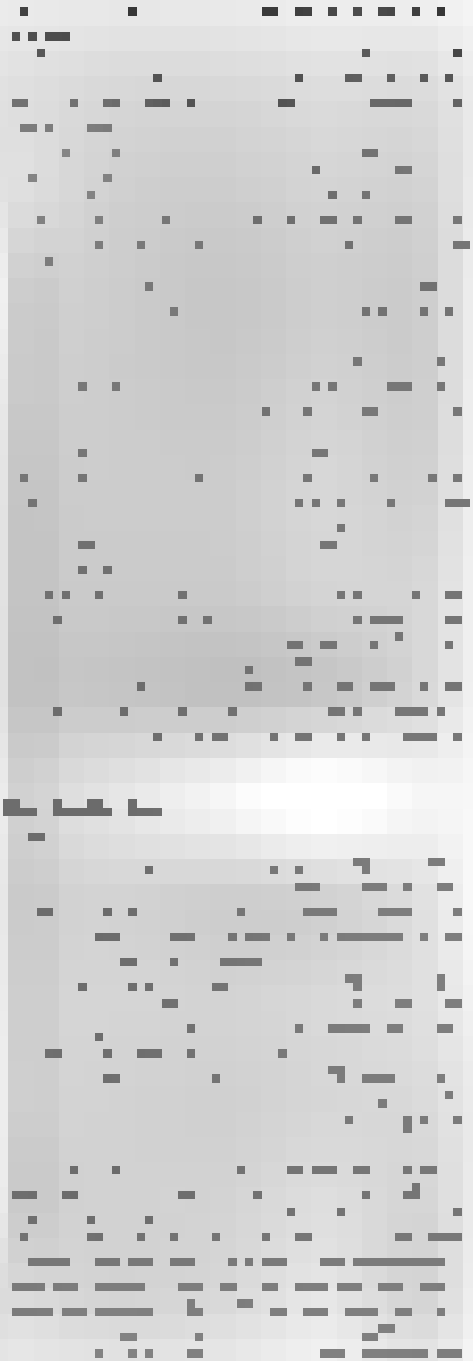

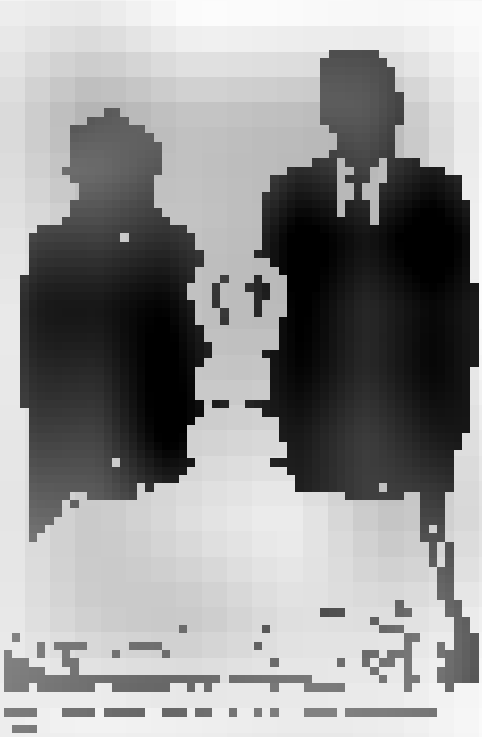

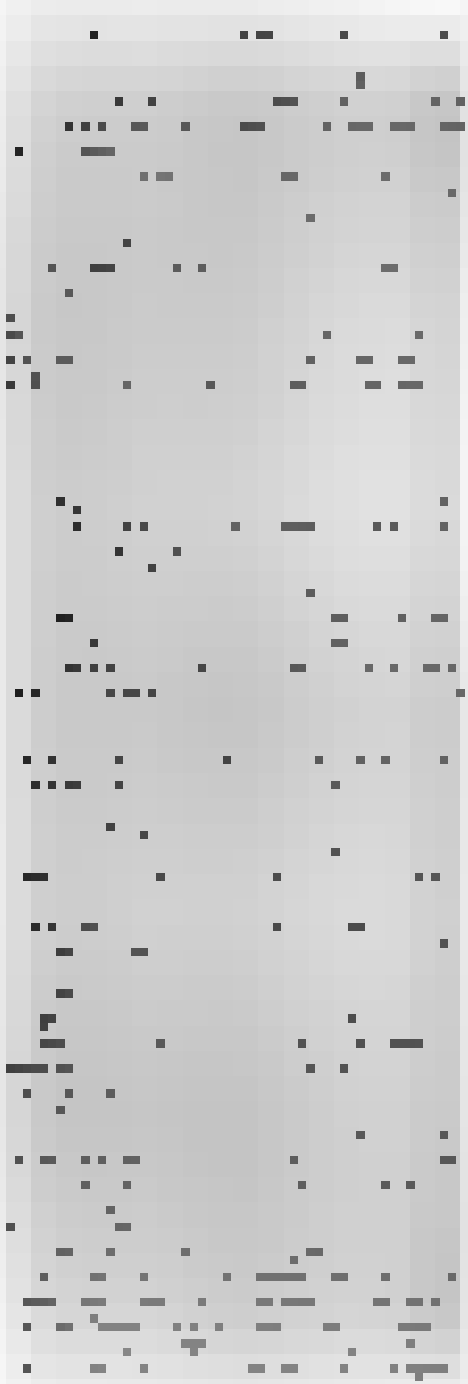

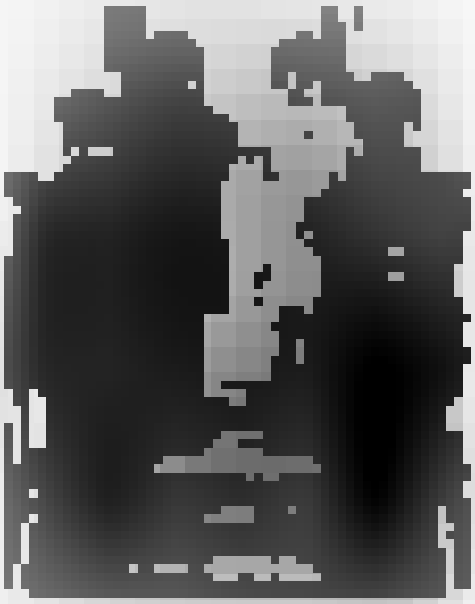

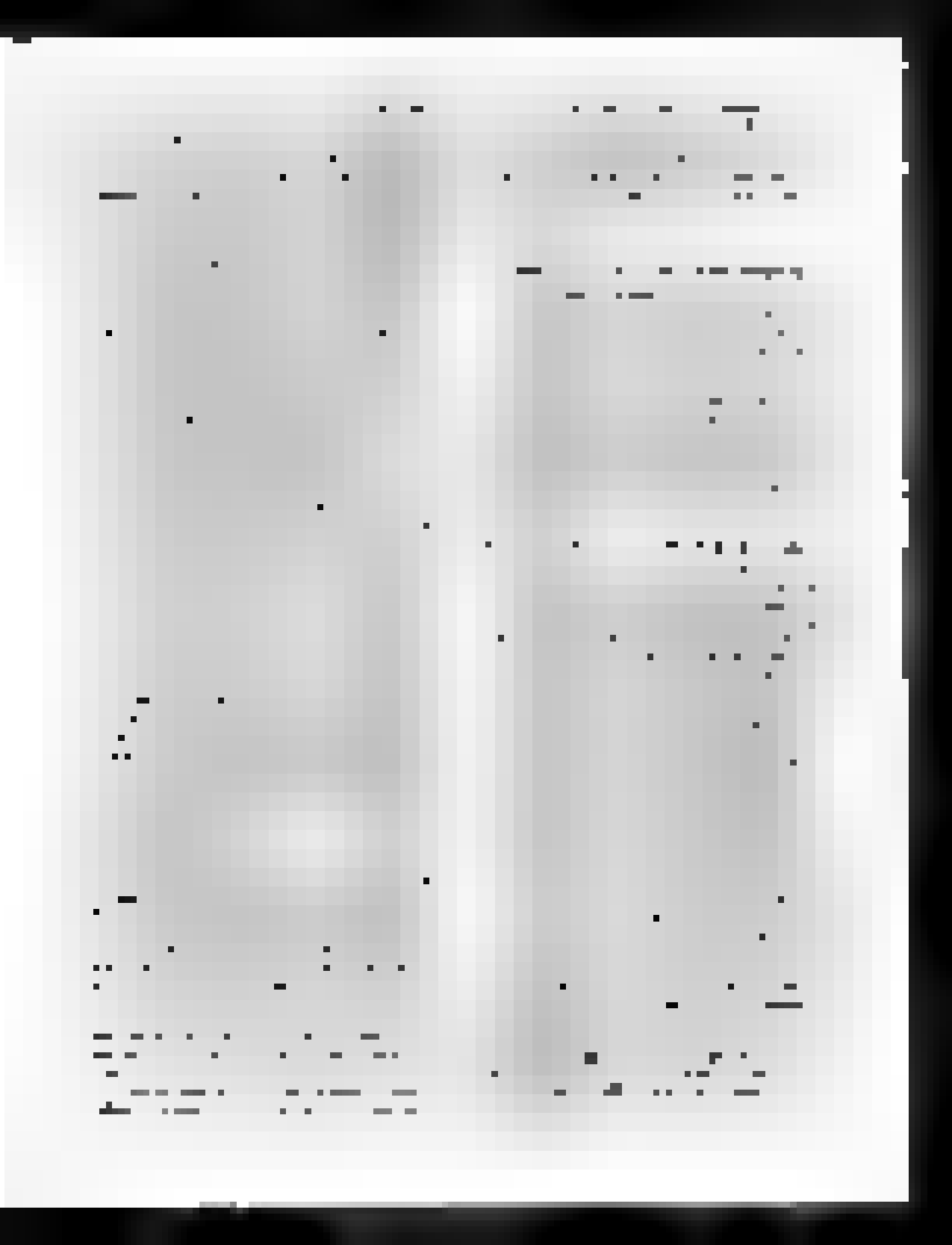

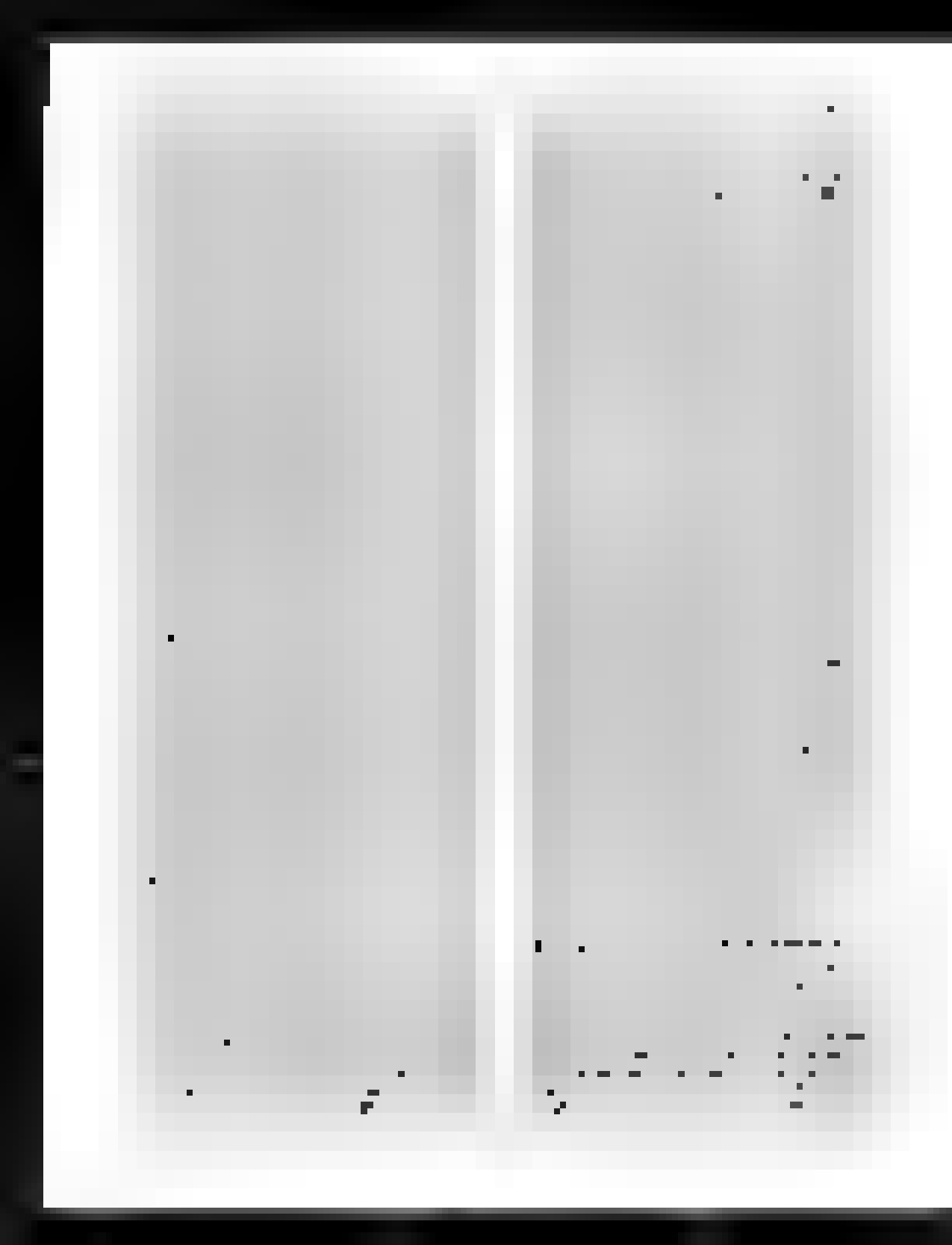

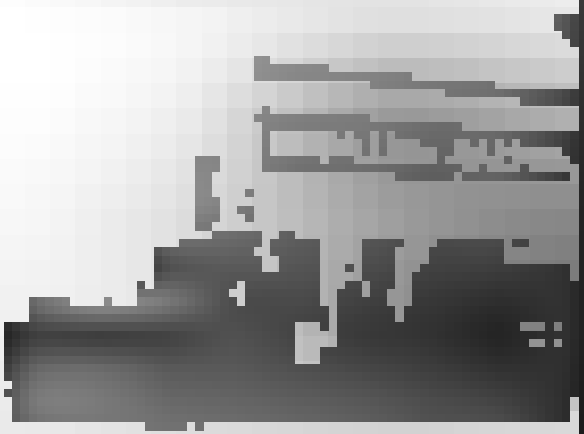

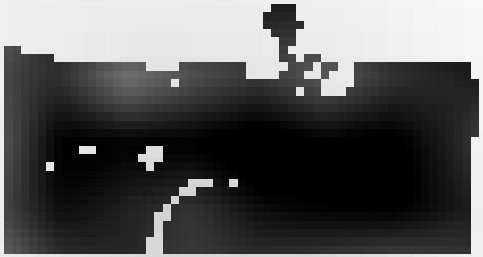

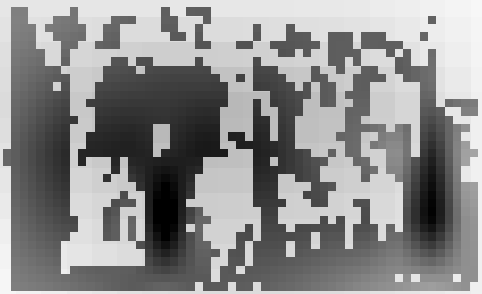

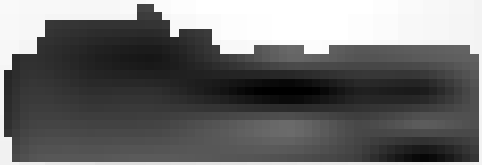

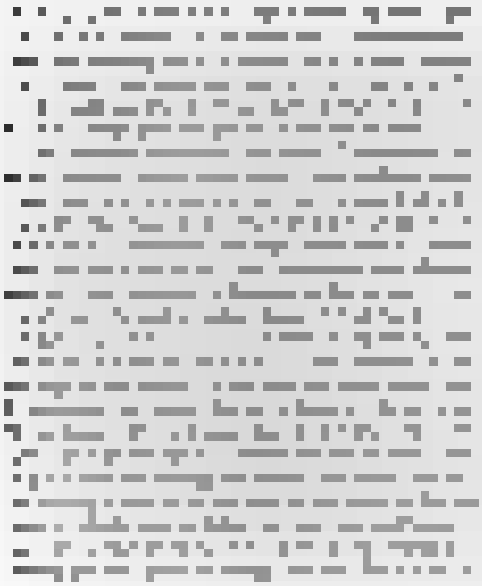

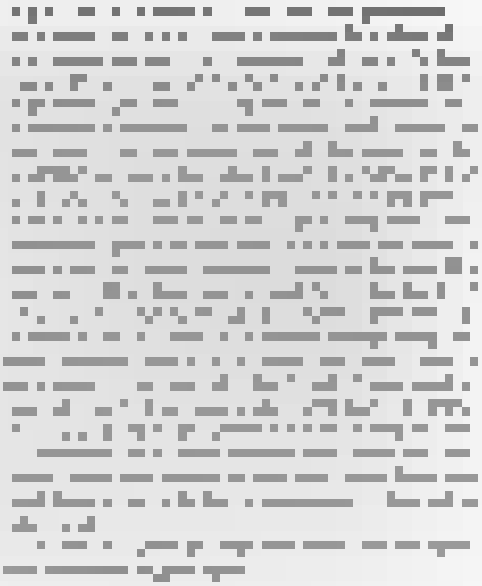

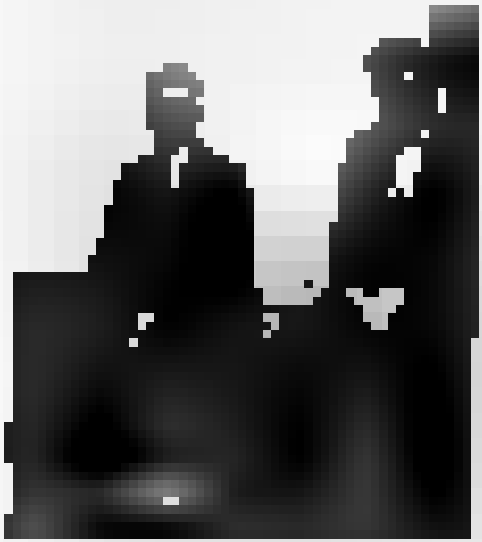

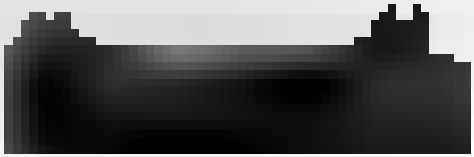

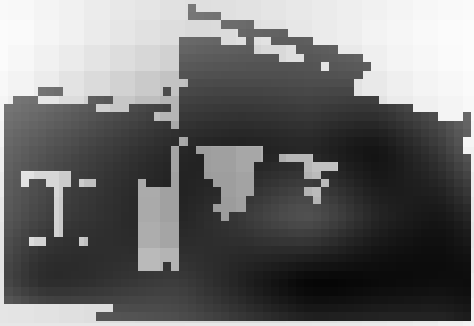

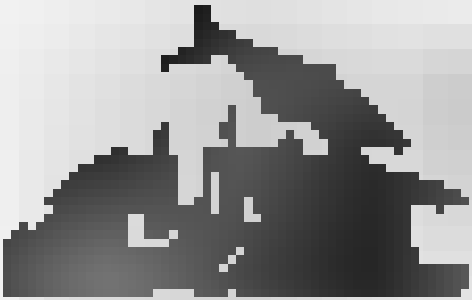

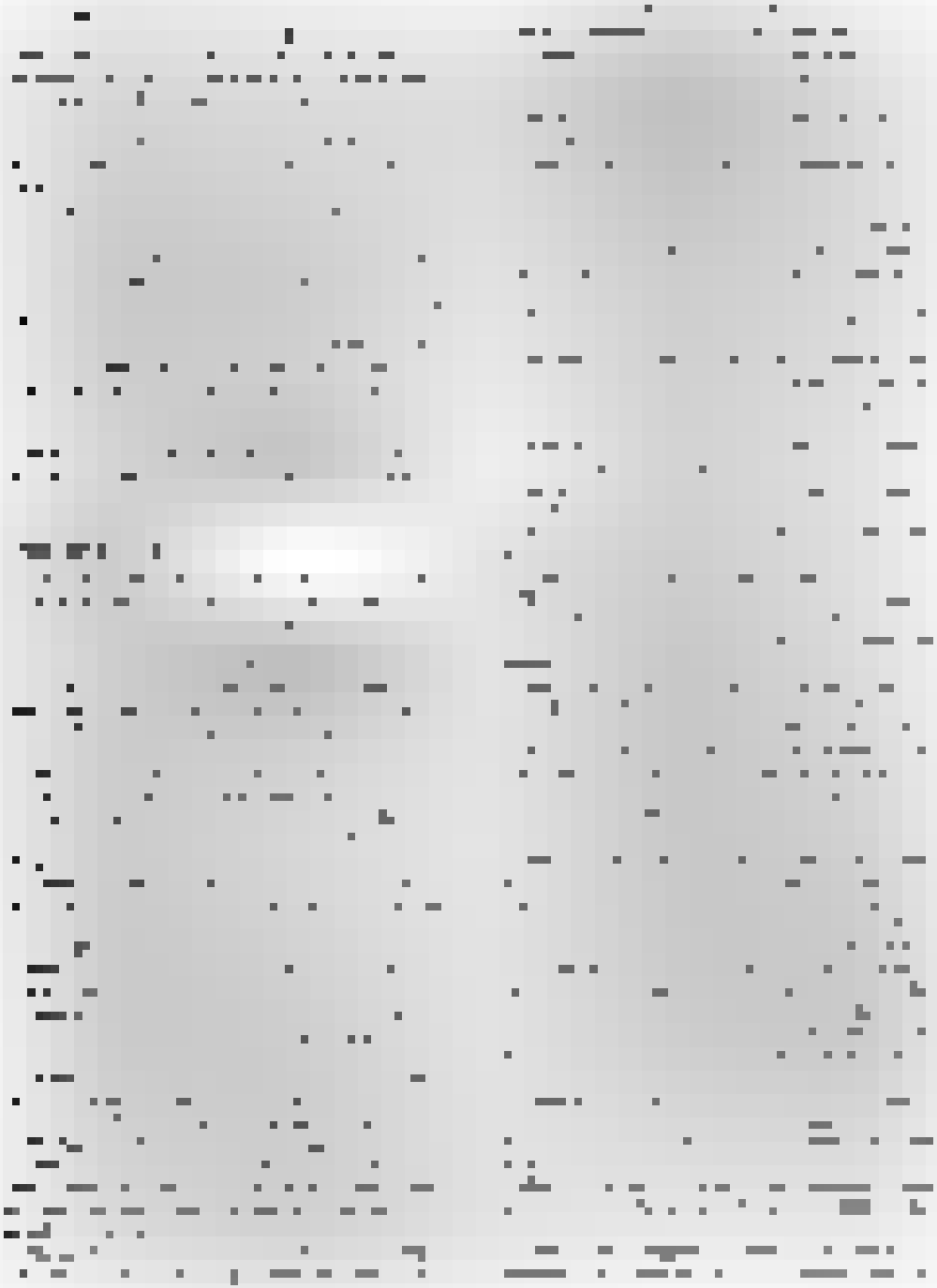

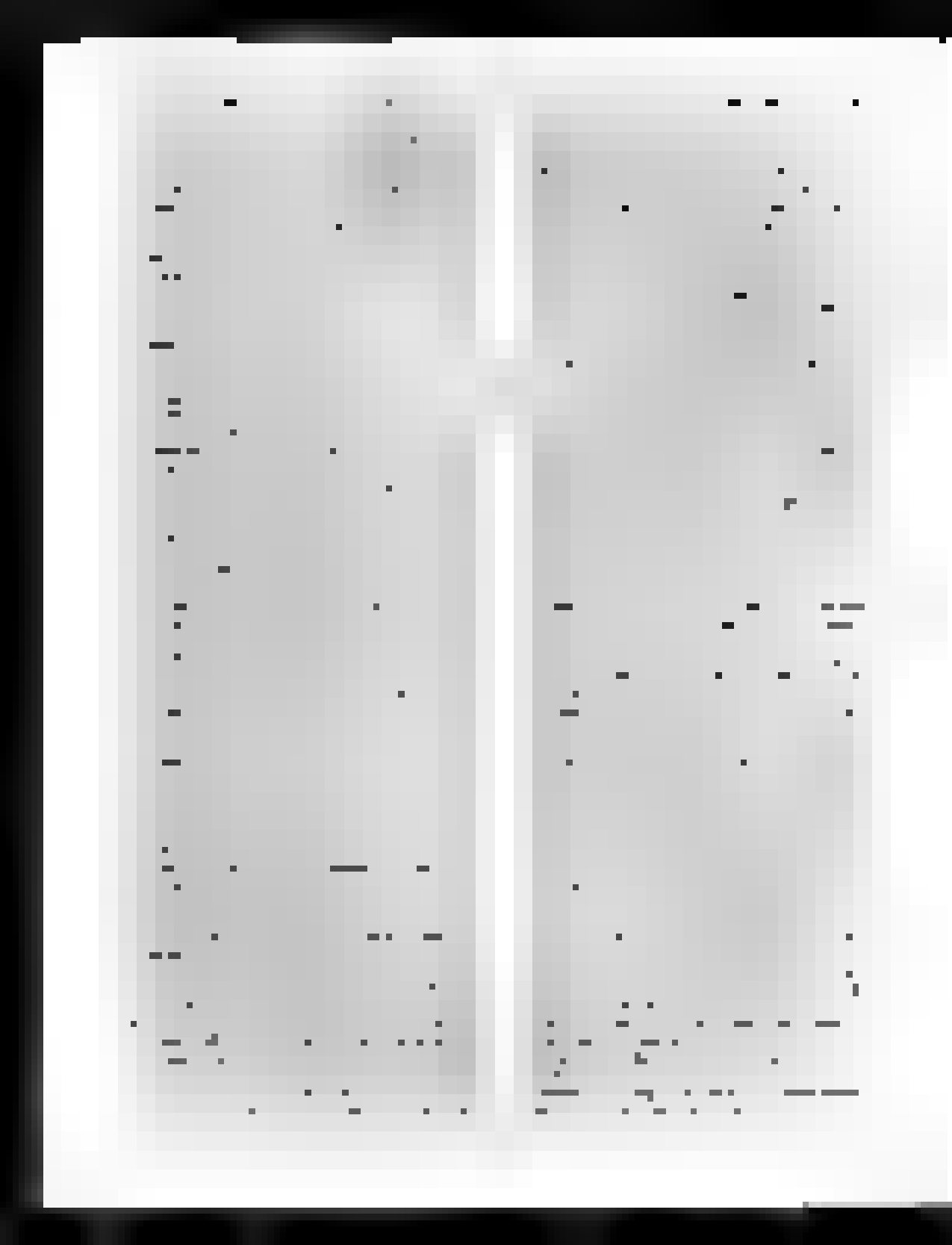

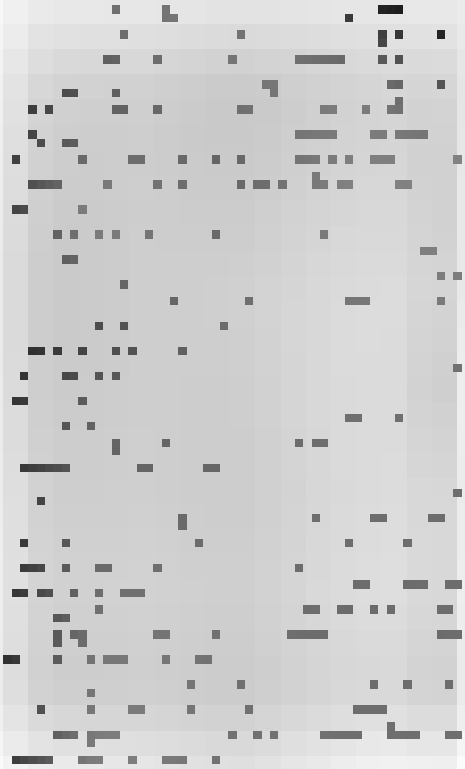

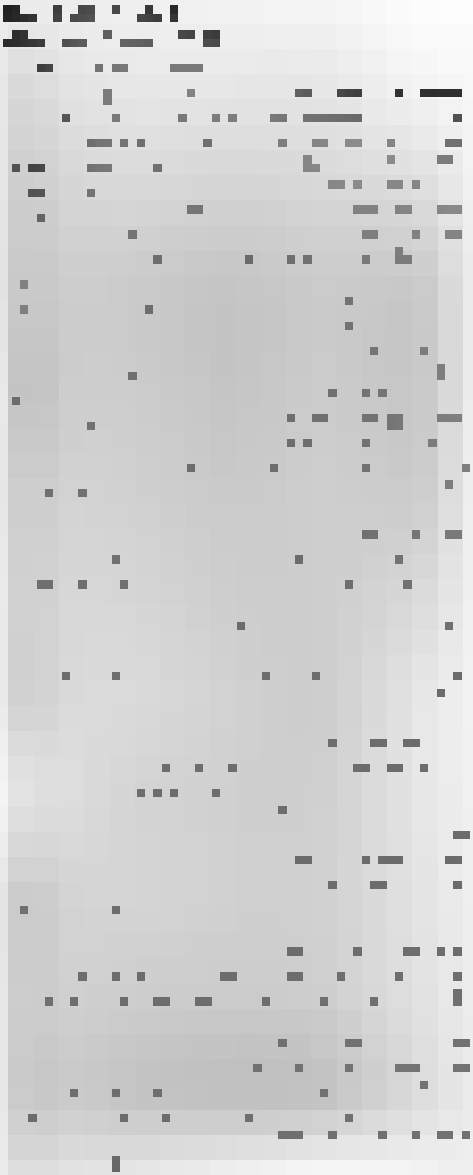

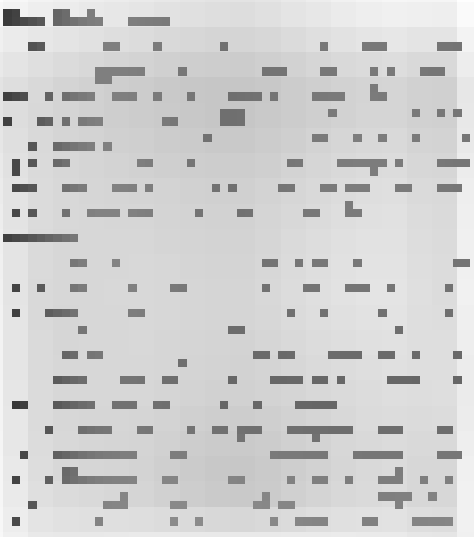

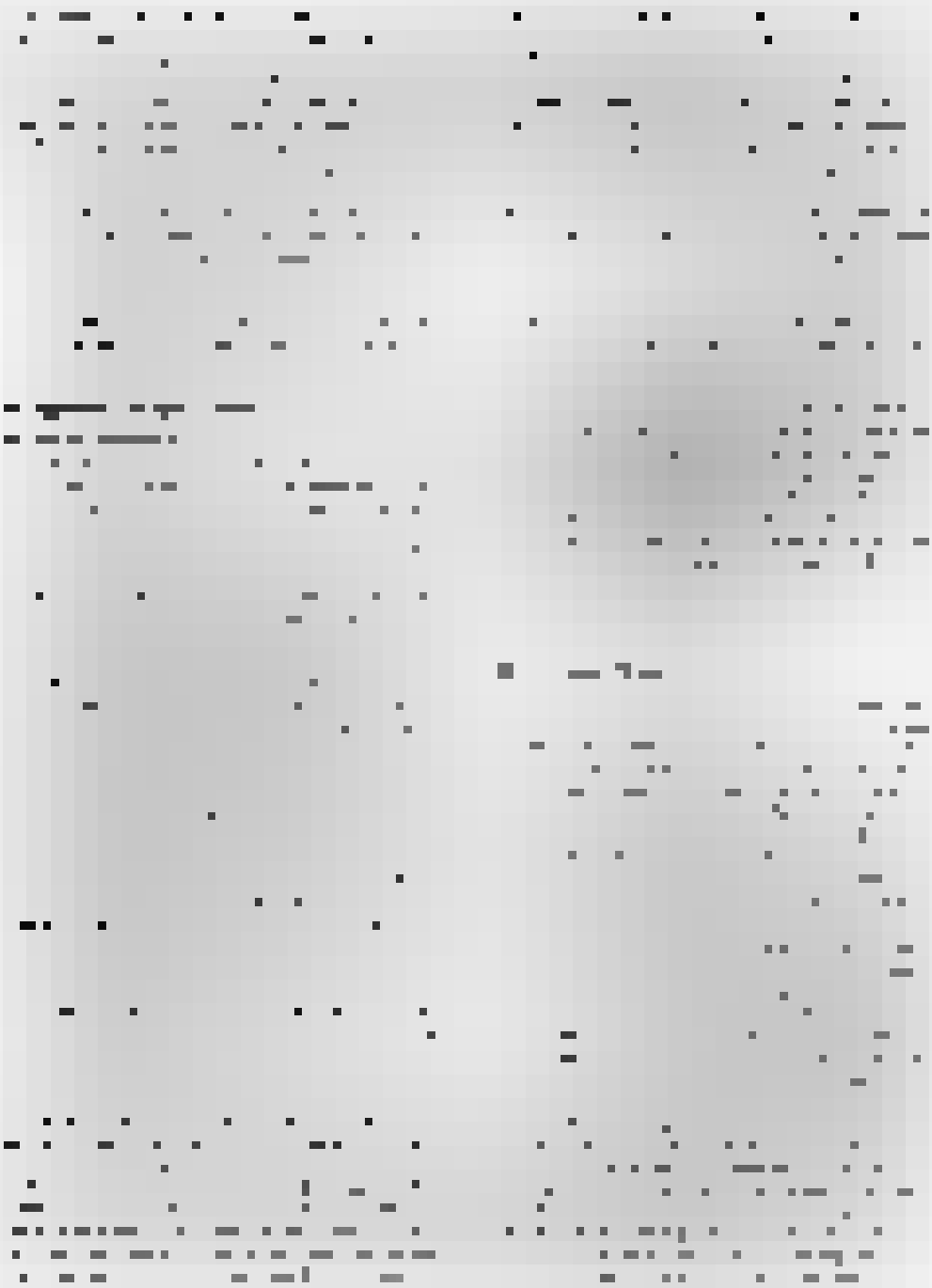

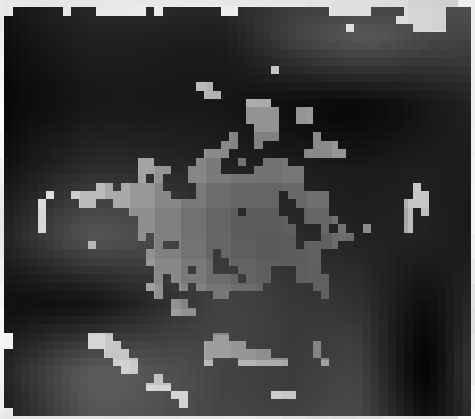

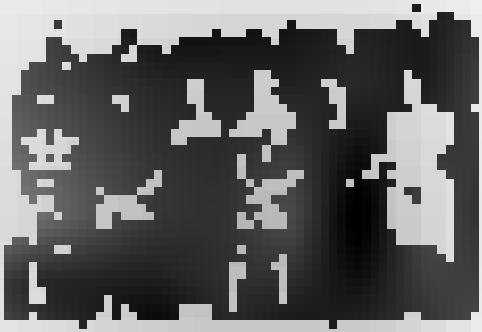

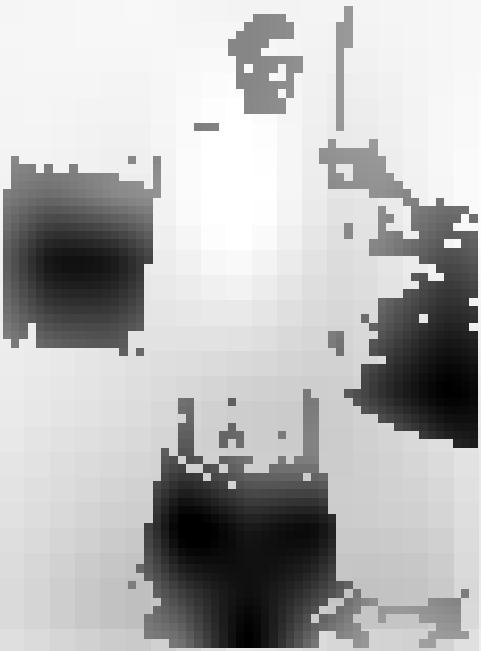

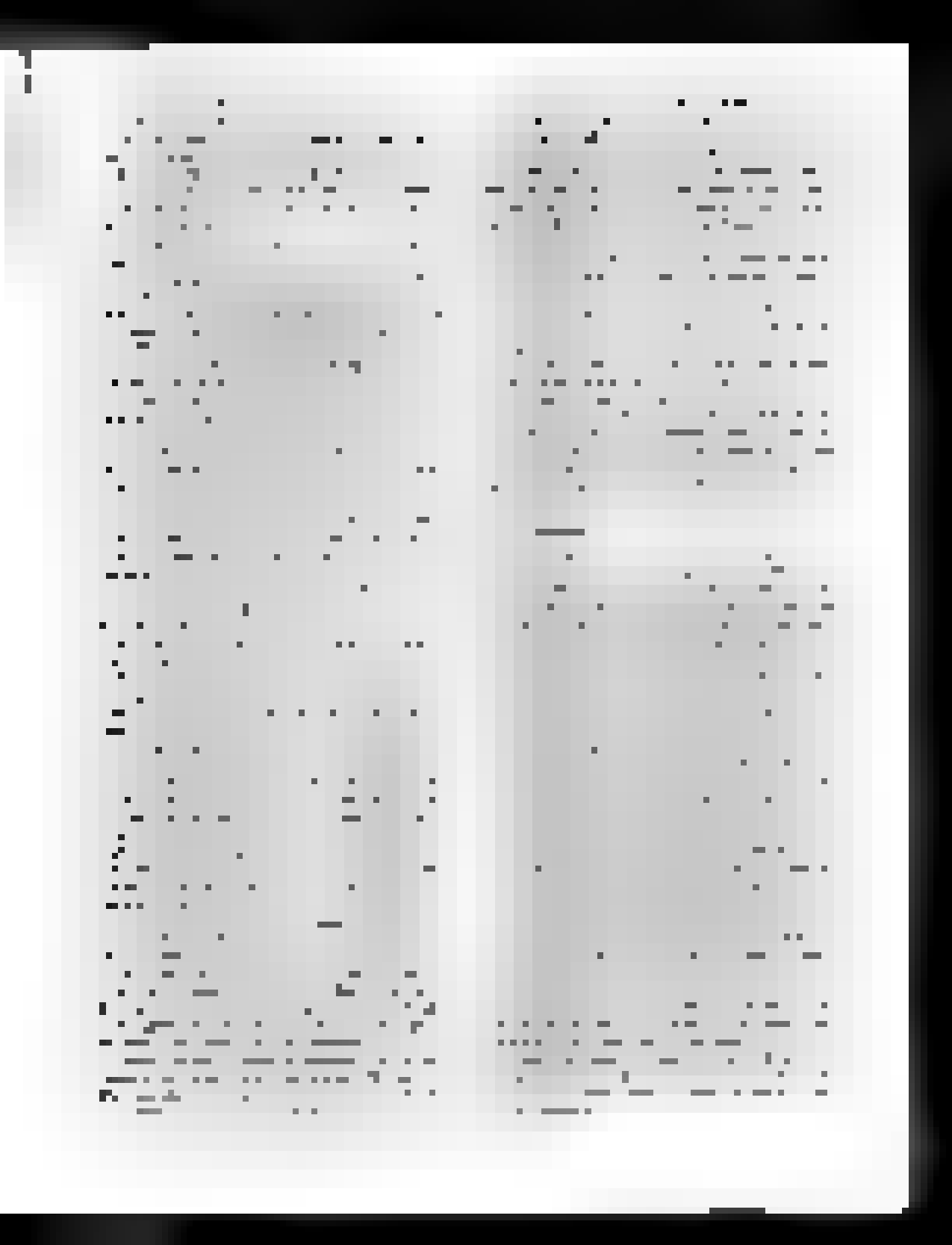

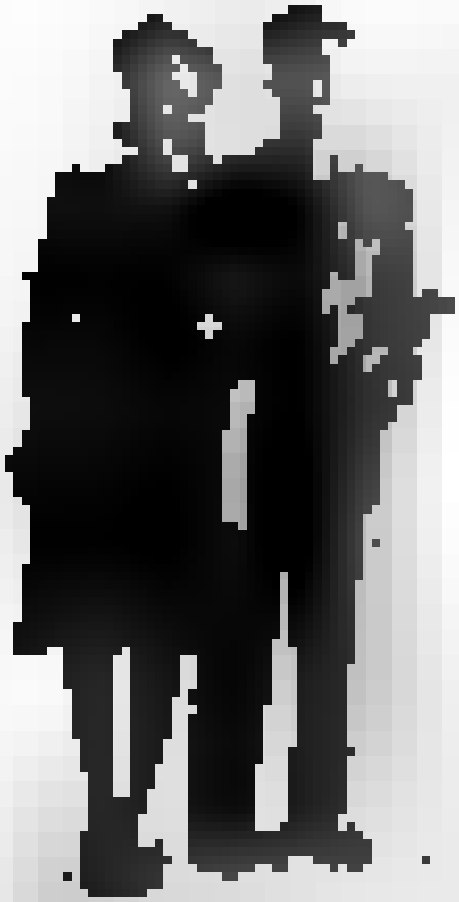

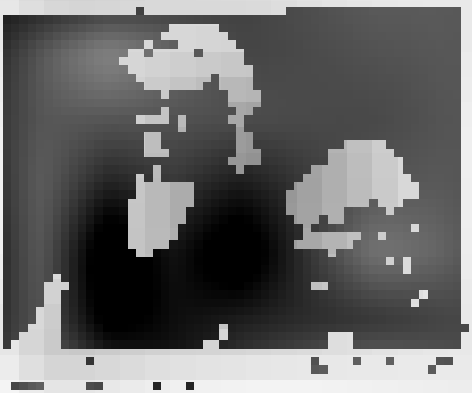

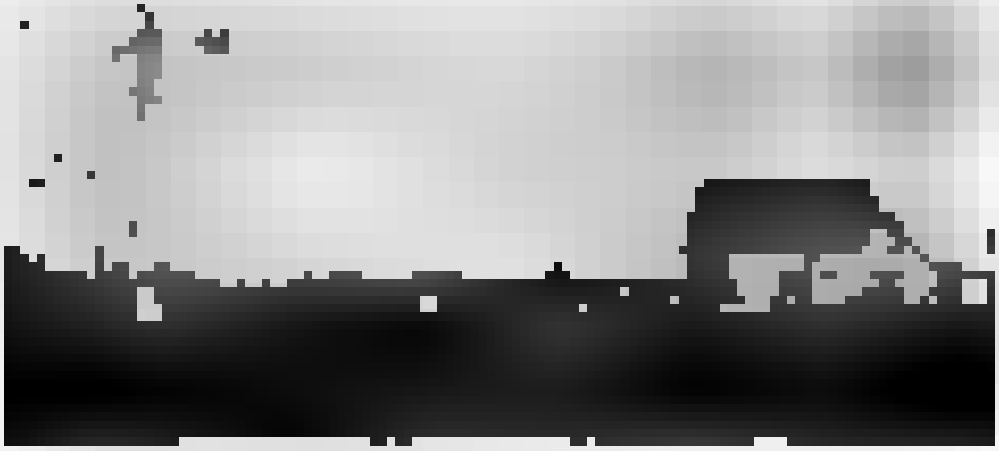

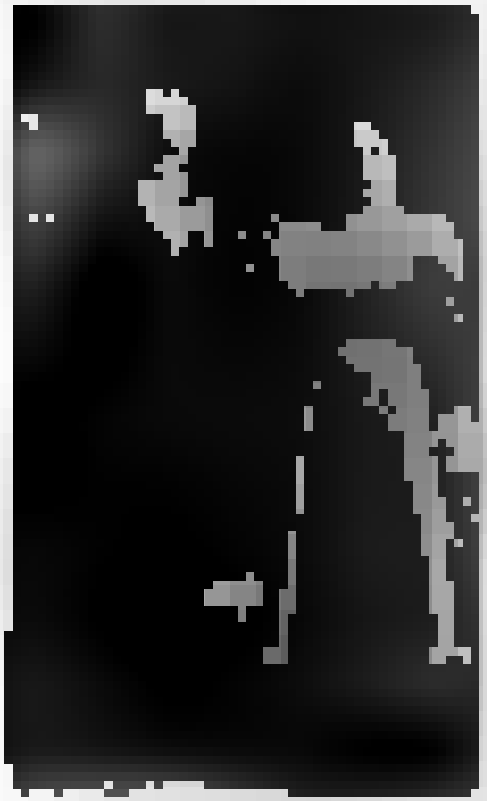

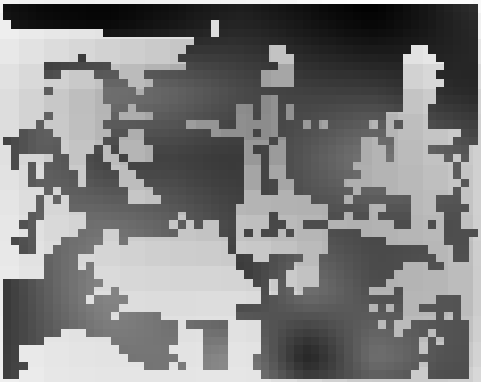

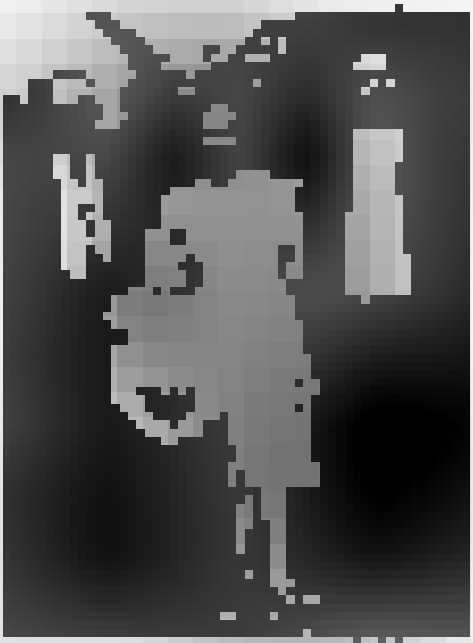

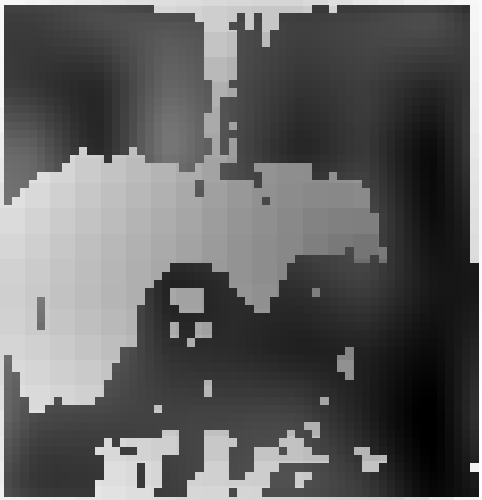

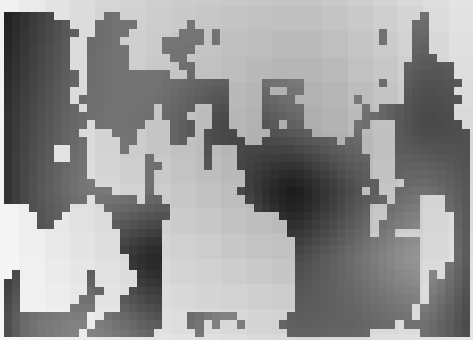

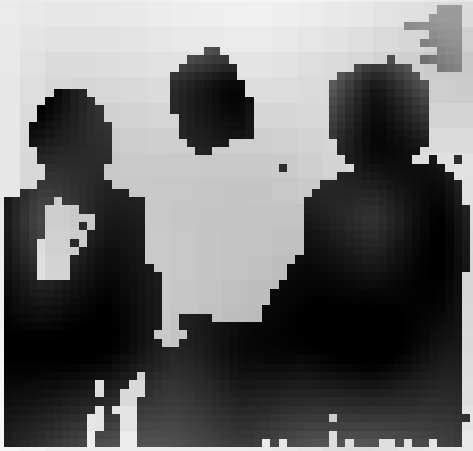

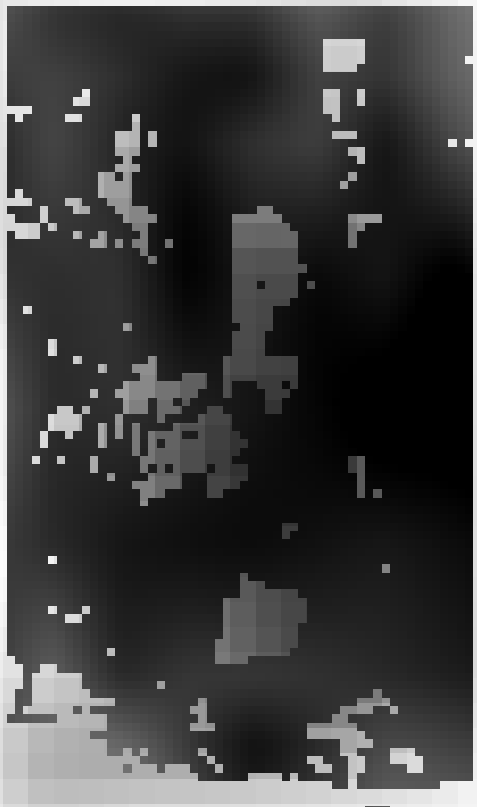

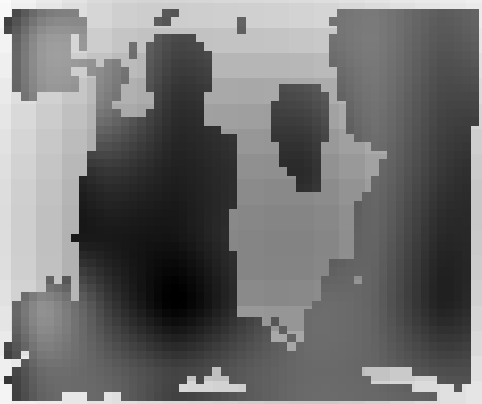

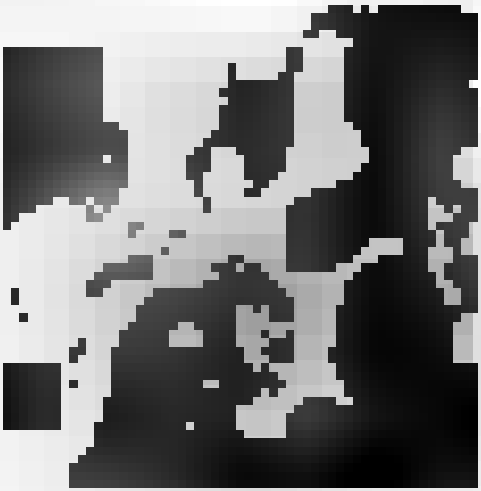

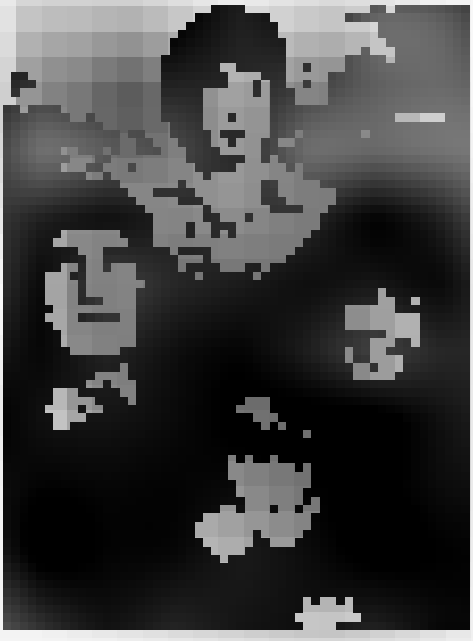

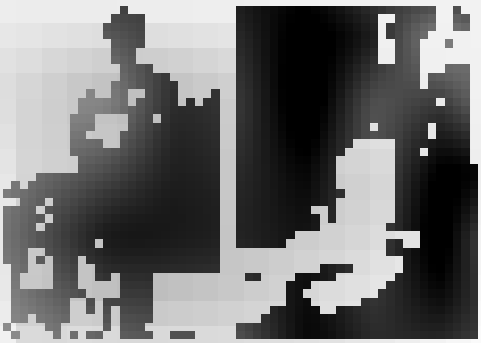

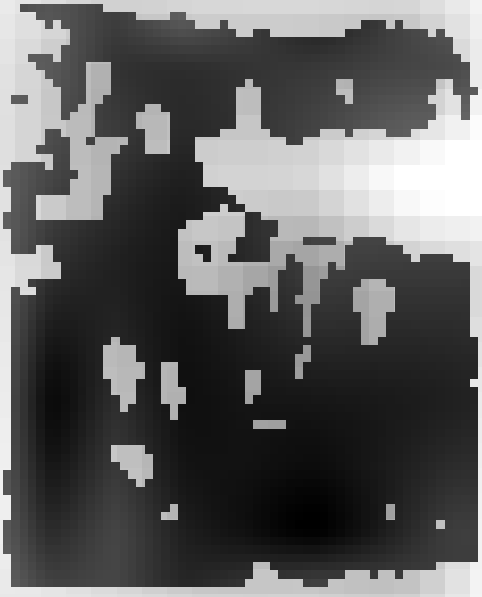

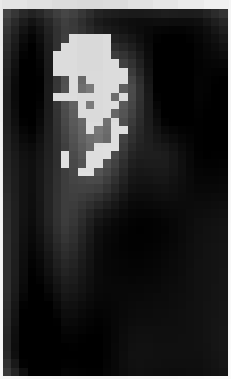

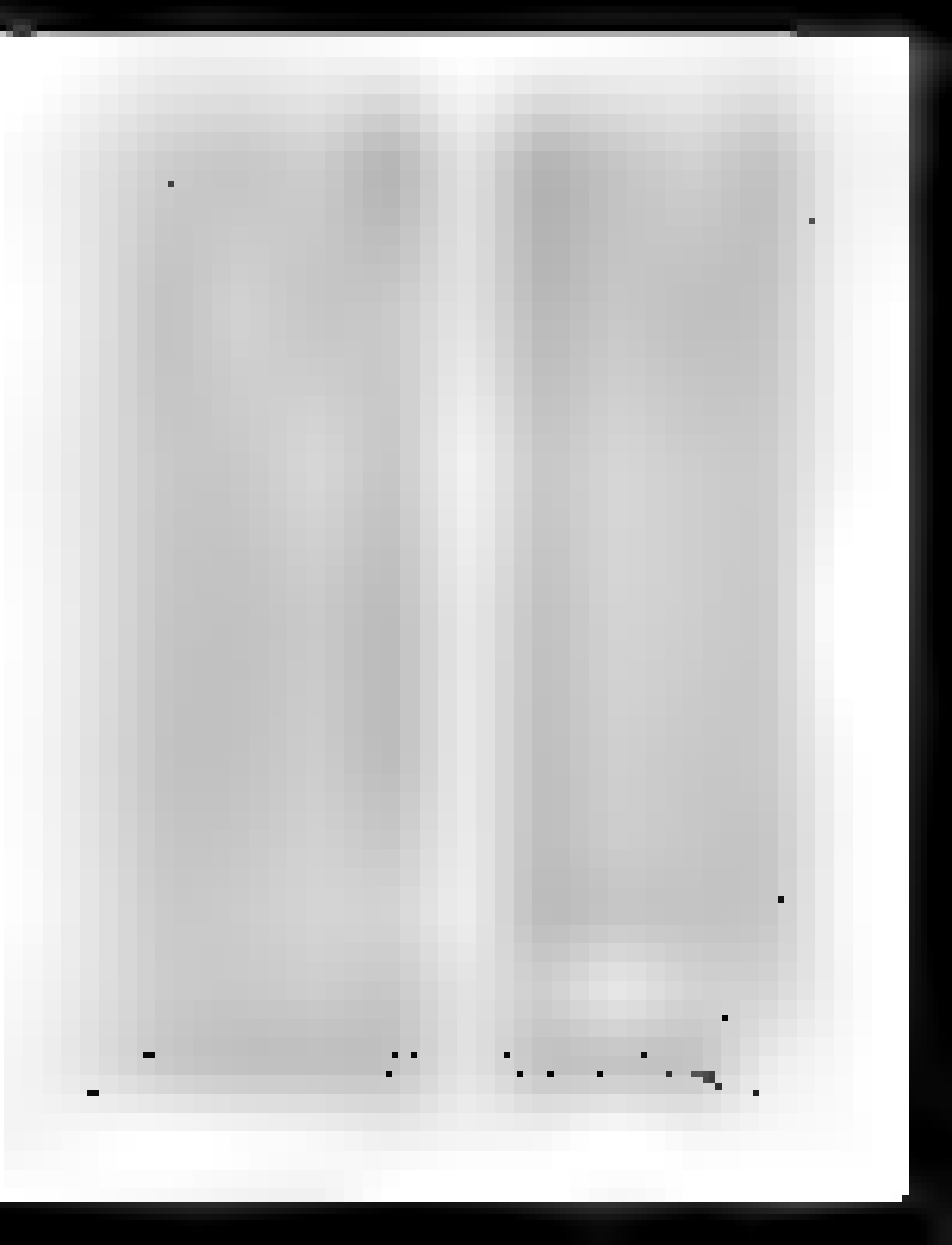

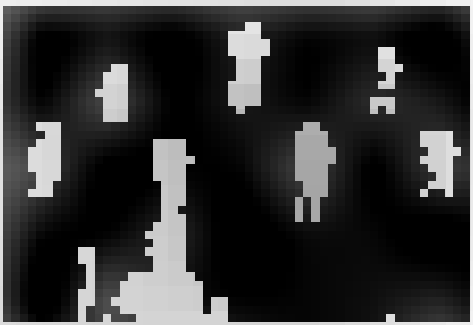

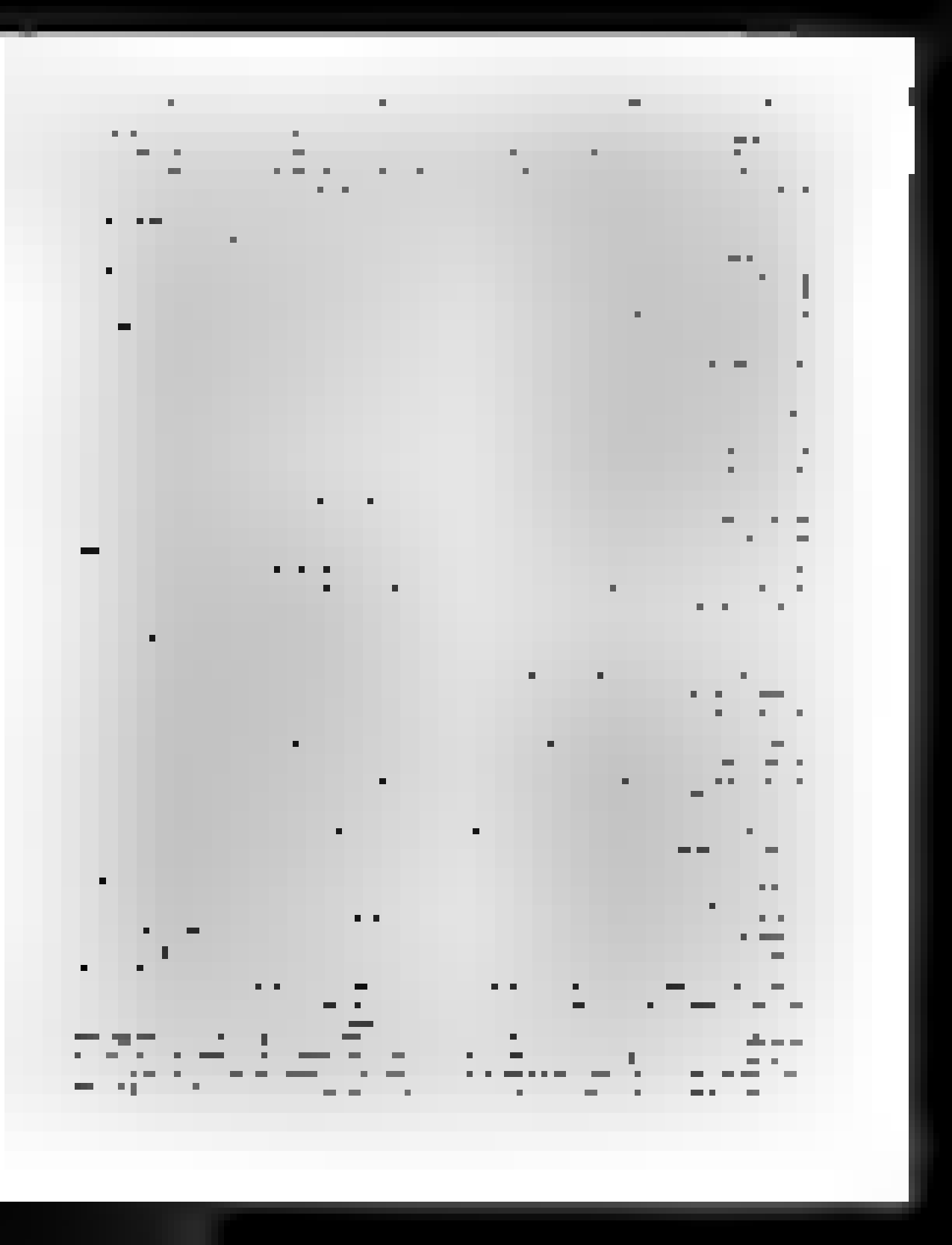

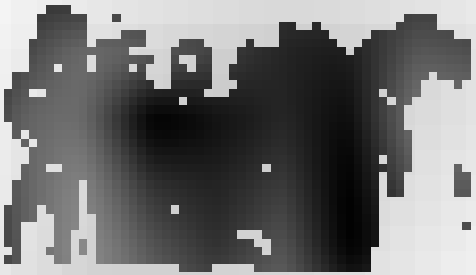

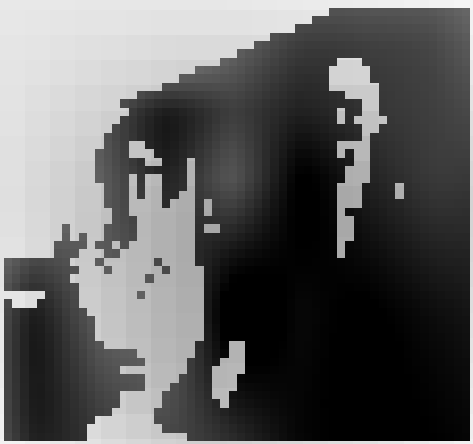

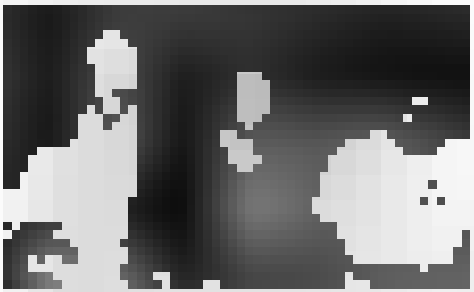

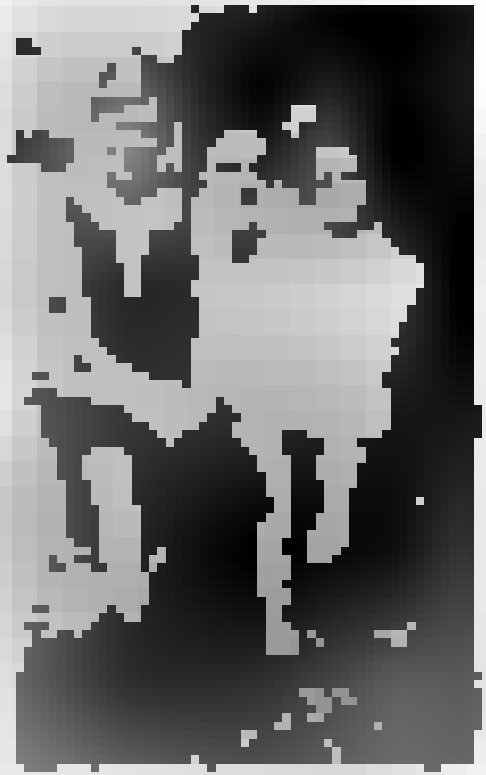

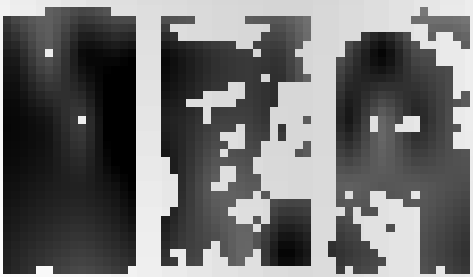

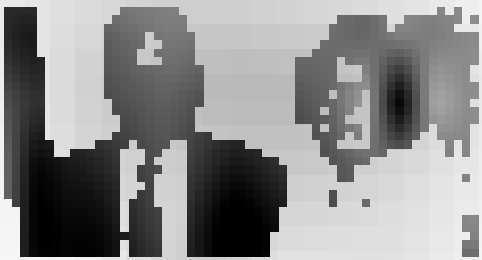

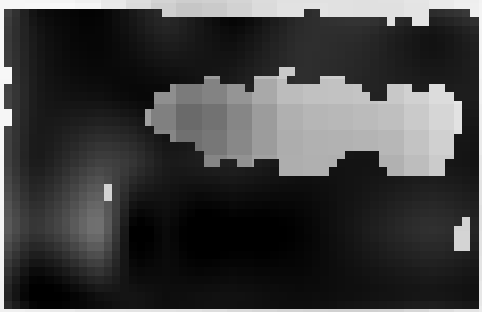

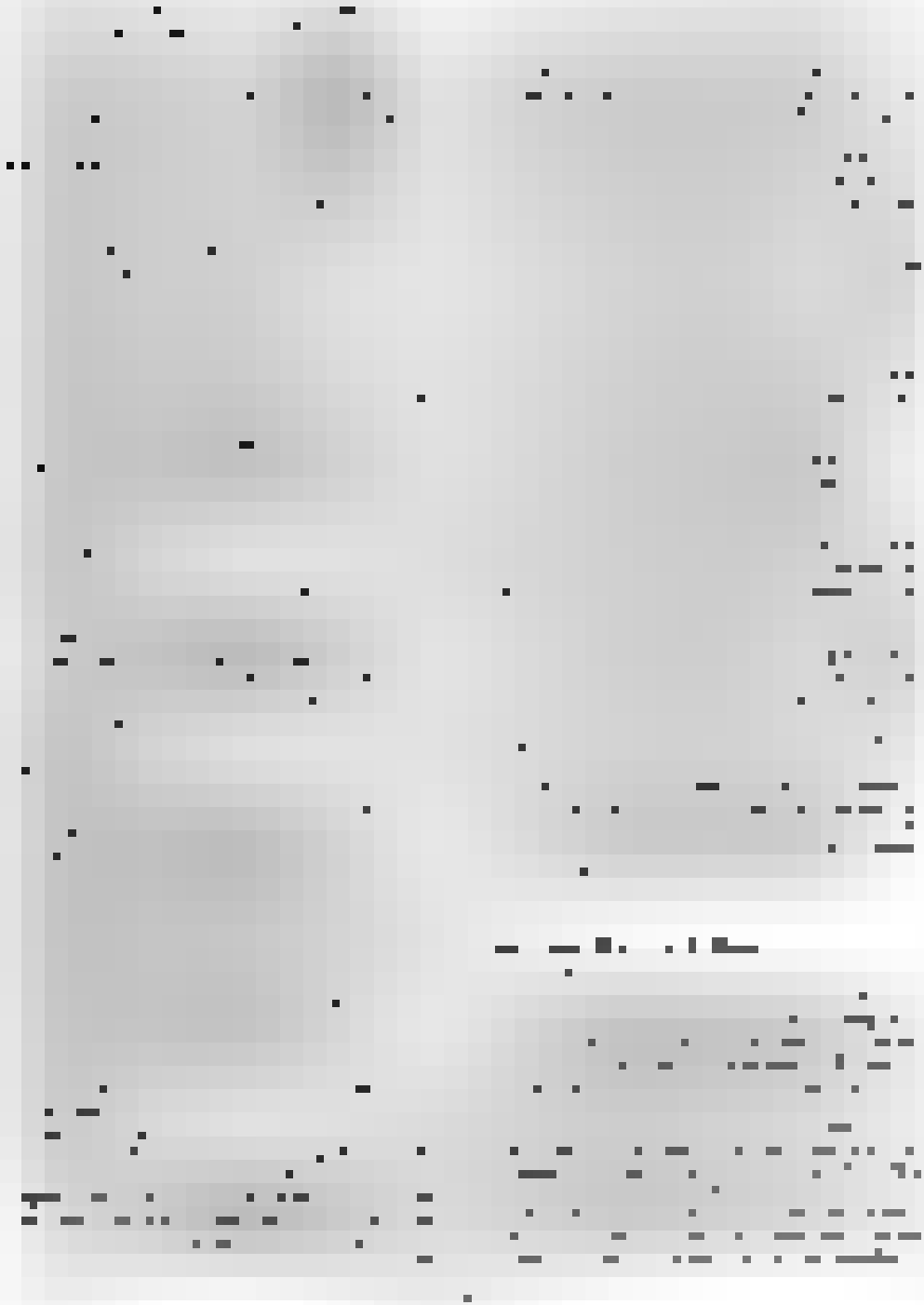

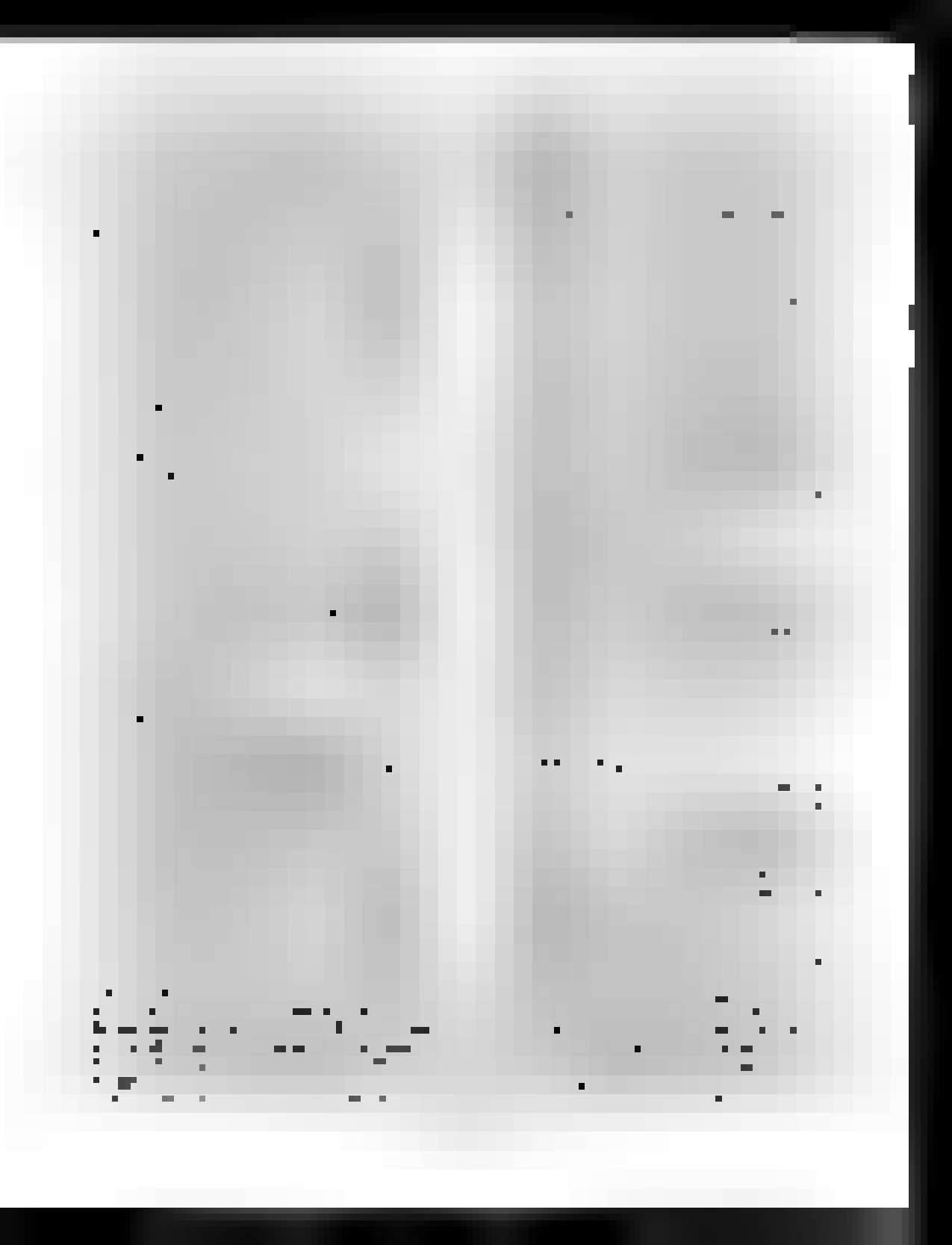

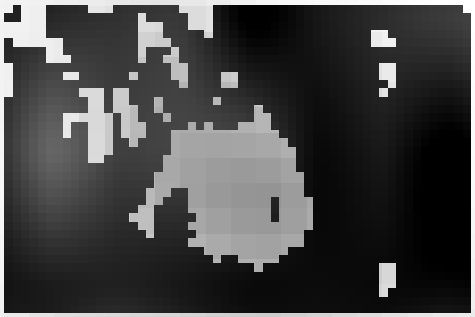

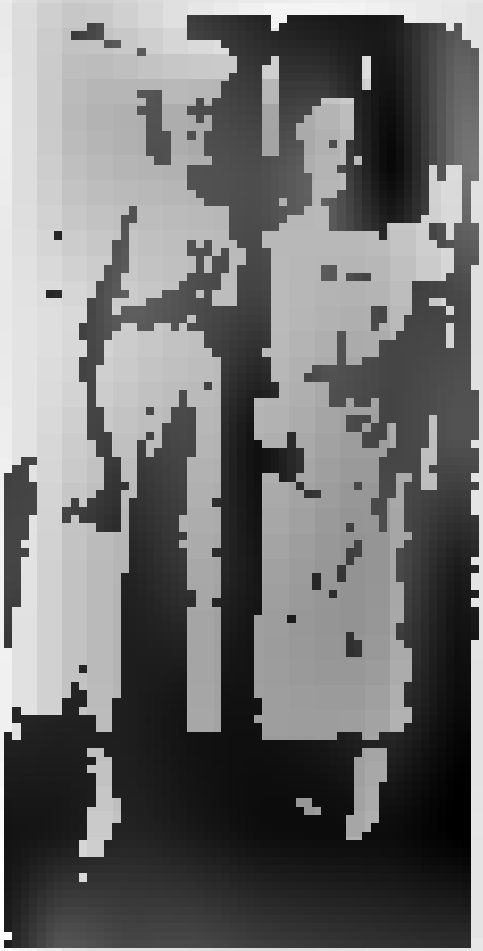

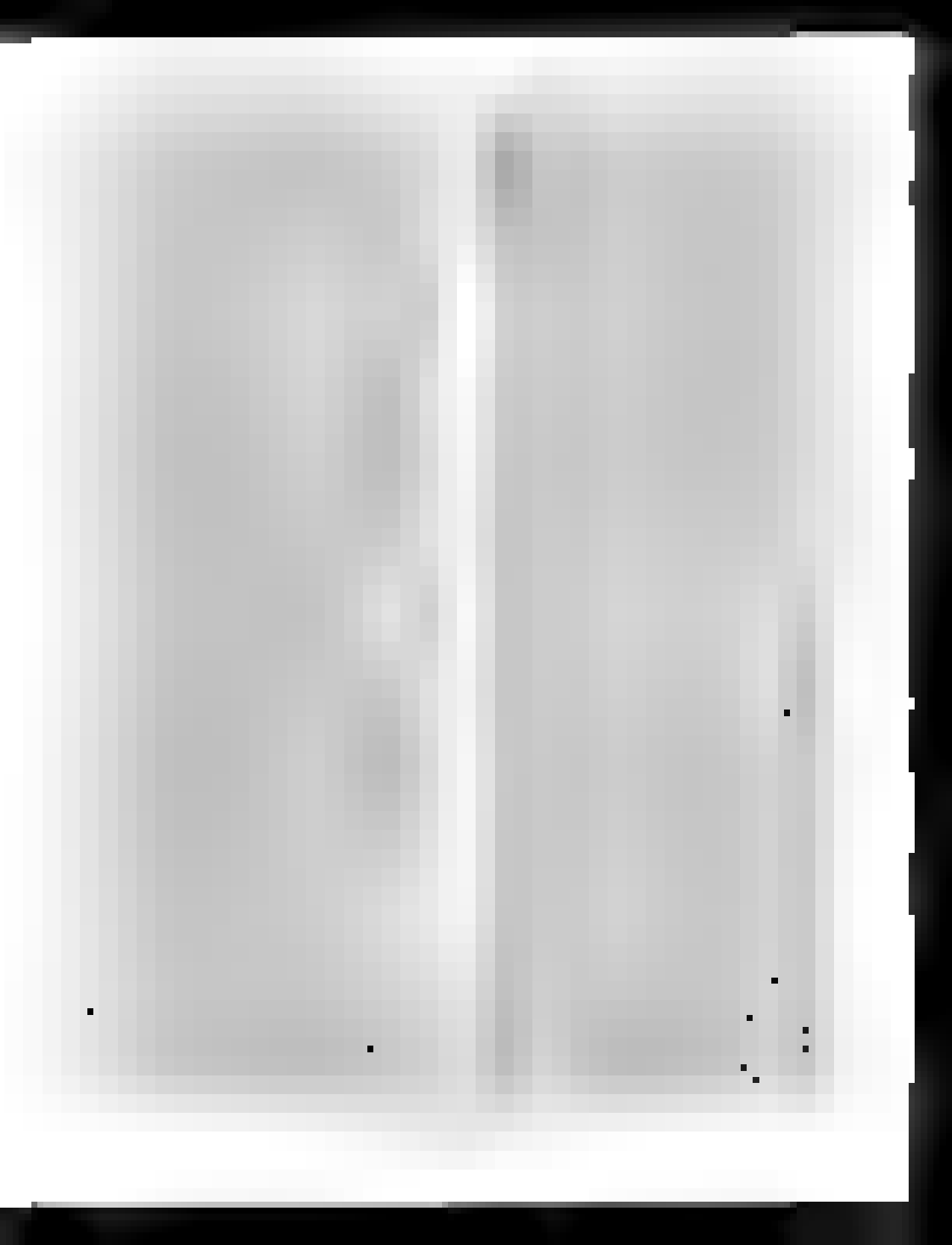

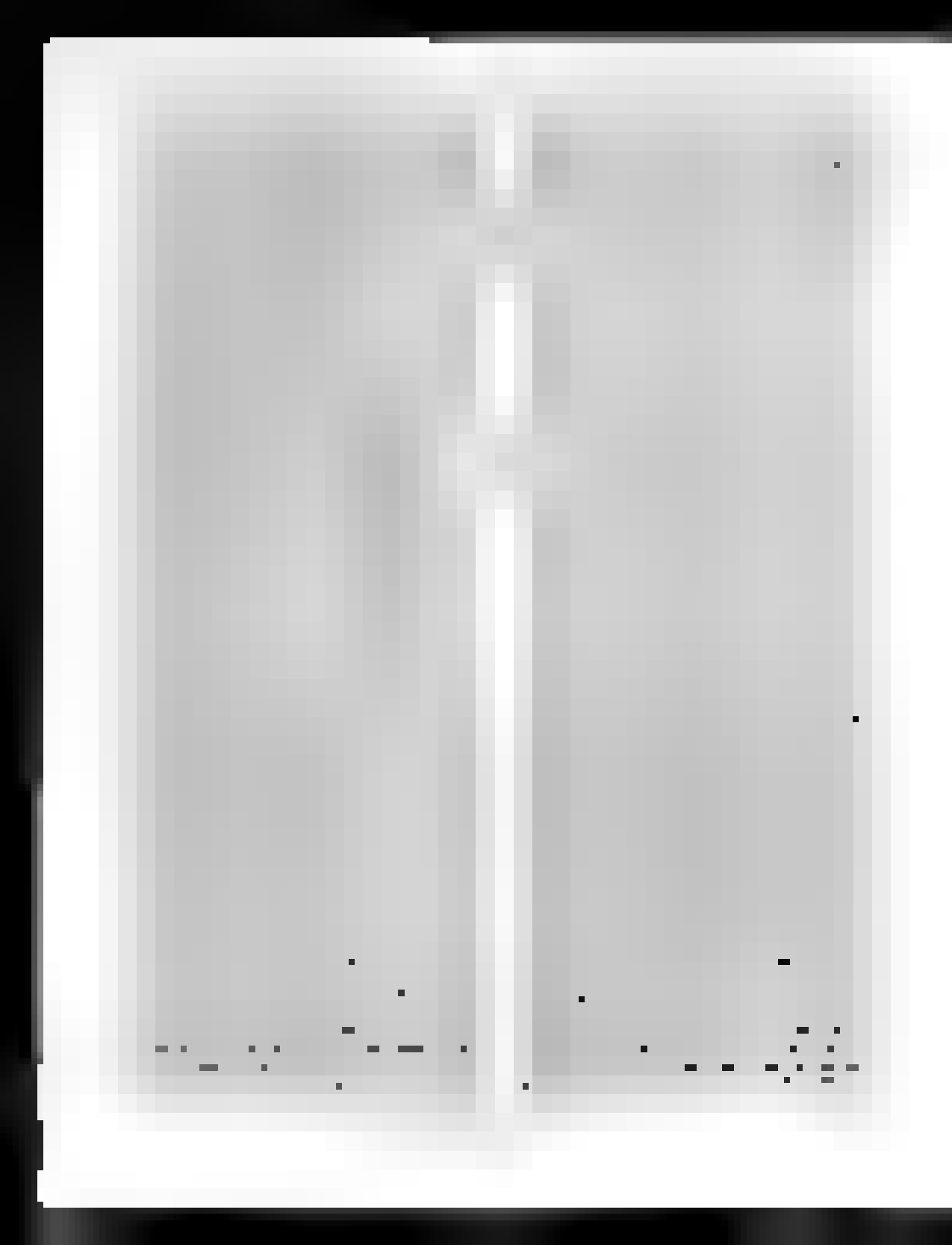

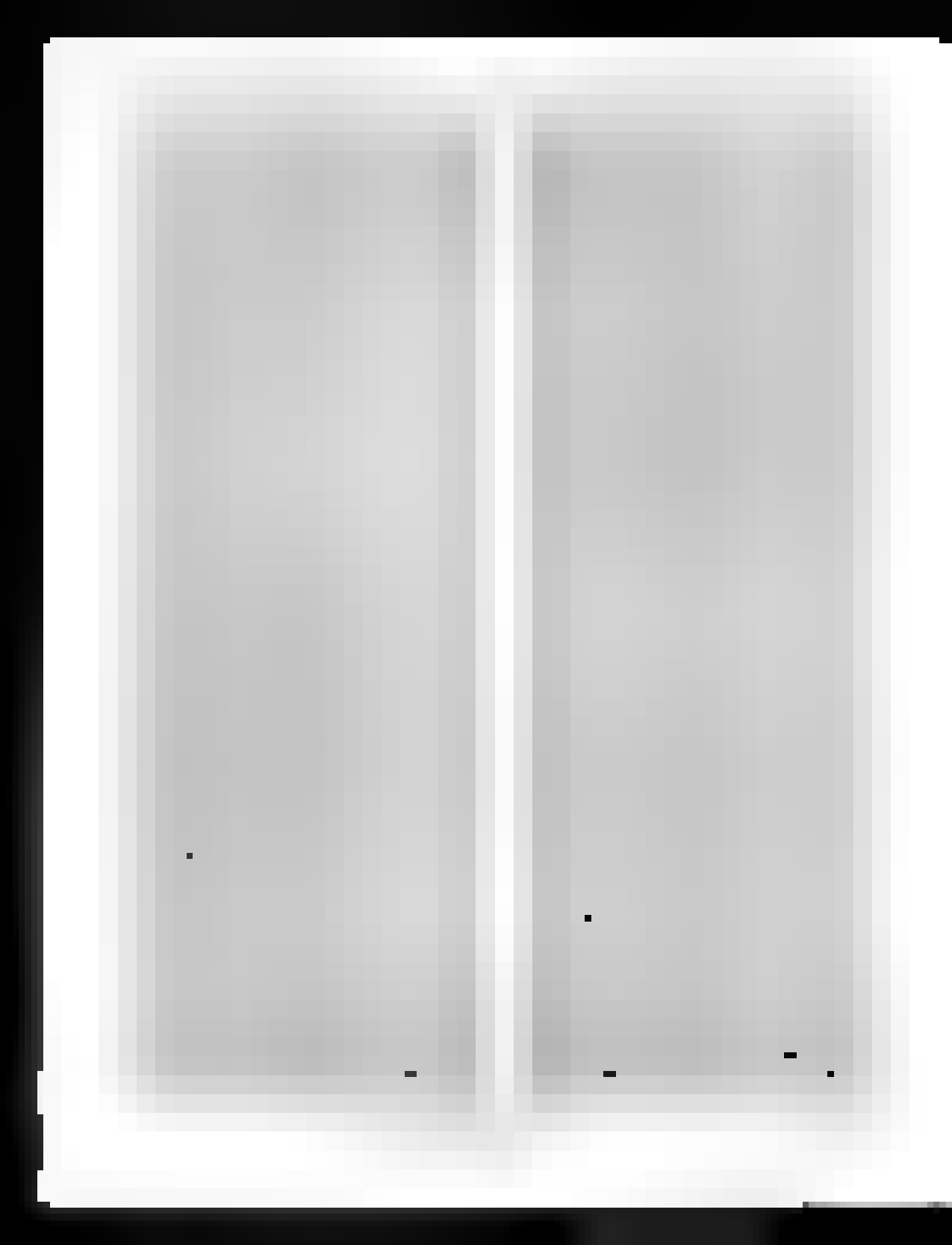

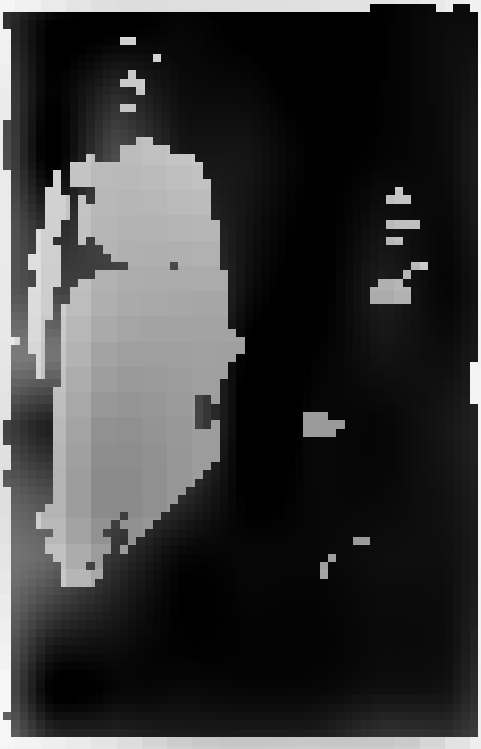

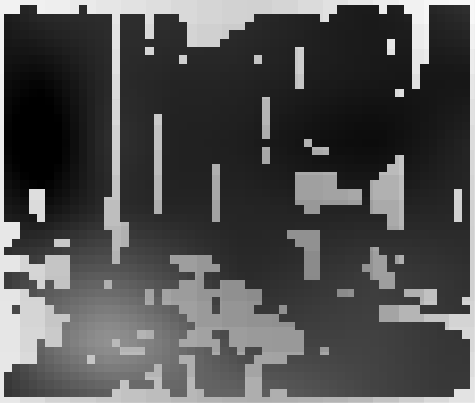

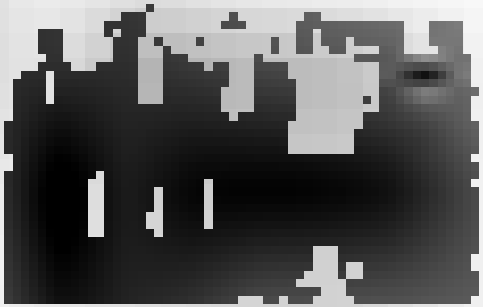

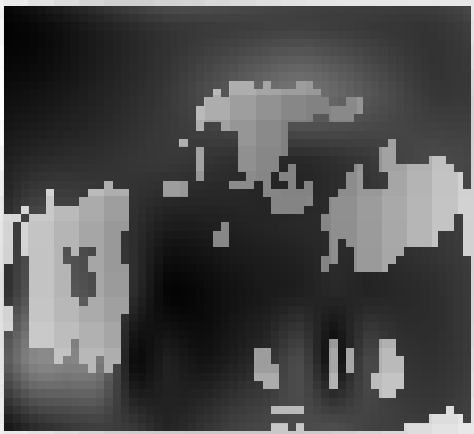

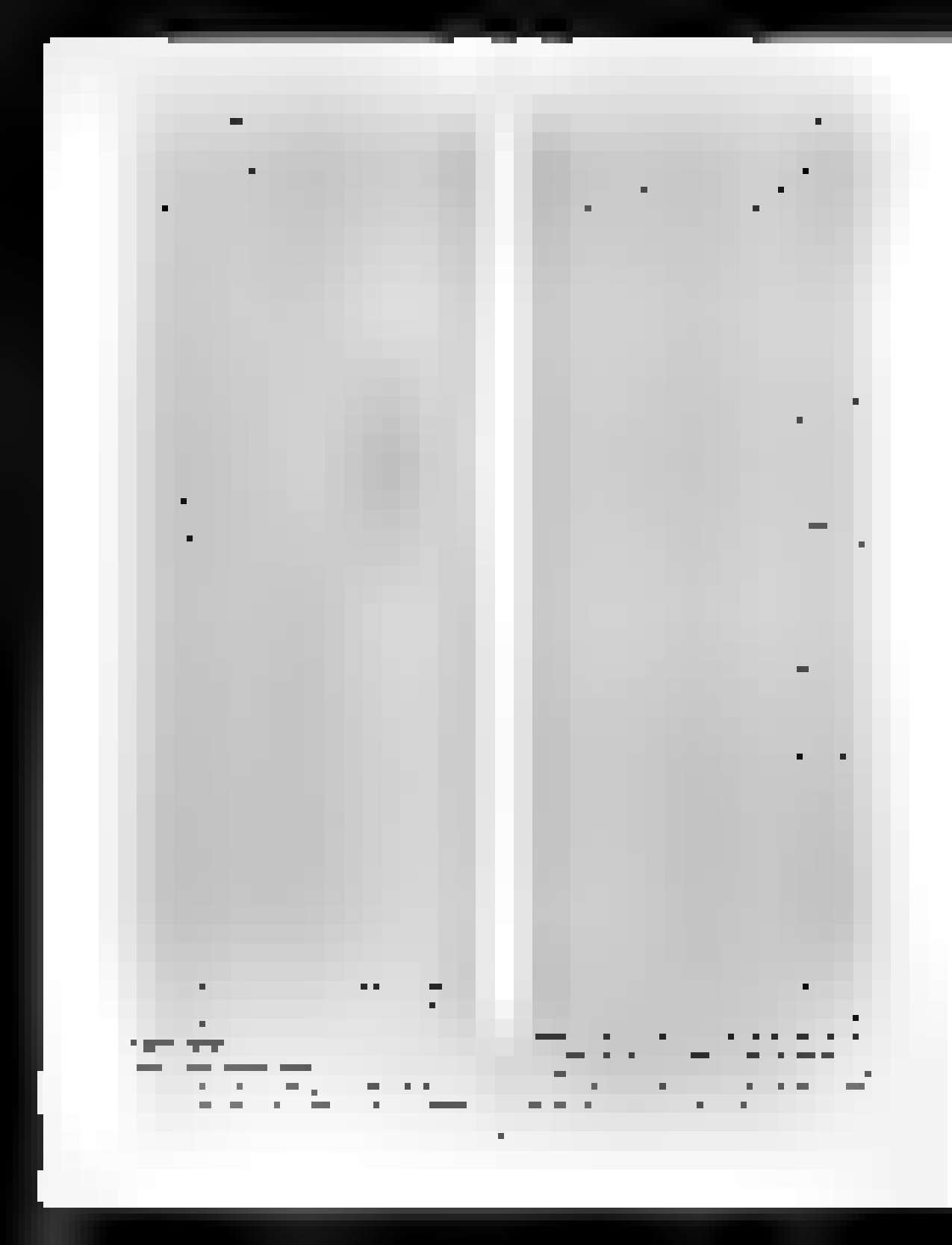

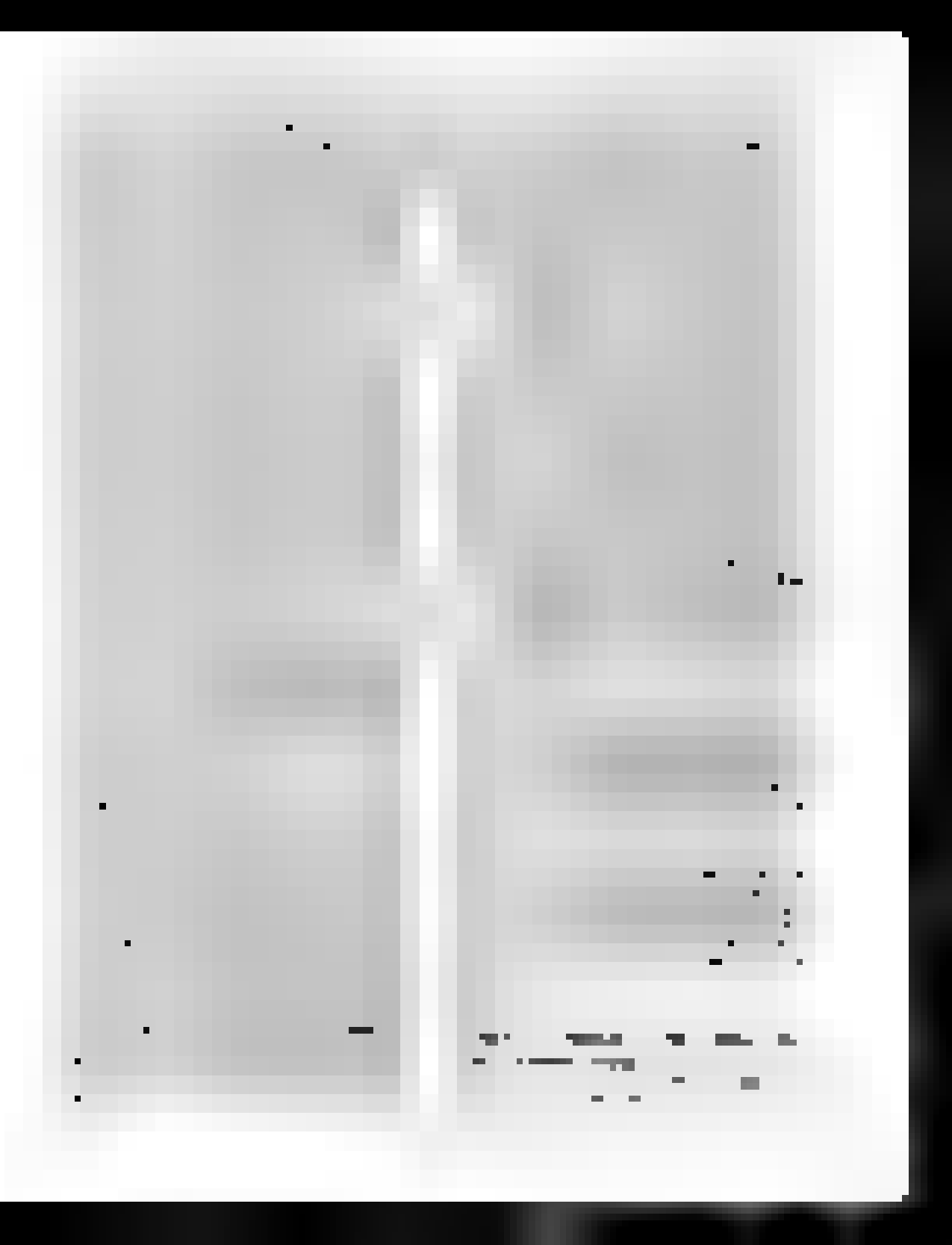

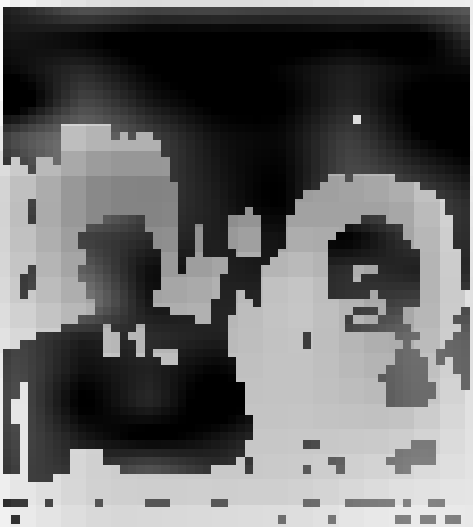

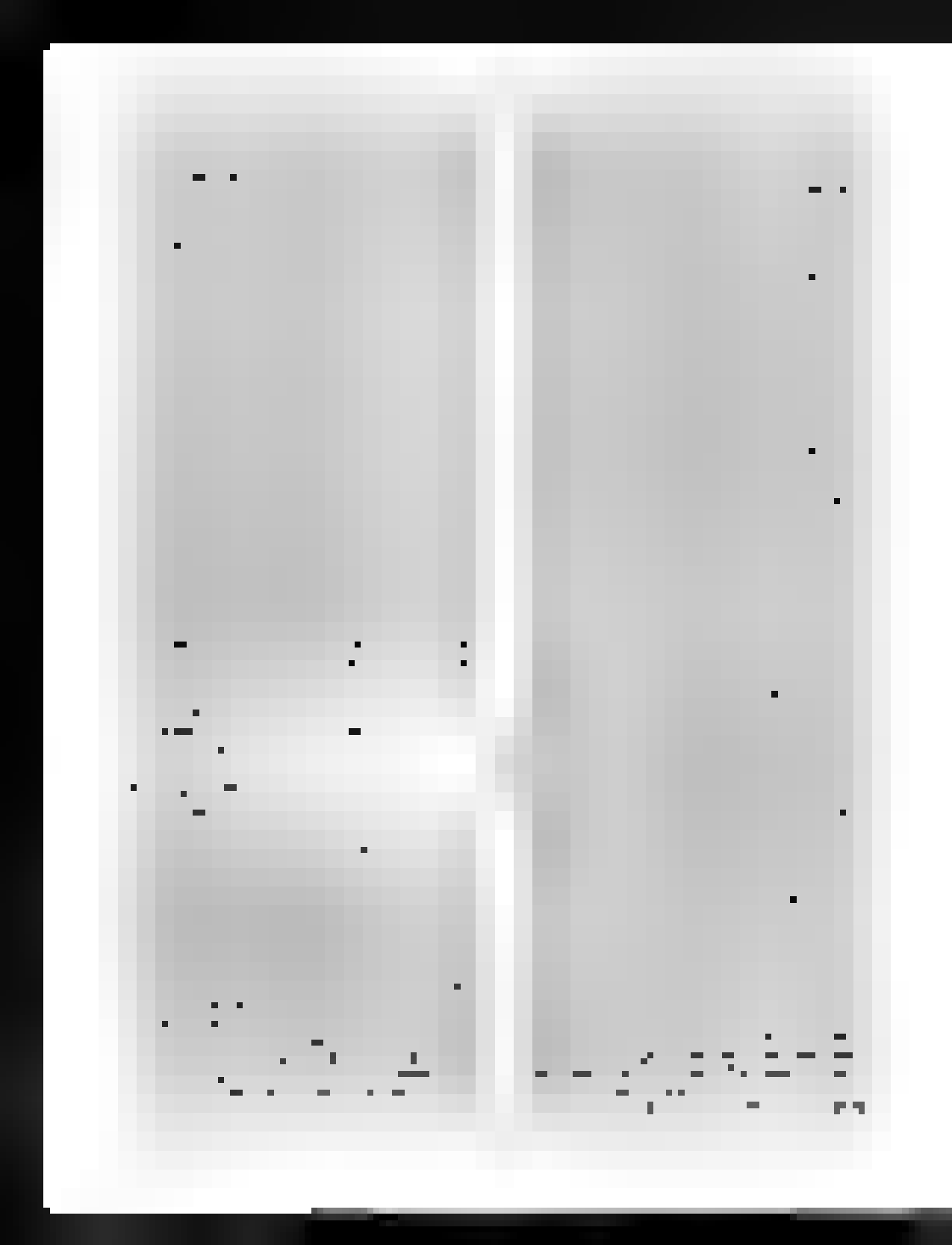

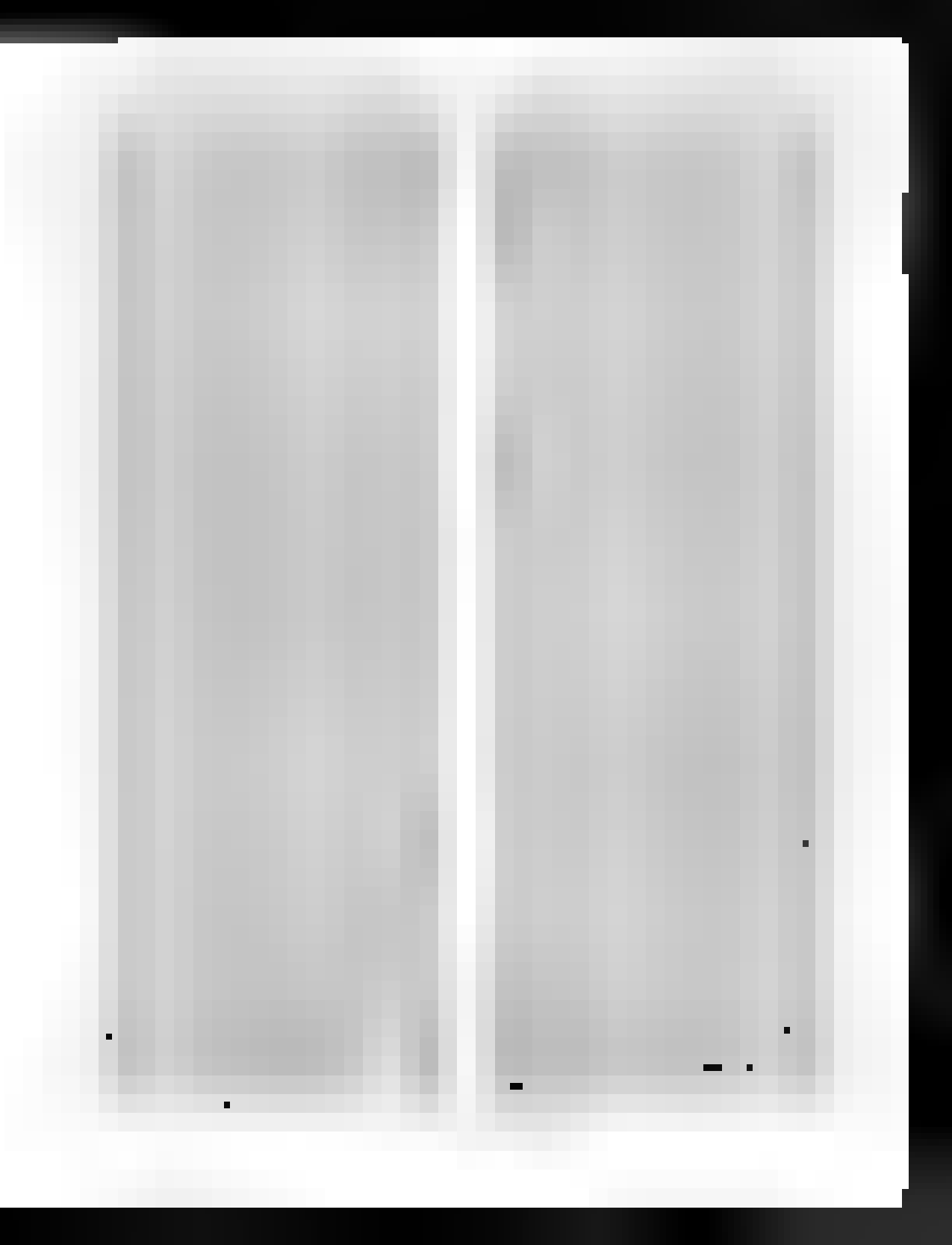

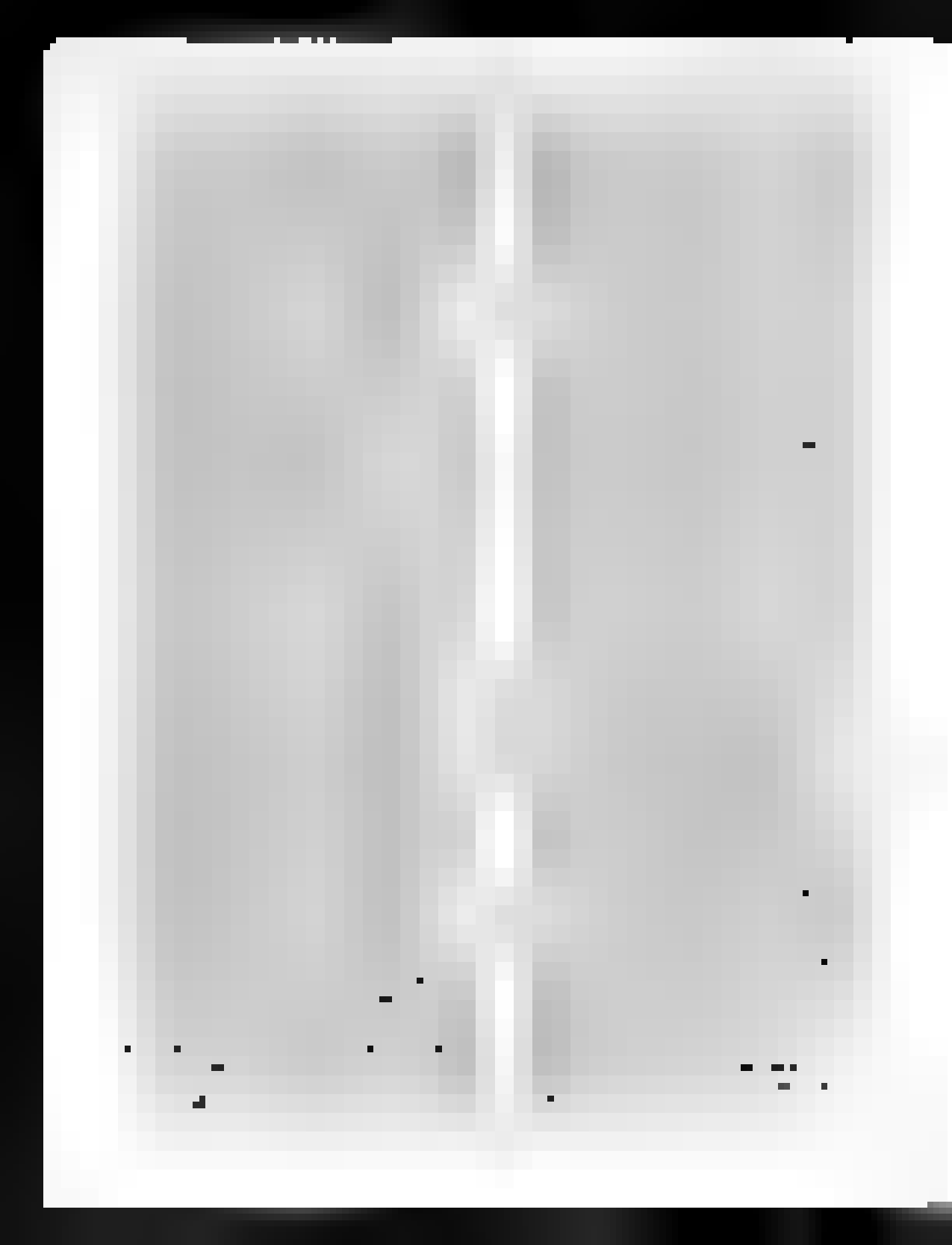

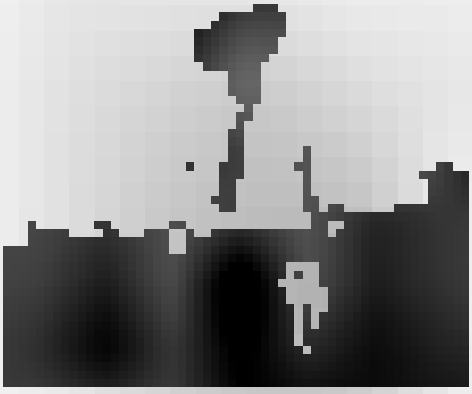

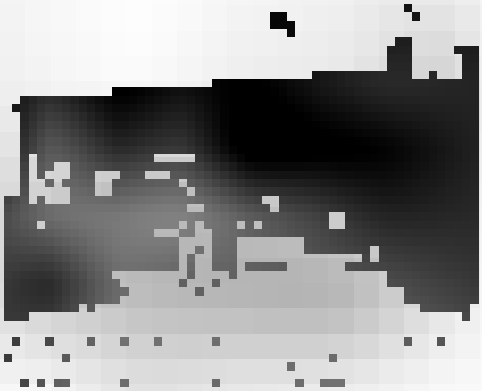

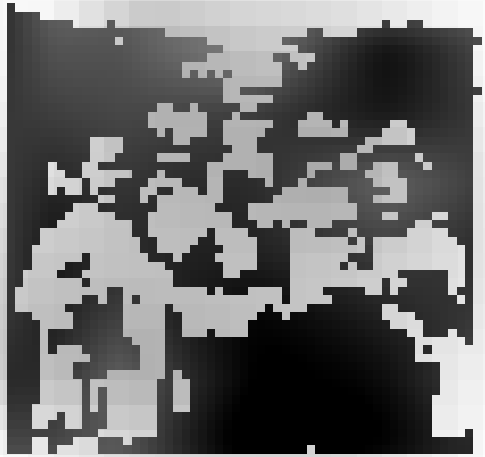

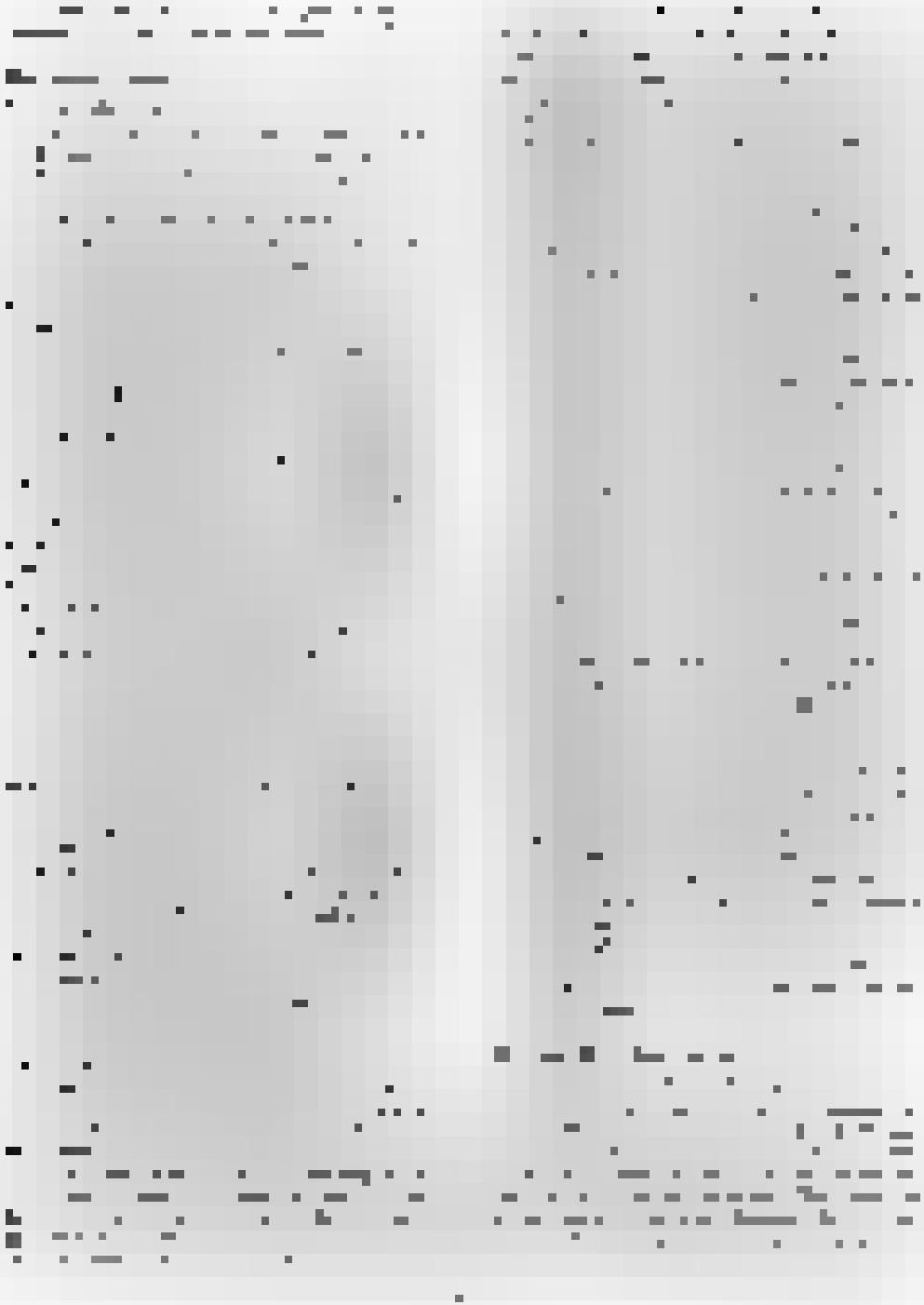

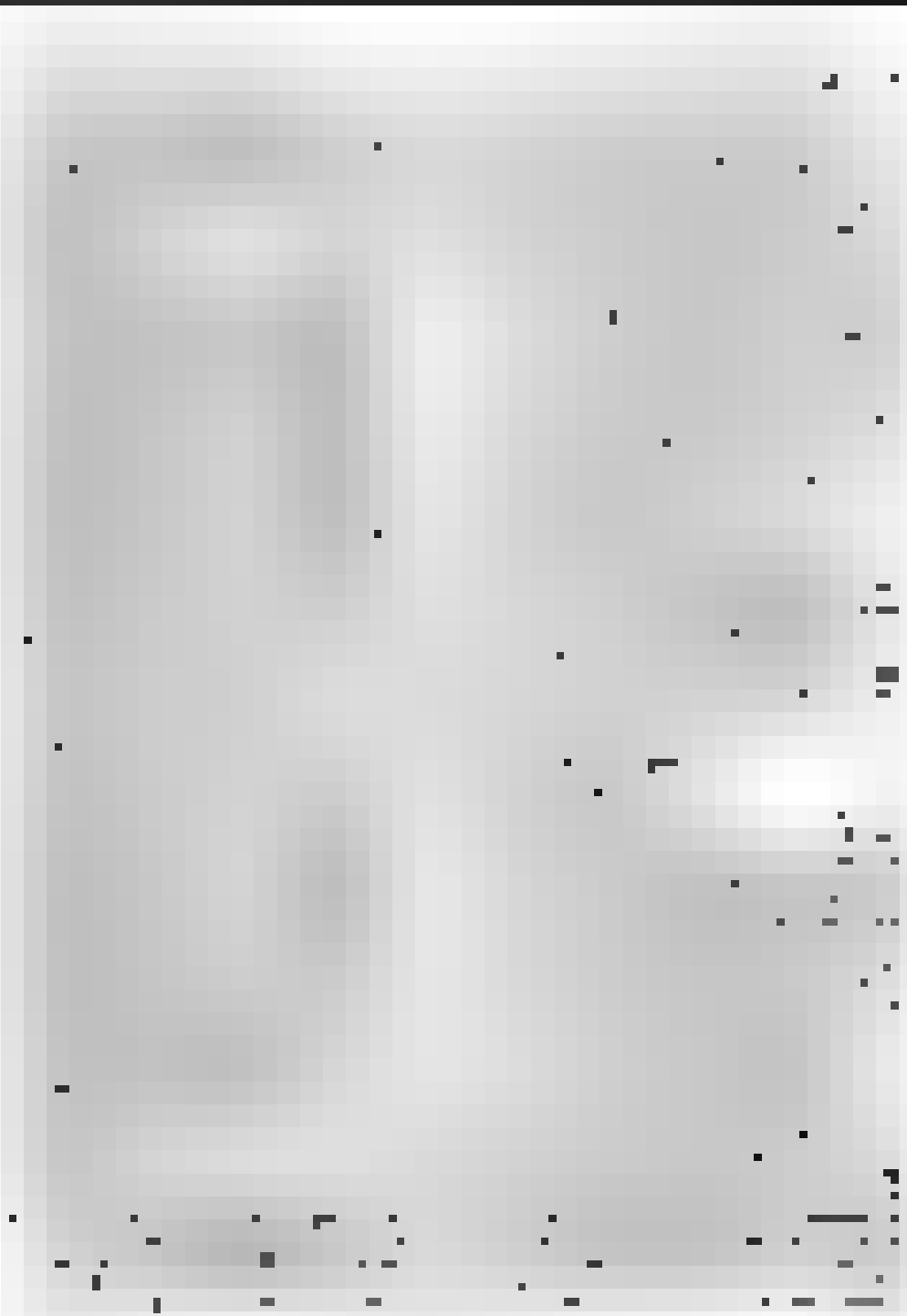

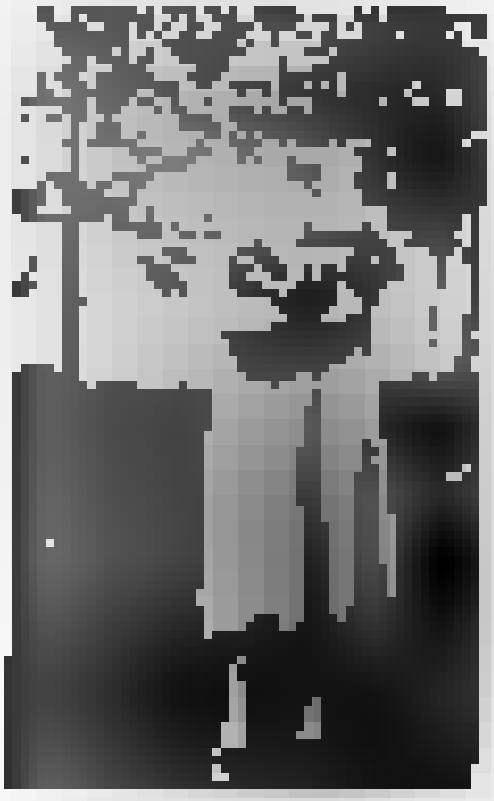

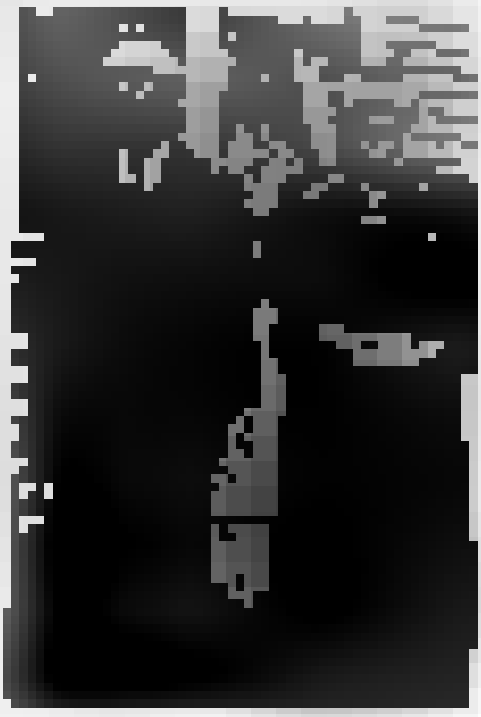

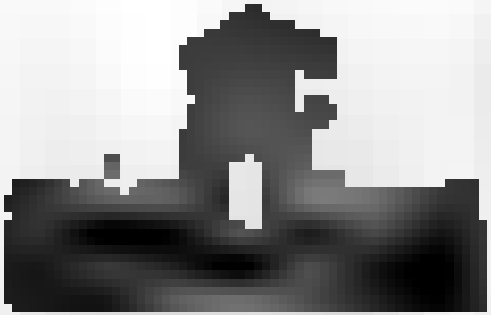

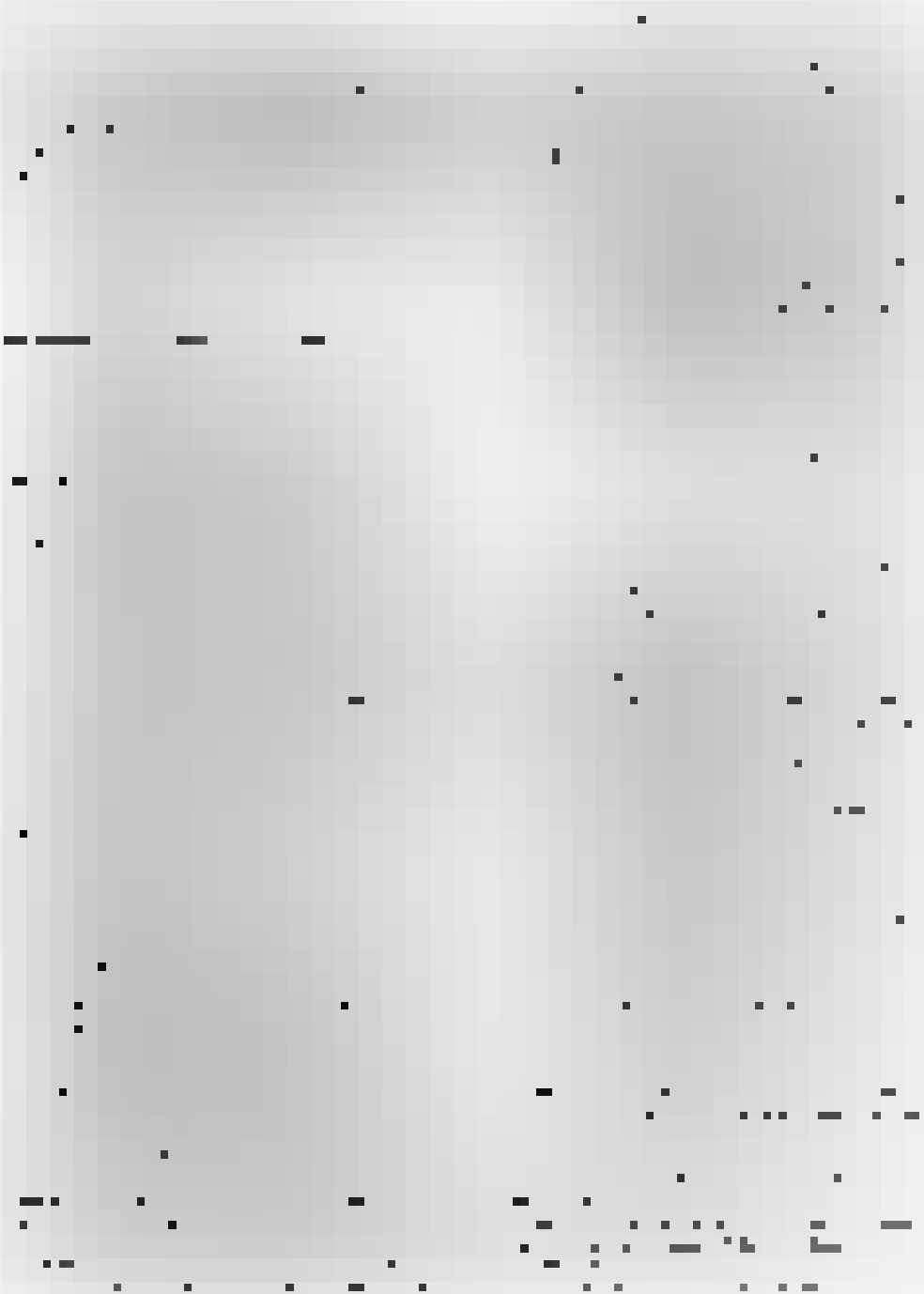

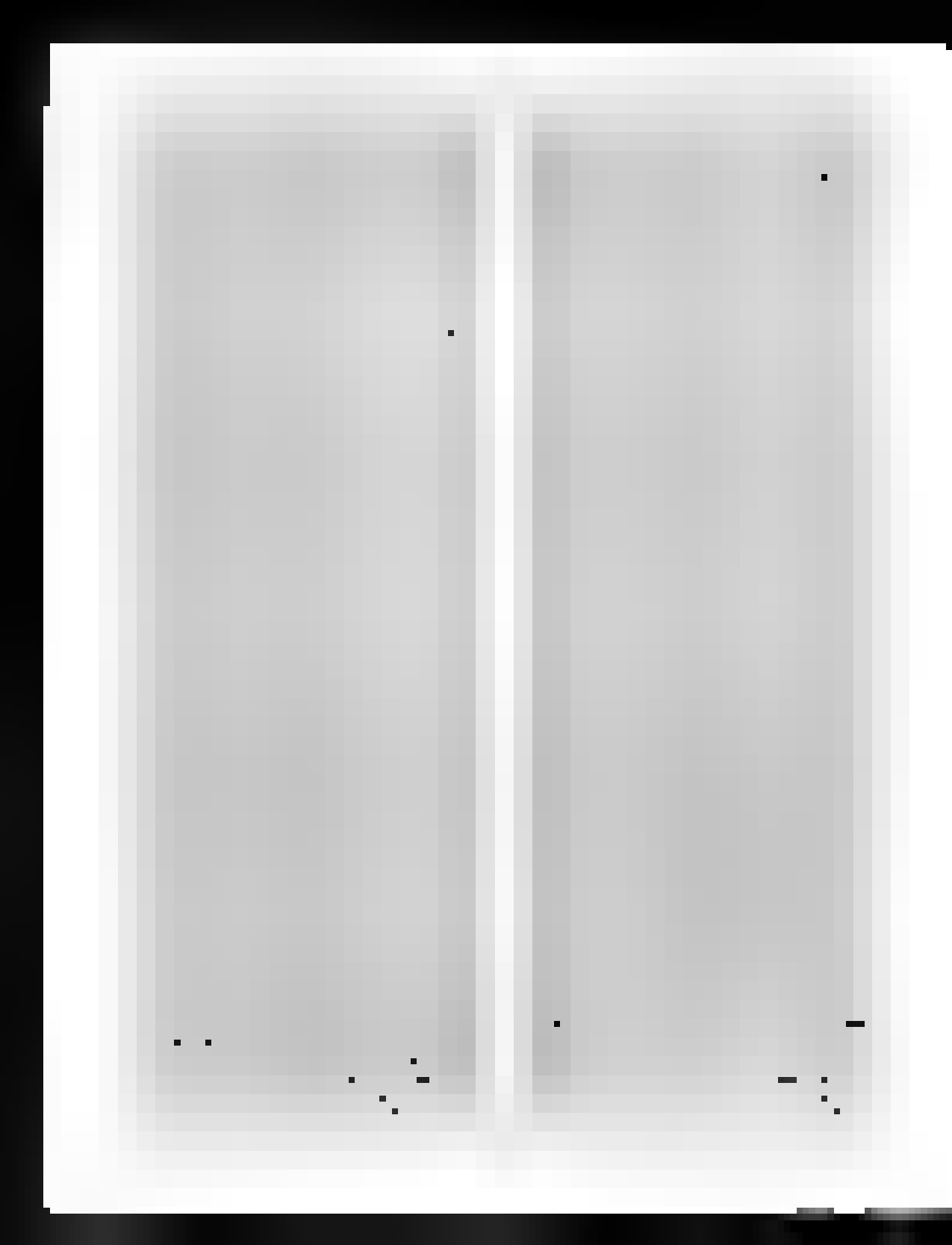

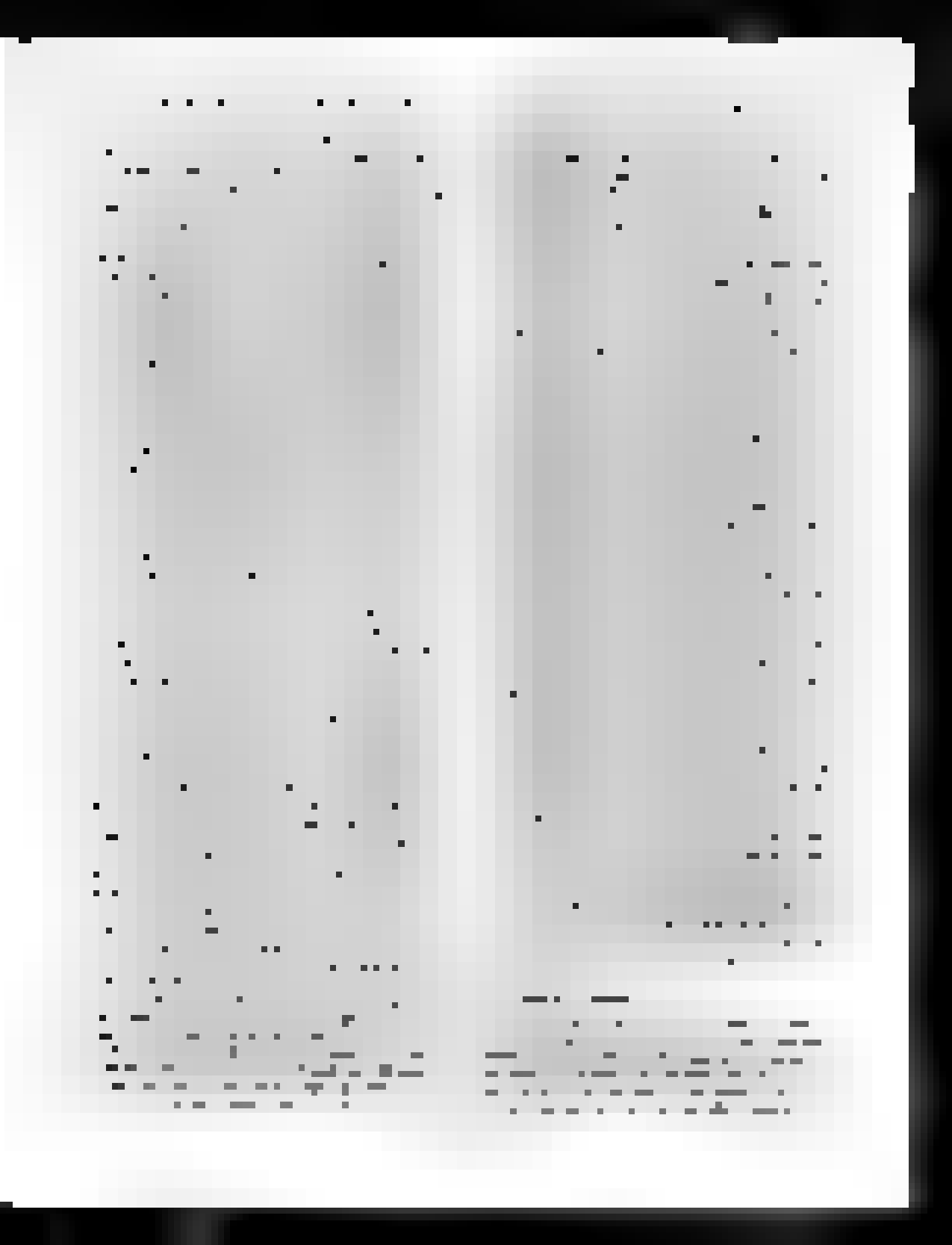

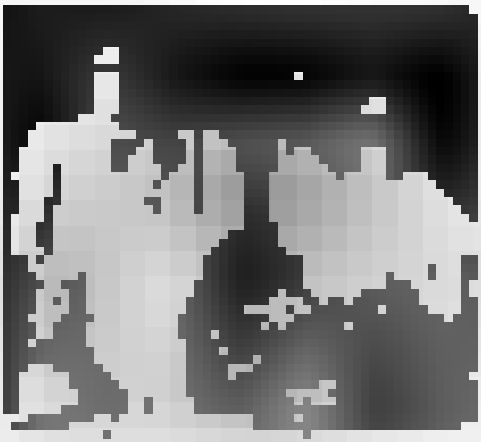

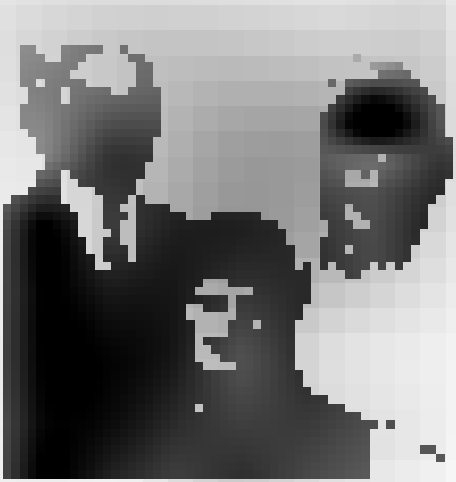

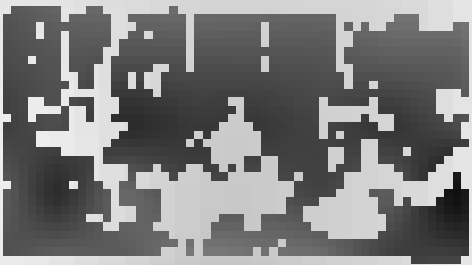

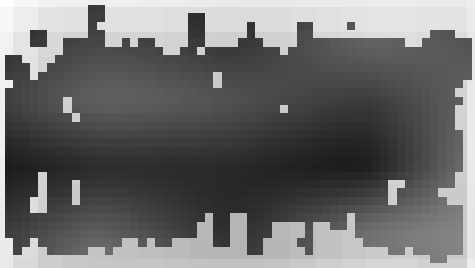

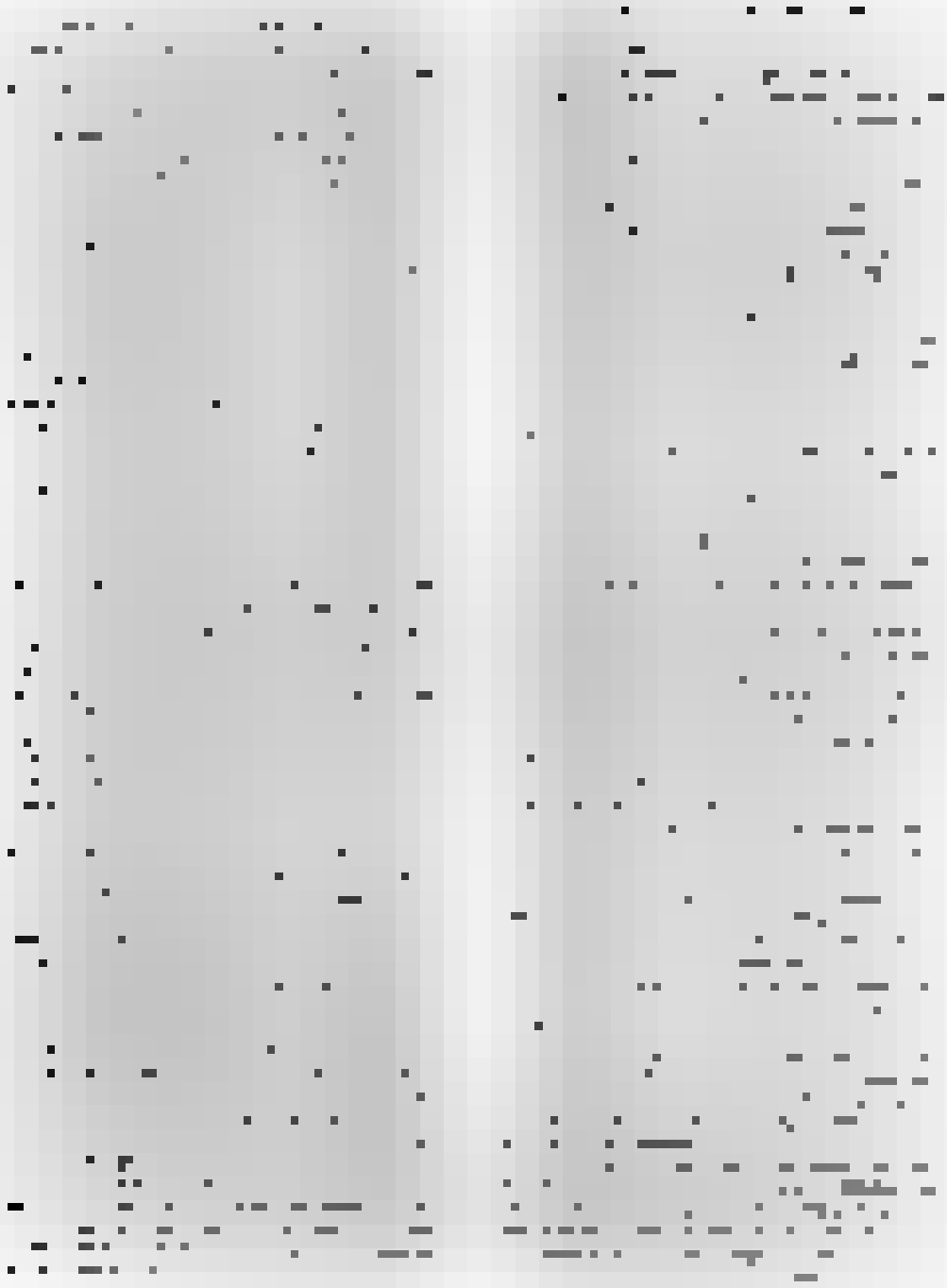

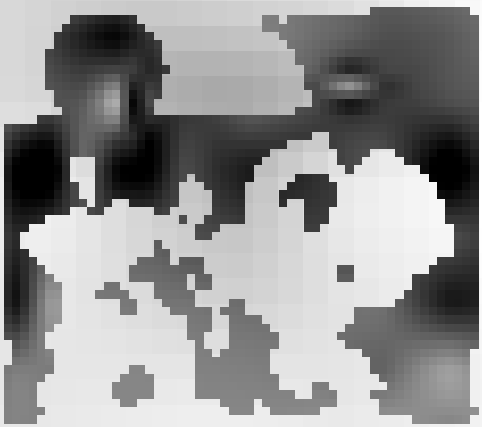

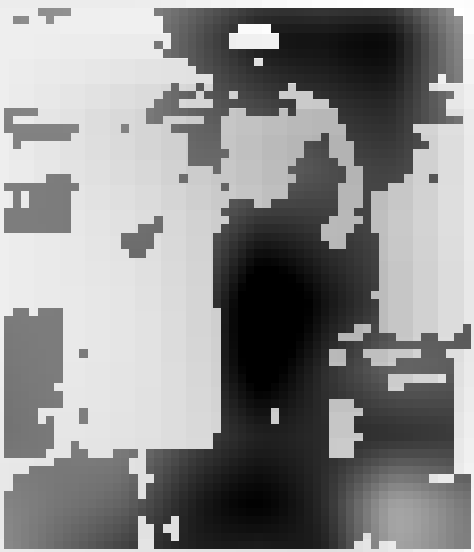

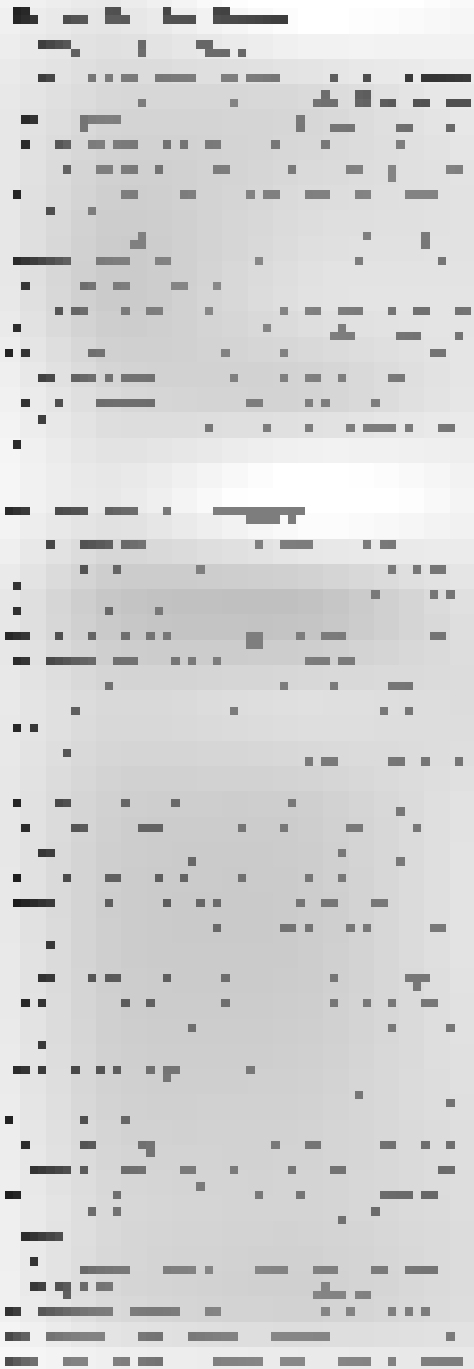

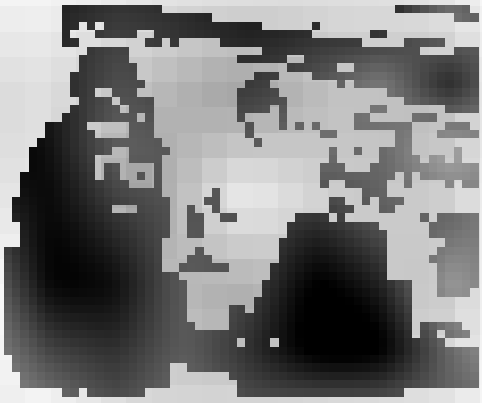

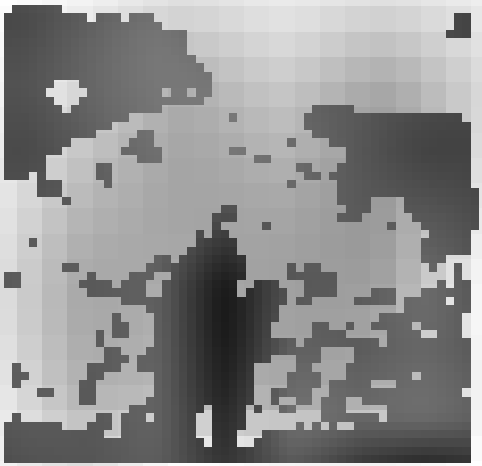

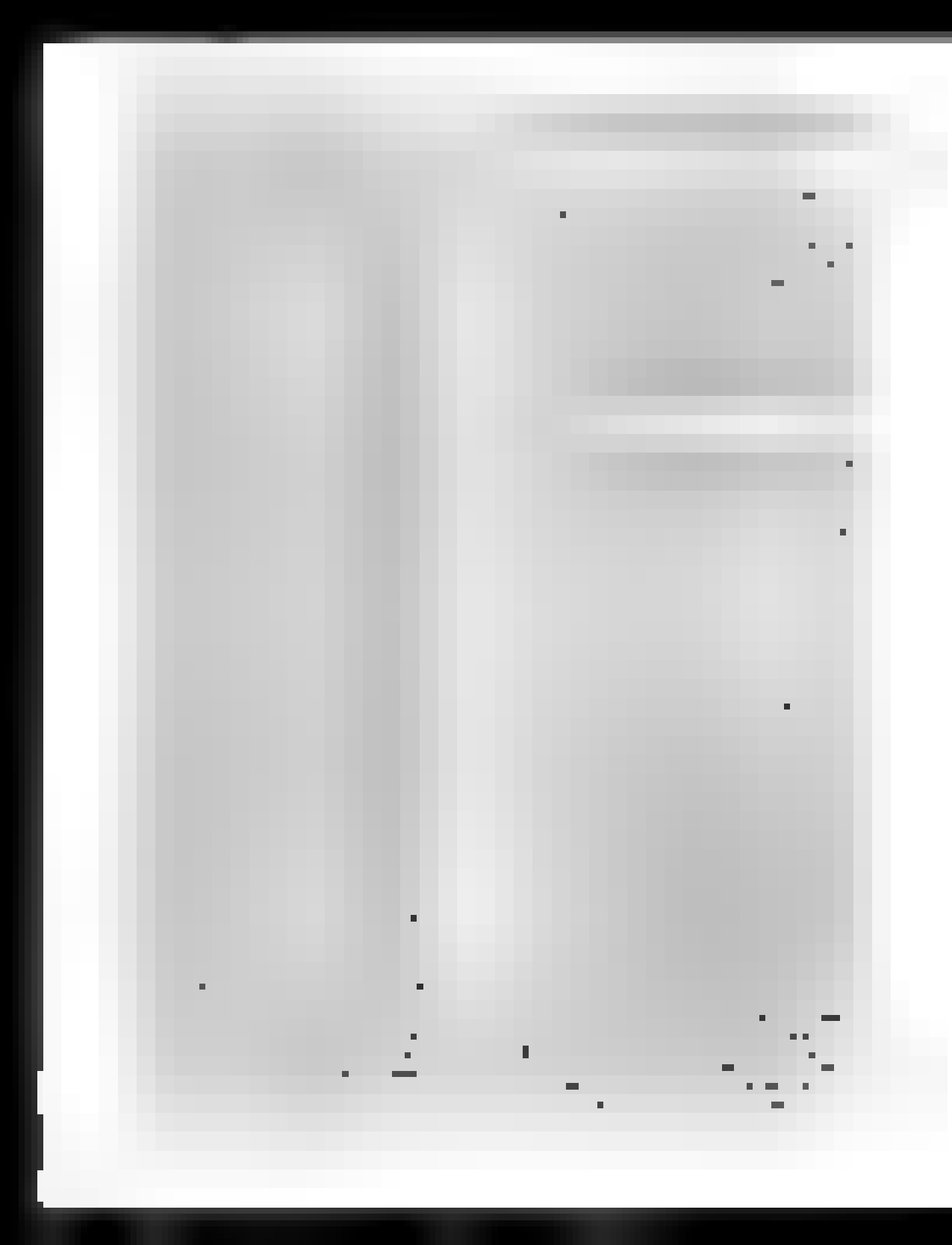

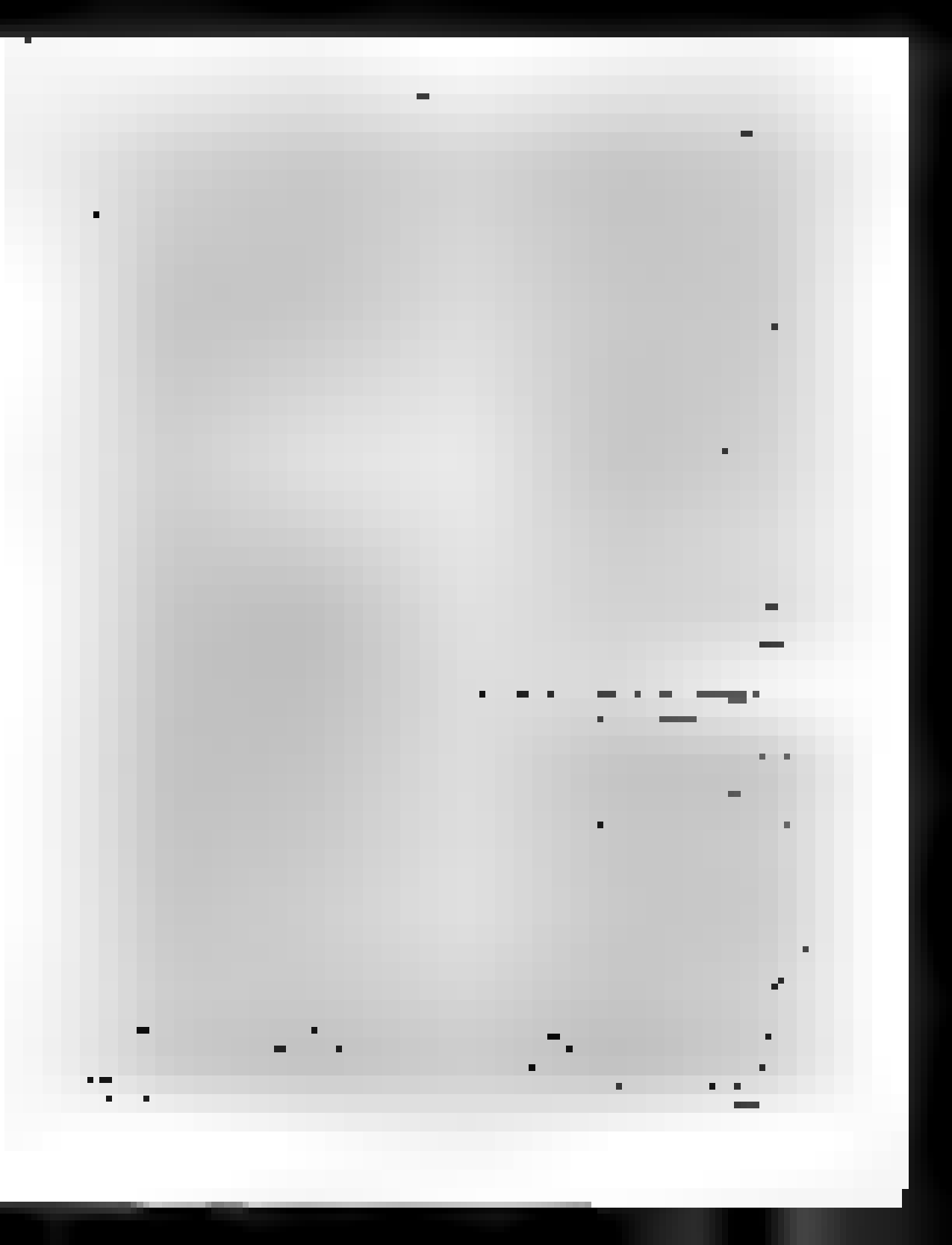

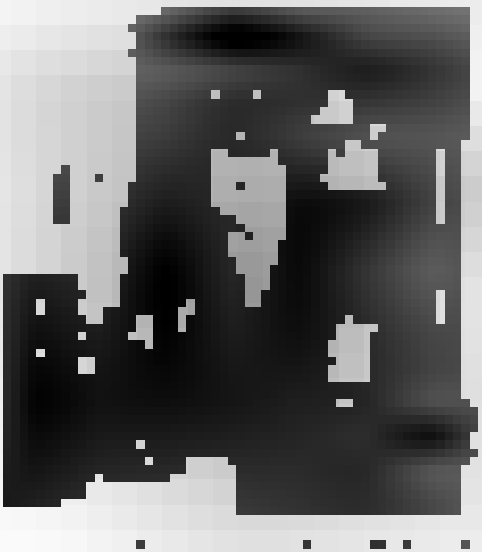

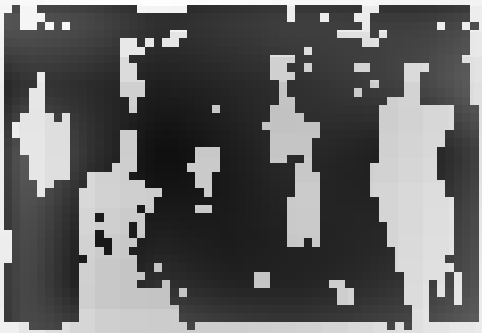

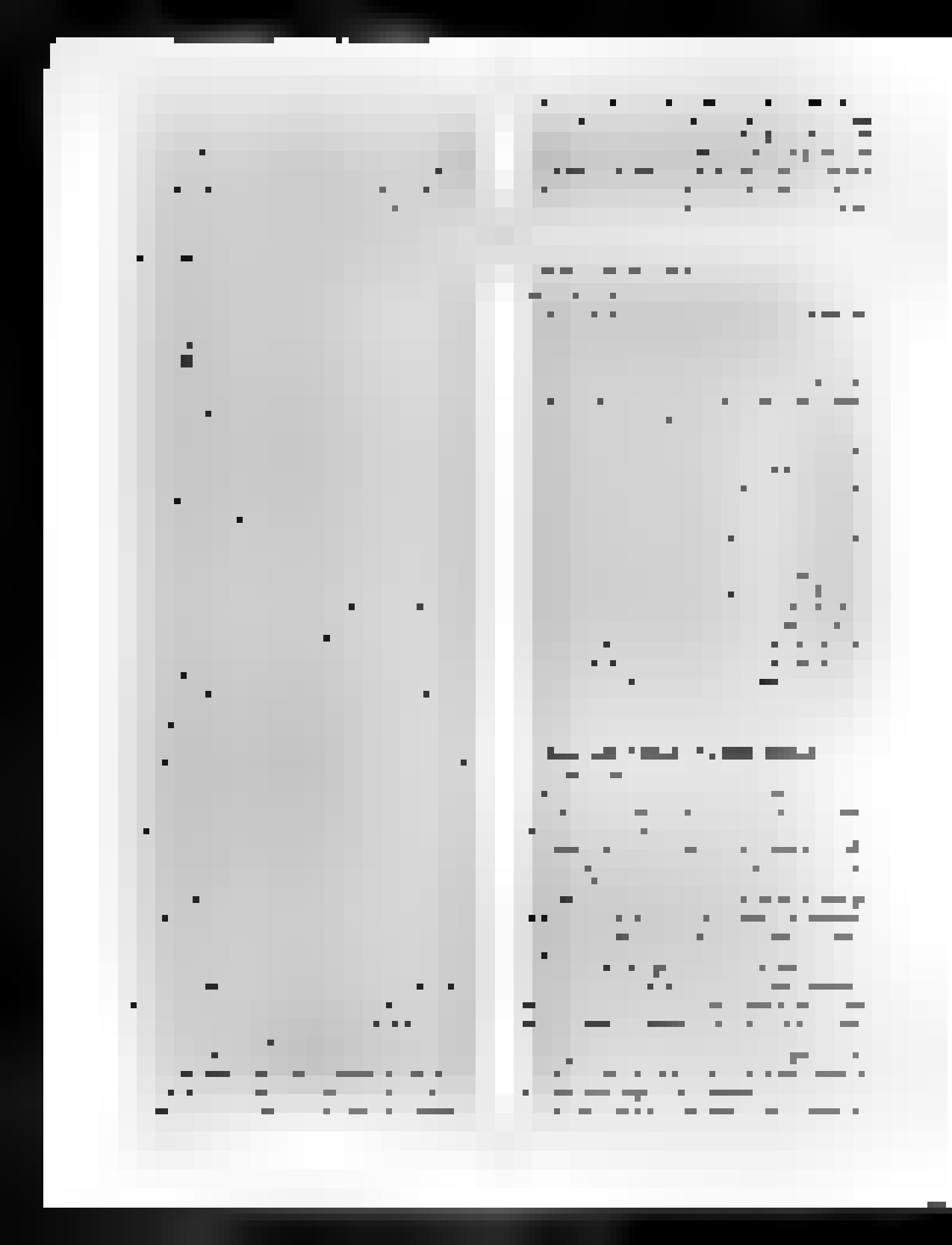

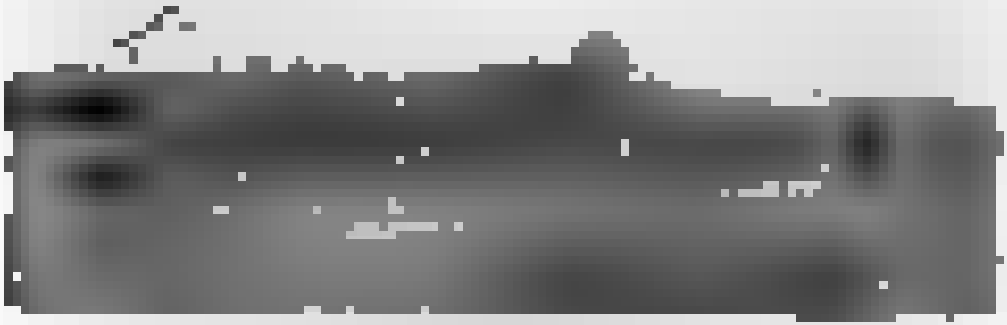

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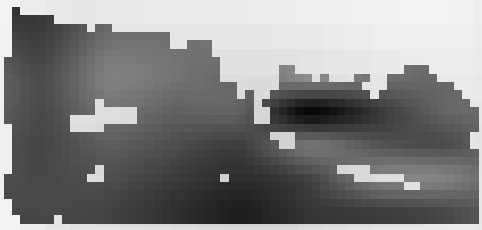

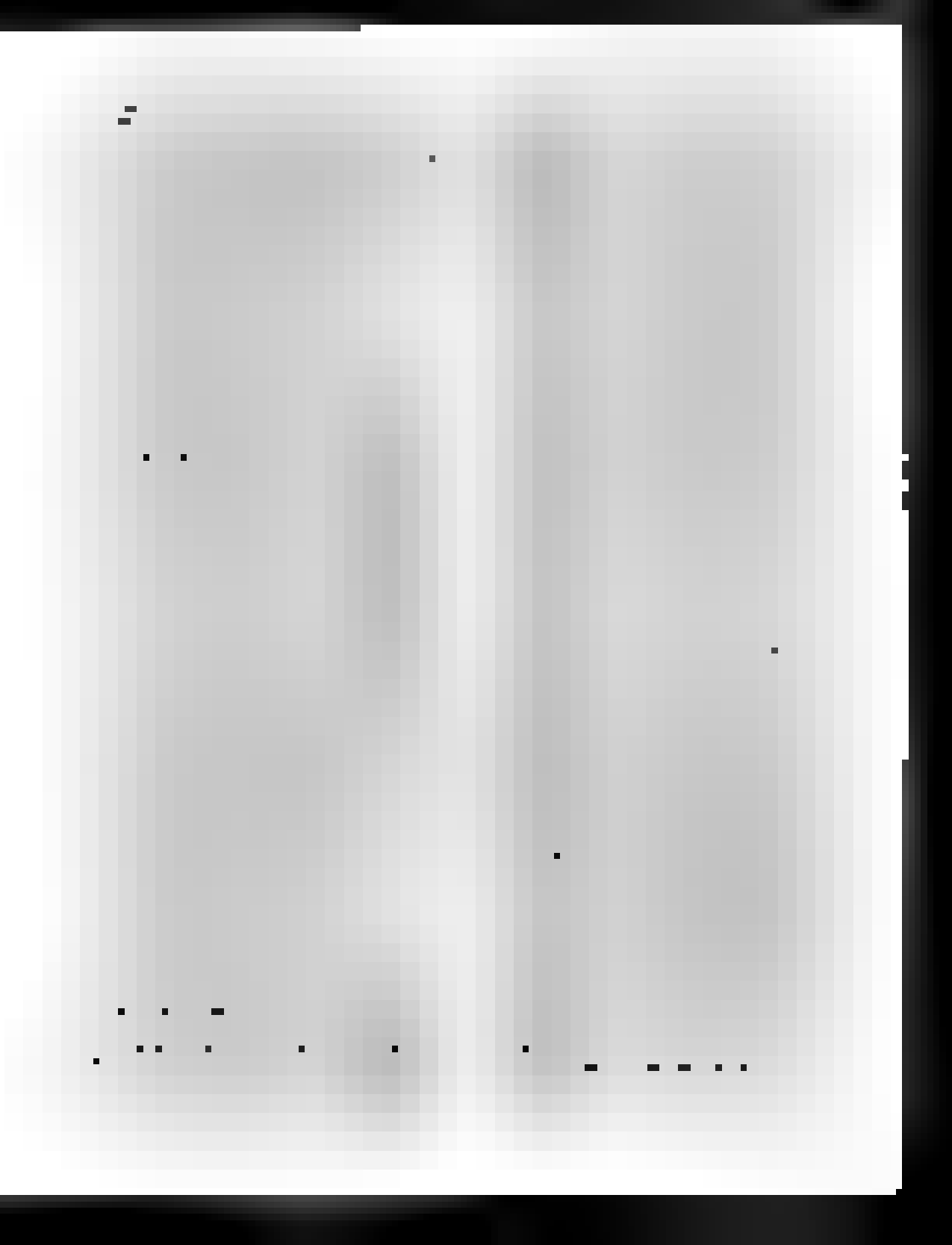

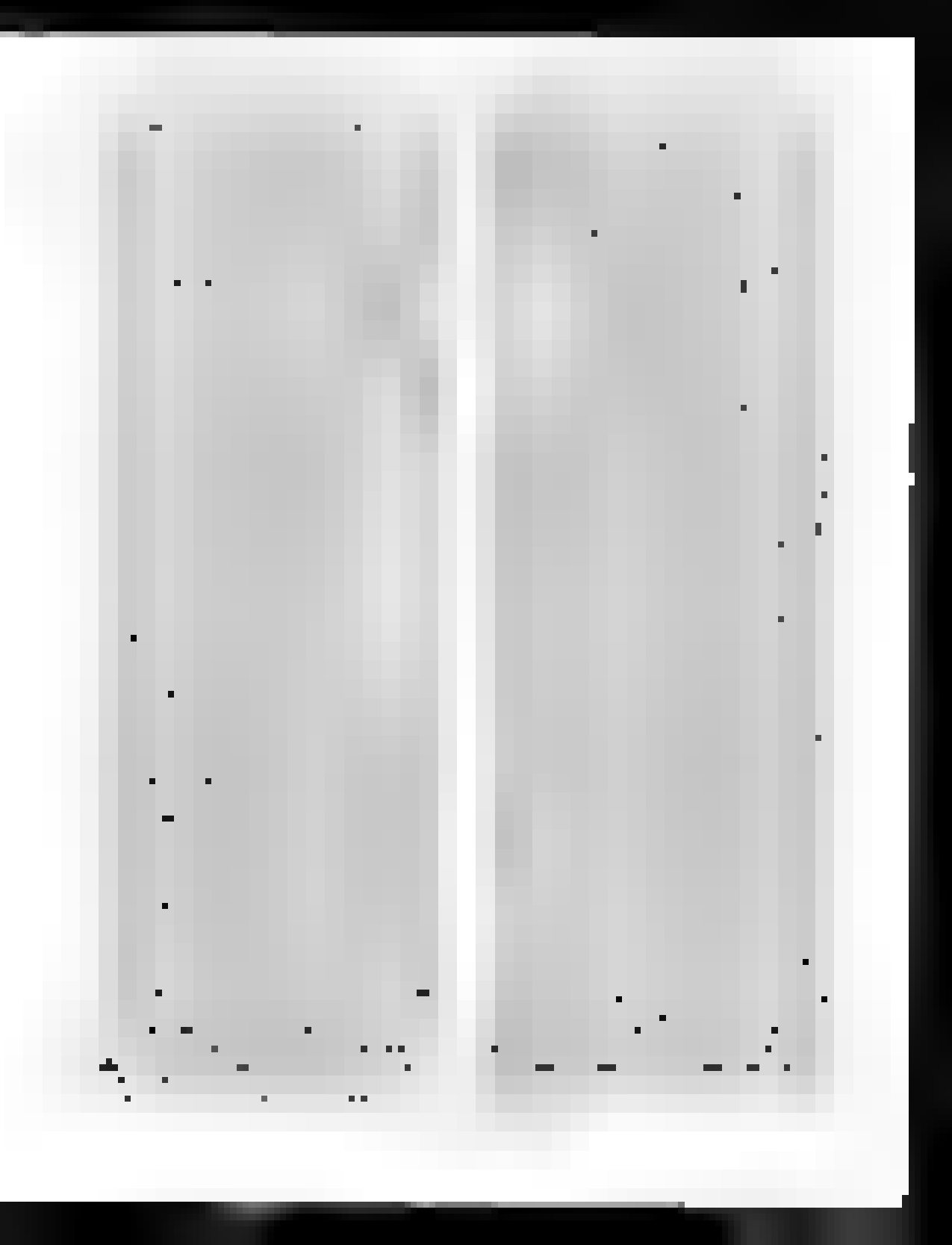

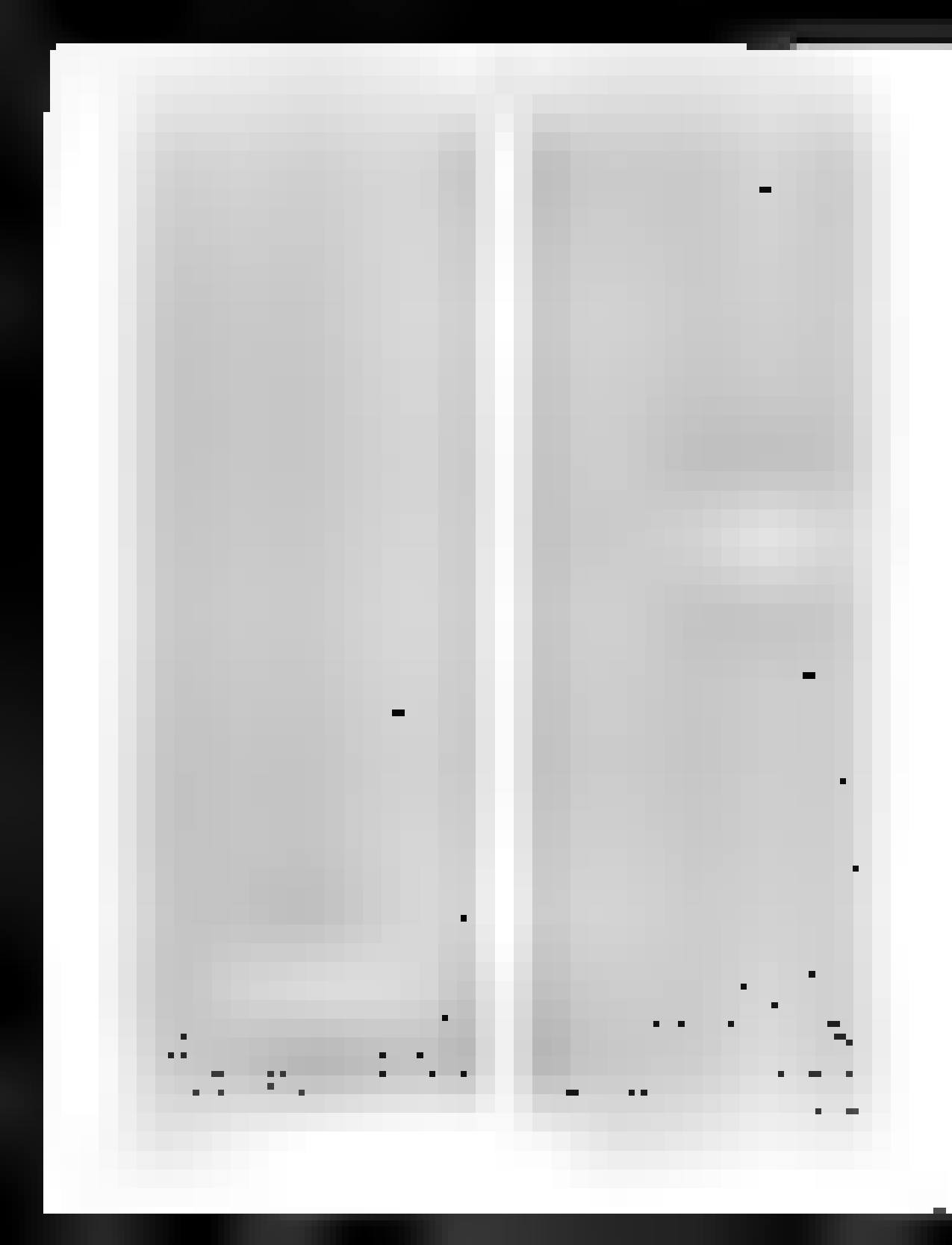

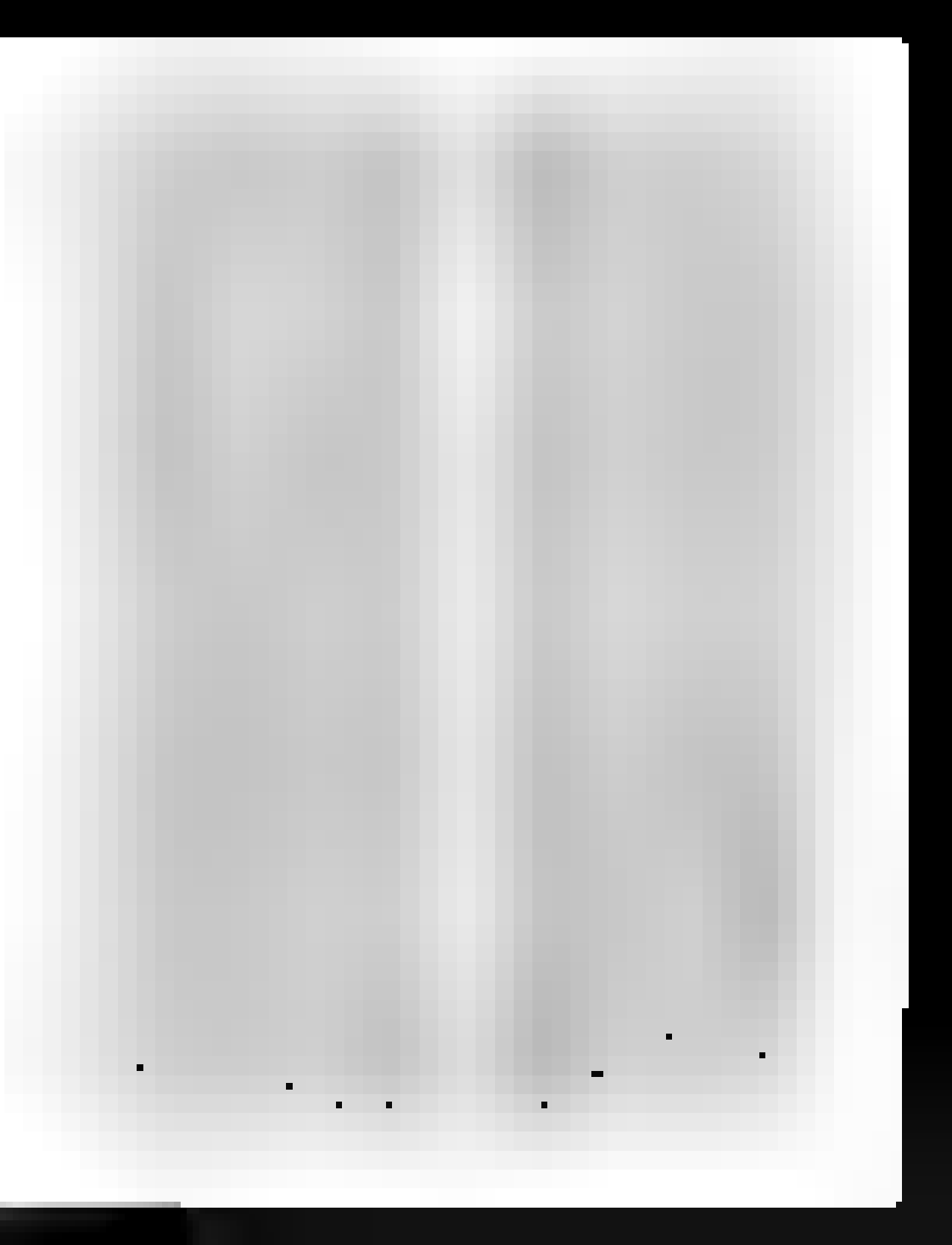

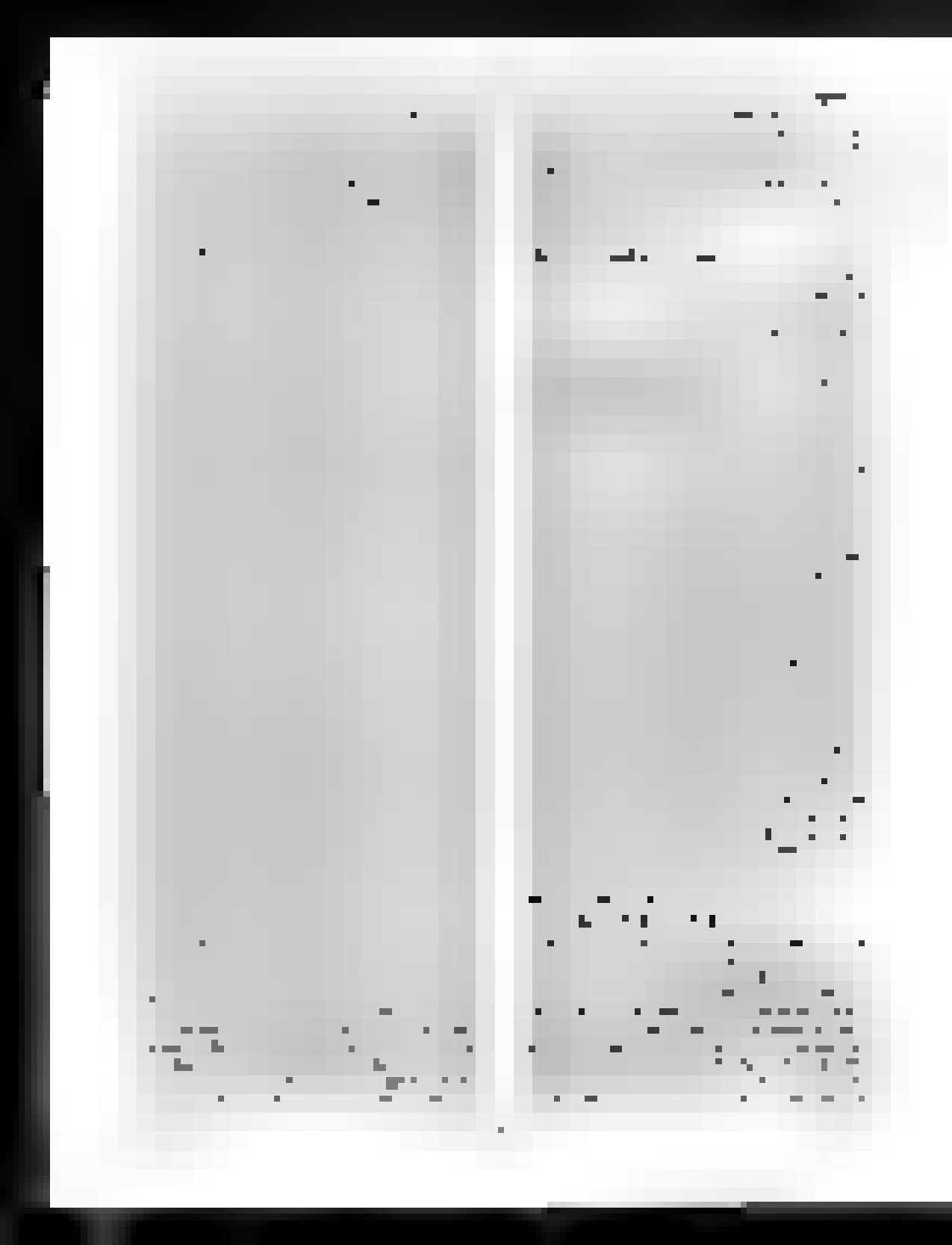

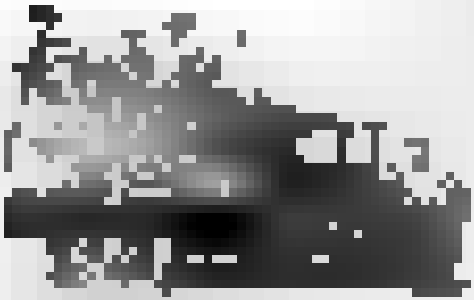

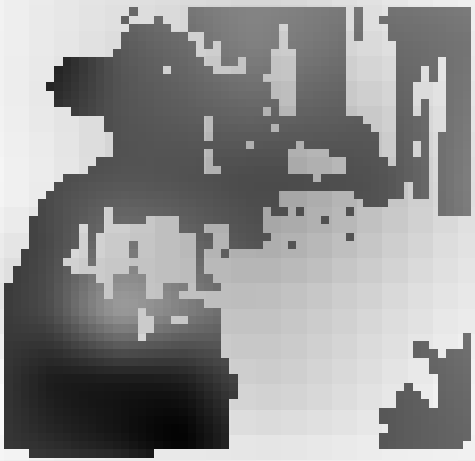

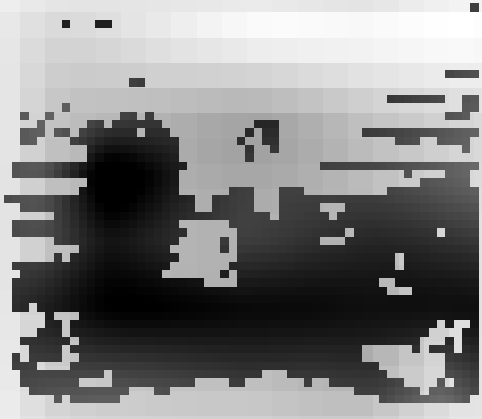

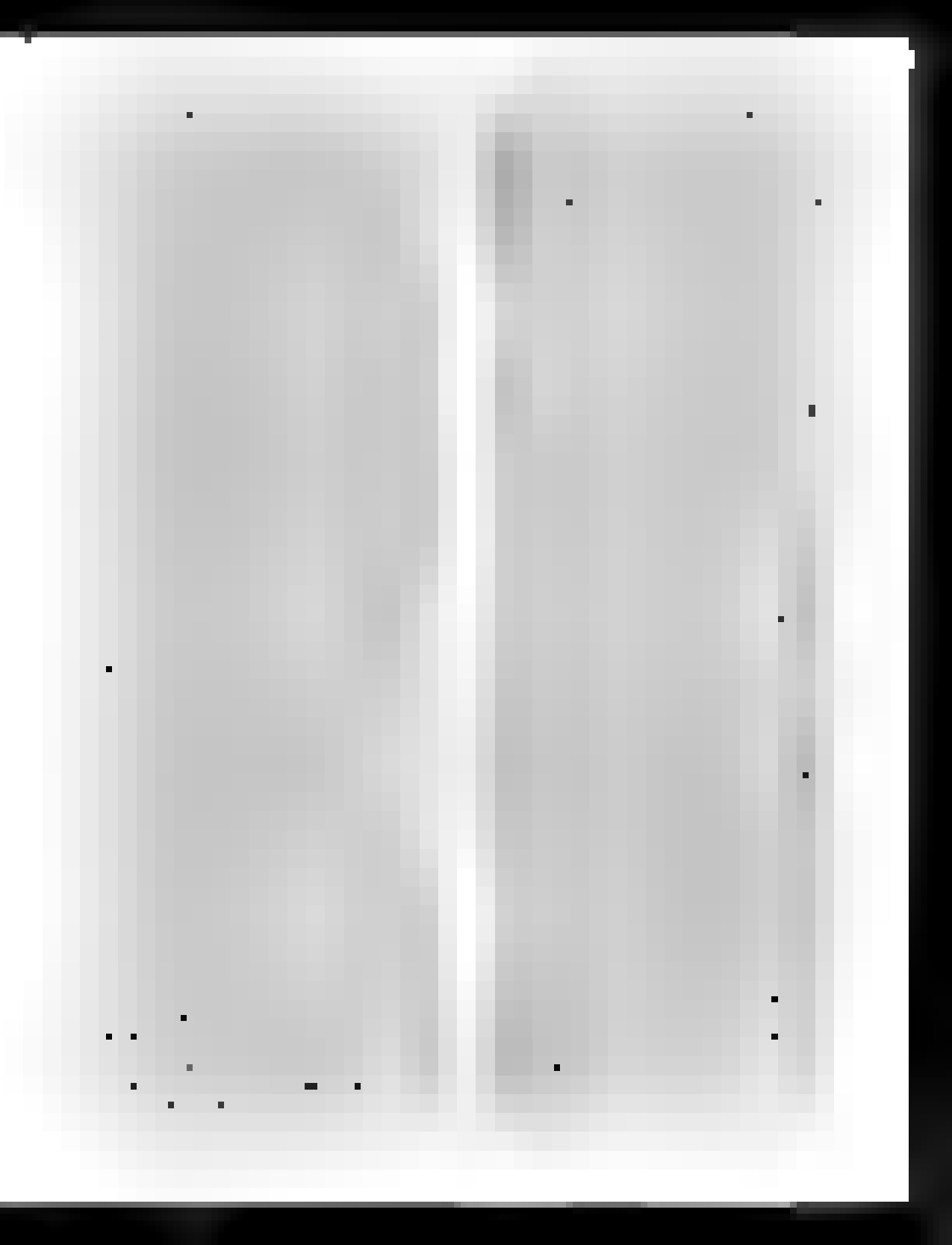

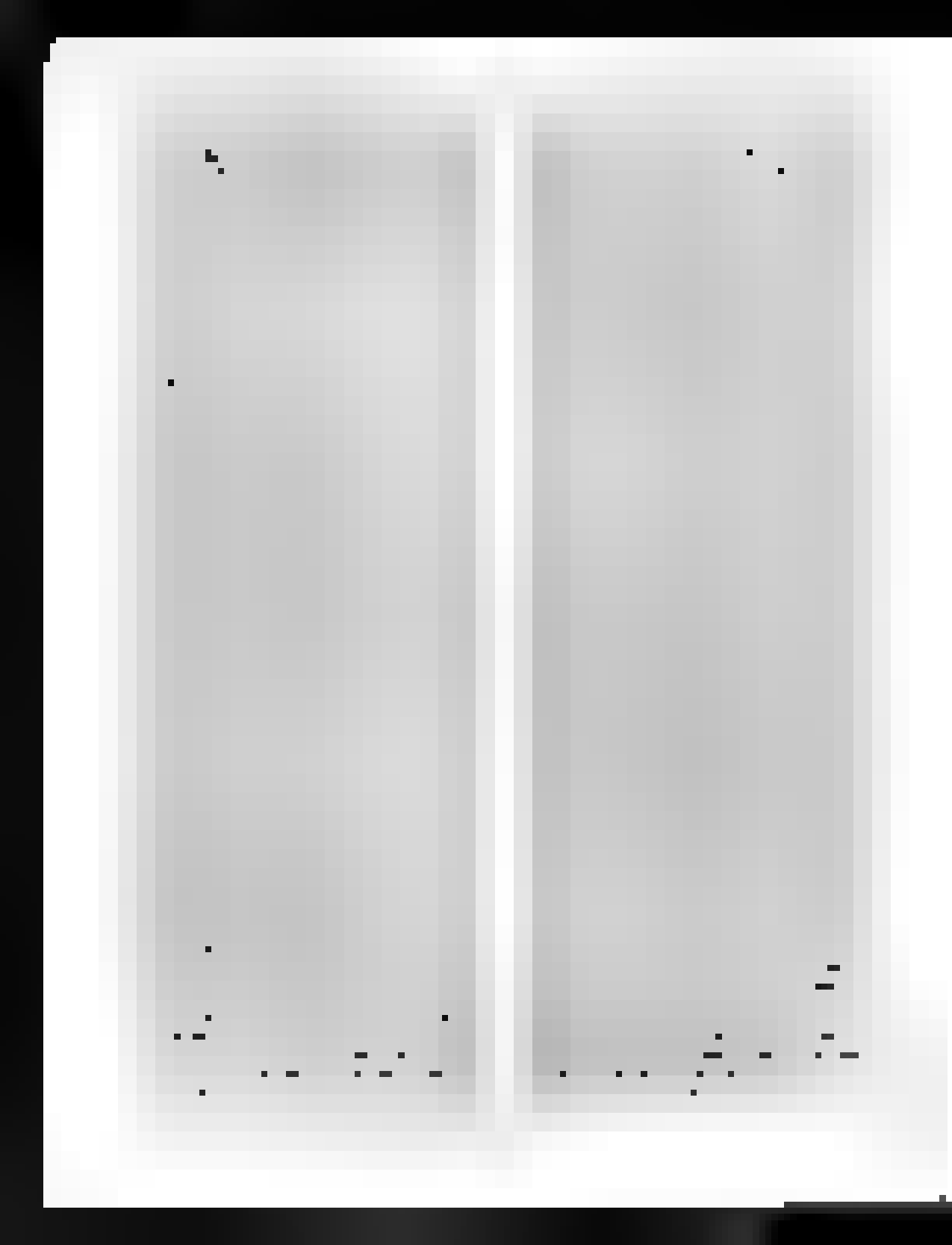

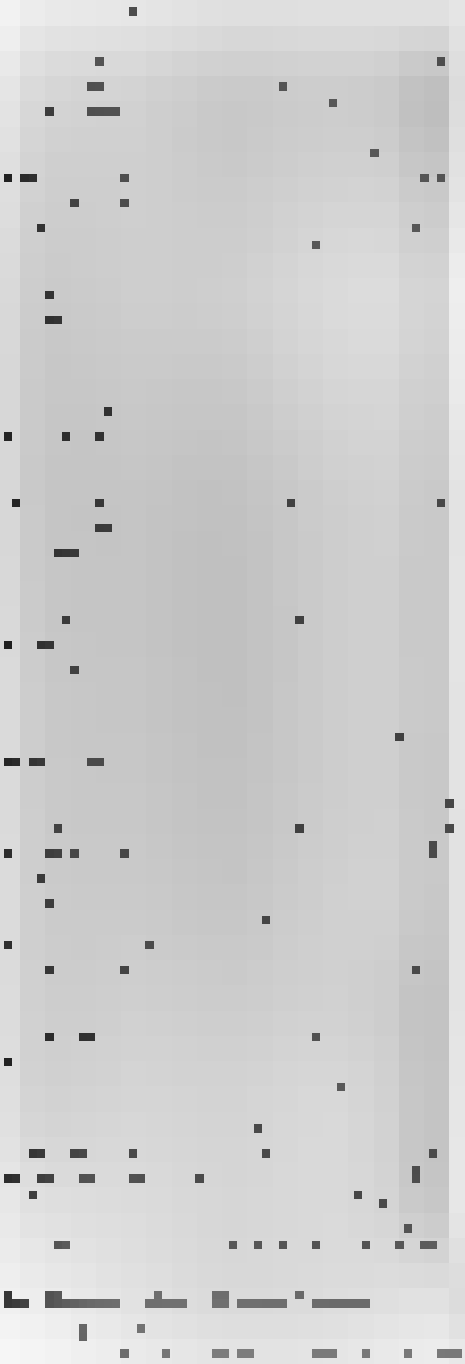

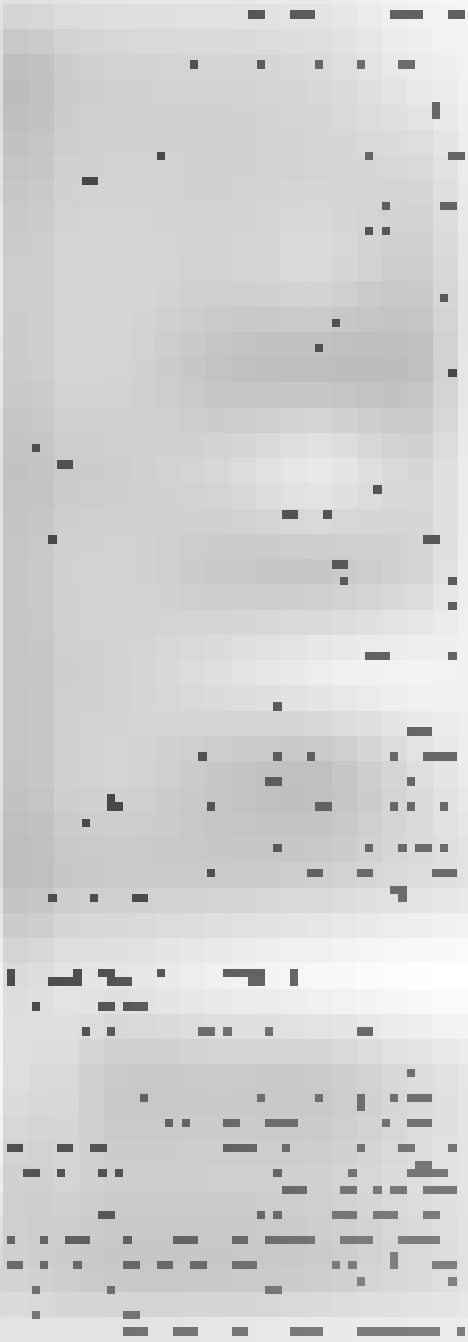

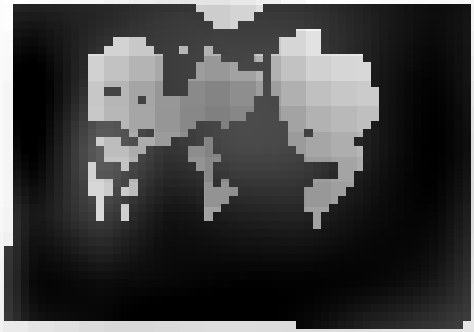

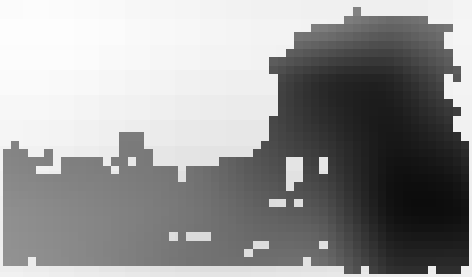

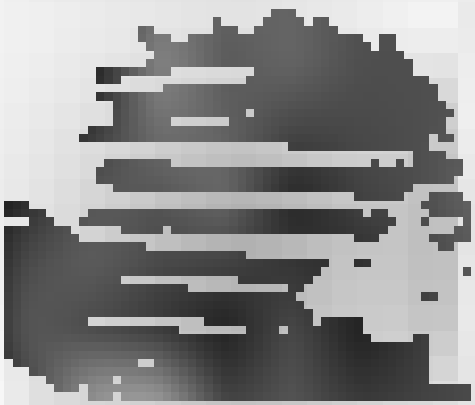

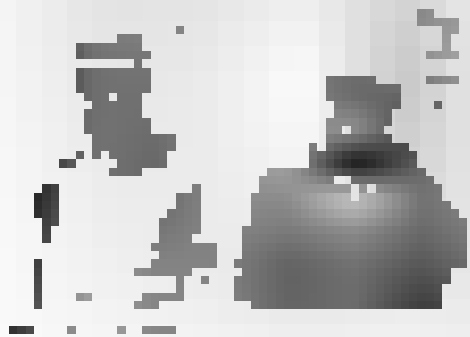

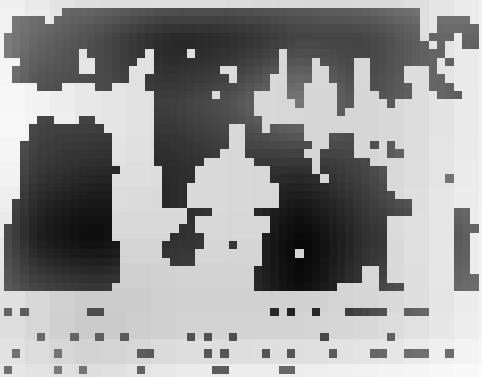

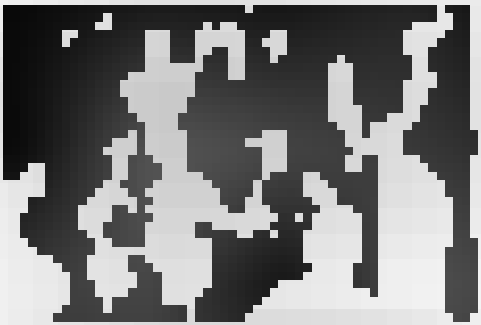

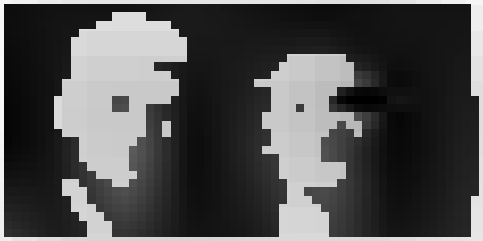

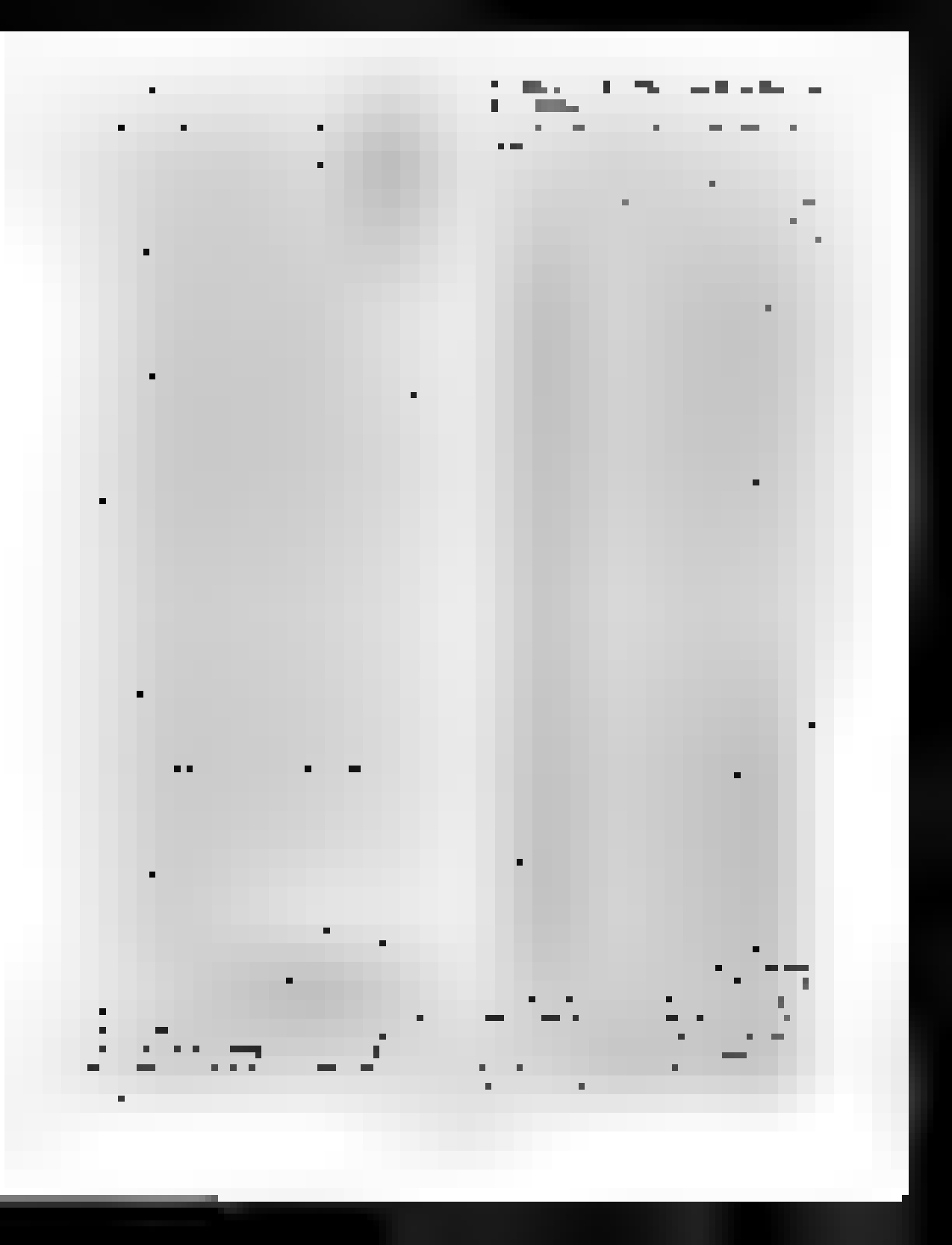

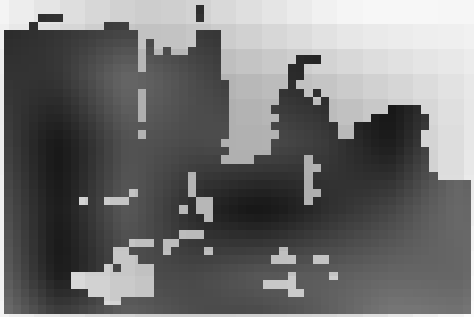

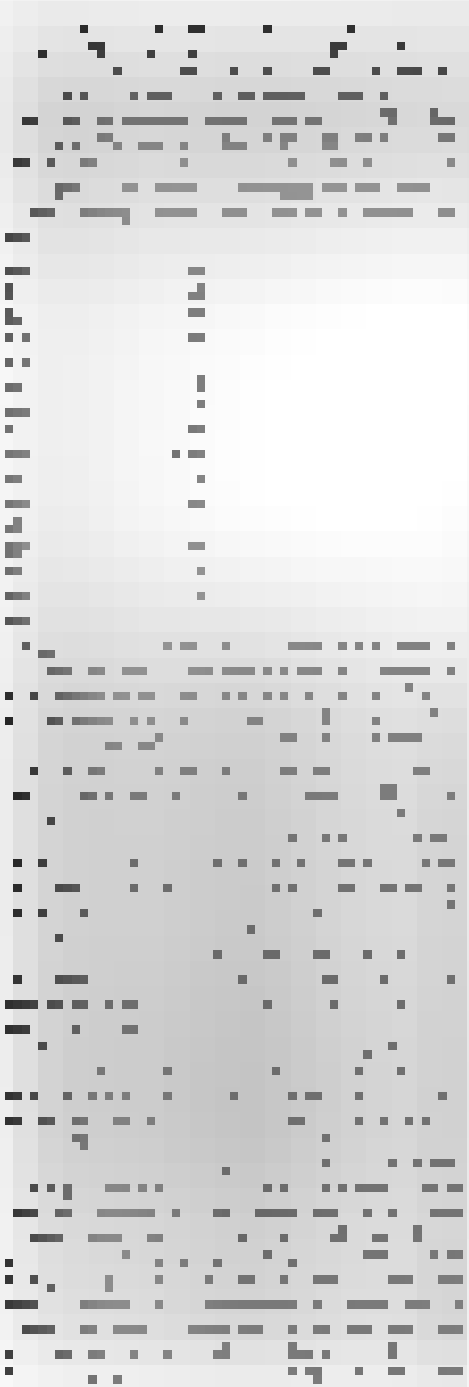

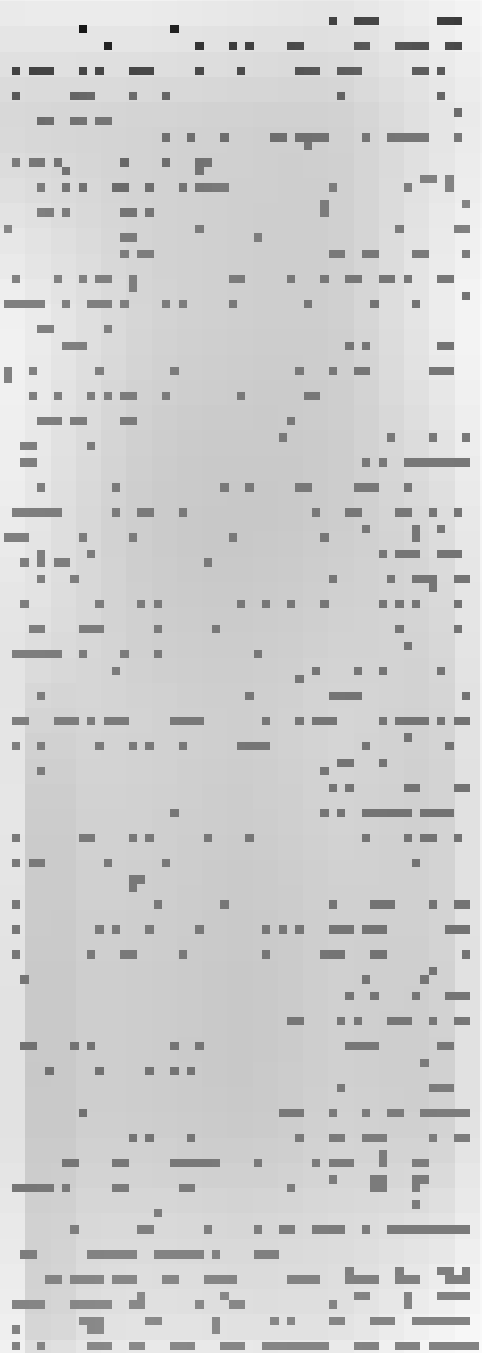

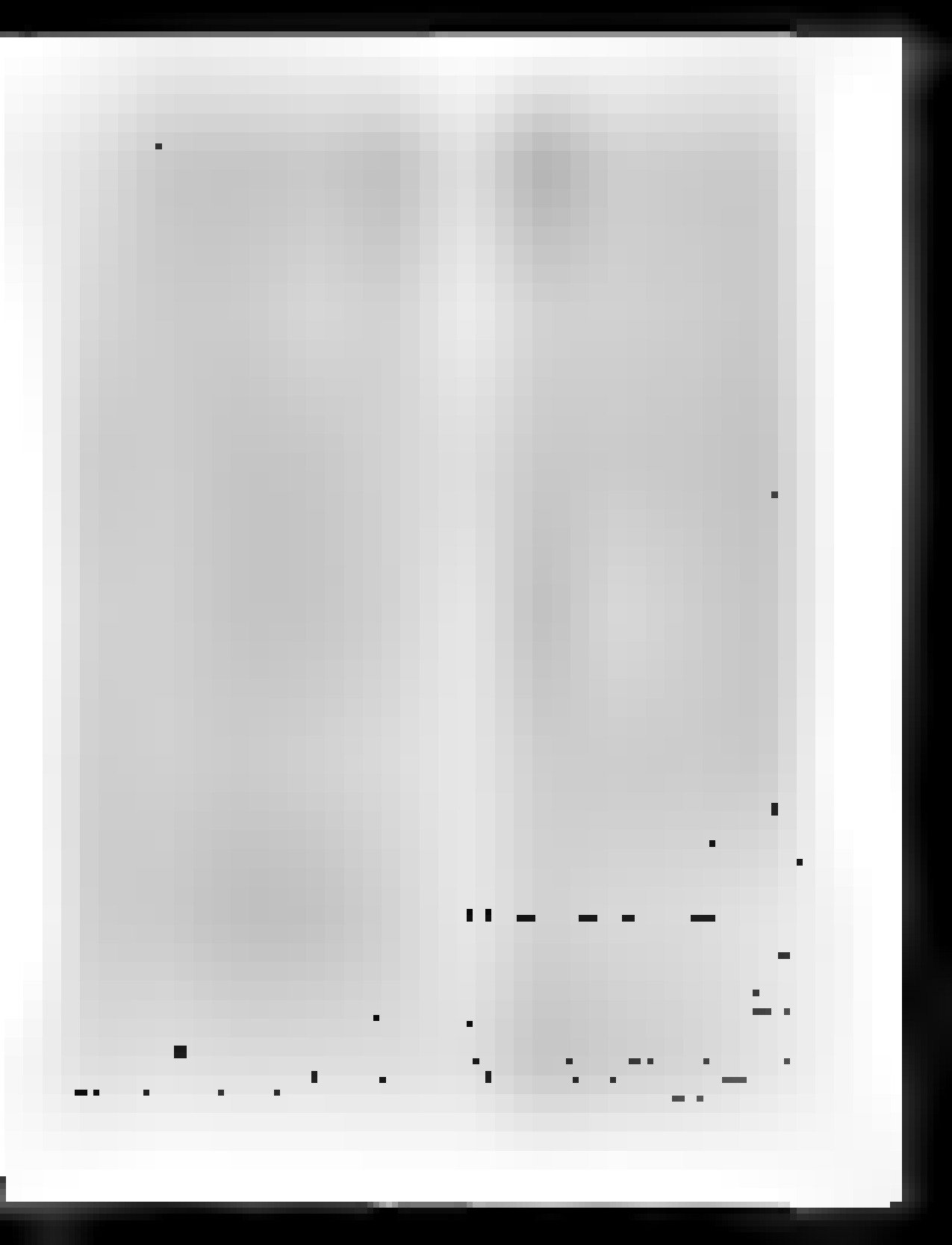

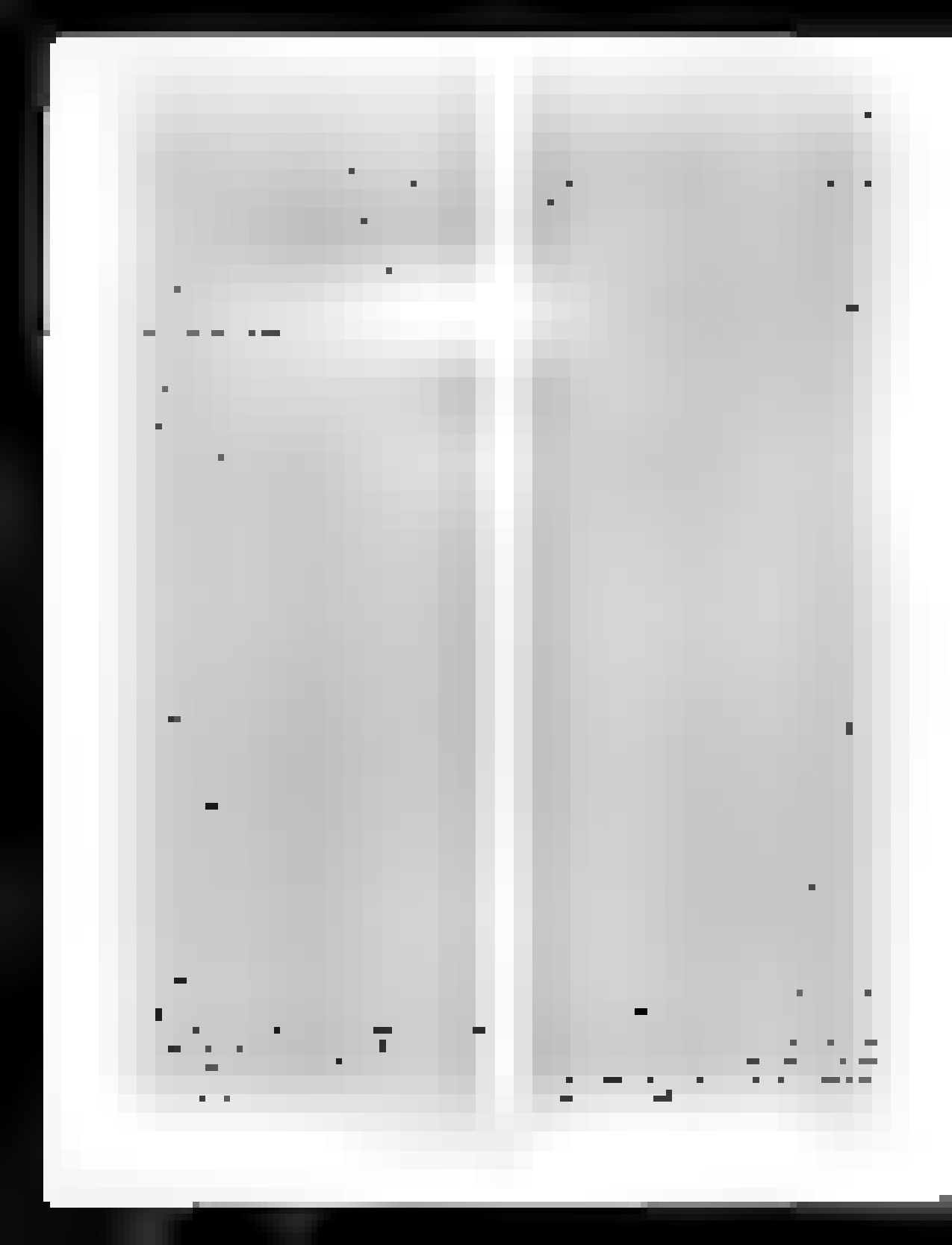

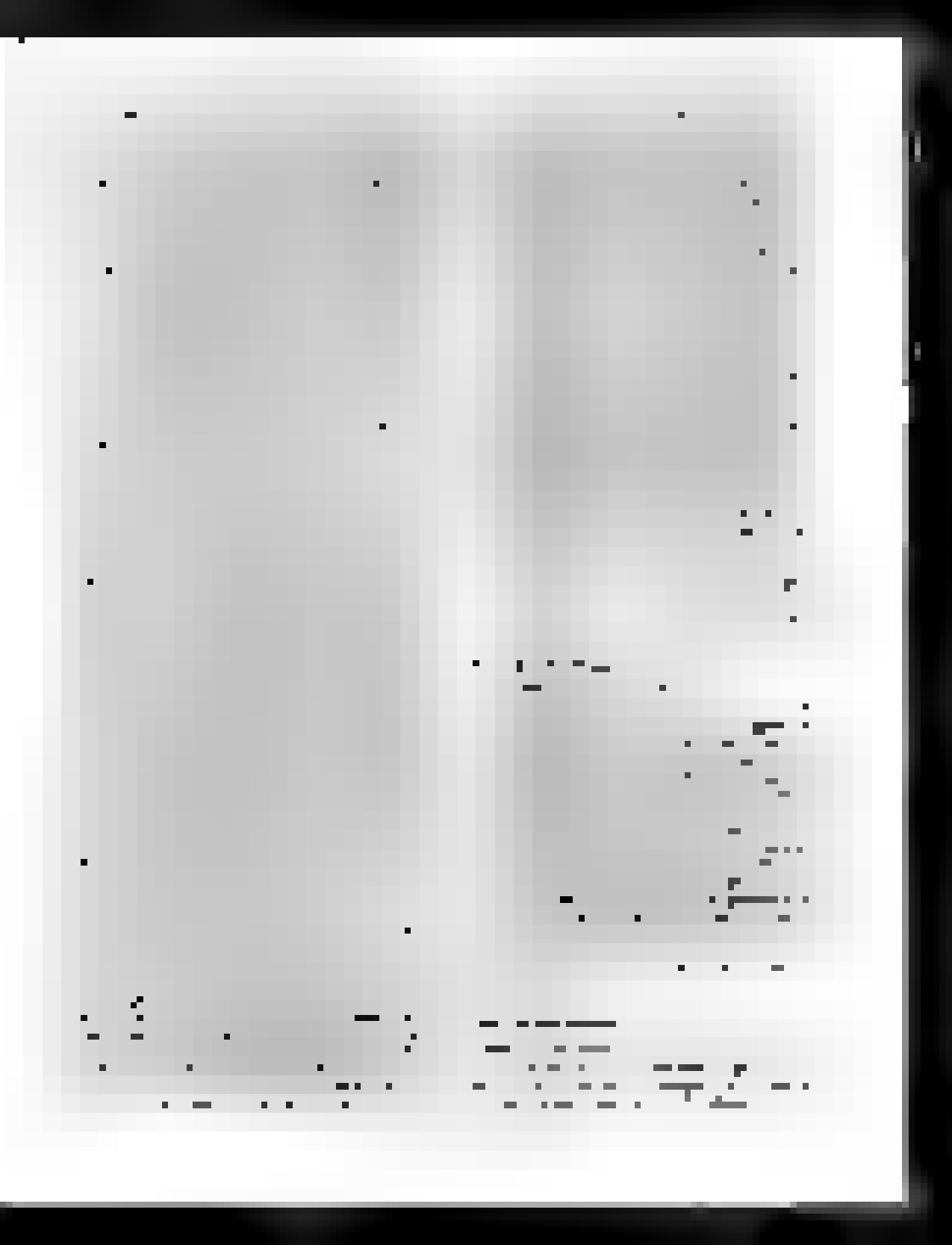

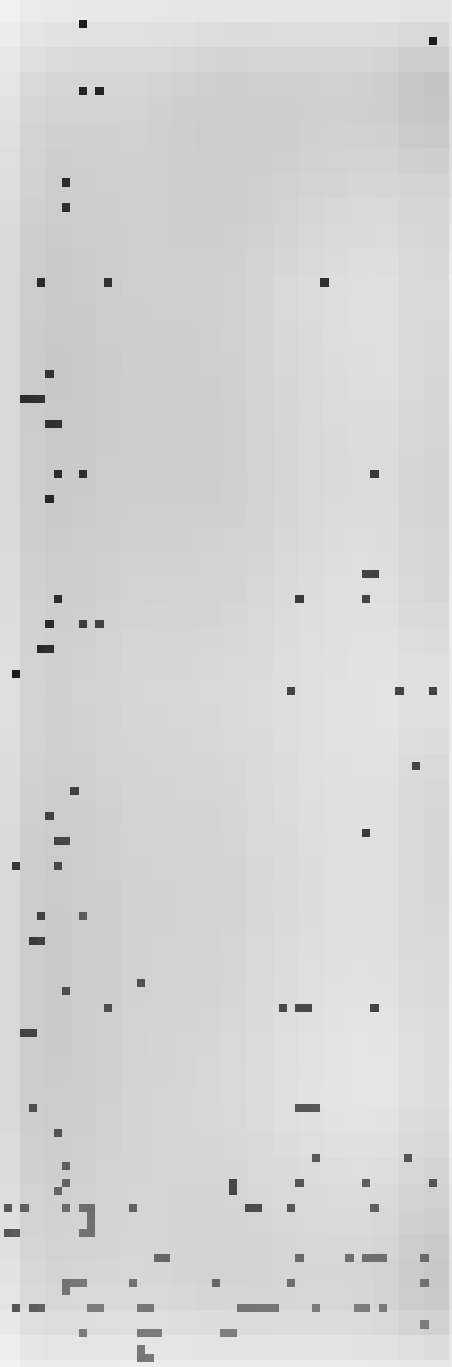

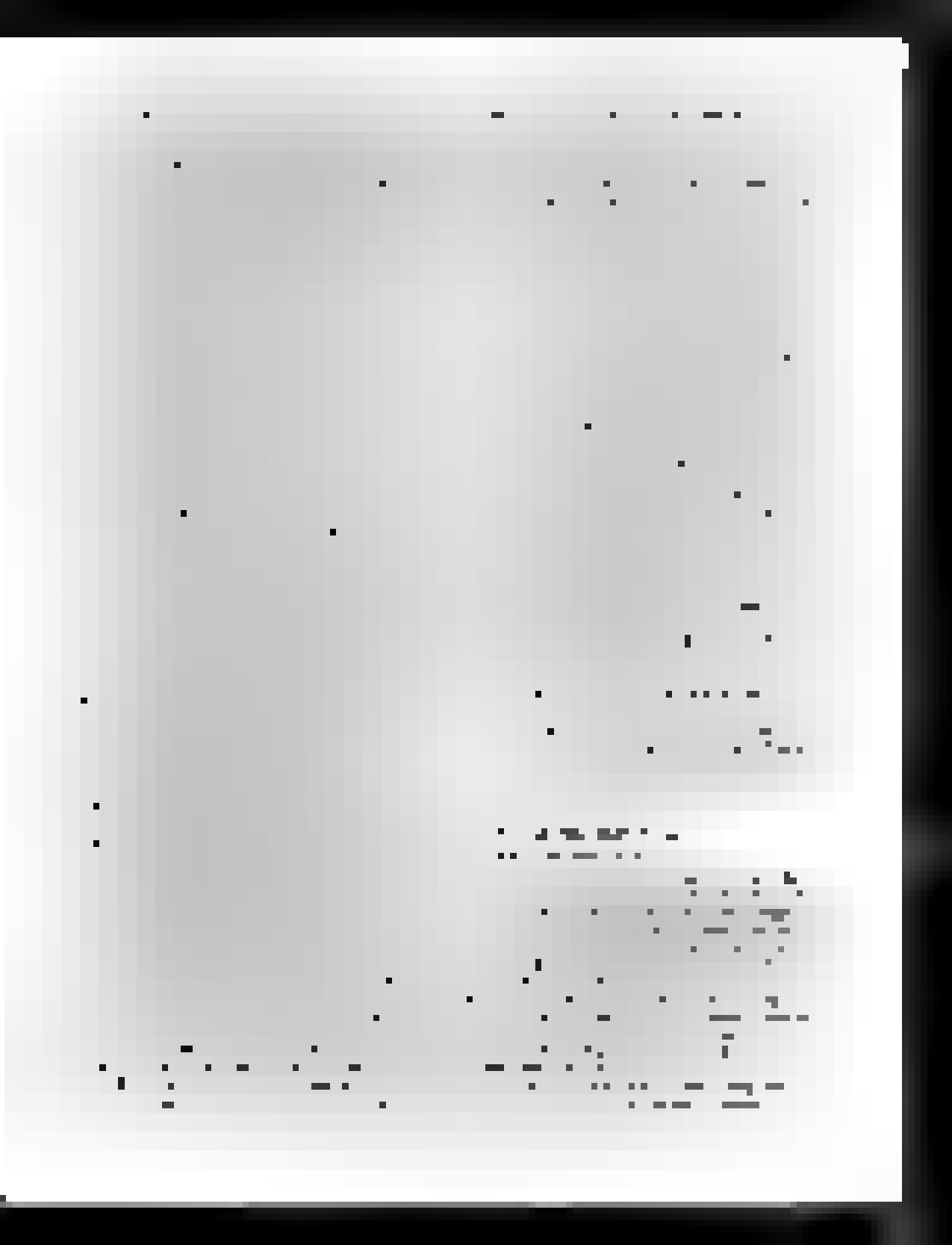

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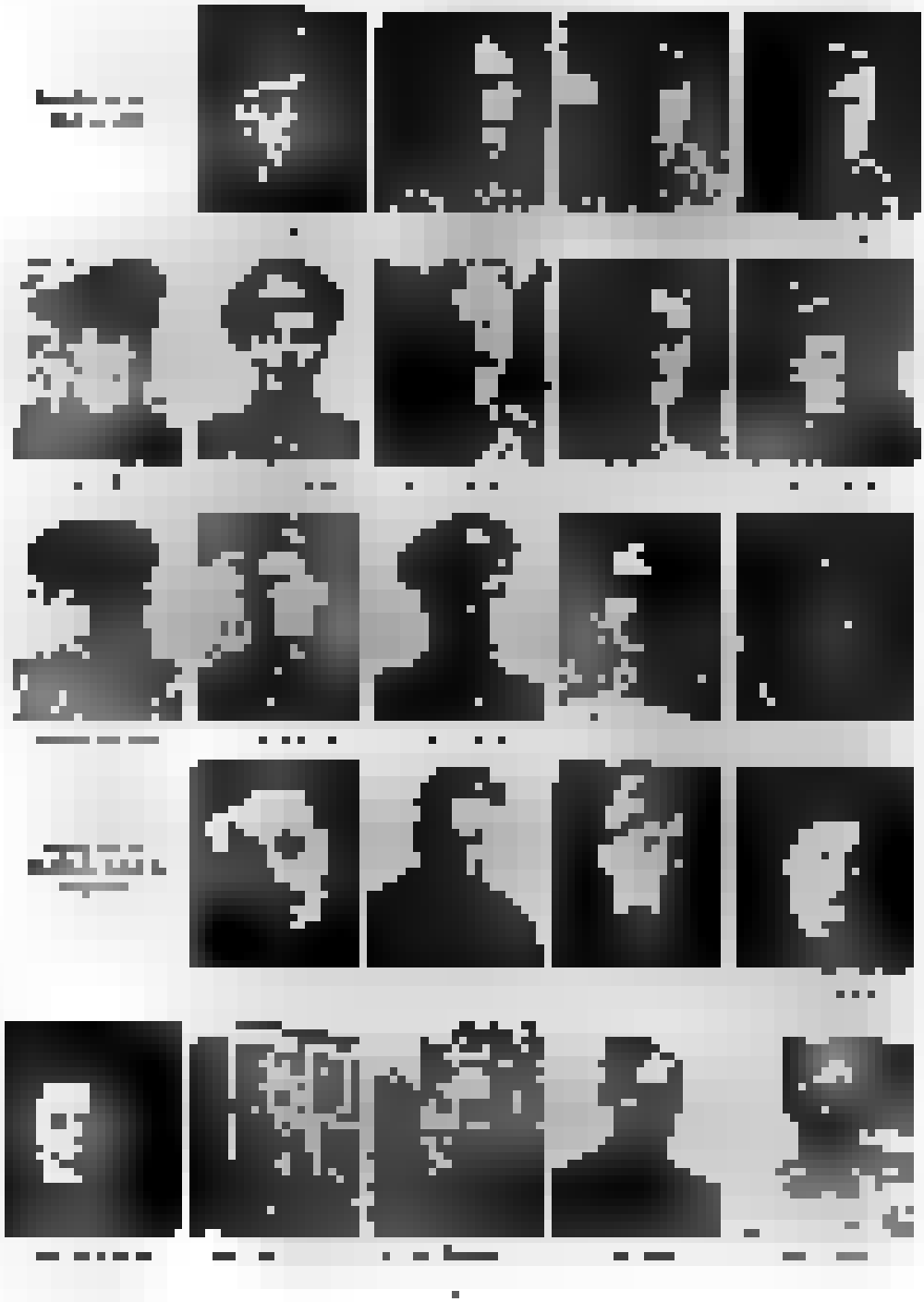

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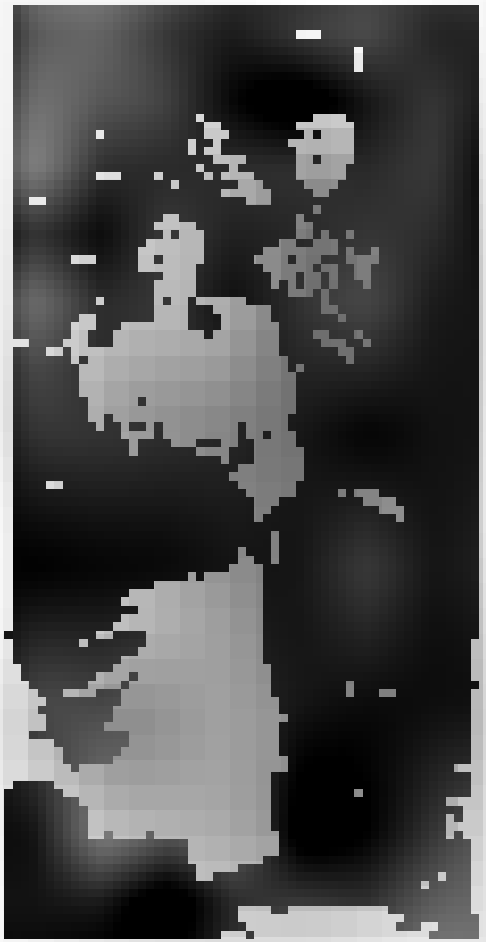
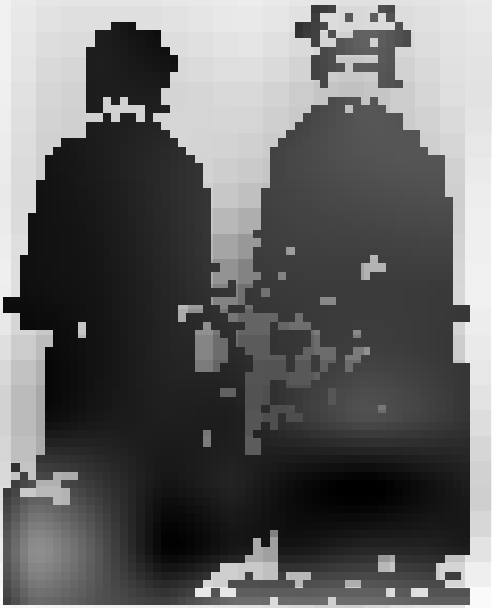
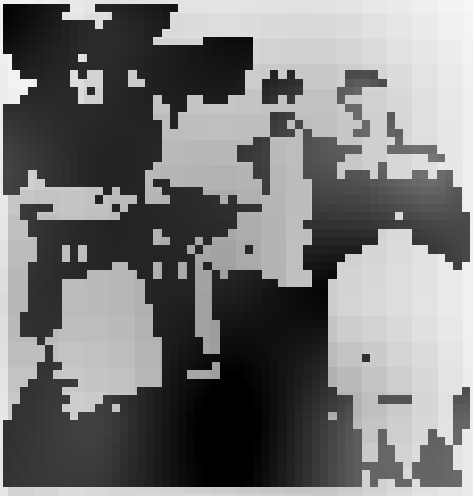
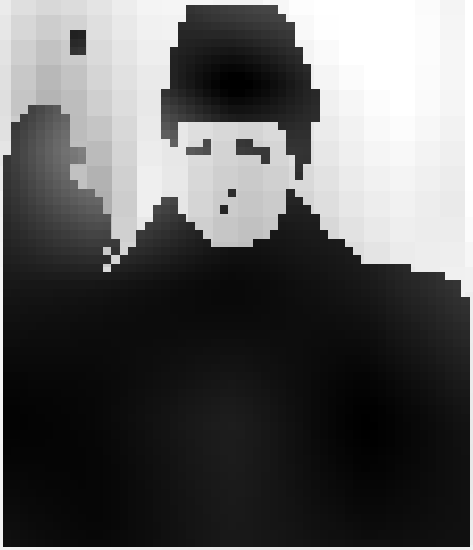
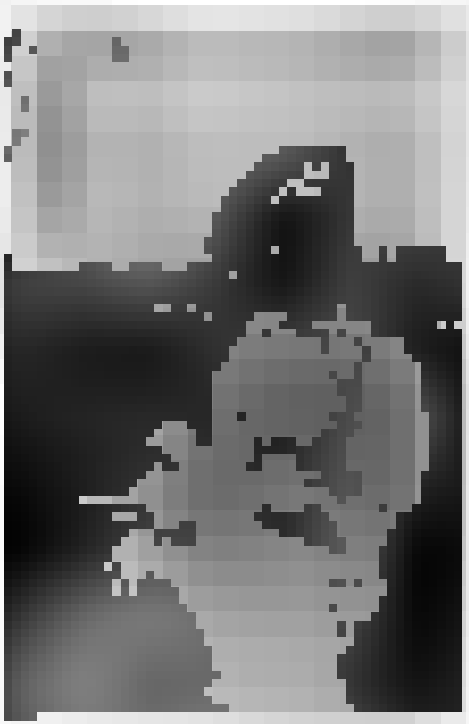
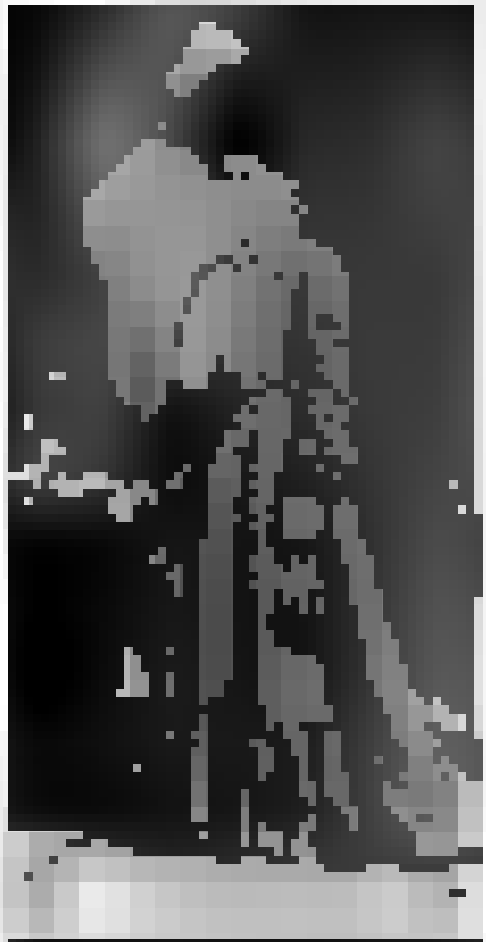


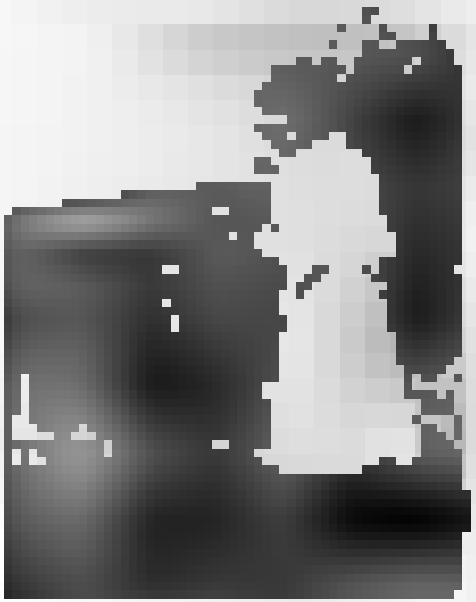


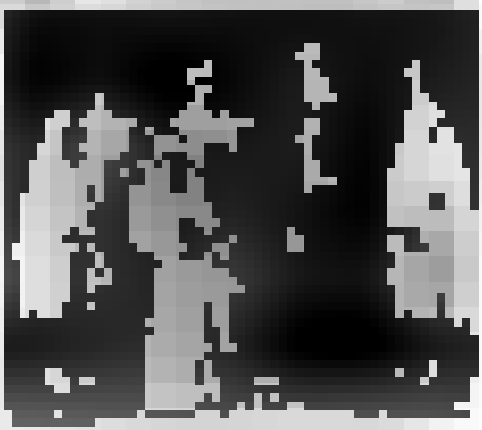


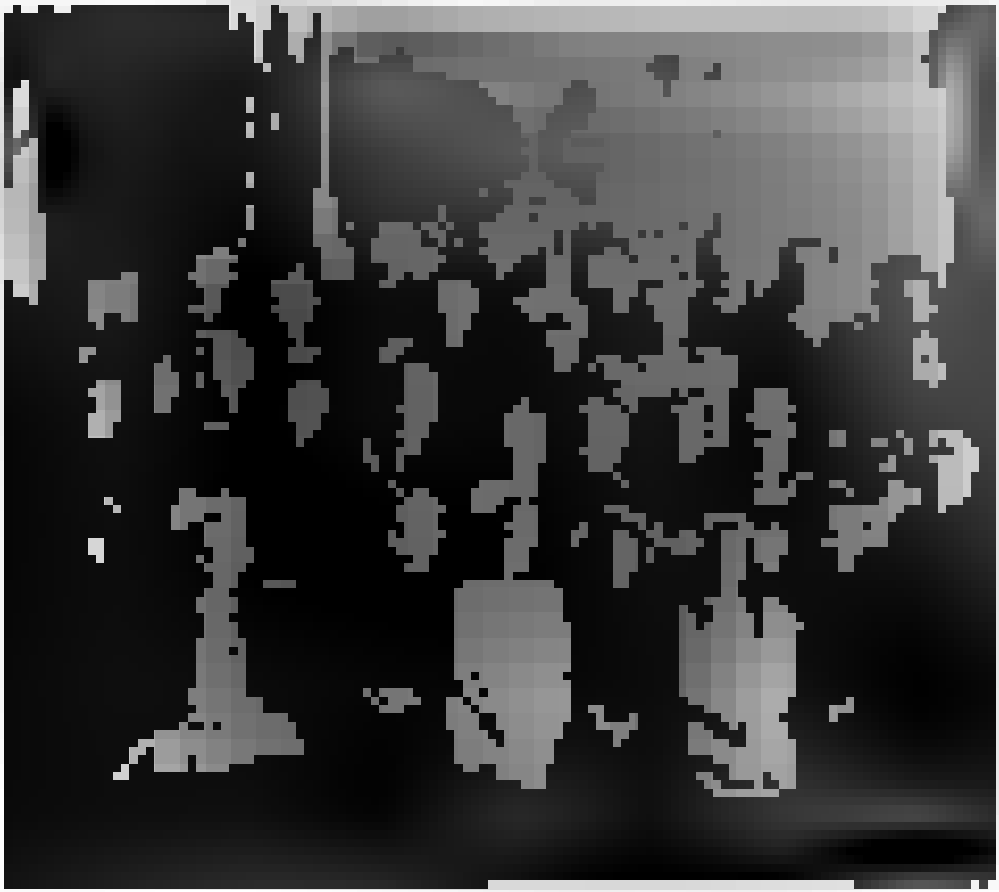


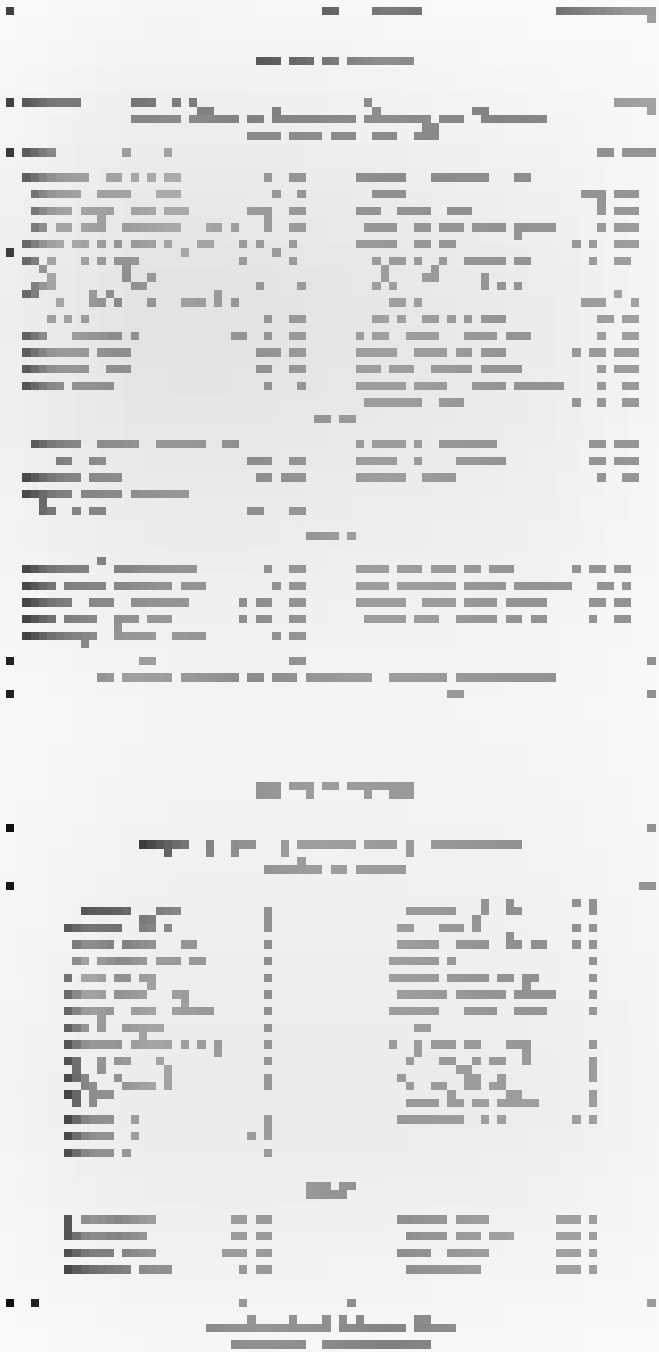




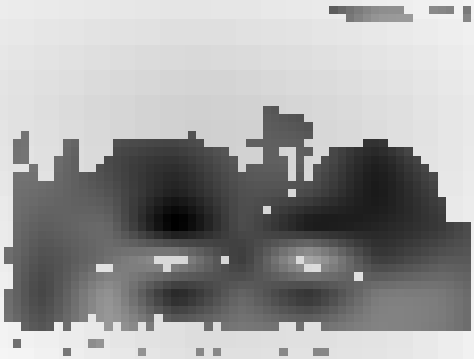


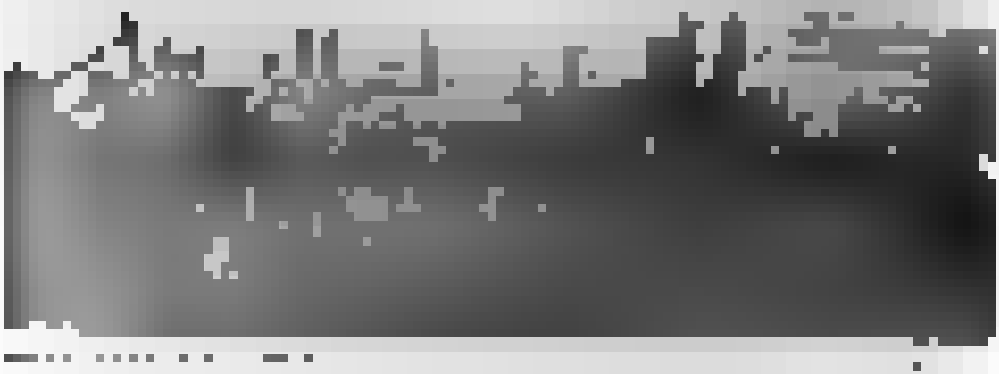


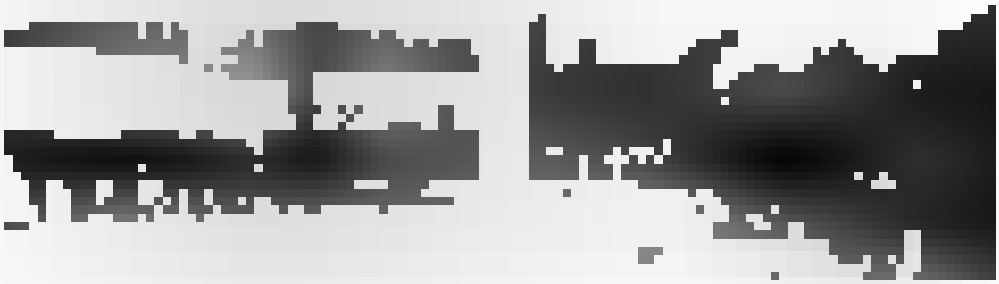


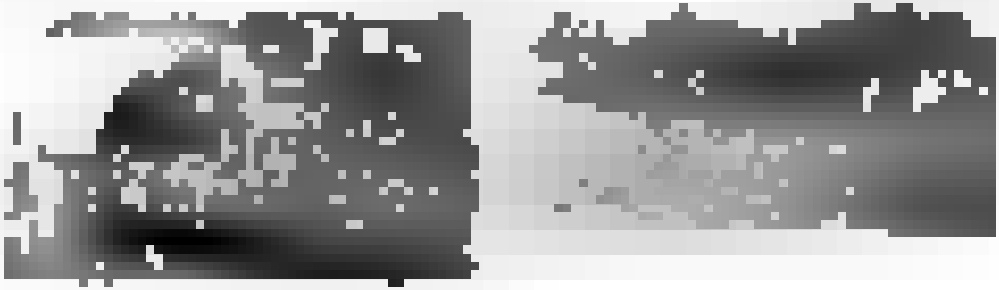


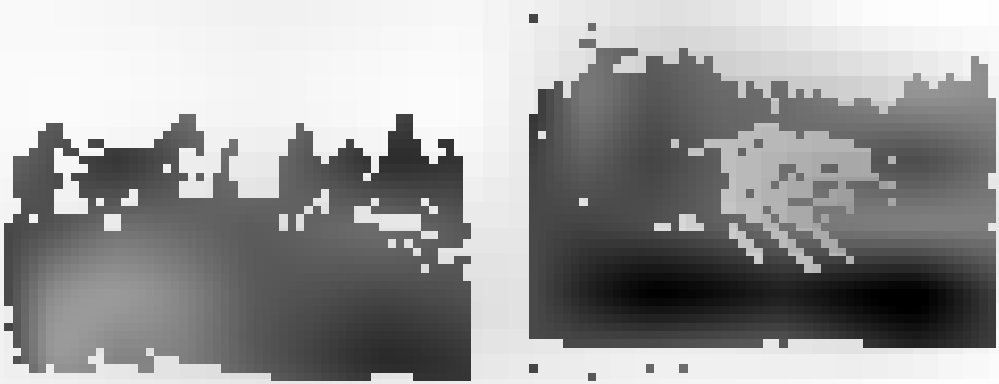
Farming through the years

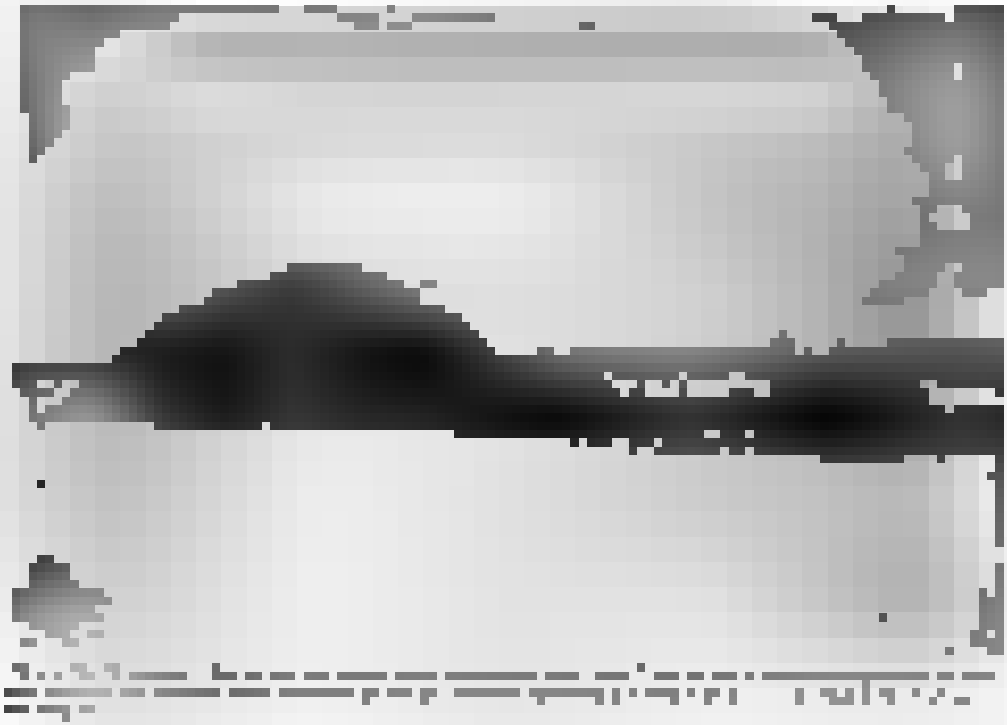


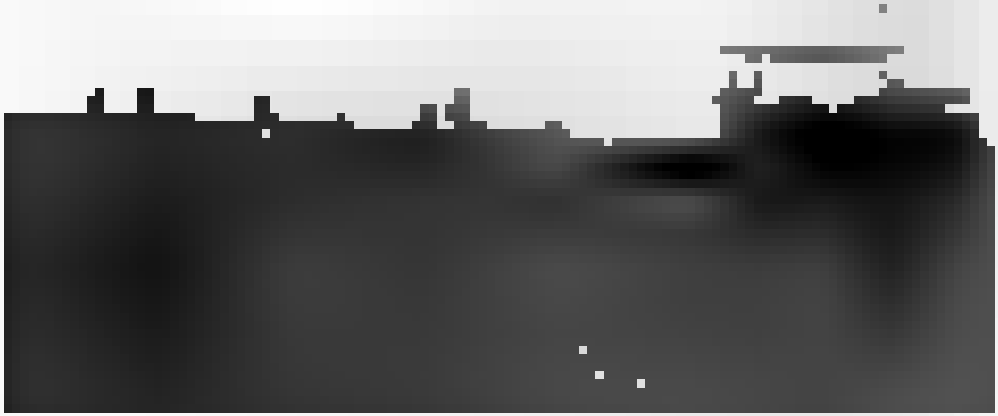


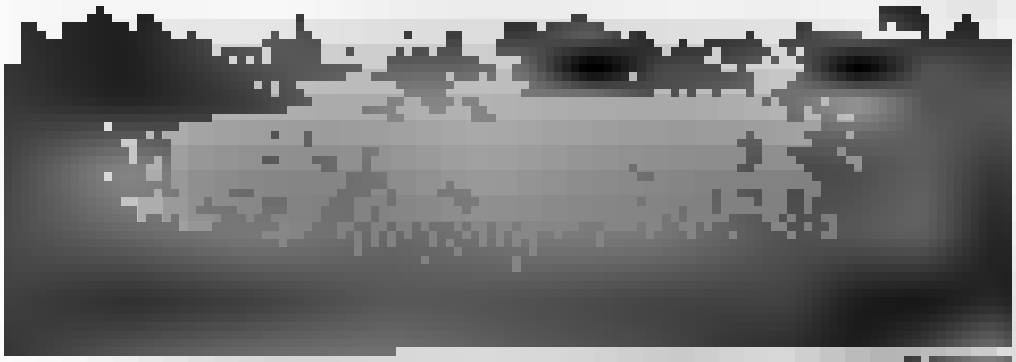


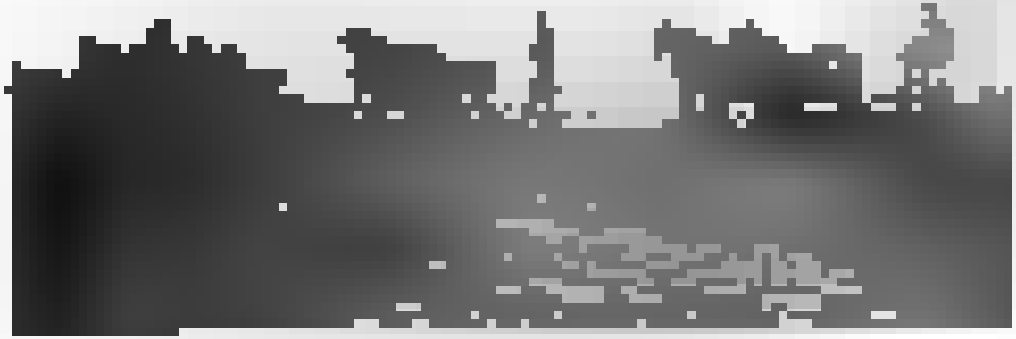


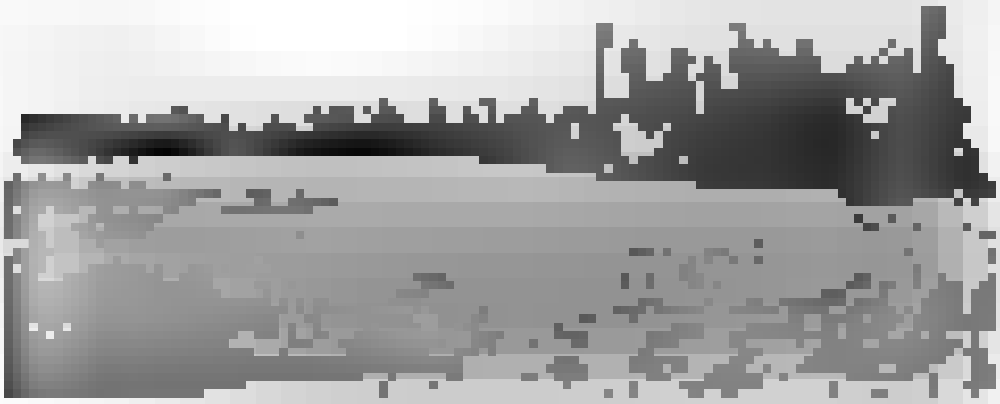












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